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of the rest had a breech-loading carbine slung over his shoulder, two revolvers in one side of his belt, and a bowie-knife in the other. When the men were sent to the soldiers we have hitherto seen! Determination and reckless daring marked every feature and gesture.

"Do you think the Yankees are going to whip us, sir?" inquired our friend, looking like a walking machine.

"Well they have a fine army and will do the best, I think."

"Don't care, sir; they can't do it. If they beat us in the field we'll take to the woods and shoot them down like squirrels."

"Look here, sir; see what they have done to me. I am a shoemaker by trade. They tried to arrest me in Eliza Union feeling in the south of Kentucky of which we heard so much in New York. More camps, more soldiers, more drilling. Men women, and children think of nothing but the war. Fathers of large families are frequently seen serving in the ranks as privates along side of their sons. Ladies make soldiers coats and trousers, while children knit their stockings. Trade is in a great measure at a stand still, but the rapidly with which the people hitherto depend upon the North for every manufactured article, are beginning to supply their wants for themselves, receives at Nashville a curious exemplification. A few days ago a boy discovered a method of making percussion caps, which the army then was in much need of. A factory was forthwith established that now turns out some millions per week.

Amongst the dangers which we had heard at New York threatened the South, a revolt of the slave population was said to be the most eminent. Let us take, then, a peep at a cotton field, and see what likelihood there is of such a contingency."

[Concluded next week.]

THE EMBARKMENT OF TROOPS FOR CANADA.

Correspondence of the London Times, Southampton, Thursday, Dec. 19th.

The early days of the Crimean War, at the commencement of 1854, were brought forcibly to the recollection of many a speaker for us to-day, to witness the arrival, embarkation, and departure of some 1,500 officers and men of the Grenadier and Scots Fusilier Guards, and to cheer them on their way. As on this occasion, the picked men—the very flower of the British army, leave this port, in some of the finest ships in the world, and the fraternal plaudits of many thousands of our townfolk; and the gallant fellows returned the greeting with those hearty bursts of cheering which British soldiers know so well to give forth when they go to defend the honor, and maintain the glory of their country.

About 10½ o'clock this morning the first train arrived from London, followed at short intervals by three more trains, the first two bringing the Grenadiers and the other the Scots Fusiliers. Each party were met at the railway terminus by the band of the Southampton Rifle Volunteer Corps, which played at the head of each Division as they marched to the steamers to which they were respectively assigned. The arrangements for their embarkation was so complete, on account of the great facilities afforded in the Southampton docks, that the whole of the men marched on board with the greatest ease and expedition, and by one o'clock the Adriatic and the Parana were moving out of dock, much to the astonishment of the lookers-on at the wharf, with which the operations had been conducted. The dock quays and all the vessels in dock were crowded with people, who cheered the troops lustily. There could not have been less than 12,000 or 15,000 persons present.

The total number of troops who go out in the Adriatic and Parana is 94 officers and 2,351 rank and file, viz.:

Adriatic.—Staff, 3 officers; Grenadier Guards, 33 officers, 841 men; Military Train, 15 officers, 300 men; Artillery, 6 officers, 113 men. Total, 57 officers, 1,254 men.

Parana.—Scots Fusiliers, 32 officers, 887 men; Royal Engineers, 5 officers, 120 men. Total, 37 officers, 1,007 men.

As the Adriatic moved out of the dock the large shields on her paddle boxes, emblazoned with the stars and stripes, reminded everybody of the remarkable coincidence that an American built steamer, and until within a few months the property of American owners, should be one of the finest employed in the transport of British troops to the northern part of the American continent, to operate, probably, against the country in which she was built.

On the two vessels leaving the docks, the Volunteer band took up a position on the extreme end of the jetty, and as the Adriatic slowly moved past, they played the appropriate air of "I wish I was in Dixie," and "The British Grenadiers," followed by "Cheer, boys, cheer," and "Shouldn't acquaintance be forgot," as the Parana passed, in each case closing with "God save the Queen," after which several parades of enthusiastic cheers were exchanged between the multitude of spectators on shore and the gallant fellows on board the vessels.

It is understood that the Adriatic and Parana will not put to sea till Friday morning, but nothing certain is known on the point.

The Magdalena will embark her troops (30 officers and 1,000 men of the Sixteenth Foot) on Saturday morning.

