THE DAILY DISPATCH.

BY JAS. 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, or $2 50 for six months, in advance.

☞ The Weekly Dispatch is issued every Friday, and mailed to subscribers at $1 per annum.

RUNAWAYS.

THIRTY DOLLARS REWARD.—Runaway from the subscriber, on the 3d of February last, his negro man PATRAM.—Said negro is about thirty years old, stoutly built, about five feet eight inches high, and of ginger-bread complexion. He is rather grum and sullen in expression; answers quickly but gruffly when spoken to, and in the habit, when conversing, of placing his thumb in the palm of the hand. He has relations in Amelia, and his father resides near Petersburg, in the vicinity of which place he is probably lurking. The above reward will be paid upon his delivery to the subscriber, at his residence in Henrico county, near the Dutch Gap, or, his being confined in jail so that he can get him.
HENRY COX.

Runaway from the subscriber on the 6th of August a negro man named William, belonging to the estate of John Noel in Caroline county. He is of black complexion, from 25 to 30 years of age, and has a wife living near Sparta Post Office with Samuel A. Noel Esq., and it is supposed he is gone there. The usual reward will be paid upon his delivery to me at the jail of Henrico and all expenses paid.
G. B. STACY,
or to Baker & Pleasants.

RUNAWAY.—Runaway from the subscriber, on the 1st January last, a negro woman named AMANDA, belonging to the estate of Samuel Pleasants, deceased. She is of a dark brown complexion, about twenty-seven years old, and has a mother living in Butchertown, and many relations living in Powhatan, where she is no doubt harbored. The usual reward will be paid upon her delivery to me at the jail of Henrico, and all expenses paid.
ALEX. B. HUTCHESON.

VIRGINIA SPRINGS—SOUTH-SIDE, RICHMOND & DANVILLE, AND VIRGINIA AND TENNSSEE RAILROADS—SUMMER ARRANGEMENT—Shortest, most Comfortable and most Expeditious Route to the Virginia Springs, through by Daylight, and Baggage checked Through. Except on Stages.—Visitors to the Virginia Springs by this route, take the South-Side Railroad cars at Petersburg, or the Richmond and Danville cars at Richmond, at 6, A. M., daily, (Sundays excepted,) arrive at Lynchburg to Dinner, and thence, via the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, reach Bonsack's Depot at 3½ and Salem at 4, P. M., and at either place take
KENT, SUMMERSON & CO'S FINE LINE OF STAGES!
Those via Bonsack's, lodge at Fincastle, dine at the Red Sweet, or Sweet Springs, and arrive at the White Sulphur Springs (17 miles) early in the evening of the second day from Petersburg or Richmond, without NIGHT TRAVEL, and with but 64 miles of staging. Or by the Salem route, stop all night at Roanoke Red Sulphur Springs, (10 miles distant from Salem) dine at the Red Sweet, or Sweet Springs, and arrive at the White Sulphur Springs on the evening of the following day.
The Virginia and Tennessee Railroad is located through a most romantic country, possessing a climate unsurpassed for its salubrity and delightful temperature. The road passes the base of the
PEAKS OF OTTER!
And within three miles of the Alleghany Springs, one mile of the Montgomery White Sulphur Springs, and within four miles of the Yellow Sulphur Springs; all pleasantly situated a few miles apart, on the Eastern slope of the Alleghany mountain, in Montgomery co. The waters of these Springs are celebrated for their great medicinal qualities, the accommodations are excellent, and have been greatly increased since last season.
☞ Visitors to the Red Sulphur Springs take Kent, Summerson & Co's Stages at New Bern Depot, on the evening of the day that they leave Petersburg or Richmond, and arrive at the Springs on the following day to dinner, and at Salt Sulphur Springs early in the day of the second day from Richmond or Petersburg.
The Road from New Bern Depot to the Red Sulphur Springs, (33 miles,) has been graded and greatly improved since last season, and is now regarded as one of the best turnpikes in the mountains.
The line of Telegraph from Richmond will be completed and in operation to the Montgomery White Sulphur Springs early in June.
Passengers to Knoxville, Tennessee, take Kent, Summerson & Co's Stages at the Western terminus of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, now 180 miles from Lynchburg (and being extended Westward at the rate of 8 miles per month) to the Eastern terminus of the East Tennessee and Virginia Railroad, and arrive at Knoxville, in 2½ days from Petersburg or Richmond.
FARE FROM PETERSBURG OR RICHMOND:
To Red Sweet, or Sweet Springs via Bonsack's. $10.00
" " " " " Salem.....10 50
" White Sulphur Springs " Bonsack's...11.00
" " " " " Salem.....11.50
" Red Sulphur Springs.....12.25
Alleghany Springs.....8.00
" Montgomery White Sulphur Springs.....8.25
" Yellow Sulphur Springs.....8.45
" Knoxville, Tennessee.....23.00
NOTE.—The charge for tickets to the Alleghany Springs, Montgomery White Sulphur and the Yellow Sulphur Springs does not include the charge from the Railroad to the Springs. Passengers for the Alleghany Springs, (4 miles distant,) take tickets to Shawsville—for Montgomery White Sulphur, (1 mile distant by a branch railroad,) take tickets to Big Tunnel, and for the Yellow Sulphur, (4 miles distant,) take tickets to Christiansburg Depot. Conveyances will be found at those places.
For further information apply to
E. A. GOODWIN,
Ticket Agent S. S. R. R., Petersburg.
CHARLES CAMPBELL,
Sup't. Richmond and Danville R. R., Richmond.
E. H. GILL,
Sup't. V. & T. R. R., Lynchburg.
KENT, SUMMERSON & CO.,
Fincastle, Va.
je 2—3m

