

The Alexandria Gazette

MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 13.

LOCAL.—The April term of the County Court for this county, closed on Saturday last.—Considerable supplies of shad, herring, and rock fish are now sent to market from some of the lower landings, and the gilliers; and yet the price of fresh fish continues to be very high.—Some of the fishermen who haul small seines in Hunting Creek, and the neighboring shores have recently been quite successful.—

It is understood that the Washington and Alexandria Railroad Company have concluded a contract with Post & Co., bridge builders of New York, for the erection of their intended bridge across the Potomac. It will be built along side the present Long Bridge.

At a meeting of the "Freedman's Relief Society," held in Washington, last week, a report was read, in which it was stated that at "Alexandria, there are 3,000 contrabands at present. About 800 have died since they first began to assemble there. A new free school for these people has been established in Alexandria, and it is taught by convalescent soldiers. The school contains 100 pupils who are making very satisfactory progress."

A line of steamers is now running regularly between Washington and New York, comprising three steamboats, the Baltimore, Saloon, and Empire.

The U. S. Navy Department has intelligence of the capture of five British vessels attempting to run the blockade on the Southern coast, during the month of March.

The National Intelligencer calls attention to the question—"What shall be done for the 'Contrabands?'" especially in view of their numbers, their demands, &c.—and the failure to receive them in the various states at the North and West.

Hon. Wm. Smith has resigned his seat in the Confederate Congress, as representative of the ninth district.

The report that Col. J. T. Close has been appointed provost marshal, under the Description act, or being an applicant for that office, is contradicted.

Both Gen. Butler and Thaddeus Stevens, in recent speeches, have advocated "the seizure and possession of all rebel property." Mr. Stevens says:—"As we conquer the enemy's country, we must hold it, or the moment our troops are withdrawn, the rebels take possession of their old homes, and renew hostilities. Let a military tribunal be created to follow the Army, and as we conquer their territory, sell to the highest bidder the lands of every rebel, to military occupants, who, with arms in their hands, shall take resident possession by themselves, or their tenants, and be ready to defend it against all comers. Take for example the State of Virginia. From the Rappahannock westward and northward, (a vast territory) it is now in our possession. Sell every acre of it belonging to traitors to bold and loyal settlers."

Mr. L. H. Chandler, of Portsmouth, Va., now U. S. Consul at Matanzas, has been appointed U. S. District Attorney for the eastern district of Virginia.

LATE FOREIGN NEWS.

By the almost simultaneous arrival at New York of the steamers Bavaria, Glasgow, and Africa, we have foreign advices to the 29th.

In addition to the summary published in Saturday's Gazette, we add the following:—

In the House of Commons there has been an earnest debate on the Alabama case. Lord Palmerston expressed regret at the tone of some of the speakers, but said it was nevertheless a fact that when the American Government found itself in difficulties it raised a cry against England to create political capital. It was a dangerous game, but it would not succeed, in making the British government overstep the law. It is asserted that the Government had done all in its power to enforce the law. It is believed that if they had seized the Alabama, nothing beyond suspicion could have been found against her. The Government would be glad if there were neither vessels built nor shipments made to the belligerents. He could only assure the House that when grounds were shown the Government would not be slow to enforce the law honestly and impartially.

The steamer Magicienna, captured by the Federals and taken to Key West, has been released. It is consequently believed that the Peterhooff will be also liberated on the same warrant.

The Evening Herald says rumors are afloat in certain circles that the Government at Washington intend laying an embargo on British ships and property, as a measure of retaliation for the depredations of the Alabama, and that this embargo will be enforced against British ships and property without declaration of war against England. Mr. Seward, will, it is said, quote English precedent for this step.

Rumors were current in London on the 27th that the action of Com. Wilkes had induced the British government to order an addition to the British squadron in the West India waters, and the report caused a decline in the funds.

EARL RUSSELL TO LORD LYONS.

FOREIGN OFFICE, Feb. 14, 1863.

MY LORD—I had a conversation a few days ago with Mr. Adams on the subject of the Alabama.

It did not appear that his Government desired to carry on the controversy on this subject from Washington; they rather left the conduct of the argument to Mr. Adams.

On a second point, however, namely—whether the law with respect to equipment of vessels for hostile purposes might be improved—Mr. Adams said that his Government were ready to listen to any propositions her Majesty's Government had to make; but they did not see how their own law on this subject could be improved.

I said that the Cabinet had come to a similar conclusion; so that no further proceedings need be taken at present on this subject. I am, &c.,

RUSSELL.

The steamer Patron was wrecked at Lewes, Del., on Saturday week with 102 deserters on board. The Lieutenant and guard having them in charge not being considered sufficient, called on the Provost Marshal of Lewes for aid, when some twenty of the citizens volunteered, and the prisoners were all secured and safely delivered to the Provost Marshal of Washington on Thursday. One of them boasted that he had enlisted eighteen times, received bounty every time, and never served a day; another enlisted fifteen times, another eleven.

A party attempting to run the blockade of the Potomac were captured on Thursday night by some of Baker's detective force on the river, a few miles below Leonardtown, and their goods, some eight thousand dollars worth of boots, shoes, quinine, &c., were seized.

American silver is at a discount of 10 per cent. in St. John, N. B.

The report of the Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War in the Department of the West, refuses to express a positive opinion as to whether General Fremont in the exercise of authority was justified in all that he did. On the other hand, a apology is offered for the charges of dereliction of duty or presumption, as the case may be, that were originally pressed against General Fremont. The credit of forwarding the building of gunboats for the western rivers is accorded him. His emancipation proclamation is upheld and explained by pointing out the subsequent responsibilities taken by General Hunter at the South and the President himself.

There are several large auction sales of dry goods, millinery, etc., in New York, which are all well attended. At one house, a large and attractive catalogue of British dress goods was put up. The samples were all sold and the duplicates, nearly equal in quality, were taken, until the stock was exhausted. A large lot of French millinery, including a choice selection of ribbons, was disposed of at satisfactory prices.

The N. Y. Post is again urging a Texas expedition. The Matamoros route into Texas, the Post tells us, is as open as ever: "The rebels send their cotton to Matamoros, and from Matamoros they bring their supplies without molestation. Long trains of carts—caravans, sometimes six hundred in number—are seen passing through Brownsville on this errand. The rebel mails destined for Europe pass unquestioned from Richmond to Matamoros and from there find their way to Europe and back by the same means of conveyance."

An intricate matrimonial squabble came before the Mayor of New York on Thursday, for adjudication. Two men claimed one woman and two women claimed one man. All were Dutch. He gave it up in despair.

The London Times devotes several ponderous leaders to the royal marriage, in one of which it says: Of the Princess's personal charms it is not permitted to us to speak.—Since she has been seen in the streets of London a fresh reality has been given to the popular feeling that the Prince of Wales is the most fortunate of men. The same paper tells Queen Victoria that she must now dry her tears, be a woman, give up her morning and be a Sovereign again—intimating that the nation is weary of her weeds and regrets.

A clergyman in Indiana county, Pa., has debarred from the communion table all who, in his opinion, are "disloyal."

Sahmul, one of the Sultan's ex-chamberlains recently received a sudden summons from his imperial master, and without having had any previous intimation of what was about to take place, was ordered forthwith to marry one of the ladies of the palace, whom of course he had never seen, and whom he had not even heard of before. In ten minutes the melancholy affair was over.

MOVEMENT OF TROOPS.—A great portion, if not all the troops around Washington, moved off yesterday and day before; whither we did not learn, and should not deem it proper to state if we knew.—[Nat. Intelligencer.]

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