Richmond Dispatch.

BY COWARDIN & HAMMERSLEY.

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.

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DAILY DISPATCH.

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FRIDAY MORNING.....DEC. 23, 1859

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.

SENATE,

THURSDAY, Dec. 22d.

The Senate was called to order at 12 o'clock, M., Lieut. Gov. JACKSON in the chair, and opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. PETERKIN.

The following House bill was reported: "An act to amend the 6th section of chapter 158 of the Code, so as to extend the jurisdiction of Circuit Courts at their special terms, and to repeal an act passed January 6th, 1854." On motion, the rules were suspended, the bill read a second time and ordered to its third reading, and afterwards passed. House bill incorporating the Union Female College, in the town of Danville, passed, with sundry amendments.

Interest on Guaranteed Bonds.—An Executive communication was received, enclosing a letter from the Secretary of the Interior, asking the attention of the Legislature to the subject of paying interest on bonds of the city of Wheeling, and James River and Kanawha Company, guaranteed by Virginia, which are held in trust by the United States for the benefit of certain Indians. Ordered to be printed. Referred to Finance Committee.

Medical Dinner.—The PRESIDENT read an invitation to the members and officers of the Senate, inviting them to attend an entertainment given in honor of the medical student returned from the North, by the students of the Medical College of Virginia, this evening, at 4½ o'clock, at the Columbian Hotel.

Bills Passed.—To authorize the payment of interest on the guaranteed bonds of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company; to repeal an act to provide for the speedy investigation into the origin of fires in the city of Norfolk, passed Dec. 12, 1857.

The Flag Accepted.—The Senate agreed to a joint resolution of the House, accepting the flag presented by certain citizens of Philadelphia to the State of Virginia.

Virginia Congressional Delegation.—A message from the House of Delegates was received, enclosing joint resolutions favoring a union of the Virginia Congressional delegation to repress the inroads of Black Republicanism in the election of a Speaker to Congress, which was passed unanimously, but amended so as to request the Governor to communicate the resolutions to the parties interested.

Resolutions of Inquiry into Expediency.—Of providing for the rendition of all bonds taken in Clerks' offices, or by officers, and not now required, to be recorded; of incorporating the Nelson Chalybeate Springs Company, in Nelson county; of increasing the capital stock of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad Company so as to enable said company to extend a branch of their road to some convenient point on the Manassas Gap Railroad, not further east than Salem station, nor west of Markham station; of increasing the capital stock of the Jacksonville and Christiansburg Turnpike Company, by the additional sum of $20,000, so as to enable said company to complete their road to the North Carolina line; of authorizing a subscription to the Strasburg and Capon Turnpike Company of $3,000 on the part of the Commonwealth; of amending the act to incorporate the Southern Protection Insurance Company of Alexandria.

On motion of Mr. ARMSTRONG, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

THURSDAY, Dec. 23, 1859.

The House met at 12 o'clock. Prayer by Rev. Mr. WOODBRIDGE.

An invitation to the House to a dinner given returned Southern students from Philadelphia was read.

Adverse Reports.—The Committee of Propositions and Grievances asked to be discharged from the consideration of the petition of D. S. Bell and others, and that it be referred to the Committee on Finance, and reported adversely to David S. Land.

The Escape of the Prisoners at Charlestown.—Mr. WALLACE offered a resolution instructing the Committee on the Harper's Ferry Affair to inquire into the circumstances attending the escape of Cook and Coppic from the jail at Charlestown. The resolution was laid on the table.

Interest on Guaranteed Bonds.—A communication was received from the Governor enclosing a letter from the United States Secretary of the Interior, asking that provision be made for the payment by Virginia of the interest on guaranteed bonds of the James River and Kanawha Canal Company and city of Wheeling, to the amount of $19,212, which he holds in trust for certain Indian tribes.

Southern Central Rights Association, &c.—A memorial from the Southern Central Rights Association was received, and a sufficient number of copies for the House were ordered to be printed. There were also received the proceedings of citizens of Harrison county on the Harper's Ferry affair, and a petition from the trustees of Farmville asking authority to make an appropriation for a band of music for volunteer companies.

Response to the Union Meeting at Philadelphia.—Mr. NEWTON, from the Committee or Military Affairs, reported the following resolution from that committee, which was unanimously adopted:

The Committee on Military Affairs have had under consideration the communication of the Governor in reference to the flag presented to the Commonwealth by certain citizens of Philadelphia, and beg leave to report the following resolutions:

Whereas, A large number of the patriotic citizens of Philadelphia have presented to the Commonwealth of Virginia a flag, inscribed with an expression of their loyal devotion to the Union as framed, and the Constitution as construed by the fathers of the Republic: Be it

Resolved, by the General Assembly of Virginia, That we gratefully accept this beautiful gift as a renewal of evidence of the devoted patriotism of that heroic band of Northern conservatives who have so long maintained an unequal conflict with the assaults of our rights and the enemies of our peace, and that wherever fortune may invite, or fate impel us in the future, Virginia will cherish with affectionate gratitude the memory of those who so bravely encounter the frowns of factions, and so nobly deny the fury of fanaticism.