THE ADAMS' EXPRESS COMPANY, 154 Main st., having resumed their Steamship Express to and from Norfolk, Petersburg and Richmond, by steamers Jamestown and Roanoke, which leave New York every Wednesday and Saturday, and thence by railroad to Weldon, Wilmington, Lynchburg, Salem, Wytheville, and the principal places in Virginia and North Carolina, are now prepared to forward, with great dispatch, and at reduced rates, every kind of Merchandise, Valuable Parcels, Jewelry, &c., to the above named cities, and all places on the seaboard.
Our Express on the Steamships will be accompanied by special Messengers, who will give their personal attention to the careful handling of goods entrusted to the ADAMS' EXPRESS CO.'S Steamship Express.
Shippers will please take notice that packages to points in Virginia and North Carolina, will be sent by steamers, unless otherwise marked.
Freight received on day of sailing, until 3 o'clock, P. M.
J. L. MACDONUGH,
Agent of Adams' Express Co.

☞ SPECIAL NOTICE.—Express packages for Norfolk, Petersburg, Richmond, and all places in Virginia and North Carolina, intended for shipment by steamships Roanoke and Jamestown, will hereafter be received by the ADAMS' EXPRESS COMPANY, who are the authorized Agents for Express privileges on these ships.
Office of the New York and Virginia Steamship Company.
LUDLAM & PLEASANTS,
Agents.
ap 4—tf

CARRIAGE AND WAGON FACTORY.—The subscriber has opened his CARRIAGE and WAGON FACTORY, on 18th street, between Franklin and Grace. He will be glad to see his friends and customers ☞ Light CARRIAGES, BUGGIES, SULKIES, &c., made to order; and all work made by him warranted ☞ REPAIRING done promptly and reasonably.
jy 15—d3m THOMAS H. FOWLER.

CARRIAGES, CARRIAGES. The subscriber has on hand, at his Coach Making Establishment, on Lombard Alley, between Main and Cary, (13th and 14th streets,) near the Columbian Hotel, COACHES, CHARIOTEES, BAROUCHES, BUGGIES with and without tops, and SULKIES, all of his own make, of the best materials and workmanship. All of which will be sold as low as good work of the kind can be in the city of Richmond, and I respectfully ask a call from those in want of any article in the Carriage line, as I am determined to make to order and sell at the lowest prices possible, and all work sold, that is now, warranted.
fe 26—d3m MICAJAH MANGUM.

LARGE STOCK OF GUNS, PISTOLS, RIFLES, &c.—I take this opportunity of informing my friends and customers that I have on hand a complete assortment of DOUBLE AND SINGLE GUNS, FOWLING AND FISHING TACKLE, BOWIE KNIVES AND DIRKS, GOLD AND SILVER-HEADED WALKING CANES—together with every article wanted by a sportsman of the field.
N. B.—Guns and Rifles made to order. Repairing of all kinds done with neatness and dispatch.
JAMES WALSH,
jy 12—1m 7 doors above St. Charles Hotel.

CHICKERING'S PIANO FORTES—To be had at No. 169 Main st., opposite the Exchange Bank, Richmond.
NATH'L CARUSI,
jy 14—d&wly Sole Agent

DR. ADDINGTON, (Graduate,) Dentist, manufactures Teeth expressly for each particular case. Full sets of Teeth, or any parts of sets, made with artificial Gums, in one continuous or solid piece. The cost is the same as single Teeth shaped in moulds in large numbers, and sold for general use.
Dr. A. also extracts, fills and cleanses Teeth, besides restores the gum and mouth to a healthy condition. Office on Main street, second square above the Banks.
jy 31

DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. X.--NO. 41. RICHMOND, SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 1856. PRICE ONE CENT.

THE DAILY DISPATCH.

Saturday Morning, August 16, 1856.

TWO WEEKS LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

The Vigilance Committee Still in Power.

REPORT ON OFFICIAL CORRUPTION.

The Ariel brings dates from San Francisco to July 21. The Vigilance Committee was still in power, though all was quiet. The grain crop of the State exceeded all expectation.

