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BALTIMORE.

TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 1862.

WAR AND OTHER NEWS.

In the Senate of the United States the bill compelling masters of American vessels clearing for foreign or other ports to take the oath of allegiance, was reported and passed. The bill to encourage enlistments, by allowing each volunteer that enters the regular service to draw at once twenty-five dollars of the one hundred to which he would be entitled at the close of the war, was laid over. The debate on the confiscation bill was resumed, and the bill was under consideration until the Senate went into Executive session.

In the House of Representatives the Committee on Elections reported unfavorably on the claim of Mr. Veitch to a seat in the House as representative of the Seventh Congressional district of Virginia. A resolution was adopted calling on the President for copies of all correspondence relating to the condition of Mexico and the designs of the Allied Powers. A resolution was laid over calling upon the President for information as to whether any offer had been made by the Executive to Great Britain or any part thereof; and also, whether any offer had been made by the Executive to Great Britain, or any foreign Power, of the free navigation of the Mississippi.

In the House of Delegates, evening session Saturday, a bill was reported and read a second time compelling free negroes to do a limited amount of work on the roads in Kent, Dorchester, Caroline, Baltimore, Prince George's, and Somerset counties.

In the Senate yesterday the bill incorporating the City Passenger Railway Company was read a second time. The act incorporating the People's Gas Company of Baltimore was repealed. The bill authorizing the banks to issue small notes was passed. The bill for the relief of the families of the Maryland volunteers was made the order of the day for Tuesday—to-day. The bill extending the time to two years for the redemption of taxes was passed.

In the House of Delegates no business of special importance was transacted.

Additional details of foreign news received by the Arabia, places the answer of Earl Russell, in regard to the stone blockade, in a somewhat different point of view from that which was at first made public. When Lord Stanley called attention to the reports of additional stone blockades at Charleston, and asked what steps the Government would take, Earl Russell replied that—official information of the fact had been received, and he could not therefore say whether the reports were correct or not.—The British Government, he said, had already protested against the permanent destruction of any harbor, and the American Government had disclaimed any intention of permanently destroying them. The British Government is about to lay all the correspondence and other documents relating to the blockade before Parliament. Captain Craven, of the Tuscarora, has written a strong letter to the London *American*, charging the British Government with collusion in relation to the escape of the Nashville. Nana Sahib, or the man supposed to be him, for his identity does not appear, as yet, to have been satisfactorily established, has been sent to Bombay in irons. The *Independence Belge* declares, positively, that the Arch-Duke Maximilian, of Austria, has accepted the proffer of the Mexican throne; but the British Government disclaims all intention of supporting any candidate that is not sustained by the votes of the Mexican people. The French papers express the belief that England will withdraw from the expedition, if France and Spain interfere in the internal policy of Mexico.

From the Upper Potomac we are officially informed that, on Sunday last, the main body of the army of General Banks was "in the vicinity of Charleston;" but whether the town itself was occupied by Federal troops is not stated. We learn, however, that the Secessionists are paying marked respect "to the Federal uniforms," which is quite possible, and that the Unionists "are elated with the prospect of the future," as hopeful men who have been under a cloud naturally would be. Much stress is placed upon the statement that "full reliance was placed on the loyalty of the people of this place," meaning, of course, there by "refugees and contrabands." Now those "refugees," whose statements are thus discredited, are Union men. We are, nevertheless, gravely assured that the military commanders "are better informed than the public," and are prepared for any emergency that may arise. All of which the public would have taken for granted, even if the statement had not "received the approval of the Commander-in-Chief."

Nashville, Tennessee, was occupied without opposition, on Tuesday last, by Nelson's Brigade forming part of General Buel's Division.

Secretary Chase, in a letter to Mr. H. L. Pierce, at Port Royal, has sanctioned the cultivation of the abandoned estates on the Southern coast, under the supervision of agents to be sent from the North, and the employment of the refugee negroes for that purpose. Notwithstanding the official denial which has been given to the statement, the Washington *Republican* continues to give currency to the report that the Treasury Department has given a number of permits to trade between the seceded and loyal States of the Atlantic coast.

A correspondent of the New York *Herald* gives, what purports to be, a correct statement of the plans and movements of the Confederate leaders in the Southwest. According to this writer General A. Sydney Johnston was collecting at Decatur, Alabama, forty miles east of Florence, all the troops he could make available, with the intention of attacking the Federal forces, cutting off their communication with the north, and compelling them to surrender. He is reported as having already under his command fully seventy-five thousand men, splendidly equipped, and in a high state of discipline. We are told, moreover, that the fortifications at Columbus were to be dismantled, and the guns, the stores, the munitions of war, and the troops formerly in garrison there, transported to Memphis. The latter city has been recently fortified, very nearly as strongly as Columbus was, and it is confidently stated that the Confederates will make a desperate stand there.

