THE DAILY DISPATCH.

BY J. A. COWARDIN.

The DAILY DISPATCH is served to subscribers at SIX AND A QUARTER CENTS PER WEEK, payable to the Carrier weekly. Price for mailing, $4 a year in advance.

The WEEKLY DISPATCH is issued every Friday and mailed to subscribers at $1 per annum.

DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. IV.--NO. 296. RICHMOND, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1854. PRICE ONE CENT.

AMUSEMENTS.

SPALDING & ROGERS' TWO CIRCUSES!

Consolidating their celebrated FLOATING PALACE CIRCUS, from their Palatial Aquatic Amphi-Theatre, on the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers; and their NORTH AMERICAN CIRCUS! so favorably known in the North and East, into

ONE MONSTER CONCERN!

With the two Companies, comprising respectively the most distinguished Northern and Southern Performers IN FRIENDLY STRIFE daily, in the same ring, in presence of the audience, with

TWO SETS OF PERFORMERS!
TWO SETS OF CLOWNS!!
TWO SETS OF RING HORSES!!!

☞ PANTOMIME every Afternoon! SPECTACLE every night!

NED KENDALL, (the Bugler.)
KENDALL'S BRASS BAND!
SHOATE'S STRING BAND!

And everything else upon the same elaborate and magnificent scale, with BILL LAKE, the great New Orleans Clown; H. Magilton, the wonderful Man Monkey; Madile. Agnes, the celebrated Creole Gymnast; Walter Aymar, the peerless Bareback Rider; C. J. Rogers, the distinguished Scenic Equestrian; Master Clarence, the young Equestrian Hero; Mrs. Ormond, the beautiful Scenic Equestreinne; Mrs. Lake, the fiery intrepid Horsewoman; the famous MOTLEY BROTHERS; H. Magnity, the renowned Voltigeur; Monsieur La Thorn, the modern Hercules; Prof. Baldwin, the English Wizard; W. Kinkade, the Versatile Equestrian; H. Durand, the skilful Gymnast; Robert White, the accomplished Maitre; W. J. Paul, the famous Jehu; C. Brown, J. Ryan, W. Conor, &c. &c., will be exhibited at 2 P. M., and 7½ P. M., afternoon and night. on

COUNCIL CHAMBER HILL!

TUESDAY,
WEDNESDAY,
THURSDAY, and
FRIDAY,
(October 31st, and November 1st, 2d and 3d, 1854.)

Also, at PETERSBURG Oct. 24th, 25th and 26th; and Lynchburg, Oct. 27th and 28th.

☞ ADMISSION—Dress Circle, 50 cts; Colored Boxes, 25 cts. Children and Servants, half price, to Dress Circle only. oc 14—18t

FAIRFIELD RACES.
FALL MEETING.

FIRST DAY—TUESDAY, 24th Oct'r.—Sweepstake for 3 years' old; $200 entrance; $100 forfeit.—Two mile heats.

Three or more to make a race—closed with the following entries:

O. P. Hare's b. c., by Zinganee, dam by Boston.
John Belcher's b. c. by Childe Harrold, dam by Priam.
Jas. P. Doswell's b. c. by Childe Harrold, dam by Priam.
Calvin Green's br. f. by Alanderby, dam by Leviathan.
Jas. Talley's ch. c. by Tally Ho, dam by Imp. Margrave.

SECOND DAY—WEDNESDAY, 25th Oct.—Proprietor's purse $200; 2 mile heats; free for all ages.—Entrance $10.

THIRD DAY—THURSDAY, 26th Oct.—Proprietor's purse $400; 3 mile heats; free for all ages. Entrance $15.

FOURTH DAY—FRIDAY, 27th Oct.—Jockey Club purse $800; 4 mile heats; free for all ages.

se 5—dt24O JOHN BELCHER, Prop.

OFFICE VA. CENTRAL R. R. COMPANY, RICHMOND, Oct. 6, 1854.

NOTICE.—The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Virginia Central Railroad Company will be held in the town of Staunton on Thursday, the 9th of November, 1854.

Stockholders going to and returning from the meeting, will travel on the Cars free of charge.

oc 7 J. GARRETT, Treas.

BUSINESS HOUSE ON MAIN ST. FOR RENT.—The large and admirably arranged building on Main street, adjoining Kent, Paine & Kent's new store, and recently occupied by Messrs. Pemberton and Brother, is for rent, and immediate possession may be had.

Its location and arrangement render it decidedly one of the most desirable houses in the city for a large business.

se 29 TAYLOR & WILLIAMS.

WOOD.—I have a good supply of OAK and PINE WOOD, which I will sell low.

☞ Terms cash in every instance.

oc 10—d1m* S. N. DAVIS, Broad st., above Brooke Avenue.

