THE DAILY DISPATCH.

☞ TO ADVERTISERS.—The circulation of the DISPATCH is THREE TIMES as large as that of any other Daily paper in the city of Richmond. It is therefore greatly superior to any other as a medium of advertising.

RICHMOND, VA.:
Tuesday Morning, May 11, 1852.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS.

It is asserted that there has been a very great waste of the public money, in the prosecution of the Internal Improvements of the State. We have no doubt that the statement is correct; but admitting it to be so, is that any reason why the system should be abandoned? There have been, before now, repeated instances of waste in the appropriations made by Congress for almost every department of the public service. There have been defalcations in the Navy. Is that any reason why all the ships of war should be dismantled, and our commerce left without any protection?—There have been heavy failures in the Army. Are we, on that account, to disband our small military force—to let the grass take possession of the immense works which were erected at an enormous expense to protect our sea coast—to turn over our frontier settlements to the tender mercies of the savages? There is no institution whatever, which is not liable to abuse. There is no business, in private life, which is not subject to losses, from neglect and roguery. Are we, then, to abandon all civil government, to give up all private industry, because the possibility is, that the public may be defrauded, or the individual robbed by designing and unprincipled agents?

We hear much said about economy, in connection with the proposal to cut short all the public improvements of the State. If it had been determined before they were entered upon, that they were too expensive to be undertaken, inasmuch as no money would have been spent, there might have been some shadow of common sense in the plea. They who might have offered it, would have had some pretence to call it economy. And it would have been one kind of what is generally understood by that much abused word. It would have been economy of the same kind with that which induces a man to starve upon a miserable poverty-stricken piece of land, rather than expend enough money to buy a few tons of guano, or a few bushels of clover seed. It would have been economy of the same character with that which has kept Virginia so long in the rear of her sister States. But the option is no longer left us. Vast sums have already been expended upon the works as far as they have gone. Is it economy to let them drop? To sacrifice the whole at one fell swoop? To put an end to all possibility of ever receiving any remuneration therefor?—The farmer puts his corn crop in the ground. He has to pay for making and mending his ploughs and his hoes. He determines not to have them mended, for he is bent on economising. He has his money in his pocket, and he regulates his conduct by the old maxim, that "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." His ploughs and his hoes soon become unfit for service. He will not have them repaired, and he loses his crop. Is that economy? The original proprietors of that immense body of coal, known as the Midlothian mines, were engaged two years in sinking their first shaft, at that time the deepest that had yet been sunk in Virginia. The art of mining had not then been brought to its present degree of efficiency, (at least in this country,) and the progress was not only slow, but exceedingly expensive. At the distance of five hundred feet from the surface, enormous sums had been expended, and yet the coal had not been reached. They knew it was there; but suppose, being fully convinced of the fact, and convinced, moreover, that if they could but reach it, their fortunes were made, they had abandoned their works at that stage, on the plea of saving money.—The consequence would have been, that they would have lost, without the hope of redemption, every cent they had already expended, and would have been laughed at by the whole world. They persevered, and the result was, that they were rewarded ten fold for what they had spent.

Are not these instances, drawn from the occurrences of every day life, to the point? We think they are, most decidedly. No rational man at this day, can doubt that, if the Central Railroad be carried to the Ohio, if the Virginia and Tennessee joint improvements be pushed to the Mississippi, if the Danville Railroad be extended to the borders of North Carolina, and be made to form the connection at Greensboro', if the James River Canal be placed in communication with the streams which empty into the Ohio, if the South Side Railroad attain its terminus at Lynchburg, if the Manassas Gap Railroad tap the Baltimore and Ohio improvement, the result must be the enriching of our State to a degree almost incalculable. It is impossible, indeed, not to know that such must be the consequence, if we only look on the effect which a western trade, comparatively limited, has already had upon those States which have secured it—upon Pennsylvania, upon New York, upon Massachusetts. It must be apparent, to every man who reflects upon the immense capacities of the Mississippi valley—upon the rapidity with which they continue to be developed—upon the fact, that immense as its resources are, its development has but begun—upon the certainty, that in fifty years, it must, at the present rate of increase, contain at least 30,000,000 of people—the population of an immense empire. The most narrow-minded anti-improvement man that ever stood up for the policy and propriety of going to mill with corn in one end of the bag and a big stone in the other, because forsooth our fathers did so before us, cannot but be aroused to the suspicion that there must be some great prospective benefit to be derived from opening a communication with this country, when he sees States, long celebrated for a correct appreciation of what is likely to advance their interest, striving so hard to do it.—Well, then, we ask, should the Legislature leave our improvements a dead loss upon the hands of the State, with a prospect of remuneration so certain, will they have acted with one particle more of common sense, than would have acted our friends of the original Midlothian Company, had they stopped when they were within twenty feet of the coal, because they had already spent a very heavy sum of money? Merchants and tradesmen have a great deal more sense than this. If a creditor fail, largely indebted to them—if they believe him to be honest, industrious, sagacious, and of business habits—if they see a prospect of his rising once more to his feet—they do not break him down at once. By doing so, they might get, perhaps, ten cents in the dollar, and might console themselves with the old proverb already quoted. But they are not, generally, contented with less than the whole sum.—They, therefore, not only allow him to go on, but in many instances, even advance him money, to continue his business. If he be such a man as we have described, they reap their reward, and this we hold to be true economy, in the enlightened acceptation of the term.