The Wheeling *Intelligencer* states that a daring attempt was made on Wednesday last by a party of Confederates, under Captain Sheets, to destroy the bridge over Patterson's Creek, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railway, about nine miles east of Cumberland. The attempt, however, is said to have been only partially successful. The Federal trooops have since scoured the whole country round about, in search of Sheets and his cavalry company, but they had disappeared as suddenly as they came, and were nowhere to be found.

From Fortress Monroe we have very little news of especial interest. The prisoners that were expected from Richmond were detained from some cause or other, and it is not new known when they will be sent down the river. It is reported via Norfolk that the steamer Nashville has not only escaped from the close watch kept over her when at Southampton by the Tuscarora, but has succeeded in running the blockade, and is now at Wilmington, North Carolina.

By an oversight we omitted to state that the article published yesterday and entitled "The Grapple in America" was an editorial from *The London Guardian*, the most influential paper of its class in all England.

AN ATTEMPT TO AGAIN DESTROY PATTERSON'S CREEK BRIDGE.—On Wednesday night a party of notorious Sheets, supposed to be under the lead of the mountaineers, and made a desperate effort to again destroy the Patterson's Creek bridge. They set fire to it, but the timbers, being still green, refused to burn. They then undertook to tear the bridge down and render it impassable, but this was a job which they did not consider it safe to stay long enough to accomplish. The bridge was badly damaged, but was soon put in repair. If the Sheets could be caught and quartered, it would be a splendid thing for the country in which he luxuriates. General Lander's army is now at Paw-Paw and vicinity. There are also troops at Old Town and at Cumberland, and a considerable number of our men left Patterson's Creek only a few hours before the attempt to destroy the bridge, and yet these Rebels have had the audacity to make this foray almost in their very faces. Our troops have scoured the whole country in search of this Sheets and his cavalry company, but he has a wonderful facility of disposing of himself, so as always to be just where they ain't, no matter where that is. A sufficient force has been sent to the bridge to ensure its safety.—*Wheeling Intelligencer.*

FROM EUROPE.

FURTHER NEWS BY THE ARABIA.

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT—THE STONE BLOCKADE.

In the House of Lords, on the 14th, Lord Stanhope called attention to the reports of additional stone blockades at Charleston, and asked what steps the Government would take.

Earl Russell had no official information, and knew not whether the reports were correct. Government had protested against the permanent destruction of any harbor as unjustifiable, and the American Government responded that they had no intention to permanently destroy harbors.—The views of the French Government were identical with those of England.

Lord Dunkellin, in the Commons, gave notice of an inquiry relative to the state of the negotiations between the Government and the Galway line.

John A. Turner called attention to the distress in the manufacturing districts, owing to the American trouble, and urged the Government to do everything in its power to develop the cotton production elsewhere.

THE AMERICAN BLOCKADE.

The Government is busily preparing all the information relative to the American blockade to lay before Parliament.

Mr. O'Donaghue gave notice of a motion for returns as to all British vessels which have run the blockade, or been captured in the effort; also, all British vessels which have put into Nassau and other ports with contraband of war, and been permitted to rent, etc.

THE TUSCARORA AND NASHVILLE.

The London *American* publishes the following letter, written by the captain of the United States steamer Tuscarora, who gives his idea of British neutrality in very plain terms:

U. S. STEAMER TUSCARORA, }
Off Cowes, February 5. }

DEAR SIR:—The British Government have just added a brilliant chapter to their page of history, in the escape of the pirate steamer Nashville.—The want of good faith that has been exhibited toward me would, in all of its details, require a longer time to record than I now have at my disposal. Let it suffice that, from the 10th January to the 28th, I have been constantly beset with rulers, which were each week changed, each week made more stringent, and gave every advantage to the pirate, which they desired to turn loose upon our commerce. Finally, on the 29th, I was ordered to leave port in twenty-four hours, during a heavy gale. I came to anchor in Yarmouth Roads. The gale over, I on the 1st went to sea, arrived in the Channel, and returned here on the 3d, to fill up my coal and learn the news.

No sooner did I drop my anchor than the fact was communicated by telegraph to those interested at Southampton. Capt. Patey, R. N., was, by my friends in Southampton, seen then to go on board the Nashville in uniform. He remained but a few minutes, and left her for the despatch-boat. Both steamers then left the wharf. Signal at the same time was made to the Shannon, lying near me, to get under way. This manœuvre we witnessed without knowing its meaning, until the Nashville hove in sight with the despatch-boat in company.