Each of the above named vessels carries out as immense supply of stores and clothing, and it will be gratifying to the country to know that the men are well provided with warm clothing, and that the winter from the rigors of a Canadian winter. All the troops are fitted with Clifford's boat lowering gear, the Adriatic having it applied to four of her boats.

The despatch of these ships has been effected with remarkable speed. The order for despatching the Adriatic and Parana was only received here on Wednesday night, and the Magdalena on the following day. Seven days have, therefore, sufficed to prepare and fit them for sea, in a manner which has given the greatest satisfaction. As illustrative of the work which has been accomplished in that time, it may be mentioned that the Adriatic has taken in 1,500 tons of coals, 14,000 gallons of water, in addition to which she has had an apparatus on board capable of distilling 1,000 gallons of water per diem, and three months' provisions for troops and crew, besides the erection of all the fittings throughout the ship for the accommodation of so large a body of troops. Similar results have been achieved in the case of the other vessels. The excellence and completeness of the arrangements for embarkation were manifested by the fact of between 1,700 and 1,800 men walking comfortably on board, the whole embarked, and the two steamers moving away from their berths in about a couple of hours from the arrival of the first detachment.

The Charleston Mercury announces the arrival of the steamer *Eliza Warner*, from Nassau. She was pursued by the blockade runners, but escaped. She brought nine passengers including S. D. Bishop of Norfolk, bearer of despatches, also a valuable cargo.

EMBARKMENT OF AN HEIRESS WITH A VALET.—Another of these startling coincidences—another which must be regarded as instances of true love—has just taken place in the County of Monmouth. It appears that a young lady of fascinating appearance, with her parents, the lady's maid, and the valet, left their residence near one of the most flourishing towns in the county of Glamorgan, about a month ago, for a temporary sojourn in a fashionable city of Bath, then to visit the abode of another family of influence. During the term, it would appear that the young lady, rumored to be about nineteen years of age, formed a deep attachment to the valet of the gentleman with whom she and her parents were residing, and unable to seize a personal opportunity to convey her feelings to the fortunate admirer one, she at last hit upon a plan to carry out her object, and that was pen, ink, and paper. The letter was directed in as bold a hand as she could disguise, and posted at the Bath post office, and in due course reached the gentleman's attendant. In that letter he was desired to address a reply to two initials at the post office, and we have good reason to know that he was only "too happy" to obey the injunctions of his admirer. In the letter addressed by the lady he was told that "if he could reciprocate her love, she would be in a position to enable him to live in the second house which was not, unfortunately, mislaid with those we have seen. The fair damsel and parents, as well as the male and female attendant, returned to their pretty country residence after a visit of about ten days, and the first named had not been to see her father's house more than a fortnight before she expressed a wish to spend a few days with a relative in a quiet village near Gloucester. The request was complied with and the lady took her departure. Of course the lover at Bath was made acquainted with her move, and in answer to a summons made the best of his way to the picturesque village in question, having previously obtained "leave of absence" for a few days to visit his parents. After the young lady had been with the friend a fortnight, the parish clergyman was called upon to unite "the unknown" in the bonds of holy matrimony, after the performance of which ceremony the two started off to spend their honeymoon. When they went to after passing a night at Bristol is not yet known. That they went to Bristol there is not a doubt, for it was the fact of three letters being left in their bed-room in their haste that has led to an acquaintance with the facts related. The lady, on attaining the age of 21, has, by the will of an uncle, £700 a year in her own right.—*Leeds Mercury.*

STABBING AFFAIR.—A man by the name of John McMullen, a boiler maker, from Toronto, was severely beaten on Ontario Street on Monday night, by six men, and stabbed near the angle of the lower jaw. He was immediately taken to the Kingston Hospital, where some small vessels, branches of the facial artery, were found to be wounded. There was profuse hemorrhage, which was soon suppressed by the house surgeon.

A philanthropic clergyman of Boston offered to preach to the prisoners in Fort Warren. They accepted the proposal with gladness, but prayed permission to select the text, and suggested Acts, chapter 25, verse 27. "For it seemeth to me unreasonable to send a prisoner, and not withal to signify the crimes laid against him."

Dangerous for Doctors to Chaff.—A country medico, who was fond of a joke, passing by a stone-mason's shop bawled out, "Good morning! Hard at work I see. You finish your gravestones as far as 'In memory of,' and then wait I suppose, to see who wants one next?" "Why, yes," replied the old man, rather annoyed at what he considered the doctor's impertinence, "why yes, unless somebody's sick and you're doctoring him; then I go right on."

