

DEPARTURE OF MESSRS MASON AND SLIDELL.

How they reached Cuba, &c. From the Charleston Mercury of Oct. 31st.

For some time past, the papers of the interior have been indulging in sly hints as to the whereabouts of Messrs. Mason and Slidell, the Southern Commissioners to England and France.

The Commissioners having resolved to make the venture of running the blockade of Charleston, after mature deliberation, selected for the expedition the staunch and swift little steamer Theodora.

On the evening of the 18th, she reached Nassau in safety, where, had the opportunity been a favorable one, the Commissioners would have disembarked; but, on enquiring, they ascertained that the English steamer connecting with that point touched at New York.

So the Theodora left Nassau and steamed away towards Cuba. On the 16th ult., she arrived at Cardenas, where the Commissioners landed.

The Theodora left the friendly port of Havana un molested, and with a freight of coffee, sugar, saltpetre, sulphur, acids, lead, iron, shot, block tin, &c., ran quietly in — we won't say where — bringing a number of Charlestonians, who had reached Havana from Southampton about the same time the Theodora made her appearance.

It is ascertained that the Yankees keep a fast yacht constantly plying between Key West and Havana, simply for the purpose of gaining intelligence of our naval movements.

The Theodora is a private vessel, and is armed. EFFECT OF RECOGNITION. We think there is some tendency to underrate as well as to overrate the value of foreign recognition of the Confederate Republic.

The moral effect of our recognition would be very great at the north. The people there seem to do everything under a sort of artificial excitement.

THE FIGHT AT LEEBURG.

An interesting Account—Confusion of the Enemy—An Interesting Incident, &c.

Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch. Doubtless you have had various accounts of the signal victory gained over "Old Abe's" forces near Leesburg on Monday, October 21.

The ball was opened about 8 o'clock, A. M., by Captain Duff's Company of 17th Mississippi Volunteers, who had been thrown out as skirmishers, and from that time, with occasional intermission, the firing continued during the day.

Others may count the enemy slain on the battle field; I know not the number, but I guess not less than 150; the wounded I guess not less than 500, and as for the prisoners I know to be not less than 700, making in all of what I guess and know killed, wounded, and prisoners, to be upwards of thirteen hundred.

Our loss has been published as 300. Let me say that it is too large. It is not more than 100, and I have the means of knowing. The brave Col. Burt, of the 18th Mississippi Volunteers, is dead.

When the contest became general, and in the thickest of the fight, might be seen an elderly gentleman, not at all connected with the army, with no impulse or motive other than the same that warms the heart and nerve the arm of all true Southern men in the glorious cause of our second independence.

In the God of Battles trust— You are in a glorious cause—fight on, my brave boys! fight on! and may the Lord have mercy upon you, and bring you off victorious.

COURT MATTERS—The Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas, in session here last week, adjourned on Wednesday.

VIRGINIA TRAITORS—The Baltimore papers of the 26th October announce that "Col. Joseph Segar, for many years a resident at Old Point, has been elected to Congress by the Union voters of Eastern Virginia."

THE OLD NORTH STATE.

W. McL. McKay of Fayetteville, N. C., addressed the late Mason Commercial Convention.

"Well, sir, while I may boast of what my State has done, I may boast of what the Southern Confederacy is determined to do. I may be pardoned if I take up a few moments of your time in showing you what the city I hail from has already done, and is doing for the cause of the Southern Confederacy.

Well, sir, there are other things which we are doing; we are manufacturing things that the soldiers in our army need, and that are wanted all over this Confederacy, and I stand here to-day for the purpose of letting you know what we are doing.

Mr McKay exhibited some cloth suitable for ladies' dresses—the patterns of which were so becoming that a gentleman, whose wife had clothed herself therein last Sunday, remarked that he had never seen her so pretty in all her life—also some iron called the black band iron, which he showed, from a passage he read from the report of a geological survey in North Carolina, by Professor Emmons, to exist in inexhaustible quantities and to lie on the surface of the ground.

THE PRISONERS—It is computed that since the commencement of the war we have taken together, about ten thousand prisoners; while the enemy have captured less than two thousand men.

NORTHERN ITEMS—From New York papers we gather the following: Twenty prisoners were selected on Thursday from among the North Carolinians on Bedloe's Island, and were to be sent to Fortress Monroe.

FOREIGN ITEMS—Earl Russell, in a speech at Newcastle, defended the state of affairs in America, and said that England had no reason to interfere, but should watch the course of affairs, and, if able, interfere for the cause of freedom and humanity.

