

The Mason and Slidell Affair in England

By the arrival of the Steamship Hens...

Some prominent merchants spoke against the precipitate action...

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 15th.—The steamship Europa has arrived...

On the 30th of Nov., Her Majesty held a Privy Council at Windsor...

The English journals are very bitter and hostile, and continue to treat the affair as an insupportable insult.

Lord Lyons' instructions, in which the Cabinet is said to be unanimous, are explicit and determined.

The London Post says that an acknowledgment of the error...

Lord Lyons' instructions, in which the Cabinet is said to be unanimous...

The London Times re-asserts that it has been a reward policy to force a quarrel with England...

The London Times, in its editorial comment on the affair...

1st. The destruction of the blockade of the Southern ports;

2d. The complete and effectual blockade of the Northern ports;

3d. The recognition of the Confederate States by France and England.

The Paris Patrie argues clearly that France will side with England and recognize the Southern Confederacy.

A Liverpool paper gives a rumor that the Emperor Napoleon had been proposed as an arbiter between England and the United States.

CALL LATER FROM EUROPE.

SAVING LIFE, Dec. 15.—The steamship City of Washington has arrived with Liverpool dispatches...

The excitement in reference to Messrs. Mason and Slidell continues unabated.

The Paris Temps repeats the statement that the Emperor Napoleon has tendered his services as a mediator between England and the United States.

The Paris Patrie has an official article forecasting the disposition of France to recognize the Southern Confederacy...

A large number of English naval vessels have been ordered ready for immediate commission.

The Queen had issued a proclamation forbidding the exportation of arms, powder, lead, and the materials for making powder.

The London Observer says the Government will demand the restoration of Messrs. Mason and Slidell to the British Government.

The Observer states that the Envoys should be restored upon the quarter-deck of a British vessel...

A large number of vessels have been ordered to get ready immediately and go into commission.

The Melbourne left Woolwich on the 12th instant for Halifax...

The effect of the news in New York of the Mason and Slidell affair...

The New York Times says that neither Lincoln nor any member of his Cabinet is committed in favor of the course pursued in arresting Mason and Slidell.

Coffee and tea at New York have been withdrawn from the market...

The report about Minister Adams applying for his passports is only rumor.

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The steamer Africa was detained a few days to take out Lord Lyons' response...

Queen's messenger and the messenger from Mr. Adams left Boston on Tuesday...

The privateer Sumter overhauled the ship Montauque...

The New York Herald says that in three weeks not a dollar would be left in the Federal treasury...

MONTECAL, December 16.—The news by the Europa creates much excitement...

TOLEDO, December 16.—There is much excitement here, and the action of the Home Government is strongly approved.

Despatches from Detroit, Cleveland, Baltimore, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Hartford, Buffalo, Chicago and Milwaukee...

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, December 15.—Senator Wilson gave notice that he would introduce tomorrow a bill for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia...

WASHINGTON, December 16.—The Lincoln Government is firm in adhering to the arrest of Mason and Slidell...

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Battle on the Potomac.

Richmond, Dec. 21.—A portion of our Potomac army suffered a defeat yesterday.

At four o'clock yesterday morning, General Stuart, with 150 cavalry, Jeff Davis' Artillery, the 1st Kentucky regiment...

Our loss is about 300 killed, and an equal number wounded.

Later from Europe and the North.

Richmond, Dec. 21.—The Norfolk Day Book of Friday and Saturday reached here to-night...

The steamship Jura had arrived at Portland, Me., with Liverpool dates to the 6th inst.

The Government consents to the exchange of Elly for Faulkner, and Elly will soon be sent North.

Rumors are abundant to-day, but nothing has been received in official quarters...

The "Barricading" of Charleston Harbor Begun.

On Thursday last, an increase in the number of vessels off this harbor was noticed.

On Friday morning, not less than twenty-three masts of all classes were sighted.

As well as could be judged, using a spyglass at a distance of three or four miles...

There were some four gunboats, one large steamer, apparently a frigate, and the rest seemed to be mostly sailing vessels.

One of the steamers was stationed to the northeast of the Bar, near the Rattlesnake Shoal...

During Thursday night and Friday morning, with the weather calm, the sea smooth and a moonlight night...

They succeeded in sinking some seven hulks, consisting of two ships and five barges, in one of the channels.

Later in the day, the enemy sunk eight more of the "stone fleet," making fifteen in all.

From Memphis.

MEMPHIS, December 20.—A special dispatch to the Atlantic, from Columbus, says that a copy of the Chicago Tribune of the 19th was received there to-day by a flag of truce.

Lincoln's Cabinet anticipating England's demand, have unanimously resolved never to surrender Mason and Slidell.

The gun boats Benton and Essex, which were aground at Cape Girardeau, are now at Cairo.

A special to the Atlantic from Jackson, Miss., says the Legislature passed a bank bill enabling the banks to receive Treasury notes for all taxes except the war tax.

From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 17.

The Battle of Alleghany Mountain.

We received last evening, through the kindness of gentlemen from Western Virginia, some further incidents of the battle fought on Friday last, on the Alleghany mountain.

The report which reached the city on Sunday, that the forces of Col. Johnson were surprised by the enemy...

One great advantage that the Federals possessed was a position of some extent...

One of our men was killed, and another was wounded, and a third was captured.

Our informant states that Col. Johnston "covered himself with glory, and is entitled to the appellation of the Hero of the Alleghany."

