Port Tobacco Times

AND CHARLES COUNTY ADVERTISER.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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BRAWNER'S HOTEL.

PORT TOBACCO, CHARLES COUNTY, MD.

J. ALEX. BRAWNER respectfully returns his thanks to his friends and the public generally, for the very liberal patronage bestowed on him, and hopes by strict attention to business and a desire to accommodate and please his guests, to receive a continuation of the same. The house is newly fitted up, and furnished in the most approved modern style. Travellers will find the table well furnished with the delicacies of the season, the bar supplied with choice liquors and segars, and the bed rooms as comfortable as found in any Hotel in the cities.

Jan. 3, 1861.—tf

MARSHALL HOUSE,

Corner of King and Pitt Streets,

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

THE subscriber has taken a lease of five years on the above named house, and is now prepared to receive, and entertain in true Virginia style, his friends and the public generally. Having had considerable experience in the business, and with competent assistants and attentive and polite servants, I flatter myself, I can make the sojourn of all who favor the house, as pleasant as at any Hotel in the State. Good Fare, Good Beds, and Pleasant Rooms, guarantied to all. A share of the patronage of the travelling public is solicited.

☞PRICES MODERATE.—Attached to the house is a RESTAURANT and BAR ROOM, where all the delicacies in season, and the best of liquors, may always be had, and served in the best manner.

JAMES W. JACKSON,

feb 7—tf Proprietor.

DR. FRANKLIN'S

BALSAMIC COUGH CORDIAL,

IS one of the safest, surest and most pleasant preparations, now in use, for Coughs, Colds, Influenza, Bronchitis, Hoarseness, Tickling in the Throat and Bronchials and all diseases of a kindred nature; while for Croup, that often fatal and always alarming disease with children, it stands unsurpassed in the catalogue of remedies. It is no quack nostrum; on the contrary, the recipe and process of preparation is open for the inspection and use of the medical faculty, who are cordially invited to examine the preparation and recipe.

No family should be without it, particularly where there are children. Price 25 and 50 cts. a Bottle. Prepared and sold, wholesale and retail, at

APOTHECARIES HALL,

jan 10—tf Port Tobacco, Md.

BAUGH'S

RAW BONE

SUPER PHOSPHATE OF LIME.

FARMER'S TRY IT,

IF YOU WISH TO RAISE

LARGE CROPS.

AND AT THE SAME TIME

IMPROVE YOUR LAND.

IN the preparation of this valuable manure BONES ARE USED IN THEIR RAW STATE ONLY. They have never been BOILED NOR CALCINED. They are taken as nature has made them, crushed with powerful machinery, and subjected to a process by which all the virtue of the Bone is retained, and a Fertilizer is procured furnishing in a concentrated and soluble form the two indispensable elements in the growth of plants, viz:—PHOSPHORIC ACID AND AMMONIA. These two elements by the use of "BAUGH'S RAW BONE PHOSPHATE" are given to the soil in all their original strength and purity. They assimilate at once with it, furnish all the ammonia needed for the growing crop, and leave the land permanently benefitted.

Cash Price $45 Per Ton of 2,000 Pounds,

2 1-2 Cents Per Pound.

This popular Fertilizer can be had of Agents in the principal towns, or may be ordered through any Commission Merchant in Baltimore.

GEORGE DUGDALE,

Central Depot Agency, No. 4 Spear's Wharf,

feb 7—3m BALTIMORE.

HOW IS OUR FRIEND SCHWARZE?

WHY Sarah! He has them all this time, just listen to some of his Bargains:

Bale de Shevares, figured with Satin stripes at 10 cents a yard.

Elegant Silk and Worsted Plaids, in all styles, at 20 cents a yard.

Travelling Debages, a beauty, for 9 cts. a yard.

Calicoes, the very best prints, fast colors, and fine Cloth at 8 cts. per yard.

Why that ain't nothing yet towards his Bargains. Look!

Linen Handkerchiefs at 8 cts a piece, nobody will sell them for less than 12½ cts.

Lisle Thread Gloves at 8 cts a pair.

India Rubber Round Combs at 10 cts, worth 25 cents.

Long and Short Mitts a fine article, at 31¼ cts.

Chenelle Shawls at 75 cts. worth $4. That's so.

DON'T YOU LAUGH!

But just go to SCHWARZ'S and price his Goods. Look!

Skirts at 25 cents a piece. Look!