Capt. Patey immediately came on board of my vessel to notify me that I could not depart until the required interval of twenty-four hours had elapsed. I replied that having given my word that I would observe all the laws in this matter, his visit was unnecessary; but that I must take the occasion to say that good faith had not been kept with me—that while I was required to be governed by a set of arbitrary rules, the pirate was permitted to remain at the docks to watch her opportunity when I should return.

I cannot help believing and saying that evident collusion existed in this whole plan of escape.

I have not time to say more—I am off for a cruise. Can't coal in British dominions for three months. Will let you hear from me in a few days.

Most truly yours, T. AUGS. CRAVEN.

MR. SEWARD'S FOREIGN CIRCULARS.

THE MARITIME LAW OF THE UNITED STATES.

From the London Times, Feb. 10.

When we read the two compact Blue books of American correspondence which have just been printed by order of the House of Commons, we can understand how it happens that Mr. Seward's despatches are sometimes not such as would be likely to obtain him great reputation. Here are enough letters to occupy an industrious man for several years if he were to study their subject-matter and to read them over before he sent them. From January to December throughout the last year Mr. Seward has been weekly, and almost daily, inditing despatches to every Power in Europe and America, and has even found time for an occasional communication with Asia. As a testimony to his industry these volumes are complete. We wish we could admit that his success had been equal to his assiduity, or that the course adopted by the American Minister had been as consistent with good taste, and with a respect for the dignity of other nations, as demonstrative of his own zeal.

It is very evident that when the civil war broke out the first fear of Mr. Seward was lest there should arise any public opinion throughout the world in favor of the insurgents. It was a very wise fear, but he hardly took the most prudent and effectual course of preventing it. Instead of the manifesto—which in the most absolute monarchical times was thought necessary to satisfy the reason and attract the sympathies of foreign Powers—Mr. Seward seems to have thought it more effectual to threaten the high displeasure of the sovereign American people against any nation which should refuse its active sympathies to the great aggregate sovereign which was coercing into subjugation its revolted vassals. This answered to a very limited extent. Sweden was polite and affectionate, and Mr. Seward condescended to assure the Swedish Minister that the people of the United States had "already [illegible] Run, which affected you so deeply." Nicaragua earned by timely submission a right "to rely on the sympathy and support of the United States." New Granada, "appreciating [illegible] notice issued a [illegible] which was all that Mr. Seward could wish. In other cases, however, it seems that the Minister was not quite so successful. When Mr. Morgan assured the King of Portugal that the Union would be preserved, the American Minister complains that "his Majesty's manner was more expressive of doubt than belief;" and when the Consul-General in Egypt assured the Pasha of Egypt, the unbelieving Turk only laughed, and gave him a horse, which, in defiance of all proverbial propriety, the Consul complains of "the pecuniary value of the horse is by no means large."

The Netherlands were so little amenable to Mr. Seward's demands for brotherly love that he was obliged actually to threaten them with war, and he seems to have been astounded when M. de Zuylen de Nijevelt quoted international law to the effect that Mr. Seward had no right to go to war with the King of the Netherlands because he proposed "to adopt the same treatment towards the war vessels of the seceding States and those of the United States." From Russia Mr. Seward got only advice, which being sensible, was, of course, unpalatable. Prince Gortschakoff recommends both parties to come to a settlement "before a useless effusion of blood, a barren squandering of strength and of public riches, and acts of violence and reciprocal reprisals shall have come to deepen the abyss between the two parties to the confederation, to end definitely in their mutual exhaustion." To Spain Mr. Seward's Minister did not hesitate to declare, in the latter end of April, that "the felt assured the Spanish Minister's information was quite erroneous" as to the necessity of extensive naval and military preparations being made to enforce the Federal supremacy in the South. This was after the 500,000 volunteers had been called out.

