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.

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.

DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XVIII.---NO. 145 RICHMOND, VA., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1860. PRICE ONE CENT.

TUESDAY MORNING.....DEC. 18, 1860.

SECESSION MOVEMENT AT THE SOUTH.

Union Meeting in New York—Nullification Reminiscences—South Carolina Postal Laws—Anti-Abolition Mob in Boston, &c.

THE UNION MEETING IN NEW YORK.

The New York papers contain long accounts of the Union meeting held in New York, Saturday, by prominent merchants and others, to send Commissioners to the South.—Charles O'Conor presided. In taking the chair, he said, among other things, in his address:

Let no man suspect me of infidelity to the North, or of going, cap in hand, sneaking, to seek favor of any description from the South. I demand nothing, and we demand nothing from it. But let me say, as to the North, that I have no fear of the dishonest politicians of the North—there are dishonest politicians everywhere. I have no fear of those who are denominated the leaders at the North. There is no source of evil whatever in the North except the honest, conscientious people of the North, who have drank into their bosoms this dreadful error—that it is their duty before God and man, according to worldly honor, to crush out and to trample upon the system of slavery upon which the prosperity of the South and the permanency of this Union in its present form depend. (Applause.) There are no enemies to this Union except the honest, virtuous, conscientious people of the North, whose action is to be feared. Let us draw away that support, and that instant this disturbing, mischievous controversy ends, and our Union renews its youth and appears before us as an institution designed to perpetuity and to bless untold millions for untold ages.

Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson made a speech in which he said:

The free States must be brought up to the consideration of a great public duty. The South have not offended us. We cannot say they have ever laid finger upon us. They have not invaded our domain. They have not interfered with any interests belonging to us as sovereign States. But they read in our newspapers that their slaves have been run off by an underground railroad, and they see it set down in derision that one more Southern individual has been robbed of his property—one more slave, instead of having been returned according to the compact of the Constitution, has been run off into the provinces of Canada. They have determined to bear these things no longer; and it becomes Northern people to determine whether they will permit this state of things to go on, or whether they will make one last grand effort to see whether this sentiment can be corrected. You cannot send forth a stream by any natural process that will rise higher than a fountain. The South know it. They have no faith in addresses and resolutions that have not their sources in the feelings of the masses of the people. It is useless to say there is no serious trouble. I believe that South Carolina will secede, so far as the movement of her Convention can do it, on the 20th or 25th of this month, and events must transpire shortly after which will bring all cotton States in association with her, and eventually every State which is a slave State, and intends to continue such, will go along together. This is as certain as the laws of gravity, and he is a blind man and madman who cannot see it. All that we can now do is to get time to convince the Southern people that there is a returning sentiment of truth and justice in the Northern States; that the honest masses have been misled and have misunderstood this irritating question, as I believe they have, and upon proper consideration will go back to their duty as members of this Confederacy, and will welcome back our Southern brethren to the great family of political, social and moral equals. (Applause.)

The following are the resolutions adopted:

Whereas, the Constitution of the United States was designed to secure equal rights and privileges to the people of all the States, which were either parties to its formation, or which have subsequently thereto become members of the Union; and whereas the said instrument contained certain stipulations in regard to the surrender of fugitive slaves, under the designation of "persons held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another," which stipulations were deemed to be complied with by the act of Congress making provision for such surrender; and, whereas, the agitated state of the country, arising out of differences of opinion in regard to these provisions, demands that we should reassert publicly our sense of the obligations arising under them: Therefore,

Resolved, That the delivery of fugitive slaves to their masters is an obligation enjoined by the Constitution, in which all good citizens are bound to acquiesce; and that the laws passed by the States with a view to embarrass and obstruct the execution of the act of Congress making provision therefor should be promptly repealed.

Resolved, That the Territories of the United States are the common property of the people thereof; that they are of right, and ought to be, open to the free immigration of citizens of all the States, with their families, and with whatever is the subject of personal ownership under the laws of the States from which they emigrate; that the relation of master and slave cannot, during the Territorial condition, be rightfully disturbed by federal or local legislation; and that the people of any such Territory can only dispose of the question of slavery in connection with their own political organization, when they form a constitution with a view to their admission into the Union as a State.

Resolved, That we pledge ourselves to uphold these principles by all the means in our power; to give to them a practicable effect in a spirit of the kind of which the South in States justly complained, and to maintain their equality under the Constitution, in the full enjoyment of all the rights and privileges it confers.

Resolved, That while we deplore the existing excitement in the Southern States, we do not hesitate to say that there is just ground for it—we earnestly entreat our Southern brethren to abstain from hasty and inconsiderate action, which may be afforded for frightful results; and that the union of the States—the source of our prosperity and power—may be preserved and perpetuated by a restoration of public harmony and mutual confidence.

Resolved, That Hon. Millard Fillmore, Hon. George C. Bronson and Richard Lathers, Esq., be appointed a committee to proceed to the cotton States, with a view to make such explanation to our Southern brethren, in regard to the objects embodied in the address and resolutions, as they may deem necessary, and to give such further assurances as may be needed to manifest our determination to maintain their rights.

Resolved, That in case either of the gentlemen named in the foregoing resolution be unable to perform the service for which he is appointed, the Committee on the Address and Resolutions be authorized to fill the vacancy.

A REMINISCENCE OF THE NULLIFICATION EXCITEMENT IN CHARLESTON.