Silk Dusters at $3, and in fact go there and call for the article, and you will say, he certainly sells the best Bargains in the State. ☞Out or in.

Alexandria, Va. ap 18

NOTICE.

THE subscriber having obtained from New York a superior set of Instruments, is now prepared to perform with neatness and accuracy, all work in the various branches of SURVEYING.

All orders addressed to me at Patuxent City will receive prompt attention.

CHARLES E. PORTER,

Petuxent City, Charles County, Md.

March 28, 1861—3m

MISSES MERINO UNDERSKIRTS; also, Worsted Wrappings and Hoods, for Misses and children, just received by

S. & W. MEYENBERG.

Alexandria, oct 25

Selected Miscellany.

The Charge of Murat at Eylau.

It is at Eylau that Murat always appears in his most terrible aspect. This battle, fought in mid-winter, in 1807, was the most important and bloody one that had then occurred. France and Russia had never before opposed such strength to each other, and a complete victory on either side would have settled the fate of Europe; Bonaparte remained in possession of the field, and that was all; no victory was ever so like a defeat.

The field of Eylau was covered with snow, and the little ponds that lay scattered over it were frozen sufficiently hard to bear the artilery. Seventy-one thousand men on one side, and eighty-five thousand on the other, arose from the frozen field on which they had slept the night of February, without tent or covering, to battle for a continent. Augurea, on the left, was utterly routed in the morning. Advancing through a snow-storm so thick he could not see the enemy, the Russian cannon mowed down his ranks with their destructive fire, while the Cossack cavalry, which were ordered to charge, came thundering on, almost hitting the French infantry with their long lances before they were visible through the storm.

Hemmed in and overthrown, the whole division, composed of 16,000 men, with the exception of 1,500, were captured or slain. Just then the snow storm clearing up, revealed to Napoleon the peril to which he was brought, and he immediately ordered a grand charge by the Imperial Guard and the whole cavalry. Nothing was further from Bonaparte's wishes or expectation, than the bringing of his reserve into the engagement at this early stage of the battle, but there was no other resource left him.

Murat sustained his high reputation on this occasion, and proved himself, for the hundredth time, worthy of the great confidence Napoleon placed in him. Nothing could be more imposing than the battle-field at this moment. Bonaparte and the Empire trembled in the balance, while Murat prepared to lead down his cavalry to save them. Seventy squadrons, making in all 14,000 well mounted men, began to move over the slope, with the Old Guard marching sternly behind.

Bonaparte, it is said, was more agitated at this crisis than when, a moment before, he was so near being captured by the Russians. But as he saw those seventy squadrons come down on a plunging trot, pressing hard after the white plume of Murat, that streamed through the snow storm far in front, a smile passed over his countenance.

The earth groaned and trembled as they passed, and the sabres, above the dark and angry mass below, looked like the foam of a sea-wave as it crests on the deep. The rattling of their armor, and the muffled thunder of their tread, drowned all the roar of battle, as with firm, set array, and swift, steady motion, they bore down with their terrible front on the foe.

The shock of that immense host like a falling mountain, and the front line of the Russian army went down like frost-work before it. Then commenced a protracted fight of hand to hand, and sword to sword, as in the cavalry action at Eckmuhl. The clashing of steel was like the ringing of countless hammers, and horses and riders were blended in wild confusion together; the Russian reserve were ordered up, and on these Murat fell with his fierce horsemen, crushing and trampling them down by thousands. But the obstinate Russians disdained to fly, and rallied again and again, so that it was no longer cavalry charging on infantry, but squadrons of horse galloping through broken hosts that, gathering into knots, still disputed, with unparalelled bravery, the red and rent field.

It was during this strange fight that Murat was seen to perform one of those desperate deeds for which he was so renowned. Excited to the highest pitch of passion by the obstacles that opposed him, he seemed endowed with ten-fold strength, and looked more like a superhuman being treading down helpless mortals, than an ordinary man. Amid the roar of artillery, and rattling of musketry, and falling of sabre-strokes like lightning about him, that lofty white plume never once went down, while ever and anon it was seen glaring through the smoke of battle, the star of hope to Napoleon, and showing that his "right arm" was still uplifted and striking for victory.