Resolved, That the Governor of this Commonwealth be requested to communicate a copy of these resolutions to James S. Gibbons, Esq., of Philadelphia.

Bills Reported.—Incorporating the Southern Savings Bank of Richmond; repealing the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th sections of an act passed 1858, providing for a more uniform currency of the banks of the State; incorporating the Bank of Pittsylvania; incorporating the Monongalia Bank of Morgantown; authorizing the payment to Wm. G. Jackson of certain coupons of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company; refunding a sum of money to Benjamin and Isaac Deford; incorporating the Leesville Toll Bridge Company; Amending the charter of Wheeling Creek Turnpike Company; amending the act incorporating the Williamsport and Old Fields Turnpike Company; for repairs to the Staunton and Parkersburg Turnpike; for improving the navigation of the Appomattox river below Petersburg; incorporating the Lynchburg and North Carolina Railroad; incorporating the Sir John's Run Turnpike Company; increasing the capital stock of the Ripley and Ravenswood Turnpike Company; authorizing a subscription to the Monongahela Navigation Company; for increasing the capital stock of the Wilson Creek and South Fork Turnpike Company; for building a bridge over the West Fork river; refunding a sum to John Morrow's heirs; for the extension of the Franklin and Monterey Turnpike; for the completion of the Huttonsville and Huntersville Turnpike; for the relief of Samuel C. Young, of Martinsburg, and Geo. W. Richardson, of Charlestown.

The Virginia Congressional Delegation.—Mr. ROBINSON, of Richmond, rose to offer a resolution which, he said, it was peculiarly fit should be offered at this time and in this place. It was peculiarly fit that before the Legislature separated to go home to their families, they should send to their representatives in Congress words of warm sympathy in the struggle which they are making against a power which wishes to blot out from the map of our country an entire section. The question of the election of Speaker was only second to that of the election of a President, and in both that power which seeks to overrule the rights of the South should be fought to the end. We should proceed as if the efforts of all the Union movements at the North would be defeated by the action of fanaticism, and not abate one jot our measure for the defence of the State and the South. The following are the resolutions, which were adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That we wish to assure the representatives of this State in Congress, in the difficult circumstances in which they are placed, of the warm sympathy of this General Assembly, in the struggle in which they are engaged, and of our cordial support of every proper measure they may adopt to protect the just rights of this State and of the South—the integrity of the Union and of the Constitution.

Resolved, That we recommend, in view of the public danger, the union of all elements of opposition to Black Republicanism and its candidate for Speaker, on any terms consistent with fairness and honor, whenever by such union the defeat can be accomplished and the organization of the House effected.

The resolutions were so amended in the Senate as to request the Governor to transmit them to our members of Congress, which amendment was agreed to by the House.

Resolutions of Inquiry.—By Mr. Cassin, of increasing the capital stock of the Hardy and Randolph Turnpike Company; by Mr. Lockridge, of establishing a High School at Hillsboro', Pocahontas county; by Mr. Boreman, of authorizing the appointment of more officers by the corporation of Williamstown, Wood county; by Mr. Wingfield, of holding elections in the several counties on different days; by Mr. Fleming, of increasing the license tax on itinerant daguerrean artists; by Mr. Magruder, of incorporating a horse railroad in Henrico, on the road of the Westham Turnpike Company; by Mr. Alderson, of appropriating $5,000 to the Wilderness Road to Nicholas C. H.; by Mr. Gibson, of exempting from toll, on turnpikes and bridges, stocks traveling to Agricultural Fairs.

Medical College.—Mr. SEDDON offered a resolution, inquiring into the expediency of an appropriation to the Richmond Medical College, sufficient to make it eminently worthy of Southern patronage. The resolution was advocated by Messrs. CHRISTIAN and HAYMOND, and adopted unanimously. A bill was shortly after reported by the Committee of Schools and Colleges, appropriating $30,000 to the enlargement of the Infirmary of the College, &c. The bill was discussed and then laid on the table at the suggestion of its friends.

On motion, the House adjourned.

Appeals to the President from Decisions of the Department.

As applications are frequently made to the President of the United States by claimants who consider themselves aggrieved by the decisions of the heads of the Executive Departments, and who, therefore, appeal to him for a reversal of those decisions, the Washington Constitution publishes the following letter addressed by the President to a highly respectable banking firm, which sets forth his reasons for declining to entertain such appeals:

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12, 1859.

GENTLEMEN: I have received your letter of the 9th inst., containing a formal appeal to me from a decision of the Secretary of the Treasury against you on two points: 1st, his refusal to permit you to deposit at San Francisco any portion of the Government loan taken by you under the proposals of the Secretary of the 17th of December, 1858; and, 2d, his refusal to refer the question to the Attorney General.