It has grieved us sorely, to hear revived, in these latter days, the cry which was raised when Virginia first began to feel her way in the march of improvement. Enlightened representatives of enlightened constituencies tell us, that the country from which they come will not be benefitted by a particular improvement, and therefore they vote against it. It would be easy to show, that whatever adds to the wealth of a State, adds to the wealth of every portion of it, even to its remotest corner. But for this we have not space at present. We will only observe, that this argument, if pursued to its legitimate consequences, would have forbidden all improvement, in every part of the world. In New York, for instance, the inhabitants of Lawrence or Franklin might have voted the Erie Canal a failure, because it did not run through their country. But we suspect, very shrewdly, that they have long since found out that it has been beneficial to them as well as to those who live on the line, though not in the same degree. As for those who live within reach of the improvements already begun, we have heard more than one of them say that they already save, annually, in the simple article of transportation, to say nothing of the increased value of their lands, more than they are likely to lose from any addition to their taxes, even though those taxes should be raised one hundred per cent. When gentlemen refer to the increase of taxes as oppressive, they should remember, that when the State shall have been once in possession of the revenue which cannot fail to accrue from the successful prosecution of the various enterprises already begun, it will be in her power, as it will be her interest and her duty, to reduce the taxes to the lowest possible point.

We will close by saying that we are opposed to appropriations for any new work, until those which have been commenced shall have been entirely completed. And we would again call attention to the fact that they must stop where they are, if legislative aid be not afforded them. If the present Legislature should not be willing to grant the full sum necessary for their completion, at least let them appropriate enough to keep them in progress until the meeting of the next. For Heaven's sake, let them spare the State the disgrace of stopping short in a career which has attracted the attention of the whole country, and of losing all it has already expended.

THE VERA CRUZ AND ZACATULA ROUTE.

The New York Herald of Saturday, gives us a piece of information of which we were not previously in possession. It is, that Messrs. Draper and Ramsay, who have secured the right of way from Vera Cruz to the Pacific Ocean for fifteen years, with the exclusive privilege of carrying the foreign mails across the Republic of Mexico, and have obtained an act of incorporation from the Legislature of New York, are now engaged in placing coaches upon the route, for overland transportation to the Zacatula river, from the city of Vera Cruz. This river empties into the Pacific, five or six hundred miles above Tehuantepec. The Herald adds, that steamers will immediately be placed on both sides of the route, and that by it, passengers from New York will be enabled to reach San Francisco in fifteen or sixteen days. The shortest route has hitherto been by Panama, and the shortest passage, at least 25 days.

This is the route which Captain Levy was supposed to favor, when he exerted his influence to thwart the views of the Tehuantepec Company.

ELOPEMENT EXTRAORDINARY.

On Friday last, in the city of New York, an individual whose name is given as Dr. Andrew Ploomer, of Brighton, England, was brought before Mayor Kingsland, on the complaint of Col. T. A. Howard, of the British army, who charged him with having defrauded him of £1900 sterling (about $9000). The Doctor and the Colonel being intimate friends, the latter was prevailed on to deposit the sum specified in a bank of which the former was the proprietor, while he was absent on a pleasure tour to Bologna. He had scarcely turned his back, however, when the Doctor eloped, with a young girl of 19, a Miss Emma Patterson, and carrying with him the £1900, arrived in New York in the Niagara, and took lodgings at the Irving House. The Colonel followed close behind, in the Europa, and finding that the fugitives were, at that time, inmates of the Irving House, procured a warrant and had the gentleman apprehended. He behaved with great coolness, and when the Colonel asked him to give him his money replied that he had no money of his, that he had on one occasion, lent him some, but that it was all gone. The victim of his arts appeared in court, and manifested the greatest devotion to him. A letter from her parents was read imploring her to return, and promising forgiveness for all that had happened, but she evinced the most obstinate determination not to be separated from her paramour. They embraced when he was ordered to prison.

