

THE VILLAGE RECORD.

WATKINSON, FRIDAY, JAN. 4, 1862.

The commissary stores, including a portion of the ordnance at Nashville, Tenn. were destroyed by fire on the 23d ult. The loss is estimated at nearly one million.

Instead of a mob, says the Exchange we have now an effective army in the field of over a half a million of men. They are well armed and equipped, well supplied with artillery and cavalry and paid, and the money provided to meet the war expenses for some time in advance. We are thoroughly ready, and when our armies advance towards Richmond, Nashville and New Orleans, they will be able to cope successfully with any force that can be brought against them, and may be able to accomplish in a single day what has taken so many months to prepare for, and what we have all so impatiently anticipated. One or two decisive blows will break the back of the rebellion. When it is done, as we have faith it will be, all will see not only that the time spent in preparation was well spent, but wonder how much could be done in so short a time. While we at home have been chiding our rulers for their tardiness, the world has seen with surprise more than half a million of men placed in the field, armed, equipped and prepared for efficient service in six months. But this is not all. If need be—if the emergency requires it, another half million can be raised in another six months.

What a contrast between the style and temper of the Message of President Lincoln and that of Jefferson Davis! The one a dispassionate statement of the affairs of the country; the other a brutal philippic against the Free State. The one breathing the spirit of generous statesmanship; the other breathing wrath and threatening against twenty millions of people. The one seeking to allay the passions of the masses, the other appealing to all the baser instincts of human nature. The one praying that the war might "not degenerate into a violent and remorseless revolutionary struggle;" the other fanning the flames of popular fury, by every trick of eloquence and argument. The one speaking with the calm dignity of the head of a great Government; the other speaking like the chief of a band of outlaws. The one addressing the reason and conscience of a Christian nation; the other addressing the ignorance and lusts of the rabble.

The preparations for General Burnside's Naval Expedition are rapidly being completed, and it will probably soon sail. There are now at Annapolis 14 steamers, 1 propeller, 4 ships, 3 barks, 1 brig, 11 schooners, 5 floating batteries; besides 2 light dispatch steamships—in all, 41 vessels. Gen. Burnside and staff have also taken possession of the Pickett, a handsome little propeller of 400 tons, and have made it the flag-ship of the transport fleet. The preparations are all on the most extensive scale and the expedition is strong enough to strike as hard a blow as Com. Dupont did at Port Royal. Its destination is very properly a profound secret. The rebels in the vicinity of Yorktown, Va., have been thrown into a great state of excitement by the belief that it will attack that point, and Gen. Magruder has asked the permission of Jeff. Davis to burn the town. He was directed to refrain from this infamous work of destruction until he was certain that it was to be assailed.

Another Victory in Missouri.—On Friday last, Gen. Prentiss, with 450 men, encountered and dispersed a body of Rebels, 900 strong, under Col. Dorsey, at Mount Lion Boone county, Missouri, killed and wounded 150 of them, and captured 25 prisoners, 95 horses and 103 guns. Our loss was only 3 killed and 11 wounded.

The Rebel ambassadors, Mason and Slidell, with their Secretaries, were released from confinement on Friday last, and handed over to the jurisdiction of a representative of Lord Lyons in Boston.

The surrender of Mason and Slidell is generally approved of by the Unionists of Baltimore; but the Secessionists are woefully disappointed, as it completely annihilates their much cherished hopes of a war with England.

Among the sixty-four secessionists who have been assessed in St. Louis to make up the ten thousand dollars for the benefit of the Union refugees, and several fashionable and wealthy ladies. At last accounts they had failed to see the justice of the order of Gen. Halleck.

It is reported that another battle between the Pennsylvania Reserves and the rebels may soon be expected. A large force of the enemy are now stationed near Drainesville, and the Reserves have drawn seven days' rations. It is supposed that they will be ordered to make an advance movement in the direction of Leesburg.

Among the most specious assailants of the Administration for releasing Slidell and Mason, are the very few Secession sympathizers who were so indignant because these Superior twin-patriots were captured and imprisoned. Comment is superfluous.

