

WEEKLY PROGRESS

THURSDAY MORNING, FEB. 6, 1862.

BURNING THE FLEET.—We have received nothing of interest, relative to this great wonder, since our last. There was a report going the rounds here yesterday and we tried to trace it up as to look it full in the face and ascertain what it looked like, but failed, it always presenting a new phase at every corner we met it. We did learn this much, however, that, Major Hall who is in command of the troops in Hyde County had seen some of the enemy's vessels in the Sound some time early this week, which makes it certain that the report that reached us through the Virginia papers Tuesday evening that the fleet had left Hatteras, is unfounded.

Tax Parliament of Great Britain assembles this day. In a short time we may expect to have interesting news from that quarter.

"Crushing the Rebellion."

The above phrase enters largely into all the speeches and writings of the Northern people. Lincoln, in the outset of the war, called out 75,000 men to "crush" the rebellion, and old "fuss and feathers," who has crushed himself, was going with that huge army to "crush out" the rebellion in 30 days; and failing to do so in 90, was laid on the shelf and the new crushing machine, McClellan, brought into requisition. Poor Mac! He has been crushing away for the last 5 or 6 months and instead of crushing the rebellion has well nigh crushed the government, and from present indications will very soon find himself crushed out of office and command, and like Fremont, have to retire to the shades of private life amid the taunts and sneers of an excited, disappointed and soulless people.

The Northern Government imagines itself a great snake, with that portion of its vile carcass containing the bulk of its snakeship's intentions, loaded with a conglomeration of all the abominable filth that the reptile tribe are known to feed upon, lying along side the Federal capital and its head and tail encircling the Confederate States. Old Abe, the celebrated machinist, stands at the lever as regulator and every now and then applies the fagot to his snakeship to make him draw the awful coils around the rebellion to crush it, when, lo, and behold! the contemptible serpent invariably swallows its own tail and gags itself.

Mr. Gurley, of Ohio, looking at the subject in this light, has become disgusted with the snake, and fears that its failure to "crush" when goaded, will cause England and France to recognize our inextinguishability.

The following is a synopsis of that gentleman's remarks in the House of Representatives on the 29th ult:

Mr. Gurley, (Rep.), of Ohio, said it was useless to attempt to disguise a fact now almost everywhere recognized, that we must have a more active and practical war policy. Congress, in the Cabinet, but more especially in the field, or we might prepare for a foreign and domestic war of several years' duration. Proceeding as at present with our military campaign, it would be no strange thing to have the "Southern Confederacy" acknowledged by foreign Powers, and our Government would then stand before the civilized world humiliated and disgraced. Our army had long been ready, and our soldiers were burning and panting for the battle field. We had earnestly cast about for a bold and daring leader, ready for the great contest, and it was painful to confess, at this late date, that the country had looked in vain for a Commander-in-Chief exhibiting the will and the requisite enterprise and genius to lead our forces on to victory. He asked what stood in the way of meeting the enemy? Was it the fear that somebody would be hurt, or did the fear of our commanding Generals? We had lost more men by disease and sickness during the last five months than we should have probably lost in half a dozen general engagements, and hundreds of millions of money had been spent, and one of the largest armies of the world gathered to remain comparatively idle, and become weak and demoralized by inactivity.

If we desired the respect of our own people, and the moral support of the world, we would strike out boldly for victory, and trust to good power, strong arms, to well aimed guns, and to God. It would be better to meet with occasional reverses than to remain inactive. If we did not fight with justice, right, and human freedom on our side, our people would become discouraged, the Treasury bankrupt, and the Government brought into contempt. Did a General stand the way to hold in check the half a million of men, take him the way, give him place to another, if there be no other remedy. Generals, of themselves, are nothing in this contest, when thrown into the balance against the honor and integrity of the Union. If the angel Gabriel commanded our forces, and failed to march against the enemy, he would position to the court to which he holds allegiance for his instant dismissal. This war had reached a point where kid gloves, pleasant words, and gilded promises, were of no use. The hour demanded hard words and harder blows. This contest must close either in the rout of a republic that has been the admiration of the world, and possibly the destruction of civil and religious freedom in America, or in the perfect supremacy of law and order and the stability of our institutions. He had faith in the latter result, for revolutions move the world forward—never backward. He asked the Clerk to read a striking article from the Richmond Dispatch, showing up our military blunders. Its truthfulness, he said, could not be denied.