William H. Russell, Esq., special correspondent of the London Times, is now at the New York Hotel, suffering from an attack of typhoid fever, which seems to effect every body who spends much time in Washington.

The New York Evening Post remarks:—"The note of Lord Lyons in reply to Mr. Seward's long letter imitates the laconism of his principal. There is no notice taken of Mr. Seward's arguments—there is no expression of satisfaction that an ugly affair has been settled. No mastiff ever carried off his antagonist the bone that he had growled for with less ceremony."

We have it on good authority that it is the intention of the British Government to send 50,000 troops to this country before the 1st of March next, and also that any expense incurred by the Canadian Government may go in the way of providing for the defence of the country will be reimbursed by the home authorities. As this news is reliable, we would advise our military men to push forward their operations with all possible despatch.—*St. Catharines Journal.*

A few weeks ago a corps of engineers, under command of General Williams, arrived at Windsor, and proceeded at once to lay out fortification commanding the city of Detroit. The plans have been completed, and the works commenced, and if continued will be ready to mount guns in a short time. The fort is situated on an eminence a little to the left of the main village, and nearly in the rear of the town hall, and completely commands the whole river front and principal business parts of the city. The fortifications consist of breastworks, embracing an area of about 16,000 square yards, and surrounded by a ditch 40 feet in width. The same corps of engineers are now at Collingwood, selecting a site for similar fortification there.

FROZEN TO DEATH.—Mrs. McAnay, wife of Charles J. McAnay, of Murray, was found frozen to death on Saturday morning last, near Frankford. She had been in the village the day previous, and had been in digging too freely in intoxicating liquor. She was on her road home, and the probability is that she fell down, and on account of her inebriety was unable to rise. When found, her cloak, hood, and shawl were lying near her, and a broken bottle of raw rods far off. An inquest was held on her remains by the Coroner, M. B. Robin, Esq., on the same day, and a verdict returned according to the facts. Deceased was the mother of quite a large family, who are left to mourn her loss, and profit by a most terrible example.

The Record, in alluding to the last hours of the Prince, says:—"Unhappily His Royal Highness was averse to medicine, and, even after the character of the fever had declared itself, he objected to all active remedies, especially to being confined to a recumbent posture. He was each day occasionally wheeled about the apartments which he occupied, until Friday when his state, which even on Monday and Tuesday was critical, had become nearly hopeless. His Royal Highness himself had a presentiment that the illness would be fatal from the time he heard of the nature of the fever, which was the same as that which carried off the King of Portugal, but it was not till after her Majesty's return from her drive on Friday that she realized the danger and for twelve successive hours she watched over the prince with affectionate solicitude, and without intermission. Last year an insidious attack of the same kind had been ward off by the prompt measures resorted to by the late Dr. Bealy, who was able to overcome the prince's repugnance to active medicine. On the present occasion we hear that his repugnance was not to be overcome, and therefore that the court physician cannot, at all events be blamed for active treatment. His royal highness was conscious almost to the last, but occasionally wandered in his delirium his thoughts seemed to be occupied about the Prince of Wales. We have reason to think there is no ground for the statement that His Royal Highness took leave of the Queen and royal family in three languages."

A correspondent informs us of a murder committed in Franklin County, Huntingdon, on Christmas evening. It appears that a person named Barre is the keeper of a tavern in that village, and had kept the same closed on Christmas Day. In the evening about nine o'clock, a party of rowdies assembled for the purpose of breaking open his place, and when they went to do so, he fired amongst them, intending only to maim them in the legs, but, sad to say, the ball passed through a man named Francis Cassidy, who soon after died. Yesterday Barre gave himself up to the authorities, and was removed to Beaumaris jail.—*Montreal Pilot.*

The portions of wreck discovered off Cape Breton indicate that an accident has happened to some of the British transport steamers, most probably the Parana.

Several large purchases of manufactured cotton in bond have been made in this market recently by dealers from New York and Boston; wholesale prices here for many sorts of such goods being much below current rates in the American markets.—*M. Advertiser.*

Commander Ronckendorf, of Pennsylvania, has been appointed the commandant of the United States steamship San Jacinto, in room of Captain Wilkes.

Civil war has affected St. Louis like a stroke of palsy. More than 60,000 inhabitants have left that city within a year, an immense number of houses and stores are vacant, and all business, except Government contracts, is at a dead stand.