The Vigilance Committee had appointed a committee to investigate affairs in the public offices. From its report we make some extracts:

Report of Official Corruption.

The magnitude of the task assigned, the variety and extent of the subject matter proposed for their investigation, as well as the shortness of time allowed them, have rendered it impossible to make so thorough an examination as could be desired.

Under these circumstances they have deemed it best to point out such palpable and fragrant abuses or violations of law as have come under notice, with some defects in the laws themselves, and to make a few suggestions with a view of remedying the evils complained of.

In the first place they have examined the financial system of the country, which has been managed by a Board of Supervisors, County Auditor, and County Treasurer.

The act of the 29th of April, 1851, creating a Board of Supervisors for the county of San Francisco, authorises the Board to audit the accounts of all officers having the management, collection or distribution of any moneys belonging to the county; and to examine, settle, and allow all accounts chargeable against the county. Either by accident or design, there is no express restriction upon the power of the Board to incur indebtedness, although every other county in the State is strictly prohibited from creating any debts whatever.

The natural consequence is, that we have lived far beyond our annual income; extravagance has been the order of the day. The county is now burdened with a debt of at least half a million dollars, drawing legal interest until paid. Warrants have depreciated to less than half their value, and the holders have sustained loss in consequence; even though in many instances the law has been violated, in their favor, by issuing warrants for a sum sufficient to enable the creditor to discount them for the actual cash value of his claim.

The county has been grossly and continually swindled. Bills for carriage hire of Grand Juries; fees of Coroner and Sheriff; charges for stationery, travelling expenses of members of the Board of Supervisors; fees in criminal cases; appropriations and expenditures for county roads, bridges, and jobs done without authority of law, at the instance of individual members of the Board; printing bills, expenses of elections, furniture, and other charges—some of which have been gratuitously and illegally allowed—have been presented for double or treble the amounts due, have been approved without examination, and paid; in many cases, by issuing warrants for twice the amount, to enable the holder to realise cash value. It is to be hoped that before the county debt is paid or funded, a thorough examination will be made, and fraudulent and exaggerated claims wholly rejected or properly reduced.

The following are cited as illustrations of the system of reckless expenditure above referred to:

1st. The purchase of the hospital building, and repairs of the same, amounting to about $30,000, which is a dead loss to the county, as the building has never been used, and is utterly unfit for the purpose.

2d. The attempted purchase of the small building in the rear of the City Hall, for $25,000.

3d. The appropriation of $10 000 for a county map on the 1st day of July, 1855, and the delivery of warrants for that amount on the 5th day of July, 1855, to Supervisor Musgrove, before the commencement of the work, which has never yet been completed.

4th. The appropriation of $450, and delivery of warrants for said sum to Superviser Musgrove, about the same time, for purchasing hose to wash the Plaza, which has never yet been furnished.

Another great abuse has existed in the system of appointing clerks and deputies, with large salaries, at the expense of the county, without any necessity for their services, and contrary to law, for the purpose of rewarding political friends.

For example: The Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, who received for his services in that capacity two hundred dollars per month, has also acted as Clerk of the Board of Equalization, and for this service, which is merely nominal, he has received the further sum of two hundred dollars per month throughout the year.

The County Auditor, whose duties as such are trifling, and who receives a salary of $1600 per annum, is allowed a clerk at the expense of the county, without authority of law.

The County Treasurer, whose receipts are large, and whose necessary expenses are borne by the county, is allowed by the Board of Supervisors, three deputies or clerks at $250 each per month, without authority of law.

Casey and Mulligan occupied these positions for a year or more under Green, late County Treasurer, drawing their pay without rendering any real services.

THE COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE.

This is one of the most important and lucrative offices in the county, and ought to be managed with the utmost care and system under the personal superintendence of the Recorder himself, as the least neglect may occasion serious loss and injury to property holders.

Instead of this the office seems to have been conducted mainly with the view of realizing as much money as possible, and of rewarding political friends with clerkships.

The following facts have been ascertained, and are submitted:—

That in many instances the records are not correct copies of the original instruments.

That the clerks employed in the office were young men of no business capacity, many of whom could not write a legible hand.

The statute requires that the record shall be officially signed by the Recorder, which is frequently omitted through neglect.

The clerks are in the habit of comparing their work in the afternoon, at a time when they are anxious to leave the office, and do not devote the time or care necessary for a correct record, often if not uniformly omitting the acknowledgments or proofs of execution, which form an essential part of the instrument.

In addition to the heavy fees paid by individuals, the office has been a source of heavy expense to the county, and while money has been lavishly expended, little benefit has resulted.

For example, Mr. Grant received the sum of $22,000 for copying certain books, which it now appears, were never compared, and are full of errors.

The sum of $8,000 was appropriated by the late Board of Supervisors, on the 21st April last, for the purchase of the indexes of all papers recorded during the term of Mr. Grant, who claimed them as his private property, when responsible parties offered to furnish similar and more perfect indexes for $3,500. Fortunately for tax payers, the act of the Board was null and void, as the Consolidation bill had taken effect two days before.

