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FROM THE STATES.

BANGOR, Feb. 9.

Report comes from Havana that the Federal gunboats engaged and sunk Confederate steamer Otero off Havana. The report is credited to the captain of the ship, and corroborated by the captain of the port of Havana.

Richmond Whig mentions the capture of a British propeller Princess Royal, running Charleston blockade, with Whitworth cannon steam engines for engines, rifles, powder, &c. Parties of English workmen skilled in the manufacture of projectiles were captured with the vessel.

Reported that Harriet Lane escaped from Georgetown, 19th.

Black and several gunboats started in pursuit.

Memphis Bulletin says Confederates are advancing on Federal lines, evidently intending to get possession of Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers.

Water running through Vicksburg cut-off, but no signs of channel's widening.

Morgan is reported with considerable force crossing Cumberland River above and below Havana.

Feb. 3.

Richmond Despatch says appearance indicates early renewal of fight before Vicksburg. 50,000 Federals are working in the cut-off, with intention of floating transports through when river rises, and land below the city.

Richmond papers say it has reliable information that the vessel that sunk the Hatteras was British man-of-war Spitfire.

President Davis had conference with Governor of North Carolina, letter insisting upon reserve and recall of adequate force to protect State from Federal force.

State has 80,000 in Confederate service. Col Connor had desperate fight with Indians on Bear River, Washington Territory killing over 200! Federals lost 15 killed and 130 wounded.

House Representatives passed bill authorizing organization of Negro Volunteers. Floor unchanged.

Feb. 4.

Gen. Sloan, commanding Missouri Central Dist. let, orders bush-whackers, guerrillas, Confederate recruiting officers and emissaries, to be summarily executed by the first commissioned officer to whom they may be delivered.

Federal Colonel Wyrham made raid on Warrenton. Sent patrols to Sulphur Springs and Waterloo, on Rappahannock, finding no enemy.

Resolutions introduced in New Jersey Legislature, forbidding debt contracted for emancipation of slaves not binding on that State.

In Federal Senate resolutions upon French operations in Mexico were taken up and discussed.

Sumner opposed them as tending to rupture with France.

Military Committee in House reported bill for submarine cable from Fort McHenry to Galveston, and intermediate points.

General's dispatch says Butler will not accept command of his old department.

Times dispatch says reports are gaining currency at Washington of alarm among Confederate leaders and growing disposition to treat for peace.

Ex-Governor Morgan elected Senator New York by Republicans.

Advices from New Zealand represent gold discoveries there exceeding anything in Australia or California.

Reported that privateer "Retribution" burnt several American vessels near St. Thomas.

Southern advices report Gen. Joseph Johnston in command of Confederates in middle Tennessee, also that another British steamer from Nassau ran blockade on the 27th ult., into a Confederate port; also that Federal vessels P. Key, Dawkins, and Hall Island, and party, even still reported at Hilton Head.

Gold in Boston to-day 54 and 55 tending down.

New York, 31st.—A Nassau letter gives the following interesting item:—

Growing roar the streets at midnight shouting secession war songs, and indulging in taunts and anathemas upon the Union flag and Generals. The feeling against the North is intense, and pervades all classes from the Governor down to the lowest black official on the island.

The vessels coming from New York bring rather full cargoes which the consignees are generally aware are intended solely for home consumption in the Bahamas, but which are re-shipped to Southern ports and the only way to stop this nefarious traffic is to shut down on all shipments from the North to Nassau.

The Adderly's are said to have made over a million of dollars by their rebel agency and shipments.

Sanders & Son are coining money by the same operation.

The bark Sallie Honsail, Leavitt, of New York, brought a cargo of coal to Adderly & Co., and discharged part of it into rebel steamers engaged in running the blockade, under the Captain's protest.

The newly appointed U. S. Consul, has not arrived yet, I hear, much to the regret of the present incumbent, whose official position here has not been strewn with roses, I can assure you.

The schooner Flying Scud arrived yesterday from New York. She was lately Flying Scud of Baltimore, but was sold here on her last trip to Sanders & Son, and now comes fully freighted to that secret firm.

Things in Richmond.

[From the New York World.]