We had let slip golden opportunities for crushing this rebellion, and of achieving brilliant victories. The great cause of dissatisfaction among our troops was that they were not permitted to strike at the rebels. He preferred no charges against the Commander-in-Chief, but, in his judgement, the man did not live who could successfully command six hundred thousand men, scattered over a territory of two thousand miles. Yet the destiny of this republic had long hung upon the volition of the will of a single man. No other Government invested its Generals with such unlimited authority. No man had been found fit enough to use the supreme command of even three hundred thousand soldiers. A part of the tremendous burden thrown upon the shoulders of our young General should be removed, and divided so as to call out the best energies of the best officers, and secure general unity of action. Thus far our commanders have been the victims of some fixed, unalterable plan, the fruit of one mind, which plan had accomplished but one marked result. It had prevented five hundred thousand men from attempting precisely what they came together to accomplish—that was, to fight and whip the enemy. The very men who must receive the shock of battle were those who complain most of inactivity. He said that if the question were left to them ten out of the twelve would say there had been no necessity for the delay of the past four

months, that the great plan was to strike at all points. It was a simple impossibility that every arrangement was to be made in Missouri, Kentucky, and Virginia, so that as by a single click of the clock all would rush upon the enemy at once, and crush the rebellion at a single blow. He had it from authority, and it could not be questioned, that some three weeks ago from ten to fifteen thousand Confederates in the neighborhood of Romney were virtually in the power of a division of our army, numbering about forty thousand. General Lander sent a messenger to General Kelly, saying, in substance, "Join me," and General Kelly, without the knowledge of such a messenger, sent one of his own bearing a similar message. Meanwhile one of these Generals telegraphed to General Banks to advance on one side while he advanced from the other; but unfortunately they telegraphed at the same time to head-quarters in reference to what was going on, when an answer came in the form of an order not to "advance," accompanied with a reprimand for even a suggestion of the kind.—That a battle would be sadly broken in upon some great plan, was quite probable. It might have finished the "great campaign," as the newspapers have expressed it. But it must not be forgotten that the mammoth reptile that was to draw within his folds and crush the rebellion at a single sweep of his tail, had already swallowed up our contemplated victories and gorged himself with the substance of the people to no purpose.

THE EUROPEAN NEWS.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS, THE PEOPLE, AND THE GOVERNMENT.

From the late Northern papers we continue to extract interesting foreign intelligence:

THE CHANCES OF WAR BETWEEN ENGLAND AND THE U. S.—A FRENCH OPINION.

From the *Opinion Nationale*, the organ of Prince Napoleon, of Jan. 7th, we extract the following:

The same race lives on both sides the Atlantic. The English will not readily renounce a project which they have once undertaken, and will willingly forget the danger which has threatened them so closely. The English will probably not disarm, but the Americans will certainly arm. A year ago they had no regular army; they have now 700,000 men under arms; they have no navy, but before six months they will have a formidable one.—England is well aware of this. Will she give the United States time to terminate her internal war and prepare for a foreign one? Frightful symptoms are already manifesting themselves in the South; terror, it is said, prevails at New Orleans. Five hundred houses have been burnt down at Charleston, and the torch serves as the signal for destruction among the slaves. However strongly we may feel in favor of the annihilation of slavery, we cannot believe it can lead to good results. It has to be purchased at the price of incendiarism, bloodshed, and devastation. If the service we have had some share in it? What is certain, is that the Northern States have hitherto set aside that poisoned weapon in their struggle with the South. But exposed to the threats of England at the moment when they are loyally resisting the rebellion of the South there will be few Americans who will not exclaim, "It must be put an end to." It must be said that we call for war; but that is not the case. We wish, on the contrary, to find a means of preventing it, and we see no other than the veto of France, the incident of the Trent being set aside. But under what pretext can England be prevented from interfering in the United States if the slave war breaks out in the Southern Confederacy? Can it be expected that the U. S. will allow themselves to be cut up without saying or doing anything.

The recognition of the South and the violation of the blockade will prove the inevitable dissolution of the great American Confederation; no one can doubt it, and every one feels the premonition of it. We must, therefore, behold the annihilation under the double blows of an internal and a foreign war, of that new Power, which, in spite of its excesses, retains in its bosom the saving principle of human liberty and of social emancipation. After having re-established the balance of power at sea, the United States, it is said, threatened to overthrow it for their own advantage.

