and fear shook him no more. Happy if thus revenge had struck his final blow; for he would have fallen beneath it almost unconscious of a pang. But such a lethargy of the soul, after such an excitement of its fiercest passions, had entered into the diabolical calculations of Tolli; and the fell artificer of his designs had imagined a counteracting device.

The tolling of an enormous bell struck upon the ears of Vivenzio! He started. It beat but once. The sound was so close and stunning, that it seemed to shatter his very brain; while it echoed through the rocky passages like reverberating peals of thunder. This was followed by a sudden crash of the roof and walls, as if they were about to fall upon and close around him at once. Vivenzio screamed, and instinctively spread forth his arms, as though he had a giant's strength to hold them back.—They had moved nearer to him, and were now motionless. Vivenzio looked up, and saw the roof almost touching his head, even as he sat cowering beneath it; and he felt that a further contraction of but a few inches only must commence the frightful operation. Roused as he had been, he now gasped for breath. His body shook violently—he was bent nearly double. His hands rested upon either wall and his feet were drawn under him to avoid the pressure in front. Thus he remained for more than an hour, when that deafening bell beat again, and again there came the crash of horrid death. But the concussion was now so great that it struck Vivenzio down.—As he lay gathered up in lessened bulk, the bell beat loud and frequent—crash succeeded crash—and on, and on, and on came the mysterious engine of death, till Vivenzio's smothered groans were heard no more! He was horribly crushed by the ponderous roof and collapsing sides—and the flattened bier was his *Iron Shroud*.

THE AMERICAN.

WASHINGTON, JANUARY 23, 1858.

"THE UNION OF THE UNIONISTS, FOR THE SAKE OF THE UNION!!"

AMERICANS.

We send many of you our paper, in hopes to receive your subscriptions. We cast our bread upon the waters, and it depends upon you whether it shall return to us after a few days.

☞ We find it impossible to get a sufficient number of faithful, responsible boys to deliver our paper to our city subscribers, and also agents who will pay us the money they collect. We have tried this plan long enough to test it to our cost, and we shall try it no longer than till the last of this month.

With the 1st of February we shall adopt the plan of requiring payment *quarterly in advance*. All who want the WEEKLY AMERICAN, or have *Americanism* enough in their bosoms to prompt them to do a little towards keeping up a party paper here, will please to call and give, or send us their names, and *sixty-five cents*, the price of the paper from the 1st of February to the 1st of May.

By this arrangement we shall be enabled to have the paper distributed by two or three *men*, and be sure that it will be promptly and regularly delivered—which is not the case now—at much less cost to us than at present.

Those who prefer receiving their papers through the post-office, can have them thus sent.

We may lose some subscribers by this change, but we had better run that risk than continue to lose money by the agents and many of our subscribers, and to have our friends continually annoyed by not receiving their papers regularly. From the 1st of February no paper will be delivered that is not already paid for, as above.

Our office is in the building on Second street, between Indiana Avenue and D street, north, in the fourth story, entrance on Second street.

Henry Johnson, our Clerk, is the only person authorized to receive monies for this office, after this month (January.)

N. B.—Monies enclosed in letters and handed to the carriers of the AMERICAN, or sent by any other person, so that we get them, will answer every purpose. After this month our carriers' names will be announced.

We respectfully remind and invite our City Subscribers not to forget to pay sixty-five cents at our office before the first of the month for the quarter's subscription in advance. The clerk is now ready and in attendance at the office, to wait upon you all. See our cash plan in another column. We will have no agents or collectors after this month.

We understand that it is in contemplation at the War Department to despatch Lieut. General Scott to the Pacific coast with a view of arranging for military operations against the Mormons from that side. This important movement has not, however, at this time, been definitely decided on.

Capt. James McIntosh, United States navy, has received preparatory orders for the command of the home squadron, of which the steam frigate Colorado, now in course of preparation for sea, will be flag-ship.—*Union.*

☞ We see it announced in the *Intelligencer*, that the honorable DANIEL ULLMAN, of New York, will lecture on "*The American Republic*," before the *Maryland Institute*, Baltimore, on Tuesday the second day of February next.

Mr. Ullman is one of the best scholars and finest orators of the age, and his lecture will, doubtless, be worthy of his high reputation as such. We advise all our readers, who can conveniently do so, to visit the Maryland Institute on this occasion.

GOOD.—The entire corps of city watchmen, in Petersburg, joined the Sons of Temperance last Saturday night. We hear that the city watchmen of Washington have, to a man, resolved to follow the good example set by the Petersburg officers.—*Star.*

Excellent! Let the *Mayor* set the example.

MR. FISCH OF INDIANA.—The National Era says:

"We well recollect the time when the Doctor was a most valorous and devoted anti-slavery man, with a seal almost Quixotic.—When a candidate the first time in his district for Congress, he wrote a letter, which was printed in the newspapers, in which he went so far as to pledge himself that, if elected to Congress, should no one bring in a bill to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, he would.