Some of the Italian journals state that a project is in contemplation for uniting Sicily to the main land by throwing across the Strait of Messina a bridge of iron arches, each with a span of 1,000 metres (3,281 feet).

The Herald.

CARLETON PLACE, Wednesday, January 15th 1862

The United States press and the members of the Federal government, who gloried themselves so much, and made so much ado, about Captain Wilkes, for the bold stroke he made in the seizure of Mason and Slidell are now trying to let themselves down as easily as possible. They are particularly anxious to make it appear that their masters were averse to the seizure, but their attempts are proving a complete failure.

The intentions of the government of the United States were judged of, we presume, by the act of the officer who represented them, and the collateral evidence that his conduct was approved of by a member of the administration, was tacitly sanctioned by the silence of the Secretary of State and lauded to the skies by the whole press, supposed to be the organs and supporters of the government. Some of these papers, even now excuse the humiliating position in which Mr. Seward has placed the nation by reference to the existing condition of things in the United States. They declare that but for the war now raging with the South, and but for the disinclination—which we can easily understand—of General McKellan to have more than one little affair of the kind on hand, Mason and Slidell would not have been given up. Mr. Secretary Seward's reply to the communicated despatch of Earl Russell is cleverly worded—and a capital instance of what lawyers call special pleading. But what, after all, does it show? A man in his position is supposed to have some knowledge of international law, and especially of a point on which he is in the long run compelled to admit that the United States itself set the precedent, and insisted upon the rule. Well, then, Mr. Secretary Seward places himself between the two horns of a dilemma. Either he is more knave than fool, or vice versa; either he thought by putting on a bold front he would frighten England, knowing at the same time that he was committing an unmitigated outrage on the law, or he was idiot enough not to know the law, and disavow the act until England forced the knowledge upon him and compelled him to repair and apologize. If the Government of the United States intended no insult to the flag of England, Mr. Secretary Seward did, and the same view of the matter was very generally held by the leading men of the United States.

The affair has since been alluded to in both houses of Congress, the President having communicated the papers which have already been published; and formal motions were made to dispose of the same. In the Senate, Mr. Sumner was the spokesman of the administration. Some of his remarks will, doubtless, meet with a disclaimer from the British press. For instance, he indirectly states that Captain Wilkes was misled by lawless legal authorities and by British lawbreakers. He further says that Great Britain "by demanding the surrender of the Confederate commissioners has stultified its own history, renounced its own principles, and virtually acknowledged the justice of the position respecting neutral rights so long maintained by the United States," etc. This is sufficiently gratuitous. It is not the fault of British law that it should be misinterpreted by Capt. Wilkes; and that Great Britain has sacrificed nothing of her pretensions by asking for the restoration of Messrs. Mason and Slidell is abundantly apparent, in spite of the dictum of Mr. Sumner. The fact is, the precedents which have been cited by American journalists and jurists in the discussion of the Trent affair have had no direct application. The only precedent having anything in common with the Trent case, is the one lately cited by the London Times. The Dutch brig Hendrick and Alida was captured by the British in 1777, while she was bound to a neutral port. She had on board five officers for the American army. The ship and its officers were released by the British Admiralty, the Judge ruling that, although the officers frankly admitted their positions, yet as they were passengers on a neutral ship which sailed from a neutral port to another neutral port, the proximate destination of the passengers was entitled to be regarded as innocent destination; they were consequently set at liberty. The London Times claims (and any reasonable individual will admit the justice of the claim) that this case clearly establishes the principle that on one neutral port and another all persons and things whatever may be legally carried. In other words there can be no contraband of war liable to seizure when in transitu between neutral ports. If Great Britain held this principle through her courts of admiralty in 1777, and now claims the maintenance and observance of the same principle in 1861, how can she be so justly charged with the stultification of her history and the trampling down of past precedents?

The sanctification of history, unfortunately has been all on the American side. If the Federal cabinet had acted up to the views enunciated by Madison, and regarded with complaisance and honor by a long line of American statesmen, the commissioners would have been set at liberty without waiting for a demand from Great Britain. The American people, aided by a clique of pandering lawyers, have stultified their political history by the loud clamor which they made for the detention of the commissioners. The Americans have not, as some of them would fain believe, stolen a march upon English diplomacy, and Mr. Sumner's congratulations are of hollow value.