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

The importance of this office is not often appreciated, even by intelligent men.

The powers and duties of the Sheriff is most extensive and various, his influence and patronage are great, his labors and responsibilities severe, while he is often exposed to the strongest temptations, and in times of emergency everything depends on his firmness and decision. It is an office to which neither demagogues, time-serving politicians, nor men of inferior position, conceited but ignorant, should aspire; yet which the best men in the county will find it hard to fill.

Unfortunately, the late and former Sheriff are men wholly unfitted for the position, either by nature, education or associations, and their deputies, with few exceptions, have been of the lowest character.

The Sheriff's fees and emoluments in this county have been enormous, and probably without a parallel in the United States. Besides his fees as Sheriff, he has also received per centage and commission as Tax Collector, to a large amount, and has been paid a liberal allowance for the clothing and feeding of prisoners. The consolidation bill makes a change in this respect. The Sheriff is no longer Tax Collector, and the contract system is very properly applied to the expenses of feeding and clothing prisoners.

The principal abuses connected with this office are as follow:

1. Recklessness, inattention and want of system have prevailed to a great extent in the business of the office.

2. Many complaints have been made in regard to the summoning of juries. Certain men seem to have been selected to serve regularly as professional jurors, and it is charged, and no doubt truly, that juries have been packed at various times in important cases.

3. Exorbitant bills and charges have been presented to the Board of Supervisors, and paid without examination; in some cases for more than the amount legally or just due. This has been the case with the fees charged in criminal cases, particularly for keeping and guarding prisoners. The sum of $950 per month has also been regularly charged and paid for the attendance of deputies in the several courts. In fact, both these charges are unauthorized and illegal.

The law makes no provision for the compensation of deputies, who are paid by the Sheriff himself; yet, in violation of law, he thus remunerates himself by drawing pay from the county for their services. This office should be salaried with the rest, and an allowance made for necessary expenses.

It is proper, also, to state, that the recent records and miscellaneous papers of this office are in a state of hopeless confusion, and that the books and papers of Ex-Sheriff Hayes, Johnson and Gorham are in their possession respectively, instead of being delivered to and in possession of the present Sheriff, which is a matter of great importance.

CORONER'S OFFICE.

There are some abuses connected with this office which require to be done away with.

In the first place, the Coroner is paid by fees, instead of a salary.

In the second place, constructive fees and illegal charges are made, and have been constantly charged, allowed and paid, so that each inquest has cost the county about $70. For post mortem examination, $25 to $50 has been regularly charged and paid by the Board of Supervisors, in disregard of one of their own orders limiting it to $16. In many cases, without any necessity whatever, this charge has been made, as it is believed, for the sake of the fees and patronage.

Thirdly, it is alleged and had been proved that false inquests and pretended burials have taken place, with a view to secure the legal fees and perquisites, and that such cases have been frequent is more than probable, from the fact that inquests average one a day through the year. It is a notable fact that, since the organization of the Vigilance committee, the number of inquests, as well as sudden deaths, has wonderfully diminished. The late coroner claimed and sent in an exorbitant bill against the county, for rent of office and dead house, though the law did not authorize any such charge. Stationery is allowed to the present Coroner, in violation to the law.

The Coroner receives from the county about $23,000 a year, merely for the expenses of inquests and burials, witness and jury fees, taking down testimony at the rate of forty cents per folio (which is an illegal charge;) and for his own fees, which are as follows:—$10 for each inquest, 25 cents for each mile necessarily travelled to hold an inquest, $2 for attending each burial, and the necessary expenses of interment, if the property of deceased be insufficient to pay the same.

It is the duty of the coroner to deliver to the county treasurer, or the legal representatives of the deceased, any money or other property found on the deceased after deducting the legal fees and expenses; and the law requires the coroner to account under oath, as to those monies and effects before his claims against the county are audited or allowed. This provision of law is not regarded at all; and the coroner must be presumed to be considerably benefitted by this neglect.

The bond of the Coroner is only $5,000, which is certainly insufficient.

In addition to these statement, the Committee found 100 cases on the docket of the Court of General Sessions, in which the persons who were charged with murder, theft, &c., were let off with no punishment at all. The Committee closes by urging the importance of securing the sacred right of elective franchise, and says:

Let us, then, have spacious halls for voting, open to the public by night and by day, till the result is declared, and ballot boxes that cannot be stuffed, even transparent, if necessary, elevated in full view, and guarded by a citizen police, that all may vote, and see and record the vote of others. Then, with the aid of a Registry Law, we might utterly exterminate the banded body of traitors and villains who have so long robbed us of our birthright, and brought reproach upon the very name of liberty and republicanism.

Excitement at Yreka.

