

Railroad, a mile beyond Fairfax Station. The company guarding the road was surrounded and captured. The object of the raid was probably to capture the provision train.

Escaped prisoners from Richmond say that the statements regarding the treatment of prisoners are much exaggerated. The supplies, though poor and meagre, were the best the Confederates had.

It is reported that the late heavy gale swept away all the obstructions in Charleston Harbor.

Juarez is reported to have recaptured Puebla.

Dec. 21.—Schr. S. L. Garrety from Matamoras bound to New York loaded with cotton was captured two days after being out, by the passengers on board, who hoisted the Confederate flag and set the captain and crew afloat in a boat. They report four other parties in Matamoras waiting for similar chances.

Stories afloat at Culpepper that the Confederate army with President Davis in command is about to make a last desperate attempt upon the North.

A Magazine exploded in Yorktown destroying nearly all the buildings in the town.

Evening.—Richmond papers of the 9th contain the following telegraph from Charleston :

“ Ironsides and three monitors, while attempting to pass the obstructions, became entangled and will probably have to be abandoned. Two monitors also badly disabled.”

Government will despatch a messenger to Halifax with instructions to American Consul relative to Chesapeake.

The arrival of the French corvette at Richmond to receive the French tobacco caused considerable feeling, and loud objections made unless French would break blockade.

England's refusal to let the rams sail has caused great indignation; the gold having been sent in advance to pay for them.

Several thousand Confederate troops reported repulsed near Natchez, with loss of 800 prisoners.

Dec. 22.—A letter from Bealton Station reports a rumour that the Confederates are reinforcing Lee with the intention of attacking the Army of the Potomac at Cumberland.

Heavy firing was heard on the 17th between Frazerville and Church River.

Later advices report Longstreet returned to Bull Gap.

The Confederate attack on Fort Gibson, Ark., was repulsed.

Two-thirds of Kirby Smith's forces are reported to be preparing to attack Little Rock, and the balance to attack Fort Smith.

Roaring bands of guerrillas are swarming in East Tennessee.

Dec. 21.—The World's despatch says

that Burnside is expected to take a permanent leave of the Army, and retire into private life.

A Fort Smith despatch says that the Confederate force, whilst crossing Arkansas river and going Northward, under Standewait Adair and Quantrell, were routed by Capt. Spillman with some Indiana troops after a four hour fight at Banner Fork the Confederates losing 70 men. They will doubtless organize again and concentrate on Kansas border.

#### EUROPEAN NEWS.

English dates to the 12th inst. have been received by the R. M. steamship Asia, which arrived at this port yesterday.

Her Majesty held a Privy Council on Tuesday. In attendance were the Earl Granville, the Duke of Somerset, Earl Russell, Earl DeGrey and Ripon, and Viscount Palmerston. The Prince of Wales, by command of the Queen, was introduced into the Privy Council. His Royal Highness took his place at the board.

Sir John Lawrence, the recently appointed Viceroy and Governor General of India, and suite, left London on Wednesday evening for Marseilles, where his Excellency will embark for Alexandria, en route to assume his duties at Calcutta.

Lord Wodehouse has gone to Copenhagen on a mission from the British Government, and in the hope of arranging the matters in dispute between Denmark and Germany, so as to avoid hostilities.

Kelk and Lucas have commenced active operations for the demolition and removal of the Exhibition building. Its interior is already dismantled of its fittings and fixtures.

All the glass in the domes has been destroyed by the late gales. It is calculated that a complete clearance of the structure cannot be effected in less than six or seven months.

In the comparative statement of pauperism for the month of October, 1862 and 1863, just issued by the Poor-law Board, it is gratifying to find a very large and continual decrease of the number of paupers in receipt of relief. This decrease is due, however, entirely to the returning prosperity of the north-western district, comprising the counties of Chester and Lancaster.

PARIS, Saturday Afternoon.—The Constitutionnel of this morning publishes an article signed by Limayrac, upon the replies to the Congress proposition, which are now nearly all known. The writer says:—“ The events in Denmark prove that the proposition was opportune. The line of conduct to be followed by France is traced out. After having expressed regret to England, and thanks to the Powers who accede to the proposition.

France can give the required explanations. Nothing is adverse to a preliminary understanding, the advantages of which are manifest. In the midst of all the uncertainties and differences this understanding would create fixed points; and if the majority of the members of the European family concurred therein, a considerable result would be obtained, on which we should have to congratulate ourselves.”

Copenhagen, Friday, Dec. 11.—Sweden has withdrawn from the alliance with Denmark. The reason put forward, according to the Dagbladet, is that, as the quarrel between Denmark and Germany concerns the London Treaty of 1852, Sweden cannot separate herself from the other Powers who signed the treaty.

Bombay, Nov. 26.—Lord Elgin died on the 20th inst., at Dhurinala.

Sir William Denison has gone to Calcutta.

More hard fighting has taken place on the frontier. All the hill tribes have risen against the British rule. The following is the latest intelligence received in Bombay:—“ Sir Hugh Rose telegraph from Lahore on the 26th inst. that on the 20th the tribes again attacked our position with much determination and took a picket which was, however, regained, and the enemy gallantly driven back. Two English officers were killed and five wounded, including General Chamberlain and Colonel Hope; 128 British and native troops were killed and wounded. Since this repulse the enemy have not again attacked. General Chamberlain reports that he does not require reinforcements,—only reliefs. He is confident of final success. The troops are in a commanding position, with thirteen guns. The health of the men is good, and provisions and ammunition are plentiful.”

JAPANESE RESOLUTION FOR PEACE.—Letters from Japan to the 15th of October state that, at an extraordinary meeting of Daimios, it was decided by 65 against 47 votes that there was no ground for declaring war against foreigners.

The death of Frederick VII, King of Denmark, announced in the last papers received from England is regarded as an event of much political importance to Europe. The Crown of Denmark is transferred by it to Prince Christian, the father of the Princess of Wales and the King of Greece. The new King is a cousin of the late King and a German. He was elected as the next King of Denmark and Schleswig by the five powers in 1852. The Prince of Augustenberg claims the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein, and if Germany backs his claims war must result. It is doubted whether Austria and Prussia will resort to this extreme measure whatever several petty German Dukedoms may do.