

On our outside will be found the correspondence between Lord Lyons and Secretary Seward, in reference to the release of Messrs. Mason and Slidell, and their Secretaries.

Mr. Seward's letter reviews at length the different points of international law respecting the case, and adduces conclusive proof to sustain the position the Government has taken in the matter. The decision of the Government is, as far as we are able to judge by the tone of the press, very generally acquiesced in by the people throughout the country...

There is no room for doubt but what this was a nice laid scheme, on the part of the South, to bring us into difficulties with Great Britain and France, but it proved abortive as all other like schemes have done.

By the haste to rush into war with the United States, at this critical moment, England has forfeited the good feeling of our people and our Government. It shows too plainly the disposition of JOHN BELL to take undue advantage of circumstances, and Bull like, gore a fettered ox.

The time for a foreign war is not now, but it will come.

Mr. Seward's letter needs no comment. It is a plain and ably written document which explains itself. We commend it to the perusal of our readers.

DEPARTURE OF MASON AND SLIDELL.

The British steam gunboat Rinaldo left Princeton, Mass., at 5 p. m., on Wednesday, the 1st inst., with Messrs. Mason and Slidell and their Secretaries on board. The wind blew a hurricane all night. Some of the New York relatives of John Slidell went to Boston for the purpose of seeing him before his embarkation for Europe. He had an interview with his sister on Tuesday. The Boston Journal of Wednesday evening says: "The arrangements for their return was very quietly made, and nothing was known in this city in regard to the affair until the hour arrived for their departure."

The Toronto Globe, which is more friendly to us than any other Canadian journal, is heartily rejoiced at the action of the Administration in the surrendering of Mason and Slidell. It says, "We would not utter an ungenerous taunt at this moment; there is no shame in the American people admitting that, while engaged in a civil contest, they shrink from a war with Britain. The shame lies in having taken up, in a reckless spirit of bravado, a position which it has been found impossible to maintain."

For fifty years there has been peace between the United States and Britain, and, in spite of a slight interruption in 1837, we may say that the intercourse of Canada with her neighbors has been almost uniformly agreeable and advantageous to both parties.

The Mission of Mason and Slidell to Europe.—It appears by recent statements of Jefferson Davis; and announcements in the Charleston Mercury, and indications in the European papers, that Messrs. Mason and Slidell were despatched to the Courts of London and Paris, on a mission of the very highest importance—no less a one than of offering to open the ports of the South altogether, and granting free trade to foreign nations, for the next five years, besides submitting the Southern Confederacy to a joint protectorate of England and France.

THE LATEST WAR NEWS.

The United States steam-transport Vanderbilt, from Port Royal on the morning of the 3d inst., arrived at New York on Monday morning, bringing the important news of the victory over the rebels on the 1st inst., in a brisk fight near Port Royal ferry, about twenty five miles from Hilton Head. The expedition which achieved this victory was a combined military and naval one, and was under the joint command of Brigadier General I. I. Stevens and Captain Rogers of the flship Wash.

The troops engaged consisted of the Eighth Michigan Regiment, Pennsylvania Round Heads, Fiftieth Pennsylvania, Seventy-ninth New York Militia, Forty-seventh and Forty-eighth New York Volunteers. The naval vessels consisted of the gunboats Ellen, Seneca, Pamona and Ottawa. General Stevens' brigade advanced on Port Royal on the 1st inst., and took possession of the rebel batteries after a short resistance of the rebels. The brigade was assisted by the gunboats, which shelled the batteries. General Stevens then followed up the blow until he arrived within six miles of the Charleston Railroad.

A flag of truce was sent by the rebels, who desired permission to collect and bury their dead, which was granted. One hour was allowed for that purpose, after which the rebels fell back upon their fortifications near the railroad, which are very extensive, leaving behind them one large gun, which they had spiked. The rebel force engaged was estimated at eight thousand men, under Generals Gregg and Pope. The federal force engaged was four thousand five hundred men. Our loss was nine wounded—one mortally, Major Watson, of the Eight Michigan Regiment, who has since died.

The health of General McClellan is so far restored that he will be able to take command in the field in the course of a day or two. Information was received at headquarters on Sunday that the rebels in the vicinity of Fairfax were suffering so fearfully for want of warm clothing that they were appropriating the clothes of the negroes. Their horses were also dying off for want of food, all the fodder in the neighborhood having been consumed.