The Clerk of the House has discharged the messenger in his office, to make way for a Roman Catholic Irishman, who was President Pierce's coachman. The Democracy mean to hold on to the Catholics, if they must lose everybody else.—*Republic.*

AMERICANS NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, AND WEST.

Do you think it would subserve the cause you have so much at heart, to have an *American* paper published here, at the National Metropolis, and sent abroad from this point, speaking neither for one *section* nor for another, neither against any part of our country or its people, but simply advocating *American* principles, and opposing the Administration of James Buchanan, which is not only bitterly hostile to these principles and to all who are not in favor of *foreignism*, but is pursuing a course detrimental to the great interests of the nation? If you say yes, as we think you will, then let us remind you that the larger the circulation such a paper can obtain, the better it will be both for the cause it espouses, and for its subscribers. And let us persuade you to do all you can to extend the circulation by asking your friends and neighbors to become subscribers. We ought to have, and hope we shall have, before many months, not less than twenty thousand country subscribers, and if the friends of the cause will do what they can for us, we shall soon reach that number.

Editors of American papers; brothers, please do us the favor to let your subscribers "and the rest of mankind" know that there is such an American paper as ours published here in Washington city, where the very name is enough to bring down upon us, and upon all who bear it, the ire and persecution of the Administration and all its employés, sattelites, clawbacks and toadies; and where no one dependent upon those in power, dares to take the *American*, or to be seen reading it. You can have no conception of the persecution that *Americans* are subjected to here.

HOW THEY GROAN.

Governor Wise's Tammany Hall letter is the severest blow the Administration has yet received, and has made them roar like the bulls of Bashan. It was a "lick" in the face, from the hand of a friend. It was a terrible, tremendous "lick;" absolutely stunning and staggering. It came so unexpectedly, it was as if one's wife had knocked him down, while each was caressing the other. The administration whines and suivels and complains through the little pap-fed *Star* of this city, to the extent of nearly two columns of minion and nonpareil.

Speaking of this letter, the administration, by its minor mouth-piece says, "it is one of the most unaccountable occurrences of the day. It has filled his (Mr. Wise's) enemies with exultation, the Democratic party with amazement, and the friends of the administration, of which he was regarded as one of the warmest and most able supporters, with unspeakable chagrin."

"Coming from a Southern man in opposition to the unanimous sentiment of the Southern representatives in Congress, and to the policy for which a Northern President and a large Democratic representation from the North had incurred so much reproach and obloquy in their own section, and not from a Northern man hard pressed by abolitiondom at home and bending before a storm he dared not defy—coming from the Executive head of the mother State of the South, as a gratuitous act called for by no official duty, and impelled by no official oath binding upon the conscience; this letter under all the circumstances under which it appears, is one of the most unfortunate circumstances that has happened since the advent of the present administration. As a blow to the brave National Democrats of the North from a Southern coadjutor—as an assault upon the policy of the Administration from one of its most valued and cherished friends, it is the *et tu Brute* of letters."

We are just wicked enough to rejoice when we hear this imbecile, dishonest, vascillating, quibbling, truckling administration thus groan aloud. We laugh at their calamities, and mock when their fear cometh. We see their downfall, and the breaking up of the corrupt Democratic party approaching with rapid strides, and we rejoice at it. One after another the powerful politicians who supported Mr. Buchanan's election, are not only turning their backs upon him, but are giving him severer blows than his opponents ever had the power to give. These numerous desertions and repeated blows are already causing him to stagger and reel. He totters now and soon must fall never more to rise.

"The neutrality laws should be abolished. They are the fossil remains of the legislation of a past age. Perhaps they were good enough when first adopted; but they possess about as much applicability to the present, and are about as ornamental and useful, as a third wheel to a cart, two husbands to one woman, or a pick-pocket in the society of respectable gentlemen and ladies. Let them be wiped out. The sooner the better for the honor of the nation.

That a paper having the least pretence to respectability, and regard for national character could utter such a sentiment as this, is to us inconceivable. It marks the degeneracy that has debased the minds of no inconsiderable portion of the people of certain portions of the United States, and the loose ideas they have of political and national morals. If the sentiment expressed above should find a favorable response in the action of Congress, we should at once become a nation of free-booters, buccaneers, pirates and robbers; and as such, should be held infamous and despicable by every civilized nation on the globe, as we should deserve to be held. The name of *American* would then mean precisely what *Algerine* meant a century ago.

CHICKEN STEALING.

There is a great deal of chicken stealing going on in the city. Every night, almost, some one's hen roost is robbed of from five to fifteen chickens. And who are the mean, contemptible, petty-larcency chicken thieves?—They are the low poaching, prowling, Germans and Irish who live by stealing. It is too mean a business for any American, however degraded, to be engaged in.