The Drainesville Fight.—We have been permitted to make the following extract from a letter written by Wilson Pickett to his father in this place. Wilson is a private in the 13th Regiment, Pennsylvania Reserves—he is one of the "entire," having served an apprenticeship in this office. His account of the battle will no doubt prove interesting to his friends and acquaintances in this section: "It is with pleasure that I write you these few lines. We have met the enemy, and they are ours. On last Thursday night we had orders to have one days' rations in our haversacks and to march at daylight next morning. We started on a foraging expedition, and, as we afterwards learned, of capturing some rebels that had been prowling near our lines. We had a pretty hard time of it from the start, having to scour the woods on both sides of the road until the fight took place. The second platoon of our company of which I was one, was detailed as a rear guard, remaining half a mile in the rear of the Brigade to prevent a surprise and to bring up all stragglers. We were nearly a mile behind the Brigade when we heard some firing in front. The lieutenant gave us double-quick up and down hill until we arrived in front of Thorns' house. We saw one man shot through the cheek, he belonged to the Bucktails. By this time the Bucktails came down the pike at a run and surrounded the house. Our regiment came next and formed a line on the pike. We had just got formed when a shell from the rebels went whizzing over our heads. We were flat on the ground in less time than it takes me to write it. There we had to lay and take the fire of four of their guns. I felt a little nervous about that time, I assure you, to hear the shells bursting and knocking the fences and stones all around us. At last we saw Easton's battery coming down the pike at a full run and taking a position about twenty yards to the left of us. Gen. Ord ordered us forward into the thicket. We were glad enough to get out of the way of the shells; but we were run right in the range of their musketry. Our regiment was halted in the rear of the Bucktails, but our company went in with them and were in the hottest part of the fight. We nearly all took trees, and fired at will until we were ordered to cease firing, when we got our company together and went back to our regiment. I had no idea that men could keep so cool in an engagement. Why, nearly every one had a smile on his face while the balls flew like hail, knocking the bark and leaves from the trees. I was standing behind a small chestnut tree, a ball struck the side of the tree and knocked a splinter against my left hand; it made the blood come a little, but didn't hurt much. They attempted to make a charge on us but as they came out of the thicket we let them have a volley that sent some of them into the woods and some of them into eternity. By this time their batteries had been silenced and we were ordered to charge on them, the Bucktails first, and we after them, and the ninth on the right, and the sixth on the left, but when we got in the woods we could see nothing but dead rebels in every direction they having fled in the utmost confusion, leaving guns, blankets, coats, &c., on the ground; they even cut their cartridge boxes off and left them in their hasty retreat. I saw some awful sights in the fracas, three rebels were lying near the battery, two with their heads torn completely off and one with his whole breast mashed in."

We learn from the Paris Presse (by the Niagara) that Jefferson Davis is engaged in preparing a memorandum to be addressed to all Europe. This document treats of the question of secession, declares that the war undertaken by the Northern States will not lead to any result, and that the separation is already a legal fact. With a view, however, to put an end to a much lamented contest, and prevent great misfortunes, the memorandum will propose an amicable separation or basis to be decided in common—the Southern States being ready to agree to any arrangement compatible with the dignity of all parties.

This project is another indication of the desperate straits to which the leaders of the rebellion are being reduced. They evidently feel that if there is no intervention on the part of foreign nations to sustain them, their infamous schemes will prove unsuccessful. All the refugees from the South agree in the statement that the people of the rebellious States are subjected to ruinous embarrassments and sufferings, and that the planters will be hopelessly ruined if the present condition of affairs is not soon changed.

Mr. Dana, formerly of Pennsylvania, who recently arrived in Indiana, from N. Orleans, says, that "the blockade is depriving the people of many of the necessities of life: their currency is in the most wretched condition, and daily growing worse, while the sugar and cotton planters have already mortgaged their plantations in order to raise means of subsistence for their families and slaves, and gold and silver have almost entirely disappeared—the former not to be had at thirty-five per cent. premium, and the latter not in the market at any price. A system of printed tickets has been resorted to. Omnibus lines, barrooms, shaving saloons, and even the merchants, issue tickets, varying in value from five to fifty cents, which pass as money wherever the parties issuing them are known. Everywhere else they

are worthless. The bills of the Louisiana banks have been cut into halves and quarters to supply the place of change, and thus mutilated, of course, many of them are lost. The banks have ceased issuing any money of their own, transferring all their business in Confederate scrip. They have systematically called in and cancelled their outstanding circulation, thus increasing the stringency of the money market. All that have the ability are buying gold, even at the enormous premium, and concealing it for future use. This causes the premium to steadily advance and adds to the general perplexity and gloom."