OFFICE OF THE JAMES RIVER AND KANAWHA COMPANY.—RICHMOND, SEPTEMBER 20th, 1854.—The TWENTIETH annual meeting of the Stockholders of the James River and Kanawha Company, will be held at the office of the Company, on MONDAY, the 23rd October next.—Powers of Attorney for the appointment of Proxies, are valid, if attested by one or more witnesses and executed within six months of the day of meeting.

FORM OF PROXY.

Know all men by these presents: That we, the Subscribers, being Stockholders in the JAMES RIVER AND KANAWHA COMPANY, do hereby constitute and appoint —— our true and lawful Attorney and Proxy, to represent each of us in all General Meeting of the Stockholders of said Company, held within six months from and after the date hereof, when we are not personally present or represented by some other Proxy; with full power and authority, at such General Meetings, to give such vote or votes, and to do such other act or acts, as each of us could give or do, as a member of the said meetings, if we were personally present; and we do hereby ratify and confirm whatever vote or votes, act or acts, our said Attorney may lawfully give or do for us, in pursuance of the authority hereby conferred upon him.

WITNESS our hands and seals, this day of one thousand eight hundred and

Teste, [SEAL.] [SEAL.]

By order of the President,
se 22—2aw4w WM. P. MUNFORD, Sec'y.

TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.—Runaway from the subscriber, in Henrico, in July, 1853, a negro man, about 60 years old, of dark complexion, five feet, nine or ten inches high, and tolerably stout; he formerly belonged to Mr. Pleasant Akin, dec'd. He answers to the name of TOM HART. He is a cooper by trade and a coarse carpenter and sawyer. Supposed to be in Petersburg, or thereabouts. I will pay the above reward for his safe delivery to me in Richmond.

oc 14—2aw3w* HENRY W. SHARPE.

ENGINEER'S OFFICE RICHMOND & YORK RIVER RAILROAD, RICHMOND, VA., Oct. 11, 1854.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.—Proposals will be received at this Office until Dec. 1st, for the Grading, Masonry and Bridge superstructure of this Road.

The Company reserves the privilege of rejecting any or all the tenders, and of plotting the work in such proportions as may be deemed most advantageous.

Testimonials as to responsibility must be enclosed with the proposals, when the parties are unknown.

Plans, Profiles and Specifications will be ready for inspection on and after the 15th proximo.

oc 12—2aw7w F. S. CLAXTON, Engineer.

BINFORD, MAYO & BLAIR,

HAVE received their Fall and Winter DRY GOODS, CARPETING, &c., to which they invite the attention of their friends and the public generally.

In their stock will be found the newest styles, Foreign and Domestic, Dress Goods for ladies' and gentlemen's wear.

Also a very large stock of Heavy Goods for servants, suitable for factory and plantation use.

All of which they will sell at low prices, wholesale and retail. se 11—2aw&c2m

LIME, &c.—Just received, three hundred casks fresh Rockland LIME
100 casks Hydraulic CEMENT
125 do Cal. PLASTER
25 do TAR
20 do PITCH.

oc 13—eod3t R. H. WHITLOCK & SON.

INSURANCE AGENCY.—RICHMOND, 7TH OCTOBER, 1854.—The undersigned acting as Agent for the PETERSBURG F. AND M. INSURANCE COMPANY, (a Company which has promptly met several losses growing out of its Agency in Richmond, as they have occurred), will be happy to extend to the numerous patrons of the Virginia F. and M Insurance Company, facilities for procuring insurance in cases where the amount of indemnity desired, is greater than that Company can prudently grant against both Fire and Marine risks.

oc 7—2aw3w THOS. M. ALFRIEND, Agt.

THE ADAMS' EXPRESS COMPANY—Are now sending *all description of Goods to Wilmington and Fayetteville, N. C.,* and to all places on the line, and contiguous to the Wilmington and Raleigh Railroad.

These lines are DAILY! and offer the greatest inducements to shippers.

☞ Charges moderate and uniform.

Office under the Exchange Hotel. se 18—eod2m

NOTICE.—OFFICE OF THE VA. & TENN. R. R. Co., LYNCHBURG, 18th Sept., 1854.—The SEVENTH annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Virginia and Tennessee Rail Road Company, will be held at the office of the Company, in the city of Lynchburg, on Wednesday, the 25th day of October next. WM. H. HUGHES, Sec'y.

se 12—dt25O

SPECIAL NOTICES.

LARUS & SHINE, Auctioneers and Commission Merchants, will attend to all sales of Real and Personal Estate, stock sales of Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots and Shoes, House Furniture, &c. &c.

oc 13—ts JAMES N. SHINE, | P. C. LARUS.

