THE 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 SEMI-WEEKLY DISPATCH is issued every Tuesday and Friday at $2.00, in advance.

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

THE DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XV—NO 21. RICHMOND, VA., TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1859. PRICE ONE CENT.

DISSOLUTIONS, &c.

CO-PARTNERSHIP NOTICE.

I have this day admitted as a partner, Mr JOHN N JENNINGS. The business will in future be conducted at my old stand, No 118 Main street, under the firm and style of SAMUEL S COTTRELL & CO, where we have on hand a fine assortment of Saddles, Bridles, Whips, Carriage Cart and Wagon Harness of every description and quality, and will continue to manufacture to order and for sale, every class of goods in our line.

There was awarded me at the United States Fair last fall, three silver medals for SUPERIOR SPECIMENS of WORKMANSHIP; since which time our facilities are greatly increased, and we now flatter ourselves that we can furnish every article in our line, not to be surpassed in quality, and at as low prices as any establishment in this country.

I beg leave to return my sincere thanks to my old friends and the public generally for the liberal patronage heretofore bestowed upon me, and respectfully solicit a continuance of the same to the new concern, pledging ourselves to use our utmost endeavors to please our friends and patrons.

SAM'L S COTTRELL.

Richmond, Jan. 1st, 1859

NOTICE.—All persons indebted to the subscriber are respectfully requested to settle their accounts, with as little delay as practicable, as I am extremely anxious to close up my old business.

SAM'L S COTTRELL.

Richmond, Jan. 1st, 1859. ja 1—3m

CO-PARTNERSHIP NOTICE.—The undersigned have this day associated themselves together under the firm and style of POTTS, FARLEY & CO for the purpose of conducting a GROCERY, COMMISSION and FORWARDING BUSINESS in the city of Richmond.

They have taken the new and spacious building, two doors above Sam'l Ayers & Son, and nearly opposite the Columbian Hotel, on Cary street, where they will keep constantly on hand a full and complete stock of all such goods as are usually found in the Grocery line, including Coffee, Sugars, Molasses, Bacon, Liquors, &c, &c, to which they beg to call the attention of their friends and the trade generally.

Special attention will be paid to the sale of all kinds of Produce, on which liberal advances will be made.

FRANK POTTS,
RICHARD FARLEY,
HENRY S WILLIAMS,
JAS B MARSHALL.

Richmond, Jan 1st, 1859.

NOTICE.—JOHN C. WILLIAMS, who has heretofore had a special interest in our business, has this day been admitted into full partnership, and our business from this date will be conducted under the firm and style of

KEEN, BALDWIN & WILLIAMS.

We avail ourselves of this occasion to return our thanks for the liberal patronage so long bestowed upon us and to solicit its continuance to the new firm.

KEEN, BALDWIN & CO.

Jan. 1, 1859.

WE have associated with us in business Mr B. W. JOYNER, who has been with us several years. The business will hereafter be carried on in the name of JONES & CO., at the house, No. 8 Main st., formerly occupied by Mr. James Winston, a few doors above the Old Market. We shall keep on hand a large stock of GROCERIES and fine LIQUORS, to which we ask the attention of our customers and the public generally.

ja 1—1m THOMAS JONES & CO.

RICHMOND, JAN'Y 1ST, 1859.

THE firm of DIBRELL & JOHNSON is this day dissolved by mutual consent. R. H. DIBRELL will continue the Commission Business at the stand occupied by the old firm, and will settle the business of the same.

R. H. DIBRELL,
B. J. JOHNSON.

In retiring from the Tobacco Commission Business, I return thanks for the patronage so liberally bestowed upon the late firm of DIBRELL & JOHNSON, and most cheerfully recommend a continuance of the same to my partner, Mr. R. H. DIBRELL, who was sole salesman of the concern, and will continue the business in his own name.

B. J. JOHNSON.

Thankful for the patronage so liberally bestowed on the late firm of DIBRELL & JOHNSON, the subscriber hopes by strict attention to business, to merit a continuance of the same.

R. H. DIBRELL.

ja 1—d&cim

THE CO-PARTNERSHIP of Smith & Maddux having expired by its limit, the business will be closed. Either partner will use the name of the firm in settlement; but the Books and Accounts will be retained by W H MADDUX, on whom creditors, as well as debtors, are invited to call and settle up.

Mr R G MADDUX is authorized to act for us in closing this business.

D H SMITH.
W H MADDUX.

W. H. MADDUX will continue the Produce Commission Business, under the style of MADDUX & CO, and solicits the patronage of the friends of the late concern.

January 1st, 1859.

WASHINGTON MADDUX, of Lunenburg county, is admitted as a partner in the Business of Maddux & Co, from this day.

W H MADDUX.

Richmond, Jan. 1, 1859.