In answer I have to inform you that an appeal does not lie to the President from the decisions of the heads of the different Executive Departments. This has been settled both by judicial decisions and by the practice of the Government, including that of the present Administration. Their acts and decisions are the acts and decisions of the President, for which he is held responsible; and they are his in fact in all cases of difficulty and importance. It is for this, besides other reasons, that Cabinet consultations are held twice in each week, where questions of public interest, as they arise, are canvassed and decided. If the President were bound to hear appeals from the heads of the different departments in all cases where claimants consider themselves aggrieved, it would be impossible for him to undergo the labor. In that case, every claimant dissatisfied with the decision of any department, might appeal to him for redress, and he would be obliged to re-examine the documents and papers and re-hear the arguments which had been submitted to such department, and either affirm, reverse, or modify its decision. This would entirely change his intimate relations with his confidential advisers, converting them into inferior courts and himself into a superior court of errors and appeals. Besides, there would be no equality between private parties and the government. When the decision of the head of a department was in favor of the claimant it would be final; but, if it were against the claimant, he would be entitled to an appeal to the President. The truth is, such an appellate jurisdiction would render it impossible for the President to discharge his high duties to the country, and would resolve his office into a tribunal to hear and determine private claims in the last resort.

Nor is there the least necessity for any such jurisdiction. Congress, by the act of February 24, 1855, established a Court of Claims for precisely such cases as you have represented. To that court or to Congress I beg leave respectfully to refer you. JAMES BUCHANAN.

THE MEDICAL STUDENTS.—It is apparent that the movement of the Southern medical students created quite a sensation in Philadelphia. The papers of that city contain accounts of their proceedings prior to their departure thence, an abstract of which will be read with interest:

The threatened stampede of the Southern students from the medical colleges in this city excites quite a sensation, as it practically carries out the Southern threat of non-intercourse with the North. At the meeting held by them Tuesday, which took place with closed doors, nearly four hundred were present, and Dr. Crackett, of Virginia, but now a physician at our alms-house, read several dispatches—one from Gov. Wise, stating that the citizens of Richmond would receive with open arms the students who had determined on leaving the colleges in this city for Virginia. One informing the students that they would be received at Richmond with military honors. Two dispatches stating that two drafts for $500 each would be forwarded for the purpose of defraying incidental expenses. Also, letters from the faculties of the colleges in Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina and Georgia, setting forth that they would be welcomed to the colleges in a handsome manner. Dr. L. would not dismiss the students from what they considered a duty, but hoped that their retirement would be made in a dignified manner and without bravado of any kind.

Dr. Maguire also addressed the assembled young men, exhorting them to observe perfect decorum in all their movements, to maintain their dignity as gentlemen from the South, and advising them henceforth to cherish, in preference to all others, Southern institutions. Dr. Gross, of Jefferson College, made an address to the students in relation to this movement, in which he sought to show them the fallacy of their course, and the disadvantages that would result from its adoption. He spoke of the probable effects it would have upon the politics and harmony of the Union, and felt that they could be nothing but disastrous.

This movement of the students originated from the fact that several of them were arrested last week by the police on the charge of disturbing the abolition meeting at National Hall. They allege there was no ground for their arrest, as they committed no offence. There are about twelve hundred students in the several medical colleges of this city, about one-half of whom are from the South.

POLITICAL MOVEMENT.—At the meeeting of the National American Central Committee, in Philadelphia, on Wednesday, a committee was appointed to confer with the committee appointed by the Washington meeting of Monday night, to consider a plan of organization for uniting all the opponents of the Administration, consisting of the Hon. A. H. H. Stuart of Virginia, the Hon. Anthony Kennedy of Maryland, Hon. James Bishop of New Jersey, Hon. Erastus Brooks of New York, Blanton Duncan, Esq., of Kentucky, and the Hon. Jacob Broom. A committee was also appointed to prepare an address to the American people. No other action was decided on. The session was chiefly devoted to a private discussion concerning claims of prominent men to fill the Presidential chair.

The Committee of Correspondence appointed at a meeting of the members of the press of the American party, held on the 30th ult., in New York, have issued a call, proposing that the members of the Opposition press in the different States should meet in New York on the second Tuesday in January to agree on some plan by which an Opposition candidate for President may be elected.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT.—Wm. J. Lawrence, principal clerk of the Central Insurance Office, at Harrisburg, Pa., disappeared some time since, on being suspected of embezzling $2,500 of the funds of the company. On Tuesday, however, he returned, gave himself up and was committed to jail. The telegraph says.

It appears that he went from Harrisburg to Harper's Ferry, where he was engaged in teaching school up to the time of the late "insurrection," when he was looked upon with suspicion and forced by the people to leave.—He went from there to Cincinnati, where he remained until a few days ago, when he made up his mind to return to Harrisburg.