Ploomer has left a wife and children behind him. A letter from the former was read, in which she implores him to return, and not to overwhelm his unoffending children with unmerited disgrace.—We hope the scoundrel will be dealt with as severely as the laws of England will allow. For the present he is imprisoned only in a civil action, brought by Col. Howard to recover his money.—Hanging is vastly too good for him.

MR. WEBSTER.—The accident to Mr. Webster, by being thrown from a carriage near Marshfield, it is supposed will not result seriously. A rumor reached Boston on Saturday morning that he was fatally injured, which caused intense excitement, but subsequent accounts relieved the apprehension.

GYPSIES.—A gang of gypsies have been arrested in Alexandria, having in their possession a quantity of goods and a considerable sum of money.

LOCAL MATTERS.

PUBLIC MEETING AT THE CITY HALL.—Pursuant to a notice, placarded in the public places of resort in our city, several hundred of our most prominent and influential citizens assembled in the City Hall at five in lieu of eight o'clock, yesterday evening, for the purpose of adopting resolutions condemnatory of the disorderly conduct of certain persons that gathered late on Friday evening around the Governor's house.

On motion of Mr. R. G. Scott, General Bernard Peyton was elected President, and J. W. Lewellen, Secretary.

Mr. Scott then made a few remarks in allusion to the object of the meeting, and stated that a preamble and resolutions with regard to it had just been adopted at the regular monthly meeting of the City Council, which he would beg leave to present before they proceeded to further action. They were then read, as follows:

The Council of the city of Richmond have learned that in the case of a slave, sentenced to death by the Court of Hustings of this city, for killing an overseer, the Governor ordered a commutation of the punishment by directing him to be transported beyond the limits of the United States; that on the night of the 7th instant, there was a meeting at the City Hall of some of the citizens, who disapproved the commutation; and that after the meeting adjourned, there was, on the same night, a tumultuous assemblage at or near the Governor's house. Whatever room there may be for difference of opinion in regard to the propriety of the Executive action in this case, we have no reason to doubt that the act complained of was done by the Governor in the conscientious discharge of his duties, it certainly was done in the exercise of powers conferred on him by the constitution and the laws. If for such an act it was the object of any of the assemblage to offer indignity to the Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, or his family, we cannot too strongly express our disapprobation of such conduct. The right of the people, peaceably to assemble at their Town Hall, and express their opinion as to the exercise of the Executive power in this particular case, is unquestionable. But whatever might be their opinion in regard to its exercise, there can be no justification for the breach of good order on the grounds attached to the Executive mansion.

Under the ordinances of the city, it is the duty of the whole of the Police to endeavor to preserve the good order and peace thereof, and secure its inhabitants from personal violence, and their property from loss or injury; and the Mayor has a general superintendence and control over that Police.

Under the law of the State, it was his duty, as a Justice of the Peace, to go among or near to any persons riotously or tumultuously assembled, and in the name of the law command them to disperse, and if they did not thereupon immediately and peaceably disperse, he should have commanded the assistance of all persons present, and of the Sergeant of the Corporation, with his posse, if need be, and if further aid was wanting, the Sergeant might have required it from the Commandant of the regiment.

In respect to the manner in which the duties of the Mayor were performed on this occasion, we have not the benefit of any written communication from him. From such information as we have received otherwise, we are well satisfied that the civil power was abundantly sufficient to suppress the assemblage; and we are pleased that the assemblage terminated without any act of violence to the person of any one, and without its being found necessary to call in the aid of the military. Whether or no it was terminated as promptly as it should have been, is a matter about which there may be room for difference of opinion, and in respect to which it seems to us proper to have further and more exact information. Under these circumstances, Resolved, as follows:

1. That the Council are unwilling to believe that any citizen of this city would offer, or desire personal violence to the Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, and deeply regret that there should have been any assemblage at or near the Governor's house which had the appearance of being intended to offer indignity to him, or was calculated to annoy him or his family.

