

The Federal steamer Chesapeake arrived here this afternoon, having been recaptured in Sambro harbour, by two Federal Gun-boats—the Wasp, and Ellic and Annie, which war vessels are also in port. A portion of the crew, we understand, escaped on shore before the Chesapeake was taken possession of. Considerable excitement prevails in the community at present—arising principally from the fact that the Chesapeake has been captured in British waters.

#### AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE.

The President's Message was delivered to Federal Congress on the 9th inst. In reference to the naval branch of the service, President Lincoln remarks:

"The extensive blockade has been constantly increasing in efficiency. If the Navy has expanded, yet on so long a line it has so far been impossible to entirely suppress illicit trade. From the returns received at the Navy Department it appears that more than one thousand vessels have been captured since the blockade was instituted, and that the value of prizes already sent in for adjudication amounts to over thirteen millions of dollars.

"The naval force of the United States consists of 588 vessels completed and in the course of completion, and of these 75 are ironclad, armored steamers. The events of the war give an increased interest and importance to the navy, which will probably extend beyond the war itself."

The disease with which President Lincoln is afflicted is said to be small-pox.—The Boston Journal says that for some time past the President has received no visitors; even members of the Cabinet and personal friends have been excluded from his apartment.

By Telegraph to Morning & Evening Papers.

St. John, Dec. 10.—A special despatch to the New York Times, says that Meade's army is quietly encamped in Culpepper County on the south bank of the Rappahannock and that Lee occupies his old position at Orange Court House, his advance line guarding the Rapidan fords. Pickets are again on friendly terms though bushwhackers begin to swarm on Union flanks.

Deserters represent Lee's army not over 25,000 and erecting winter huts along the Rapidan.

President Davis, delivered his annual message to Confederate Congress on Monday, its tone is reported mournful.

A large amount of stores have gone forward to relieve the Union prisoners at Richmond.

Dec. 11.—Morril of Vermont has given

notice in Congress of a bill having in view the termination of the Reciprocity treaty, and Howard of New York proposes joint resolution authorising appointment of Commissioners to negotiate a new treaty based upon true principle of reciprocity.

A despatch from Mobile reports that the Yankees were defeated at Pianguemina La., on the 27th ult with loss of 2,000.

General Meagher has not been taken prisoner.

Dec. 12.—Newbern despatches state that immense quantities of goods have run the blockade into Wilmington. Over 200 steamers are engaged in this branch of business.

Lowe's Message of California says the recent election there must destroy all hopes of foreign or domestic foes of receiving aid or sympathy from the Pacific coast.

Gen. Comonfort has been killed in Mexico, while fighting with a Mexican band favoring the French occupation of that country.

Dec. 14.—There was a great gale on the coast of South Carolina on Sunday. The Monitor Weehawkin, sunk at her moorings off Morris Island, 30 of her crew perished.

There was great terror in Charleston from the bombardment of the city, causing people to retire beyond the range of Federal guns.

Private advices at Washington represent that the session of the Confederate congress will be a stormy one. The question of reconstruction will be fearlessly presented by Northern Carolina Conservative members. Many members elected on last Ditch platform are reported secretly to be in favor of reconstruction.

President Davis cannot recommend the proper blockade of the United States' ports, but favors the capture of all neutral vessels trading with their ports. He says that the currency excess is six hundred millions—threefold of what the business of the Confederacy requires.

Evening.—Russian Minister gave a magnificent entertainment to Congress on board the Russian frigate. He gave sentiment—"Perpetual prosperity of United States." Speaker Colfax in replying said the friendship for Russia was because she had expressed sympathy for the United States in trouble.

Blockade of Wilmington to be greatly strengthened. Numerous inlets render complete blockade quite impossible.

In Confederate Congress, Foote, of Tennessee charged President Davis with almost ruining Confederacy, and accused Commissioner Northup with starving Union prisoners, demanding his removal.

Dec. 16.—The English blockade running schooner Mary, from Havana, was captured off Bay Port, Florida. Also

the blockade running schooner Albert, or Winona, captured off Mobile with a valuable cargo, and \$5000 in specie found on board.

The Richmond Enquirer has the following from Bristol of the 9th:—"Gilmore's Brigade encountered the advance of Wilcox's corps, 2000 strong raw troops near Maynardsville routing them, and capturing a large number of prisoners."

Mayor Lincoln was re-elected yesterday Mayor of Boston, by a majority of 3,500.

Expedition under Colonel West from Yorktown marching over 70 miles in 50 hours reached Charles City Court House in a severe storm, capturing eight officers, 32 enlisted men, and destroying enemy's camp and all equipments.

Cashier of Malden bank near Boston, was murdered at noon, yesterday, and \$5000 stolen.

Confederate Senate passed a bill prohibiting emolument of substitutes in the army. A resolution was offered impressing all able-bodied whites and requiring aliens to quit country within forty days or to take up arms, also a resolution enquiring into expediency of discriminating in prisoners of war, between free persons of colour and slaves.

Col. Misorer reports from Columbia, Tennessee, that Confederate deserters and citizens are flocking to that port in great numbers, asking to take oath of allegiance under the President's proclamation.

The World's despatch says that the army of the Potomac is not gone into winter quarters in the present location, and is not likely to do so.

Some Federal cavalry still occupy Culpepper, and pickets extend several miles beyond.

Evening.—Richmond papers report continued shelling of Charleston with little damage; also an accidental fire at Fort Sumter on the 11th—damage small. Federal batteries opened heavy fire on the fort during burning. Casualties, 10 killed, 30 wounded. Yankees reported retiring since Longstreet put Cumberland Gap in front instead of his rear. Longstreet's, Vance's and Ransome's command consolidated, and believed they will hold their positions. An Atlanta paper says Confederates made reconnaissance from Ringold to Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. Supposed heavy force gone after Longstreet. Richmond Whig says Averill's cavalry are moving up Kanawha valley in the direction of East Tennessee.

#### EUROPEAN NEWS.

The R. M. steamship Canada arrived on Friday. The latest English dates are to the 28th ult.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The rumoured disruption in the British Cabinet has been