The stories of reliable refugees and intelligent contrabands do not throw nearly so much light on the real state of things in Jefferson Davis's capital as the business columns of the Richmond papers. It is hard for example, to suppose that the Confederates are actually starving when we find Mr. B. Adam advertising for cake bakers, and Mr. Antoni offering to turn out two thousand pounds of candy per day, unless we suppose, indeed, that they are taking the sage advice of that dauphiness of France who innocently suggested, when the peasantry were dying for lack of bread, that they should be supplied with macaroons. New Orleans sugar and molasses are put up at auction in spite of Butler and Banks, and "fine Cuba cigars" are still on hand to soothe the angry Southern mind. The State of Virginia suffers apparently under a surfeit of arms, and her "ordnance department" invites the public to purchase pistols and guns. Singing birds, which are forbidden by statute to English Collegians must still be heard in the homes of the sacred soil, for canary seed in barrels is advertised by Mr. Robinson. The luxury of Epsom salts is still attainable, notwithstanding the blockade which environs the bowels of the land. The South still believes that there is nothing like leather, and an impertinent merchant boldly announces that he has just "run from Baltimore" a quantity of that incomparable material. The courts of law are busy with priors who bestow on their brethren the kicks, cuffs and stabs which a sense of duty to the exclusive benefit of the Hessian invaders; and the Confederate States have such serious cause of grief against Mr. Wortham that they have ordered their officers to sell his piano notwithstanding that the instrument is sheltered by the same roof which covers the "Hon. John H. Keagan Postmaster General."

As for sofas, bedsteads, carpets, mirrors, hogs, and real estate, they fairly seem to glut the market; and it is painful to observe that, in opened defiance of the proclamation of Jan 1, negro men and women are sold and warranted just as coolly as they might be in Kentucky, or New Orleans or any other point in which the peculiar institution is protected by the loyalty of its supporters. People continue to be married and to be buried with exasperating regularity; and young ladies advertise for husbands as audaciously as if the conscription in this connection it is noticeable that hoop-skirts, cambrie handkerchiefs, solid headed pins, and embroidered merinos can still be procured for trossaux. We had supposed Florida to be in the process of colonization by Mr. H. Thayer, and we are therefore surprised to see that rebellious States still supplied the Confederate conspirators with oranges and lemons.

Two theaters make light of life realities with "new characters, new songs, new dances and new scenery." Mr. D. Orsey Ogden proposes to sing "all the beautiful music of the part of Bertram in Guy Raversham;" Miss Partington exhibits her agility in a pas-soul, and the "Arkansas Comedian" is so little affected by the victories of McClellan that he expects servants to pay fifty cents for the pleasure of listening to his most excellent mirth. Professor St. Maur Bingham, so doubt a member of the noble families of Somerset and Ashburton, flaunts his fashionable dancing academy on the very of the volcano; directors "declare dividends on railway stock; family schools are opened for young ladies; and most wonderful of all, the Confederate States Treasurer begs his fellow citizens to step up to the Treasury Department and receive the interest on the public debt of the Confederate States—not payable we presume in gold.

On the whole, it is tolerably plain, from a glance over these abstracts and brief chronicles of the times in Richmond, that the capture of that city by our forces will be as great a surprise to the inhabitants as to Mr. Stanton or General Halleck. We wish we could feel perfectly sure that the surprise would not be almost as disagreeable to either of the latter as to the former.

The people of St. Stephen are about to petition the Provincial Legislature asking

that no further grants of land be made to the Railway Company until the branch shall be built to the St. Croix, according to the terms of the charter. The building of this branch to the Ledge would make it the great outlet for the trade of the upper country, and take away, if not all the business from St. Andrews. The harbor at the Ledge is superior in every respect to the harbor of St. Andrews.

We copy the above from the "St. Croix Herald," published at Calais, by the renegade Hay, who is as much despised at St. Stephen as he is at St. Andrews. The whole paragraph is a tissue of falsehoods. No application will be made to the Legislature, and as to the "harbor at the Ledge being superior to the harbor of St. Andrews," it is too absurd to notice, further than to say that at the present time the Ledge harbor is as firm as the rock of Gibraltar—we were about saying—it is frozen up hard and fast and for some distance below. Hay was hard up for a thing at St. Andrews when he penned such a glaring untruth.

Extract from a letter written by an officer to a friend in Boston:—

"You must know that amongst the ruins of the former town of Hampton, Va., there are now living some 3000 to 4000 negro run-aways. At the Fortress there are many more likewise. At Norfolk—at Hampton, they have built little wooden cabins, which they place against the remains of a chimney, and there they live like beasts and run wild—a state which they call freedom. I walked over to Hampton day before yesterday, and meeting a negro I thought I would ask him a few questions to find out what ideas they had, if any. After talking to him a few minutes, and finding that his idea of freedom was in doing nothing, I said, "But you can't live on in this way all the time, how do you expect to live or get any clothing to wear? Looking at me as if such a question was superfluous, he said, "We are waiting for our President to make another proclamation—and tell us what to do; he'll attend to that!"