Take care of your hen roosts, for the thieving Germans and Irish, who do our voting for us, are prowling about every night, and we have no watchmen that are worth a groat, in the city.

"Money is his only object, and if he may but get money, he does not hesitate to commit any sin, from crushing out every kindly feeling in his own heart, up to virtual murder itself."—*Exchange Paper.*

The writer has told the truth. Money-getting is the spirit of the age, and it crushes out every noble, generous, humane feeling in the heart. Money-making, by the male portion of the community, and show, extravagance, feathers, furs, and furbelows occupy the mind? to the exclusion of everything else.

THE NEW HALL OF THE H. R.

Great efforts are made to persuade the public that everything about the new Hall of the House of Representatives, the Committee rooms, decorations, furniture, &c., everything, in short, has been finished, as far as they have gone, in the most splendid style, and in the best possible taste.

We dissent from this wholly and entirely.—We do not like the new Hall, neither as a Hall, nor as a work of art and taste. We think it badly proportioned, in the first place; that the ceiling is a great deal too low for the dimensions of the room, which takes away all the grand appearance it ought to have; and the manner in which it is finished is in shocking bad taste. The superabundance of gilding upon the walls and ceiling is universally condemned. The remark is drawn from every one, "what a piece of gilded gingerbread work it is!" We have heard many people of refined taste—ladies too—say, "Why, what a beautiful eating or steamboat saloon this would be;" but adding at the same time that it was in shocking bad taste for a national legislative hall, and those are our own sentiments.

The expenditure of money upon the two new wings has been profuse to absolute *wastefulness*. This we should not care so much about if the real beauty and splendor were at all correspondent; but they are not; indeed we do not think the buildings do us any credit whatever. Had the architect, Mr. Walter, been permitted to perform an architect's duty, instead of being made subservient to the Superintendent, Captain Meigs, we feel confident the building and halls would have been finished in an appropriate style; neat, not gaudy, as becomes a great Republic, and a plain unaristocratic, unregal people. As it is, thus far, the taste displayed is gaudy, not neat; barbaric, not refined and chastened.

There is one thing which is mortifying and humiliating to Americans about these halls and committee rooms, which is, that they exhibit no specimen of *American* artistic skill. There is nothing American about them but the materials of which they are constructed. All the workmen and artists employed upon them have been *foreigners*, hosts of whom have been at work there for more than a year doing what makes no show whatever, (on the ceiling) or which shocks the eye of every American of good taste. The Intelligencer, speaking of these new Halls, says: "An improved taste characterizes the external and internal embellishments of the Capitol;" from this we wholly dissent; and we assert that the whole "embellishments" are pronounced by nine out of ten of the American people, to be in decidedly bad taste. The Intelligencer also give us the names of sundry of the *foreign* artists who have been employed upon the embellishments; why were not American artists employed?

Our opinion is, that the whole thing, as managed by Captain Meigs, who has taken upon himself the duties that belonged to the Architect, does us no credit as a nation; and that a vast amount of money has been uselessly spent.

CALICO DRESS SOIREE.

"A number of officers of the Seventy-First regiment, and other gentlemen, have made arrangements for a calico dress soiree, to be given at the New York Academy of Music, on the evening of the 4th of February next, for charitable purposes. The calico dresses worn by the ladies at the soiree are to be left at the close of the evening, or afterwards sent in, and distributed among various societies for the relief of poor women, and the money received for tickets is to be appropriated for the distribution of loaves of bread among the poor, through the agency of the Hunter Woodis Benevolent Society."

This is all gammon, and amounts to nothing. There is no patriotism in it, and no benevolence. Those who attend this soiree in their calico dresses, do so to gratify their pride, vanity and selfishness just as much as if it were a fancy dress party, as in fact it is.

If these and other American ladies—American women—wish to show their patriotism, and do all that in them lies to bring the country back to its former simplicity and frugality of dress, if they would discountenance the fearfully demoralizing extravagance of dress, a passion for which has seized upon the women of our country, and bereft them of their good sense, and with it their regard for the true interests of their husbands, brothers, sons, and fathers—if they would take an active and efficient part in restoring prosperity to the country and stimulating the already paralyzed arm of industry, let them resolve that they will *habitually* wear fabricks of our own manufacture, and those only. Let silks and laces, of which so many millions of dollars worth are now annually imported, to the great injury of every branch of American labor, be tabooed by every fashionable woman whose pride it is to be an *American*. Let our women cease to patronize and give employment to foreign manufacturers to the great discouragement, injury, and even ruin of our own, and resolve that their garments hereafter shall be made only of material the product of our own fields, looms and factories. Let this be done, and our country would bound forward in a career of prosperity heretofore unprecedented, and our women would deserve, and would receive the plaudits of the whole American people.

