

[SPECIAL TO THE DESERET NEWS.]

## By Telegraph.

## Joint High Commission.

WASHINGTON.—Included in the treaty submitted by the High Commission are the St. Albans claims for damage to property in that town, by Canadians, but no claims for Fenian invasions in Canada are to be admitted. As to the claims of British subjects for seizures of their cotton, Great Britain, by the mouth of its commissioners, does not recognize them. In this case each subject took up his domicile in the South and thereby subjected himself to all risks and contingencies of war. All legitimate claims for cotton will be considered. It was reported, without warrant, that they will amount to thirteen or more millions, but this is considered to be a great exaggeration. They will not probably amount to a million dollars. There will be no difficulty in ascertaining all particulars as the Treasury Department has all dates of the seizures of cotton, and the names of the owners thereof, and all particulars concerning the seizure. The Government is aware that a full list of the British claims was recently published in that country, but it also has information that many of them have already been adjusted, while others will not come within the provisions of the treaty. Among the claims which will also come before this body will be that of our Government, growing out of the purchase of saltpetre in the East Indies during the war, and which was seized by the British authorities. There are other miscellaneous claims, which will come before the second board. The San Juan question will be referred to the arbitration of a friendly sovereign, probably the Emperor of Brazil. From the character of the documents accompanying the treaty, it is inferred that the decision cannot fail to be in favor of the United States. The treaty provides for the free navigation of the St. Lawrence by vessels of the United States, and for the use of Canadian canals on payment of regular tolls. There are also provisions regulating the privilege to fish in Canadian waters, but these have not been ascertained with sufficient accuracy.

The London Times to-day, mistakes in saying the treaty must be ratified by both Houses of Parliament, though it will require legislation to carry some of its provisions into effect.

The following will appear in the Washington National Republican tomorrow, and is an authoritative official statement of the result of the labors of the joint high commission. The treaty is to be known as the treaty of Washington, for the adjustment of claims for injury alleged by the U. S. on account of the escape of Confederate cruisers from British ports, and depredations committed by those vessels during the late rebellion in this country. A tribunal of arbitration is constituted to consist of five arbitrators, one to be appointed by the U. S., one by Great Britain and the other three each by designated sovereign States of Europe or America. The treaty establishes special rules of neutral duty and obligation in addition to the generally received public law, which rules, although not admitted by the British commissioners to have been in force at the time, are it is agreed, to govern the decisions of the tribunal of arbitration. This tribunal may either award damages in detail or in gross, at its discretion; or it may refer this duty to a board of assessors sitting in the U. S., and also shall report, from time to time, with payment to be made accordingly. The British Government frankly expressed its regret for the occurrence of the incidents complained of by the U. S. For the adjudication of all other claims of citizens of the U. S. against Great Britain, and citizens of the latter country against the U. S. during the same period, that is from the 13th of April, 1861, to the 9th of April, 1865, an ordinary mixed commission is provided to sit at Washington, with an umpire to be nominated, if necessary, by a designated friendly power. This limitation of time is material, in substance, for it confines the reclamation against the U. S. to incidents of actual war. It is accompanied also with a declaration on the part of the British commissioners to effect the excluding of claims on account of slave property of Great Britain. The British commissioners do not recognize the claims of subjects for the seizure of cotton, in cases where they took up their abode in the South, as they thereby became subject to the contingencies of war.

With regard to the fisheries, in addition to the liberty already secured by

the treaty of 1818, fishermen of the United States shall have the liberty to take sea fish in the sea coast and shores, and in the bays, harbors and creeks of the provinces of Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and the Colony of Prince Edward's Island and the Islands adjacent, without being restricted to any distance from the shore, with permission to land upon such coasts, shores and Islands, and also upon the Magdalen Islands for the purpose of drying their nets and curing their fish; subject, of course, in this respect, to local rights and private property. And the same liberty is granted to British subjects on the eastern sea coasts and shores of the United States, north of the 39th parallel of latitude. This liberty is not to include, on either side, shell fish or salmon and shad fisheries, or other fisheries in the rivers and mouths of rivers. It is further agreed that fish oil and fish of all kinds, except the fish of the inland lakes and their rivers, and excepting fish preserved in oil, the produce of the fisheries of the United States, or of the Dominion of Canada, or Prince Edward's Island, shall be admitted into each country respectively, free from duty. The privileges thus conceded to the United States are obviously most important. It is asserted by the British government, but not admitted by the United States, that the privileges accorded to the citizens of the United States are of greater value than those accorded to the subjects of Great Britain, and to prevent or avoid controversy on this point, it is agreed that a commission shall decide all such alleged excesses of privileges, and how much ought to be paid by the United States.