Who says that? England, which is about to lose her naval preponderance, and who wishes to resume it. We shall be reproached with making common cause with the United States against England. We, in fact, do not intend to overthrow them under pretext of checking their too threatening developments and their excessive pretensions.

If the existence of England were threatened, as that of the American Union now is, who would reproach us for making common cause with England? It is our conviction that England wishes to destroy the existence of the United States, and whatever the issue the incident of the Trent may have, our opinion is that respect will not be in any way changed.—Does any one exactly know what England has expended in armaments since the breaking out of the secession in America? A grant of three hundred millions was voted for the navy in March last; the expenses of the fleet and of the army have been carried up to the enormous amount of seven hundred and sixty millions; and the funds of three thousand savings banks have been put into requisition to give the finishing touch to these immense preparations. It is only to make herself respected, and for no other object, that England has sent 30,000 men to Canada, supplied with guns all of her innumerable vessels, and called all her maritime population to arms. Such demonstrations, in our opinion, cost too dear to be allowed to remain idle. The English know too well the value of money than to lavish it for the childish satisfaction of offended vanity. And if this prodigious increase of military force has not really taken place with a view to the United States, it constitutes a still greater cause for us to feel uneasiness.—History does not offer an example of an aristocracy so admirably and powerfully organized as that of England. Peace and war have always been in its hands a means of government and the British aristocracy have well known how to make use of these elements; but now, whether the clients have increased or whether the patrons have declined in number and influence, the equilibrium between the two classes has been visibly deranged. Peace is no longer what England wants, for the markets of the world being every day more and more closed to English commerce by competition, she finds herself ill at ease. What has happened as regards cotton proves this. *Peace agitation may surely ruin the English oligarchy, military agitation would ruin it. It is, therefore, in a war that it will seek its salvation.*

ENGLISH OPINION OF SEWARD'S NOTE TO LORD LYONS.

[From the London Times of the 10th of Jan.] With a verbosity never equalled even in diplomacy, and with an inconsequential vagueness never surpassed even in Congressional debate, Mr. Seward in this long document wanders through the history of all past transactions. Inasmuch, however, as he concludes that, not

vaguely promised, he can come to no other conclusion upon the circumstances of the present case than that the act was indefensible, and that the prisoners must be restored, the obvious course was to accept the fact of the restoration and to disregard the comment.—Such, we believe, has been the course adopted by our Government. A cabinet council was held yesterday, at which this very elaborate document was considered. An answer will, we understand, be returned, expressing the gratification of her Majesty's Government at the disavowal of the act of Captain Wilkes, accepting the satisfaction rendered, and assuming that the precedent in case of the Trent will rule the more recent case of the seizure made by the Captain of the *Santiago* de Cuba on board the British schooner *Eugenia* Smith. As to the general discussion of the law into which Mr. S. enters at so much length, the Government will decline any answer until they have had an opportunity of submitting the whole note to their law officers. There are propositions laid down in this note which are not at all admissible, and it is of the highest importance that we should not suddenly find ourselves to be ourselves of the rights of others, which may be to ourselves, at some future time, of vital importance; nor that we should, on the other hand, admit the right of any foreign State to carry our mail packets into their ports and submit them to the arbitrament of their Prize Courts. After the delivery of their papers, all these points may be very properly raised, and can be conveniently discussed; but it is expedient to separate this discussion entirely from the settlement of the misunderstanding which has so early precipitated us into war. Whenever the proper time comes we shall probably insist, with all the authority in our power, that a belligerent has a right to communicate with a neutral Power in a neutral ship; and that it is a presumption that in such a communication there is nothing inconsistent with the character of the neutral nation, and therefore nothing injurious to the other belligerent.

ADVANTAGES OF RECOGNITION.

The London Herald, of January 10th, says:

The recognition by this country of the independence of the Confederate States of America, cannot under the pressure of circumstances, be much longer postponed. In deference to the urgent entreaties of Lord Russell, Mr. Gregory and other ardent supporters of the Southern cause reluctantly withdrew their motions in parliament on this subject, and the last session was allowed to close without any debate upon the right of the new republic to be received in the family of nations. The subject, however, is now ripe not only for discussion, but for immediate decision, and on the reassembling of Parliament it cannot fail to command the early attention of both houses, along with the collateral topic of the illegality of the blockade.