2. That the Mayor be requested to furnish, in writing, to the Committee of Police a detailed statement of what was done by him or others, on the night of the 7th inst., at or near the Governor's house, and that the said Committee, after receiving such statement and obtaining any further information in their power, recommend to the Council such measures as in their opinion may be proper to adopt.

3. That good order must be preserved in the city, and to that end the Council will exert its powers and require the officers subject to its control to perform their duties.

Mr. Scott then moved the adoption of a resolution approving of the proceedings of the Council.

Mr. Isaac A. Goddin believed that 99 out of every hundred of the citizens of Richmond would approve and stand by these resolutions; nevertheless he would prefer, before they took action, that there should be a more general meeting of the citizens, which could only be had by a more extended notice of the time of meeting. The time had been altered to 5 o'clock and thus hundreds would come at the regular hour and be disappointed in their expectations and perhaps affronted. He preferred that they adjourn to meet at 4 o'clock to-morrow evening, or later if necessary.

Mr. Macfarland desired immediate disapproval of the conduct of the tumultuous assemblage at the Governor's house, Friday night. If other citizens came at night to hold a meeting they could endorse their present action. Numbers had come in and the meeting had now become a very large one.

Mr. Goddin then, by request, waived his suggested adjournment. The question then recurred upon Mr. Scott's resolution endorsing the proceedings of the Council.

Mr. Mayo then rose and stated that he would freely endorse the proceedings of the Council if they simply condemned the disorderly conduct at the Governor's house, Friday night. He advocated in the most earnest manner the right of the people to assemble peaceably and express their opinions of the acts of a public functionary, and emphatically declared that he would in no wise consent to cast any stigma upon that meeting. The conduct of a number of turbulent boys at the Governor's house he would condemn in the strongest terms, and would punish with the utmost rigor of the law.

Messrs. Bouldin and Grattan expressed views corroborative of the sentiments of Mr. M., and censured the hasty action of the House of Delegates, on Saturday, bearing testimony, however, to the temperate course of the Senate on yesterday, in the matter.

Mr. Scott expressed himself in favor of the freest public discussion, and desired a marked disapprobation of the disorderly conduct at the Governor's house.

Mr. Mayo adverted to his action that day in calling the attention of the Grand Jury to the disorder—desired the rowdy characters to be punished, and testified to the active exertions of the Mayor in dispersing the mob of noisy boys.

The resolution endorsing the proceedings of the Council was then adopted unanimously.

Mr. R. G. Scott then said that as they had approved of the proceedings of the Council on the subject, he thought they should give utterance to their own sentiments, and would offer for adoption the following:

Whereas, This meeting have learned that a number of persons did, on the night of the 7th inst, proceed, in a tumultuous manner, into the yard and grounds about the residence of the Chief Magistrate of the State, and did there behave in a disorderly and improper manner—uttering threats, and some of them abusive language towards the Governor, and in the hearing of his family, consisting in part of females—

Resolved, That this meeting, for itself and in behalf of a vast majority of the good people of this city, doth declare its decided and unmitigated condemnation of all who concurred in the disorderly and riotous conduct above alluded to; and they entertain the confident hope and expectation that the civil authorities of our city, heretofore so remarkable for its good order and respect for the laws of our country, will adopt efficient measures for preventing the recurrence of such scenes.

Mr. S. was of opinion that this preamble and resolution expressed the general opinion of our citizens.

Mr. Mayo did not wish that even implied censure should be cast upon the regular and peaceable meeting Friday night, and would offer the following amendment to Mr. Scott's propositions;

But this meeting does not mean to declare that the meeting assembled here on Friday last was a mob, or that that meeting assembled for any purpose of creating a row or an uproar; but to exercise their undoubted right of expressing their opinions freely upon the public acts of a public functionary. Mr. Scott accepted the amendment.

Mr. Powhatan Roberts in a few earnest remarks offered the following substitute for the pending propositions.

Resolved, By this meeting, that while we condemn the riotous or tumultuous assemblage at the Executive's house on Friday night, the 7th inst., yet we see nothing in the meeting of the people at this Hall on that night, to disapprove or condemn.

A long debate ensued which we are obliged to omit.

Mr. Lyons declared that he had heard of nothing to indicate that there had been a mob on Friday night—would not cast an unnecessary stigma on Richmond, and trusted as they had endorsed the action of the council, which was all that was necessary at present, that the meeting would adjourn.—There was some opposition manifested to this proposition, and a motion to adjourn was put and lost.

