of a crisis like the present, and shrunk from the possible issue of it; and I could never contemplate the destruction of the Union without sensations not unlike those which I imagine would overwhelm me on beholding the last going down of the sun—never to rise again forever.

With the highest consideration and esteem,
I am your fellow-citizen,
JOHN BELL.

To A. Burwell, Esq., Vicksburg, Miss.

Staunton Spectator.

STAUNTON, VA.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1860.

☞ The Staunton Spectator having as large a circulation as any paper published in Western Virginia, has no superior in this section of country as an advertising medium.

Christmas Salutation.

Though in the winter of our national discontent, and with but little prospect that it will be followed by a "glorious summer"—though portentous clouds obscure our political sky, with not sufficient light to give them a silver lining—though the Ship of State seems about to be driven from her safe and peaceful moorings to be cast upon the stormy sea of revolution—though every speech in the halls of Congress seems as the report of a minute gun signaling her d[illegible]—though th[illegible]rs of our great temple of Liberty seem abo[illegible]—though one of the stars in our glorious galaxy of States, like the lost pleiad, has shot madly from its sphere to "darkle in the trackless void"—though one of the sisters has "absconded" in disgrace and draped the whole family of States in the "sable habiliments of woe"—though the din of military preparation admonishes us that many, with keen appetites for blood, are ready to "cry havoc, and let slip the dogs of war"—though the vista of the future portends dangers, strife and death—though the "pitiless storm" beats furiously upon the sacred ark of our liberties—though all be darkness and gloom, storm and tempest without, we hope that the yule log will burn brightly upon the fires of all our patrons, and that they will enjoy a peaceful, happy and merry Christmas.

We hope that the old, with slippers on feet and spectacles on nose, upon whose head the snows of many winters have accumulated may gently and safely descend the declivity of life, and may

"So live, that, when his summons comes to join
The innumerable caravan, that moves
To that mysterious realm where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death,
He may go not, like the quarry slave, at night,
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approach his grave,
Like one that draws the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

We hope that the young men of martial dispositions who feel inclined to seek the "bubble reputation at the cannon's mouth" may have the good fortune to secure the "bubble" without getting *shot*.

We hope the "lovers sighing like furnace" may have their affections duly reciprocated, and that they and their lovely Dulcineas, with clasped hands and united hearts, may bask in the genial beams shed by the brilliant torch of Hymen, and may never be inclined to *secede* from the *Union*.

We hope the young ladies may never suffer themselves to be imposed upon by perfumed and moustached exquisites, and that they will bestow their vestal affections upon those only who are worthy of such a blessing. We hope that all may have *new bonnets* of the *latest style*, and that they may never be caught in the rain whilst wearing them.

We hope the truant boy "trudging unwillingly to school" may be privileged to lay aside his "sachel" and enjoy a *long* holiday.

Last *and least*—the little children—we hope that they will be visited by their good old friend, Santa Claus, and that they may find their "stockings" filled with candy and all sorts of beautiful toys. To ensure his visit and the gifts he bestows they should remember that they must be good children, obedient to their parents and kind and loving to each other.

We salute all with the compliments and congratulations of the season—hope all will have a happy and merry Christmas.

"*Good morning*—CHRISTMAS GIFT!"—There, we caught you fairly—it is useless to deny it,—own up and pay the penalty.

Printer's Holiday.

As all the hands attached to this Office will be absent during holiday, we will issue only a half sheet next week. There is no class of persons more closely confined by their occupation than Printers, and there is none which enjoy a little recreation and holiday with more zest. The Printer's is rather a hard *case*, as he has to "stand" to his "case" of type, and it matters not however wearied, he is compelled to *stick* to it, for his "stick" of type must be filled time and again.

Though he "locks" his "form" regularly, he is seldom found *locked* in the *embrace* he would most desire! Though continually "composing," he seldom feels *composed*. He "distributes" his type with skill, and with a "palm open as day to deeds of melting charity," *distributes* his wages with lavish liberality. He is so generous that his money is *hardly earned* before he finds himself *hard up*, and though never bastinadoed, is generally very effectually *strapped*. Though not afflicted with *cupidity* he is not "proof" against the inflictions of Cupid!

Though dexterous with the "hand-press," he seldom enjoys the *hand press* which his palm most itches to receive!

Though he manipulates the "shooting-stick" with great ease and skill, he has no disposition to call for "coffee and pistols for two."

In short, he is pretty much as all other industrious, honest and good young men are, who have many of the virtues and not a few of the frailties of our nature. He performs his work faithfully, and enjoys his holiday with great zest. Printers are a good and useful class, notwithstanding they always have the "devil" among them!

Town Hall.