NEW CLOAKS, FURS, CURTAIN GOODS, SILKS AND DRESS GOODS.
New style CLOTH and SATIN
More Antique and Velvet CLOAKS
Fine VICTORINES, MUFFS, &c.
Worsted and Satin DAMASKS, BROCATELLES, TURKEY
COTTONS of all colors and styles
Lace and Muslin CURTAINS
Furniture CHINTZ
Splendid DRESS SILKS
Merinoes; Delaines and Plaid VALENICAS
French EMBROIDERIES, in great variety
Rich RIBBONS, GLOVES and HOSIERY
Family MOURNING

All these Goods just received by

oc 12—1m THOS. R. PRICE & CO.

JAMES E. HEATH & RICHARD M. CARY, *Commissioners in Chancery*—Office in Whig Building, fronting on Franklin st. oc 9—ts

THOMAS W. KEESEE,
AUCTIONEER,

Office with GEO. J. SUMNER, No. 20 Pearl st., Will attend to the sale of REAL ESTATE, and every description of MERCHNDIZE, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.

au 21—ts

THE MINERS in California, who have used BAKER'S PREMIUM BITTERS, declare them worth their weight in gold, in preventing colds and coughs from constant exposure. While using them it is impossible for the weather to affect the head or lungs. Price 50 cents per bottle. To be had of all the principal Druggists in the city of Richmond and elsewhere. oc 3

O. H. CHALKLEY, General Agent and Collector, 13th street, between Main and Cary, over the store of G. R. Peake. Refers to Messrs. C. T. Wortham & Co., Williams & Brother, Butler & Tinsley, J. H. Claiborne, G. R. Peake, J. B. Sclater and Dr. W. A. Paterson. se 13—3m

CHOLERA PREVENTIVE.—Dr. ROBINSON'S CHOLERA PREVENTIVE!—This preparation is offered to the public not as an infallible remedy, but as being the best yet discovered for Cholera, Cholera Morbus, Diarrhœa, Dysentery, Pain in the Stomach and Bowels, Sick Stomach, &c., &c. It is not unpleasant to the taste, causes no unpleasant sensation, and does not restrict in diet. Eat and drink, in moderation, such things as you have found by experience to agree with you. E. D. ROBINSON, M. D.

Office on Franklin street, opposite Metropolitan Hall. au 2—3m

GENERAL AGENCY, FOR THE SALE AND PURCHASE OF LANDS.—FRANK G. RUFFIN, *Secretary of the Virginia State Agricultural Society,* and N. AUGUST offer their services to the public as GENERAL AGENTS for the sale and purchase of LANDS in *Virginia* and the *Southern* and *Western States.*

Office—at the office of the *Virginia State Agricultural Society, No. 115 Main street.*

N. AUGUST, NOTARY PUBLIC AND ACCOUNTANT
Office—as above. fe 8—ts

BOARDING.

BOARDING.—A few persons can be accommodated with BOARD, on moderate terms, by applying to MRS. NESBITT.

oc 17—3t* Corner of Cary and Foushee sts.

BOARDING—Persons desiring BOARD, can be accommodated with pleasant rooms, on South side of Grace street, 2d door above 6th.

Several Day Boarders can also be accommodated.

oc 16—3t*

ARLINGTON HOUSE,
W. McCRERY, PROPRIETOR
CORNER OF MAIN AND 6TH STS.

THIS new and popular House offers superior attractions to the travelling community and resident Boarders. The House and its situation is the most pleasant and delightful of any Hotel in this city. The Proprietor solicits a share of public patronage.

Price for transient Visitors, $2 per day.

se 25—d1m*

MARBLE WORKS.
MILLER & VINCENT,

MARBLE WORKERS, on Main street, between 5th and 6th streets, and nearly opposite the Second Baptist Church.

MONUMENTS, TOMBS, FONTS, &c., of foreign and domestic Marble, made in the most modern and best style of the art.

CARVING and LETTERING executed in a manner not to be surpassed here or elsewhere.

The public are respectfully invited to call and examine specimens of work executed by them, as the best test of their merit. jy 18—d3m

EXCELSIOR WORKS. CORNER 7TH AND MAIN STREETS, RICHMOND, VA.—The proprietor of the above works is now prepared to Plane and Saw LUMBER, of various kinds in the best style and on the most reasonable terms.

He has on hand a quantity of Dressed FLOORING, of various qualities

PANNEL STUFF, both of Northern and Virginia Pine, ready dressed which he offers at a low price.

SASHES, DOORS and BLINDS kept on hand and made to order at prices that cannot fail to give satisfaction.

Orders solicited and will be thankfully received.

my 13 WM. FORBES.

RICHMOND SODA WATER AND BOTTLING ESTABLISHMENT.—It is a settled fact, that the only genuine article of Bottled SODA WATER, in the city, is put up by M. McCORMACK, who flatters himself that he is able to compete with any manufactory, either North or South, having been engaged in the business for seven years past.

To avoid imposition, be sure to call for M McCORMACK'S SODA WATER.

N. B. All orders, either from city or country, promptly attended to

Soda Water, Porter and Ale delivered in all parts of the city daily.