Mrs. Greenow, the female rebel, has been detected in carrying on a secret correspondence with the enemy, in spite of the close watch kept upon her house at Washington. It has, therefore, been decided to send her at once to Fort Lafayette, where she will have no opportunity of communicating information to her Southern friends. It has been discovered that several other ladies in Washington are engaged in like treasonable practices, and the probability is that the dismal quarters of Fort Lafayette and Fort Warren may, ere long, be enlivened with the presence of quite a bevy of female traitors.

Our news from Point of Rocks is of a stirring character. A body of six thousand rebels attacked the Fiftieth Connecticut regiment on Saturday near Hancock, and succeeded in destroying the railroad and telegraph lines, cutting off for the time all communication with Cumberland. The single regiment on our side who were protecting the railroad, was not sufficiently strong to resist a force six times greater in number, and was therefore compelled to retire across the Potomac, after a short skirmish. General Lander, however, was moving on Sunday with a large force from Point of Rocks to support the Connecticut regiment. The rebels were throwing shells at intervals on Sunday, but without doing any mischief. The Union artillery was responding. It appears to be the intention of the rebels to cross the river on the ice, but it was not strong enough to make the experiment.

General Dander is now in position to resist any attack upon the lines. Information from Green county, Kentucky, represents that a battle there is imminent, as the two opposing forces of the Union and rebel armies are in close juxtaposition—the rebels with five regiments at Cave City, and the Union troops at Munfordsville, these places being only seven miles apart. The abandonment of Big Bethel by the rebels is confirmed by dispatches from Fortress Monroe, although it has not been found necessary to occupy that place by a garrison of Union troops.

Commander Wm. Ronckendorf, of Pennsylvania has been appointed to the command of the United States steamship San Jacinto, now at Boston. One of the most important points in our country at the present time is Kentucky. All that portion of the great army of the West, which is stationed east of the Tennessee river, is under the direction of General Buell, while the troops west of the river, including these at Cairo, Illinois, belonging to Gen. Halleck's Missouri division. General Buell's force consists of a large portion of the volunteers from Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky men of great physical energy and vigor, as hardly as they are brave, and as resolute as they are patriotic.

Coal oil is not unlikely to become one of these days quite as remarkable for the variety of uses to which it will be applied as the common gum tree called India rubber. It is now proposed to employ it as part of the charge of a new military shell, and highly successful experiments are said to have been made with it recently at Meadville, Pa. The peculiarity of this novel bomb consists in the introduction of a small quantity of petroleum or native rock oil, which is exceedingly inflammable. The explosion of the shell ignites the oil, which is scattered far and wide in a blazing state. It is said to set in flames every combustible thing within its reach, and that it is almost impossible to extinguish the fire.

ed in four grand divisions, under the respective commands of Generals McCook, Mitchell, Nelson, and Thomas, and in two smaller ones, under Generals Schoepff and Crittenden. The three first named are now all stationed on the Nashville Railroad, between Elizabethtown and Louisville. The indication are that, in the course of a week or ten days, an attempt to advance into Tennessee will be made, which the rebels will be unable to resist.

The Secession army at Bowling Green is supposed to be about 30,000 strong. Its chief reliance is upon the strength of the fortifications it has erected. It is now too weak to hazard any important offensive movement, and it will require all its energies to defend its position and to prevent the advance of our army into Tennessee.

The tone of the Canada papers, and the reported opinion of Lord Lyons, indicate that, by the surrender of Mason and Slidell, all danger of war with Great Britain has, for the present, been avoided. The rebel envoys have been transferred to the English sloop-of-war Rinaldo.

THE LONG-CONTENDED LAND CLAIM.—The long-contested land claim between General James H. Lane and Gaus Jenkins, involving the title to a valuable quarter-section of land adjoining Lawrence, Kansas, has been finally decided by the Commissioner of the Land Office, Commissioner of the Indian Affairs, and Secretary of the Interior, unequivocally in favor of Gen. Lane. The merits of the case have been exhaustively presented on both sides, by eminent legal advisers, and involved the original parties in a personal conflict on the claim, resulting in the wounding of General Lane and the death of Gaus Jenkins. The case has excited great interest throughout legal circles, the various departments, and the country at large. The decision vindicating General Lane in his right to the property was rendered on the last day of December. At the commencement of this year General Lane presented to the attorney of Thomas Jenkins the sum of \$1,500, as a free-will New Year offering of kindness and sympathy.

MORE DEMANDS.—It is stated, in the English journals, that "the surrender of Messrs. Mason and Slidell are (is) not the whole of England's demands" on the United States, and that, therefore, her warlike preparations will continue. It is important to ascertain if this be true, and to be told what all England's demands may be. Perhaps it is expected that the United States should retro to their former "allegiance" to Great Britain!