He raged like an unloosed lion amid the foe; and his eyes, always terrible in battle, burned with increased lustre, while his clear and steady voice, heard above the turmoil of strife, was worth more than a thousand trumpets to cheer on his followers. As At length, seeing a knot of Russian soldiers that for a long time had kept up a devouring fire upon his men, he wheeled his horse and drove in full gallop upon their levelled muskets. A few of his guards, that never allowed that white plume to leave their sight, charged after him. Without waiting to count his foes, he seized his bridle in his teeth, and with his pistol in one hand and his drawn sword in the other, burst in headlong fury upon them, and scattered them as a hurricane had swept by. Murat was a thunderbolt on that day, and the deeds that were wrought by him will furnish themes for the poet and the painter.

☞A Yankee has invented a new and cheap plan for boarding. One of his boarders mesmerises the rest, and then eats a hearty meal—the mesmerised being satisfied from sympathy.

Tell Your Wife.

If you are in any trouble or quandary, tell your wife—that is, if you have one—all about it at once. Ten to one her invention will solve your difficulty sooner than all your logic. The wit of woman has been praised, but her instincts are quicker and keener than her reason. Counsel with your wife, or your mother, or sister, and be assured that light will flash upon your darkness—Women are too commonly adjudged as verdant in all but purely womanish affairs.—No philosophical student of the sex thus judges them. Their intuitions, or insight, are the most subtile, and if they cannot see a cat in the meal, there is no cat there. In counselling one to tell his troubles to his wife, we would go further and advise him to keep none of his affairs secret from her. Many a home has been happily saved, and many a fortune retrieved by man's full confidence in his "better-half." Woman is far more a seer and a prophet than man, if she be given a fair chance. As a general rule, wives confide the minutest of their plans and thoughts to their husbands, having no involvements to screen from him. Why not reciprocate, if but for the pleasure of meeting confidence with confidence? We are certain that no man succeeds so well in the world as he who, takes a partner of all his purposes and hopes. What is wrong of his impulses or judgement, she will check and set right with her almost universally right instincts "Help meet" was no insignificant title, as applied to man's companion. She is a meet help to him in every darkness, difficulty and sorrow of life. And what she most craves and most deserves, is confidence—without which love is never free from a shadow.

☞A distinguished counsel being employed for the defence on a trial for murder, found it necessary, in the course of his speech, to comment with some severity on the testimony of a witness for the prosecution. In the midst of a most searching and logical sentence, wherein he was convincing the jury that the witness had sworn to more than the truth, he was interrupted by a juryman, a tall, lank fellow evidently from the back-woods, who, rising, thus addressed him:

"See here, Mr. Lawyer, I don't want yer to go on that way abusing me; I won't stand it; I'll break up the court if you do: I didn't come to be abused!"

"My dear sir," replied the barrister, in his politest manner, "I was alluding to the witness, not to you; my remarks were not intended to apply to any of the jurors."

"Well, then," said the juror, "just quit a pinting your finger at me when you talk that way."

THE INVASION OF VIRGINIA.

A correspondent of the New York *Express* gives the following in relation to the invasion of Virginia by the forces of the United States:—

"What, then, is likely to be the issue of the threatened invasion of Virginia by the U. S. Government? To be effectual at all, this invasion must be made from three points—viz., from Alexandria via Culpeper and Greenville to Richmond, overland.—From the Chesapeake via the York River to the same city, and from Harper's Ferry or the Point of Rocks, up the Valley of Virginia to Staunton, Charlottesville and Lynchburg the force thus employed to cooperate, as circumstances may require, with the other invasions of the grand army.

To oppose such invading forces, Gen. Lee, as I have the best reasons for believing, will place troops at West Point on the York River, 27 miles below Richmond, with large reserves between West Point and that city. A large force will also contest the entrance of the State at Harper's Ferry or the Point of Rocks, as the case may be, and another at Alexandria. Fredericksburg, also, is being fortified, to prevent a surprise in that quarter. Between all those points and Richmond will be posted large bodies of reserves, prepared for any emergency that may arise, so that, should the U. S. troops succeed in entering the State, they will be compelled to encounter at various points on the route large bodies of troops strongly posted in positions capable of being maintained for many days a large invading army. From Harper's Ferry to Richmond, via Staunton is about 250 miles—the route lying through a narrow valley for the first half of the way. It was from this valley that Morgan derived a large portion of his famous riflemen in the Revolution, and its county of Augusta—"Old Federal Augusta"—is still celebrated for the proficiency of her citizens in this important branch of war service. The counties of Rockingham, Shenandoah and Page are inhabited by a sturdy race of farmers, descendants of German emigrants from Pennsylvania. Intellectually they are not very brilliant specimens of human nature, but when driven to the wall they will fight like "ter tuyvel." They are all men of substance, the owners of superb farms, (the fac simile of those in Lancaster county, Pa., remarkable for their economy and thrift, and their unswerving and uncompromising "Democracy." That division of the U. S. army which marches on Richmond by the valley route, will require a General of consumate ability. Mansfield would be competent for the position, but cannot well be spared from headquarters here, in consequence of the declining health of Gen. Scott. Mansfield is from Connecticut, and graduated at West Point in the Engineers, in 1822. He is about 60 years old, and one of the most valuable officers of the army.