In the house of representatives, the allusions which have been made to the surrender of Messrs. Mason and Slidell are of a different character to those which are reported as having taken place in the Senate. So far, it would seem that four-fifths of the speakers who referred to the matter on the floor of the House, did so in temper of hostility to the Administration, Mr. Vallandigham condemned the surrender in scathing terms. He regarded the event as a national humiliation, and inveighed most bitterly against the authors. For the first time in American history, he said, the nation had strutted insolently into a quarrel without right, and then basely crept out of it without honor—thus for the first time had the American eagle been made to cover before the British Lion. He said the people now hereafter would demand a terrible reckoning for the unmanly surrender. Mr. Thomas, a Republican member from Massachusetts, was fully as inimical to the government as Mr. Vallandigham. He, too, characterized the surrender as an unworthy submission. He said Mr. Seward's ingenuities argument might have been spared. The commissioners might have been liberated under protest, or the decision might have been left to the arbitrament of a friendly power. Mr. Thomas concluded a long tirade against England, with an unforgotten consolation, saying that the loss would ultimately be borne by Great Britain. England, he said, "had excited in the hearts of the American people a deep and bitter sense of wrong, of injury inflicted at a moment when it cannot retaliate. It was now night with them, but through the watches of the night they would be girding themselves to strike the blow of righteous retribution!" They are evidently trying to hide their disappointment by giving vent to invectives against England. Threatening of future vengeance will have a good effect. Canada is rapidly arming and organizing for defence, and will be prepared, with the assistance of England, to meet any invasion that may be sent upon our shores, with a terrible front.

Since the general election was over and the discussions arising out of it have subsided there appears to be a general lull in Canadian politics. This is, probably owing to the stirring events and interesting probabilities, to which the "rebellion" amongst our American neighbors has given rise, almost completely overshadowing the interest usually manifested in our local politics.

The important fact seems to be lost sight of, that we are on the eve of another session, when our provincial affairs will be discussed by the assembled wisdom of the province. We may reasonably suppose that in a few weeks, at the most, the new parliament will be called together and the business of the session will force itself upon us. It will then be found, we suspect, that the present calm is but the precursor of a storm. Several matters will undoubtedly force themselves upon the attention of the new house about which there are nicely balanced differences of opinion, and all eyes will be turned to watch the sides on which the representatives of the people will record their votes.

There is the excessive expenditure and stoppage of the Ottawa buildings to be accounted for. The Representation question will come up with such an accession of strength from Upper Canada as will make itself felt on the house. The relief of the Municipalities from certain items of indebtedness incurred for public improvements such as railroads and other public works, or as some of our contemporaries have it—"the protection to saddle the debts of delinquent municipalities upon the shoulders of the province," will be introduced and discussed with a good deal of earnestness on both sides. The emigration policy of the government will, as it deserves, be sharply criticized and the recent sectarian appointments of emigration agents will be the subject of severe animadversion. Some matters connected with the minor courts and the collection of debts require legislation and if not proposed by the government should be demanded by the House. The intercolonial railway will probably be talked of and will depend much for its chances of consideration upon the view taken of it by the Home government. Mr. Galt will probably have some trouble cooking up his accounts to make both ends meet.—If the revenue be again deficient it will bring his policy under severe discussion and in the present temper of the country, which suffers enough under provincial and municipal taxation, parliament will be compelled to restrict the appropriations. Retrenchment will thus continue to be a popular but not an unmeaning cry. The settlement of those and a number of other questions will involve the fortunes of politicians, and the interest which will attach to their reception in the legislature will be all the greater on account of the many new men in parliament. Much interest will also be felt by the public in ascertaining the political complexion of the new parliament and the strength of the coalition.

A very clever writer, from England, who paid a visit to the Southern States in the month of September last, gives the following picture of the energy, spirit and determination, with which the secessionists are carrying on their war of independence. If his statements be true, it would be as well for the Federal government to pause before sacrificing any more men or money in a fruitless effort to conquer the rebels "away down south in Dixie." The writer bears witness to the following important facts:—

That throughout the whole South amongst all classes, there prevails but one sentiment, and that is a determination to achieve independence. Devotion to the old Union is dead or dormant, and the people are not only determined on independence, but are convinced that their cause is just. "The same story is told in the trains, in the hotels, on the plantations, in the drawing rooms, in the camps, and in the newspapers, by young and old, rich and poor, men and women, with a uniformity that would be monotonous were it not for the fire generally thrown into its narration."