Of course, however, the most important pressure was to be put upon England. Mr. Adams was expressly instructed, in a despatch of the 21st of May, to break off all diplomatic intercourse with the British Cabinet if he should find our Ministers holding any kind of intercourse, official or unofficial, with any Commissioners from the seceding States; and, having done this, he was to wait for further orders from home. What these orders were to be may be judged from another paragraph in the same despatch, in which Mr. Seward says, "We treat privateers in the insurgent service as pirates. If Great Britain shall choose to recognize them as lawful belligerents, and give them shelter from our pursuit and punishment, the laws of nations afford an adequate and proper remedy." These were Mr. Seward's early pretensions. His propositions were to prohibit our Ministers from private interviews with the enemies of the United States, and to demand that the United States' vessels should be allowed to follow Confederate privateers into our harbors, and there engage and destroy them.—Breach of these commands was to be punished by war. We, whom Mr. Adams politely calls "the tyrants of the ocean," were expected to be scolded into enacting this tame part in the history of the world. At the same time, with that inconsistency which is so apparent in the conduct and writings of Mr. Seward, while we are to be treated according to fanciful notions of precedents set by ourselves when we were "tyrants of the ocean," we are acknowledged to have altogether changed our character. In one of these despatches Mr. Seward says—"Great Britain has within the last forty-five years changed character and purpose. She has become a Power for production, rather than a Power for destruction. She is committed, as it seems to us, to a policy of industry, not of ambition—a policy of peace, not of war." One has only to compare her present domestic condition with that of any former period to see that this new career on which she has entered is as wise as it is humane and beneficent. Her success in this career requires peace throughout the civilized world, and nowhere so much as on this continent." When Mr. Seward shall review these facts in years to come, when, perhaps, holding peaceful diplomatic relations with the Confederate States of America, he will, we think, own that this is the character which England has consistently held throughout this great crisis. Perhaps, too, he will think that he might have diplomatized better than he did. He would have found all the world ready to listen to his reason, to do him full justice, and perhaps even to sympathize to a like extent with his difficulties; he met every one against his cause by arrogant pretensions and a tone of menace.

FRANCE.

Prince Napoleon had offered an amendment to the Address in the French Chambers, regretting that the Pope did not listen to the conciliatory propositions of France for the settlement of the Roman question, but withdrew the amendment on the understanding that the Address is to contain a mild rebuke to the same effect.

The *Patrie* points to the efforts to get cotton via Mexico as a probable solution of the blockade question.

The Bourse was flat at 71fr. 10c.

INDIA, CHINA, AND AUSTRALIA.

The mails, already telegraphed, go forward in the Arabia.

The supposed Nana Sahib has been brought in irons to Bombay.

THE LATEST VIA QUEENSTOWN.

PARIS, Feb. 16.—The *Moniteur* says the Council of State has discussed the bill for establishing a supplementary tax of ten francs per hundred kilogrammes on all sugars for consumption. The same also fixes twenty francs per hundred kilogrammes consumption tax on salt.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Feb. 15.—A commercial treaty has been signed between Prussia and Turkey.

WARSAW, Feb. 15.—The churches have been solemnly re-opened.

PRUSSIA AND THE GERMAN STATES

BERLIN, Feb. 15.—An identical Prussian note was remitted yesterday to Austria and the other German States of the Wurtzbourg coalition. The note says:—'Since Austria, considering her general interest, as well as her positive rights, feels called upon to protest against the Prussian views in reference to German affairs, Prussia will not conceal the fact that there appears no well-founded motive or right for such a protest. The stir, rendered still more striking by the sending of the identical notes, has so little of the character of the exchange of opinions that Prussia cannot discuss the views expressed in the Austrian note opposing those of Prussia. Prussia yields precedence to none, confident in the conscientious fulfilment of her federal duties in representation of real German interests, and serious in her endeavor to do justice to well-founded national claims, and to induce the Federal Government to do likewise.

Should the views of the reform of the Federal Constitution hinted at in the latter part of the Austrian note, favoring the establishment of a constitution for the whole confederacy, with an efficient executive power at its head, and aiming at political consolidation of a wider extent, comprising non German territories, as stated in the Austrian note of the 8th of November, be realized, Prussia would be compelled to see in such realization a far greater peril to the continuance of the confederacy than in the reforms indicated in the Prussian despatch of the 20th of December. Prussia is far from opposing a formal protest to a mere expression of opinion, but at the same time she considers it more proper to await the proposal of reform in a more concise shape. At present, as far as Prussia can judge, the proposed reforms are impracticable, the proposals being entirely in contradiction with Prussian views. Prussia, on its part, considers it impossible to enter into discussion on any such reforms.

THE MEXICAN QUESTION AND ENGLAND.

PARIS, February 16.—The French papers think the question relative to Mexican affairs might lead to the fall of the Palmerston Cabinet. It is believed that England will withdraw from the expedition, should its aim be abandoned by Spain and France, and should they interfere in the internal policy of Mexico.

The *Independence Belge* asserts the positive acceptance of the candidative throne of Mexico by Maximilian.

The Emperor of Austria will make another journey to Venetia.

The belief continues in Italy that Austria and states war against Turkey continues. The emigration of the journey of Victor Emmanuel to Naples has been postponed. His son, Prince Humbert, will go there.

The Prince of Wales has left Vienna.

It is generally believed that Prussia will recognize the kingdom of Italy.

Victor Emmanuel is to send a frigate into the Mexican waters for the protection of Italians.

From the Richmond Examiner.

PRESIDENT DAVIS ON THE RAILROADS.