Mr. Shelton then read some resolutions justifying the right of the people publicaly to assemble and discuss the conduct of their officers—and condemnatory of mob action. He endeavored to support his resolutions in a speech, which was summarily closed by the voice of the people.

Dr. P. C. Gooch then moved to lay all the resolutions on the table, and read substitute resolutions which he would offer if his motion prevailed.

The motion to lay on the table was carried.

Dr. Gooch then offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1st, That the citizens of Richmond deprecate and denounce all riots, mobs and disorderly assemblages, and they feel confident that no act will be or has been committed which can stamp upon the city the stigma of a mob.

Resolved, 2nd, That this people, or any portion of them, have the right at all times to meet and to express their opinions on any subject, but that the citizens, or those participating in such meeting, ought not to be held responsible for any riotious proceedings which may be committed by a seperate or distinct crowd.

Adopted by a large majority.

On motion of Dr. G., the meeting then adjourned at 8 o'clock, after a most exciting and fatiguing session.

THE HUSTINGS COURT.—*Commencement of the Quarterly Session.—The Commonwealth's Attorney's Charge to the Grand Inquest concerning Violations of Law, Riots, &c.*—The quarterly term of this Court commenced on yesterday. Present,—Recorder Pulliam and Aldermen Bray, Wingfield, Cowles, Inloes and Evans. The Grand Jury were first called and sworn. Mr. Joseph Mayo, Attorney for the Commonwealth, then rose and delivered to the Grand Jury the following impressive charge:

If the Court please, gentlemen of the Grand Jury, you know that I am not in the habit of unnecessarily detaining you—but have allowed you to retire from this bar taking such indictments as I have prepared for you, without scarcely any comment whatever upon the law. I have done this, gentlemen, because I believed from your former practise in this court and attendance upon it as a grand inquest of the State, that you were as familiar with the ordinary duties of your office as I was myself. I beg pardon, then, gentlemen, for not permitting you to retire as of old from this court—without taking some little trouble upon myself in giving you the charge of the penal laws of the State.

There are matters of offence, gentlemen, committed in this city, I have reason to believe—although there is no evidence directly here—that I ought to call the attention of this Grand Jury to—and if you think there is any reason to believe that such matters of offence have been committed—the law has vested in you the due exercise of certain extraordinary powers, and their proper use imposes upon you the duty diligently to enquire into the moral condition of this town—I mean the moral condition so far as violation of public law is concerned—and bring the offenders whomsoever he or they may be, to the bar of public justice. There have been offences committed in this city of the highest character, yet somehow or other the offenders have escaped justice. It must be within the recollection and knowledge of us all that in the noon-tide of day almost, a murder was committed in one of our most public streets, and yet notwithstanding the vigilant exertions of the police, the murderer or murderers have not been brought to justice. I think it is proper that you should take notice of this matter, for wheresoever the offender may be he is amenable to law and may be demanded by our State government and set to this bar.

If there is any one feature of the criminal law of this Commonwealth that ought to be observed—that is worthy of preserving—it is that beautiful feature in it that makes no distinction between persons and puts every one who offends against the law upon the same platform—making no compromise with crime, but demanding that the offender shall be brought here for trial if the offence was committed within the jurisdiction of this court.—You have no authority and certainly I have none, because the law will not authorise it—to palliate, compromit or compromise any violation of the law. You are, gentlemen, emphatically the grand conservators of the morals of this community from the highest crime known to your penal law down to the lowest—and being selected from the body of the people of this city because supposed to hear of these transactions out of doors, you are assembled in this court room this morning to examine diligently and enquire thoroughly into these matters of offence. You have not merely to act upon the indictments which I send to you—but to enquire into the moral condition of this town, and if you desire it, by the process of this court, if an individual is within the confines of this Commonwealth, no matter who or where he is—you have a right to demand his presence here to give testimony against any offender. I ask you, then, to exercise fully upon this occasion all the power with which the law has invested you in the discharge of your duty. Your criminal jurisdiction extends so far as offences are concerned—from the highest felony—and under our law to treason—down to the lowest petty misdemeanor—for the commission of which the Legislature has thought proper to impose a fine of even $2.00. You have therefore the whole criminal law of the State before you, and in the exercise of your impartial judgment I would invoke you to enquire whether those laws have been carried out. Your territorial jurisdiction, gentlemen of the jury, extends not only over the body of this city, but one mile around and about the corporate limits of the city on the north side of the James river, and to the low-water mark on the other side.