The new American loan bill authorizes \$400,000,000 of interesting-bearing treasury notes to be issued in sums as small as ten dollars; \$300,000,000 in legal tender notes; and \$50,000,000 in fractional currency. Add to these large sums the \$100,000,000 of legal tender notes authorized last week for the payment of the soldiers, there is a total of \$500,000,000 to be added to an already inflated currency.

BARBARIY.—A strange instance of barbarity has recently come to light in New York. A certain Methodist congregation, having built a new church were desirous of having the old one to help to pay for it; and were found who would purchase upon condition that the dead should be removed from the vaults. This it was determined should be done, and the work has been proceeding for some time under the personal supervision of one of the trustees of the new church. To expedite operations, the coffins of all kinds are broken up and the bodies packed in boxes six feet long, two feet wide and eighteen inches deep, from five to fifteen bodies being put in a box. If a body is too long, the head is twisted off and thrown into one corner of the box, and if the body is too high, the virtuous trustees break down the ribs with his feet. About five hundred bodies have been removed in this way, and the matter has just been brought to the attention of the authorities.

COURTESY. It is said, costs nothing.—This is not only true, but is short of the truth. It not only costs nothing but is worth a great deal. We perceive by a late English paper that the superintendent of the Lowell Bridge Railway terminus, has been presented with \$1000 in money, and \$750 in silver ware, for his "urbanity and general courtesy." Would that all railroad conductors and superintendents in this country would lay this to heart. We have travelled, especially between New York and Philadelphia, when we thought that neither the president, directors, nor conductors of the celebrated C. & A. would ever be in danger of having any silver ware presented to them. [Boston Transcript.]

IMPORTANT TO BAKERS.—A new oven is now in successful operation in New York, a patent for which has been obtained by Mr. Ayers. It is ingenious in its formation, and though with great capacities, is not cumbersome in size. It can bake one hundred, and twenty loaves every hour, and a two-horse wagon can carry it anywhere. It weighs two thousand pounds, is made of sheet iron and its cost is \$500.

SALE OF A WIFE IN CARLISLE.—The Annual Register of 1832 gives an account of a wife sale, which took place on the 7th of April in that year in Carlisle. Joseph Thomson, a farmer, had been married for three years without finding his happiness advanced, and he and his wife at length agreed to separate. It is a prevalent notion amongst the rude and ignorant in England that a man by setting his wife up to public auction and so parting with her, legally dissolves the marriage tie, and escapes from all its obligations. Thomson, under this belief, came into Carlisle with his wife, and by the bellman announced that he was about to sell her. At 12 o'clock at noon, the sale commenced in the presence of a large number of persons. Thomson placed his wife on a large oak chair, with a trope or bolster of straw round her neck. He then spoke as follows:—"Gentlemen, I have to offer to you my wife, Mary Anne Thomson, otherwise Williams, whom I mean to sell to the highest and fairest bidder. Gentlemen, it is her wish as well as mine to part forever. She has been to me only a born serpent. I took her for my comfort and the good of my home; but she became my tormentor, a domestic curse, a night invasion, and a daily devil. Gentlemen, I speak truth from my heart when I say may God deliver us from troublesome wives and frolicsome women! Avoid them as you would a mad dog, a roaring lion, a loaded pistol, cholera morbus, Mount Etna, or any pestiferous thing in nature. Now I have shown you her faults and failings, I will introduce the bright and sunny side of her, and explain her qualifications and goodness. She can read novels and milk cows; she can laugh and weep with the same ease that you could take a glass of ale when thirsty. Indeed, gentlemen she reminds me of what the poet says of women in general—

Heavee given to women the peculiar grace To laugh, to weep, to cheat the human race. She can make butter and scold the maid; she can sing Moore's Melodies, and plait her frills and caps; she cannot make jam, gins or whisky, but she is a good judge of the quality from long experience in tasting them. I therefore offer her with all her perfections (and imperfections, for the sum of 50s. I think this is a correct report, the man must have been a humorist, in addition to his other qualities. The account concludes with the statement, that after waiting about an hour, Thomson knocked down the lot to one Henry Mears for 20s and a Newfoundland dog; and then parted in perfect good temper—Mears and the woman going one way, Thomson and the dog another. [Chambers book of days.]