Hon. Mr. Ely, member of Congress from New York, who was taken prisoner at the battle of Manassas and has been exchanged for Mr. Faulkner, came up in Old Point boat on Thursday, and went on to Washington. By bags of truce between Old Point and Norfolk we have late Richmond papers, giving a variety of late and interesting Southern intelligence. The late fight at Drainesville is admitted to have been a serious defeat. One account gives a list of over two hundred killed, wounded and missing. They account for the defeat by magnifying the Federal forces from four thousand, little more than half of whom were engaged, at fifteen thousand, a part of whom were regulars. All the Regiments engaged or our side belonged to Gen. McCull's Pennsylvania Reserves, and have never been under fire before. The Georgia papers state that an attempt had been made to burn the State Railroad bridge over Pettis Creek, but that the incendiary was caught, tried and sentenced to be hung. Gold is reported to be worth 35 per cent. premium at Richmond, and silver nearly as much. Several counties in West Tennessee have revolted against the impressment act, and troops had to be sent there to maintain the Rebel authority.

Several days ago, Mrs. Greenhow, who was among the first females arrested, and who is still a prisoner, received a cake from some friend of hers unknown to the guard. Before delivering it to her hands, Lieut. N. G. Shelton, of the Sturgis Rifles, suspecting something wrong, examined the cake, and found imbedded therein a note,

informing that lady that arrangements had been made for her escape and conveyance to Richmond, naming the day and hour for her departure. This information, however, was not communicated to her by the Lieutenant, nor has the writer of the note been discovered.

THE TREAT DIFFICULTY SETTLED! The official correspondence—Mason and Slidell to be given up!

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The National Intelligencer, of this morning, has the official announcement of the adjustment of the Treat difficulty, and the correspondence between Lord Lyons and the Secretary of State, is published in full.

SECOND DISPATCH Washington, Dec. 28.—The decision of the President in the Treat affair, as announced and explained in the despatch of Secretary Seward, has the approval of every member of the Cabinet. The National Intelligencer, in an article apparently semi-official, says:

"Whatever may be the disappointment of any, at the result to which the Administration has come in the settlement of a question, which constitutionally devolves upon the Executive branch of the Government, we are sure that all will applaud the firmness and sincerity with which the Administration, resisting a national tendency impressed by the concerted drift of public opinion in our own country, has resolved to do what it believed to be right in the premises, and it surely should give a pause to all who may be disposed to challenge the propriety of the resolution to which the administration has come when they note that a contrary decision would leave us in opposition; not only to the view of Great Britain, but also to those which the Government of France announces, respecting the principles of public law involved in the transaction."

The Intelligencer says, in conclusion: "Whatever, therefore, may be said by any in the way of exception to the extreme terms of the demand made by the British Government in the case of the Treat, it is at least just to admit that the case has been so adjusted by the Government as to subserve; we would hope, the great cause of neutral rights against the assumptions heretofore asserted by England, but now repudiated by that power in common with France and the United States. The law of nations, as traditionally interpreted by our Government, has received a new sanction, though at the cost, it may be, of some national sensibility, waked into disproportionate activity by the temporary exacerbations of civil feuds. The latter, let us remember, are but for a day—the law of nations is for all time."

The Intelligencer contains five columns of the correspondence. The despatch from Earl Russell, her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, after reciting the capture of these parties to have been made, proceeds to characterize it as an outrage on the British flag, and after expressing the hope and belief that it had not been authorized by our Government, asks a reparation appropriate to such an aggression, that the four gentlemen designated should be released, that an apology should be given for what the British Government deems an affront to her flag.

In responding to this demand, Mr. Seward after reviewing the circumstances under which the arrest was effected, according to the report of our naval officers and thus developing the inaccuracies and omissions of the British statements, proceeds to analyze the facts and principles of public law involved in the case, and arrives at the conclusion that the neglect of Capt. Wilkes, partly involuntary as it was on his part, to bring the Trent in for trial as a lawful prize, may be justly held to operate as a forfeiture of the belligerent right of capture accruing under the laws of nations, and that the Government of the United States, as well from the consideration of inconsistency with its own traditional policy respecting maritime rights of neutrals, would be in its own wrong if it should refuse a compliance with the British demand, so far as relates to the disposition that shall be made of the prisoners taken into custody of Capt. Wilkes under circumstances believed to be justly open to exception on both the grounds thus indicated.

So far as regards the apology asked by the British Government, none is tendered, because a simple statement of the facts as they are sufficient to show that no offense could have been intended on the part of our Government, and to conform to the rules of public law, was dictated by considerations of kindness and forbearance.

The decision of the President in this affair as announced and explained in the lucid despatch of Mr. Seward, says the National Intelligencer, has the approval of every member of the Cabinet. Mr. Seward in conclusion says: "If I decide this case in favor of my own Government I must disavow its most cherished principles; and reverse and forever a bandon its essential policy. The country cannot afford such a sacrifice. If I maintain those principles and adhere to that policy, I must surrender the case itself. It will be seen that this Government could not deny the justice of the claim presented to us in this respect upon its merits."