As there is considerable interest to know to what extent the Government proposes to extend aid to the railroads as part of the military defences of the country, we have obtained a copy of the President's special message on the subject.

We may add here that we are informed that the measure which the Government has recommended for an appropriation of $1,000,000 to establish railway communication between Danville, Va., and Gainsboro', N. C., has met with considerable opposition in Congress. The bill was defeated on a motion to engross, but, it is said, is likely to be reconsidered. The following is a copy of the recent message of President Davis:

"*To the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States:*

"I herewith transmit a copy of a communication from Mr. Wm. S. Ashe, urging the completion of certain railroads, as necessary for the proper transportation of troops and military stores, in the exigencies of the present war. I also transmit a copy of a communication from Mr. E. Fontaine, the president of the Central Railroad of Virginia, urging the completion of twenty miles of the Covington and Ohio Railroad, upon considerations of military necessity.

"I communicate to you, with these letters, a series of resolutions adopted at a convention of railroad presidents, held in Richmond, on the 6th of December, asking for the assistance of the Confederate Government in procuring certain supplies which are indispensable to the maintenance of the railroad system of the country.

"That certain appropriations, which otherwise could not be constitutionally made by the Confederate Government, come within the range of its powers, when absolutely necessary for the prosecution of the war, there is no doubt. It is equally clear that when this military necessity ceases, the right to make such appropriations no longer exists. To exercise this power when it exists, and to confine it within its proper limits, is a matter for the just discretion of Congress; and, to enable it to act upon the interesting subjects to which they relate, I transmit the communications and resolutions which accompany this message.

"I have already recommended that the Confederate Government should assist in making a railroad from Danville, Va., to Gainsboro', N. C., upon the ground of a strong military necessity, for completing an interior through line from Virginia to the Southern Atlantic states. I deemed this to be necessary not only on account of the superior safety of such a line from hostile inroads and invasion, but because of the great additional facilities which its completion would afford for the transportation of troops and military supplies. The road from Selma, Ala., to Meridian, Miss., is a link that has claims similar to the road already recommended to your assistance in a previous message. Whilst the completion of the twenty miles of the Covington and Ohio Railroad, as proposed by Mr. Fontaine, might be principally a question of the treasury, recommend that you should contribute a direct appropriation.

"The presidents and superintendents of railroad important subject. If the railroads should be generally disabled from transporting troops and military supplies for the prosecution of the war, the result would be most disastrous. It is urged that the capital necessary to construct the establishments required for re-rolling rails and the manufacture of locomotives cannot well be had unless the Confederate Government would make some advance for the purpose. With the machinery proper for rolling the rails there might be connected that which is necessary for rolling plates for uses which are wanted in the naval service. How far it would be proper for Congress to authorize advances to be made on contracts to furnish these places or engines, it will be for that body to consider and determine. Some such advance might facilitate and secure the establishment of works which would at the same time furnish what is required by the Government, re-roll the railroad iron, and make locomotives for the use of the railroads. The exigency is believed to be such as to require the aid of the Government, and is commended to your favorable consideration.

"JEFFERSON DAVIS."

HOW SECRETARY STANTON'S ORDER WAS EXECUTED AT CHICAGO.

The Chicago *Tribune*, of Thursday, contains a long and humorous account of how Secretary Stanton's order in relation to military intelligence was executed in that city:

Our paper, says the editor of the *Tribune*, had just gone to press, the feeders and folders and mailing boys were busy. The news boys were beginning to dig themselves out of the stray corners, up alleys, and out-of-the-way places, and make their toilets for the day by a strong shake of their men—"we stop the press." The big cylinder felt a thrill through all its iron nerves, and stopped. It was not alone in so doing. Every press in the city stood still. The *Tribune* building was invested, and egress barred. Our neighbors shared the same fate. Instructions hastily issued by their chief left a liberal margin to the fancy and discretion of those who executed it. In some instances one fair copy of the paper alone was taken.

In the office of the *Post* a policeman, in the exuberance of his zeal, pounced upon the entire edition, seized a mail bag and crammed the whole down its maw, and, as he gave it a final compress with his boot, cast his eyes on a small and dingy pressman, as if debating whether it was not in his line of duty to add him to the contents of the bag, and take him along as a sample. With great forbearance he closed the sack, shouldered it, and bore it away to the police station, whither specimens of all the forthcoming morning issues were gathered. In some cases the editors themselves were bagged, as well as their papers. The "ukase" was put into the hands of some German policemen, who did not understand English very well, and shocking work they made of it. Night editors and reporters had gone home two hours before, but a selection was made of some one to represent each paper, and thus the process went remorselessly on, until the police office at the court-house had its full complement. The editor of the Chicago *Post*, we are told, vigorously remonstrated, but in vain. The policeman speedily added to the group at the police office.