The great *desideratum* of this place at this time is a capacious Town Hall. We hope our citizens will soon take the proper steps to have a Town Hall built as soon as possible. As Staunton is at the geographical centre of the State, and as the facilities to travel to it now from all directions are so good, all the State Conventions would probably be held here if we had a Hall suitable for such large numbers. These bodies would be a source of great profit to the town, as they would necessarily leave a good deal of money in it. We heard one gentleman propose to give the ground upon which to build it and five hundred dollars, if he would be allowed the use of the basement story. Six thousand dollars would be sufficient to build such a Hall as is needed. We suppose the town would pay half that sum, and individuals would readily subscribe the other half. Who will move in this matter? Let the Hall be built as soon as practicable.

☞ Mr. Thos. Wood was elected, in Albemarle county, on Thursday last, without opposition, to fill the vacancy in the Legislature caused by the death of Wm. Grath, Esq.

South Carolina Convention.

The proceedings of the South Carolina State Convention at the session of Monday evening, indicate that, whilst there is no difference of opinion as to the act of secession, there is a disposition to bring before the Convention for its action all the issues connected with that act. If this policy should succeed the Convention will probably remain in session for some time. A Committee of Twenty-one was ordered, to whom all propositions are to be submitted. The Convention arrived at Charleston on Tuesday the 18th., were received with military honors, and re-assembled in Institute Hall at four o'clock.—Motions for the appointment of various Committees, including one on "Foreign Relations," and another in relation to United States property in South Carolina, were submitted and made the special order for Wednesday the 19th. Several Committees were announced, and other preliminary business disposed of, and the "Sovereign Convention" adjourned for the day.

In the Convention on Thursday, the 20th., after prayer, calling of the roll and reading of the journal, a resolution was offered to invite the Mayor of Charleston to a seat on the floor of the Convention. It was amended by inserting the Governor of the State, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, and passed. The Chair announced the appointment of a committee to draft a summary of the cause of the secession of South Carolina, and also of four standing committees. Mr. Rhett offered a resolution to appoint a committee of thirteen, for the purpose of providing for the assemblage of a convention of the seceding States, and to form a Constitution. It was adopted. Mr. Inglis made a report from the committee to prepare and draft an ordinance proper to be adopted by the Convention, as follows:

"An Ordinance to dissolve the Union between the State of South Carolina and other States of the States united with her under the compact entitled the Constitution of the United States of America.

"We, the people of the State of South Carolina, in Convention assembled, do declare and ordain, and it is hereby declared and ordered, that the ordinance adopted by us in Convention on the twenty-third day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, whereby the Constitution of the United States of America was ratified, and also all acts and parts of acts of the General Assembly of this State, ratifying amendments of the said Constitution, are hereby repealed; and that the Union now subsisting between South Carolina and other States under the name of the United States of America, is hereby dissolved."

The ordinance was taken up and passed by a unanimous vote of 169 members, at a quarter past one o'clock. As soon as its passage was known without the doors of the Convention, it spread rapidly on the streets. A crowd collected, and immense cheering ensued. Mr. Miles moved that the clerk telegraph the South Carolina members of Congress now in Washington. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Desaussure offered a resolution, that the ordinance be engrossed on parchment, under the direction of the Attorney General, and signed by the President and the members this evening, at the Institute Hall, and that it be placed among the archives of the State.

Half-past six o'clock was agreed upon as the hour to proceed to the Institute Hall for the purpose of signing the ordinance.

The South Carolina "Sovereign Convention" was during the most of Friday, the 21st, in secret session, consulting with the Governor of the State and discussing the position to be taken in relation to the postal and revenue laws. The telegraph reports the substance of several ordinances submitted to the Convention, some of which propose to continue the U. S. officers under a sort of dual responsibility to the Federal Government and to the State, whilst others assert immediately the supreme authority of South Carolina over the the post offices and custom-houses. The Convention has resolved to send three Commissioners to Washington to treat with the General Government, one of whom, Hon. R. W. Barnwell, was already elected at the date of latest despatch. Hon. J. L. Orr and Judge Magrath were probably selected as the other two.

Concert on Thursday Night Last.

We had the pleasure of attending, on Thursday night last, the seventh concert given by the "Musical Association" of this place, and can say that we were more than pleased and entertained—we were *delighted*. We were pleased to see that the ladies and gentlemen of this place appreciate the entertainment given by the Association, as was shown by the fact that a good audience was in attendance notwithstanding the streets were in such an unfavorable condition in consequence of snow and mud. We would be pleased if the "Association" would favor us more frequently with concerts, as a more innocent and agreeable entertainment could not be afforded. We feel proud that Staunton has such a creditable corps of Musicians, and think all our citizens concur in this feeling. All the different parts did so well that it would be invidious and unjust to discriminate. The Band, Orchestra and Glee Club each performed its pieces in excellent style, and the *duettes* and *solos* gave such a "concord of sweet sounds" that

"They came o'er the ear like the sweet South,
That breathes upon a bank of violets
Stealing and giving odor."

"The Minute Gun at sea" was rapturously *encored*. Each of the performances was applauded very deservedly, which showed the just appreciation of the audience. We hope the "Association" will favor the public more frequently, and that the public will continue to cherish and patronize it.