IN retiring from the Commission Business in which I have been engaged for the last six years, I beg leave to return my sincere thanks to my friends, and the friends of Smith & Maddux, for their liberality and support, and take great pleasure in commending to their favorable consideration the claims of W H Maddux, Esq, my former partner, in his new business.

ja 1—d&cw 1m D H SMITH.

CO PARTNERSHIP.—We, the undersigned, do this day enter into co-partnership to carry on the Cabinet and Undertaking Business, under the head and style of WM G SALLIE & CO.

WM G SALLIE,
WM F CHANDLER,
JOHN J SALLIE.

December 1, 1858.

WE will always have on hand a good supply of all kinds and quality of Furniture, Metalic Burial Cases and Mahogany Coffins, which we can furnish customers at the shortest notice. Our personal attention will be given to funerals, &c—Orders from the country will be promptly attended to. Our attention will be given also to repairing Furniture and Upholstering

WM G SALLIE & CO.

On Governor st, between Main and Franklin Streets.

ja 6—1m

CO-PARTNERSHIP NOTICE.—Mr. J. H SIMPSON is admitted to an interest in the Clothing Business with me, from January the 1st, 1859. The style of the new firm will be J D GOODMAN & CO.

J D GOODMAN,
No 119 Main street.

We intend closing out the present stock of Winter Goods on hand, many styles will be sold at cost.

J D GOODMAN, } J D GOODMAN & CO,
J H SIMPSON, } No 119 Main street.

ja 1

RICHMOND, January 1, 1859.

THE UNDERSIGNED have this day associated themselves together under the firm and style of JOHNSON & TRUEHEART, for the purpose of conducting a General Grocery, Commission and Forwarding Business. They have taken the large warehouse front house on Cary street, formerly occupied by J.M. Conrad, second door above Virginia street.

They will always keep on hand the best assortment of Groceries, Liquors, &c., which they will furnish to the trade at the lowest prices. By strict attention to business they hope to receive a liberal share of patronage.

B. J. JOHNSON,
Late of the firm of Dibrell & Johnson.
BAT. TRUEHEART,
Late of Danville, Va

ja 4—ts

DISSOLUTION.—The firm of DAVID N. JONES & Co. expired on the 16th of the month All persons due or having claims against the concern, will present them to me for settlement.

DAVID N JONES.

de 20

A HOME, THAT IS A HOME!

FOR SALE.

I propose to sell my FARM, in the county of Appomattox, Va., containing 500 Acres, lying five miles from Concord Depot, South-Side Railroad, and four miles from James river, in good condition for growing any of the crops adapted to this climate, and worthy an examination by any one wishing to purchase. The Lands are almost level, every acre of which can be cultivated. The improvements are all of the latest style and new, costing at least $3,000—About one-third is now in timber conveniently arranged for the fields. This land can be bought as it stands, with Teams, Farming Utensils, stock of every description, and provisions of every kind for the year.

The place can be divided to suit purchasers, with good improvements on both places. Possession given immediately. Address

JOS. JAS. BURKE,
Spanish Oaks P. O., Appomattox, Va.

de 17—ts

NOTICE. — The subscriber having a large number of accounts due and unsettled, which should have been settled prior to January, 1858, would respectfully notify all such, that all accounts due him previous to 1858, and not paid or closed by bond or otherwise by the 1st day of February, 1859, will be put in the hands of the law for collection.

Always on hand, a large assortment of Clothing and Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods low for cash, or to punctual customers

E B SPENCE,
Clothier and Merchant Tailor,
Corner of Main and 13th sts.

no 11

PURE HUNGARIAN WINE.—We call particular attention to the Hungarian Wine from the house of Messrs. Schwarzer & Co., of Pesth, which are WARRANTED PURE JUICE OF THE GRAPE, consisting in part, viz:

Pesti		Szekszardi	
Somloi	WHITE WINE.	Villanzi	RED WINE
Neszmelzi		Budai	
Menezi Aszer		Egir Superior	

As these Wines have been tested by our best Physicians, and by them recommended, we freely offer them to the public as the purest Wines to be had.

For sale by

my 7 DUDLEY & CO.

400 BBLS. REFINED SUGAR, all grades; 40 hhds Sides, Shoulders and Breasts; 20 bbls Family Hams; 25 bbls and 100 kegs No 1 Leaf Lard; 1000 kegs Nails; 40 bbls Ale and Cider; 50 packages Choice Butter; 500 sacks Salt, Marshall brand; 300 bbls fine Rye Whiskey; 200 bbls common Whiskey, Gin and French Brandy; 50 bbls Apple Brandy; 100 packages pure and mixed French Brandy; 500 boxes Adamantine and Tallow Candles; 200 bbls Potomac Herrings; 10 bbls Scisoes; 100 bbls No 1 and 3 Mackerel; for sale by

ja 20 JONES & CO.

LICORICE of approved BRANDS.

GUM ARABIC—own importation.

TONQUA BEANS, a very superior article.