The following information was supplied to the Sacramento Union:—

On the 4th of July there was a great many miners in Yreka. One of them, named J. Blunt, committed some offence, when Deputy Sheriff Millhouse attempted to arrest him. Blunt offered at first no resistance, but the crowd of miners around him urged him not to submit to arrest, as it was a "d—d little offence," and on the Fourth of July should not be noticed. An altercation of words followed. The Deputy Sheriff adhering to his determination finally struck Blunt, knocked him down and stamped upon his body. When Blunt arose he made an advance towards Millhouse, urged on by the crowd. As he was approaching, the Deputy Sheriff drew a pistol and fired at him. The ball struck him in the socket of the throat and killed him instantly. Millhouse was then hurried off to jail and secured there by the Sheriff and posse. In a very short time the jail was completely surrounded by miners, while the force of the Sheriff inside constantly augmented by citizens summoned by that officer for the protection of the prisoners. Meanwhile the news spread over the country, and miners continued to flock into town from Greenhorn, Dead Wood, (a distance of twelve miles,) Indian Creek, (fifteen miles,) and from Humbug, (eight miles.)

This was on Saturday, the 5th. By this time there were four hundred miners around the jail, which was defended by a posse of one hundred men inside, fully armed. The arms used by the Sheriff were sent for and obtained from Fort Jones, about nineteen miles off, where there is a detachment of United States troops. The guns and ammunition were obtained during the night of the 4th. After the occurrence an "extra" was issued from the office of the Yreka Union, giving an account of the affair, to which the miners took exception. Becoming incensed they appointed a deputation from their number to wait on Mr George Freaner, the editor, and demand a retraction or contradiction of the article. The deputation accordingly called upon him and made their demand, when Mr. Freaner stated that if they would convince him he was wrong in any particular he would do so; but if they could not convince him of his error he would adhere to his position. The deputation of miners then stated to Mr. Freaner that they would give him till Sunday evening to withdraw the language, and if he failed to do it, at the expiration of that term they would introduce him to a coat of tar and feathers. Mr. Corral left town on Sunday morning, and consequently did not know what afterwards took place. Before leaving, the excitement had reached a high pitch, and the miners expressed their determination to take the prison at all hazards, and that if they could not otherwise succeed, they would burn the town.

Attempted Capture of Ned McGowan.

On Sunday morning, the 6th inst., a stranger appeared in the town of Santa Barbara, and was seen talking for a long time with Mr. Packard, a person well known in the city. At length the two were passed by Mr. Blake, who at once recognized in the stranger none other than the notorious McGowan who aided in the murder of Jas. King. A short time afterwards Ned went to the hotel and approached Major Bache, of the coast survey, who was eating at the table. The Major immediately knew the visitor, and McGowan smiled as he neared Mr. Bache's seat, and withdrew. By this time everybody had heard that the runaway was in the place, and application was made to the Sheriff that he might be arrested. But while this officer was satisfying himself that there really was an indictment against him for murder in San Francisco, Ned's friends became alarmed and run him off to the fastnesses of a swamp. The Sheriff collected a posse and started in pursuit; but it being near night, it was not possible to enter the swamp to make search with any prospect of success; so he spread his posse around and set fire to the tules, but they being scarcely ripe enough to burn well, made a big smoke that "fizzled out." Meanwhile the darkness approached, and the search was given over.

Destructive Fires.

On the 5th of July, a most lamentable misfortune befel the town of Placerville. A fire broke out and destroyed one hundred and eighty-six buildings, which, together with other property, were valued at about $600,000. The town was nearly all burned, and Mr. Benham perished in the flames, while several others were injured. Collections for the sufferers are being taken up in various places. On the 8th, the village of Georgetown, Placer co., was consumed by fire, and the loss estimated at $100,000. Seventy buildings were destroyed. On the 12th, the town of Fair Play, Eldorado county, was burned, involving a loss of about $70,000. On the 16th, a disastrous fire took place at Marysville, and consumed a large number of buildings, valued at $160,000.

Miscellaneous.

On the 16th, James Downing, a tailor, of Nevada, was shot by his brother-in-law, James Walsh, and it is thought his wound is fatal.

The reception of the late Presidential nominations has not been particularly enthusiastic. A few ratification meetings had been held inland, and most of the journals have chosen their positions for the canvass, and a few leaders are trying to form campaign clubs.

"Chris. Lilly," the ex-New York pugilist, and against whom there is an indictment for murder in New York State, was arrested on the 8th, and admitted to bail, that he might settle his business previous to going into exile.

The exportation of offensive persons attracts great crowds to the dock on steamer days.

Chas E. Rand was arrested on the 7th, charged with piracy, in assisting John L. Durkee and others to disarm a party carrying off State arms down the bay. He gave $25,000 bail, the same amount required of Durkee, arrested previous to the departure of the last steamer.

Capt. A. A. Ritchie, a prominent merchant of this city was thrown from his carriage, at Napa Springs, on the 9th, and instantly killed. He was of the firm of Ritchie, Osgood & Co.

