

## Political and General News.

From the Times and Transcript.

### THE LATE DISASTER.

Statement of Captain Sampson.

**Errors** Times and Tammie—I am under the painful necessity of reporting the loss of the steamer Independence, lately under my command, on her passage from San Juan del Sur to this port, and about one hundred and twenty-five lives, consisting of the passengers and fifteen of the crew. She was lost on the Island of Margarita, off the coast of Lower California. After leaving Acapulco, we experienced strong breezes from N. W. to N. P. Passed St. Lucas on the morning of the 15th February. At 12 o'clock M. of the 18th, we were in lat. 23 deg. 4 min. N., long. 110 deg. 42 min. W., steered N. by W. & N. W. per compass, intending to go the westward of Margarita Island. On the morning of the 18th, at 1 o'clock A. M., made the main land to the eastward of the island, having been set in shore by the current. Altered the course to S. W. At 2 A. M., made the Island of Margarita, the south point bearing W. by S. per compass; then altered the course to W. S. W. I intended to give the point birth of three miles, but owing to a favorable wind I was deceived in the distance. At 5, just as day was beginning to break, she struck on a sunken reef; extending off from the south point of the island about a mile from the shore. The sea was very smooth at the time, not breaking on the reef at all. Shocked the engine and she came off; examined the hold and found that she was filling rapidly; knew that I should have to beach her to keep her from sinking; got a sail over the bow (under her) to try to stop the leak, and set a gang of men at work at each hatchway bailing, and ran along the west side of the island, close in, to find a good place to put her ashore. Told the engineer to let me know five minutes before the water would be up high enough to put out the fire.

**IMPORTANT TO POSTMASTERS.**—A case was tried during a recent session of the U. S. Circuit Court in this city, which ought to be generally understood, both by the people and the officials who have charge of the various post offices throughout the country. The postmaster at Sylvania, in Seneca county, was arraigned and fined fifty dollars for delaying letters in his office. The law makes it the imperative duty of every Postmaster to forward all mail matter deposited one hour before the departure of the mail, unless longer time should be granted by the Postmaster-General on account of the business of the office. There are also several penalties for delaying papers, &c., after they have been mailed and are on their way to their places of destination. So stringent are the laws, that rigid and prompt discharge of their official duties only can save the Postmasters from their penalties. The above is the first instance of a conviction that we have heard of, and we publish it for information, hoping that it may lead to increased carelessness on the part of all who have anything to do with the mail service.—*Susan* *Post-Courier.*

**THE REDUCTION IN THE REVENUE SERVICE.**—The following officers were discharged from the Revenue Service on the 14th inst.

Captains—Ezekiel Jones, Mass.; Gilbert Knapp, Mass.; W. B. Whitehead, Ind.; W. V. Polk, Ind.; S. C. Harby, S. C.

First Lieutenants—Beverly Diddle, Md.; Arnold Burroughs, N. J.; Nicholas Austin, R. I.

Second Lieutenants—A. C. Cook, Pa.; C. W. King, Mo.

Third Lieutenants.—(Appointed by Mr. Fillmore 15th Dec., 1852)—John A. Woodward, N. H.; Austin S. Cushman, N. Y.; Thomas S. Ginn, Md.; J. D. Longell, Va.; Wm. D. Kenyon, Va.; R. A. Morell, Me.; S. W. Gullett, N. Y.; John E. Wilson, N. Y.; Thos. Osborn, S. C.; John McGowen, Nones, Del.; Wm. G. Nimmer, Va.; D. C. Constance, N. Y.; Elwih Hurbut, Mich.; P. V. R. Linn, N. Y.; J. H. Nimon, Va.; A. S. Hatch, Vt.; C. W. Van Rensselaer, N. Y.

The Revenue Service is cut down to 16 of each grade.

The new Revenue cutters about to be built are to be called the—Wm. L. Marcy, Jefferson Davis, James C. Dobbins, Robert McClelland, Caleb Cushing, James Guthrie. The name of the seventh is not decided upon; there is already a Campbell in the service, or the name of the Postmaster General would have been used.—*New York Press.*

**THE PATRONAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT—MANNER OF ITS DISTRIBUTION.**—The Washington Union considers the subject of Government patronage at much length, intimating that in the disposition of it, no distinctions or factions will be recognized.—We quote thus:—"Undoubtedly the President feels the utmost solicitude for the harmony and ascendancy of the democratic party, and undoubtedly will be neglect no legitimate opportunity for promoting that object. Already has he given an earnest of this spirit in the manner in which he has far surpassed the patronage of government, recognizing no distinctions and espousing no faction in the democratic party—regarding all who stand upon the common platform as disciples of a common faith, and repudiating the narrow and provincial bigotry of sect—in his just and impartial arrangement he has embraced all who are honestly attached to the principles of which he is the chosen representative and champion. This liberal and equitable policy is appreciated by the party. All true democrats applaud the noble motives which actuate the administration, and all are prepared to put a just and generous construction on its acts.—The President has the confidence of the country and the party. The interests of each being in harmony with the interests of the other—the success of the democratic party being subordi-

nate to the country—the President will doubtless consult the good of both, with a proportionate anxiety, and with an earnest purpose fully to discharge all the obligations incident to his position."

Capt. Gordon said that he had been in the bay five days, and that there were no other vessels in the bay. After stating the circumstances of the wreck to him he consented to get under way (although he had but sixty gallons of water on board at the time) and take the survivors to San Jose or Cape St. Lucas, where they could get the necessary supplies of food, and when he was about to leave, the mate said he was ashore looking for water; set a signal, and they came on board.

Capt. Gordon said that he had been in the bay five days, and that there were no other vessels in the bay. After stating the circumstances of the wreck to him he consented to get under way (although he had but sixty gallons of water on board at the time) and take the survivors to San Jose or Cape St. Lucas, where they could get the necessary supplies of food, and when he was about to leave, the mate said he was ashore looking for water; set a signal, and they came on board.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack had fallen, and the flames were coming out of the side-lights, and it was impossible to stay on board any longer.

A boat came off from the shore with two of the deck hands in her. Beaumont, who was near the fire rigging, jumped into her, and I jumped overboard, swam to her, and commenced picking up those who were ashore. After picking up three boat loads, Thomas Herron, the steward, succeeded in launching another boat, and saving some of the people.

When all that were alive, had been picked up, and some of the baggage, I landed and had the spar which had drifted ashore, hauled up into a ravine, and with one end that had washed ashore, made a tent large enough to shelter the women and children.

The ship was still in flames, so that he was unable to get away, and the smoke stack