All persons having my bottles, will please return them immediately. M. McCORMICK,

oc 14—ts No. 308 Broad st.

BALE'S HOISTING MACHINES.

We are agents for the sale of Mr. Jas. Bale's HOISTING MACHINES, and will furnish them at manufacturer's prices, with or without the frames Samples may be seen at our store, on the Dock.

ja 21—ts LEE & CO.

CO-PARTNERSHIP NOTICE.—The subscribers, having associated themselves together, under the firm of TURPIN, ROPER & MURRAY, will continue to carry on the UNDERTAKING BUSINESS, in all its departments, at the old stand of Roper & Murray, Governor st.

They will give their personal attention to all orders sent to them, and will furnish, at the shortest notice, any thing in their line of business.

They will keep constantly on hand a general assortment of COFFINS, from the neat pine, to the most elegant mahogany.

Having the sole agency, in this city, for the sale of Fisk & Raymond's METALIC BURIAL CASES, the subscribers are also prepared to furnish any size of the Sarcophagus, either of the plain style, without the drapery, or such as those furnished for Clay and Webster, being covered with superfine black cloth drapery and silver trimmings.

Several HEARSES, with gentle horses and careful drivers, also at command.

JOHN TURPIN,
B. W. ROPER.
mh 30 d&cts WILLIAM MURRAY.

CHILDREN'S CLOTHING.—Ladies who select their Children's Clothing, are solicited to call and examine the large and varied stock of CHILDREN'S CLOTHING, which I have just received and opened this week. The Goods are well made, and gotten up in beautiful styles, of the latest patterns, the smallest suits are richly finished with Braid. Suits to fit from 4 to 8 years of age, all manufactured expressly for my own retail trade. All in want are respectfully solicited to call and examine my stock. J. D. GOODMAN,

oc 6 No. 134 Main st., opposite Eagle Square.

GAS APPARATUS FOR THE COUNTRY, adapted to the use of private dwellings, churches, schools, hotels, watering places, factories, foundries, machine shops and railroad stations.

The MARYLAND PORTABLE GAS COMPANY OF BALTIMORE, keep on hand and make to order GAS MACHINES of any required capacity.—Their apparatus has stood the test of years, and cannot be excelled in economy, safety and simplicity.—For particulars address

E. R. SPRAGUE, Treasurer,
au 1—d3m 202 Balto. st., Balt., Md.

WILLIAM BOOTH, UPHOLSTERER AND PAPER-HANGER, respectfully informs the public that his Spring assortment of Goods in his line is now complete, consisting of gilt, velvet, satin and common PAPERS; BORDERS, FIRE SCREENS and CURTAIN PAPERS; also, a large stock of Canton and cocoa matting OIL CLOTHS, Window SHADES, CORNICES, Curtain BANDS, &c., all of which he will sell at the lowest prices, at his Furnishing Ware-Rooms, No. 140 Main street, corner of 12th. ap 15—ts

TO THE CITIZENS AND STRANGERS VISITING THE CITY.—If you wish to get your Hair cut and dressed in the latest and most approved style, and your Whiskers changed to a beautiful black or brown color, just call on HOBSON, at the Hair-Dressing, Shaving, Shampooing and Bathing Saloon, under the American Hotel.

N. B.—Hot, Cold and Shower Baths can be had daily, from 6 A. M. to 9 P. M., and on Saturday to 11 P. M. Single Bath 25 cts., or 5 tickets for $1. Entrance on 11th street. se 22

THE DAILY DISPATCH.

☞ The circulation of the DAILY DISPATCH exceeds considerably that of all the Daily papers of Richmond combined

RICHMOND, VA:

WEDNESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 18, 1854.

CAPTAIN LUCE, A VIRGINIAN.

We learn, from the New York Express, the interesting fact that Captain LUCE, of the Arctic, is a native of Alexandria, Virginia, and was regularly bred to the profession of a seaman. He at one time commanded a ship from the port of Petersburg; he was, afterwards, for some years, commander of the ship Constellation, of New York, from which ship he was transferred to the command of the steam ship Arctic—the finest and most costly of the Collins steamers—and he soon rendered himself a popular favorite among passengers, by his true seaman-like qualities and courteous manners.

Captain Luce is about 47 years of age, and lives in Yonkers, N. York.

HOMICIDE IN COVINGTON, KY.—The facts connected with the homicide in Covington, Ky., on the 6th instant, are stated as follows: A little boy, named Samuel Easton, while passing through the streets, in company with several other school children, was engaged in conversation with a German boy, when a German, named Fortman, approached and called young Easton a fool. The boy returned the epithet, when Fortman applied to him one of the grossest of insults, and made towards him.—Young Easton, having a stick in his hand, struck Fortman a blow over the left eye, and ran. Fortman pursued and overtaking him, knocked him down with his fist and then kicked and stamped him several times on the head and side and then left him on the ground insensible. The boy was led home by his schoolmates, where he died the same evening. The Frankfort Commonwealth gives the following account of subsequent proceedings:

The Circuit Court being in session, the case was immediately brought before the grand jury, and an indictment for murder was found against Fortman. A strong disposition was shown, however, by the populace to take immediate vengeance upon him, and at one time, on Saturday night, nearly a thousand people were assembled around the jail. They were, however, persuaded to disperse without doing any violence.