I will now call your attention to some things which the Legislature has thought proper to say should be particularly given you in charge—simply remarking, ere I come to their suggestions, that there is another crime committed in this city that ought to be investigated—and if there be any doubt about it the evidence is at hand here, and it may be that more than one party has sought to escape justice by fleeing from the city and hiding in the county. Gentlemen, the crime of forgery is not without existence in this corporation.

But I am instructed by the Legislative authorities of your State to call your attention to the gaming laws of the State, and it is your duty to enquire into any infraction of these laws. Gambling at any public place whatever, and for anything or nothing is a violation of the law. To lose or win sums over $20 at any private place at any time is a violation of one these laws. The exhibition of *faro* bank is a violation of these laws. It is for you to enquire into these things and I do not think it necessary to stand here as a moralist and discourse you upon the effects, the painful effects, of gambling anywhere.

I am required to bring to your attention what are commonly called the tippling laws. Tippling houses as I have had occasion to say before, are often the scenes of violation of law in the act of selling liquor itself; at them also quarrels often commence and blood is shed and affrays take place that result in murder; and of such houses I ask your particular attention and reprobation.

Again, gentlemen of the jury, it is made my duty by the law of the Commonwealth to call your attention to the law that prohibits passing or receiving bank notes of a less denomination than five dollars. I do this because if the House of Delegates pass any law that is constitutional it is my duty to present it to you, the Grand Inquest of the communiry, and therefore I call your attention directly to the fact that it is a violation of the penal laws of the State to pass or receive bank notes of a less denomination than five dollars.

I would also direct your attention to the slave laws, and I might detain you until night by enumerating a list of enactments of a minor grade, but have often urged upon you these laws, and I feel assured that by this time you are thoroughly conversant with them. I simply direct your consideration to them specially.

Gentlemen of the Jury, besides the statute law of this State, there is another law which you are just as much bound to enforce, and to have executed in bringing offenders against it to justice, as the statute law itself—it is the common law of the land, and among the common law offences which are punishable to a certain degree by the new Code, are houses of ill-fame. You have not only a right, but it is your duty in this respect to inquire into the condition of the city—not only with respect to houses of ill-fame, but to persons of ill-fame, and such as are amenable to the criminal justice of the country. (Mr. M. further referred to the duty of the jury to enquire whether the action of any of these places or persons tended to corrupt the morals of the city; also, in view of the approaching sickly season, to investigate the faithfulness of the health and police officers in the discharge of their respective duties—and to present all nuisances and street obstructions. Upon this last point he remarked that he thought it strange that there should be reported to the public at large some 2 or 300 of these obstructions, and that thus there should be the same number of nuisances existing in the streets—and he urged the duty of strict enquiry upon the inquest in this respect. He then proceeded.)

Gentlemen of the Jury, it is proper for me, as I am here as part and parcel of the executive of the State—for every Commonwealth's Attorney is an executive officer of this commonwealth—to present to you all the laws of the commonwealth fully and impartially, and I now call your attention, as I am bound to call your attention, and as it is right that I should—to what is the law concerning "riots, routs and unlawful assemblages." And lest I might say something that is not law, I present to you what the established law authorities call "riots, routs and unlawful assemblages." (Mr M. here read the law setting forth the character and punishment of unlawful assemblages.)

I call your attention, gentlemen of the Grand Jury, at this particular period, especially to this subject. My reason for doing it is, that there has been a violation of the general law of this commonwealth upon this subject, and that you should act upon it; and although I am perfectly aware that it is not your wish to escape any duty devolving upon you—yet you will not escape, you could not escape it while I stand here a public functionary, for I never will permit any offence or any violation of any law which I think proper should go to you, to escape me. You know to what I allude, and as the law-officer of this court, gentlemen of the Grand Jury, I mean to go no further than to charge you with the distinct penal laws of the State.