LION-HUNTING ON A GRAND SCALE.—Jules Gerard, the celebrated lion-slayer, is getting up an international African society for the purpose of facilitating the exploration of Algeria to the learned societies of Europe, and to amateurs of the chase. This project is about to be put in execution on a grand scale. It has received the approbation of the Governor of Algeria, who ought to contribute to purge Africa of the lions and other wild beasts, which, despite the exploits of Bombonnel and of Castaing, become each year more numerous. Before the French occupation, the Arabs, in order to deliver themselves from these inconvenient guests, set fire to the forests and thus compelled them to quit their resorts. The superintendents of the public domains, who take care of the African forests, oppose this expensive expedient; but the people of Tunis and Morocco, and all the tribes bordering on the French colony, continue to burn the forests in order to clear out the wild beasts. In consequence they take refuge in the French possessions, where they are protected from fire—thus greatly increasing the number of lions within the last three or four years. One of the conditions required of the International Society of Africa is to capture a great number of these animals alive to stock the *Jardin des Plantes* and similar collections of natural history. Great cages have been constructed with this design, under the direction of Jules Gerard, as well as instruments for capturing them. The project of creating at the Paris *Jardin D'Acclimatation* a grand menagerie where these animals may propagate and live in the open air is not abandoned, and it is not impossible that next year the *Bois de Boulogne* may be endowed with one of the menageries.

DEATH OF AN OLD CITIZEN.—It is with deep regret that we to-day chronicle the death of one of our most esteemed and respected citizens, Mr. Geo. Schwrar. Universally beloved, his decease has awakened the sorrow of a sympathizing community, where the proudest monument to his memory is an enduring affection and gratitude for his charity and virtues. At a very advanced age, after a long life of usefulness embellished by his exemplary piety, he has been called to that blessed abode, "where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest."—*Annapolis Republican.*

The Republican editors of Pennsylvania are to meet in convention at Harrisburg on the 12th of the present month.

Correspondence of the New York Herald.

CONFEDERATE PLANS IN THE SOUTH-WEST.

It was reported at Richmond, however, that General Albert S. Johnston was collecting at Decatur, in Alabama, all the troops which he could make available, with the intention of attacking the Union troops, cutting off their communication with the North, and compelling them to surrender. There were gentlemen at Richmond high in the confidence of the Confederate Government who believed that it was in his power to do this. It was said that he had at his command fully 75,000 troops splendidly equipped and in a high state of discipline, and with plenty of cavalry and field artillery. All the guns that were at Bowling Green, Clarksville and Nashville have been secured, and are either at Decatur or at Stephenson. The latter place is near the northeast corner of the State of Alabama; and the former is forty miles east of Florence, on the Tennessee river, and of course forty miles above the head of steamboat navigation. They are both on the railroad between Memphis and Knoxville. It is not likely that the Confederate army will remain at either of these two places longer than will be necessary to make whatever preparations are needed for active and combined movements. It was understood at Richmond that the fortifications at Columbus were being dismantled; that all the artillery would be taken down the Mississippi to Memphis, and the place abandoned. It was stated that the entire rolling stock on the railroad between Columbus and Memphis had been used for several days and was still being used, in transporting cannon, gun-carriages and ammunition from the former to the latter place. It was reported, too, that orders had been sent to destroy this railroad as soon as this work should have been accomplished. This latter statement may well be doubted, however. It probably arose from the fact that a member of the Confederate Congress from Tennessee had urged upon the Confederate Secretary of War to give such orders, in order to prevent the Union troops from using the road in marching from Columbus towards Memphis. Besides, it was said that iron could be used in building the railroads so much needed further south. There is very little doubt that efforts will be made to take up part of the rails of the road, and that all the locomotives and cars will be drawn out of the reach of the Union troops.

The greatest mortification was expressed by the members of the Confederate Congress from Alabama and Tennessee at the recent audacious invasion, [illegible] of the gunboat expedition up the Tennessee river to Florence. They declare that the alleged manifestation of Union feeling along the banks of that river is grossly exaggerated; that many of the old men in Tennessee, and a few in Northern Alabama, are Unionists, the same as the old men in Kentucky are, but that there are no able-bodied fighting men along that river, or very few at most, and that whatever Union feeling was expressed on that occasion was the result of the dictates of fear or prudence on the part of a population entirely unprepared for resistance. It is stated that the river has since been sounded at three different points—namely, at Savannah, Decatur and Osceola—that the gunboats cannot again pass the latter point, which is seventy-five miles north of the Alabama State line. A member of the Confederate Congress from Alabama left Richmond a week ago, and is now at Florence, attending to this business.