Inaugural of Gov. Pickens.

In his inaugural address this Governor asserts the right and determination of South Carolina to secede separately, tells the other Southern State courteously but very decisively that his State desires no consultation with them until after they have asserted their "inalienable powers of sovereignty and independence," says that the interests of South Carolina will lead her to "open her ports free to the tonnage and trade "of all nations," and indicates that the government formed for the new Confederacy, "may, "from necessity, become strongly military in its "organization."

☞ It will be seen by reference to the Prospectus of "The New-York Ledger," which will be found in another column, that the proprietor of that popular weekly has secured an array of distinguished contributors for his paper for the New Year such as has never been equaled by any publication in the world. "The Ledger" is always characterized by a high moral tone, and has a circulation larger than that of any other ten literary journals in the country.

The Carrier.

The "Carrier" for the "Spectator" will be around on New Year's day, when we hope he will be liberally rewarded for the faithful manner in which he has delivered the papers during the past year.

☞ The Legislature of Georgia, by a vote of 56 to 54, adopted a resolution declaring "that as there is common interest, there should be cooperation of all the Southern States."

☞ The Senate of the North Carolina Legislature has passed the bill for arming the State by nearly a unanimous vote.

Thirty-Sixth Congress—Second Session.

Monday, Dec. 17th.—The proceedings of both Houses of Congress to-day will be found of most exciting interest. In the Senate Mr. Wade, of Ohio, made the first speech of the session from the extreme Republican side. He denied the right of secession, and declared it to be the imperative duty of the President to enforce the laws, protect the public property and collect the revenue. There was no evading this duty, and, if necessary, all the power of the Government must be used for its accomplishment. He denied that the Southern Senators had presented any schedule of grievances, and proclaimed that the Republicans would hold the city of Washington as the capitol of the United States against all opposition. His speech was very irritating, but was not of that violent character which distinguished his speeches of the last session. A resolution of inquiry was also introduced, but not acted upon, by Mr. Clark, calling on the President to inform the Senate what arrangements he has made for protecting the forts and public property at Charleston, and also for any correspondence that may have taken place between General Scott and the commander of said forts with reference to supplying them with the means of protection.

In the House of Representatives the whole day was consumed in the presentation and consideration of plans for the preservation of the Union. A resolution was offered by Mr. Adrian, of New Jersey, declaring the Constitution the supreme law of the land, and its ready and faithful obedience the duty of all good citizens—deprecating the spirit of disobedience to the Constitution wherever manifested, and recommending the repeal of all statutes in conflict or in violation of that sacred instrument, and the laws of Congress passed in pursuance thereof, including Personal Liberty bills. This resolution was passed by a vote of ayes 151, nays 14, the Secessionists refusing to vote. The Union resolutions of Mr. Morris, of Illinois, embracing the words of General Washington's Farewell Address, declaring immovable attachment to the Constitution and the Union, and a determination to "frown down any attempt to alienate one part of the country from the other," were also passed by a vote of ayes 115, nays 44. The proceedings throughout the day exhibited little or no sectional rancor, and on the whole may, perhaps, be regarded as exhibiting a spirit of compromise and concession on the part of a large majority of the members of the House.

Tuesday, Dec. 18th.—In the United States Senate to-day, Mr. Crittenden submitted his plan of compromise and enforced the necessity of conciliation with an impressive speech, the effect of which was seen in drawing even from Senator Hale some remarks in better spirit and of a more temperate tone than he indulged in at the opening of the Senate debate. Mr. Crittenden proposes the restoration of the Missouri Compromise by an amendment of the Constitution, with the enactment of other measures designed to protect the rights of the South and remove the slavery question from the field of political controversy. The debate was then closed and the resolution of Senator Powell, providing for a Committee of Thirteen on Federal Affairs was passed. To this Committee, carefully constituted as it will no doubt be by Mr. Breckinridge, the country will look with more of confidence and hope than has been given to the House Committee. Senator Johnson, of Tennessee, commenced a speech against secession, and retains the floor for its conclusion to-day.

The House, after some debate, laid Mr. Crawford's declaratory resolution upon the table and took up the ordinary routine of business.

The House Committee of Thirty-three yesterday referred to a sub-committee, consisting of the members from the Border Slave States, the amendments to the Fugitive Slave Law proposed by the Southern side.

Wednesday, Dec. 19th.—The United States Senate was to-day principally occupied by Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, who concluded the speech he commenced on the previous day. Mr. Johnson took the strongest ground against secession, asserting it to be treason which must be resisted by the Government. South Carolina, if she set up a government of her own, he declared would have to be conquered by the Government and held as a province. Senator Lane responded to Mr. Johnson. Mr. Pugh, of Ohio, obtained the floor, and the Senate then adjourned.

