

LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE,

May 19, 1865.

Notice is hereby given, that Her Royal Highness The Princess Helena will, by command of The Queen, hold a Drawing Room at St James's Palace, on behalf of Her Majesty, on Tuesday the 20th of June next, at two o'clock.

It is the Queen's pleasure that Presentations to Her Royal Highness at this Drawing Room shall be considered as equivalent to Presentations to Her Majesty.

N.B.—The Knights of the several Orders are to appear in their Collars at the Drawing Room, it being a Collar Day, the Anniversary of Her Majesty's Accession.

LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE,

June 10, 1865.

Notice is hereby given, that the State Apartments of Windsor Castle will be closed on and after Thursday, the 15th instant, until further orders.

WHITEHALL, June 10, 1865.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Robert Rawlinson, Esq., John Thornhill Harrison, Esq., and John Thomas Way, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Commissioners for the purpose of inquiring how far the present use of rivers or running waters in England, for the purpose of carrying off the sewage of towns and populous places, and the refuse arising from industrial processes and manufactures, can be prevented without risk to the public health or serious injury to such processes and manufactures, and how far such sewage and refuse can be utilized or got rid of, otherwise than by discharge into rivers or running waters, or rendered harmless before reaching them; and also for the purpose of inquiring into the effect on the drainage of lands and inhabited places, of obstructions to the natural flow of rivers or streams caused by mills, weirs, locks, and other navigation works, and into the best means of remedying any evils thence arising.

(996.)

Board of Trade, Whitehall,
June 12, 1865.

The Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade have received, from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a Despatch from Her Majesty's Minister at Washington, enclosing a copy of the following Proclamation issued by the President of the United States, relative to the opening of the ports of the Southern States to Foreign Commerce:—

OFFICIAL.

Department of State.

By the President of the United States of America.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, by the Proclamation of the President, of the 11th day of April last, certain ports of the United States therein specified, which had previously been subject to blockade, were, for objects of public safety, declared, in conformity with previous special legislation of Congress, to be closed against

foreign commerce during the National will, to be thereafter expressed and made known by the President; and whereas events and circumstances have since occurred which, in my judgment, render it expedient to remove that restriction, except as to the ports of Galveston, La Selle, Brazos de Santiago (Point Isabel), and Brownsville, in the State of Texas.

Now therefore, be it known that I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do hereby declare that the ports aforesaid, not excepted as above, shall be open to foreign commerce from and after the 1st day of July next; that commercial intercourse with the said ports may, from that time, be carried on, subject to the laws of the United States, and in pursuance of such regulations as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury. If, however, any vessel from a foreign port shall enter any of the before-named excepted ports in the State of Texas, she will continue to be held liable to the penalties prescribed by the Act of Congress approved on the 13th day of July 1861, and the persons on board of her to such penalties as may be incurred, pursuant to the laws of war, for trading or attempting to trade with an enemy.

And I, Andrew Johnson, President of the United States, do hereby declare and make known that the United States of America do henceforth disallow to all Persons trading, or attempting to trade in any ports of the United States, in violation of the laws thereof, all pretence of belligerent rights and privileges; and I give notice, that from the date of this Proclamation all such offenders will be held and dealt with as pirates.

It is also ordered that all restrictions upon trade, heretofore imposed in the territory of the United States east of the Mississippi River; save those relating to contraband of war, to the reservation of the rights of the United States to property purchased in the territory of an enemy, and to the 25 per cent. upon purchasers of cotton, are removed. All provisions of the internal revenue law will be carried into effect under the proper officers.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington, this 22d day of May, in the year of our Lord 1865, and of the Independence of the United States of America the eighty-ninth.

(L.S.) ANDREW JOHNSON.

By the President:

W. HUNTER, Acting Secretary of State.

WAR-OFFICE, PALL-MALL,

June 13, 1865.

Royal Artillery—Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel Charles James Buchanan Riddell, C.B., to be Colonel, vice Henry Austin Turner, retired upon full-pay. Dated 19th May 1865.
Captain and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Guy Rotton to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Brevet-Colonel Riddell. Dated 19th May 1865.
Captain Hugh Bent, from the Supernumerary List, to be Captain, vice Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Rotton. Dated 19th May 1865.
Captain Sanford Freeing, on the Supernumerary List, has been permitted to resign his Commission. Dated 13th June 1865.