MR YANCY—Hon. W. L. Yancy has written a letter from London to the editor of the Montgomery Advertiser, saying that if elected by the Legislature as Confederate Senator from Alabama, he would serve in that capacity. His letter concludes as follows:

HORSES CHEAP—The high price of forage is affecting the price of horses at Richmond. The Whig describes a sale last week where two or three auctioneers were engaged for an hour or two simultaneously knocking down horses which the owners could not afford to feed.

WAR ITEMS.

THE BLOCKADE OF THE POTOMAC.—An official article in the Washington Republic, the organ of the Lincoln Government, alludes to the establishment of Confederate batteries on the Virginia shore of the Potomac, and says: "There is nothing possible in the case but to take measures to dislodge them from whatever points they may actually occupy in this way, and to wait patiently for that permanent relief from the difficulty which is only to be found in the expulsion or retreat of the enemy's main army centering upon Manassas Junction."

THE WAR COMING.—The Jonesborough (Tenn.) Union, of the 26th, has the following: From our advices we may infer that a most desperate effort will be made within the next sixty days by the Federal troops to make an incursion into East Tennessee and take possession of our line of railroads and occupy this portion of the South.

FROM ARIZONA.—A special dispatch dated at New Orleans on the 28th, states that an extra of the Mesilla Times, of Sept. 27th, reports that a detachment of Confederates, numbering 108, under the command of Captain Coopwood, defeated four companies of Federal regulars at Arlusa. Reinforcements were sent to Captain Coopwood, and it was thought he would lose Fort Craig in 48 hours.

RICHMOND, Oct. 30.—Official intelligence has been received here of the arrival of Mobile of a Spanish brig, loaded with coffee and other valuables, having successfully run the blockade. She brings intelligence of the departure of Ministers Slidell and Mason from Havana, on the 23rd, for Liverpool.

TROOPS.—Quite a large number of troops arrived at Goldsboro during last Friday and Saturday. A regiment and a battalion, accompanied by an Artillery battery, composed of gallant Georgians, are now stationed there and ready to march to any point to meet the enemy.

ARREST OF NAVAL OFFICERS.—The following naval officers, recently arrived from the coast of Africa in the storeship Relief, having tendered their resignations, were arrested on Friday at the Brooklyn Navy Yard and conveyed to Fort Lafayette.

THE PRICE OF CORN.—The Savannah Republican says corn is selling in South Alabama as low as 40 cents per bushel. The Milledgeville Recorder says that corn sold in that city last week at 50 cents per bushel.

MILITARY NOTICES. Headquarters Department of N. C. Office of Chief Commissary, Goldsboro, Oct. 17. I have the pleasure in informing my friends and patrons of this town and neighborhood that I have returned to Charlotte and resumed my former business.

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ANOTHER GALLANT FIGHT.

CENTREVILLE, Oct. 30.—One of the most gallant fights that has taken place here is that which followed the battle of Leesburg.

Col. Barksdale now holds the enemy in check. From the Raleigh Standard. CAMP AT MARLIN BOTTOM. Pocahontas County, Va., Oct. 19, 1861.

W. W. Holden, Esq., Dear Sir: A few days since my attention was called to an article in your paper, of the 25th September, calculated to do me injustice. This article is based upon information derived from a gentleman recently from Valley Mountain.

FACTORY FOR SALE. The undersigned propose to sell, at a low price and upon liberal credit, their COTTON FACTORY, located on the South Fork of the Catawba River.

HOOP PILES, STAVES AND CORD WOOD. Wanted at the Charlotte Steam Mill, Oct. 15.

HEADQUARTERS NORTH CAROLINA TROOPS. Adjutant General's Office, Raleigh, Oct. 9, 1861. General Order No. 18.

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HEADQUARTERS NORTH CAROLINA TROOPS. Adjutant General's Office, Raleigh, Oct. 15, 1861. General Order No. 20.

NOTICE. An Election will be opened and held at the several Election Precincts in Mecklenburg county on the first Wednesday in November (6th day) for twelve Electors to vote for President and Vice-President of the Confederate States, and also a member of Congress to represent the 8th Congressional District in the next Congress.

COMMON SCHOOL FUND.

The Charlotte Democrat states that at the recent meeting of the Literary Board in this City, the sum of \$90,452 was ordered to be distributed among the various counties of the State, payable on the first day of April next, for the support of Common Schools.

PROCLAMATION. In pursuance and by virtue of a resolution of the General Assembly of North Carolina, I, Henry T. Clark, Governor ex-officio of said State, do hereby notify and require all male citizens of this State, now in the enemy's country of the United States, to turn to North Carolina, where their allegiance is justly due, within thirty days from the date hereof; and I do hereby declare as an alien enemy, subject to all the pains, penalties and forfeitures which are or may be incurred by an alien enemy, every person failing to obey the requirements of this Proclamation, except he be a soldier in the army of the Confederate States, or some one of them, or in prison, or detained by force.

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