Miss Gwin, daughter of the ex-senator Gwin, while on a visit to Napa Springs, was thrown from her horse and severely injured.

Mortimer Fulton, chief engineer of the steamship Golden Age, was instantly killed by the machinery on her upward trip. He was a native of Louisiana.

Terrible Earthquake in the Moluccas.

The Indian mail brings advices of another of those dreadful earthquakes, for which Ternati and the adjoining localities in the Moluccas are proverbial. An eruption of the active volcano on the island of Great Sanger, in lon. 125 50 E., and lat 3 50 N., has occurred. The Northwestern part of the island of Great Sanger is formed by the mountain Awn, which has several peaks, the highest being about 1000 feet above the sea. On the west side the mountain runs very steep into the sea, at the height of the large village of Kanehar however falling away to a low promonitory.

Between 7 and 8 o'clock on the evening of the 2d of March, a sudden and altogether indescribable crashing noise was heard, which, indicating to the Sangirese an eruption of the volcano, filled them with consternation. Simultaneous with this, the glowing lava streamed downwards with irresistible force, in different directions, bearing with it whatever it encountered in its destructive course, and causing the sea to boil wherever they came in contact.

The hot springs opened up and cast out a flood of boiling water, which destroyed and carried away what the fire had spared. The sea, obedient to an unusual impulse, lashed the rocks with frightful violence, dashed upon the shore, and heaved itself with wild haste against the land, as if it strove to overmaster the fire stream.

The frightful picture of destruction, the horror of which was increased by the shrieks of men and beasts, the wild roaring of the tempest, and the crashing of thousands of trees torn up and carried away, was followed about an hour later by peals of thunder, which shook the ground and deafened the ear.

A black column of stones and ashes then shot up from the mountain to an immense height, and fell, illuminated by the glare of the lava, like a shower of fire upon the surrounding country below, producing a darkness that, only now and then momentarily broken by the flashes of lightning, was so intense that people could not discern objects close at hand, and which completed their confusion and despair. Large stones were hurled through the air, crushing whatever they fell upon. Houses and crops which had not been destroyed by fire, sank and disappeared beneath the ashes and stones, and the hill streams, stopped by these barriers, formed lakes, which breaking over their banks, soon proved a new source of destruction.

This lasted some hours. About midnight the raging elements sank to rest; but on the following day, about noon, they again began their work of destruction with renewed violence. In the meantime the fall of ashes continued without intermission, and was so thick on this day that the rays of the sun could not penetrate through it, and an appalling darkness prevailed.

Scarcely recovered in some degree from their fright, the inhabitants of this desolated part of Sangir were again disturbed by an eruption on the 17th March, which destroyed many fields and a great number of trees on the Tabukan side.

Since then the volcano has remained quiet, and the only symptom of its working has been the smoke rising up in all directions from cracks and fissures in the ground. The streams of lava on the slopes are still so slightly cooled that people dare not venture to any great distance from the shore. According to the accounts of the natives, the top of the mountain does not appear to have undergone any noticeable alteration.

On the other side of Kandhar, on the extreme point of the island, the appearance of the devastation which has been caused is, if possible, even more frightful than what has taken place at Tartuna; for here, where formerly there were to be seen extensive fields bearing all kinds of crops, and thickly planted and endless groves of cocoanuts, we now find nothing but lava, stone and ashes. The liquid fire seems at this point to have flowed from the mountain with irresistible force and in prodigious quantity. Not only has this fearful flood as it were buried the whole district and all that was upon it, but after having caused this destruction over an extent of several miles, it was still powerful enough, on reaching the shore, to form two long tanjonge (capes) at places where the depth of water formerly consisted of many fathoms.

A number of districts and places have been, some wholly destroyed, others greatly injured by the fire.

The loss of life has been great. It is estimated as follows in the undermentioned districts:

Tartuna, men, women and children,	722
Kandhar, " " "	45
Tabukan, " " "	2,030
Total,	2 797

The great number met their death in the gardens. They fled in all directions, but were overtaken and swallowed up by the fatal fire stream. Some tried to save themselves in the trees, but were either carried away with them or killed by the scorching heat. At Kalougan and Tariang, the houses were filled with people who were stopped in their flight by the lava streaming down on all sides, and the streams of boiling water, and who met their death under the burning ashes and tumbling houses. Many who had reached the shore and thought themselves safe, became a prey to the furious waves, and many died through sheer despair and agony.

PETERSBURG AFFAIRS.—The Petersburg papers of yesterday contain the following:

The Shooting Affair.—R. H. Wilson was examined by the Mayor and remanded to jail to appear at the Hustings court for shooting Fleming Easley. The wounded man was well enough to appear in court and testify.

Sale.—The residence of H. S. Jeter, near the gas works has been sold for $3,000 to G. W. Tucker, of Nottoway.