We can well recollect when chintzes and prints, such as we can now manufacture for ourselves, and out of our own cotton, constituted the best dresses of fashionable ladies, as a general thing. Most ladies in easy circumstances had at least one silk dress, but that was kept for extraordinary occasions, but now we have got to such a pass that women, in even straightened circumstances, think they cannot appear in the street in any other than a silk dress! Such a predisposition to extravagance has a most demoralizing tendency, and no nation can long pursue the career we have been pursuing, without utterly losing all those high notions of honor, integrity, patriotism and virtue which only characterize a truly patriotic and elevated people. Let the American people look to it in season, before it is too late; sensuality and looseness of morals have ever been and ever will be concomitants of idleness, frivolity of manners and extravagance in dress; and all these are diseases which eventually destroy all manliness, public virtue, patriotism—everything that is noble and generous in man and lovely in woman. No people who have become luxurious and effeminate, absorbed by the love of money and the love of ease, sloth, and self-indulgence, ever long retained their liberties or the respect of other nations.

☞ Don't forget to send us sixty-five cents before the first of the month. PUBLISHER.

IMMIGRATION OF FOREIGN PAUPERS.

Mr. Zollicoffer of Tennessee, submitted the following resolution on Monday last, in the House of Representatives, to wit:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill to regulate and restrain the immigration or importation into the United States of foreign paupers and criminals.

Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, called for the yeas and nays on the passage of the resolution, and they were ordered; and being taken, resulted—yeas 187, nays 68—as follows:

YEAS.—Messrs. Abbott, Adrian, Anderson, Andrews, Atkins, Avery, Bennett, Bingham, Bocock, Boyce, Branch, Brayton, Bryan, Buffington, Burlingame, Burnett, Burns, Burroughs, Campbell, Cass, Caskie, Chaffee, Clark, of Connecticut, Clawson, Clemens, Clingman, Cobb, Colfax, Comins, Covode, Cragin, Craig, of Missouri, Crawford, Curry, Curtis, Damrell, Davis, of Indiana, Davis, of Mississippi, T. Davis, of Massachusetts, Davis, of Iowa, Dawes, Dean, Dodd, Durfee, Edmundson, English, Eustis, Faulkner, Foley, Foster, Gartrell, Gilman, Gilmer, Goodwin, Granger, Greenwood, Gregg, Grow, Hall of Massachusetts, Harlan, Harris of Illinois, Hickman, Hopkins, Horton, Houston, Howard, Huyler, Jackson, Kellogg, Kelsey, Killgore, Knapp, Leach, Leiter, McQueen, Marshall, of Kentucky, Marshall, of Illinois, Maynard, Milson, Moore, Morgan, Morrill, Morris of Pennsylvania, Morse of Maine, Mott, Murray, Olin, Palmer, Parker, Pettit, Peyton, Pike, Pottle, Powell, Purviance, Quitman, Ready, Reagan, Ricaud, Robbins, Roberts, Royce, Ruffin, Sandidge, Savage, Scales, Scott, Seward, Shaw, of North Carolina, Sherman of Ohio, Sherman of New York, Shorter, Singleton, Smith of Virginia, Stanton, Stevenson, Stewart of Maryland, Talbott, Tappan, Taylor of Louisiana, Thayer, Thompson, Tompkins, Trippe, Underwood, Wade, Walbridge, Walton, Warren, Washburne of Illinois, Watkins, Wilson, Wood, Woodson, Wortendyke, and Zollicoffer—137.

NAYS.—Messrs. Barksdale, Blair, Bowie, Clark of New York, Clark of Missouri, Clay, C. B. Cochrane of New York, J. Cochrane of New York, Cockerill, Cox, Davidson, Dewdell, Florence, Giddings, Groesbeck, Hall of Ohio, Hatch, Hughes, Jones of Tennessee, J. Glancy Jones of Pennsylvania, Kelly, Lawrence, Leidy, Letcher, Lovejoy, Maclay, Mason, Morris of Illinois, Morse of New York, Pendleton, Phelps, Potter, Russell, Stephens, Washburn of Wisconsin, Wright of Georgia, and Wright of Tennessee—38.

So the resolution was adopted.

It will be seen by the yeas and nays above given, that there were a great number of members who did not vote. The introduction of the resolution and the demand for the yeas and nays upon it, produced great consternation, and a terrible scampering out of the Hall in order to "dodge" the vote; such an exhibition of political cowardice we have not witnessed in many a day, and we know not whether the spectacle were more laughable or lamentable; we thought it both.

There were some who voted *no*, because, said they, Congress has no power to prevent the introduction of immigrants. Congress no power to prohibit the introduction of immigrants! Well, this is something new under the sun. But such an assertion is not worthy of a serious reply; it can only call forth a laugh of derision from an intelligent man, and excite pity or contempt for the ignoramus who makes it.