In store and for sale by

J PITFIELD GEORGE,
At M Blair & Co's,
Corner Cary and 12th streets.

ja 3—1m

HAIR, TOOTH and NAIL BRUSHES—The best quality, at C S DAWSON'S,

ja 18 Corner Main and 15th sts.

DISSOLUTIONS, &c.

DISSOLUTION.—The concern of PRICE & WATKINS is this day dissolved by mutual consent. J B WATKINS has disposed of his interest in the stock and debts, to S M PRICE, who has assumed all the obligations of the concern, and to whom those indebted are requested to make payment.

The name of the firm can be used by either partner, but only in liquidation of its affairs.

S M PRICE,
J B WATKINS,
J F PRICE, JR.

Richmond, January 1st, 1859. ja 1—1m

NEW DRY GOODS HOUSE.

ENTIRELY NEW AND FRESH STOCK.

WATKINS & PICKLEN,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

DRY GOODS,

SPLENDID NEW STORE, 159 MAIN STREET,

Adjoining the stand of the late firm of Price & Watkins, and three doors from Messrs. Kent, Paine & Co.

CO-PARTNERSHIP.

We, the subscribers have this day formed a copartnership, under the firm of WATKINS & PICKLEN, for the purpose of conducting a general Wholesale and Retail

STAPLE AND FANCY

DRY GOODS BUSINESS,

in the elegant new building, 159 Main street, which has just been erected for our use.

On the FIRST DAY OF MARCH NEXT, it is our purpose to open in those light and spacious warerooms a complete and entirely NEW STOCK OF DRY GOODS, selected especially for the BEST CLASS OF RETAIL TRADE, which, for variety and elegance, will not be surpassed in this city. Our long experience, both in the Wholesale and Retail Dry Goods Business, and a determination to make our purchases chiefly for cash, in large quantities, of manufacturers or their agents, will furnish us with facilities for offering the public generally, and our patrons especially, who have so liberally encouraged us in our late business connections, with all kinds of Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods, of the BEST QUALITY and NEWEST STYLE, and at prices which cannot fail to secure the patronage of the closest and most discriminating buyers. While all the departments, such as

GENTLEMEN'S WEAR,
HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS,
PLANTATION FABRICS,

will be kept always full and complete, the increasing varieties and grades of

ELEGANT SILKS AND DRESS GOODS,
EMBROIDERIES
AND SUPERB LACES,
MANTLES AND SHAWLS,

will receive especial attention. Arrangements with importers in the large markets, will enable us to furnish in store and at short notice all the tasteful NOVELTIES, as they appear in the country. Many RARE and SELECT goods, not found in exclusive wholesale houses, for which Country Merchants have an increasing demand, and such Goods also as are required by Commission Merchants for the farmers, will be furnished at a small advance upon the cost of production. We respectfully solicit the patronage of all cash and punctual credit buyers, who will be expected to settle their accounts semi-annually, as this system is now conceded to promote the interest of both buyer and seller. We hope, by selling SUPERIOR GOODS AT LOW PRICES, and a prompt and obliging attention to business, to merit the patronage of the public.

WM. P. MAYO, Esq., long and extensively known as a member of the late house of Binford, Mayo & Blair, is interested in our business, and will devote to it his valuable services.

JOEL B WATKINS,
Of the late firm of Price & Watkins.
JAMES B PICKLEN,
Of the late firm of Hoomes, Ficklen & Wallace, Fredericksburg,

January 1st, 1859.

A CARD.—It will be seen by the above, that I am interested in the business of Messrs. WATKINS & FICKLEN. I respectfully solicit the patronage of my friends and those of the late firm of Binford, Mayo & Blair, pledging to them all the advantages which are promised in the above advertisement. Their wants, either in person or by order, shall at all times receive my careful and prompt attention.

WM P MAYO.

ja 1—2m

AFTER the fifteenth of February, I can be found at the new Dry Goods Store of Messrs WATKINS & FICKLIN, where I will be pleased to see my friends.

JAMES H BINFORD.

January 4th, 1859.

CO-PARTNERSHIP NOTICE.—Sam'l M Price, having purchased the entire interest of Joel B Watkins in the late concern of Price & Watkins, has associated with him in the business Wm H Gordon and Wm J Eggleston, late of the house of T R Price & Co, and John Temple, late with Price & Watkins under the style of

SAMUEL M. PRICE & CO.,

WHO WILL CONTINUE THE RETAIL & WHOLESALE DRY GOODS BUSINESS in the house recently occupied by Price & Watkins, No 157, Main street, (square below the Banks.)

They respectfully solicit the patronage of their friends, customers and the public.

With increased facilities and experience, they hope to be able to offer an assortment of Goods, at all times, equal to any in the city, and such inducements as will invite the patronage which they solicit. All orders for goods will be promptly and faithfully executed.

SAM'L M PRICE,
WM H GORDON,
WM J EGGLESTON,
JNO TEMPLE.

