

READING MATTER ON EVERY PAGE SEE OUTSIDE FOR INTERESTING TELEGRAPHIC AND OTHER MATTER.

EXTRA.

NEWS OF A BATTLE EXPECTED. Up to eight o'clock yesterday morning "all was quiet" on the lines in front, but there were indications that "something would crack" during the afternoon or night; and well-informed parties are in momentary expectation of hearing important news from there.

Late from the Army of the Potomac.

ARRIVAL OF THE MARY RAPLEY WITH THE BODY OF GEN. WADSWORTH.

NO FIGHTING UP TO 3 A. M. YESTERDAY.

The steamer Mary Rapley, which left Belle Plain at 10 o'clock last night, arrived here this morning at 3 o'clock, bringing up the body of Gen. Wadsworth, accompanied by several officers of his late staff, and the army mail under charge of Lieut. Parker.

Up to 8 o'clock yesterday morning all was quiet, with the exception of the usual picket firing.

Gen. Grant's headquarters had been removed a short distance to the left of the point where they had formerly been established.

Some cannonading was heard at Belle Plain in the afternoon, but not sufficient to warrant the belief that a general engagement was in progress.

All the rebel prisoners had been brought down to Belle Plain for the purpose of being shipped to Point Lookout. There being but two steamers in readiness, only a portion of them could be removed, and the remainder were sent back into the valley. The two steamers alluded to left Belle Plain last evening.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF OPERATIONS NEAR RICHMOND.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT REBEL RAILROAD CONNECTION CUT.

ATTACK ON SMITH AND BUTLER.

SMITH TEMPORARILY DRIVEN BACK IN THE FOG, BUT REGAINS HIS GROUND.

DESPERATE REBEL ATTACK ON BUTLER REPULSED.

BRAGG AND DAVIS IN THE FIELD.

SIGEL DEFEATED AT NEW MARKET.

HE IS ATTACKED BY BRECKINRIDGE, IMBODEN, AND ECHOLS, AND LOSES FIVE PIECES OF ARTILLERY, AND SIX HUNDRED MEN IN KILLED, WOUNDED AND MISSING.

WASHINGTON, May 17-9 p. m.—To Maj. Gen. Cadwalader. Despatches from Gen. Butler, just received, report the success of his expedition under Gen. Knaut to cut the Danville road and destroy the iron bridge over the Appomattox.

That on Monday morning the enemy in force, under cover of a thick fog, made an attack upon Smith's line, and forced it back in confusion, and with considerable loss; but as soon as the fog lifted, Gen. Smith re-established his line, and the enemy was driven back to his original line.

At the same time the enemy made an attack from Petersburg on General Butler's force guarding the rear, but were handsomely repulsed. The troops having been on incessant duty for five days, three of which were in a rain storm, Gen. Butler retired leisurely within his own lines. But he held the railroad between Petersburg and Richmond. Prisoners state that Bragg and Davis were present in the field.

Despatches from Gen. Sigel, received this evening, report that on Sunday he fought the forces of Echols and Imboden, under Breckinridge, at New Market; that the enemy's forces were superior in number, and that he gradually withdrew from the battle-field and retreated upon Shenandoah, having lost five pieces of artillery, about 600 killed and wounded, and 50 taken prisoners, but brings all his trains and all the wounded that could be transported from the battle-field. He states that in consequence of the long line and the trains that had to be guarded he could not bring more than six regiments into the fight, besides the artillery and cavalry, and that the enemy had about seven thousand infantry, besides other arms.

But his retrograde movement to Strasburg was effected in perfect order, without any loss of material or men. He gives no list of casualties, but Lieutenant Colonel Lincoln, of the 30th Massachusetts, is reported wounded and captured.

No report of any operations of the Army of the Potomac has been received to-day.

A despatch from Gen. Sherman reports his advance upon Johnston is progressing with his satisfaction.

His supplies are abundant, and our animals are improving on the grass and grain fields, which afford good pasture.

E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN.

Nothing Later from the Front—A Rebel Canard Exploded—The Latest from Georgia.