The House was engaged yesterday with the Deficiency bill, during which a prolonged debate arose on an appropriation of $900,000 to supply deficiencies in the appropriation for the suppression of the slave trade. The appropriation was finally agreed to and the bill passed.—The House twice voted down resolutions to adjourn over during the holidays.

Thursday, Dec. 20th.—In the United States Senate to-day, Vice President Breckinridge announced the Special Committee of Thirteen on the State of the Union. Mr. Powell, of Kentucky, as the mover of the resolution, is Chairman, with Mr. Crittenden, of the same State, as second on the Committee. Senators Hunter, Douglas, Seward, Bigler, Toombs and Wade are also on the Committee. Senator Davis, of Mississippi, was also appointed but excused by the Senate at his own request. Senator Pugh, of Ohio, spoke in behalf of compromise and in support of Senator Crittenden's plan. In the course of an incidental debate on an adjournment for the holidays, Mr. Douglas opposed the adjournment and remarked that "he saw hope for the Union." The motion for a recess was not pressed.

The House to-day was engaged with the Pacific Railroad bill which was pushed through under the operation of the previous question, and amidst the protests of several Southern members.

Friday, Dec. 21st.—In the United States Senate to-day, the bill authorizing the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company to extend the Washington branch road through Washington and across the Long Bridge, so as to connect with the Virginia Railroads, was passed with several amendments, the most important requiring the Company to check baggage and afford equal facilities to all railroad lines at either of its termini. Senator Davis, of Mississippi, reconsidered his intention not to serve on the Committee of Thirteen, and in a few remarks accepted the position. The House was not in session to-day.

Attention Volunteers!

We have received from Messrs. West & Johnston, of Richmond, a copy of the "Volunteer Hand-book" just published by them. It is a neat little volume, containing an abridgement of Hardee's tactics for the squad and the company; and the Army regulations for parades, reviews, &c.

It is designed, and, so far as we can judge, is well adapted for the use of Volunteers who wish to prepare themselves for the intelligent discharge of their duties. Prepared by a volunteer of Richmond, Va., published by a Virginia House, it will, we doubt not, find favor with our citizen soldiery.

We have received from the same publishers a neat pamphlet containing the speeches of Hon. D. W. Voorhees, delivered at Charlestown and at the University, and which have gained for that gentleman so high a reputation as an orator.

Drowned.—A valuable negro woman, about 19 years old, belonging to Dr. B. F. Walker, was accidentally drowned in the Dr.'s Mill Race, near Mt. Meridian, Augusta co., on Tuesday last. She was attempting to cross the race which was covered with ice, when she broke through, and getting under the ice, was drowned before she could be extricated.—*Rock. Reg.*

Sunday School Celebration.

The Methodist E. Sunday School of this place will hold their Annual Celebration on to night, (Tuesday) 25th, in the basement of the new Church. It will no doubt be very interesting, and we hope it will be largely attended.

☞ Mr. Cass, in his letter to the President resigning the position of Secretary of State, states his dissent from two points in the President's Message, and bases his withdrawal on the ground that there should be a unity of sentiment in the Cabinet.

☞ The Washington Star gives Ex-Secretary Cobb a severe "raking down." He has, indeed been as unfortunate in his administration of the Treasury Department, as he was in the mode and manner of quitting his post.

The tender of a position in Mr. Lincoln's Cabinet to Hon. Edward Bates is confirmed.

[Southern Correspondence.]

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 17th, 1860. 4 o'clock, P. M.