NAVAL.—The order to launch the steam sloop Richmond at Norfolk, which is expected to be issued next week, reminds us that all the vessels of our new steam navy are complete, and (except the Richmond) afloat. They were constructed, as is already known, in accordance with two acts of Congress, one sanctioning the addition to our navy of a few steam sloops, the other that of seven steam gunboats. They were launched as follows: Lancaster, at Philadelphia, October, 1858; Hartford, at Boston, November, 1858; Brooklyn, at New York, Summer of 1859; Pensacola, at Pensacola, August, 1859; Mohiccan, at Portsmouth, N. H., February, 1859; Wyoming, at Philadelphia, January, 1859; Dacotah, at Norfolk, April, 1859; Seminole, at Pensacola, June, 1859; Pawnee, at Philadelphia, October, 1859; Iroquois, at Brooklyn, April, 1859, Narragansett, at Boston, Summer of 1859.—*Norfolk Argus.*

PAINFUL CATASTROPHE IN ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY.—We learn by a private letter, that on last Saturday a Miss Bear, of Rockbridge county, was drowned in Buffalo creek. She was crossing on a low bridge, in company with a Miss Roden, when her horse suddenly got off the bridge, and she fell from him into the stream. Before any assistance could be rendered her, this estimable young lady was drowned, and snatched from life, friends and acquaintance in the pride of youth, beauty and usefulness.—*Enquirer.*

SNUFF MILL BURNT.—The snuff mill of Robert Starr, in Baltimore, was burnt on Tuesday night. The whole damage above the insurance was $17,500.

Abolition Outrage in Kansas.

Immediately upon the track of the Union demonstration in New York, comes a narrative of a great abolition outrage in Kansas—the fruit of the "irrepressible conflict" and Beecher rifle doctrine at the North. The particulars are given by a correspondent of the Missouri Expositor, who writes from Lafayette county, Mo. Well does that paper say, in reference to the threat against the Missourians, that if this is the game of the Brown Republicans, it is time the people of Missouri and the South were looking to the *steel and the cord for protection.*

Mr. Wm. C. Burns, of this county, had a negro man to run off about six weeks ago.—He learned, last week, that the negro was in Kansas, and sent Mr. Remington Bell after him to arrest him. Mr. Bell went into Bates county to a small town near Fort Scott, near the State line, and there obtained the aid of two reliable men, by the names of Bennett and Brown. On Thursday, the 8th, they proceeded to the neighborhood of Ossawatomie, and stopped at the house of a man named Taylor, who, they learned, was a reliable person in whom they could confide; and upon learning that the negro was living with a widow Martin, in the neighborhood, they concluded to remain all night with Mr. Taylor. That night his house was surrounded by about fifty men, who demanded of Mr. Taylor the delivery of the men he had in his house, or they would burn it down, and murder the entire party. They surrendered upon the condition that they were not to be molested in property or person. But their intention was to carry them to Ossawatomie and try them for coming into the Territory to kidnap a free negro. Upon these conditions they surrendered—the house was opened—ten or twelve men came in with the negro, who was armed, as were the balance of them, with double-barreled guns and pistols. They took their prisoners about a mile from the house—then ordered them to dismount, saying they were going to equip the negro in the best they had; they then robbed them of horses, saddles and bridles, putting the negro on the best horse. Mr. Bell was then ordered to draw his over and under coat, which he refused to do. Two pistols were presented to his breast, the men saying: "Draw them off or we'll blow you to hell," which he did, and they were put upon the negro; they took from him his money—$50—pistols, knife, and gloves, the latter for the negro. Looking around and seeing Mr. Brown had on the best hat, they made him pull it off and give it to the negro, at the same time ordering him to put on the negro's, which he protested against. Two pistols were presented as before, the men saying, "Wear it or be blown through." They also robbed Brown and Bennett of all that was valuable, even to Bennett's boots.

They then held a consultation as to what should be done with them. They seemed equally divided one party for hanging, and the other pretty vehemently for their bond, had promised to protect them if they surrendered. Both parties drew their weapons and threatened each other. At length the counsel of the pacific prevailed, the other party riding off.—Mr. Bell and friends thought this feigned quarrel a ruse to cover up their villainy.—They marched them four or five mile towards the State line, saying, "the d—d rascals! they ought to hang them." Getting the rope ready, they were then told to be out of the Territory by daylight; if Capt. John Brown was hung they would string up the last one of them; and if the Virginians hung Brown, they intended a tribunal to hang one hundred Virginians to atone for his blood, knowing that Capt. Brown would smile on them from above. This banditti of abolition thieves then left, Messrs. Bell, Brown and Bennett then walked on twelve miles half frozen with cold—Mr. Bell getting one of his ears frozen. All this happened on the 8th, that extremely cold weather.