WASHINGTON, May 17, p. m.—Maj. Gen. Dix: We have no official intelligence of any military operations since my last dispatch. The Richmond papers of Saturday state that Gen. Steele had surrendered at Camden with 9,000 men to Gen. Price. This is known to be untrue. Gen. Steele, with his whole command, withdrew some two weeks ago from Camden, and is now at Little Rock, having defeated Kirby Smith on the way at Sabine river. As heretofore stated, Gen. Sherman was in close pursuit of Johnston, having captured 1,000 prisoners and eight pieces of artillery at Resaca.

E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

A call for a mass convention of citizens of the United States who mean to uphold the Union, who believe that the rebellion can be crushed without infringing upon the rights of individuals or States; who regard the extinction of slavery among the practical effects of the war for the Union, and who favor an amendment to the Constitution to exclude slavery, and who demand integrity and economy in the administration of the Government, is called for at Cleveland, May 31st, for consultation on the Presidential campaign.

DISGRACED OFFICERS.—The following officers, who left the field without sufficient cause, were sent to the Old Capitol yesterday, and will be returned to the front under guard: Lieut. J. A. Ashley, 169th New York; Lieut. E. S. Griffin, 143d Pennsylvania; Lieut. Edward W. Barnes, Co. I, 125th N. Y.; Lieut. W. S. Mortimer, 18th Pennsylvania; Lieut. Thos. G. Palmer, 1st Michigan; Lieut. Wm. Moore, 92d New York.

FROM GEN. SHERMAN'S ARMY.

NASHVILLE, May 16, p. m.—I have the most gratifying intelligence from the front. Our trains are running six miles below Iretion. There is now no doubt about the occupation of that point. It took place on Friday last.

The telegraph is working to within a few miles of Resaca.

The enemy for several days has been moving away his stores. While in the midst of this, McPherson fell upon him, capturing the nine trains, already mentioned.

Meysterber, the eminent musical composer, is dead.

LEFT FOR THE SEAT OF WAR.—The company of artillery of the regular army which has been stationed for several years past in the city of Washington, which in former years rendered so much good service, has left the post, and will probably go to the front for active service. The company, which is composed of men, sergeants, remain, whose knowledge of the works was considered important. The Fort is now occupied by a force of United States regulars, and the power there is greatly increased.—Balt. American, 15th.

THE POPE AND RUSSIA.—The Pope had delivered an allocution, in which he severely censured the conduct of the Russian Government with regard to the Roman Catholic religion. The Russian charge d'affaires at Rome asked explanations, but Cardinal Antonelli defended the Papal allocution.

TICKETS TO THE HALL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The House of Representatives will be held at the Hotel, Book and Drug Stores, &c. To the floor of the House, \$1. Galleries, 50 cents. Tickets admitting a party of five, \$2.50. Tickets for the gallery, 25 cents to be had at the Soldiers Free Library.

NOTICE.—There will be a regular monthly meeting of the Hackmen's Association to be held on THURSDAY, May 19th, at 8 o'clock, at the Hotel, Book and Drug Stores, &c. The members are requested to be punctual in their attendance, as it is for the election of officers and other important business.

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA will be held on THURSDAY, May 19th, at 8 o'clock, at the Hotel, Book and Drug Stores, &c. The members are requested to be punctual in their attendance, as it is for the election of officers and other important business.

A CONCERT OF VOCAL MUSIC WILL be given by the pupils of the Female Seminary School, under the direction of Prof. H. Daniel, at the Washington Institution on THURSDAY EVENING, the 19th instant, commencing at 6 o'clock. The proceeds of the concert will be used for the purchase of books for the school. Mr. J. F. Ellis has kindly offered the use of one of his finest pianos for the occasion.

FAIR AND FESTIVAL.—The Fair and Festival of the Washington Institution will be held on FRIDAY, May 20th, at 10 o'clock, at the Hotel, Book and Drug Stores, &c. The members are requested to be punctual in their attendance, as it is for the election of officers and other important business.

NOTICE TO WOUNDED OFFICERS.—Wounded officers arriving in Washington are earnestly requested to send their address to the office of the Surgeon-General, 24th Street, in order that answers can be given to their friends inquiring of their whereabouts.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—To the Tin-Plate and Sheet-Iron Workers of Washington.—You are hereby notified of the expulsion of Messrs. Geo. A. Hall and J. S. Smith, from the membership of the Tin-Plate and Sheet-Iron Workers of Washington Association of this city, for conducting a business in violation of the by-laws of the Association, and for being unfaithful to the duties of their office.