The invasion of Virginia, by the way of Alexandria, will also require a General of superior ability, as he will probably be compelled to encounter at some point on the route to Richmond, General Lee himself, self, or at all events, that dashing Artillery officer so well known to the frequenters of Newport, John Bankhead Magruder.

The defense of the York River will probably be entrusted to General Beauregard, who will enter upon the duty con amore.—In the opinion of Major Anderson, Beauregard is a soldier of infinite resources, and equal to almost any emergency.

Now, it is readily to be inferred from Gen. Scott's well known caution that he would not dream of making a movement upon Richmond, by the three routes above described, with less than 50,000 troops—20,000 for the Valley route, 20,000 for the Alexandria route, and at least 10,000 for York River. An additional force of at least 5,000 men would be required to hold Brigadier General Ruggles (late of Massachusetts) in check, at Fredericksburg—making 55,000 in all. To keep 55,000 in the field and 10,000 more for the defense of Washington, or a total of 65,000, would require the enlistment of at least 90,000 men—for out of every regiment, 200 are usually on the sick list. For interesting details on this point the curious reader is referred to Gibbon's delightful Memoir of his own Life; for Gibbon was a soldier as well as a historian, and by his actual experience of camp life among the British Volunteers in the county of Kent, derived much valuable information which he turned to good account in his Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.

Let us suppose that these 90,000 men are actually mustered in, armed and equipped, and that they advance on Richmond, and after at least three pitched battle, to say nothing of minor skirmishes, succeed in reaching it—what then? It will be time enough to answer this question on the 4th of July."

IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS in PARLIAMENT

RIGHTS OF BELLIGERENTS.

Speech of Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston on Jeff Davis' Privateer Proclamation--Recognition of the Southern Confederacy, &c., &c.

The steamer Edinburgh, Capt. Brooks, which sailed from Liverpool on the 8th, and from Queenstown on the 9th, arrived at New York Tuesday afternoon.

The Southern Commissioners Visit Lord John Russell.

Mr. Gregory, on Saturday, introduced the three Commissioners from the Southern Confederacy to Lord John Russell. The interview was at Lord John Russell's private residence, and was considered informal. What occurred with regard to the recognition of the Southern States has not transpired.—*Mail 7th.*

Great Britain.

In the House of Commons, on the evening of the 6th, Mr. Gregory said that in consequence of the news which had arrived from America since he had give notice of his question, he had been obliged to alter its wording. Mr. Lincoln had proclaimed a blockade of the ports of the seven Confederated States, and therefore it was necessary to ask a question with regard to two other States, which were in attitude of hostility to the United States, although they did not belong to the South. He had to ask the noble lord the Foreign Secretary.

1st. Whether any attempt of the Government of the United States to levy Federal duties off foreign vessels outside the ports of North Carolina and Virginia before such vessels break bulk would not be an infringement of international law, and, if so, whether our Minister at Washington had received instructions to that effect? 2d. Whether the Government of the United States had been informed that a blockake of any port of the Southern Confederated States, unless effective, will not be recognized? 3d. The Government of the United States having refused to relinquish the belligerent right of issuing letters of marque, the seven Southern Confederated and Sovereign States having become to the United States a separate and independent and foreign Power, whether her Majesty's Government recognizes the right of the President of the Southern Confederacy to issue letters of marque, and, if so, whether our Minister at Washington had been notified to that effect? [Hear, hear.]

Views of Lord John Russell.