In connection with this subject, I will refer you again to what I said a little while ago, in regard to the sworn execution of duty required of all the officers of this city and commonwealth, and impress upon your minds renewedly, the fact that if any officer of the State has been guilty of any violation of the penal law of this commonwealth, he is of all men in the State, the very man upon whom should be visited the criminal justice of the county, and he should be arraigned here to atone for his offence. *If there be any class of persons who ought to be dragged forth to public exposure and punishment for a violation of the penal law of the State, it is that class who, knowing what the law is, deliberately violates it.* I beg your earnest attention to this subject, and be the offender whom he may—whether in the highest or the lowest rank—*bring him here.* I will here read to you the statute on the subject of riots, in order that you may have the whole law relating to it, before you. (The law was here read defining unlawful assemblages, riots, and routs, which at common law are punishable by fines and imprisonment. Mr. M. cited from the fourth volume of Burns, on the duties and authorities of Justices of the Peace, and the Revised Code.)

These laws that I have read, gentlemen of the Grand Jury, are laws of this commonwealth; and I choose to read them to you to call your attention to them emphatically—and ask your diligent enquiry into the subject, and to bring all offenders against these laws into this court. You have seen, or perhaps heard, some of you, enough to know what I allude to; and I invoke again the recollection of this portion of your duty, and to diligently enquire into these things, and let the public will embodied in the Code, be visited upon these offenders. Bring him up; have him here.

Gentlemen of the Grand Jury, it is a violation of the law of this commonwealth to assault and beat any one. The least laying of the hand upon another with an angry purpose, however slight, is *an assault and battery*, and the *kicking of an individual*—I use the phrase in order that you may understand what I allude to—*is* a gross violation of the penal law of this State. I ask your particular attention to any such offence that may have come under the public notice. Mr. M. then called the attention of the inquest to the mode of receiving testimony and they retired to their rooms.

The court was further occupied in the transaction of civil business.

☞ We learn that a slave employed in the tobacco factory of Messrs. Atkinson & Mayo yesterday morning resisted and treated with much violence an overseer in the establishment.

FIRE.—A fire occurred, between two and three o'clock, this morning, in the upper part of the city, but its distance from the office and the lateness of the hour prevented our ascertaining any particulars.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLUES.—This ancient and honored company held their 59th anniversary, yesterday, at Buchanan's Spring.—As usual, on that day, they shot for the medal. It was won by Mr. G. Krischman, an honorary member, and, it is said, one of the best and most faithful soldiers that ever belonged to the company. We had the pleasure of dining with them, and shall give some account of their proceedings to morrow.

THE PISTOL GALLERY.—The gallery is still kept open by Mr. Hudson, his partner, Mr. Ottignon, having left for New York. Mr. Hudson will continue this week. The amusement which he holds out is very agreeable and very harmless.

ROSES AND EVERGREENS AT AUCTION.—We take pleasure in calling the attention of our readers to the auction sale at 10 o'clock this morning, of a splended collection of Roses, &c. They will be sold by G. J. Sumner, Auctioneer, at the room over the Methodist Book concern in the rear of H. Exall's office.

MR. MCDONALD AND THE MOB.—It is now generally understood that neither did the mob run against Mr. McDonald Saturday night nor Mr. McD. run against the mob. So the mob is free of that sin. Now what was it that jousted Mr. McD.? We ask for a committee of enquiry! Now that Billy Patterson is dropped, we substitute the cry 'who hit Mr. McDonald?'

☞ **"The Galled Jade Winces."**—The sub-Editor of the Times is out again with one of his scurilous articles, directed against the "Builder of Fine Houses," (this appellation we do not object to;) but we submit to his "good people of Richmond" whether a more disgraceful, dastardly, contemptible effort was ever made by the lowest creature that was ever allowed to write for a newspaper, than this effort of this picayune *would-be* Editor. To fix upon me the blame of the unfortunate accident by which two men were killed at the corner of Main and 12th streets, whilst digging out the foundation fourteen months ago. The foul malignity of this charge will be fixed on *him*, where Cain's mark was; and if he had his just deserts, he would be turned out to wander like Cain over the face of the earth, &c, &c. If the poor fellow thinks to build up a reputation for himself, he had better take some other method than by trying to injure others. I suppose he would have the Basin and Dock fenced in for fear some poor inebriate might fall into them; and all the old buildings in the city stand as they are, for fear if they were pulled down, he would get dust in his eyes. We will not follow him through the rest of his disgraceful article; it is like himself, not worth our further notice.

THE BUILDER OF FINE HOUSES.
my 11—1t

☞ **Crowds of Ladies throng our** Rooms for the superior and splendid style of Daguerreotypes taken by the elegant patent process, which is, no doubt, the greatest improvement ever discovered in this most beautiful branch of science. Our Pictures are acknowledged by the public and press to be the most beautiful and life-like portraits taken in the country. Prices very low indeed for a superior picture.

