

## American and Foreign News.

## LATEST FROM THE STATES.

(From Telegrams to morning and evening papers.)

WEDNESDAY, July 6.—President Lincoln has issued a Proclamation suspending the *Habeas Corpus*, and proclaiming martial law in the State of Kentucky.

A requisition has been made to the Governor of New York for 12,000 militia for 100 days, and it is supposed they are required to repel an invasion of Maryland.

Massachusetts is also called upon to furnish 5000 Volunteers to garrison the Forts near Washington.

Pennsylvania is called upon to furnish 12,000 Militia.

Statements from Harper's Ferry very contradictory. Virginia side of the town said to be in hands of the Confederates, but no attempts made by them to cross the Potomac has yet been made.

Evening.—Advices from Mexico via Havana, state that Maximilian arrived at City of Mexico on the 12th ult. His reception was an imposing affair.

It is definitely stated the entire rebel force in the vicinity of Harper's Ferry does not exceed 5,000 men.

A newspaper despatch says the existing quiet in Grant's army is only a prelude to one of the greatest movements of the war.

It is reported that Grant has demanded the surrender of Petersburg.

Advices per the *City of Baltimore* state that the representations of American Minister Dayton has induced Napoleon to prohibit the construction of vessels in French ports for the Southern Confederacy.

THURSDAY, July 7.—The New York *Tribune's* special despatch says: Petersburg is covered by over one hundred Federal guns, and an order from Grant would destroy that city in a few hours.

Reports of rebel demonstration in Maryland and Pennsylvania are very contradictory. One account says 20,000 Confederates had crossed the Potomac River, at Point of Rocks. Another account states the force does not exceed 5,000 men.

Governor Curtin has called out 12,000 additional Pennsylvania reserves.

Evening.—Advice from Harper's Ferry states that rebels in that vicinity had destroyed all the railroads and telegraph property, and large quantity of forage.

The bombardment of Petersburg is steadily doing its work—many buildings having already been destroyed.

Gold ranging from 268 to 271.

FRIDAY, July 8.—Despatch from Baltimore last night, 10 20, says, reliable accounts from Loudon County, Va., state there have been no rebels in that county, except Mosby's band of 200 or 300 men, about half of whom crossed the Potomac at Point of Rocks. After plundering the inhabitants they recrossed.

Gen. Lee's personal property has been condemned by the U. S. District Court, and will be sold at Alexandria on the 19th inst.

Baltimore papers despatches continue to assert that Hagerstown has been occupied by the rebels, and that they were advancing on Frederick.

Army of Potomac advices are to Wednesday morning. Frequent skirmishing but no battle. Gold—276 asked.

Evening.—A fire at Louisville, Kentucky, destroyed Government Stores valued at eight hundred thousand dollars.

The passes of several army correspondents for the press have been revoked, by order of Secretary of War.

Governor Seymour, of New York, instructs the District Attorney to enforce the laws against Gen. Dix, for suspending the *Journal of Commerce* and the *World* newspapers, without regard to the order of the President to General Dix to resist process of the Court.

The Governor has ordered Militia force of the State to be increased to seventy-five thousand men, by draft.

SATURDAY, July 9.—Advices from Philadelphia state that rebels before evacuating Hagerstown burned a portion of the place. In a skirmish with them the Federals lost 11 killed.

At last accounts business had been resumed in the vicinity of Hagerstown, people believing all danger passed.

British blockade runner *Rouen* was captured off Beaufort with cargo of blankets &c.

New York *Express* states that a collision between the Federal Government and Executive of New York State about the arrest of General Dix, is very probable. The Navy Department has addressed a letter of thanks to Captain Winslow for sinking the *Alabama*.

MONDAY, July 11.—The rebel force in Maryland, from 20 to 25,000. On Saturday they attacked Federal General Wallace, the battle lasting from 9 a. m. till 5 p. m. Wallace, who was greatly outnumbered, retreated in direction of the city. Rebels are reported at Elliott's Mills, with the main body heading towards Washington. The Mayor has called all able-bodied citizens to arm and aid in defence of city. Great excitement prevails.

Rebel scouts reported within seven miles of the city. It is said the Northern and Central railroad has been cut. Very little alarm felt for Washington, which is said to be amply defended.

LATER.—Hunter, Seigel, and Couch are reported advancing on the rebels from different directions, and that the latter are hastily beating retreat. Hunter has recaptured Martinsburg, taking 1,000 rebel prisoners.

NOON.—Gold—282 asked.

EVENING.—Despatches from Baltimore ceased coming at noon to-day, the rebels having cut the wires near Havre de Grace. Railroad connection also reported destroyed.