The Sum of $275, sufficient to build the monument to Captain McRae and the Petersburg volunteers in 1812, has been raised.

Tobacco.—Thirty-nine hogsheads of tobacco were sold at Oaks' Warehouse at an average of $10 per cwt.—mostly shipping.

NORTH CAROLINA ELECTION.—Seventy counties in North Carolina have been heard from, and give Bragg 49,213 and Gilmer 37,463. Bragg's majority 11,750. There are ten counties to hear from, which will give Bragg 1000 majority.

MATERIAL PROGRESS OF TEXAS.—Of all the slave States in the Union, Texas appears to be the most rapidly progressing. The average value of assessed land is now $1 28—in 1852 it was 87½c. The total value of land assessed in 1852 was $33,000,000—now it is $58,000,000; of negroes $38,000,000—now $53,000,000; of horses and cattle $8,000,000—now $17,000,000.

NOVEL MODE OF NAVIGATION.—A late number of the St. Louis, Mo., Intelligencer, after informing its readers that the steamer Michigan had run into the woods and knocked down one of her chimneys, says, "She will be up to-day, running on one chimney."

FATAL CAMPHENE EXPLOSION.—In Alexandria, Va., on Wednesday last, at the boarding house of the Misses Thurston, a white servant was filling a camphene lamp which exploded from the combustion of a candle held near by, burning a colored girl to death and seriously injuring the white woman and one of the Misses Thurston.

GREAT YIELD.—Sixteen acres on the Elk Island estate of Julien Harrison, of Goochland, Va., produced the large amount of six hundred and forty bushels of wheat—averaging fifty three and three-quarters bushels per acre.

The grain crop of France, says the Paris correspondent of the New York Evening Post, is good in the north. In the south it is poor, and a general deficit of from 25 to 30 per cent. is ascertained.

On the morning of Tuesday, the 19th, at about one o'clock, there will be an occultation of Jupiter with the moon, the star being hidden nearly an hour.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Attempt at Suicide.—On Thursday night last, the residents of Union Hill, were aroused from their quiet slumbers by the oft repeated cries for help, and on hastening out to ascertain the cause, learned that a servant boy, named Sam, about sixteen years old, the property of Mrs. Brown, had made a daring effort to cut short life's mortal coil by hanging himself with a rope. About 9 o'clock, as we learn, Mrs. Brown had occasion to step into her back yard, and as she did so, saw Sam swing off from a limb of a tree, with a rope around his neck. She immediately screamed for help, and then had the presence of mind to run to the boy and hold him up until assistance came and the rope was cut, when he fell lifeless at her feet. The services of a physician were obtained as soon as possible, and after extraordinary exertions, the more than half strangled fellow was restored to life. Our informant could not give any reason for this boy's desiring to make way with himself, but he thought it quite probable that he was laboring under the effects of bad liquor at the time. We know that Sam's mistress has raised him as tenderly as if he had been a white child, indulging his whims and permitting him to do just as he pleased, and we think it more than possible that he resorted to the plan of taking a short swing by the neck more for the purpose of alarming her, than to injure himself. Had he taken the leap at a later hour when no one was near to save him, there is not a shadow of a doubt that he would have put out his chunk most effectually. A few years residence in the sunny South, where cotton grows luxuriantly and sugar cane and rice are abundant, with some one to make him toe the mark and stand by his hoe, would be of vast benefit to Sam, just at this time of life, and we would therefore advise his over-indulgent mistress to let him slide, as speedily as possible.

Running a Saw.—Some wag in Rocketts started a rumor last Thursday, that the the tobacco overseers in the city were very indignant at the vote given by Alderman Parr, in the Hustings Court, by which Wm. Jackson, a slave, charged with attempting to poison Mr. Wm. B. Mann, had been acquitted, and that they had held an indignation meeting, and resolved to give the Justice a calothumpian serenade that night. This rumor reaching the ears of Mr. Parr, that gentleman immediately took steps to protect himself against such an outrage, by calling on the police, and accordingly a large number of officers assembled in Rocketts that night, and remained there several hours, to preserve the public peace, but fortunately had nothing to do, as no serenaders made their appearance. We have no idea that any portion of our citizens ever contemplated annoying Mr. Parr for deciding the case according to his conscientious understanding of the law and the evidence, and therefore conclude that the whole affair was designed as a "sell," and nothing more. The people of Richmond are the most law-loving and law-abiding citizens in the Union, and therefore we take it that they can never be induced to engage in such riotous scenes as are often witnessed in the Northern cities. They know that their power for correcting an evil lies in the ballot box, and whenever a public officer fails to give them satisfaction, they will let him know it by their votes, and in no other way. Strange conduct, indeed, would it be, for any number of persons to seek to annoy and intimidate a Magistrate for discharging his duty in his own way; and stranger still would it be for our young tobacconists, nearly all of whom are well informed men, to outrage propriety by heading a mob.