Editor of "Spectator"—Dear Sir:—I have to-day been the witness of two most interesting events in the history of these United States, and most particularly of the State South Carolina—soon to become, by her own deliberate act, a *separate and independent* State, as far as her resolves can make her so. I have reference to the assembling and organization of the Convention, recently ordered by the Legislature of this State, for the special and pre-determined purpose of adopting an ordinance of secession; and the inauguration of the new Governor elect—Col. F. W. Pickens—under the forms of the Federal Constitution and of her own State Constitution. At half-past 12, P. M., at the Baptist Church, the Convention was formally called to order by Ex-Gov. Adams, of this, Richland district, by the nomination of Gen. D. F. Jameison, of Barnwell district, as temporary Chairman; and Mr. ———, of Charleston, as Secretary. Gen. Jamieson ascended the platform and delivered a brief address—briefly recounting the grievances S. C., as one of the Southern States, had endured at the hands of the General Government in the exactions made under the name of the tariff; the insults and injuries of the Northern States in the fanatical interference for forty years with the subject of slavery; and in the consummation of those interferences by the election of Lincoln—which he declared was the "overt act;" that the State had assembled this day, in her sovereign capacity, to assume to herself those rights she had reserved when becoming a party to the general compact, as one of the "thirteen States," and was now to assert at *once and forever*, her sovereignty and independence. He appealed to the Convention in the most earnest and impressive manner not to permit any attempt at compromise, concession, or a desire to delay their action, to influence them from one moment—come from what quarter they might, but to resist all outside pressure, and march straight forward to finish the work they had assembled to perform—to adopt an ordinance for *immediate secession*. His short address was listened to with wrapt attention by the Convention and a large audience of deeply interested spectators that filled the balance of the Church. The personnel of the Convention, I need not say, for dignity of appearance, position, and legislative, and judicial experience, would command *unqualified respect* anywhere. Scan the list of its members I have sent you, and select the names of her Ex-Governors, members of the U. S. Senate, House of Representatives and her Judiciary, and it will be difficult to convene another such body anywhere—even in the "Old Dominion"—and, with all respects for her, I do not believe she can *equal* it. Gov. Adams then moved that Rev. Mr. ———, of the Baptist Church in which they had assembled, be invited to open its deliberations with prayer. He made a brief and moderately good prayer—asking Divine blessing and protection on the State especially, and the Southern States; but his invocation did not cross Mason and Dixon's line. The organization of the Convention then commenced—the Secretary calling one or two districts, the members from which came forward, and one from each district handed the credentials of himself and colleagues to the Secretary, who read each in full—and the members recorded their names, and I doubt not felt and thought they would be as *immortal* one century hence as those *immortal patriots* who, in old Independence Hall, in 1776, under the heavy responsibilities then surrounding them, signed *the* Declaration of Independence. Over the President's head, was suspended a small, deep-blue flag, with—"The Convention of S. Carolina, 1860," inscribed upon it. The hour-hand of the clock now pointed very closely to the hour at which the other important scene was to be enacted, and I hastened to the State House. I took a seat in the floor of the House of Representatives, and in a short time the staff of the door keeper of the Senate informed us of the approach of that body. The venerable and sour looking officer of the House of the *same* dignity, rapped with his cane and cried, "make way for the Senate," when the speaker rapped three times and commanded the House to rise and uncover themselves to receive the Senate. After an interval of some five minutes the door-keeper of the Senate was again heard thro' his big cane, and our door-keeper also heralded the approach of the Governor elect and the, Hon. Howell Cobb, the Commissioners of Alabama and Mississippi, with the Committee from both Houses as their escort, attended by the Sheriff of his county, bearing the old mace and colonial sword—the latter big enough for a Philistine. The Governor and Lieut. Gov. and Secretary Cobb ascended the platform or dais on which the speaker sits—as spacious as a modern pulpit and much like—and Secretary Cobb took the speaker's chair—Governor Pickens advanced to the front, and in a most dignified and impressive manner, read his inaugural. He, as did Gen. Jameison, also briefly reviewed the causes which had impelled S. C. to place herself in the position she now occupies, and declared that her purpose was immediate and unqualified secession, final and irrevocable; that no compromises or concessions of *any kind* or from *any quarter* were to be listened to. These several sentiments were vociferously applauded on the floor, and by the gallery crowded with the beauty and *elite* of the city. The clerk of the House then held the Bible to the Gov. elect, and the Speaker in his official robes recited the oath line by line from memory, while the Gov. repeated after him, the House standing uncovered—and I do tell you, the scene at that moment, could it have been transferred to canvass, would be a most graphic and deeply interesting one. The Speaker addressing the Governor, who, with his hand resting on the Bible, and his deep black eye (not unlike in that feature and his forehead the immortal Webster) turned upon the Speaker; Secretary Cobb just in the rear, but in full sight, and with a look of deep earnestness, witnessing the scene; the Senate and House in wrapt attention; the picture of the great and immortal Washington just above *frowning* down upon the actors in this scene of *Disunion*. My God! what were my feelings!—I leave you, my dear sir, to imagine. Oh! for for the eye, I sometimes wish, that could ken the awful future—but, I doubt not, 'tis hid in mercy from our eyes. Meeting the Secretary of State, I was invited to the room of the Gov. elect to take a glass of champagne, which I accepted. Yours truly, J. M. McCue.

P. S. 6 o'clock P. M., Dec. 17, 1860.

The Convention, after four ballots, elected Gen. Jameison President of the Convention—a worthy, good man, but as inferior to Col. Orr as you could imagine. The truth is, Col. Orr has been regarded as too conservative to meet the present extreme feelings of this people. They (the Convention) adopted a resolution to take a recess, to meet in Charleston to-morrow at 4 o'clock P. M. The small-pox, together with a want of comfortable accommodations, has induced this step. They meet to-night at 7 o'clock, P. M., to hear Col. Elmore, of Ala., and Gen. Hooker, of Miss. The Legislature meets to-night, and I doubt not will also go to Charleston. I regret this: as anticipating being detained here yet a few days longer, I hoped to have witnessed the proceedings of both bodies. I yet think the act of secession will have a prospective day for going into effect—and thus the Convention will probably set two weeks.

Yours truly, J. M. McCue.

A Singular Case.—Horrible Cruelty.—The following singular case and exhibition of horrible cruelty was related to us the other day by one of our subscribers, the father of the child who was the victim of its nurse's cruelties.