The Northern community are of course greatly excited.

Latest advices from Washington and Baltimore, previous to cutting of the wires, were to 9 30 a. m. A squad of rebels had burned the House of Gov. Bradford, of Maryland, within four miles of Baltimore.

The 18th army corps had arrived, to make protection of Washington sure.

Baltimore also reported safe.

Rebels are under Breckenbridge and Early, and are in strong force. It is probably one of the biggest raids of the war.

No fears are expressed for safety of either Baltimore or Washington.

GOLD 281.

## LATEST FROM EUROPE.

## FRANCE.

The Japanese Ambassadors left Paris on the 21th ult., to return directly to Japan. The object of their interview was to sign a Convention confirming former treaties, to offer apologies for the assassination of a French officer in Japan, and to guarantee the payment of the indemnity.

## SEA FIGHT OFF CHERBOURG, FRANCE.

## THE ALABAMA SUNK.

The English papers are full of the account of an engagement between the *Kearsarge* and the *Alabama*. The following embraces the facts of the case.

It appears that as soon as it came known that the *Alabama* had arrived at Cherbourg the *Kearsarge* appeared off the harbour, challenging the *Alabama* to fight. Captain Semmes rashly determined to accept the challenge, thus abandoning the prudent policy which had up to that time led him to avoid collision with armed ships. The *Alabama* got up steam on Sunday morning, and steamed out of the harbour at half-past ten o'clock. By eleven o'clock she had arrived within a mile of the *Kearsarge* and opened fire upon her. The Federal vessel replied, and for an hour and a-half the two ships poured broadsides of shot and shell into each other. The superior swiftness of the *Alabama* enabled her to sail round her antagonist, and thus to deliver her fire to great advantage; but the greater strength and weight of metal of the *Kearsarge* more than compensated for her inferiority in speed. By twelve o'clock the *Alabama* had been completely riddled, and at that hour she attempted to effect her retreat back to Cherbourg. But it was too late. The *Kearsarge* following her, firing rapidly, and at half-past twelve it became evident that the *Alabama* would sink. The crew fought until the muzzles of their guns were under water. Then they lowered the boats and placed the dead and wounded in them. They had only time to do this when the *Alabama* sank. The crew were of course, left struggling in the water, but they were nearly all picked up by the boats either of the *Kearsarge* or the English yacht *Deerhound*, that had witnessed the engagement. The *Deerhound* picked up Semmes and forty of his companions, and brought them to Southampton. The *Kearsarge* picked up sixty-eight, and of course retains them as prisoners. The *Alabama* lost in killed and wounded from thirty to forty men. The loss of the *Kearsarge* is said to be very small, and while some accounts say that she has been much damaged, others say that she is very little injured.

The crew of the *Alabama* seems to have fought with great courage. "After a few rounds of very smart firing, during which the crew of the *Alabama* declared they fired three times for their enemy's once, a shot struck the screw and carried away one of the blades, another rendered the ship unmanageable as to its steering, whether from the rudder itself being destroyed or the steering gear carried away is not known. The rigging was all much cut up, and some of the sails fell on the yards. Three shells had burst between decks, and the bulkheads were all carried away. Finally a shell entered the coal bunker, and set the fuel on fire. At the time the vessel had sunk so far that the water was reaching the engine fires. Captain Semmes then directed the first lieutenant, Mr. Kell, to go below and report the state of the ship. That officer soon returned, saying she was in a sinking state, and the captain decided on striking his flag. The flag had been already three times shot away, but replaced. A large number of the crew rushed aft, conjuring the captain not to strike, and expressing their readiness to sink in her and die with honour; and one of the seamen, named Smith, cutlass in hand, stood by the flag and declared he would not allow it to be lowered. The captain levelled his revolver, and insisted on its being handed down, which was done, and a white flag hoisted. Meantime, the whaleboat and dingy, the only two boats uninjured, were lowered, and the wounded men placed in them, Mr. Fulham being sent in charge of them to the *Kearsarge*. When the boats were full a man who was unwounded endeavoured to enter one, but was held back by the surgeon of the ship, Mr. Jewell, son of the rector of a parish in Wiltshire. 'See,' he said, 'I want to save my life as much as you do; but let the wounded men be saved first.' 'Doctor,' said the officer in the boat, 'we can make room for you.' 'I will not peril the wounded men,' was his reply. He remained behind and sank with the ship—a loss

much deplored by all the officers and men. He is the only officer known to be lost. When Mr. Fulham reached the *Kearsarge* he had his sword by his side and let it fall into the water, lest he should have to surrender it. The action lasted exactly one hour and thirty-five minutes, during which time the vessels manoeuvred so as to describe seven circles round each other. The firing from the *Kearsarge* was very good, though apparently not so quick as that of the *Alabama*. The engagement is described by the owner of the yacht *Deerhound* as a most brilliant affair—the fighting being severe and at a short distance. The *Alabama's* guns were served most rapidly, but doing less execution. The *Kearsarge*, however, is said to have sustained much damage, her sides being torn open, showing the chain-plating.