REGARDING TROUT.—In some remarks made before the Farmer's Club in New York by Robert L. Pell, Esq., we find the following interesting information concerning this highly estimated fish: "The trout is the only fish that comes in and goes out of season with the deer; he grows rapidly and dies after reaching his full growth. The females spawn in October at a different time from all other fish after which male and female are lean, weak and unwholesome eating, and, if examined closely, will be found covered with a species of clove-shaped insects which appear to suck their substance from them, and they continue sick until warm weather, when they rub the insects off on the gravel, and immediately grow strong with the statement, that after waiting about an hour, Thomson knocked down the lot to one Henry Mears for 20s and a Newfoundland dog; and then parted in perfect good temper—Mears and the woman going one way, Thomson and the dog another. [Chambers book of days.]

A GOOD NAME.—Be wondrous wary of your first compartments; get a good name, and be very tender of it afterwards, for 'tis like the Venice glass, quickly cracked, never to be mended though patched it may be. To this purpose take along with you this fable. It happened that Fire, Water and Fame went to travel together; they consulted that if they lost one another, how they might be retrieved and meet again.—Fire said: "Where you see smoke, there you shall find me." Water said: "Where you see smoke, there you see marsh and moorish low ground there you shall find me." But Fame said: "Take heed how you lose me; for if you do, you will run a great hazard to meet me again; there's no retrieving of me."

Burke had once risen in the House of Commons, with some papers in his hand, on the subject of which he intended to make a motion, when a rough-hewn member started up and said: "Mr. Speaker, I hope the honorable gentleman does not mean to read that large bundle of papers, and to bore us with a long speech into the bargain." Mr. Burke was so swollen, or rather so nearly suffocated with rage, as to be incapable of utterance, and absolutely ran out of the House. George Selwyn remarked that "It was the only time he had seen the fabric realized, a lion put to flight by the braying of an ass."

THE COLONIAL EMPIRE thus announces its suspension.—

We regret being compelled to announce to our readers, the suspension of the Colonial Empire. This step has not become necessary in consequence of the failure of the paper to meet its current expenses—which during the past year, it not only has not done, but has, also, been gradually working down the amount of its previous liabilities. But having been deprived of our Office by failure of others to pay off encumbrances which were not of our own making or under our control, we have no other course open to us than to suspend the publication of this Journal until such arrangements are made as will assure its continuance upon a safe and permanent basis. With the issue of our last number, we fulfilled our obligations to a large majority of our subscribers. Arrangements will be made within a few days which we trust will be satisfactory to those who have paid up term of subscription has not expired. We acknowledge with gratitude, our obligations to the many friends who have supported the Colonial Empire, during the two years of its existence, and hope that ere long, we may be able, under more favorable circumstances, to ask a renewal of their confidence.

We congratulate the editorial fraternity of New Brunswick that Thomas McHenry has ceased to be a member of it.—[Globe.]

A CHILD'S DEFINITION.—A little scholar, when asked to define Chaos, answered that it was "a great pile of nothing, and nowhere to put it."—Another when asked to define slander, said it was "when nobody did nothing, and somebody went and told on."

GREAT SKATING BY A LADY.—Miss Ella K Hayes of Great Falls, N. H., yesterday afternoon skated from Cocheos railroad wharf, Alton, to the Weirs, some 20 miles, in less than three hours. She is the first lady who has ever skated between these points on Lake Winnipissogee. We understand that it is proposed to run excursion trains from Dover to Great Falls during the present good skating on the lake.—[Special Despatch to the Boston Journal.]

A son of the Hon. Edward Everett, who is in Cambridge College, England, recently made a marked impression by the ability he displayed in a debating society which was arguing the American question. He demolished the weak arguments of young Lords Russell and Trevelyan.

"How much money have you? said a rich old curmudgeon to a gay young fellow courting his daughter? Oh, I haven't much of anything now, but I have a very rich prospect indeed." The wedding occurred, and the old chap learned from his son-in-law that the rich prospect was the prospect of marrying his daughter.

WHAT GOES INTO THE CONTRIBUTION BOX.—At a contribution taken in a church in this vicinity, recently, the receipts were as follows: Two 81 bills, three 25 cent postal bills, one 5 cent bill of George Young's currency, thirteen 10 cent postal bills, nine 5 cent postal bills, 39 one in silver, forty one 3 cent postage stamps, five one cent postage stamps, one 12 cent stamp, two 2 cent blank check stamps, sixteen copper cents, twenty-four nickel cents, one 24 cent stamp.—[Boston Herald.]

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