Richmond, Jan. 1st, 1859

N B—Persons indebted to the late concern of Price & Watkins, and those having claims against it, will call on us for settlement.

ja 1—d&cw 1m S M P & CO.

DISSOLUTION—The partnership heretofore existing between Geo Watt & P H Starke, having been dissolved, I would inform the public, that I have taken the store, No 52 Main street, heretofore occupied by Wade W Wooldridge, Esq, where I shall keep constantly on hand, for sale, (of my own manufacturing) a supply of the following Plows, to which I call the attention of farmers, and would especially ask a call from Commission Merchants before purchasing elsewhere, as I shall offer unusual inducements to them.

Cuff Brace Plows, of all sizes
Livingston do do
Iron Beam do do
Wiley do do

And the Castings to all of the above.

Harrows, Coulters, Cultivators, Corn Shellers, Straw Cutters, &c, &c, &c.

de 25—1m P H STARKE.

FILE MANUFACTORY,

RICHMOND, VA,

Near the Petersburg Depot,

Opposite Burger & Boyle's Saw Factory.

FILES of every description on hand, and made to order, of the best English steel.

All kinds of old Files re-cut, on liberal terms and as good as new.

LAU & SHUMAN,
Letter Box 1

ja 7—1m*

HALIFAX NEW FOUNDLAND, LABRADOR, Boston and Maine Herrings; Hake, Haddock and Dry Salted Codfish; Pickled Codfish and box Herrings; white Mercer and Nova Scotia Potatoes; No 1 Mackerel; New York and Philadelphia Hay; Bran, Shorts, Brown stuff and Ship-stuff; Shucks and Fodder; Canada, Nova Scotia and Virginia Oats; James River and Rosendale Cement; Rockland Lime; Calcined Plaster, and Plastering Hair; Tar and Rosin, for sale on consignment, in lots to suit purchasers.

BAL. GFORD & CO.,
On the Dock.

ja 8

STEAM SAW MILL—LUMBER SAWED TO ORDER.—The subscriber having the entire control of one of the best STEAM CIRCULAR SAW MILLS in the State, located in Virgin Pine Forest, near navigation, will contract to furnish at short notice; in good order, and on reasonable terms, Building and Railroad Timber, sawed all sizes and dimensions, and respectfully solicits orders for this description of Lumber.

TRUMAN A PARKER.

Wholesale and retail dealer in Lumber, Mahogany and Shingles of every description.

ja 8

REMOVAL.—SPECIAL NOTICE.—The undersigned having removed to 14th st., near the Danville Depot, at Mr Bossieux's old stand where he will be pleased to serve his old customers and the public generally with WAGONS, CARTS DRAYS, &c.; and repairing of all kinds, at the shortest notice.

G D FRAYSER.

ja 10—1m*

OVERCOATS—OVERCOATS.—Darracott, Harris & Co, having still on hand a large assortment of OVERCOATS, and being determined to sell before the season is over, will offer great inducements. Call on Darracott, Harris & Co, No 112 Main street, if you want a GOOD Overcoat, at a very LOW PRICE.

DARRACOTT, HARRIS & CO,
No 112 Main street,
Successors to Merchant, Weisiger & Co.

ja 8

POMATUMS.—We have now in store a large assortment of the finest qualities of French and English Pomatums, many of which are very cheap. Also, fine English Hair Brushes, Tooth Brushes, Ivory and Tortoise Dressing and Fine Tooth Combs, Glycerine, Honey and Palm Soaps, and all other Toilet requisites, in great variety, for sale at

LADLEY & ROBINSON'S
Family Drug Store,
4th and Franklin streets.

ja 18

PENITENTIARY STORE—

PLAID LINSEYS
FULLED CLOTHS
Plain and Twilled FLANNES. For sale at low prices.

R M NIMMO,
General Agent Va Penitentiary.

ja 17

SILKS, SILKS, SILKS!

$5,000 WORTH OF RICH NEW STYLE DRESS SILKS.

Thrown on the counters this day, marked in plain figures, at very reduced prices, to be sold off in 30 days. No abatement from the marked prices. The ladies are invited to call and see them, at the cash store of

PERKINS & CO,
141 Eagle Square.

ja 17

POTATOES.—50 bbls prime Mercer Potatoes, in store and for sale by

CHURCH & FLEMING,
Corner Cary and 13th sts.

ja 14

COOPER'S GLUES, of all qualities; Sandpaper, a superior quality; Carpenter's Pencils. For sale by

WM SATTLER & CO.,
No 142 Main st.

ja 15

KEROSINE OIL AND LAMPS.—A fresh supply of Jones' improved burners on hand, with all patterns of Lamps, some very fine, with the best oil in this city, at 152 Main st., opposite the American Hotel.

J. W. REX.

ja 6—1m*

BACON.—15 hhds handsome new Bacon Sides, receiving this morning, for sale by

ja 17—10t LEWIS N WEBB & CO.