MORE ABOUT THE MURDER OF DOYLE AND HIS SONS IN KANSAS BY JOHN BROWN.—We give elsewhere several letters addressed to Mrs. Doyle, making inquiry as to several facts, and her affidavit before Squire Browning. In addition to what has been published, we may add, that we have had interviews with Mrs. Doyle, and heard from her own lips the sad recital of the terrible tragedy that befel her devoted family in Kansas. The only motive she can conceive as influencing the Brown party in the commission of this dastardly massacre, was that her husband and one son were jurors and had been specially charged by the U. S. Judge to report at the next term of the Court all knowledge they might gain of reasonable or criminal acts committed in the territory. Fear of exposure, then, may have been their pretext. The Doyles were peaceable, quiet citizens—disinclined to take an active part in public matters, as all who knew them here can testify. They had not participated in public affairs at all in Kansas.

As to the identity of Brown, Mrs. Doyle is quite positive. The murderers of her family were universally known as the "Brown party," led on by Brown himself. On the same fatal night two other men, living in the same neighborhood, were killed—Wm. Sherman and Allen Wilkenson, the latter of whom was postmaster, and whose wife had seen Brown before and recognized him on that occasion.

But it is needless to introduce further testimony. The facts had remained undisputed till it became essential in the role of Black Republicanism to make a hero, aye, a martyr, of the Ossawattomie bandit. There is no question but the murders on Musketo Creek on the 24th of May, 1856, constitute the blackest page in Kansas history, though they have not been held up to the execration of the world by the press of the North, simply because the damning responsibility would recoil upon their own heads. Hence the incredulous astonishment and these letters of inquiry. We are glad of this opportunity of vindicating the truth of history, and contributing, at the same time, an important fact to the overthrow of Black Republican falsehoods.

In what position then, do we behold the sympathisers with John Brown? Aman who to the crimes of arson, robbery, theft and burglary in Kansas, added that of high treason at Harper's Ferry! Is it possible that any American citizen is so depraved by nature, or so oblivious of the patriotic memories that cluster around our eventful history as a nation, that he will deify such a man?—*Chattanooga Advertiser.*

DREADFUL CATASTROPHE IN NEW YORK.—On Tuesday evening last, a portion of the large storehouses occupied by Hunt & Lowber, 54 and 56 Broad street, New York, fell with a crash, in consequence of the weight of six thousand barrels of flour stored in the upper stories. The Express says:

Officer John Steward was placed at the front door with several of his companions to keep all parties from entering until a key could be found and the place secured. At the same time numerous citizens and firemen were upon the sidewalk looking up at the building, and Engine Co. 20 was in the street just before the premises.

It was hardly a moment after the party who had been inside, had got out, when the entire remaining portion of the building gave way, and fell into a complete mass of ruins. The front wall was forced upon the street, and it buried, as was supposed, several policemen and citizens. The fire bells were immediately ordered to be rung, and in a very few minutes thousands of people were assembled. The police drew ropes across the street fronting the ruins, bonfires were lighted, and very soon several hundred men were at work. It was not long before the body of officer Steward was discovered. On being removed life was not found to be extinct, and he was, after some delay, taken to the hospital. The unfortunate man expired at 9½ o'clock. The whole lower part of his body was crushed into a complete jelly. He lived at No. 3 Trinity Place, and leaves a wife and four children. Mr. Steward had the reputation of being an exemplary man, and faithful officer. After his release from the ruins until his death, he bore himself with a manly fortitude, and only asked to see his wife. By this accident his family receive $2,000 from the Police Fund.

The firemen diligently continued at work, although it was believed that none others than the officer had been killed. Most unfortunately, this was a mistake. At 8 o'clock, another body was discovered in the sidewalk, from which the rubbish was being gradually removed. It was, after some labor, removed, and recognized as that of Wm. J. Ely, one of the employees of the storage establishment No. 50 New street, and a resident of 260 Sackett street, Brooklyn, where he leaves a wife and three children. Mr Ely was walking along in front of the building when the wall fell, in company with his son, who narrowly escaped, while the parent met so untimely an end.

These were all the bodies recovered, and probably who were killed, but several others met with injuries more or less serious. Mr. Davies, proof-reader of the Sun, was standing in front of the building when it fell, and received a shower of brick and mortar on his head. He was properly attended to, and it is feared his injuries are more serious than they seem to be.

SNOW IN TEXAS.—Snow balling was the amusement in Houston, Texas, on the 2d and sleighing on the 3d. The Houston Telegraph, of the 5th, says: "So great a fall of anything resembling snow has not been seen in Houston for twenty years. And it has been full seven years since many of us have seen a particle of snow before."

Col. Wm. A. Owens, who died in Barnwell, S. C., on Sunday last, was a candidate for Congress to succeed Mr. Keitt, the present incumbent of the third Congressional district of South Carolina.