Congress has power to declare upon what terms foreigners may become citizens, and of course to say whether they shall become citizens at all or not. Congress has also the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations, or to prohibit it altogether. Congress can therefore prohibit the importation of persons if it thinks proper to do so. By the 9th section of the first article of the Constitution it is declared that "The migration or importation of such persons as any of the States now existing shall think proper to admit, shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year eighteen hundred and eight."

This of course admits the power of Congress to prohibit immigration or importation of persons, but restrains the exercise of that power as respects a certain description of persons (blacks) until after the year 1808. We cannot but think that the denial of this power in the presence of such statesmen as Mr. Madison, J. Q. Adams, Judge Marshall, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and J. C. Calhoun, would have drawn from them only a smile of contempt.

But the adoption of the resolution by a vote of 137 to 38, was a most gratifying triumph of one of the leading principles of the American party. It shows most emphatically that these principles have made a lodgment deep in the American heart; and that, although the American party has itself been crushed (not crushed out) between the upper and nether millstone of Democracy and Republicanism, its principles are strong enough to carry 137 members of the House, while sixty others not having the courage to vote *against* them, and not wishing to vote *for* them, skulked, ran, and dodged like frightened rabbits!

We hope the two branches of Congress will be brought to a direct vote on a bill to prohibit the introduction, under heavy penalties, of foreign paupers and persons who have been convicted of any crime or misdmeanor in the country from whence they come or have lived. Let us see who will vote to allow the United States to be made, as they are now made, the Botany Bay of the world: a place to which all the paupers, lazaroni, beggars, thieves, pick-pockets, burglars, counterfeiters, forgers, and murderers of Europe, Asia, and Africa may be shipped off. "An asylum for the oppressed" is our country—it is just such an asylum for the oppressed as every State Prison or Penitentiary is! And yet these miserable outcasts of the world who have left their country for their country's good, are the very creatures by whom our ballot boxes are defrauded, and elections are carried. How long are we to suffer such intolerable evils and burdens as now curse our country, merely that the Democrats may have a never failing supply of new voters to enable them to retain power and the spoils?

THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY.—May Heaven snatch the country from the deadly embrace of ambitious demagogues and reckless place-hunters. Only through a great popular revolution, which shall whelm with confusion and ruin the Democratic party—a party more Jesuitical and dangerous than any that ever existed in any age or nation—can the country expect redemption from the political demoralization now prevailing, and which is increasing and spreading with every succeeding day. For one, we say it boldly, that we prefer being ruled over by an open, frank, conscientious Black Republican to submitting to the further domination of a party whose principal leaders are the most unconscionable hypocrites that human imagination can conceive.—*Richmond Whig.*

TERRIBLE DISASTER IN BROOKLYN.—A little before three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, Public School Building No 41, of Brooklyn, corner of Concord and Navy streets, W. D., was discovered to be on fire. There were nearly nine hundred pupils present at the time the fire broke out, and in the excitement attending their exit from the building seven boys, between the ages of six and ten years, were crushed and suffocated by their companions on the middle landing of the lower stairway.

THE BLOODY CONFLICT.

There are few men and fewer women who read history—the record of the past, the mirror of the future. Few therefore know how terribly and heroically men and women, nay a whole nation, have suffered for conscience sake, and how nobly and devotedly they have stood by their religion while facing death in every possible horrific and terrible form.

Some Protestants, and we fear but few only, are aware that the Netherlands, once under the rule of Phillip II, of Spain, the most bigotted Catholic and cold blooded monster that ever disgraced the human form, was baptized in blood into Protestantism. That Philip attempted to establish the Spanish Inquisition in that country, and literally to *crush out* every spark of religious liberty, and drown in their own blood "the accursed heretics," who would not believe in the infallibility of the Pope, nor in the doctrine of confession, purgatory, and transubstantiation. Philip could not understand what right any man had to think for himself upon religious matters; and differing with the Protestants of the Netherlands as widely on this subject as they did from him upon others, he undertook to compel them to believe, or to exterminate them. But though their land was drenched in the blood of their best citizens, although the most revolting cruelties were practised upon the unhappy victims, and although this religious war lasted for nearly half a century, yet the tyrant and bigot was foiled in the end, and out of this memorable and bloody contest, arose the Dutch Republic—now the Kingdom of Holland.

If any of our readers have any desire to read the history of this contest between Catholicism and Protestanism, and to see how nobly a free people, or a people scorning to be made slaves, can deport themselves, bear and suffer under the most trying circumstances—how they can suffer the most excruciating tortures day after day, and face death with heroic constancy and firmness rather than surrender their liberties, or deny their faith, let them, if they can afford it, go and purchase Matley's Rise of the Dutch Republic" in three volumes, published by Harper & Brothers, 1856.