Rights for sale for any part of Virginia excepting Norfolk and Richmond. MOULSON'S
Patent Process Daguerrean Gallery,
my 11 No. 110 Main street.

☞ **Richmond, 10th May, 1852.**—*To the Editors of the Dispatch.*—GENTLEMEN: Permit me, through the columns of your paper, to contradict a report that I solicited signatures to the petition for the pardon of the negro, Jordan Hatcher. I knew nothing of the petition whatever, and only learned that the man was pardoned from the announcement in your journal.

Yours, respectfully,
my 11—1t S. L. PELLET.

ATTENTION!
MONTGOMERY GUARD.
Attend a meeting of your Company at Military Hall **This** (Tuesday) **Evening**, at 8 o'clock. A full attendance is required, as business of importance will be brought before the meeting. By order of the Captain.
my 11—1t JOHN McDONALD, O. S.

WANTED, a young MAN, who can furnish a small capital, to enter a largely profitable, permanent and respectable business. To an acceptable, active and intelligent man, a very extraordinary income may be safely promised. Particulars at an interview, which will be immediately necessary.—Address T. H, Post Office, as early as possible today. The answers to the communications will be deposited at the Post Office by 1 o'clock.
my 11 1t*

WANTED.—A Young Man, aged about 16, of good moral character, steady habits, and a fair penman, will hear of a permanent and pleasant situation by applying immediately to PRATT & GETTY, 63 Main street, up stairs. my 11—3t*

A GOOD BLACKSMITH WANTED.—I wish to employ a good BLACKSMITH, and will pay high wages for one. I have not owed a journeyman two weeks wages since I commenced business, so have no fears about getting paid.
E. H. ROPER, 9th street.
my 11—3t* Between Main and Franklin.

TWO Families and six Gentlemen can be accommodated with BOARD at No 6 Governor st.
my 11—2t*

FOUND, on Sunday last, a Gold BRACELET, which the owner can have by describing the same and paying charges. Apply at this office.
my 11—1t*

LOST, about three weeks since, somewhere in the lower part of the city, my **Free Papers**, in a black Porte Monaie. The finder will receive a reward of $1 by leaving the same at this office.
OCTAVIUS W. WINGFIELD,
my 11—1t* Free Man of Color.

FOR RENT—A small Tenement on Gamble's Hill, containing four rooms. Apply to
P. M. TABB & SON,
my 11—taw4t Office on Governor street.

FOR SALE, an excellent second-hand one-horse CARRIAGE and HARNESS, both city made and in good order, cash price $150. Apply to J. H STROBIA or LEWIS HILL, 13th street. my 7—1t

MORE PIANOS.—P. H. TAYLOR has just received a further supply of Nunn's & Clark's superior Pianos, at his Piano and Music Store,
my 11 **160 Main Street.**

KOSSUTH.
GREAT BARGAINS MAY BE MADE AT THE STORE NO. 182, MAIN ST.
HOYER & CO. intending to dissolve partnership, offer for sale at low prices their splendid assortment of German, French and American Jewelry, such as Ear Rings and Broaches, Finger Rings and Charms, all entirely new patterns; Bracelets, and all other kinds of **JEWELRY**, too many to mention. Also, splendid new articles of imitation Silver Ware, such as Knives, Forks, Table and Tea Spoons, Candlesticks and Waiters, &c; also, Gold and Silver Watches, French and Yankee Clocks, and a great variety of fancy articles.

All in want of really good and beautiful articles are respectfully invited to give us a call. A good chance is also offered by this sale to country merchants, as they will buy everything as cheap as anywhere else. my 11—2w*

LIME.—500 casks fresh Virginia Lime, now landing, for sale. The superiority of this Lime over the Thomaston, will be acknowledged by every one after reading the following report from Prof. Rogers, of the University of Virginia, to whom specimens were sent for analysis:

"The darker or dove-colored variety (the kind now offered for sale) contains 99 per cent. of carbonate of Lime, with a mere trace of carbonate of magnesia."

The above analysis shows this Lime to contain but 1 per cent of foreign matter. It has been tried by nearly all the bricklayers and plasterers in the city, and admitted to be equal, if not superior, to any they have ever used. The Superintendent of the Gas Works uses it entirely, its purity recommending it above any other. Purchasers are invited to call and examine before buying elsewhere.
my 11—3t T. J. PEYTON, Basin Bank.