The Debates in Congress.

The *Senate*, on Wednesday, appointed the usual standing committees; after which, Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, introduced a bill providing for the donation of homesteads to actual settlers, and Mr. Slidell a bill making an appropriation to facilitate the acquisition of Cuba by negotiation; which bills, with several others, were referred to appropriate committees.

In the *House of Representatives* the discussion upon the usual topic of the day was continued by Mr. Davidson, of Louisiana, who reviewed at some length the doctrines of the objectionable book which had been endorsed by a large number of the Republican members. He argued to show that the work of dissolution had already commenced, and the mischief would be completed unless gentlemen should disavow the wicked sentiments promulgated through the country under their sanction. Mr. D. contended that the purposes avowed in that book were fast becoming the doctrines of the Republican party. He said he was not in the habit of making threats, but he would say that the people he represented would not remain in a Union in which the dominant party advised and encouraged insurrection and bloodshed.

Mr. Cobb, of Alabama, appealed to the Republican members to withdraw their candidate, and present one who was free from the objection which Southern men (without any personal disrespect) must feel towards the endorser of incendiary doctrines. If the Republican party really entertained the sentiments endorsed, then the Union was already dissolved; but, as it required the labor of ninety-three thousand slaves to keep the Lowell mills in cotton, he asked how Massachusetts men could preach abolition when they were daily living upon the labor of slaves? Mr. Cobb then appealed to the Southern Opposition to rally and help the Democrats to organize the House by the election of a conservative man; and near the close of his speech, made a special appeal to the gentleman who the day before had received a handsome support for Speaker from the Democratic side of the House.

Mr. Boteler, of Virginia, then rose and said that, being personally appealed to, he was bound to answer. Without any movement on his part, or any thought of being designated for the honor of presiding ever the House, he had received a handsome support, for which he warmly thanked his political friends, and especially gentlemen on the Democratic side from whom he had received the unexpected compliment, having never been a member of any deliberative body nor possessed of any parliamentary experience. Determining now to withdraw his name unconditionally, Mr. Boteler thought he could name a conservative man who would well deserve the support of the members of the House; and accordingly he presented the name of his respected colleague, Mr. Millson.

Mr. H. F. Clark, of New York, further defined his position as an Anti-Lecompton Democrat, and argued to show why an organization could not be effected by the election of an Administration Democrat. He disclaimed all ill-feeling towards any and every member of the Administration, and declared that he had no wrongs to avenge. He objected on principle, and explained his reasons at some length.

Mr. McClernand, of Illinois, seconded the nomination of Mr. Millson, and urged the intellectual and moral qualities of that gentleman as eminently entitling him to the honor proposed for him by Mr. Boteler.

The House then resolved to take a vote for Speaker, (the seventeenth,) which resulted:—For Mr. Sherman 106, Mr. Millson 96, Mr. Etheridge 7, Mr. Gilmer 6, Mr. J. G. Davis 4, and 7 scattering. The whole number of votes cast was 226, necessary to a choice 114.

An animated discussion followed this vote, on a suggestion of Mr. Hill, of Georgia, that it was useless to go on with the same routine of voting, without the remotest prospect of a choice. If it required combinations to effect an organization, let them be made in the only proper way, by consultation. He therefore moved an adjournment; but withdrew the motion to allow Mr. Burnett, of Kentucky, to make a few remarks. This gentleman referred to the course of a portion of the Southern Opposition in terms of rebuke; and this elicited spicy replies from Mr. Etheridge of Tennessee, Mr. Anderson of Kentucky, and Mr. Hill of Georgia.

Further Foreign News.

The files by the City of Washington furnish some additional intelligence:

It was considered probable that Count Arese, a personal friend of the Emperor Napoleon, would be appointed to represent Sardinia in the Congress at Paris.

Lord Palmerston had endorsed the volunteer movement in England so far as to join the Irish corps which was being enrolled in London.

In a divorce case brought by James M. Bell, a wealthy London merchant, against his wife, on the ground of her adultery with the Marquis of Anglesey, a verdict was given dissolving the marriage and saddling the Marquis with £10,000 damages.

The Paris correspondents of the London journals generally agree that, let Napoleon's intentions be what they may towards England, his late letter could not be otherwise than what it is, and that it proves nothing at all, and will convince no one.

It is stated that the French expedition to China will be the most complete and carefully calculated that ever left France. Its cost is estimated at $30,000,000. The allied force will amount to 30,000 men.

It is asserted that since the resignation of Garibaldi, the Pontifical government has become much less tractable and less disposed to reforms.

Le Nord says that 30,000 additional Austrian troops are to be sent to maintain order in Hungary.

The London Post had heard that a cabinet council at Vienna had been held, to take into consideration the necessity of placing the whole of Hungary in a state of siege.