Reserving for a future occasion the political treatment of the subject, we propose here to direct the attention of the mercantile public to the important benefits which may be anticipated from the aforesaid recognition and the raising of the blockade.

These steps would restore to us our valuable trade with the Southern ports, which the illegal paper blockade has suspended for upwards of six months. Cotton, tobacco, rice, turpentine, &c., now pent up in the blockaded States would replenish the British markets and give a great stimulus to trade. Our cotton spinners would again breathe free, our mills would resume full time, and ample wages would be insured to thousands of struggling operatives whom short time and reduced earnings have for two long subjected to heart-rending privations and distress.

THE REASONS FOR RECOGNITION.

In another article on the subject the same paper says:

As a last measure, when despairing of success by other means, the North may endeavor, by exciting a servile insurrection, to reduce the South to such a desert as was, once made of Hayti. Should matters come to such a pass before the civilized States of Europe have lifted a finger in discouragement of a struggle fraught with such seeds of horror, they will have themselves ever to blame for the fearful catastrophe. It is against the interest of our common humanity, it is to save from probable massacre and such outrage as makes one shudder to think of it, brave men and delicate women of our own race and blood, that we urge that this step should be taken, all the senseless outcry and impotent threats of the Northern States notwithstanding.

We cannot better put before our readers the arguments in favor of this cause than by summarizing them in the words of the intelligent author of "Sketches in North America." Some may differ from Mr. Read as to the question of the right of secession. We are sure that on the other heads, in to some of which we have not space to enter to-day, we shall all be thoroughly agreed. Mr. Read advises that we should recognize the Confederate Government as soon as this can be done—and for the following reasons:

1. Because the Confederates have right on their side.
2. Because we may now consider them as a government established de facto, and the sooner this is acknowledged by other Powers, the sooner will an end be put to this unnatural fratricidal strife.
3. That we may aid in preventing a fearful calamity—a servile insurrection, excited by the North as a last desperate effort.
4. Because it is the undoubted interest of the people of the earth that the great fertile continent of North America should be occupied by several independent States, acting as checks on one another, instead of being under the domination of one overbearing Government, already distinguished by its unyielding and inflexible arrogance, and itself under the sway of the reckless, turbulent, and least intelligent classes.
5. Because there is no sufficient reason why mankind should be interdicted from intercourse with so large and so rich a portion of the earth's surface as the Confederate States, and their independence is the quickest mode of reopening them for the general benefit.

FEDERAL GUN BOAT DESTROYED AT SAVANNAH.

AUGUSTA, Feb. 4.

FRIDAY MORNING, FEB. 7, 1862.

BURNSIDE'S FLEET.—At last we have positive intelligence of the movement of this armada. A courier arrived here yesterday morning we understand from Maj. Hall in Hyde Co., stating that 40 steamers with 30 transports in tow, passed Middle Creek, East Shore of Hyde county, on Wednesday, at 10 o'clock A. M., heading towards Roanoke Island. They had ample time to arrive at the Island Wednesday night, and, no doubt, a battle was fought there yesterday unless they met with some misfortune on their way. We wait with much impatience the arrival of further news and devoutly pray, mean time, that the enemy may be delivered in the hands of our brave men at that post.

We still continue our extracts from Northern and European prints. Those from Europe in this issue will be found unusually interesting, looking, as they do, to a speedy recognition of our Confederacy and an uplifting of the blockade. The Northern papers, or some of them, still try to whistle the spirits of their readers up by publishing windy yarns about the great satisfaction the settlement of the Trent affair has produced abroad; but then, the most casual reader can detect the existence of dread and alarm in the minds of the Yankees, lest the ire of England's wrath, now full, should speedily burst forth in a furious storm and sweep their silly and distracted government from the face of the earth.

SOUTHERN MONTHLY.—This valuable periodical for February is upon our desk. This number contains photograph cuts of Major Generals W. J. Hardee and S. B. Buckner, besides its usual amount of interesting reading matter.

STILL LATER.

From the Baltimore American, New York Herald, and Philadelphia Inquirer, of the 3d says the Norfolk *Day Book*, we extract the following late Northern news:

FROM WASHINGTON.

OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS—GOOD FEELING RESTORED.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.