ICE CREAM CONFECTIONERY, &c.—Receptions, Parties, Wedding, Balls, Suppers, Fairs and other entertainments furnished at the shortest notice and most reasonable terms. Ice Cream and Water made by steam power. Baked and delivered to the city, wholesale and retail, delivered to any part of the city. Charlotte Buns, Cakes, and Wedding Cakes made to order, at JOSEPH SHAPPELL'S Confectionery, 386 Sixth St., bet. G and H.

BLACK FRENCH LACE POINTS AND MANTLES.—One hundred splendid quality REAL FRENCH LACE POINTS AND MANTLES just received and will be sold very cheap.

These goods are consigned to us from the largest Lace House in New York. The prices marked on them cannot fail to sell the goods very quickly.

J. J. MAY & CO., 308 Pennsylvania avenue, between 9th and 10th sts.

ODD FELLOWS' HALL.—TERESA CARRENO. GRAND CONCERT. At the above Hall on THURSDAY EVENING, May 19th.

THIS (Wednesday) EVENING, May 18th, the following distinguished artists: Madame Annie Merrill, Prima Donna Soprano; Mr. John Farley, Tenor; Mrs. Mary Farley, Pianist; and Messrs. Herr Branderhoff, Pianist Accompanist; A new and choice program will be performed. Tickets \$1; furnished by Ellis and at the door. Commence at 8 o'clock.

BEAUTIFUL SILK GRENADINES.—BLACK GRENADINES WITH RICHLY EMBROIDERED COLORED FIGURES.

We have just received from auction the largest and handsomest stock of the above goods ever exhibited in this city. Price 75, 87, 51 and \$1.25 per yard.

Also, 50 cases of elegant French and English, German and American DRESS GOODS, for summer wear, at exceedingly low prices.

JOS. J. MAY & CO., 308 Pennsylvania avenue, between 9th and 10th sts.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN WISHING TO HAVE THEIR SEWING done, Machine Sewing, and all other kinds of Sewing, call on Mrs. Mills, at 173 2d street west, between B and C, opposite the City and County Office.

SUMMER OPENING.—MISS M. J. PLATT will, on Thursday, May 19th, open a new and splendid saloon, at the corner of 11th and F streets, etc., comprising all the latest styles of Paris and home manufacture, to which she invites the ladies of Washington to call and examine her goods. 246 Penn. avenue, near 13th st., and over the Independent Telegraph Office.

MILITARY AND CITIZENS.—E. LINNEY, Merchant Tailor, No. 170 Penn. avenue, between 17th and 18th streets, has constantly on hand a new and varied assortment of CLOTHS, CASSIMERS, which he will make up in the latest and most improved styles.

BARGAINS IN MILLINERY AND CHILDREN'S SPANCY HATS.

At the NEW YORK ESTABLISHMENT, No. 4 Market Space, second door from 9th street.

Having a large and extensive Stock of Goods, and desiring of reducing it before the close of the season, the prices will be marked down much below their original value.

Ladies will now have the opportunity of purchasing an elegant, stylish Bonnet for the same price they would pay for an inferior one elsewhere.

FOR SALE.—A beautiful stylish dark bay pure bred CANADIAN HORSE, 16 hands high, built in proportion, perfectly sound, kind and gentle in disposition, or double harness; is a dashing saddle horse; has been raised by the celebrated stock breeder, J. H. Stedman, Esq., Hamilton, Canada West, to which the present owner refers any purchaser for his information.

It is expected to be very fast this summer, having often trotted in 3:10. Has been imported six months ago, and is now offered for sale, as the owner, after many unsuccessful attempts, cannot match him in style and color any part of the country.

He can be handled and driven by any lady, or even a little boy.

Particulars of private families in want of a pure-bred Horse, army officers are respectfully invited to see this animal.

Private citizens and army officers only. Can be seen at the stables of Kelleher & Pywell, 8th and 9th streets, between D and E.