Lord J. Russell—In regard to the Honorable gentleman's first question, I have to say that having consulted the Queen's Advocate with respect to federal dues to be levied outside the ports of North Carolina and Virginia, he stated to me that the answer to such a question must depend entirely upon the circumstances of the case, and that it could not at all be declared beforehand whether such an attempt to levy dues would be according or contrary to international law. Of course, no instructions on the subject have been sent to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington; but Lord Lyons is of opinion that such an intention would be found impracticable, and would not be likely to be effective: (Hear, hear.) With respect to the Hon. gentleman's second question, whether the United States Government have been informed that a blockade of any port of the Southern Confederacy unless it were effective would not be recognized, I certainly have not felt it necessary to give any instructions to our Minister on that subject. It is well known to Lord Lyons, and it certainly has been declared law by the United States, that no blockade could be recognized or deemed valid unless it were an effective blockade, (hear, hear,) and I have no doubt that there would be no difference between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the United States on that point. With regard to the Hon. member's next question, as to the belligerent right of issuing letters of marque, I must, in the first place, wait for more explanation, and in the second place, reserve part of the answer which I have to give.

With respect to belligerent rights in the case of certain portions of a State being in insurrection, there was a precedent which seems applicable to this purpose in the year 1825. The British Government at that time allowed the belligerent rights of the Provisional Government of Greece, and in consequence of that allowance the Turkish Government made a remonstrance. I may state the nature of that remonstrance, and the reply of Mr. Canning. "The Turkish Government complained that the British Government allowed to the Greeks a belligerent character, and observed that it appeared to forget that to subjects in rebellion no national character could properly belong." But the British Government informed Mr. Stratford Canning that "the character of belligerency was not so much a principle as a fact; that a certain degree of force and consistency, acquired by any mass of people engaged in war, entitled that population to be treated as belligerent, and even if their title were questionable, rendered it the interest well understood of all civilized nations so as to treat them; for what was the alternative? A Power or a community (call it which you will) which was at war with another, and which covered the sea with the cruisers, must either be acknowledged as a belligerent or dealt with as a pirate;" which latter character, as applied to the Greeks, was loudly disclaimed.

In a separate despatch of the same date (12th of October, 1825,) Mr. S. Canning was reminded that when the British Government acknowledged the right of either belligerent to visit and detain British merchant vessels having enemy's property on board, and to confiscate such property, it was necessarily implied as a condition of such acknowledgment that the detention was for the purpose of bringing the vessels detained before an established Court of Prize, and that confiscation did not take place until after condemnation by such competent tribunal. The question has been under the consideration of the Government. They have consulted the law officers of the Crown. The Attorney and Solicitor General, and the Queen's Advocate and the Government have come to the opinion that the Southern Confederacy of America, according to those principles which seem to them to be just principles, must be treated as a belligerent. (Hear, hear.) But further questions arise out of that question, with respect to which we are still in doubt—as what are the alterations which are to be made in the law of nations in consequence of the declarations of Paris; and those questions being of a difficult and intricate nature have not yet been determined upon. They are still under the consideration of the Government, and will be still further considered before any declaration is made to other Powers. (Hear, hear.)

In the House of Commons on the following day, (the 7th,) in the course of a debate upon the Paper duties:

Mr. Bentick said that he had put a question to the noble lord at the head of the Government, to which he had obtained no answer, probably owing to the abrupt conclusion of the debate. That question he would now repeat. Since they had lately discussed the financial position of the country, news had come from the United States of a most alarming character.

It was quite clear now that the civil war which it was hoped would be averted, was likely to rage for some time. He wished to remind the noble lord that when he last expressed his views upon the subject of the repeal of the paper duty he was not in possession of the momentous intelligence which had just arrived. Did not the noble lord now anticipate that increased armaments and decreased receipts from customs and exercise would be the results of the deplorable events of which information had just been received? (Hear, hear.) Would not the distress which might be expected to ensue in the manufacturing districts injuriously affect the revenue? (Hear, hear.) He would ask—were these results anticipated when the noble lord expressed his approval of the financial scheme of the Chancellor of the Exchequer?

Lord Palmerston's Views.

Lord Palmerston—No one can regret more than I do the intelligence which has been received within the last few days from America; but, at the same time, any one must have been short sighted and little capable of anticipating the probable course of human events who had not for a long time forseen events of a similar character to those which we now deplore. (Hear, hear.)—From the commencement of this unfortunate quarrel between the two sections of the United States, it was evident that the causes of disunion were too deeply seated to make it possible that separation would not take place, and it was also obvious that passions were so roused on both sides as to make it highly improbable that such separation could take place without a contest. In answer to the question of the Hon. member, I would say that, however much I regret the intelligence which we have received within the last few days, yet that intelligence ought not, in my opinion, to make any difference in the arrangements which, after the fullest consideration, we considered were calculated to meet all the requirements of the public service during the present year. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Bentinck thought the noble lord had not quite understood his question. The noble lord said the results of the disturbances in America had been anticipated in the financial arrangements. Did the noble lord mean that arrangements had been made to meet the expense of increased armaments and the risk of diminished revenues, (hear,) or did he simply mean that he did not anticipate that any such consequences would result from the intelligence lately received? (Hear, hear.)

