

Room, a card with her name written thereon, and with the name of the Lady by whom she is to be presented. In order to carry out the existing regulation, that no presentation can be made at a Drawing Room excepting by a Lady actually attending that Court, it is also necessary that a letter from the Lady who is to make the presentation, stating it to be her intention to be present, should accompany the presentation card above referred to, which will be submitted to The Queen, for Her Majesty's approbation. It is Her Majesty's Command, that no presentations shall be made at the Drawing Room, except in accordance with the above regulations.

It is particularly requested that in every case the names be *very distinctly written* upon the cards to be delivered to the Lord Chamberlain, in order that there may be no difficulty in announcing them to The Princess.

It is not expected that Gentlemen will present themselves at the Drawing Room, except in attendance upon the Ladies of their families.

The State apartments will be open for the reception of Company coming to Court at one o'clock.

SYDNEY,
Lord Chamberlain.

Foreign Office, June 6, 1865.

COPY of a Letter from Earl Russell to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty:—

MY LORDS, *Foreign Office, June 2, 1865.*

I HAVE the honour to state to your Lordships, that since the date of my letter of the 11th ultimo, intelligence has reached this country that the late President of the so-called Confederate States has been captured by the military forces of the United States, and has been transported as a prisoner to Fort Monroe, and that the armies hitherto kept in the field by the Confederate States, have for the most part surrendered or dispersed.

In this posture of affairs Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that neutral nations cannot but consider the civil war in North America as at an end.

In conformity with this opinion, Her Majesty's Government recognize that peace has been restored within the whole territory of which the United States of North America before the commencement of the civil war were in undisturbed possession.

As a necessary consequence of such recognition on the part of Her Majesty's Government, Her Majesty's several authorities in all ports, harbours, and waters belonging to Her Majesty, whether in the United Kingdom or beyond the seas, must henceforth refuse permission to any vessel of war carrying a Confederate flag to enter any such ports, harbours, and waters; and must require any Confederate vessels of war which, at the time when these orders reach Her Majesty's authorities in such ports, harbours, and waters may have already entered therein on the faith of Proclamations heretofore issued by Her Majesty, and which, having complied with the provisions of such Proclamations, may be actually within such ports, harbours, and waters, forthwith to depart from them.

But Her Majesty's Government consider that a due regard for national good faith and honour requires that Her Majesty's authorities should be

instructed, as regards any such Confederate vessels so departing, that they should have the benefit of the prohibition heretofore enforced against pursuit of them within twenty-four hours by a cruiser of the United States lying at the time within any such ports, harbours, and waters, and that such prohibition should be then and for the last time maintained in their favour.

If, however, the Commander of any Confederate vessel of war which may be found in any port, harbour, or waters of Her Majesty's dominions at the time these new orders are received by Her Majesty's authorities, or may enter such port, harbour, or waters, within a month after these new orders are received, should wish to divest his vessel of her warlike character, and, after disarming her, to remain without a Confederate flag within British waters, Her Majesty's authorities may allow the Commander of such vessel to do so at his own risk in all respects, in which case he should be distinctly apprised that he is to expect no further protection from Her Majesty's Government, except such as he may be entitled to in the ordinary course of the administration of the law in time of peace.

The rule as to twenty-four hours would of course not be applicable to the case of such vessel.

I have addressed a similar letter to the Secretaries of State for the Home, Colonial, India, and War Offices, and also to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, requesting them, as I do your Lordships, to issue instructions in conformity with the decision of Her Majesty's Government to the several British authorities at home or abroad who may be called upon to act in the matter.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) RUSSELL.

NOTE.—A similar letter was addressed to the Secretaries of State for the Home, Colonial, War, and India Departments, and to the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

Westminster, June 2, 1865.

This day, the Lords being met, a message was sent to the Honourable House of Commons by the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, acquainting them that *The Lords authorized by virtue of a Commission under the Great Seal, signed by Her Majesty, for declaring Her Royal Assent to several Acts agreed upon by both Houses, do desire the immediate attendance of the Honourable House in the House of Peers to hear the Commission read*; and the Commons being come thither, the said Commission, empowering the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and several other Lords therein named, to declare and notify the Royal Assent to the said Acts, was read accordingly, and the Royal Assent given to

An Act to make the Metropolitan Houseless Poor Act perpetual.

An Act to enable the Commissioners of Her Majesty's Works and Public Buildings to acquire additional lands for improving the site of the new public offices in Downing-street, and the approaches thereto.

An Act to enable the Secretary of State in Council of India to acquire additional lands for improving the site of the India Office and the approaches thereto.

An Act to repeal the Act of the Parliament of Ireland of the sixth year of Anne, chapter eleven,