THE NEXT CONGRESS.—The following is the result for members of the next (34th) Congress, in the States where elections have been held, compared with the present (33d) Congress:

	34th Congress.		33d Congress.	
	Dem.	Opposition.	Dem.	Whigs.
Arkansas	2	—	2	—
California	2	—	2	—
Florida	1	—	1	—
Maine	1	5	3	3
Vermont	—	3	—	3
Missouri	1	6	3	4
Pennsylvania	5	20	16	9
Ohio	—	21	12	9
Indiana	—	11	1	10
Iowa	1	1	2	—
South Carolina	6	—	6	—
Total	19	67	48	38

Opposition majority, 48; democratic majority in Thirty-third Congress, 10; anti-administration gain in 84 members elected, 58.

There are 148 members yet to be elected from twenty States; an equal number, viz: 74, to be chosen from the slaveholding, and the same from the non-slaveholding States.

In connection with the statement that Mr. Soule was followed recently at Lyons by an agent of the police, who appeared to be noting his movements, we observe in the Courrier des Etats Unis a letter from M. Gaillardet, saying that Mr. Soule became so much annoyed at the circumstance that he faced the spy and called him to account. The poor fellow made humble apologies, and Mr. Soule and his friend then employed him as their guide. The Minister of Foreign Affairs disclaimed the measure and referred it to the police of the department.

THEATRICAL ITEMS.—Mr. Charles Burke, the comedian, is still very sick in New York.

Mr. Henry Schoolcraft, a well-known Southern actor, died at Mobile a few days since.

Mrs. Mary Warner, formerly Mary Huddart, died in London on the 24th ult.

Mrs. Sinclair is expected home from California in a few months.

Mr. Couldock has been playing at the Boston Museum, and Miss Julia Dean at the Boston Theatre.

Mr. Forrest has been playing for a week past in Philadelphia.

BARNUM AND THE BABIES.—Barnum charges the citizens of Ohio with stealing his thunder in their recent Baby Show. He claims to have originated the idea some months ago and to show that he is not to be backed out, states that he will have a grand Baby Show at his Museum in New York in November next.

SINGULAR OCCURRENCE.—In Jackson county, Ga., recently, a man pointed a gun at Mr. John Holladay, as was believed with the intention of shooting him. Holladay wrenched the gun from his grasp—threw it violently on the ground, when it broke off the breech, and caused a discharge of the load through Holladay's hips, from which he bled to death in a short time.

SUICIDE.—A salesman in a mercantile establishment in New York, named George W. Washburn, committed suicide last Saturday evening by hanging himself with a towel, which he had fastened to the knob of a window shutter, while laboring under aberration of mind.

Daniel Chandler, of Concord, N. H., has been sentenced to the State Prison for life, on conviction of having altered a switch, which caused a train of cars to be thrown from the track of the Concord railroad. He is comparatively a young man, but old in crime. The greater portion of his life, up to this time, has been passed in prison.

CORRECTION.—The statement that the pulpit of the third Presbyterian church in Baltimore, made vacant by the resignation of Dr. Pryor, had been filled by the election of Rev. H. C. Heaton, of Harper's Ferry, was incorrect. Mr. Heaton has officiated in the absence of the late pastor, but no election has taken place.

M. Gaillardet writes to the French Courier, of New York, that "Monsieur Daniels," from Turin, was in Paris on the 20th of September: also, "Monsieurs" Cass, from Rome, O'Sullivan from Lisbon, Belmont from the Hague, and Soule from Madrid.

The Provincial Council of the Roman Catholic Church, which was to assemble in Baltimore on the 5th of November next, is indefinitely postponed.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—Returns from the South Carolina election show that Gen. McQueen and Col. P. S Brooks have been re-elected to Congress.

Official notice has been given that the rate of postage to Australia will be reduced from forty five to thirty-three cents.

Capt. E. B. Belcher, an old and valued citizen, died at his residence in Edgefield district, S. C., a few days ago.

VIRGINIA.

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.—We observe from an official notice in the Enquirer of yesterday that the Democratic State Central Committee recommend Thursday, November 30, as the time, and Staunton as the place, for holding the State Convention to nominate Democratic candidates for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Attorney General.

The Enquirer appeals to the Democracy of the State to hold meetings and appoint delegates, so that the voice of the party may be clearly and fully spoken out on the occasion. The Examiner also has an editorial upon the subject, concluding with the following paragraph, which we copy as an item in the political history of the State.

