

The greater part of these insurgents had been living for some months in Halifax—others had found their way north from Nassau and Bermuda. The rebel general Frost had also then recently proceeded to Canada from St. John, N. B.

On the 31st of May, 1864, Mr. Seward officially communicated the facts contained in Mr. Howard's letter to Lord Lyons, British Minister at Washington, and the latter transmitted the same to Viscount Monck, then Governor-General of Canada, as well as to the British Government.

On the 29th of July, 1864, Col. R. H. Hill, in command at Detroit, Michigan, communicated to General Dix, in command of the Department of the East, that certain leading men of the South had found their way through the Union lines into the neighboring provinces of Canada, and it was soon ascertained beyond question that Jacob Thompson, formerly Secretary of the Interior, C. C. Clay, Jr., and George W. Saunders, formerly members of the U. S. Congress, were the accredited agents of the Confederate States in Canada, stationed at Niagara and other important points.

The purposes of their mission became very apparent to Mr. Seward and Mr. Stanton, Secretary of War. Accordingly, Mr. Seward, on the 9th of August, 1864, again enclosed to Lord Lyons, copies of communications "in regard to reported hostile projects of insurgent citizens of the United States lurking in Canada, with a view to inquiry into the matter, and to the adoption of precautionary measures. "Lord Lyons, as it appears from the correspondence, placed the British Government in full possession of all the facts.

About the 20th of November, 1863, Governor Smith, then Governor of Vermont, doubtless alarmed at the demonstrations, asked the War Department at Washington for 5,000 rifled muskets, a large quantity of ammunition, horses for a battery, and authority to station troops at Swanton, St. Albans and Burlington. Col. Ludlow was sent to Vermont by Major General Dix, on the 25th of November, 1863, and on the 28th of November, General Dix telegraphed Mr. Stanton, as follows: "Colonel Ludlow telegraphs all is arranged well in Vermont." On the 30th of November, 1863, Mr.