An attempt was made, sometime in October last, by a negro girl in the employ of Mr. Samuel Crickenberger, near Rockland Mills, in Augusta county, to destroy the life of his infant child, less than four months old, by administering or forcing down its throat needles, pins, matches, one sixpenny nail, and fragments of a sewing basket! Up to the present time fourteen pins have come from the child; six of which were thrown up out of its mouth, and eight passed through its bowels. Eleven needles are known to have come from the child, nine of which came through the skin about the thigh and hinder part of the body! Dr. Wm. D. Ewing was called in frequently to extract needles, when any were discovered under the skin. The four matches, the nail and the pieces of sewing basket were each an inch in length. All these were thrown up out of its mouth. Singular to say, the child is now recovering! It was cheerful all the time it was undergoing the cruelties inflicted by its depraved and cruel nurse. The negro girl was about 13 years old. She is supposed to have given the child the pins, &c., whilst the family were at dinner. The girl, instead of being arrested and committed to jail to answer for her attempt to kill the child, was handed over to her master, who promptly sent her to Richmond, where she awaits sale and transportation.—Rock. Register.

Hon. Reverdy Johnson before United States Supreme Court.

At the conclusion of his great argument in the Albany Bridge case, before the Supreme Court, on Thursday last, Mr. Johnson asked the indulgence of the Court to refer to the present condition of the country, and then delivered the peroration which we give below:

May it please your Honor, indulge me with a word or two before I conclude.

This may be the last time that the Court will sit in peaceful judgment on a Constitution acknowledged and obeyed by all. God, in His providence, and for our sins, may, in his inscrutable wisdom, suffer the folly and wickedness of this generation to destroy the fairest, noblest fabric of constitutional freedom ever erected by man. Its whole history, from the first moment of its operation even to the present hour, bears evidence of its unrivaled excellence. Our country, our whole country, has, from the first, prospered under it, and *because of it*, with a rapidity, and in a manner, before or since, unknown to nations. That prosperity vindicates the wisdom and patriotism of its good and great founders.

Is this prosperity now to cease? Is it now to be dashed to the earth? Are the hopes of civilized man, the world over, now to be blasted?—Are we to become the jest, the scorn, the detestation of the people of the earth? Is all memory and reverence for the great dead, who, living, we admired and adored, to be now forgotten?—Is all gratitude for the mighty trying struggle of our fathers now to end? Are the warnings, the parting warnings of the peerless men of all this world now to be disregarded and despised? Is the country of Washington, consecrated by his valor, wisdom and virtue to freedom and peace, now to be converted into a wild scene of disorder, fraternal strife, bloodshed, war? May heaven in mercy forbid!

May it stay the arm of the madman, arrest it in its mad career before it strikes the fatal parricidal blow. May it give time for reason and patriotism to resume their sway! May it remove the delusions of the misguided; strengthen the efforts of the patriotic; impart heavenly fire to the eloquence of the faithful statesman; silence, by the universal voice of the good and true men of the nation, the utterings of treason now tainting the air and shocking the ear of patriotism, and the whimings of imbecility now discouraging and sickening the honest public heart! May it, above all, rekindle that fraternal love which bound us together by ties stronger, infinitely stronger, than any which mere government can create, during the whole of our revolutionary struggle, and has since cheered us on in our pathway to the power and renown which have made us, until now, the wonder and admiration of the world!

But, if all shall fail us, and ruin come; if chaos, worse than chaos, is to be our fate, the spirits of those who have departed, and the survivors who have administered justice in this tribunal in the general wreck and wretchedness that will ensue, will be left this consolation: that their recorded judgments, now, thank God, the rich inheritance of the world, and beyond the spoiler's reach, will, till time shall be no more, testify to the spotless integrity, the unsurpassed wisdom, the ever bright patriotism of the men who, from the first, have served their country in this temple, sacred to justice and duty, and to the matchless wisdom of our fathers, who bequeathed it and commended it to the perpetual reverence and support of their sons, and remain a never dying dishonor and reproach to the sons who shall have caused or permitted its destruction.

The Great Gin Man of the World is from Virginia.

Udolpho Wolfe, now the largest manufacturer of Gin in the World, is by birth a Virginian.—He was born in Richmond. He is the seventh son of Major Benjamin Wolfe, deceased, who was an officer of the American Revolution.

Of these sons only 3 are living: Joel, alluded to hereafter, and Nat Wolfe, the great criminal lawyer of Kentucky for the last twenty years.—Originally taken to Kentucky by Henry Clay, Nat Wolfe retained the friendship of the great statesman to the last hour of his life. Udolpho Wolfe removed to the city of New York in 1826 and entered the counting-house of his elder brother, Joel Wolfe, who was then largely engaged in the importation of brandy and gin from France and Holland. Young Wolfe's business qualification and energetic perseverance soon gave him a prominent position in the house of his brother, and when he reached the age of 21 he became a partner.