Notwithstanding the alarms and croakings of some of the foreign journals and letter writers about the stone blockade and other similar sinister reports, the despatches received at the State Department are regarded as conclusive of a complete restoration of the *entente cordiale* between the United States and Great Britain and of the best possible understanding with the governments of France, Italy and Continental States. Yesterday Secretary Seward and Lord Lyons exchanged congratulations on the adjustment of the Trent affair in a spirit similar to that which, in the same case, animated Earl Russell and Minister Adams.

THE PRIVATEERS RELEASED AND TO BE TREATED AS PRISONERS OF WAR.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.

On Friday last the Secretary of State directed the release from Fort Lafayette of all the persons taken from on board of the vessels violating the blockade, which order has been undoubtedly executed. It is true, as has been stated, that Gen. Wool, under instructions, asked General Huger, whether if Smith, the pirate, were delivered to him at Norfolk, Col. Corcoran would be restored to liberty and sent North. The answer in the negative was on the ground of a difference in rank as to the two persons.

Hon. Alfred Ely, member of Congress from New York, late prisoner at Richmond, had an interview with the President and Secretary Seward yesterday, and it has been determined to place the Rebel prisoners now in New York and Philadelphia upon a footing of prisoners of war. An order has been issued removing them to military prisons with a view to their exchange for citizens of the United States incarcerated in the South. This important and humane course on the part of the Government may result in the return of Colonels Corcoran, Lee, Cogswell, Woodroof, Wilcox, Volges, and the other officers now held as hostages for these privateers. A general exchange of all the prisoners will it be believed, follow. The interview of Mr. Ely in conjunction with several of his associate members of the House of Representatives was not only interesting, but is described as affecting.

Lieut. Edward Connelly, of the Sixty-ninth New York Regiment, prisoner of war, has arrived from Columbia, South Carolina, and was present at the interview with the President and Secretary of State. He reported that the health of Col. Corcoran and other prisoners there is good.

GEN. LANE TO ACT SUBORDINATE TO GENERAL HUNTER.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.

The President in conversation, yesterday, with representative Conway, of Kansas, stated that he appointed James H. Lane, Brigadier General, with the express understanding that he was to serve under General Hunter. That General Lane frequently declared his willingness to do so—that he (the President) had and has the strongest desire to oblige Gen. Lane and consequently appointed a large staff to aid and gratify him. That while he hoped and expected an expedition somewhat in his liking would be sent forward under him, he expected it to be done by an amicable arrangement with General Hunter. He never intended, and does not now intend that it should be independent of General Hunter, or in any way offensive or dishonoring to him. That General Lane must receive his orders from Gen. Hunter, and the President will be glad if General Hunter, acting with in the range of his orders and sense of duty to the public, can give such orders as will be satisfactory to Gen. Lane.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, Feb. 2.

The United States gunboat *Daylight* sailed hence to day for the mouth of York River, where she will relieve the *Young Rover* in the blockade of that river. The *Rover* will proceed to the mouth of the Rappahannock to relieve the *Dawn*, which will go to New York for repairs. The *Mystic* is still off the Rappahannock.

The troops of the New England Division, who have been encamped on the beach for two weeks, re-embarked on the Constitution this afternoon. The Constitution is still taking in coal, and probably will not get off before to-morrow. The health of the troops is improving.

The John Trucks with the D'Epinoull Zouaves sailed for Annapolis this morning.

The sloop of war *Hartford* sailed for the Gulf during last night.

The steamer *Ranocosa* sailed for Cherry Stone to-day, but was obliged to return on account of a gale of force was sent to Craney Island, but brought back no passengers or papers.

The crew of the Rebel steamer reported that heavy firing had been heard at Norfolk during the past two days.

A submarine cable is expected here shortly which will be sunk across the bay from this point to some point near Cherry Stone, and

the Eastern Shore telegraph line, which will place Fortress Monroe in telegraphic communication with Washington and other points North.

The Herald of the 3rd says:

The bark *Trinity* left Boston yesterday for Fortress Monroe, with 350 Southern prisoners rank and file, but eleven officers, from Fort Warren, to be exchanged for an equal number of our soldiers in the hands of the rebels.

We learn from St. Louis that some companies of the 4th Missouri Volunteers having displayed mutinous feelings and disobedience of orders, have been severely dealt with by Gen. Halleck. The non-commissioned officers and privates have been disbanded, and will be sent to Cairo to work on the fortifications there until they show a disposition to respect and return to their duty. The commissioned officers have been discharged from the service, not for participating in the mutinous disposition of the men, but for not enforcing discipline in the ranks.