We appeal to those of our democratic contemporaries of the press, who have so warmly and ably opposed the 30th of November, to acquiesce in the recommendation of the Central Committee, and to use their utmost exertions and their large influence in procuring a full Convention at Staunton. Let us meet its contrivers and conspirators on their own ground, and at their own hour, and let us show them that there is still a democracy too strong to be held down by the leading strings of managers, and that the Republican party of Virginia have not forgotten their creed and their faith in a wild goose chase after men who have circumnavigated the globe in their politics, and boxed the compass in their principle.

WYTHE AGRICULTURAL FAIR.—The Wythe Agricultural Society held its annual Fair near Wytheville on the 10th inst. The result was highly satisfactory and encouraging. The leading feature of the exhibition was the cattle show. Some fine fat cattle, three years old last spring, weighing on an average 1900 pounds, and the largest weighing 2000 pounds, were exhibited. The show of poultry was very fine; and, in fact, the Fair was conceded to be superior to any that had preceded it. Much credit is given to the ladies for their skilful and interesting contributions, both in the domestic and ornamental line. As experience has fully proved, a Fair would lose more than half its attractions, did not fair woman lend her aid.

KING AND QUEEN.—The farmers of King and Queen assembled on the 9th of October (court day) for the purpose of forming an Agricultural Society. Mr. Wm. Todd presided, and Mr. B. F. Dew, in a spirited address, explained the object of the contemplated society. A committee was appointed to draft a constitution, and report at an adjourned meeting to be held next court day, the 2d Monday in November.

HANOVER.—A correspondent of the Whig urges upon the people of Hanover to hold a meeting at October court, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the Norfolk Convention. He says:

No people in the Commonwealth are more concerned in the proper internal improvement of the State. Its commercial, social and political welfare are most dear to us. With the destiny of Richmond we are bound up, and must "sink or swim" with her. The destiny of Virginia, in this regard, and of her cities, particularly of Richmond, may now be considered as undergoing final adjustment. This Convention is one of the influences which may bear on the result.

JAMES MUIRHEAD.—The editor of the Petersburg Express, in the hope of gathering some definite information relative to the fate of Mr. James Muirhead, who was a passenger by the ill-fated Arctic, wrote to Mr. George H. Burns, upon the subject, and received the following reply:

Mr. Muirhead and myself were quite intimate, and were companions at table. We had much pleasant converse during the passage. His late visit to Scotland, his meeting with beloved relatives, and the pleasure he anticipated in joining his associates in Petersburg, elicited many anecdotes, and made our time pass quite agreeably.

"I last saw his manly form upon the deck of the noble steamer, after all the boats, save the one in which I was working at the raft, had left the ship—But since the extraordinary escape of Capt. Luce from the very jaws of death, after his vessel had sunk beneath his feet, the friends of Mr. Muirhead, (an athletic man) must not despair."

MURDER.—Christian Bloom died a few days ago in Clarksburg, from the effects of wounds inflicted by John Faherbery—both Germans. The following is the substance of the evidence before the coroner's jury:

Faherbery lost a gold dollar, and accusing Bloom of having it, quarreled with him. The dollar was found by a little girl, but while Bloom was sitting on a log Faherbery struck him on the head with an axe, breaking his skull and then ran off. He was immediately arrested and put in jail. When arrested Faherbery was told that he had killed Bloom and he would be hung. He replied that he wanted to be hung; that if Bloom was not dead he would kill him yet, and that he had killed two men before he left the old country. Bloom died some eight or ten days after receiving the wound.

EMORY AND HENRY COLLEGE.—A report being in circulation to the effect that there is a great deal of sickness at this institution, the Lynchburg Virginian states on the authority of one of the professors that it is utterly without foundation.

PRESENTATION.—The South Ward Mechanical Fire Company of Petersburg on Monday last presented to their President, Mr. Wm. H. Jarvis, a handsome silver speaking trumpet.

MISS E. M. WHITE, of this city, is giving poetical readings in Norfolk.

MR. WILLIAM FISKE, father of Mr. D. D. Fiske, publisher of the Portsmouth Transcript, died in Concord, N. H., recently.

U. S. REVENUE FROM CUSTOMS.—The revenue from Customs during August at the port of Norfolk, compared with the last year, was as follows:

For August, 1853, $6,500, for August, 1854, $15,090, showing an increase of $8,500.

MR. WM H. WHITE has been appointed bookkeeper in the Bank of Commerce at Fredericksburg, vice Mr. Hueston, resigned.

SPIRIT OF DEMOCRACY is the title of a newspaper just started in Newmarket, Shenandoah county, by Geo. W. Murphy & Co.