Further particulars apply to Mr. Kelleher at the stables, or to Mr. 510 Seventh street.

KEYSER & CO. PHILADELPHIA AID DEPOT No. 93 LOUISIANA AVENUE.

WE also invite the attention of Soldiers and the friends of the Army to the new and improved PATENT, packed and ready for shipment.

NOTICE.—All persons having accounts with the firm of W. H. SHUBERT & CO., are requested to call on the undersigned at 10th and 11th streets, in the hands of W. H. OLIGERT, at the old stand.

THE MERCHANTS' AND BANKERS' ALMA NAZ, 1864, by Smith & Roman, 31 1/2.

486 FRENCH FIREBOARD PRINTS, 486

Just received, a choice selection of the above, at J. MARKITTER'S, No. 486 7th St., 2nd floor doors above Old Falls Hall.

TERMS CASH.

Municipal Election Candidates, &c.

THE UNCONDITIONAL UNION VOTERS of the Seventh Ward favor the reelection of the late Mayor, and will meet at 10 o'clock on THURSDAY EVENING, May 19th, at 10 o'clock, to elect candidates for Board of Aldermen, Common Council and Assessors.

SEVENTH WARD UNCONDITIONAL UNION CANDIDATE FOR ASSESSOR: PETER HEBURN.

UNCONDITIONAL UNION TICKET, FIRST WARD.

FOR MAYOR: RICHARD WALLACH.

FOR ALDERMAN: JOHN B. TURTON.

FOR COMMON COUNCIL: JOHN A. KELLY, JOHN C. WILSON, JOHN A. RHEEM.

FOR ASSESSOR: THOMAS H. DONOHUE.

FOURTH WARD INDEPENDENT UNION TICKET.

FOR MAYOR: JOHN H. SEMMES.

FOR ALDERMAN: JAMES H. ENGLISH.

FOR COMMON COUNCIL: WM. H. BALDWIN, GEO. W. WALKER, ELIJAH EDMONSTON.

[Intel. Repub., Chron. & Oen. Union.]

SEVENTH WARD UNCONDITIONAL UNION TICKET.

FOR MAYOR: JOHN H. SEMMES.

FOR ALDERMAN: PETER M. PEARSON.

FOR COMMON COUNCIL: JOSEPH DUDLEY, W. T. WALKER, G. W. WRIGHT.

FOR ASSESSOR: JOHN H. BIRD.

FOURTH WARD UNCONDITIONAL UNION TICKET.

FOR MAYOR: RICHARD WALLACH.

FOR ALDERMAN: JNO. P. PEPPER.

FOR COMMON COUNCIL: ASBURY FLOYD, JOSEPH LLOYD, MICHAEL LARNER.

INDEPENDENT UNION CANDIDATE FOR MAYOR: JOHN H. SEMMES.

UNCONDITIONAL UNION TICKET, FIFTH WARD.

FOR MAYOR: RICHARD WALLACH.

FOR ALDERMAN: CHAS. I. OANFIELD.

FOR COMMON COUNCIL: WM. P. FERGUSON, JAMES B. DAVIS, B. WARD.

FOR ASSESSOR: B. F. DYER.

THIRD WARD-JUNE ELECTION.—The unconditional Union voters of the Third Ward will support the following ticket at the approaching municipal election, viz:

FOR MAYOR: RICHARD WALLACH.

FOR ALDERMAN: ALEXANDER R. SHEPHERD.

FOR COMMON COUNCIL: N. D. LARNER, THOMAS A. STEPHENS, THOMAS W. SIMS.

FOR ASSESSOR: JAMES P. KEANE.

THIRD WARD-JUNE ELECTION.—The unconditional Union voters of the Third Ward will support the following ticket at the June election:

FOR MAYOR: RICHARD WALLACH.

FOR ALDERMAN: ALEXANDER R. SHEPHERD.

FOR COMMON COUNCIL: N. D. LARNER, THOMAS A. STEPHENS, THOMAS W. SIMS.

FOR ASSESSOR: JAMES P. KEANE.

SCARCE AND DESIRABLE.—SILKES AND CHILDREN'S BLACK SILK CIRCULARS, BLACK SILK MANTILLAS AND BLACK SILK SAUCERS AND DISCULARS.