A remarkable letter from Quebec, Canada, will be found in another column. It seems that our neighbors have discovered that our present troubles afford them a good opportunity to realize an old and cherished wish of theirs—namely to annex Maine, and so obtain a winter outlet to the sea. They were disappointed at the surrender of Mason and Slidell, and are now anxiously looking out for some new cause of quarrel. The knowledge of their intentions will doubtless tend to hasten the fortifications of Portland, Maine. If Portland were properly fortified, our correspondent shows clearly enough that war between the United States and Canada would be ruinous to the latter. There are now about 14,000 British troops in the province.

[From the Journal of Commerce.]

FOREIGN INTERVENTION.

The foreign news received during the past few days cannot but lead to the gravest solicitude for the future. The tone of the French news is even more unpleasant than that from England, while it is evident that a strong pressure will be brought upon both Governments to induce them not only to recognize the Southern Confederacy but to interfere by force to raise the blockade. The general principle is now strongly urged that the American war has been of long duration without practical results, and that the means of warfare adopted such as the stone blockade, for example, are contrary to the moral sense of the great powers of the world. The urgency of the Abolitionists to declare the freedom of the slaves and thus create the horrors of servile insurrections is now regarded by their old allies, the English, as an evidence of the tendency of Americans to barbarism, and is used as an argument to induce national interference in our affairs.

We cannot but feel the melancholy fact that America is regarded in Europe as a weakened power with whom it is possible to deal as with an inferior. No Government has yet taken this view, but public sentiment is steadily coming in that direction, and it will require great caution and moderation to prevent such action on the part of England and France as will make it necessary for America to assert her dignity and prove her power.

The London Observer is entitled to no credit and we are not induced to place any reliance on the "latest intelligence" which comes from that office, where the Southern agents seem to hold council. Despatches are easily made up for a departing steamer, to produce an effect on this country, and the despatch appears to be of that kind. But the entire tone of the European mind is not to be mistaken. It is now a question of great moment for France and England whether an armed intervention will be justifiable, and if justifiable, whether it will pay for the cost.

This will be discussed for some weeks. If at the end of a year the commencement of the war, we shall remain in the same position, the urgency of the pressure on those powers will increase.

Meantime we are now approaching the opportunity to exhibit the force which General McClellan has been gathering. That force surpasses anything that Europe can powers have supposed. It is beyond anything that Americans imagine. We speak not without authority when we say that the artillery forces of the Union army to-day surpass immensely, in all that constitutes military strength, anything the world has ever seen before.

No such result of military skill, foresight, preparation and discipline has been realized in a nation up to the present time. When this is brought into sight by the movements which are to be made, the tone of European criticism will change, and it will be acknowledged that they had no conception of the strength of the American Government.

It is now a question whether we shall display to Europe a sufficient force; to be the best argument against their ideas of interfering with us. If they are convinced that we are a great nation, unimpeded in our vigor, they will remain quiet. Otherwise they may attempt to settle our troubles for us and no one can foresee the results of such an attempt.

The Invasion of Mexico.

ENGLAND SOMEWHAT SORRY FOR HER PARTNERSHIP.

[From the London Herald (Derby organ.) January 17th.]

The continent of North America takes something more than its share in the interest of the day. It is not enough, it is not enough, that a portion of that continent should be just now agitated to its centre by a civil contest which wakes every day more ferocious. This half Spanish people of the South—those who dwell almost in the heart of Central America peopling the old seacoast and the lofty plains of Mexico—are now having their fate decided for an instant by the arms of a new establishment on their soil. We may feel pity, we cannot feel respect, for this people. There are many who argue that the Mexican race in the States is slowly but surely degenerating from the original type. In the case of the Mexicans there are none to argue, the matter is being agreed on all hands. "The Spanish blood in their veins has rather speedily improved the breed of a people that is inferior in all elements of manliness to the race of civilized heathens whom Cortez conquered. If it be urged on their behalf that at all events they succeeded in slaking off the rule of Spain, the plea is met by the statement that they did no such thing.