FAST SAILING.—In June, 1853, Mr. Thos. Rogers, Jr., of New Orleans, gave an entertainment in that city on board of his iron ship, the Evangeline, then in port on her first trip from Liverpool, on which occasion a purse of $500 was subscribed for the captain of the ship which would make the quickest passage from New Orleans to Liverpool within twelve months; also a purse of $250 to the captain of the ship which would make the next best trip in the same time. The contest for these purses was open to ships of all nations. The Evangeline recently arrived at New Orleans on her fourty trip from Liverpool. On her last trip out she made the run in twenty-six days and ten hours, and that being the fastest passage made during the time prescribed, the vessel on board of which the money was made up became entitled to the larger purse. The American ship Josiah Bradlee takes the other.

A HARD HIT.—The Cincinnati Gazette, referring to the fact that several paupers from Europe had been shipped back by the authorities of Boston, says:

"We may not object to having paupers sent back to the place from whence they came, only it strikes us that a city which permits a police court to send back white men and women three thousand miles across the ocean, because they are poor, ought not to make so much fuss about a commissioner sending a negro back to Virginia because he is a slave.—That's all."

John Baglin, who was so badly scalded and bruised at the whiskey still explosion in Furman & Co.'s distillery, in Williamsburg, N. Y., on Friday afternoon, expired on Saturday, after lingering in great agony for twenty-four hours.

Gov. Powell, of Kentucky, has appointed Thursday the 30th of November as a day of thanksgiving.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORFOLK BEACON:

Dear Sir—A long communication appeared in your paper of the 14th September, bearing date the 31st August, and purporting to give an account of the proceedings of the late White Sulphur Convention. The writer under the factious signature of "Sam Patch," has worked up a very elaborate caricature of the proceedings of that Convention and of some of the persons who took part in it. He has undertaken, among other things, to give me a conspicuous, but not an enviable place in his picture; of which I would not complain, if he had represented correctly what I said and did. But in the only instance in which he has attempted to repeat what I did say, he has given so incorrect an epitome of my remarks, that I think it due to myself to make the proper correction. And lest it should be thought I am rather late in doing so, I ought to mention that yesterday was the first time I ever saw or had an opportunity of seeing the communication of your correspondent.

He says of me—"He charged the Southsiders with voluntarily absenting themselves from the Convention, when they had never been invited, and in the face too of a letter written by the President of the Central Road announcing the object of the Convention to be the '*crushing out*' of one of our important works."

I do not consider myself as having made any charge at all against the Southsiders as a body. I did not go to the Convention with any such purpose, nor do I believe that my language was justly liable to such an interpretation. I have never cherished any feeling of hostility to Norfolk or Petersburg, or to what is commonly known as the Southside line of improvement, extending by railway from Norfolk through Petersburg and Lynchburg to the Tennessee line. I went to the Convention, however, as a delegate from Richmond, considering that Convention as an assemblage of the friends of the Covington and Ohio Railroad, called for the purpose of promoting the construction and success of that road and its tributary improvements, and for no other purpose, and prepared, of course, to render my very humble aid, if necessary, in the Convention, towards attaining that object. I supposed we had all come there not to advocate or oppose the improvements of the Southside, but simply to promote as far as lay in our power, and not to abandon or betray, the Central improvement.

It is not necessary to explain the manner in which I was induced, at the request of gentlemen from the East and from the West, to take a more active part in the proceedings of the Convention than I had anticipated. It is probable that if certain gentlemen had arrived on the ground earlier, the part which I took would have been assigned to some one more able and competent. Be that as it may, I am not ashamed of anything which I did, and am conscious of no improper motive.

The remarks which I made were in reply to a speech from Mr. McComas of Kanawha. The Convention had adopted, with almost entire unanimity, the resolutions of the committee of 21, which embraced what that committee supposed to be the whole business of the Convention. Thereupon, Mr. McComas offered certain resolutions which looked to a compromise between the friends of the Covington and Ohio Railroad and those of the Southside line, of all existing differences between them, and to the proposed Convention to be held at Norfolk in November as the time and place for effecting that compromise. He accompanied those resolutions with a speech in which he contended that the Convention had not done enough; that something more should be done with a view to conciliate the Southside. He complained also that from the manner in which the Convention was called or gotten up, the Southsiders had felt themselves excluded from the Convention, and they were, therefore, not represented in it. He complained, moreover, that the committee had not recommended the call of an extra session of the Legislature.

I replied to Mr. McComas by showing why it was thought imprudent and inexpedient for the friends of the Covington and Ohio Road to take upon themselves the odium of calling for an extra session of the Legislature. I endeavored to show that the resolutions of the committee and the Convention had not gone further in their recommendations, not because we were hostile to the Southside or its lines of improvement, but because we felt bound to confine ourselves to the objects for which the Convention was called. I adverted to the catholic and liberal spirit of our seventh resolution, as conclusive proof that we were not actuated by any spirit of hostility to the improvements of the Southside, or of any part of the State.