That for the carrying on of the war every resource is pledged, every energy taxed, and every sacrifice cheerfully made by all classes. Mothers are parting with their sons without a tear; ladies are everywhere working without stint for the soldiers, and speak with pride of the number of coats, trousers, shirts, stockings, they have completed; produce in large quantities is freely offered for the army—the paper money—which has long been the only circulating medium—is freely and confidently taken, and the intention is freely expressed that the planters will burn or destroy every pound of cotton rather than allow it to fall into the enemy's hands.

That the army is well supplied with both clothing and provisions. Societies are organized for the manufacture of clothing throughout the South, one of the largest of which are at Charleston. The writer states he there saw about 1,000 ladies employed with their sewing machines, who had turned out the previous week 200 coats, 300 pairs of trousers, and 300 shirts. The clothing is packed in rooms of a central depot, and despatched to the different regiments.

That the Confederate Generals are men of very great military ability; and adds, that the army has unbounded confidence in them. It has formed, too, a high opinion of Jefferson Davis, and reports that his popularity throughout the country, as the master-mind of the Confederacy, is undoubted, and that the heart of the army is with him.

The reader will find the article to which we have here referred, on the first page of our paper. It will repay a perusal.

We direct the attention of our readers in Carleton Place and vicinity to the notice calling a public meeting at Lavallee's hotel on the Sixteenth instant. Our village is much in want of a public hall and Lock up, and with the usual public spiritedness of the inhabitants the want can soon be supplied. We think the plan proposed is a feasible one and can not only be carried out but be made to pay.

The prisoner James Brown, who was, some time ago convicted of the murder of the late John Sheridan Hogan, and was granted a new trial, has been again convicted and sentenced to be hung on the 10th of March next.

The *Globe* says it is reported that changes in the personnel of the Cabinet are being arranged.

A large prayer meeting was lately held in the Free Assembly Hall, Castle Hill, Edinburgh, for the purpose of supplicating Almighty God that it might please Him, in mercy, to avert the threatened war with America. Major-General Anderson, occupied the chair, and among the ministers present who took part in the proceedings were the Rev. Dr. Candlish, moderator of the Assembly; Rev. Charles J. Brown, Rev. G. D. Cullen, T. K. Drummond, Rev. R. Haldane, Rev. James Peddie, and Rev. Dr. Johnston.

From the Edinburgh Herald we obtain the following particulars of the prisoner Mason and Slidell:—

Hon. James M. Mason was born on the 3rd of November, 1798, on Annoton Island, County Fairfax, Virginia, and was educated in Georgetown, Washington. He graduated at the University of Pennsylvania and having studied law at the College of William and Mary, Va., commenced the practice of that profession in Winchester. He was elected a member of the House of Delegates, where he served three sessions. In 1837 he was elected to Congress, where he greatly distinguished himself. In 1847 he was elected to the Senate; re-elected in 1849, and again in 1855. He is chiefly famous as chairman of the Senate committee on Foreign Relations. On the commencement of the present civil war he cast his lot with the Confederates, and was detached by Jefferson Davis as Minister to Richmond, Va. Early in October he escaped in the *Theodore* from Charleston, and was taken from on board the British steamer *Trent* by Captain Wilkes of the United States' steam frigate *San Jacinto*.

John Slidell was born in New York in 1793, and on reaching the age of thirteen emigrated to New Orleans, where he established himself as a lawyer, and practised with great success. He was appointed by General Jackson as United States District Attorney, and was several times elected to the Legislature of Louisiana. In 1843 he was chosen representative in Congress, and while there was appointed by President Polk as Minister to Mexico. In 1854 he was elected to the United States Senate for the unexpired term of Senator Sumner, and at the expiration of that term was re-elected for the full term of six years, and was a member of the Committee on Naval Affairs and Foreign Relations. He was appointed by the Confederate government Minister Extraordinary to the Court of France, and escaped with his friend Mason, in the *Theodore*, the vigilance of the blockade off Charleston, only to be captured on board the British steamer on his way to Europe by Captain Wilkes. Mr. Slidell is considered as one of the ablest men in America.

Mr. George Seward, of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, has addressed a letter to Mr. Cyrus W. Field of New York, urging expediency of revising the project of the Atlantic Cable. He says:—

"The time has arrived when it behooves the friends of the Atlantic Company to push forth their best energies, not only with regard to the more private advantage of that undertaking as a trading company, but in promotion of the best interests of peace and civilization, for the purpose of raising capital in order to accomplish the great design of connecting Europe and America. That design—nurtured by expensive experience and worked out by careful subsequent examination—is now in a condition to be realized with very little risk and without the pecuniary means are entrusted to those who have laboured and suffered in its behalf."