The officers of the *Alabama* estimate their loss in killed and wounded at from twenty to thirty men.

Captain Semmes is very unwell through being in the water a considerable time; and has received a wound in his hand, which, however, is but slight. He is under the care of Dr. Wiblin, a gentleman of well-known skill in his profession, who is Government surgeon for the port, and under whose management the *Sailor's Home* is conducted. The greater number of the men are in this establishment—they having been provided with needful clothing on their arrival at Southampton—where all landed, as may be supposed, in a sorry plight; some in rags, some in one or two garments, none with shoes or stockings. Captain Semmes is at present at Kew's Hotel, along with Lieutenant Kell. He was visited on Monday by Mr. Mason, Confederate States Commissioner, and numbers of gentlemen called at the hotel, whom, however, he has been unable to see.

## CAPT. SEMMES'S ACCOUNT OF THE ACTION.

I steamed out of the harbour of Cherbourg between nine and ten o'clock on the morning of June 19, for the purpose of engaging the enemy's steamer *Kearsarge*. After clearing the harbour we descried the enemy with his head off shore, at a distance of about nine miles. We were three-quarters of an hour in coming up with him. I had previously pivoted my guns to starboard, and made all my preparations for engaging the enemy on that side. When within about a mile and a quarter of the enemy, he suddenly wheeled, and, bringing his head in shore presented his starboard battery to me. By this time we were distant about one mile from each other, when I opened on him with solid shot, to which he replied in a few minutes, and the engagement became active on both sides. The enemy now pressed his ship under a full head of steam, and to prevent our passing each other too speedily, and to keep our respective broadside bearing, it became necessary to fight in a circle; the two ships steaming around a common centre, and preserving a distance from each other of from a quarter to half a mile. When we got within good shell range we opened upon him with shell. Some ten or fifteen minutes after the commencement of the action our sparker gaff was shot away and our ensign came down by the run. This was immediately replaced by another at the mizen-masthead. The firing now became very hot, and the enemy's shot and shell soon began to tell upon our hull—knocking down, killing, and disabling a number of men in different parts of the ship. Perceiving that our shell, though apparently exploding against the enemy's sides, were doing but little damage, I returned to solid shot firing, and from this time onward alternated with shot and shell. After the lapse of about one hour and ten minutes our ship was ascertained to be in a sinking condition, the enemy's shell having exploded in our sides and between decks, opening large apertures, through which the water rushed with great rapidity.

For some few minutes I had hope of being able to reach the French coast, for which purpose I gave the ship all steam, and set such of the fore and aft sails as were available. The ship filled so rapidly, however, that before we had made much progress the fires were extinguished in the furnaces, and we were evidently on the point of sinking. I now hauled down my colours to prevent the further destruction of life, and despatched a boat to inform the enemy of our condition. Although we were now but 400 yards from each other the enemy fired upon me five times after my colors had been struck, dangerously wounding several of my men. It is charitable to suppose that a ship of war of a Christian nation could not have done this intentionally. We now turned all our exertions toward the wounded, and such of the boys of the ship as were unable to swim. These were despatched in my quarter boats, the only boats remaining to me; the waist boats having been torn to pieces. Some 20 minutes after my furnaces had been extinguished, and the ship being on the point of settling, every man, in obedience to a previous order which had been given to the crew, jumped overboard and endeavored to save himself. There was no appearance of any boat coming to me until after the ship went down. Fortunately, however, the steam yacht *Deerhound*, owned by a gentleman of Lancashire, England, Mr. John Lancaster, who was himself on board, steamed up in the midst of my drowning men, and rescued a number of both officers and men from the water. I was fortunate enough myself thus to escape to the shelter of the neutral flag, together with about 40 others, all told. About this time the *Kearsarge* sent one, and then tardily another boat.