In 1839 that brother established the first distillery in Schiedam (Holland) ever undertaken by an American, and it yet continues, and is the place where the famous Wolfe's Schiedam Aromatic Schnapps is now manufactured.

In 1848 the senior partner of the house retired from active business, having accumulated a large fortune. In that same year Udolpho Wolfe made the fortunate discoveries that led to the manufacture of his now world-wide-famed "Schiedam Schnapps."

Udolpho Wolfe, although a merchant, has ever taken a prominent interest in the political questions of the day, especially in stern, though disinterested, opposition to each and every political party or leader who aimed to disturb the sacred institutions of the South, where he was born.

In any matter that affected Virginia or her leading men, whether of the present or of the glorious past, Mr. Wolfe has taken a deep and patriotic interest. When the removal of the remains of the lamented Monroe, who had been a warm personal friend of Mr. Wolfe's father, as well as of himself, was resolved upon, no man took a more active part than Mr. Wolfe.

When the Seventh Regiment returned to New York, Mr. Wolfe compiled and published a book, with a full narrative of everything connected with the obsequies of the late ex-President, at an expense of three or four thousand dollars. This book also contained a full description of the famous Seventh Regiment, and also biographical sketches of the principal officers. It contained 346 pages. It has become a book of history.

Mr. W. presented the Seventh Regiment with 1,200 copies, and also presented through Gov. Wise and the Mayor of Norfolk, copies of the book to all the principal civil and military officers, and, in addition, he placed a copy in every public library in the different States. Not only Southern himself, he married a lady of Mobile, Alabama.

In closing this article, we merely desire to say that the history of this eminent energetic merchant gives the lie to the oft-repeated charge that the South produces no commercial men of distinction. Mr. Wolfe is the most extensive merchant in his branch of commercial manufacture that has ever lived in this Union.

A Nail Driven in a Sure Place.—Some may say that it is useless, and worse than useless now, to indulge in crimination. They may think that, as the trouble is upon us, we should prepare to meet it without inquiring by whom, or by what means it was precipitated. This is not our view of the case; but whilst decided as to the policy of looking the danger fairly in the face, and of meeting it like men; we are for holding the guilty authors responsible for the consequences of their act. Believing, as we do, that the Democratic party produced the Republican party and nurtured its growth, we do not hesitate to say so, and charge that they will be indirectly, at least, accountable for the disruption and ruin of the Republic, if such shall be the melancholy sequel. We say more than this:—That, if Mr. Breckinridge had been elected, and the spoils of government had been continued in their hands, they would have borne, as they have done, Personal Liberty bills, and all other kinds of hostile legislation upon the part of the abolition States, rather than to have initiated a movement looking to the rupture that now threatens us. And, if a Southern Confederacy is to result from our present complications, we shall see the same patriotic party vaulting into the seats of power, assuming the reins of government, and wielding the same despotic rule that has grown almost insupportable during the last twenty years.

These gentlemen, who now talk so glibly about the equality of the States—a doctrine which we hold as dearly as they do—should remember that they ought also to recognize equality of right and privilege amongst the citizens of all the States.

Have they recognized this principle in Virginia? Let unrighteous gerrymanders, and that ruthless proscription which has ostracised "the very pith and flower of Virginia"—making nearly one-half of her best citizens mere hewers of wood and drawers of water, to those who seemed to imagine that they ruled by Divine right—answer. And, in the light furnished by this example, let the Union men of Virginia say whether they can aid to perpetuate such a despotism.

We are for equality of citizenship, as well as for State equality; and if we must go out of the Union to secure the latter, we should demand that our rights as citizens of Virginia shall be recognized by those who are now leading in this revolutionary movement. Let us have guarantees.—*Lynchburg Virginian.*

National Fast.

The *Baltimore American*, in an article properly castigating those who wickedly deride the President's proclamation for a National fast, mentions the following interesting fact in reference to the Czar Nicholas, of Russia:

What an impressive spectacle was that presented in St. Petersburg, some years ago, during a terrible visitation of cholera, when the Czar Nicholas at the head of his people, kneeled in one of the public places, and himself led their homage to the King of Kings, beseeching him to withdraw his heavy hand, and to spare an afflicted nation. Contrast such a spectacle, the most majestic man of all Europe at that day, both in mind and body, and the absolute ruler of sixty millions of the human race, with his hand upon his mouth and his mouth in the dust, acknowledging the greatness of Almighty God and imploring his forgiveness and mercy; and one of these chattering newspaper infidels, his lips running over with senseless gibes at all outward recognition of that Being whom, in his inmost heart, he dreads with unspeakable dread, and, at such a time as this, with a powder magazine beneath him, scattering abroad firebrands, arrows and death.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

UDOLPHO WOLFE'S
AROMATIC
SCHIEDAM SCHNAPPS!
A Superlative Tonic, Diuretic, Anti Dyspeptic and
Invigorating Cordial!

Wolfe's Celebrated SCHIEDAM AROMATIC SCHNAPPS should be kept in every family.—It invariably corrects the ill effects of change of weather, and as a beverage, it is the purest Liquor made in the world.