CHAMOIS SKINS—For cleaning and rubbing plated ware, to be had at

ja 21 BULKLEY'S, 137 Main st.

THOUSANDS of persons are suffering with affections of the Kidneys and Bladder, and many are consigned to the grave, without relief. Chemistry is always in advance of the medical practitioner and thus it is that HARTSHORNE'S BUCHU COMPOUND, prepared by a Chemist, is now so extensively used, and has given not only relief to thousands, but has cured in nearly every case where it has been used.—It is as effectual for Kidney and Bladder Complaints, as HARTSHORNE'S CURE ALL is for annihilating any pain in the system, on his PECTORAL SYRUP, in curing Coughs and Colds. 3t

GIFT BOOK STORE, 94 MAIN STREET.

Last Friday night at eight o'clock,
As down Main street I drifted,
I stood before a spacious store,
That famed Book Store so GIFT-ed.
I had left home with little funds,
Not thinking of adventure—
But reading "*Gift* Book Enterprise,"
Thought for a *Prize* I'd enter.
I bought a Book—my dollar paid—
The clerk steps back and holler's
The "Pilgrim's Progress"—Ladies' Watch!
Full j welled!—Fifty dollars!
I hurried home; my smiling wife
A pleasant air was humming,
She said I've laid my work aside
That I might WATCH your coming.
She had been WATCHING. I of course
Her work of love applauded;
Gave her the book, and with the WATCH
Her *watching* I rewarded.
Then hurry to the Gift Book Store,
And fate will lift the curtain;
You may not get a Ladies' Watch,
But SOMETHING RICH is certain. ja 22—6t

ENORMOUS EXPENDITURE.—It is stated that over £1,000,000 has been expended on the now slumbering Atlantic cable, a large portion of which came out of the pockets of American stockholders, who of course must bear a proportionate share of the loss. It is a sad reflection but may prove a lesson to future speculators; who will learn that a fraction of the above enormous sum, invested in business cards and handbills at the Dispatch Job Office, would make any man a millionaire.

THE DISPATCH.

TUESDAY MORNING.....JANUARY 25, 1859.

The Voyage of the Steamship Weser—Critical Situation of the Ship.

The Queenstown, Ireland, Journal, at which port the steamship Weser arrived, after being given up as lost, gives a description of her perilous voyage. She left Hamburg for New York, and the first three or four days experienced fine weather. A gale set in on December 12th, during which the bow ports and hawser holes gave way, and admitted large masses of water into the provision room. The account says:

The doors of the compartment were opened, in order to allow the water to reach the steam pumps; but immediately after this was done the water in the provision room rose rapidly to eight feet. This circumstance proved that the bilge was completely filled with water. The doors in the compartment were now closed, and hand pumps set at work to relieve the forward and aft compartments. The large force pump was unfit to work effectively. December 14 water showed itself in the forward coal bunkers, and gained rapidly in the engine and boiler room. The principal work was done with hand pumps and bailing with buckets, as the steam pumps refused to work with any noticeable effect. The passengers shared the toil with the crew.

On December 17, matters grew still more unfavorable. The boats were kept in readiness, and Capt. Gaetzen resolved, after due conference with his engineers and officers, to take the ship to the nearest eastern port. During the heavy westerly gales the steamship had reached, December 16, 37 deg 30 min. W., and 49 deg. 47 min, N. The coal was nearly all consumed, and the water gained on the pumps, in spite of unremitting exertions, so that there was but little hope of reaching a western port with the fuel then left. The passengers were divided into two watches, in order to assist the crew at pumping and bailing, which latter was done by means of large hogsheads, hoisted by the donkey engines on deck; but all these exertions were not sufficient to keep the water from so far gaining on them that it extinguished the fires of the after boilers on the port side.

Dec. 17.—Heavy gales. The after bunkers were so full of water that it was impossible to get to the coal; none of the steam pumps drew any water. The vessel shipped a tremendous sea, throwing her on her beam ends. At 10 A. M. saw a three masted vessel going by the wind. The Weser was headed towards the stranger, but in the same moment the fires went out, and the ship lost her steerage way. Several sails were blown away.—Signals of distress were made to induce the other vessel to remain near the steamer, which was then in the greatest danger of foundering, but no notice was taken of them. The steamer settling gradually to port, part of the cargo was thrown overboard; another part was put into the steerage—after the passengers had been removed to the second cabin—in order to counteract the list to port, without, however, righting the ship, which, in fact, continued to settle, so that the waterways were submerged. The situation of the people on board was then truly desperate.

The 19th was less dismal; the pumps were partly kept at work. Soon, however, the gale recommenced, and increased to a hurricane. Every soul was prepared for the worst, when, at the time of the highest tide, the wind changed from northwest to southwest, thereby materially relieving the vessel. But the dangers were not at an end. Gale and sea raged fearfully, the deck was continually swept by furious seas, so that there was no possibility of retaining a hold; the railings were torn away, as well as nearly everything else on deck; but the crew succeeded in saving all the boats with the exception of two. In the meantime officers and men under deck were undaunted and busily employed devising means of saving the ship. The forward hand pump was brought into the engine room, and, carrying out a most happy idea of the chief engineer, Garette, a large pump was made out of a steampipe.

