

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—"Historicus," the well-known correspondent of the *Times*, writes another article to that *Journal* to-day, assailing the despatch of Secretary Fish on the *Alabama* question.

Heavy gales have prevailed all around the coast during the last few days. Many shipwrecks, attended in some instances with loss of life, have already been reported. The American bark *Cominot*, Capt. Healey, which left Mobile on the 10th of November with a cargo of cotton for Havre, experienced one of these gales when about two days' sail from the Cornish coast, but weathered the storm and made the port of Penzance. She lost two masts and suffered other damage, though to what extent is not ascertained.

Advices have also been received to the effect that the bark *Edora*, bound from Montreal to Greenock, was driven ashore on the coast of Ireland by a furious gale. The Captain and several of the crew were drowned. The bark will probably be a total loss.

The *Weekly Examiner*, issued to-day, has an article on the *Alabama* difficulties. It says when the nature of the American struggle was understood, England restored her sympathy to the North, and that reclamations now based on earlier wrongs are simple and unduly vindictive.

GLASGOW, Dec. 31.—Mr. Wm. Cook, United States Vice-Consul at this port, has been sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment, at hard labor, for forgery.

LIMERICK, Dec. 31.—A fearful gale from the north west occurred here to-day. Trees were uprooted, chimneys thrown down, and in some instances houses prostrated. Ten persons are known to have lost their lives, and many others have been badly injured.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—Prince Charles of Prussia and his wife are in this city, and are stopping at the Grand Hotel. Yesterday, the Emperor called upon them there.

It is reported to-day, that Victor Emmanuel has positively refused his consent to the candidature of the Duke of Genoa.

HAMBURG, Dec. 31.—The Elbe is blocked up with ice, and navigation above this point is suspended.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 31.—Some time since the Sublime Porte sent a demand to Ismael Pasha to abandon his iron-clad fleet. The demand remaining unanswered, the Sultan, to-day, forwarded a violent message to the same effect.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—The *Times* of this morning, in commenting on the Democratic advocacy of repudiation, says to the fears from that quarter, is due the fact that, the American bonds bearing twice the interest are not as near par as consuls.

LONDON, 5th.—Mr. Grenville Nugent has been elected to Parliament for Longford, over Martin the Fenian candidate.

The resignation of the Spanish Cabinet in consequence of Italy's refusal to permit the candidature of the Duke of Genoa is announced. It is reported that Admiral Topeto will return to the ministry.

LISBON, 4th.—The mail steamer from Rio Janeiro, Dec. 15th, has arrived. The Prince Deri and Senator Paranhos were expected at Monto Video on their return from the seat of war. The former would reach Buenos Ayres about the 1st of January.

According to the very latest accounts the war in Paraguay was at an end. Lopez had fled into Bolivia with his family.

LONDON, 5th.—The *Times* to-day contains an article concerning the crisis in Spain. The writer of the article deeply deploras the downfall of General Prim, and attributes it to the unreasonable prolongation of the provisional Regime.

ROME, 4th.—A general congregation of the Council was held at Quirinal yesterday. The Pope was not present, and the Cardinal presiding by right of age, announced the recent death of four Cardinals. The appointment of Cardinal Bilco as President of the commission on dogmas, and of Cardinal Catorni as President of the commission on Ecclesiastical discipline, was announced.

The Council will continue in session again to-day, and the business of organization will be continued.

MADRID, 5th.—It is rumoured that Regent Serrano will be invested with sovereign power, but the Constitutional Cortes hesitate to take so extreme a measure. The partisans of the Duke of Montpensier are very active.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—A telegram was yesterday received at the Post Office Department, from the Postmaster-General of the Dominion of Canada, offering to carry the United States mails to English ports from Portland, Me., for the ocean postage of 2 cents for each letter, under the new Treaty. It is thought that this offer will be accepted, unless other arrangements have already been perfected.

Vera Cruz dates to the 13th says, the Hon. Wm. H. Seward will not return home to endure the rigor of a Northern winter, as at first announced, but will proceed from Vera Cruz to St. Thomas where he will pass the winter.