At the end of the engagement it was discovered by those of our officers who went alongside the enemy's ship with the wounded that her midship-section on both sides were thoroughly iron-plated; this having been done with chains constructed for the purpose, placed perpendicularly from the rail to the water's edge—

the whole covered over by a thin outer planking which gave no indication of the armour beneath. This planking had been ripped off in every direction by our shot and shell, the chain broken and indented in many places, and forced partly into the ship's side. She was most effectually guarded, however, in this section from penetration. The enemy was much damaged, in other parts, but to what extent it is impossible to tell; it is believed he was badly crippled. My officers and men behaved steadily and gallantly, and though they have lost their ship they have not lost honour. The enemy was heavier than myself both in ship, battery, and crew, but I did not know, until the action was over, that she was also iron-plated. Our total loss in killed and wounded is thirty—to wit, nine killed\* and twenty-one wounded.—I have the honour to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant

(Signed) R. SEMMES, Captain.

The following is a correct list of the officers saved by the steam-yacht *Deerhound*, and consequently escaped being made prisoners:—Capt. R. Semmes; John M. Kell, First Lieutenant; Arthur Sinclair, jun., Second Lieutenant; B. K. Howell, First Lieutenant Marines; J. S. Bullock, Action Master; E. A. Maffat and E. M. Anderson, midshipmen; M. O'Brien third assistant engineer; George T. Fulham, James Evans, Max Meulnier, and J. Schrader, master's mates; W. Breedlove Smith, captain's Clerk; T. C. Cuddy, gunner.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

CURE OF DEAFNESS.—At the last sitting of the Academy of Sciences M. Flourens presented an application addressed to him by Dr. Turnbull, a Scotch physician, who proposed to employ a method of his own on a certain determinate number of persons afflicted with want of hearing, and prayed the Academy to appoint a committee—first, to ascertain the state of the patients before being submitted to the treatment in question; and next, to report at the end of a year what had been the amount of success arrived at. Dr. Turnbull has explained his method to M. Flourens, and will likewise communicate it to the members of the committee. He has described it in a sealed paper deposited with the Academy, but wishes it not to be published until the expiration of a year. The Academy, considering the subject of immense importance to humanity, at once appointed a committee composed of MM. Flourens, Milne, Edwards, and Bernard.—*Galignani*.

NAPOLEON AND APOLLON.—The Emperor of the French will not, on the whole, consider himself flattered in the stout little volume of nearly 400 pages which has just been published in Philadelphia, although the universal sway which it promises would be gratifying enough were it not for the assurance that a certain compact with the fiery monarch of the lower world had been the cause of this prospective greatness. The title of the volume runs thus:—"Louis Napoleon, the destined Monarch of the World, and Personal Antichrist," by the Rev. M. Baxter. The author has etymological notions of his own, and asks the reader in confidence whether a sensible person does not at once see that Napoleon and Apollon are substantially the same words.—*London Review*.

On Friday June, 17th the Duke of Sutherland's yacht took on board, at Capri, its former illustrious passenger, General Garibaldi. It was to convey him to Ischia for the benefit of the baths. It is stated that Garibaldi suffers much from his wound and from rheumatic affections.

A SILENT RECEPTION FOR LORD PALMERSTON.—The "Working men's Palmerston Visit Committee" of Bradford determined upon a singular mode of receiving Lord Palmerston on his visit, the object being to impress him and his colleagues with the conviction that the working classes are not indifferent to the question of Reform. They have issued an address in which they call upon the population to receive his lordship with "absolute solemn silence."

ERRORS OF THE PRESS.—I have been referred to a volume of popular sermons in which, owing to the negligence of the proof-readers, a deplorable number of typographical errors appeared. One of these, as it is in reference to the others, was singularly appropriate to the unhappy circumstances of the poor author; the verse, "Princes have persecuted me without a cause," reading, "Printers have persecuted me without a cause." Campbell's celebrated "Essay on Miracles" appeared in one of the advertisements as "Campbell's Essay on Mangles." In newspaper articles of my own I have had the misfortune to see "the internal relations of the Church" converted into the "internal relations of the Church," and people who "spoke the Gaelic language" were made to "smoke" it. I remember a great public demonstration took place in a town in which I was residing at the time. After one or two unimportant speeches a certain demagogue arose whose appearance was the signal for loud and enthusiastic cheering from the multitude. A party newspaper describing this, in the course of its gulatory and fervid report, said that the vast concourse had "rent the air with their snouts."—*Once a Week*.

THE LADY EXPLORER OF AFRICA.—We regret to have to announce the death of the traveller, Madame Tinne and Mr. Schubert, who have fallen as the latest victims to the murderous African climate. It will be remembered that they were endeavouring to find traces of the unfortunate African explorer, Dr. Vogel.

The Laureate's new volume of poems, "The Idylls of the Heath," is announced for publication this month.