It is stated that before Nashville was abandoned all the public stores were transported to Decatur and Chattanooga.

All the troops that were at Columbus were to be concentrated at Memphis—not for the defence of that place, but to join the column of General Albert S. Johnston, if he should need them. It was not expected that Memphis would be attacked immediately. Any demonstration towards that city would have to be made down the Mississippi, and that river is said to be so obstructed just below the Arkansas State line that no vessel can pass.—Besides, the defences of Memphis, including Fort Wright and Randolph, have been greatly strengthened during the last month, and, with the addition of the guns from Columbus, Memphis will be nearly as strongly fortified as the former place. There is no doubt that the Confederates will make a desperate stand at Memphis, because if that falls the Mississippi River is open to New Orleans.

HON. JAS. GUTHRIE FOR AN AMNESTY.

At the celebration at Louisville, on the anniversary of Washington's birthday, Hon. Jas. Guthrie delivered an address, from which we extract the following:

This day, if the power was with me, an amnesty and free pardon should be proclaimed to all, whether in arms or not, who, in a prescribed time, give up their arms and the rebel cause, acknowledge the supremacy of the Constitution and the laws, and agree to submit to them. I am asked what I would do with the leaders. I reply, I would leave them to the tribunals and the punishment prescribed by the laws they have violated; but I am for the largest forgiveness consistent with the protection of the Constitution and the safety of the Union. All are not leaders in this rebellion who have acted as its noisy champions, strutting through press, or on the stump, or filled high places in the strife.

My policy would embrace all who are repentant. History records that the Jews, the favored nation of the Almighty, again and again resisted His sacred laws, and were as oft and again chastised for their rebellious act. The scheme of salvation, under our holy religion, is based on repentance. When God forgives the repentant sinner, shall not man forgive his repentant fellow-man? Let us not be too exacting. Let us remember that we are but human. The great truth should be present with us, that

"To err is human, to forgive divine."

This is the teaching of God's truth. The people often rebelled against Jehovah, but Jehovah Himself forgave the repentant sinners. This is the lesson of the Christian religion—a religion of love, of peace, of forgiveness, we must forgive, if we would be forgiven. Back the deluded, let them see by our conduct that we do not intend to visit our vengeance on them, but we intend to show them the goodness and power of the nation in its power to forgive. Those who repent of this rebellion, if pardoned, will not go wholly unpunished. They will have to bear the burden of conscious guilt, the reproaches of those they have blighted, and the widows and orphans they have made and caused to mourn, and the mistrust that must accompany them to the grave.

I would declare this amnesty and pardon as a war measure. It may draw thousands who feel that rebellion is not a remedy for existing or supposed evils, and are earnestly and hopefully awaiting to escape, as far as possible, from the consequences of their acts. I would open the door for them. Many of the seceded States have always been for the Union, and only await the time they may safely take ground for it. I would declare the amnesty and pardon as a financial measure—as a measure of economy in this most expensive and wasteful civil war. I believe it would act promptly in the restoration of the Constitution and the Union, and be more effective in restoring the Union than the most signal victories our armies have or shall obtain. It shortens the war only fifty or one hundred days it would save to the nation more than ten times the value of all the estates you could possibly confiscate in accordance with the Constitution.

You cannot confiscate the estates of non-combatants; the old men, the widows, the orphans, the insane, or the imbecile, from whatever cause, are out of the reach of the most inveterate enemies of the rebellion. We ought not to waste and destroy the property of those whom we don't intend to punish as rebels. Their estates are a part of the fixed capital of the nation, and we want it as a part of the national capital to increase the annual production of the country to meet the unusual taxation that must go with this war, and follow it for many years. I have spoken of and considered the co-restoration of the Constitution and the Union as a fixed fact, and have the most perfect convictions of it. Yet we have difficulties to encounter.

The worst enemies of the Constitution are those whose constant cry is for the blood of the Confederates and the confiscation of their estates, with the emancipation of the slaves, and who, to reach their purposes, would trample the Constitution, the rights of property, and the principles of humanity under foot, and blast forever the prosperity of the nation. Such men propose to establish, through Congressional action, provisional governments over the seceded States.

I am glad to see our Union armies advancing, although the weather is bad and the roads almost impassable, and I hope they will now strike heavy and quick. We want no provisional governments in the States under congressional action. The Union sentiment is strong enough in Tennessee, and I believe will be strong enough in all the seceded States when supported by the Union armies, to take possession of the State Governments and bring them again under the folds of the Constitution.—There can be no fear about the supremacy of the Union sentiment in those States.