N. B. All sizes. At MAX WELLS' Cloak and Mantilla Store, 324 Pa. ave., between 9th and 10th sts.

MORGAN & HAYNES, PLAIN AND ORNAMENTAL GRAINERS, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Work entrusted to our care, will be executed with neatness and dispatch.

Shop—No. 564 7th street, near Canal Bridge.

PROPOSALS will be received at the office until Monday, the 23rd instant, for grading and graveling First street east, from H to K street north, and gravel to be of a quality to meet the approval of the Commissioner and Assistant Commissioners, and to be nine inches in depth in the center, tapering to six inches at the sides.

Bidders will state the price per cubic yard for grading and per square yard for graveling.

No receipt will be given until the written certificate of the Commissioner and both the Assistant Commissioners that the work has been properly executed.

Commissioner, SAMUEL DOUGLAS, SAMUEL CASBY, JACOB FISCHER, Assistant Commissioners.

CAVALRY HORSES WANTED.—WAR DEPARTMENT, CAVALRY BUREAU, Office of Chief Quartermaster, Washington, D. C., May 18th, 1864.

THREE THOUSAND (3,000) HORSES AND ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SIX (\$166) dollars per head will be paid for all.

SECOND EDITION.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

GRANT TO MOVE AGAINST THE ENEMY WITHOUT DELAY.

VIGOROUS MEASURES OF THE GOVERNMENT TO KEEP UP THE NATIONAL FORCES UNTIL THE REBELLION IS OVERTHROWN!

WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, May 18.

To Major General Dix, New York:—We have no reports of operations since my last dispatch.

The latest information from Gen. Grant stated that the roads had greatly improved, and large reinforcements have reached him, and he designed to move against the enemy without delay.

It is the design of the Government to keep up the national forces until the rebellion is overthrown, and in order to provide against any inopportune reduction when the service of the hundred days men go out, a draft will be ordered to take place on the 1st of July, by which time the new enlistments will be completed. No order is yet issued.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

REBEL OFFICERS COMMITTED TO THE OLD ARMY.

The following rebel officers, sent to this city by General Patrick, Provost Marshal General of the Army of the Potomac, were yesterday committed to the Old Capitol:—Major T. E. Upshaw, 13th Virginia cavalry; Captain T. M. Goble, 8th Virginia infantry; Captain E. Wilfong, 31st Virginia; Captain H. Smith, 10th Mississippi; First Lieutenant T. G. McMullen, First Lieutenant J. R. Hansfield, First Lieutenant J. Mc Guthrie, 1st North Carolina; First Lieutenant D. Nixon, 25th Mississippi; First Lieutenant L. M. Wilson, 37th Virginia; First Lieutenant D. S. Summers, 52d Virginia; and Second Lieutenant D. S. Owens, 13th Georgia.

PERSONAL.—E. P. Hollister, Esq., co-editor of the Home Journal, is stopping at Willards.

New York Stock List.—First Board.

U. S. coupon 6's, 1861, 115; U. S. 5 1/2's, 107; U. S. 5's, 100; Erie, 118; Hudson, 13 1/2; Harlem, 25; Reading, 140; Michigan Central, 148; Michigan Southern, 194; Illinois Central, 134; Cleveland and Toledo, 150; Chicago and Rock Island, 119; Galena and Chicago, 130; Cleveland and Toledo, 150; Waukegan and Prairie du Chien, 71; Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago, 121; Alton and Terra Haute, 69; Quicksilver, 73 1/2.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

Brilliant Victory by General Crook in Western Virginia.

HE ROUTS THE REBELS UNDER MORGAN, SAM JONES AND A. JENKINS!

THE REBELS LOSE SIX HUNDRED IN KILLED AND THREE HUNDRED IN PRISONERS!

THE REBEL GENERAL JENKINS A PRISONER IN OUR HANDS, MORTALLY WOUNDED.

GEN. CROOK DESTROYS THE GREAT RAILROAD BRIDGE OVER NEW RIVER, AND SEVERAL MILES OF THE TRACK.