There are many heart-moving chapters which we should be glad to publish, but we have not time to copy them, and we must, therefore content ourselves with presenting our readers with but one or two extracts:

"The whole country became a charnel house; the death-bell tolled hourly in every village; not a family but was called to mourn for its dearest relatives, while the survivors stalked listlessly about, the ghosts of their former selves, among the wrecks of their former homes. The spirit of the nation, within a few months after the arrival of Alva, seemed hopelessly broken. The blood of its best and its bravest had already stained the scaffold; the men to whom it had been accustomed to look for guidance and protection, were dead, in prison, or in exile. The mourners went daily about the streets, for there was hardly a house which had not been made desolate. The scaffold, the gallows, the funeral piles which had been sufficient in ordinary times, furnished now an entirely inadequate machinery for the incessant executions. Columns and stakes in every street, the door posts of private houses, the fences in the fields were laden with human carcases, strangled, burned, beheaded. The orchards in the country bore on many a tree the hideous fruit of human bodies.

"Thus the Netherlands were crushed, and but for the stringency of the tyranny which had closed their gates, would have been depopulated. The grass began to grow in the streets of those cities which had recently nourished so many artisans. In all those great manufacturing and industrial marts, where the tide of human life had throbbed so vigorously, there now reigned the silence and the darkness of the midnight. It was at this time that the learned Viglius [a tool of Philip and Alva] wrote to his friend Hopper, that all venerated the prudence and gentleness [!] of the Duke of Alva. Such were among the first fruits of that prudence and that gentleness."

* * * * *

"Petitions now poured into the Council of Blood from all quarters, abject recantations from terror-stricken municipalities, humble intercessions in behalf of doomed and imprisoned victims. To a deputation of the magistracy of Antwerp, who came with a prayer for mercy in behalf of some of their most distinguished fellow-citizens, then in prison, the Duke gave a most passionate and ferocious reply. He expressed his wonder that the citizens of that hotbed of treason, should dare to approach him in behalf of traitors and heretics. Let them look to it in future, he continued, or he would hang every man in the whole city, to set an example to the rest of the country; for his Majesty would rather the whole land should become an uninhabited wilderness than that a single dissenter should exist within its territory.

"Events now marched with rapidity. The monarch seemed disposed literally to execute the threat of his viceroy. Early in the year, the most sublime sentence of death was promulgated which has ever been pronounced since the creation of the world. The Roman tyrant wished that his enemies' heads were all upon a single neck, that he might strike them off at a blow; the inquisition assisted Philip to place the heads of all his Netherland subjects upon a single neck for the same fell purpose. Upon the 16th of January, 1568 a sentence of the holy office condemned *all the inhabitants* of the Netherlands to death as heretics. From this universal doom, *only a few persons, especially named* were excepted. A proclamation of the King, dated ten days later, confirmed this decree of the inquisition, and ordered it to be carried into instant execution, without regard to age, sex, or condition. This is probably the most concise death-warrant that was ever framed. Three millions of people, men, women, and children, were sentenced to the scaffold in three lines; and, as it was well known that these were not harmless thunders, like some bulls of the Vatican, but serious and practical measures, which it was intended should be enforced, the horror which they produced may be easily imagined. It was hardly the purpose of government to compel the absolute completion of the wholesale plan in all its length and breadth, yet in the horrible times upon which they had fallen, the Netherlands might be excused for believing that no measure was too monstrous to be fulfilled. At any rate, it was certain that all were condemned, any might at a moment's warning be carried to the scaffold, and this was precisely the course adopted by the authorities. Under this universal decree, the industry of the Blood-Council might now seem superfluous. Why should not those mock persecutions be dispensed with against individuals, now that a common sentence had swallowed the whole population in one vast grave? Yet it may be supposed that if the existence of the commissioners and counsellors served no other purpose, they at least furnished the government with valuable evidence as to the relative wealth and other circumstances of the individual victims. The leading thought of the government being that persecution judiciously managed, might fructify into a golden harvest, it was still desirable to persevere in the cause in which already such bloody progress had been made.

"And under this new decree, the executions certainly did not slacken. Men in the highest and the humblest positions were daily and hourly dragged to the stake. Alva, in a single letter to Philip, coolly estimated the number of executions which were to take place immediately after the expiration of holy week, '*at eight hundred heads.*' Many a citizen, convicted of a hundred thousand florins, and of no other crime, saw himself suddenly tied to a horse's tail, with his hands fastened behind him, and so dragged to the gallows. But although wealth was an unpardonable sin, poverty proved rarely a protection. Reasons sufficient could always be found for dooming the starving laborer as well as the opulent burgher. To avoid the disturbances created in the streets by the frequent harangues or exhortations addressed to the bystanders by the victims on their way to the scaffold, a new gag was invented. The tongue of each prisoner was screwed into an iron ring, and then seared with a hot iron. The swelling and inflammation which were the immediate result, prevented the tongue from slipping through the ring, and of course effectually precluded all possibility of speech."