Mr. Seward argues that the experience and information gained by the company in their former experiments have served to point out the defect of the old cable and adds:—

"It was soon found that the internal construction of the first cable was all wrong. It should have contained eight times the quantity of copper and three or four times the quantity of gutta serena that were really employed; and the construction of it as to external strength should have been regulated as to specific gravity, by the depths of the ocean to be encountered, and as to its material, by the conditions of strength and in destructibility. These discoveries will, I repeat, render the next cable more expensive, but this will be commercially compensated for by the fact that instead of working at the rate of two words per minute, a due increase of the size of the conductor will give almost any speed that may be desired, even across the Atlantic, if the quantity of insulating matter surrounding it be proportioned to it on scientific principles."

British and Foreign Miscellany.

The Dublin Daily Express says:—"By direction of the Lord Chancellor, The O'Donoghue, M. P., has been removed from the commission of the peace."

The Lancet, Brigade, consisting of the 9th, 12th, and 16th Regiments underwent a medical examination on Thursday as to their fitness for foreign service.

The gunboats in the second class reserve at Portsmouth are ordered to fit out immediately, to take the place of the boats in the first class ordered for commission for foreign service.

A telegraphic message has been sent right round the coasts of the three kingdoms, directing coast-guard ships to strike topmasts, and for all men belonging to them to prepare for immediate service.

The Post says that, previous to the closing of the coffin enclosing the remains of the Prince Consort, a wreath of flowers made by the Princess Alice was placed over the corpse, and a miniature of her Majesty placed by the hands.

It is thought that the Duke of Cambridge will become Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, and Lord Downes, Tweedale, and Rokeby, are, in that event, spoken of for the Scots' Fusilier Guards. Lord Seaton it is thought will obtain the chief Colony of the Rifle Brigade.

All the American ships of war, except one, having been withdrawn from the coast of Africa, in consequence of which cargoes of slaves are shipped for Cuba wholesale. The British cruisers are not permitted to capture vessels, although full of negroes, so long as the American flag is flying on board; and the result is a most flourishing state of the trade in American ships.

Dr. Southworth Smith, the "father of sanitary reform," died at Florence on the 10th inst., from bronchitis. Southworth Smith was born at Marlock, in Somersetshire, on the 21st December, 1788, and was therefore at his decease, within eleven days of completing his 73rd year.

A Dublin paper commenting on the death of Prince Albert, says:—"When it is known that one of the last suggestions of the Prince Consort was that gentleness and forbearance should mark the demeanor of England to a kindred people, it will enhance the love of the American people for the Queen, deepen their sorrow for the loss she has sustained, and dull the edge of irritating hostilities to England."

The repairs rendered requisite to the Great Eastern at Milford Haven are progressing satisfactorily. The interior fittings, furniture, &c., demolished during the great storm, have already been replaced, and the various saloons, and wheels, rudder head, and sailing gear, are also being replaced, and it is expected that the great vessel will be ready to go to sea again by February. She will shortly be put upon the gridiron for the purpose of finally fixing her paddle wheels and fitting her new stern post. It is understood that the original calculation as to the total amount of refitting her, made at the last meeting of the proprietors, will not be exceeded. It is not yet determined on what service she will be engaged.

From the Edinburgh Herald we obtain the following particulars of the prisoner Mason and Slidell:—

Hon. James M. Mason was born on the 3rd of November, 1798, on Annoton Island, County Fairfax, Virginia, and was educated in Georgetown, Washington. He graduated at the University of Pennsylvania and having studied law at the College of William and Mary, Va., commenced the practice of that profession in Winchester. He was elected a member of the House of Delegates, where he served three sessions. In 1837 he was elected to Congress, where he greatly distinguished himself. In 1847 he was elected to the Senate; re-elected in 1849, and again in 1855. He is chiefly famous as chairman of the Senate committee on Foreign Relations. On the commencement of the present civil war he cast his lot with the Confederates, and was detached by Jefferson Davis as Minister to Richmond, Va. Early in October he escaped in the *Theodore* from Charleston, and was taken from on board the British steamer *Trent* by Captain Wilkes of the United States' steam frigate *San Jacinto*.