Put up in pint and quart bottles. Also—

UDOLPHO WOLFE'S PURE COGNAC BRANDY, Imported and bottled by himself, warranted pure, and the best quality, with his certificate on the bottle, and his seal on the cork.

UDOLPHO WOLFE'S PURE PORT WINE, Imported and bottled by himself, put up for medicinal use, with his certificate on the bottle; warranted pure and the best quality.

UDOLPHO WOLFE'S PURE SHERRY WINE, Imported and bottled by himself, the same as the Port Wine.

UDOLPHO WOLFE'S PURE MADEIRA WINE, Imported and bottled by himself for private and medicinal use, the best Wine ever offered for sale to the trade in bottles. This Wine is warranted perfectly pure.

UDOLPHO WOLFE'S PURE JAMAICA RUM, ST. CROIX RUM, SCOTCH & IRISH WHISKEY. All the above imported and bottled by himself, warranted pure and the best quality.

TO THE PUBLIC.

I will stake my reputation as a man, my standing as a merchant of thirty years' residence in New York, that what I pledge and testify to with my seal, my label, and my certificate, is correct, and can be relied upon by every purchaser.

Physicians who use Wines and Liquors in their practice should give the preference to these articles.

For sale by all respectable Druggists and Apothecaries.

UDOLPHO WOLFE,
Sole Manufacturer and Importer of Schiedam Aromatic Schnapps,
No. 22 Beaver Street, New York.

☞ For sale by Dr. H. S. Eichelberger and P. H. Trout, Staunton, Va.

Dec. 25, 1860—6mif

COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE.

Peck's Administrator, vs. Borden's Adm. & als. } In Circuit Court of Augusta County, Va.

Extracts from decrees.—"It is ordered that this cause be referred to one of the Commissioners of this Court, with instructions to take and state an account of the trust fund in the proceedings mentioned, and of the several sales made under the trust deeds, showing who became the purchasers of the several parcels of land at the trust sales, how much they have respectively paid, at what time, and to whom, and how much is due from them respectively on account of said purchasers. Also in whose hands the proceeds of sales now are," &c., &c.—June Term, 1858.

"The said Commissioner is also directed to take an account showing what sum or sums are due and owing from Thomas J. Michie, as Administrator with the will annexed, of John Borden dec'd., to the estate of Joseph Borden, dec'd., under the decree of 1836, or any of the subsequent proceedings in this cause."—November Term, 1858.

"Especially is said Commissioner required, in addition to the accounts heretofore specially ordered, to make and report a statement showing how stand accounts between the estates of John Borden, dec'd., and Joseph Borden, dec'd., in respect of the proceeds of the trust sales made by Leas & Sowers, trustees, in the years 1837 and 1838."—June Term, 1860.

"It is ordered that rules in all respects similar to those heretofore awarded against the other purchasers of real estate sold by trustees Chesley Kinney & Leas & Sowers be awarded against Michael Croft and against John B. Baldwin & A. G. Harman, administrators de bonis non of John B. Breckinridge, dec'd., requiring them to appear before Commissioner Jos. A. Waddell at such time and place as he shall appoint, and answer the said rules on oath in writing. And it being represented by said Commissioner, that owing to the great number of parties in this case, it is almost impossible to give to each a personal notice of the time and place of taking said accounts, and all of said parties having answered under rule except those against whom rules are now awarded—it is ordered that said Commissioner may convene the parties by publication of notice in both of the newspapers in Staunton for four successive weeks, of the time and place when he will take and state the accounts herein before required to be taken and stated."—November Term, 1860.

NOTICE.—The parties interested are hereby notified that I shall, on Monday, the 28th day of January next, at my office in Staunton, proceed to execute the foregoing decrees; at which time and place they are required to attend.

JOS. A. WADDELL, Commissioner.

December, 25, 1860—4t.

GRAND MILITARY AND CIVIC
BALL.

The West Augusta Guard, (Capt. Baylor) have the pleasure to announce to the public that they will have their First Annual Ball on Tuesday, January 1st, 1861, at 8 o'clock, P. M., at Armory Hall, Staunton. A suitable Collation and the best Music will be provided for the enjoyment of those present on the occasion.

Tickets admitting one Lady and Gentleman, or two Ladies and one Gentleman $2 50.

Tickets of admission can be had by application to any member of the Committee of Arrangements.

Proceeds to be applied to the purchase of Tents and Knapsacks for the equipment of the Company.

CAPT W. S. H. BAYLOR,
LIEUT. H. K. COCHRAN,
SERG. J. C. MARQUIS,
Private E. S. TROUT.
" J. P. BLEDSOE,
} Committee of Arrangements.

MANAGERS.

MILITARY.	CIVIL.
Gen K Harper	N K Trout
Gen Wm H Harman	W A Burke
Col W D Anderson	B Christian
Lt