When we take into consideration the numerical weakness of our force, and the strength and advantageous position of the enemy...

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From Virginia.

Richmond, Dec. 19.—Charles J. Faulkner arrived this evening. He was met at the depot by Gov. Letcher...

The Commander of the Steamer Nashville.—It has already been announced that the Confederate steamer Nashville...

With the single exception of Capt. Tattall, there is not an officer in the service who would be treated with more consideration...

The Lincolnes at North Edisto.—Several of the enemy's fleet still occupy North Edisto Inlet...

Several of the enemy's fleet still occupy North Edisto Inlet, and one of their vessels has been up to White Point on Wadmalaw Sound...

Nothing from the camps.

Richmond, Dec. 20.—The Virginia House of Delegates has passed a bill appropriating fifty thousand dollars for the relief of the Charleston sufferers.

The Government consents to the exchange of Elly for Faulkner, and Elly will soon be sent North.

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"Happy Greeting."

"Happy greeting," "Merry Christmas," and "many more returns of the same," to all our readers.

What though "wild war's deadly blast" has blown across the land?

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A gentleman who participated in the fight at Green River bridge is now here; he says that he counted fifty-five of the enemy killed.

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Latest from the Coast.

Mr. WILLIAM GOODMAN, of Col. Jones' Regiment, is just returned from the coast. He reports the health of the men as generally very good.

We regret to add that he fully confirms the reported capture of six men of Capt. West's Company; they were three LANFORDS, two MATHEWS, and one JENNINGS.

Dr. A. W. YOUNGLOOUD went over with a flag of truce to see the matter, but was not allowed to visit the men.

On Sunday night the enemy had again made an attack on the point at which West's Company was stationed.

To Our Soldiers.

Christmas and its gratulations. Bring to mind, above all others, Friends afar, in patience braving Absence from the household fires.

And our hearts go out this morning—Soldiers of the bright Palmetto!—In no gush of strong emotion, Fringed with ten thousand wishes.

For your safety and your glory!—'Tis a people's voice sends greeting To their cherished sons and soldiers!

Need we tell you how that mother Kneels in prayer, before the dawning, Unto Him whose star attracts Eastern Magi to the manger.

That the same bright sign of promise Still may rise to gild and gladden All the toilsome path of duty.

Where her boy, with noble promptings, Seeks to win a hero's chaplet In the cause of Independence.

Need we tell how wives and sisters Cared their pearls of fond remembrance, As they watch the lonely portal, Waiting, waiting for the coming Of the voice and of the footsteps.

That were wont to form the surety Of each dear domestic Eden.— Need we show where little children, Clinging round the sacred hearth-stone, Wonder at the Christmas greetings.

Rest of all the old-time laughter,— Wonder at the quiet meekness In the mien of those that watch them, Till the stocking on the mantle.

Losses half its mystic meaning, And they hasten to their frolics As if dreading lest their fancies Caught the sombre hues around them.

But advent! ye thoughts of sadness,— Welcome! Hope's bright beaconing ray!— Rather let us, with the children, Rush into the open day.

There they go, the merry prattlers; 'Round the yard, in mocking march, Sticks for guns, and poms for drums, With "left" at every other straddle, On the little squad advances.

O! 'tis good to learn of children How to throw aside dejection, How to look with thankful fervor On the bright side of the picture.

Looking thus, we see you, soldiers, Triumphant o'er all your dangers, Working out, like God's own heroes, "Peace on Earth" against oppression,

"Peace on Earth" against the madness That would fill the land with sorrow,— "Peace on Earth" against the demons That would strain our Southern altars With the trickling blood of freemen.

Looking thus, we see your banners Hallowed by a light from Heaven, Hallowed by the watch of angels, Hallowed by the Father's blessing.

Looking thus, we see you coming Crowned with joy and fame undying,— For the laurel wreath is blended With the palm-leaf of Salvation, And the hallowed strife has ended In the bright inauguration Of a people true to duty.

True to Justice, true to Heaven. Looking thus, we see the era Long foretold by Heaven's morning;— And upon this gracious terming, All in view of coming blessing, All in view of coming Glory Greater far than man's poor triumphs, Let us crowd around His footstool, Kneel before our "Prince and Saviour," While the shout goes up from millions, "Glory, glory in excelsis!"

The Lesson of the Day.

In its full scope it is this: "Peace on Earth, good will towards men." But there is a smaller lesson comprised in this general one...

Colonel Jones' Regiment was moved promptly to the support of Lieut. McElhenney's Battery...

The Fight at Green River, Ky.—Additional Particulars.

BOWLING GREEN, Dec. 18.—Yesterday 200 Texas Rangers, under Col. Terry, came upon the enemy's pickets...

They were attacked by 600 of the 32d Brigade, which were on each side of them.

The Rangers were concealed in a cornfield, behind trees and haystacks.

The enemy was killed and wounded, and 8 prisoners were taken.

Major G. D. HEWITT imparts to us the information that Mr. J. COLEMAN has by ready by the last of January about 3000 lbs of pork...

Also, that the Bethany Aid Society of Saluda have sent boxes to the Charlotteville Hospital during the past three months...

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True Facts.

As genuine to this kindly season, we make an extract from the celebrated "Dombey and Son," of CHARLES DICKENS...

For those who may not have read this book, we should remark that the allusion is to the death of Mrs. Dombey, a frail but devoted mother...

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