[illegible] Southside had been excluded from the Convention by the terms in which it was called, I referred to the Kanawha resolutions and to the resolutions of the other counties and corporation appointing delegates to the Convention, to show that it was universally understood to be a Convention of all the friends of the Covington and Ohio Railroad in Virginia, whether from Southside or Northside, East or West. And I said that since the terms of the call were so comprehensive as to embrace all the friends of the C. & O. R. R., whether in the North or in the South, if any persons felt themselves excluded from the Convention by the terms of the call, it must be because they were conscious of being the enemies of the improvement to promote the interests of which the Convention was assembled. I did say that I believed that a portion of the friends of the Southside line were hostile to the construction of the Covington and Ohio R. R., and that I believed that they had defeated appropriations to it by their active hostility last winter. But I did not make that charge against the whole Southside. Sam Patch is, I presume, among the number of those against whom the charge might have been made with truth; as I think may be fairly inferred from the spirit of his letter.

But Mr. Patch says I charged that the Southsiders voluntarily absented themselves from the Convention, in the face of a letter of the President of the Central Road, announcing the object of the Convention to be the "crushing out" of one of our most important works. I know of no such letter; none such was produced; nor do I believe that any such was written. Some such charge was made at the Convention, *upon rumor;* but Col. Fontaine denied it publicly. He admitted, that having heard that the friends of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad would be at the Convention in force, with a view to supersede the Covington and Ohio Railroad, by the Christiansburg and Greenbrier line, he had written to several persons to deprecate such a movement, and to invite aid in defeating it; but he justified his course upon the ground of necessary self-defence against aggression. That was a very different thing from inviting friends of the Covington and Ohio Road to stay away from it; very different also from saying that the only object of the Convention was to crush the Southside line. Whether Col. Fontaine was opposed to having any connexion between the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad and the Covington and Ohio Road, I know not; certainly, the Convention was not called to defeat that connexion, nor did the White Sulphur Convention say or do anything hostile to it, nor is it very material what Col. Fontaine did or did not write. It was not he who called the Convention, and it remains yet to be shown that he kept the people of the Southside away. I presume if he had told them not to come, that would have been the most effectual way to bring them, for they would have justly resisted such dictation.

Sam Patch affects to consider the whole Convention of the friends of the Covington and Ohio Railroad, freely assembled at the White Sulphur, to the number of several hundred persons, from some 33 to 34 counties, as controlled by the Central Railroad Company, and "Johnson, Gifford & Co." as he chooses to call them, as the instruments by which that company accomplished its purposes. Those who really know anything of the proceedings of the Convention will smile at so absurd a charge, and those who know anything of my past course, or of Mr. Gifford's, with reference to the internal improvements of the State, must also know that the charge that we were the instruments of the Central Railroad Company, cannot be true. My past life shows that the only improvements in which I have exhibited any peculiar interest, has been the waterline from Richmond (I might say from Norfolk) to the Ohio. I have not been in any way connected with the Central Railroad, except by owning one share of its stock, and Mr Gifford has always exhibited a lively interest in the improvements of the Southside, being a stockholder in the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company, of which he was for many years a Director and Vice President. Why does Sam Patch select him as an object of attack?—For no other reason apparently but to bring odium upon the White Sulphur Convention, by representing it as controlled by an "Englishman."

Sam Patch, perhaps, also means it to be understood that I helped to prevent Mr. Fisk's report from being printed by the Convention. If he does, he is wrong in that also. I voted for printing it.

I would not have taken the pains to correct these errors or misstatements with reference to my own course in the Convention, if it was not proper to do so in order to vindicate the Convention itself, against which really all the arrows of Sam Patch are aimed. His object is to expose it to ridicule and contempt, to defeat the object which that Convention had in view; and he, therefore, spares neither its action nor its actors, except those who, by their course, most favored the local interests which he seeks to promote. If I do him injustice in this, or if he has pursued his object by the means the most creditable to him, let the impartial public, if such a tribunal exists, decide.

Allow me to say one word more by way of warning to the friends of internal improvement in Virginia. To what do such attacks as those of Sam Patch tend? If any in the camp of one great interest goes forth to the public to misrepresent, vilify and denounce it, will not retaliation become the order of the day? Suppose it shall be the fate of the coming Norfolk Convention to have an emissary of the Central Railroad in attendance, who shall become such a chronicler of its proceedings as Sam Patch has proved himself to be in regard to the Covington and Ohio Convention; suppose the same policy to continue to be practiced upon every similar occasion, what then will become of internal improvements in Virginia?

What will be the fate of all our towns, and of this good old Commonwealth itself which we all profess to love, and to whose prosperity we consider a wise and liberal system of internal improvements to be essential? Will not all our schemes of improvements and all the different towns and sections of the State be thereby involved in interminable broils and deadly mutual hatred? Shall the cause of internal improvement in Virginia be suffered to perish by such a fratricidal and suicidal strife? I trust the good sense and good feelings of the country will interfere to prevent so disastr