"We are asked to do to the British nation first, what we have always insisted that all nations ought to do to us. The claim of the British Government is not made in a discourteous manner. This Government since its first organization has never used more guarded language in a similar case. In coming to my conclusion I have not forgotten that if the safety of this Union required the detention of the captured persons, it would be the right and duty of this Government to detain them; but the effectual check and waning proportions of the existing insurrection, as well as the comparative unimportance of the captured persons themselves, when dispassionately weighed, happily forbid me from resorting to that defence."

"Nor am I aware that American citizens are not in any case to be unnecessarily surrendered, for any purposes, into the keeping of foreign States: Only the captured persons, however, and others who are interested in them, could justly raise a question on that ground. Nor have I been tempted at all by the suggestions that can be found in history where Great Britain refused to yield to other nations,

and even to ourselves, claims like that which is now before us.

"Those cases occurred when Great Britain, as well as the United States, was the home of generations which, with all their peculiar intellect and passions, have passed away. She could, in no other way, so factually disavow any such injury as we think she has done by assuming now, as her own, the ground upon which we then stood. It would tell little for our own claims to character of a just and magnanimous people, if we should so far consent to be guided by the law of retaliation as to lift up our injured graves to their graves to oppose against what national consistency and national conscience compel us to regard as a claim internationally right."

"Putting behind me all suggestions of this kind, I prefer to express my satisfaction that by the adjustment of the present case upon principles confessedly American, and yet, as I trust, naturally satisfactory to both the nations concerned, a question especially and rightly settled between them which, heretofore, exhausting not only all the forms of peaceful discussion, but the arbitrament of war itself for more than half a century, alienated the two countries from each other, and perplexed with fears and apprehension all other nations."

"The four persons in question are now held in military custody at Fort Warren, in the State of Massachusetts. They will be cheerfully liberated. Your Lordship will please indicate a time and place for receiving them."

"I avail myself of this occasion to offer to your Lordship a renewed assurance of my very high consideration."

[Signed] "Wm. H. Seward." Here follows a letter from Mr. Thouvenel, the French Minister of State, and the reply of Mr. Seward. The French Minister's letter sets forth facts of the arrest, and points out the dangers it involves, and urges a compliance with the demands of the British Government, and Mr. Seward replies that before Mr. Thouvenel's despatch had been received, our Government had decided on its course of action, and concludes by an expression that the President appreciates the kindly motives of the French Government.

LORD LYONS TO MR. SEWARD. WASHINGTON, Dec. 27, 1861. The Hon. Wm. H. Seward, &c.

Sir—I have this morning received the note which you did me the honor to address to me yesterday in answer to Earl Russell's despatch of the 30th of November last, relative to the removal of Mr. Mason, Mr. Slidell, Mr. Macfarland and Mr. Eustis from the British mail packet Trent.

I will, without any loss of time, forward to Her Majesty's Government a copy of the important communication which you have made to me.

I will also, without delay, do myself the honor to confer with you personally on the arrangements to be made for delivering the four gentlemen to me, in order that they may be again placed under the protection of the British flag.

I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration, sir, your most obedient humble servant, LYONS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—The official correspondence between Lord Lyons and Secretary Seward has been made public to-day showing that the Treat affair is settled.

Secretary Seward, in his last reply, says: "The four persons, Mason, Slidell, Eustis and Melairand, in question, are now held in military custody at Fort Warren, in the State of Massachusetts. They will be cheerfully liberated. Your Lordship will please indicate a time and place for receiving them."

UPDEGRAFFS, Practical Hatters. Have just returned from the Eastern Cities with a full assortment of FALL GOOD, consisting of Hats, Caps, Ladies' Furs, Buffalo Robes, Horse Blankets, Sleigh Blankets, Gloves, Canes, Umbrellas, &c., all of which are now ready and selling at the LOWEST CASH rates at their

HAT STORE. Opposite Washington House, Hagerstown, Md.

LADIES' FURS! LADIES' FURS! All the grades from Five to Forty Dollars set with Muffs, Collars, Fur Trimmings, &c., at UPDEGRAFFS' Hat Store, Opposite Washington House, Hagerstown, Md.

BUFFALO ROBES, Buffalo Robes! A splendid lot of Extra and No. 2 ROBES, bought previous to the great advance, and will be sold at usual rates for cash, at UPDEGRAFFS' Hat Store, Opposite Washington House, Hagerstown, Md.