On the 22d of December the water was seen to decrease. On the 23d the floor of the boiler room became visible, and at eight o'clock on that night the engine recommenced to work (20 degrees W.) On the same day the gale went down. The passage to Cork was comparatively prosperous, although the pumps had to be continually worked. During the sixteen hours the fires were kept up with wood from the steerage.

LADIES OF THE ROYAL HOUSEHOLD.—The Mistress of the Robes, says an English paper, is an office of great importance, and of the best in the gift of the Ministry. The duties distinguished the holder above all others; for instance, that of riding in the royal carriage on all state occasions, and robbing the Queen at ceremonies of importance, though the actual manipulation connected with the duties of Mistress of the Robes is equally performed by attendants on the person of the sovereign. Groom of the Stole was rather a curious office to attach to that of Mistress of the Robes, but perhaps requisite when a female was on the throne. The Stole is a narrow vest, formerly embroidered with roses, fleur-de-lis, and crowns, and lined with sarsanet. Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, held both these offices in the reign of Queen Annie, and so did the Duchess of Somerset. The salary was then eight hundred pounds sterling, and is now five hundred pounds sterling per annum. The ladies of the Bed Chamber—the duties are connected with all things appertaining to the royal sleeping and dressing apartments, of which they have the complete superintendence and control, as well as of the apparel of the Queen.

The bed chamber women are seven in number, and their salaries and duties are similar to the ladies of the bed chamber. In the correspondence of Henrietta, Countess of Suffolk, there are some singular illustrations of this office. Maids of honor are of ancient date, and of considerable importance. They were always well paid and well cared for by royalty. The chronicles of the reign of Henry VIII., give numerous examples of this fact. An order for the provision of one of the ladies of honor to Catharine is very minute, and among other things provides her with a gallon of ale for breakfast and a chine of beef; a piece of beef and a gallon of beer for dinner. In the afternoon, a gallon of ale and a maniple of bread; and for supper a mess of porridge, a piece of mutton, and a gallon of ale; after supper, half a gallon of wine and bread. In 1775, the ladies petitioned for an increase of salary, instead of rations for supper, and were allowed seventy pounds sterling per annum. Their duties, in the present day, are to attend on the Queen—the turn of the eight ladies being according to an order, drawn up each year. The salary is three hundred pounds sterling per annum.

INTERESTING ELECTRICAL EXPERIMENT.—Take a sheet of coarse brown paper, and after holding it before the fire until it is perfectly dry, fold it up into a long strip of about two inches wide. The magnet is now complete. To exhibit the attractive power, cut some strips of writing paper about three inches long, and about as wide as one of these lines; place them upon the table, three or four together. Now, take the magnet and draw it briskly under the arm two or three times; its electro-magnetism is instantly developed, and becomes apparent when held over the small strips of writing paper, for they fly up toward the paper magnet, veritably by the wings of lightning.

THE GOLD FEVER.—We learn from a gentleman from Minnesota, that the gold fever is raging throughout the West, and hundreds of young men are preparing to start early in the spring for the newly discovered mines of Western Kansas. In many of the large towns, companies of 50 to 100 are organizing, while individuals are hoping to realize fortunes by fitting out transportation trains, to convey provisions to the "diggings," and passengers, at a certain price per head. It is expected that large profits will be made on the provisions, which will command the highest prices at the mines.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce.*

The President's Message in Spain.

The Madrid journals of the 1st, contain a brief report of the debate in the Chamber of Deputies on the preceding day relative to the message of Mr. Buchanan about Cuba, of which proceedings telegraphic mention has already been made.

M. Ulloa said, I ask the government if it intends to reply to the message of Mr. Buchanan; inasmuch as in that message is a paragraph on the subject of annexing Cuba to the United States, which contains a new and really grave insult to the Spanish nation.

Marshal O'Donnell declared that the Government was disposed to demand due satisfaction for such an insult; and then said: I can assure the Chamber that during the six months we have been in office, our relation with the government of the United States have not ceased to be marked with the greatest cordiality.

Accordingly I was surprised to read in the message of the President of the United States that those relations were in an unsatisfactory state.—In the few conferences I have had with the worthy representatives in this city of the Anglo American republic, such a cordial spirit was manifested that I felt convinced the relations between the two governments were perfectly amicable, and that they could run no risk of being troubled.

This confidence of the Queen's government still subsists. In its relations with the United States as in those with all other countries, it has always endeavored to be circumspect, moderate, reserved, but always dignified and firm, as the government of a great people ought to be.

The period of discouragement caused by war and disunion has ceased in Spain. Our country is now positively in an era of development and veritable restoration. If the power of Spain be not great enough to menace it is strong enough to defend the integrity of the territory of the monarchy, and to preserve the dignity of the Spanish name without a stain.