THE BLOCKADING FLEET.—The following is a very accurate and interesting list, giving the situation of every vessel of our blockading fleet, at the date mentioned in the schedule.—Of course the fleet operating independently at Port Royal and on other parts of the southern coast is not included in this list:
November 13.—Monticello; Jamestown, 22 guns; off Wilmington.
November 14.—Susquehanna; 15 guns; Alabama, 84 guns; off Charleston.
November 16.—Augusta and Florida, off Savannah.
November 17.—Huntsville, Pampero, Wanderer, Anderson, Midnight; off Key West.
November 18.—Ethau Allen; off Tampa Bay.
November 22.—Mohawk, 5 guns; Marrión, 16 guns; off Apalache Bay.
November 23.—Hatteras; off West entrance Apalache Bay.
November 24.—Niagra, 12 guns; Richmond, 14 guns; Montgomery and Guard; off Pensacola.
November 25.—R. R. Cuyler, Massachusetts and New London; off Ship Island.
November 26.—Mississippi, 11 guns; Kingfisher; off Pass a l'Ouvre.
November 26.—Vincennes, 20 guns; off South Pass Mississippi.
November 26.—Colorado, 20 guns; Fear Not off Southwest Pass Mississippi.
November 27.—South Carolina; off Barataria Bay.
November 28.—Preble, 15 guns; off Berwick Bay.
November 29.—Santee, 50 guns; off Galveston.

The Richmond has since broken her shaft and is on her way home to repair it; and is ordered off New-York.

FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA.—PHILADELPHIA Friday, Jan. 3, 1862.—A fire commenced about 2 o'clock this morning in the basement beneath the American Telegraph Office, and before it could be subdued the lower floor and battery room were completely burned out. Howard's Express Office, adjoining, was also much damaged.

PHILADELPHIA, 11 o'clock a. m.—The damage to the Telegraph Office does not exceed \$800, which is insured. The fire being confined to the basement portion of the building the telegraph instrument escaped without injury. Telegraphic communication with the country continues without interruption.

The operators were on duty at the time the fire broke out the fourth story of the building, and the stairway becoming densely filled with smoke there was considerable alarm for a short time about their safety. All escaped, however, without injury. A boy, believing his escape was cut off, was rescued by a ladder.

GEN. SHERMAN AND THE SLAVES.—General Sherman, writing from Port Royal to a Senator, says that if he had issued a proclamation immediately on landing in South Carolina, offering protection to all slaves that should enter his lines, he might of had 10,000 additional men by this time. But he expressed a conviction that the course he pursued was best; that the time has not yet come for such a proclamation to have its full effect, and will not come perhaps for two or three months.

The Death of Prince Albert.

By the Persia we have tidings of the death of His Royal Highness Prince Albert, consort of Queen Victoria, Duke of Saxe-Coburg, Gotha, &c., which took place in London, on the 15th inst., after a brief illness, which was not considered dangerous until two days before it resulted in death. His disease was gastric fever. Prince Albert was a christian and a gentleman, as well as a Prince, and was more illustrious by his virtues than by his position.

Francis Albert Augustus Charles Emanuel, Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, was born at Rosenau, in the Duchy of Saxe-Coburg, on the 26th of August 1819—just three months after Victoria, who was to be his future Queen.—He was the second son of Ernest, Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, under whose immediate personal superintendence he received an admirable education, which he completed by attending the University of Bonn during three academic sessions. In 1838 he visited England, in company with the King of Belgium, and spent some time at the court of the youthful Queen, and next year it was formally announced to the Privy Council by the Queen, that she intended to form a matrimonial alliance with Prince Albert. The marriage was solemnized Feb. 10, 1840. For the purpose of rendering him perfectly independent, the magnificent permanent allowance of \$150,000 a year was made to him by parliament. Beside which he was a Field Marshal, Knight of the Garter, and other orders, Colonel of the Fusilier Guards and held a number of other honorary and lucrative appointments, which ran his personal income up to over a quarter of a million of dollars a year.

Prince Albert was a man of refined taste, and an accomplished musician and draughtsman. Forbidden by his position to interfere in politics, he occupied himself with superintending the education of his children. The progress of the arts and science, and general philanthropic subjects, such as the "dwellings of the working classes," sanitary arrangements &c., also engaged his attention. He was president and patron of numerous charitable institutions, in which he took an active interest. He was the chief promoter, if not the originator, of the great World's Exhibition of 1851. In agricultural science he took great interest, and his farming stock has been frequently exhibited and gained prizes. As a patron of art and literature, too, Prince Albert was particularly active.