CINCINNATI, May 15.—A special dispatch to the Commercial, dated Gauley Bridge, Virginia, May 17th, says:

A courier arrived this morning direct from Gen. Crook's command. He has fought three battles near Newbern, Va., with the forces under Generals Morgan, Sam Jones and A. Jenkins, gaining a complete victory over the enemy. The rebels lost six hundred in killed and wounded, and three hundred prisoners.

Gen. A. Jenkins fell into our hands, and mortally wounded.

Our loss was 400 in killed and wounded.

The large railroad bridge over New River, at Newbern, with several miles of the track, has been completely destroyed by our forces.

Gen. Crook was at Newbern on the 12th.

From Mexico.

VICTORY REPORTED FOR THE MEXICANS OVER THE FRENCH AT ALBUQUERQUE.

LOUISIANA MADE A FREE STATE BY ACTION OF THE STATE LEGISLATURE.

CAIRO, May 17.—New Orleans dates to the 11th have been received. Gens. Herron, Benton and Hamilton, and a large number of officers, both American and Mexican, had arrived. The Mexican Minister of Finance at Matamoros was making arrangements for the support of the Juarez Government.

Gen. Uruga is reported to have defeated three thousand French at Albuquerque.

The French are reported to be organizing an expedition at San Luis for the invasion of the frontier.

Gen. Vidauri and a number of his officers had fled from Monterey to San Antonio, Texas, and joined the Southern Confederacy.

The Louisiana State Convention had amended the constitution by a vote of 70 to 16, by declaring that slavery and involuntary servitude, except for punishment for crime, are hereby and forever abolished and prohibited in the State, and that the Legislature shall make no law recognizing the right of property.

LOCAL NEWS.

A VILLAINOUS CASE.—Monday officer Beull, of the First Ward, arrested a soldier named John E. Simmons for committing a rape on a child about six years old, daughter of Mary Eppia. The act was reported to the police by the child's mother about two weeks ago. The child's mother keeps a lodging house on K street, between 17th and 18th, which is visited by a number of soldiers and others. After the charge was made against Simmons, he refused to make all right with the child's mother, and avoided the police. On Monday he went to the house, and the mother notified Sergeant Hurley, who determined that he would proceed to make all right with the child's mother, and sent officer Beull, who arrested Simmons and took him before Justice Drury. The justice heard the evidence and sent Simmons to jail for court.

TERESA CARRENO.—The first concert of this gifted artist was attended last evening by our best circles, comprising many of the foreign ministers and their families; and the performance of this pianist—a child in years—surprised and delighted this critical audience. She is supported by such talents as Mrs. Miles, Mr. Farley, tenor, and Mr. Draper, baritone. Their performances called forth the warmest admiration.

The second concert takes place this evening at Odd Fellows' Hall.

INFANTICIDE.—Officer Donoghue, of the Eighth precinct police, found a new born white infant drowned in the Eastern Branch, foot of First street east. It had a weight attached to its body, evidently designed to sink it. The body is at the station house awaiting an inquest.

FOR SALE.—Two HORSES, HARNESS, and CARTS, at JOHN BLIGH'S Livery Stable, corner 12th and C sts.

COCOA AND CANTON MATTING AT PRICES TO CONSIDERATION.

We have just received direct from the importers for private sale 15,000 yards of COCOA and CANTON MATTING, of different widths, white and check, at our Furniture Warehouses, in rear of our auction rooms, in quantities to suit, to which we would especially call the attention of buyers.

W. L. WALL & CO., General Auction and Commission Merchants, 207 1/2 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C.

BROOKVILLE ACADEMY.—Students received by at any time and charged from date of entrance.

Address: Brookville, Montgomery co., Md.

THIRD EDITION.

4 O'CLOCK P. M.

A New York Canard Exploded.

AN OFFICIAL DENIAL BY SECRETARY SEWARD.

The following has just been issued by the State Department:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, May 18.

To the Public.

A paper purporting to be a proclamation of the President, countersigned by the Secretary of State, and bearing date the 17th day of May, is reported at this Department as having appeared in the New York World of this date.

The paper is an absolute forgery. No proclamation of this kind, or any other, has been made, or proposed to be made, by the President, or issued, or proposed to be issued, by the State Department or any Department of this Government.

WM. H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.