In whatever circumstances the Spanish nation may find itself, it will in the future, as in the past, never be insensible to its honor, never will it abandon the smallest portion of its territory; and a proposition having that tendency will always be considered by the government as an insult to the Spanish people. [Approbation.]

The sentiment of nationality, which was supposed to be weakened, and which unhappily was slightly weakened by our intestine discords—this sentiment, the source of high deeds and of generous and heroic inspirations, displays now new vigor, and is increasing in such a way, that whilst we will never be aggressive and never aspire to dominate, we will never allow any encroachment to be made on the inheritance left us by our fathers. [Approbation.]

M. Olozaga, in his own name and in that of several other eminent members, representing the different political parties, then proposed this resolution:

"The Congress declares that it has received with satisfaction the declaration of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and that it is disposed to give to the government its constant support, in order to maintain the integrity of the Spanish dominions."

The resolution was unanimously adopted and ordered to be inscribed in the archives. The Espana, though a violent adversary of the Cabinet, expresses warm approbation of the patriotic declaration of the minister, and states that in a question, which like that of Cuba, affects the national honor, Spaniards, whatever their differences on other points, will always be united. The other journals employ similar language.

FREZZOLINI'S LOVER DEAD.—*A Touching Tale.*—A letter from Paris to a Boston paper, says:

During the month of December there died in Paris one Louis Lambert, formerly sous prefect of Sceaux, who was brought in a dying state from America, by Frezzolini herself. He was once known in the best Parisian salons as the 'beau Lambert,' and was considered the most handsome and fascinating man of his day. An obscurity about his birth did not lessen his attraction in female eyes, by some he was presumed to be the son of Marshal Magnan, and his resemblance to that doughty warrior seemed to warrant such an idea. He lived the career of all young, good-looking Frenchmen; liberally provided with money by the Marshal, he went the round of vices and dissipation, liasons, &c, and finally becoming attached to Frezzolini, then youthful and possessing charms, he devoted himself to her—and her fortunes, his own exchequer being dilapidated.—With her he visited America, where the climate proved unfavorable to a constitution weakened by every kind of excess. His health grew rapidly desperate, and, lingering in illness, he existed only long enough to see his 'cher Paris' once more, his death taking place almost immediately upon his arrival in France. Frezzolini was as generous as devoted to him, and his funeral and monument in Pere la Chaise were paid for by a cantatrice, now poor and broken down herself, who was the only faithful friend of one who was once the envy of all the youths in the metropolis—says a French paper—the idol, the object of love and jealousy, the 'beau Lambert.'—The tale is really touching.

HAYTI.—The Port au Prince correspondent of the New York Herald, writing under date of 5th inst., states that great excitement prevailed in that city; trade was at a stand still and the stores closely watched. The British frigate Melbourne, on her way to England from Jamaica, had reached the harbor with over four hundred troops on board and would remain there for the protection of all foreigners, at the request of her Majesty's Consul. A United States war vesssel was loudly called for. Souloque, in company with the Ministers of State and generals of the army, left Port au Prince on the 28th ultimo, for Gonaives, and the following day the soldiery captured Mont Rouis. Gonaives was declared in blockade, and if the army remained true the Emperor would be restablished securely on his throne.

VISITING CARDS IN JERUSALEM.—Hon. Caleb Lynn, of Lynnsdale, who has returned from the Holy Land, is lecturing in New York. He gives his experience in sending in a card to the Pacha: "The officer of the Pacha informed them that his master could not see them because their titles were not long enough, for they sent in their simple names. The Pacha's titles, written, made a string a fabulous number of inches in length. So Mr. Lynn gave the officer the name of his friend, that of his native State, then added the United States, and the name of every State in the Union, and then commenced with the names of the towns and villages until he had made a title sixteen inches in length, and that was sent to the pacha; but the dignitary, when he received this, was in another quandary. He feared he was not great enough to receive so distinguished a visitor. At length money effected an interview." But fancy agetleman's card upon which the length of words was sixteen inches!

CATTLE KILLED BY EATING SORGHUM.—Independence (Iowa) Guardian gives an account of the destruction of seven head of cattle from eating the Syrup Chinese Sugar Cane, after it had been compressed in the mill. The outer coating of the stalks is of a very virulent character, when thus broken up and taken into the stomach, it operates like broken glass, cutting, in and some cases penetrating entirely through the coats of that organ, producing a violent inflamation. A post mortem examination in this case revealed this as the cause of death. This important fact should be made known to every farmer, as it may be the means of preventing a serious destruction of their stock.

THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT OF CHINA, since the signing of the treaties, has been engaged in fortifying the approaches to Pekin, to prevent the recurrence of another inroad of barbarians to the capital city. Several of the Mandarins who failed to repulse the Anglo-French forces, have been sentenced to decapitation in the fall, while others have been banished to Chinese Siberia. The total number of British ships-of war in Chinese waters was 54, French 21, American 4.