Prince Albert was the father of nine children, borne of Queen Victoria in the year's named underneath, and baptized as follows:—Princess Victoria Adelaide Maria Louisa, Princess Royal, born November, 21st, 1840, and married on the 25th of January, 1858, the Prince Frederick William son of the present King of Prussia. Prince Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, born November 9th 1841, and heir apparent to the throne. Princess Alice Matilda Mary, born April, 25th, 1843. Prince Alfred Ernest Albert, born August 6th, 1844. Princess Helena Augusta Victoria, born May 25th, 1846. Princess Louise Caroline Alberta, born March 18th, 1850. Prince Arthur William Patrick Albert, born May 1st, 1850. Prince Leopold George Duncan Albert, born April 7th, 1853. Princess Beatrice Mary Victoria Feodora, born April 14th, 1857.

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The Work before Congress.

The holidays are past; members of Congress have returned from their homes; and the country looks to them for a prompt and active discharge of their duties. Thus far in the session they have accomplished very little; but they have prepared a great deal; and measures which are worthy of support should be matured and executed at once. In ordinary times our legislators might be permitted to loiter over their work, to hold sittings of only three hours a day, and spend the greater part of those three hours in making speeches for political effect. But we are now in the midst of a stupendous civil war, which requires the putting forth of every energy of the Government, and the people will not bear with patience any signs of want of earnestness or delay.

The main thing which Congress has to do is to raise the means for the prosecution of the war.—It can be done effectually in only two ways—first, by cutting down the various expenditures of the Government, and second, by taxing the people for raising a revenue to pay the interest on loans and meeting outlays.—The Secretary of the Navy, we are glad to see, has already begun a reduction in the expenses of labor at the Navy Yards, and there is no reason why the same policy should not be adopted throughout his department and the other departments. The salaries of many of our officers are, considering the state of the times, enormous. Millions of dollars could be saved by curtailing them, and millions more by a rigid economy in disbursements. But it is upon taxation, after all, that we shall be compelled to rely. An issue of Treasury notes, to meet current expenses, may be permitted in a great emergency, but it should be stopped as soon as other resources are opened. If we desire universal bankruptcy, there could be no shorter road to it than an unlimited utterance of mere paper promises.

It is an egregious error to suppose that our people are unwilling to submit to taxation.—The London Times and other journals which do not know them, or which desire to malign and embarrass our cause, may indulge in such representations, but we on the spot know better. We know that the people of this country are thoroughly in earnest in the support of the war. They are willing to make any sacrifice to carry it to a successful end. They have given their lives to it, without stint, and they will give what is worth less than life, their property, it cannot be said they engaged in it without counting the cost, but they were prepared to meet the cost. Loans have already been made to a prodigious amount from among ourselves, and when these shall fail, contributions in the shape of taxes will be cheerfully offered.

Besides, if we desire to have the war vigorously prosecuted and brought to a speedy end, the whole people must be made to feel its burdens directly. Contractors, agents, soldiers, and officers may perhaps desire its prolongation for the sake of the profit it brings; but those who pay the expenses, and know that they pay it, will desire to render it as sharp and short as it can be made. Let Congress bring it home to their bosoms, and they will see that the executive branches do their share of the duty. We cannot afford to wait. Our credit must not be suffered to languish. We cannot tell how soon other wars may be on our hands, and it seems to us bravely this detestable war must be put out of the way.—N. Y. Evening Post.

MARRIED.

In Shehequin, Dec. 31, 1861, by Rev. S. J. Gibson, Mr. GEORGE N. JOHNSON, to Miss ALICE E. CHAPPEL, both of Orwell. At the same time and place, by the same, Mr. LYCURUS L. MAYNARD, to Miss CHARLOTTE H. LOTTE JOHNSON, of Orwell. On New Year's day, at the residence of the bride's father, by Rev. A. J. Swart, Mr. E. H. MANLEY, to Miss EMMA WILSON, all of Alba.

Legal.

SHERIFFS SALE.—By virtue of sundry writs of Vend. Ex. issued out of the Court of common pleas of Bradford county, to me directed, to be exposed to public sale on THURSDAY, the 30th day of JANUARY, A. D. 1862, at the court house, in Towanda, at 1 o'clock, p. m., the following described lot, or parcel of land situate in Ridgeway twp., beginning at the south-east corner of lot No. 35, thence north 1 1/2° east 113 rods to a corner; thence south 84° east 58 rods to a corner of Dennis Drummy Jr.'s lot, thence south 14° west 113 rods to a corner; thence north 84° west 28 rods to the place of beginning. Containing 41 acres, more or less, being one half of lot No. 34, according to a survey or plat made by Orono Ricker, about 30 acres improved, one log house, log barn and a young orchard thereon.