A Cabinet Council was held on the afternoon of the 8th inst., in London. The Globe, after stating that Gen. Scott was the bearer of instructions from the government of the United States with reference to San Juan, says it has reason to believe the tenor of those instructions as communicated to Gov. Douglass was, that the island should remain in a neutral position with no exclusive occupation by either party, pending the formal and deliberate settlement of the question by the governments of the United States and Great Britain.

The Paris correspondent of the London News denies, on the 7th, that either the army or any other constituted body in France has either the desire or power, in the slightest degree, to force the hand of the executive, and wage war with England, against the real wish of the Emperor.

At a grand dinner given to the Municipal Council of Paris, by the Prefect of one of the departments, the speech of that functionary was eulogistic of the now pacific era on which, he said, France had entered; and in proposing the health of the Prince Imperial, he remarked that if dynasties be founded by the army, it is the work of peace that gives durable grandeur to the establishment.

The trial concerning the publication of the Apochryphal letter, in the *Ami de la Religione*, was terminated. Its responsible editor, the Abbe Lesson, has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 1,000 francs; the printer to one month's imprisonment and a fine of 500f.

FROM VENEZUELA.—The New York Herald's correspondent at Caracus, Venezuela, writing on the 27th of November, states that the country was in a most wretched condition, social and commercial, owing to the mercenary intrigues of party spoilsmen. Ex-President Castro was still in confinement and closely guarded. The laborers of the country were being forced into the army, and the coffee crop was going to ruin from neglect. The revolutionists had been defeated at a good many points by the regular troops. Files of the *Comercio*, of Laguayra, to the 23d ult., state that the government was doing all it could to restore complete peace and harmony to the country. Several families had fled from Carayaca in consequence of the excesses of the Vandalic rebels, who were threatening that town. The government had already taken prompt measures to check the excesses of the outlaws, and a reinforcement of 100 cavalry had left for the town. The rebel chief Falcon was still entrenched at Tocuyo, awaiting additions to his force. Most of the surviving revolutionary leaders had taken to flight and were seeking to take refuge in other lands. Miguel Sotello, with a body of rebels numbering 1,000 cavalry and infantry, entered the town of Iracoa and Tabasca on the 21st ult., where they committed every kind of robbery and excess. Great excitement prevailed in consequence, and troops from Barcelona and Cumana were on the track of the assassins.

DISASTROUS FIRE.—The burning of the fuse factory of Joseph Toy, at Simsbury, Conn., has been noticed. The fire took place in the lower part of the building while the employees were at work in the upper story, and the flames spread with such rapidity as to cut off all chance of escape, consequently seven females were burned to death, and two others, together with a boy—the son of the owner—so badly injured that it is believed they cannot survive. The names of the dead, as far as ascertained, are: Catharine Brissey, of New York State; Mary Jane Bacon, of Simsbury; Hannah and Harriet Head (sisters), two other females, names not ascertained, and a married woman named Lampson.

The population of Augusta is 16,094.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Arrival of the Philadelphia Students.—An extra train of cars on the Richmond and Fredericksburg Railroad arrived yesterday, at the depot in this city, bringing over 200 of the returning Southern medical students from Philadelphia. The train which bore them arrived in a few moments after the mail and passenger cars. According to the programme, the students of the Richmond Medical College met at 1½ o'clock at the College, and, preceded by the Armory Band, and under the conduct of Capt. Gardner and his aids as marshals, repaired to the depot to the number of several hundred to await their arrival. The members of the Henrico Southern Rights Association, Jas. Lyons, Esq., President, and the whole of the Southern Rights Association of Richmond, D. H. London, President, accompanied by Messrs. Saunders, Worsham, Gialebrock and Whitfield, of the City Council, united in the procession.—Shortly after the arrival of the students from Philadelphia, the line was formed, and the march began for the Capitol Square. The Light Dragoons, led by Capt. J. R. Anderson, headed the cortege. On arriving at the Square the procession passed around the Washington Monument, which was saluted amidst the waving of handkerchiefs by the ladies, hundreds of whom were on the ground. As the procession entered the Governor's yard, the band was discoursing most melodiously the well-known air, "Oh! Carry me back to Old Virginia." It was estimated that there were at the least 5000 persons on the Square. Very soon the space in front of the Governor's house and the whole yard was densely packed with human beings, from whose lungs proceeded three stentorian cheers for the Governor, when he appeared on the front porch and addressed them as follows:

SONS OF VIRGINIA, who come back from Philadelphia, we welcome you. You come back to a nursing mother of whom you may be proud. She has populated the South and the Southwest, and has given to the nation the whole Northwest. She has sent her sons North to live and learn. She has given to the nation her children, her treasure and her blood, from the days of Washington down. She has a common bond in the Union—a bond of self-sacrifice. She has done what would have exhausted any other people, and yet remains herself a nation with a million and a half of population. You have gone to Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Kentucky, and in every State of the Northwest, (her offspring by deed,) you find her children. Some of them have gone to the North to learn to cure the diseases of home. Would that the only disease in the country was a physical one, such as only preys upon the flesh of the children of man.—Would that all were such as find their end in the grave. Art, art, could soon touch if not cure them. What is it that is now the matter with the country? beyond the fever, beyond the epidemic, beyond art? What is it? What is it that besets a nation but yesterday blooming and vigorous as Hercules in his cradle founded by fathers more glorious than any of those of Greek or Roman grandeur, with a foundation laid as deep as the earth? What is it makes its parts now fly apart? Fly apart! Oh, God! this scene looks more like dissolution, like political death to the work of Washington than any scene we have seen before. Two hundred of Virginia's sons returned to her bosom, State.—We welcome you. You will be taken to her bosom. But why could you not live in a sister State? I say it with no trickery of the stage, that at this moment I feel a heaviness and a sadness I have never felt before. Churches I have seen separated, for sects will differ; but the beat of the "drum ecclesiastic" is no sign of bloody war, in which "red battle stamps its foot, and nations feel the shock." These wars are now out, and the separations of the Church do not alarm me. What is this that brings you back? There is no distinction in our creeds and politics. As a mass, at the North and South, we see our people separating. I say to you this now, in civil life, as I said to the military to day, that I mean to stand by my State, by my neighbors, by my individual rights of property and person; above all, by my moral right of honor, and, last, but not least, by my political rights, the highest of all, for on the constitution is the Union. (Applause.) I say, if the Black Republicans, Abolitionists, fanatics, fools—worse than fools—if the wicked in the masses, or high places, wish to take the Union, I will fight first. (Applause.) They shall dissolve it, not I. Before we shall be driven from beneath the flag that flies over that Capitol, which floated over the war of the Revolution, the Mexican war, and which shall float over every war to come, if I have to fight it, they shall be driven from the country. You can preserve it. Jackson said what I now repeat: "It shall be preserved." How? You have done right, perhaps my friends, in returning home. Virginia has contributed her blood and her intelligence to the country, and she now calls back her own; and now that her own have come back, let me tell you how it may be preserved. Let us employ our own teachers, (applause,) especially that they may teach our own doctrines. Let us draw our wool raised in the mountain pastures. Let us eat the flour from our own mills, and if we can't eat that, why, let us go back to our old accustomed corn bread. (Loud applause.) Tarleton found out of what material Washington's buskins were made, and you can find out any day of what your buskins are manufactured. At the North they have made our clothes pins, our broom-handles, our engines, and even our doctors. (Laughter.) Turn around where, and you find the result of their manufacturing. I do not advise you to break them, because you have paid for them, but hereafter do without them—doctors, broom-handles and all. (Laughter.) Make them yourselves. They boast that they have 18,000,000 men to 8,000,000 and hard-handed men at that. Well, so it may be, but if we have not the population of the pent up workshops, we have the men who have been reared in the pure air of the corn-fields—the work shops of the heavens. If we have had men of old who fought our battles, we have men now who, if we had men of old who could speak to the hearts of the people, we have them now, and we have, too, the hearts of the people to speak to. (Cheers.)

Here is his remedy: Let us have an institution for you, gentlemen, almost right—where God grows the snake root for the cure of ague and fever. Why can't Virginia doctors learn at home to cure her diseases? How can they learn it at Philadelphia? I was sick in Philadelphia—sick unto death—more than once, and on one occasion that distinguished physician, Dr. Nathan Chapman, waited on me. He was eloquent in his lectures, and as eloquent in colloquy as in his lectures. I was too sick to talk to him, and after he had talked some time, I said: "Doctor, haven't you any patients to attend to?" "Why," he replied, "I have killed most all, and cured the rest." "Well, haven't you any lectures to prepare?" I asked. "Lectures," he said, "lectures—why I have prepared lectures forty years ago, and only have to furbish them up now and then to suit the times." There is more philosophy in that anecdote, gentlemen, than you may think of at this moment. That is very much the way with these learned, finished institutions. Their lectures are all written "forty years ago and furbished up to suit the times." The institutions that are rising are more valuable to you, if you are in earnest in your search after learning. One of the first and best scholars I ever knew was a distinguished Virginia, Benj. Watkins Lee, and the only man who I ever heard pronounce a-c-c-e-p-t-a-b-l-e properly, convinced me of that. Said I, "Walker don't say so." "No," he replied. "Johnson don't say so," I added. "No," he replied, "but Webster Robinson says so;" and upon enquiry, I found that his authority was an old-field school master in Chesterfield, one of that class who made the men of Virginia. Now, I say, let us have our own schools and our own centres of trade, our own manufactures and our own doctors, and then those people of the North who undertake the part of "petty providence for God Almighty," will learn to attend to their own business, and let us alone. We will make them. If they will not let us alone, you, gentlemen of medicine, know that