A CHEERING BUGLE NOTE.

It does us good to hear such cheering words as the editor of the Atalanta, Georgia, American gives us below. If all Americans would talk in this strain, if every American paper would blow such an animating and encouraging blast, Americans would not be so despondent as they seem to be at the present moment. Let the note be taken up; let it sound along the plains, reverberate from valley to valley, and be echoed back from every hill and mountain in the land. Awake, O ye sleepers; cheer up O ye despondents; bestir yourselves O ye sluggards; tell us no more that there is a lion in the way; lions, monsters, Democrats and all other hideous creatures retreat and disappear before the determined and courageous, the resolute and indomitable. Up, then, and be doing, Americans, everywhere; now is the time for action. Talk encouragingly to each other; let each see his neighbor, and agree to go to work, quietly, but efficiently. "Roll back the tide."

"ROLL BACK THE TIDE.—This is no time for inaction or despondency. On the contrary, it is the time to put forth the most effort. When affairs appear to be most desperate, hope is most needed to encourage and inspire. Numbers matter but little, if we but exert ourselves and exhibit a determination to succeed.

"It is true, that pretended friends may have bored holes in the bottom of our gallant craft, in the hope of sinking her in the political ocean; but, with a willing and laborious crew, the pumps can keep her dry until the leaks can be stopped, and the dastardly cowards detected and thrown overboard. Our noble vessel—manned by Patriotism, with Conservatism at the helm, with Prudence to pilot her, and the Constitution for a chart—will be sure to reach a safe anchorage in the harbor of success!

"Throw off your lethargy, then, and meet your antagonists face to face and hand to hand at every point, on every field. Let us renew our exertions, and press forward to a glorious and permanent triumph. '*Roll back the tide.*'"

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Rev. T. G. Butler, minister of the English Lutheran church in this city, on last Sabbath night, treated his congregation to a discourse upon the doctrines, government, and practice of the Lutheran denomination in this country, and contrasted it with that in European countries.

He said that, in this city, the Lutherans were hardly known five years ago, but now they are increasing in number. That *Buck*, in his Theological Dictionary, had done them great injustice.—He had falsified them, and that some other writers had done the same. He disclaimed the assertion made by some, that they were a sort of branch akin to the Roman Catholics. Such was not the case, and could not be. If people would only reflect a moment, it would require no argument to disprove this. The *name*, whence came it? Was it not *Luther* who protested against the Romish hierarchy and its doctrines, and if so, how can they, with any consistency, be charged with affiliating in any way whatever with the Romish Church or its routine of nonsense?

The Lutheran, numerically speaking, was the largest denomination of Christians in the world.—In the United States they were not so strong.—Their strength lay principally in European countries, but they were increasing rapidly here. Their government was simple, being left to the guardianship of Synods, in which the ministers and laymen were equal in number and power, and each church or congregation had the right to adopt any mode of government, or form of worship they chose, provided it did not conflict with the Augsburg confession, properly interpreted—just as each of the States have a right to govern themselves, while in conformity with the Constitution of the United States. We allow liberty of conscience in regard to its practice. We who attend here know it well. We think, that to confess our sins, it is not necessary to enter into a secret and solitary apartment with a priest, and confess to him. No, we prefer to confess our sins to Almighty God, through Jesus Christ, our Saviour, plainly, publicly, and in the presence of one another, and when we are about to surround the Lord's table, we believe in the spiritual presence of our Saviour in the bread and wine, emblematic of his body and blood.

During the delivery, he read from statistical and other works, giving an idea of the number of Churches, ministers, members, &c., which was highly encouraging and gratifying. He remarked that he deeply regretted that more young men did not prepare themselves for the ministry, assuring them that the harvest was fully ripe, but that labors were few.

Otto Sherman and Timothy McCarthy, marines, were inveigled into a house of ill-fame, by Wm. Garner, Jno. Shekell and Hugh Atwell, where they all got drunk, and one of them struck Sherman on the head with a brick, wounding him so that it is thought he will not recover.

☞ The outrage committed by some negroes on the first of the present month, narrated in this paper of the ninth instant, occurred on the Island.

Attention! Members of the A. O. O. W.—Be at Temperance Hall on Thursday evening next, to hear a good speech, and to do what seemeth meet, just and proper.

One of the most diabolical and inhuman murders that ever stained the annals of history, was perpetrated on Thursday afternoon in Georgetown, by an individual by the name of Ben Ogle. A few minutes after four o'clock, the pupils of the school near Trinity Church were dismissed for the afternoon; and as they passed down First street—they were playing as they went along—one of them threw a stone which struck against the front porch of Ogle's house, whereupon he came to the door, musket in hand, took aim at a boy by the name of John Webb, about ten years of age, fired upon him, and killed him dead on the spot; the charge, a fourth-ounce ball, taking effect in the back part of the head, passing through the brain and lodging against the frontal bone.—Ogle was immediately arrested in his own house by officer Trunnell, taken before Justice Reaver, who committed him to jail to await the action of the Criminal Court.