Lord Palmerston—I thought I had, by implication at least, answered all the questions of the Hon. gentleman. I do not perceive any reason why we should apply to Parliament for increased armaments (hear) in consequence of the events which are taking place in North America, and I also hope that the Customs duties will not materially suffer in consequence of those events.

In the Commons on the following day—Mr. Walpole said he wished to put a question to the Government in reference to the motion which appeared on the paper in the name of the Hon. member for Liverpool upon the unsatisfactory state of the subject of belligerent rights at sea. He understood the noble Lord the Foreign Secretary to state last night that the subject was already under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government, and that they would officially announce what their opinion was as soon as that opinion was formed. In the present very complicated state of affairs, he would put it to his Hon. friend the member for Liverpool whether it would be of advantage, either to his own constituents or to the public interests generally, that such a discussion should come on to-night. He wished to know what the opinion of the Government was upon the matter; and, if the noble Lord at the head of the Government thought it would be injurious to discuss the question at present, he trusted his Hon. friend would withdraw the motion.

Lord Palmerston—In reply to the question of the right hon. gentleman, I may say that I entirely concur with him in the view he has expressed of the inexpediency of discussing to-night the question which the honorable member for Liverpool has intimated his intention to bring forward. The House will bear in mind the statement made by my noble friend, the Foreign Secretary, last night, viz: that there are certain questions of international law, in connection with belligerent rights which are of so grave and complicated a character that they are now under the consideration of the Government. My noble friend added, that until Her Majesty's Government should be in a position, by the legal advice which they may receive, to make some definite communication upon the subject, it would be highly inexpedient, in fact altogether impossible, to enter into any discussion of the question.

Therefore, if the Hon. member should persevere in his motion, it will be impossible for any member of the Government to make any statement in reference to it beyond that which was made by my noble friend last night. In point of fact, in the present state of affairs, we must remain wholly silent upon the matter. (Hear, hear.) Any discussion upon so delicate a matter, in the present state of affairs, would be highly prejudicial to the interests of the country; and, under all the circumstances, I trust the Hon. member for Liverpool will postpone the motion until some future period.

Mr. Horsfall—Although my own inclination would have led me to proceed with the motion, yet my judgment induces me to concur entirely with what has fallen from the noble lord and from my right honorable friend. Under all the circumstances, I feel that I have no alternative but to postpone the motion, until the views of Her Majesty's Government have been made public. (Hear, hear.)

[From the Cork Examiner, May 8th.]

Increase of the British Fleet for America.

The state of affairs in the United States has compelled Ministers to strengthen the squadron under the command of Sir Alexander Milnet; and on Friday the *Challenger*, a powerful screw corvette, mounting 22 guns; *Rinaldo*, a screw sloop, mounting 17 guns, and the *Driver*, a paddle-wheel steam sloop, mounting 6 guns, were commissioned, and in all probability will be despatched, as soon as ready, to the North America and West India station. In the meantime, other vessels now ready for sea will be ordered off at once, to protect British interests. With reference to these movements, the Observer says:—"It is pleasant to hear the very earnest and decided prayer of Lord John Russell, that we may be able to keep out of these complications. But it will require all our good will, and not a little good steering.

"The questions of blockade, efficient or non-efficient, of letters of marque, of free bottoms and free goods, of belligerent rights, of rebellion and revolution, of governments *de jure* and *de facto*, of trade and navigation, of flags true and false, of enemies and neutrals, and many more, will certainly arise, and have to be treated with more than usual care and consideration. In the meantime, a very considerable increase is about to be made to the British squadron on the West India and North America stations, under a cool and steady commander, and with instructions of more than usual caution and forbearance, becoming our undoubted strength, to be used in the naturrl duty of protecting the ships and trade of Great Britain."

Great activity prevails at several of the royal dock-yards in getting ready for sea the powerful squadron of first and second class steam vessels and armed gunboats for the protection of British interests in American waters.