Port-au Prince advices to the 17th inst. state, that Salnavé is cooped up in Port-au-Prince the only vestige of Haytian territory under his control, and the British and French war vessels in the port have notified him that if he makes an attempt to defend his position against the insurgents, they will land their forces and dispose of him themselves.

By the last advices from the South the victorious rebels were marching on Port-au-Prince.

The *Herald's* Washington special says, it has already been stated that Secretary Boutwell intends to urge upon Congress a plan which he has matured for the funding of about \$1,000,000,000 of national debt at 4 per cent. or lower. In addition to facts heretofore stated in regard to Mr. Boutwell, it may be mentioned that he contemplates taking up the five twenties now due, and in their stead issuing the new bonds. It is expected that this measure will be violently opposed by the bank interest and bond holders generally. The Secretary, however, has made up his mind and will not be swerved from his purpose.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The governments of Portugal and Great Britain, severally, claim possession of the Island of Bihamain, on the western coast of Africa, and to certain portions of territory opposite to the island on the mainland. The possessions are valuable only in connection with facilities for carrying on the slave trade. Unable to settle the question of possession themselves, these Governments have chosen the President of the United States as umpire. The time for filing their respective documents at the Department of State expired to-day.

Private despatches from responsible sources in Havana received here to-day state

that Valmazedo reports that in his district about 700 men, with their officers, laid down their arms to the Spanish forces, and that in the district of Remedias the Chief Coca and all his men surrendered.

Spanish successes are also reported in the district of Puerto Principe, in the surrender of the insurgents. The opinion is expressed in the despatches that the Cuban cause is daily growing weaker.

The *World's* Japan correspondent writes that Russia has seized some of the Northern Islands of the Chinese Empire, and the belief generally prevails that it is the intention of the Czar to ultimately absorb the entire surrounding country.

New York, Dec. 31.—The *World's* Washington correspondent says it was rumoured quite freely last night that the President had decided to issue a proclamation of neutrality on the war in Rupert's land, warning the Englishmen not to invade the territory of the United States, and Americans not to invade the British dominions. It appears that there is no way for the Canadians to reach the Winnipeg country without going through Minnesota, and it is possible that some such volunteer reinforcement has been attempted to say nothing of the violation of the law of this country already accomplished by Governor McDougall, the British commander, who from headquarters in Minnesota planned and sent from that state an armed expedition against the insurgents in the Winnipeg country.

A member of the House of Representatives called recently upon the President, for the purpose of representing to him the feelings of the people of Minnesota, in reference to the passage of British troops through the territory, for the purpose of quelling the insurrection in the Red River country. The member stated that the people were deeply opposed to allowing this transit of British troops, and that violent opposition would probably be made if it were attempted. The President, hearing this statement, answered the member that the Government would not allow the use of American territory for this purpose.

The insurrection in the Red River country is viewed in official circles as a serious impediment to the scheme of the English Government to unite all British North America in the Confederation, and is not therefore regarded as a matter for regret—although the final success of the rebels is not counted on.

KINGSTON, Jan. 4, 1870.—Lt. Col. Macpherson, D. A. A. G., who for the past six months has filled the place of Lt. Col. Jarvis during his absence in England, purposes leaving to-morrow for Montreal. This evening he will be entertained at a dinner in the British American Hotel, by a number of volunteer officers. Col. Macpherson leaves Kingston generally regretted.—His amiable manner, unostentatious demeanour, and obliging disposition, secured for him the friendship of all who had the good fortune to meet him. Some had entertained the hope that his stay in Kingston would be permanent, but in this they have been disappointed. Col. Jarvis has resumed the duties of the office.

Mr. Thomas A. Corbett, the newly appointed District Quarter-master, has not yet arrived from Nova Scotia, where he is engaged in the performance of the duties connected with his temporary situation on the Intercolonial Railroad. At the present time Major Phillips is doing double duty—attending to his own office and the one which he lately vacated.