Grabbing.—Our city has in it some of the worst boys to be found anywhere, and it is really a shame that the laws and ordinances point out no way of reforming them. These youngsters stroll about in gangs to pilfer and steal whatever falls in their reach, and some of them do not hesitate to pick pockets, burn houses, or do any other act of villainy. A transaction was reported to us yesterday, which shows to what extent they are prepared to go when in no danger of arrest. An old lady residing in Hanover, had been to market to dispose of a lot of fruits, vegetables, etc., and getting rid of her produce, had started on her way home. When she reached the black pond, near Howard's Grove, she stopped her horse to drink, and just at that point was accosted by two boys, who desired to know what she had for sale. Of course she informed them that she had sold out and was on her way home. One of the lads then asked her to change a gold dollar for him, as he wished to purchase some watermelons, and she, supposing it would be an accommodation to do so, pulled out her purse, containing two or three dollars in silver, to make the change; but before she had time to untie the strings, the other lad filled her eyes with sand, grabbed the purse and its contents, and the two scampered off together in the direction of Fairfield. Soon after the occurrence, a gentleman passed along the road, and observing the condition of the old lady, took her to the branch and aided her in getting the sand out of her eyes. He then started in pursuit of the boys, but failed to overtake them. We understand that sufficient evidence can be obtained to warrant the arrest of two notorious characters, and that a Magistrate in Henrico county has been applied to for the necessary power to have them brought to justice. Such an act is neither more nor less than highway robbery, and if the perpetrators are convicted, it is to be hoped that they will be put beyond all mischief for some time to come.

Cold Dip.—On Thursday evening last Mr. Geo. Woolhouse, one of the lock-keepers on the James River and Kanawha canal, fell into the locks near the lumber house of Messrs. Haxall & Co., and would no doubt have drowned in a very short time, but for the timely aid of two or three servants at work in the neighborhood, who saw the accident and hastened to his assistance. Had the occurrence taken place at night, the result would doubtless have proved fatal.

Disorderly.—John Viars was arrested and committed to the cage last Thursday night, charged with being drunk and disorderly and assaulting persons passing the street. Some short time after Recorder Taylor discharged him. On visiting the cage yesterday morning he found the following note, which is rather warlike for this season of the year. The writer will probably find himself in trouble if he again falls into the hands of the police. It reads thus:

"Mr. ——is a dam rascal unless he will meet me at the line between this county and Hanover. Me and my second will be at the bridge waiting your motion, and if you are not there, we brand you a petty tyrant and a scoundrel. Respectfully, yours,
JOHN VIARS."

The idea of challenging a police officer for the discharge of his duty is something that never occurred to us before, and, in all probability, is entirely original with the challenger. Of course the officer didn't go to the line indicated to be shot at, and we therefore have no shooting scrape to record.

Our Suburban Neighbors are complaining bitterly of the horde of vagrants and loafers that have been driven into their midst, by the operation of the city chain gang. If they wish to get clear of such visitors, they must either come into the corporation, or establish strong patrols to put them to flight.

Entertainment for Children.—The Crescent City Circus will give an exhibition at half past two o'clock this afternoon, for the accommodation of ladies and children. Those who can't attend at night, will be apt to avail themselves of this opportunity.

Hoggish Affair.—William Vest was again before the Mayor yesterday on the charge of stealing a shoat from Wm. Enterman, last Sunday, and then offering to sell it to him again on Thursday. Bill was surprised at being accused of such a swinish act, and proved very clearly by Elizabeth Conners that he bought the little grunter last Monday morning in a country cart, but unfortunately for his reputation, the Mayor wouldn't believe a single word that Miss Lizzie said, and Billy was therefore sent to the Hustings Court to be indicted by the Grand Jury.

Unlawful Assembly.—George Clinton was fined by the Mayor for permitting an unlawful assembly in his house on Cary street.

Disorderly.—Nancy Wicker made her appearance before the Mayor yesterday to answer the charge of disorderly conduct and threatening to do violence to the person of Catharine Brennan.—The complainant stated all her grievances, which were many; whereupon the accused asked to be allowed until this morning to prove her innocence. The Mayor thereupon adjourned the examination, but required Mrs. Wicker to give bail for her good behavior and appearance to answer, which she had not done when we left the court.

The Grand Jury was in session yesterday, and transacted a large amount of business, as follows: Wm. Vest, charged with stealing a shoat—true bill. John C. Tuell, misdemeanor—true bill. They also presented the following persons: John M. Williams, John A. Faris, Peter Ferrell, Dell. Fer Ruth, Mary Henry, A. Schad, Albert Scott, Florence Miller, Alexander Burly, Thos. A. Linton, Henry Baker, Simon Steinline, Mary Weber, George Clinton, Joseph Huldree and Clinton James, for misdemeanors.

Concealed Weapons.—Henry Baker was held to bail yesterday by the Hustings Court in the sum of $100 for carrying concealed weapons.

THE DAILY DISPATCH

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.

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