SHOCKING LIQUOR TRAGEDY.—The Cincinnati (Ohio) Gazette says that, in Paint Township, Madison county, Ohio, on Thursday last, the wife of Patrick Rowan, while insane from the effects of liquor, drowned herself in a cistern; while her husband, who had been carousing with her, ran from home half clad, and was found frozen badly by the road side. He is not expected to recover.

FATAL AFFRAY.—An altercation occurred in Memphis, Tenn., on the 20th inst., between a young man, Cyrus W. Oberly, of that city, and his brother-in-law, Wm. Stewart, of Allegheny City, Pa., in which the latter was killed by a pistol shot fired by the former.

AN UNHAPPY CASE.—The Rev. Mr. Coffee, the first man, says the Memphis Appeal, who ever preached a sermon on the bluffs of Memphis, was last week arrested for being drunk and put in the calabose. When taken into custody he swore bitterly at the officers and wanted to fight them.

PRIZE FIGHT.—A prize fight came off near New Orleans on the 18th, between Burns and Stafford, which was won by the latter, because the former struck a foul blow. About 500 people, including the Benicia Boy and Aaron Jones, witnessed the bruising.

The marriage of the Detroit Desdemona is illegal, because of non-publication of the bands. The father is going to put the girl in a lunatic asylum, and shoot his sable son-in-law.

Rev. J. Y. Buysch, a Catholic priest of New Orleans, was found dead in his room on the 18th inst.

Why is a drunkard nearly ready to sign the pledge like a skeptical Hindoo? Because he is in doubt whether to give up the worship of the *juggernaut*—(Juggernaut.)

The Pensacola Gazette announces the death of Purser Dudley Walker, U. S. N., in that city, on the 11th inst.

Virgil McKnight, President of the Bank of Kentucky, was stricken with apoplexy on the 15th.

The message of the President of the United States was published entire, in Galignani's Messenger, in Paris, and a full translation in the Moniteur.

Col. Chas. Ruffner declines a re-election to the Virginia Legislature, from Kanawha county.

Two men were arrested in Philadelphia on Tuesday for attempting to cut a man's throat with a *screw driver.*

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.—Private advices have come to hand from the Pacific Squadron. The officers and crew were well. The machinery of the flagship Merrimac had sustained some slight damage, which, however, occasioned no inconvenience, and was speedily remedied.

Last week when the authorities at the Philadelphia Navy Yard received orders to discharge five hundred hands, there were about one thousand five hundred men employed, and the monthly disbursements averaged about $70,000. For the year 1858 the gross expenses came near $730,000. At present in consequence of the reduction, the sum of $50,000 each month will cover all salaries. The Pay Roll now contains a trifle short of one thousand names. Add to the Philadelphia expenditures those of the Brooklyn, and the result will be in the neighborhood of $1,816,608, the combined cost of the two yards for the past year.

POSTPONEMENT OF A FUNERAL.—*Strange Case.*—Mrs. Cassandria Menown, wife of Jas. Menown, Esq., of Elizabeth township, Allegheny county, Pa., died suddenly on the morning of the 10th inst. At the time appointed for the funeral to take place a large concourse of neighbors had assembled, and upon some of them examining the corpse, there was every appearance of life still remaining in the body. The limbs were relaxed, and everything seemed to indicate that she still lived. The funeral was postponed from the 12th to the 14th, when she was examined by physicians, and by them pronounced dead—but still she had the same appearance of life. She was buried on Friday, the 14th.

A LARGE CHOIR.—The choir at the popular services at St. Paul, London, comprises some 500 individuals, and includes many of the finest amateur singers in London, of both sexes. With the exception of the leader, the whole of them are altogether unpaid, and render their services from pure devotion to the practice of ecclesiastical vocal music. They are all persons to whom music is simply a pleasing recreation; many of them are in circumstances of ease and affluence, some being members of one or the other of the learned professions, and it is beyond doubt the finest, as it is the largest, amateur choir ever organized in any place of public worship.

THE SELECTION OF A WIFE.—Sam Slick, in his late "sayings," gives some advice about the selection of a wife. Says he:

"Don't marry too poor a gal, for they are apt to think there is no eend to their husband's purse; nor too rich a gal, for they are apt to remind you of it on pleasant sometimes; nor too giddy a gal, for they neglect their families; nor too demure a one, for they are most apt to give you the dodge, race off, and leave you; nor too weak-minded a one, for children take all their talents from their mothers."

MACKEREL RETURNS.—The returns, showing an inspection of 131,602 barrels for the year 1858, exceed the actual catch of the State, as about 16,000 barrels included are mackeral brought from Nova Scotia and from other places in this State where they have already been inspected once, and re-inspected in Boston. The actual catch, therefore, is about 115,600 barrels, of which Gloucester returns about one-half. The season's catch in G