GLOVES! A good stock of Buckskin, Sheepskin, Fur, Wool, and Winter Dress GLOVES, at UPDEGRAFFS' Hat Store, Opposite Washington House, Hagerstown, Md.

HORSE COVERS! READY MADE, at the lowest cash rates, at UPDEGRAFFS' Hat Store, Opposite Washington House, Hagerstown, Md.

DEATHS. Died of Diphtheria, in Antrim township, Franklin Co., Pa., on November 17th, E. Emma, daughter of Jacob and Ann Elizabeth Young, aged 11 years, 6 months and 11 days.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Merchant Tailoring.—We direct attention to the advertisement of J. A. FISHER, Merchant Tailor, of Hagerstown, in another column.

Black List.—After the expiration of the present volume we intend to commence the publication of a "Black List," which will be continued for several weeks. We have engaged an artist to furnish us with an appropriate "cut" to precede the names.

Sold Out.—We understand Mr. A. S. MORN has disposed of his stock of goods in Quincy, to Mr. J. C. CIGGERTON, of this vicinity, and Mr. COLLIERLOW, of Sabillasville, who will continue the business at the old stand.

Hair Tonic.—G. B. Price requests us to state that he has now bottled for sale, at his Barber Shop, in the Basement of Kurt's Hotel, a quantity of his celebrated Hair Tonic. Bachelors and all others who would escape baldness are requested to call and get a bottle. Terms moderate.

Brooms.—We direct the attention of persons having Broom Corn to the advertisement of Mr. D. B. BRESA, in to-day's paper. Daniel makes a good broom.

Unpardonable Impudence.—A contemptible rebel sympathizer prating about peace resolutions, &c. Such had better think about a rope and the fate of John Brown.

Sudden Change.—It is something unusual to see windows and doors open and persons setting outside their houses on the first day of January, but such was the case here on Wednesday. There has been, however, a material change in the weather up to this time—Thursday morning. A biting cold northwester prevails.

New Dress.—We purpose getting a new dress for our paper at the expiration of the present volume. To do this we must go to a considerable expense. Patrons, especially those who have been in arrears for a long time, are therefore earnestly requested to settle their accounts in the meantime. We will also be under obligations to any of our friends who will interest themselves for the increase of our list.

Wood Inspector.—The Ordinance passed by the Borough Council requiring all wood brought to town to be measured, went into operation on Wednesday last. M. J. B. RESSEK has been appointed Inspector. Mr. R. is a very competent person for the office. All wood must be hauled to the Diamond in future for measurement.

The Fantastics.—A Fantastic Parade came off in this place on New Year's morning. It was certainly a funny affair, attracting considerable attention, and causing a good deal of merriment among the little boys.

The Relief Association.—We have been requested to announce that another meeting of the Ladies' Relief Association will be held at the Town Hall, this (Friday) evening, at 6 o'clock. Heretofore but few ladies have been present. The President again extends a cordial invitation to all and earnestly requests their presence at the meeting this evening, both married and single.

We are astonished that there should be such a lack of patriotism, apparently, among the ladies. Can it be possible that indifference prevents them from taking part in an enterprise so commendable? Their absence from the meeting must be attributed to this one cause, for most certainly so many are not sympathizers with the southern traitors. We put a higher estimate upon the intelligence and good sense of our ladies than to suppose such to be the case. Turn out ladies!

Where is Your Boy.—We saw him last, late in the evening, in company with some very bad boys, and they each had a cigar now and then some of them used very profane language. And we knew it was no very uncommon thing for some of them to "take a glass of ale," which is sure finally to lead to something stronger.

As we looked at your son we wondered if you knew where he was so late in the evening, and with whom he was associating. Do not be so taken up with your business or pleasure as to neglect your boy. He will bring sorrow and shame to your household, if you do not bring paternal restraint to bear upon him soon. Evenings should find the boy at home until he has arrived at an age of discretion and has been thoroughly imbued with principles of right. Parents, remember this.

An Elopement.—Mr. Hamilton Metzler, of Licking Creek Township, a married man, with a wife and five small children, eloped on Monday last a week, with a young woman residing in the same neighborhood. It is said that they went to Mt. Union and then proceeded west. He has heretofore borne an irreproachable character, and his wife is an excellent woman. What possessed him to commit a crime so base and mean is only known to himself and that Good Being of whom he was a professed follower. We hope sincerely that he may be arrested and punished as he deserves.—Fulton Democrat.

See new Advertisements.