The bloody tragedy caused such an excitement among a large mass of our people that we incline to the belief that had not the offender been hurried off to prison as soon as he was, he would have suffered violence at the hands of the excited and apparently exasperated crowds that gathered about the scene of the bloody deed.

Ogle is a painter by trade, and is said to have been somewhat intoxicated at the time he committed the deed.

CITY COUNCILS.

BOARD OF ALDERMEN.

A communication was received from the Mayor nominating James Cull, Esq., as Magistrate for the Sixth ward, and wishing to recall two other nominations for police officers for said ward, said ward being only entitled to two instead of four. Also nominating Mr. Williamson as police officer of second district.

Mr. Moore hoped the nominations would lie over, as a citizen wished to furnish some objections to Mr. Williamson.

Mr. Dove argued that by decision of Court the nomination must be acted on, or the Mayor would be obliged to nominate some other person.

Mr. Houston denied such to be the decision.

Mr. Smith contended that such was the decision of the Court, and if the nomination is laid over the Mayor would be deprived of his first choice.

Motion to lie over lost—nomination confirmed.

Mr. Moore introduced a resolution prefaced with the proceedings of the Councils in relation to their action on the passage of the Act guaranteeing the Bonds of the Alexandria & Washington Rail Road, asking for a special committee to inquire into and report all the facts in connection with the enactment of said Act, and if the Corporation is secured in its guarantee of the Bonds of said road.

Mr. Houston denied the correctness of some of the assumptions in the preamble to the resolution—to wit: that the corporation had no security for the guarantee—that the opinion of the Corporation Attorney was obtained upon the legality of the mortgage.

Mr. Riggs corroborated Mr. Houston's statement, that the Corporation's first advances were, to his knowledge, for the right of way—and all the money advanced, with the exception of a small amount, has been expended on the road for Iron-rails, Engines, &c. Mr. Fowle told me that he had gone into the Road and had taken an interest in said Road. The first and second payment of interest was made through the house of Fowle & Co.

Mr. Smith was opposed to the whole matter in toto. It is evident that the Corporation is bound, and must pay the bonds as they become due. It is queer legislation, first to pass a bill to pay the guaranteed bonds as having matured, and then to pass a resolution to enquire into the facts connected with the passage of the original bill. I shall vote against preamble and resolution, as useless legislation.

Mr. Dove. I cannot consent to the assumption that the Corporation transcended its powers in passing the bill originally. The Corporation Attorney had been consulted on that subject. What can be the object? The matter is now undergoing a judicial action, and does the mover suppose that a select committee will do more than a legal tribunal. Lost: Yeas, 2; nays, 10.

Mr. Evans understanding that the preamble and resolutions just rejected would go on the journal, and deeming it unnecessary that anything should be published having a tendency to injure the Corporation credit, he moved that the preamble and resolutions be not published.

Mr. Goddard was amazed that there should be any objection to the publication.

Mr. Riggs showed that the whole preamble was out from the Intelligencer—had been already published, and that it was necessary, that the credit of the Corporation should not be tampered with.

Mr. Evans. The whole matter lies in a nut shell, the mover's election comes off in June, and he wants to make capital to obtain his re-election.

Mr. Dove. The gentleman talks about caucus—I know of one caucus where this preamble and resolution was concocted. (Mr. Moore. I deny it.) I believe the object of the resolution was to defeat the passage of the bill passed at the last meeting of this board to pay the Bonds just matured. Is not this repudiation.

Mr. Moore denied any caucus being held. No person knows any thing of the preamble or resolution but himself and the Chair.

Mr. Smith. He would say—that if the gentleman had offered a simple resolution, charging maladministration upon the officers of the Corporation, he would have voted for it—but what is to be obtained by publishing what has been already published, at a cost which the Corporation is not prepared to be involved in. Is it not something like a desire to repudiate the act of the Councils who passed the bill. The gentleman denies this—but such is the appearance—and the course of Corporation secures the road, and will ultimately secure a permanent structure over the Potomac at the Long Bridge. I can see no good to arise from publication, but great injury.

GOOD ORDER.—Knock downs, robbings, stabbings, assaults, &c., &c., appear to be the order of the night in Washington, notwithstanding the vigilance of the police. Whence come these things? and why can they not be prevented? Time was, when Washington city was quiet, peaceable and orderly, and that within two years! Example is better than precept. But we ought to have *both*. If our rulers were moral men—setting a worthy example, and in all things acting for their own, and the edification of the people, we should have a different state of things. We cannot hope to have, until it is the case.