If it had not been for the difficulty with Na America a British force would ere this, have been in company with the Spanish squadron in the waters of Vera Cruz. At present we hear only of the Spaniards, and to their fleet and army has fallen the credit of the only success which is likely to be gained by the intervening powers of Mexico. Vera Cruz is fallen into the hands of the Mexican commander has retired before them without an attempt to save the place, and the fortress of San Juan de Uluos has hoisted once more the flag of Spain.

We are at a loss to conceive what the Spanish commander intends to do next, or what the French and English forces are to do when they have joined him. It is clear that the intervention cannot be intended for the sole advantage of Spain.

If the Spanish General, who in his proclamation, speaks so magniloquently of his mission to avenge the wrongs of his countrymen, entertains any idea of this sort, or harbours the notion of reconquering the country for his mistress, we think it well that he should be set right as speedily as possible.

The only forward movement possible to him would consist in a march on the city of Mexico. At that city is about 250 miles distant

from Vera Cruz, and lies at a height of 8,000 feet above the level of the sea, and the country around that place is for the most part an arid desert, such a march would obviously be attended with considerable difficulties. And as even the most picturesque people may excel in a sort of predatory and guerrilla warfare, it would be most unwise in a commander to attempt such an advance without an army ten times as large as that which General Priu is attempting to join.

We think it a most unfortunate thing that our government should have given its sanction and co-operation to a wild crusade which seems likely to have for its chief result the furtherance of schemes of aggression and conquest. We shall gain little credit; we may expect less profit from this ill-advised Mexican intervention. We trust that it may soon be over, the sequestration of the revenues of Vera Cruz, which, as it is the chief support of Mexico, should be considerable, would afford a prospect of obtaining some indemnity for our expenses in this expedition, if not all the satisfaction that was weak.

FLAG OR TRUCE.—The K hulee bron he up to the City, yesterday afternoon, the following passengers:

- Capt. Duke North Carolina.
- Lieut. Wise " "
- Lieut. Shaw " "
- Lieut. Lamb " "
- Capt. N. D. Farley, General Bonham's Staff.
- Lieut. F. de Baradene, 7th Reg. S. C.
- Sergeant F. H. Dunham, 7th Va. Cav.
- Private F. E. Long, 1st Ky. Reg.
- " W. Nelson " "
- " P. Hughes " "
- " P. Moss 10th Ala. Reg.
- " W. Norris " "
- " James Williamson, " "
- " F. Hildebrand, 2nd Va. Cav.

The first four were taken prisoners at Hatteras, have been confined at Fort Warren, and are now released on parole. The remainder have been confined in the old Capital Building in Washington and have been regularly exchanged.

The *Kahukee* also brought up Capt. Francis of the French Frigate *Fortune* and Lieut. Dubreio of the French Frigate *Pomone*.—*N. Y. Day Book*.

Gas Company.

Having made a statement the other day of the condition of the Gas Company which is feared may lead to wrong impressions, we very cheerfully publish the following communication from one of the directors of the company:

EDITOR OF PROGRESS: Dear Sir:—The report of the affairs of the Gas Company in your issue of the 5th inst., is calculated to create a wrong impression in the minds of the consumer of gas, and also of the stockholders. The Company declared a dividend of 13 per cent, in claims against the town of Newbern and in cash and acknowledged a Bonus unpaid accounts, material and cash of 5 per cent.—one per cent. only of which was made during the past year.

The profits during the next year will not probably be near as large as during the past, owing to the expense of making gas with heat from wood instead of coal, which makes the services of an extra hand necessary, and also to the probable great reduction in the amount of gas consumed. Should the company pay a cash dividend of eight per cent. during the next year it will be fully as much as can be expected.

Newbern, Feb. 6, 1862. DIRECTOR.

KICKED BY A HORSE.

A little son of Lieut. J. T. Kennedy, of this place, aged about nine or ten years, was kicked on the head by a horse, last Saturday evening, breaking the skull bone. We understand his condition is a critical one, though he may recover. —*Goldsbrough Trib.*

RAILROAD ACCIDENT.

We learn that a son of Mr. Wm. Dawson, between 11 and 12 years old, was run over by the freight train on the A. & N. C. Railroad, last Saturday evening, at Mosely Hall, crushing both his legs in a horrible manner. We learn that he was playing on one of the cars, when the train moved up to discharge some freight. The boy thinking the train was about to leave, attempted to jump to the platform and fell with his legs across the track. His injuries are fatal. —*Golds. Tribune.*

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