Next came various questions of navigation and commercial transit, which are disposed of by declaring the navigation of the river St. Lawrence and the rivers Yucan, Porcupine and Stilline forever free and open to the citizens or subjects of both countries, by providing for the equal use of the Welland and St. Lawrence and other canals, in the Dominion on one hand, and of Lake Michigan and St. Clair flats and canal on the other; by providing for the free transit of merchandise to and from as well in the British possessions as in the United States, and abolishing the provisional export duty on American lumber on the river St. John. All those provisions concerning the fisheries and commercial transit are, of course, made contingent upon their being approved by the Congress of the United States and the British Parliament the Parliament of Canada and the Legislature of Prince Edward's Island. By these various stipulations all privileges of fishery, navigation, and transit accorded to the United States by the treaty of 1854, are once more obtained, and in a better form and without the burthensome conditions of that treaty. There remains to be considered the question of the north-western boundary line. It is to be remembered that the line treaty of 1846 runs by the middle channel which separates the continent from Vancouver's Island, but several such channels exist. Great Britain contends that the channel of that treaty is the Rosario Straits and the U. S. that it is the Canal de Haro, the channels being separated by the Island of San Juan. This question having once been reported on by a mixed commission the U. S. are not content to refer it to another such commission nor has it been deemed convenient, even though such tribunal be appointed by a friendly sovereign power. Instead of this it has been agreed, by the present treaty, to submit the question directly to a neutral power, and the Emperor of Germany has been selected for the purpose. The Government of the U. S. has in its hands much documentary evidence in support of its pretensions not heretofore made use of, and on that, as well as on other grounds, is confident of the better reasons on its side to assure to the U. S. the possession of the island of San Juan.

IN A NEW DRESS.—Number 7 of vol. 6 of the *Juvenile Instructor* appears to-day, and is in an entirely new dress, having been printed from a font of type which was cast in this establishment. Its appearance is exceedingly neat and creditable, which is all the more gratifying on account of it being effected by home production.

The number just issued is up to its predecessors in point of interesting and instructive matter. The contents are as follows: A treatise on "Whales" and one, under the heading of chemistry, on "Sulphides;" also "Recollections," "Searching for Treasure," "Editorial Thoughts," "Apostasy and Treason," "History of the Church," "East India Mission," and an excellent selection of choice miscellaneous selected matter, Poetry, etc.



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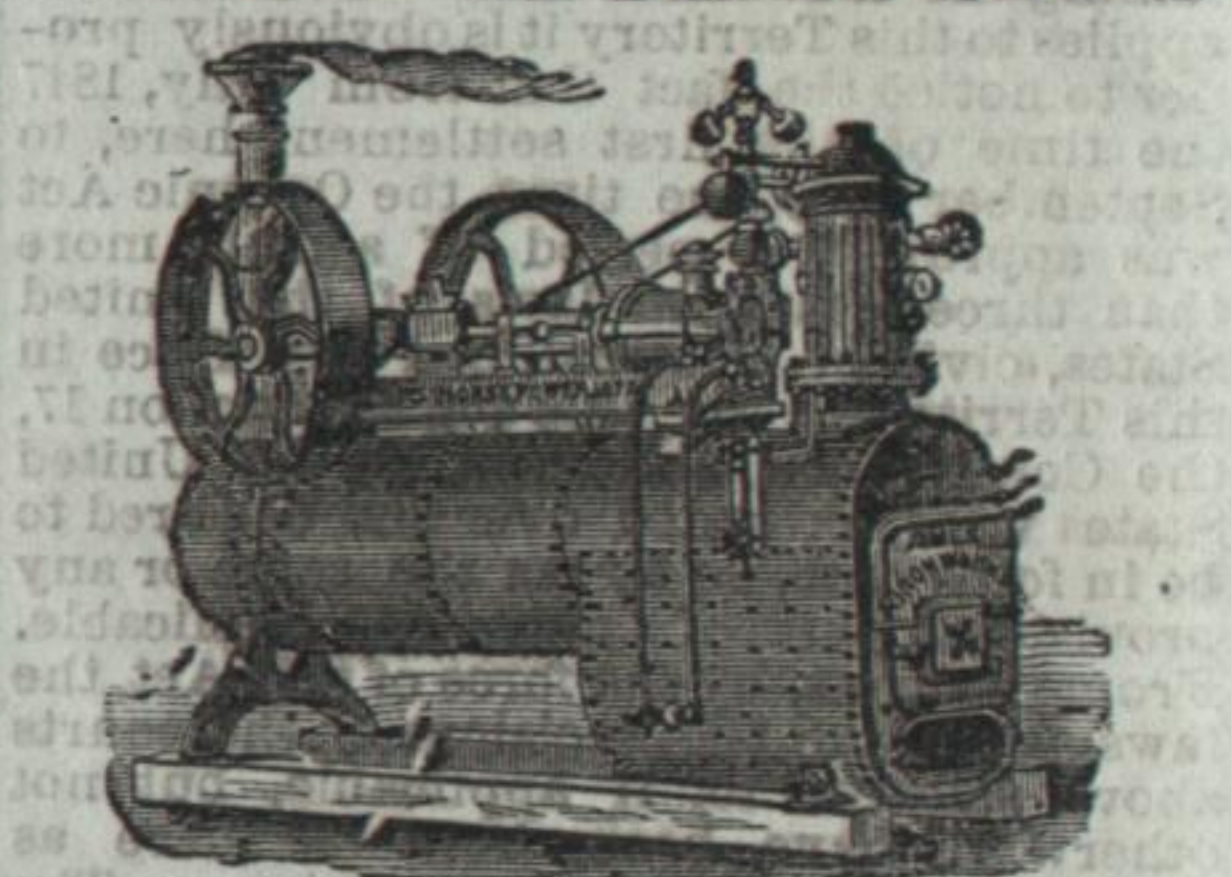
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