There is sound logic and convincing eloquence in the material force of our Union armies. Do not be surprised as the armies advance, to find that the work of restoration is more prompt and decisive than the work of secession, and far more unanimous. Kentucky had no heart for this civil war. She thought and felt that it ought not to have been, and hoped her voice for peace would be heard. When she found that hope was vain, she girded on her armor and determined to strike for the Constitution, the Union, and the flag. Last in the field, she wants to be first in the work of restoration. I have felt and hoped with Kentucky, and my heart and judgment are still with her.

If Congress is prompt and efficient in action, with efficient aid from the Executive Department, I see no reason why the Constitution and the Union may not be restored within the next ninety or one hundred days, and more than half this immense army restored to their peaceful homes and their usual industrial pursuits. May God grant this and give us peace and a happy reunion, and enable us and our children and our children's children, when ever this day shall return, for coming centuries to appreciate and act in accordance with the farewell advice of Washington, and make those who have engaged in this civil war, and those who have sympathized with them, and their posterity as loyal to the Constitution, the Union, and the laws as Washington himself, and cause the enemies of the Constitution and the Union to become the friends of both.

There are more Americans than either Englishmen or Scotchmen in Lower Canada. While the natives of England in the Provinces number 13,139 and of Scotland 13,160, those of the United States number 13,631. Nearly one-fifth of the whole population of one county, and one-sixth of another, are Americans. Out of a population of 1,110,664 only 298 of the inhabitants of Lower Canada claim to be returned as "Christians;" only five were classed as "Disciples," and three as "Mormons."

BAPTIST MISSIONARIES TO JAPAN SUPPOSED TO BE LOST.—No intelligence has been received from Rev J. Q. A. Rohrer and his wife, Baptist Missionaries under appointment to Japan. Mr. R. went out under the auspices of the Southern Baptist Board, Mr. and Mrs. Rohrer embarked early in 1861, in the Edwin Forrest, from which no account has been received, and it is feared the vessel has been lost.

The Portland *Argus* says, the Abolitionist Convention which assembled at Albany last week, resolved that "the Constitution is, since the war, even more of a covenant with death than before, and so the work of the Abolitionists, instead of being completed, is becoming more important."

THE CAPTURE OF THE LABUAN.—A correspondent of the Fall River *News* furnishes the following particulars of the capture of the Labuan. Under date of Ship Island, Feb. 1, he writes:

"The sloop-of-war Portsmouth captured the English iron steamer Labuan, of Hull, England, at the mouth of the Rio Grande, loading with cotton. When the Portsmouth arrived there was a large lighter with 3,000 bales of cotton lying along-side of the Labuan, and not liking the looks of the Portsmouth's French colors, which were flying at the masthead as a decoy to get as near as possible, and smelling a large-sized mice, she slipped her cables and run into shoal water, where the Portsmouth could not reach her, and the iron steamer, being of very heavy draught, could not get any further up the river; so there she had to lay within reach of the Portsmouth's pivot guns, and at sundown all colors were lowered, and as soon as it became dark enough for the Portsmouth to act, she hauled directly into and across the channel.—She then lowered away her cutter and manned her with fifteen men, commanded by Captain Richmond, and proceeded to the Labuan very quietly, boarded her, and inquired for the captain. He was answered by the first officer that the captain was ashore. Captain Richmond then ordered the first officer to get up steam at once, which he refused to do. 'Oh, well,' said Captain Richmond, 'never mind; I have men enough to do it, and will save you the trouble.' The mate then said, 'Well, if I must get up steam, I will; where do you want to take us?' 'Oh, not far, only down here under the Portsmouth's guns.' She is a valuable prize."

The New York *Tribune* publishes a statement of the bills presented by seventy-four railroad companies, for transportation for the United States army, from April 1, 1861, to February 1, 1862. From this statement it appears that the bills of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad amounts to $567,922.55; those of the Northern Central to $223,610 24; and those of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad at $694,389.73.

The Treasury Department has granted a number of permits to trade between the seceded and loyal States on the coasts of the Atlantic and on the Mississippi, under the provisions of the law regulating intercourse with the seceded States.—*Washington Republican.*

MARRIED.

On the 27th February, by the Rev. Dr. Wyatt, ROBERT N. ELDER, of Baltimore county, to SUSAN O. VOSS of Baltimore city.

DIED.

On Saturday, the 1st instant, Rev. CHARLES R. HOWARD, in the 61st year of his age.

His funeral will take place from Emmanuel Church, on this (Tuesday) morning, at 10 o'clock. The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend.

On Sunday night, after a few days' illness of scarlet fever, JULIA WINANS, aged 3 years, youngest daughter of John P. and Mary J. Des Forges.

The funeral service will be held at St. Luke's Church, on this (Tuesday) morning, at eleven o'clock.

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