John Slidell was born in New York in 1793, and on reaching the age of thirteen emigrated to New Orleans, where he established himself as a lawyer, and practised with great success. He was appointed by General Jackson as United States District Attorney, and was several times elected to the Legislature of Louisiana. In 1843 he was chosen representative in Congress, and while there was appointed by President Polk as Minister to Mexico. In 1854 he was elected to the United States Senate for the unexpired term of Senator Sumner, and at the expiration of that term was re-elected for the full term of six years, and was a member of the Committee on Naval Affairs and Foreign Relations. He was appointed by the Confederate government Minister Extraordinary to the Court of France, and escaped with his friend Mason, in the *Theodore*, the vigilance of the blockade off Charleston, only to be captured on board the British steamer on his way to Europe by Captain Wilkes. Mr. Slidell is considered as one of the ablest men in America.

Mr. George Seward, of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, has addressed a letter to Mr. Cyrus W. Field of New York, urging expediency of revising the project of the Atlantic Cable. He says:—

"The time has arrived when it behooves the friends of the Atlantic Company to push forth their best energies, not only with regard to the more private advantage of that undertaking as a trading company, but in promotion of the best interests of peace and civilization, for the purpose of raising capital in order to accomplish the great design of connecting Europe and America. That design—nurtured by expensive experience and worked out by careful subsequent examination—is now in a condition to be realized with very little risk and without the pecuniary means are entrusted to those who have laboured and suffered in its behalf."

Mr. Seward argues that the experience and information gained by the company in their former experiments have served to point out the defect of the old cable and adds:—

"It was soon found that the internal construction of the first cable was all wrong. It should have contained eight times the quantity of copper and three or four times the quantity of gutta serena that were really employed; and the construction of it as to external strength should have been regulated as to specific gravity, by the depths of the ocean to be encountered, and as to its material, by the conditions of strength and in destructibility. These discoveries will, I repeat, render the next cable more expensive, but this will be commercially compensated for by the fact that instead of working at the rate of two words per minute, a due increase of the size of the conductor will give almost any speed that may be desired, even across the Atlantic, if the quantity of insulating matter surrounding it be proportioned to it on scientific principles."

British and Foreign Miscellany.

The Dublin Daily Express says:—"By direction of the Lord Chancellor, The O'Donoghue, M. P., has been removed from the commission of the peace."

The Lancet, Brigade, consisting of the 9th, 12th, and 16th Regiments underwent a medical examination on Thursday as to their fitness for foreign service.

The gunboats in the second class reserve at Portsmouth are ordered to fit out immediately, to take the place of the boats in the first class ordered for commission for foreign service.

A telegraphic message has been sent right round the coasts of the three kingdoms, directing coast-guard ships to strike topmasts, and for all men belonging to them to prepare for immediate service.

The Post says that, previous to the closing of the coffin enclosing the remains of the Prince Consort, a wreath of flowers made by the Princess Alice was placed over the corpse, and a miniature of her Majesty placed by the hands.

It is thought that the Duke of Cambridge will become Colonel of the Grenadier Guards, and Lord Downes, Tweedale, and Rokeby, are, in that event, spoken of for the Scots' Fusilier Guards. Lord Seaton it is thought will obtain the chief Colony of the Rifle Brigade.

All the American ships of war, except one, having been withdrawn from the coast of Africa, in consequence of which cargoes of slaves are shipped for Cuba wholesale. The British cruisers are not permitted to capture vessels, although full of negroes, so long as the American flag is flying on board; and the result is a most flourishing state of the trade in American ships.

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A correspondent from Renfrew sends us the following receipt for cooking potatoes:—

Renfrew, January 7th 1862.

First wash the potatoes clean in cold water, rubbing them very hard, then pare them all round. Be sure to cut off the seed end and all bad spots, then throw them into a pail of cold water, rub them well out of that, boil them in plenty of water, be sure the water is boiling when they are put in, and do not let them stop boiling until done.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—"A. M." Your proposal to "subscribe for the Herald on condition of our advertising your land 3 months for \$1," is not accepted. If you are a poor man and not able to pay for the advertising of your land, we will do it for you gratis, as a charity, but not as an inducement to subscribe for the Herald. If you think the Herald too dear at \$1 a year in advance, you had better take some cheaper paper.

J. D.—Your "Short Sermon for the rising generation," is not exactly suited for our columns. Some of the language would not look well in print, and our influence, whatever it may be, we wish to throw, altogether, on the side of virtue and morality.

RAISING THE BLOCKADE.