Also the following described lot, piece or parcel of land situate in Ridgeway twp., bounded on the north by lands of Orono Ricker, on the east by land of Michael Drummy, south by land of John Carl, and west by land of Michael Drummy. Containing 42 acres, more or less—about 25 acres improved.

Also the following described lot, piece or parcel of land situate in Columbia twp., bounded on the north by lands of Orono Ricker, on the east by lands of Orono Ricker, on the west by lands of Orono Ricker, and on the south by lands of Orono Ricker. Containing 140 acres, more or less; about 130 acres improved, one framed house, frame barn, and an orchard of fruit trees thereon.

Also the following described lot, piece or parcel of land situate in Troy twp., bounded on the north by lands of D. R. Manley, on the east by lands of D. R. Manley, on the south by lands of G. P. Freeman and H. D. Freeman, and on the west by lands of H. D. & G. P. Freeman and J. B. Greenleaf—containing about 25 acres, be the same more or less, about 15 acres improved, few fruit trees thereon.

Legal.

ALSO the following lot, piece or parcel of land situate in Towanda twp., bounded on the north by lands of A. D. Montgomery, on the east by lands of A. D. Montgomery, on the west by lands of A. D. Montgomery, and on the south by lands of A. D. Montgomery. Containing 54 feet, more or less, to be known as Barrow's lot; thence south along said Barrow's lot to the street, thence west to Dr. Porter's store, south to N. E. corner, thence west to Mrs. Porter's west line to the corner, thence east to Mrs. Porter's east line to her north line, thence west to Main street, thence north 21 feet to the place of beginning, it being the same as the lot of interest the defendant has in the store lately sold by him, all improved, one brick building, lately used as a grocery store, one log house, one log barn, one log house, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high.

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Also the following lot, piece or parcel of land situate in Towanda twp., bounded on the north by lands of A. D. Montgomery, on the east by lands of A. D. Montgomery, on the west by lands of A. D. Montgomery, and on the south by lands of A. D. Montgomery. Containing 54 feet, more or less, to be known as Barrow's lot; thence south along said Barrow's lot to the street, thence west to Dr. Porter's store, south to N. E. corner, thence west to Mrs. Porter's west line to the corner, thence east to Mrs. Porter's east line to her north line, thence west to Main street, thence north 21 feet to the place of beginning, it being the same as the lot of interest the defendant has in the store lately sold by him, all improved, one brick building, lately used as a grocery store, one log house, one log barn, one log house, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high.

Also the following lot, piece or parcel of land situate in Towanda twp., bounded on the north by lands of A. D. Montgomery, on the east by lands of A. D. Montgomery, on the west by lands of A. D. Montgomery, and on the south by lands of A. D. Montgomery. Containing 54 feet, more or less, to be known as Barrow's lot; thence south along said Barrow's lot to the street, thence west to Dr. Porter's store, south to N. E. corner, thence west to Mrs. Porter's west line to the corner, thence east to Mrs. Porter's east line to her north line, thence west to Main street, thence north 21 feet to the place of beginning, it being the same as the lot of interest the defendant has in the store lately sold by him, all improved, one brick building, lately used as a grocery store, one log house, one log barn, one log house, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high.

Also the following lot, piece or parcel of land situate in Towanda twp., bounded on the north by lands of A. D. Montgomery, on the east by lands of A. D. Montgomery, on the west by lands of A. D. Montgomery, and on the south by lands of A. D. Montgomery. Containing 54 feet, more or less, to be known as Barrow's lot; thence south along said Barrow's lot to the street, thence west to Dr. Porter's store, south to N. E. corner, thence west to Mrs. Porter's west line to the corner, thence east to Mrs. Porter's east line to her north line, thence west to Main street, thence north 21 feet to the place of beginning, it being the same as the lot of interest the defendant has in the store lately sold by him, all improved, one brick building, lately used as a grocery store, one log house, one log barn, one log house, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high, the third story of the log house being three stories high.

60 TONS FRESH GROUND PLASTER FOR SALE WM. A. ROCKWELL'S. Towanda, Jan. 8, 1861.

NOTICE.—The undersigned respectfully announce to the voters of Towanda that he will be a candidate for election to the office of Register for said town on the 30th day of February next, and if elected, will endeavor to best his ability, to give public satisfaction in the performance of the office. H. A. BUSHNELL, Jan. 8, 1862.

W. T. MAWES, ATTORNEY AT LAW, at Law, Towanda, Bradford county, Pa. Office with Wm. Watkins, Esq., a few doors north of the Court House. Jan. 8, 1862.