An eulogistic biographer of General Scott thus relates a happy incident connected with the nullification excitement in Charleston, South Carolina, in '32. To appreciate the delicacy of this timely act of General Scott, it must be known that the Charlestonians, who were almost continually under arms during the presence of General Scott and the United States forces at Fort Moultrie, had strongly barricaded with cotton bales, &c., all the wharves facing the fort, and had planted cannon in a manner to command the approach of an armed force. Threats had also been freely uttered that no United States soldier should be permitted to set foot upon the soil of Charleston.

Just at the period of the utmost anxiety, when all hearts were anxious lest the morrow should bring forth civil conflict, a fire was seen from Fort Moultrie, at twilight, rising from Charleston, rapidly spreading, and threatening the city with destruction.—General Scott happened to be the first who perceived the conflagration, and with great promptness called for volunteers to hasten to the assistance of the inhabitants. All the officers and men were eager for the service, and, with the exception of a mere guard, all were dispatched in boats and without arms, to subdue the new and dreadful enemy. Each detachment was directed to report itself to some city officer, and to ask for employment.

A detached officer proceeds to explain the object of this sudden intrusion. Capt. Ringgold, of the army, since promoted, and subsequently slain on the battle-field of Palo Alto, who commanded a detachment, rushed up to the intendant, (mayor,) and begged to be put to work. A citizen standing by, at once claimed his assistance to save a sugar refinery then in imminent danger. "Do you hear that?" said Captain Ringgold to his men: "*we will go to work for sugar!*" This was in allusion to the famous threat of Governor Hamilton, in respect to his importation of that article, before the boxes had arrived, that they "would go to death for the sugar." It may be added, that the detachment instantly repaired to the spot, and the refinery was saved. Nor was the good-humored quotation lost on the hundreds who heard it.

The Navy was not behind the army in this act of neighborly kindness. Both were early at the scene of distress. And all, after distinguishing themselves for zeal and energy, returned as sober and as orderly as they went, notwithstanding refreshments had been profusely handed round by the citizens.

It is not extravagant to say that this timely movement, so well conceived and so handsomely executed, overcame much of the excitement and prejudice existing against the United States, here represented by their soldiers and sailors. These men threw themselves, unexpected and unarmed, in the midst of a population strongly excited against them, and by saving a city from fire, powerfully contributed to save the Union from the greatest horrors of civil war. The effect was immediate on the spot, and was soon spread to other parts of the State. It was one of those fair

better adapted to soothe the asperities of feeling than would have been any degree of courage, or success, in the forcible maintenance of the law.

SOUTH CAROLINA AND THE UNITED STATES MAILS.

A correspondent of the Charleston Courier, writing from Columbia, gives the following discussion, in committee, of the mail arrangements in case of secession:

The Postal Committee were also in session in the Senate Chamber. They had under discussion the propositions in relation to the postal service, substantially to the effect that, if the United States Government would employ these officials, the State would not interpose until some further permanent arrangement could be made, distinctly declaring, however, that the connection of the State was severed, and, therewith, the allegiance of these officials in no respect due the United States, but merely as the agents of a foreign government, tolerated for convenience.

Great objection was expressed in the Committee to this, Senator Moses especially urging that this would derogate from the high position of South Carolina; that we were now prepared for all the inconveniences that would ensue on the cessation of the mail, and we should bear that with the same fortitude that, a short time previous, we were compelled to encounter a war all along the border.

Mr. Moses said he regarded the proposition as presenting the analogy of a gentleman holding the office of Federal Judge. How could he discharge the functions of his office and yet owe an undivided allegiance to the State after secession?

Mr. Maclarlan, of the House Committee, maintained similar views, stating that he had no information to warrant the resolution proposed. There might be information in the possession of gentlemen whose position was such as to enable them to have it. His opinion was based on his own individual information, and until enlightened, he could not advocate the proposition.

Mr. Shannon agreed with the gentleman who advocated the proposition, and gave to it his hearty concurrence. He had, however, one question to ask—would these officials be United States officials or not? Mr. Shannon said he would address himself further to the subject, and he had no doubt but that the Committee could agree upon the proposition; but he preferred that their deliberations should be conducted in a more private manner.

THE EXCITEMENT IN MISSISSIPPI—HANGING OF THREE MEN.

The hanging of three men at Friar's Point, Miss., has been briefly noticed. The Nashville Gazette publishes a letter from a merchant there, dated the 11th inst., giving the following particulars:

On yesterday evening two gins and a negro quarter were fired simultaneously, doubtless by the procurement of these wretches. The night was lit up for miles around. The vigilance committee were soon under arms, and proceeded to the room of three carpenters, one by the name of Hamlin, the others unknown, and took them and hung them to the first tree, and afterward cut them down and burned them. The town is now under arms, the military are parading the streets, and all is excitement and alarm. This morning the remainder of the Northern men were sent up the river on the steamer Peytona; some of them were branded with the letters G. B. (gin burners) before shipped. Fourteen gins have been burned in this county during the last six weeks, and the people have determined to stop it.

An Abolitionist was hanged, barrelled up, and rolled into the river at this point last week, and it was probably to avenge his death that the last gins were fired. A negro implicated the men who were hung. He said that they had told him all the negroes were to be free next March, when Lincoln becomes President, and that there will be a general rising of the negroes then. The vigilance committee have sworn to hang every Northern man who comes here from this time until the 4th of March, and all such had better be in h—l than Friar's Point.

POSITION OF SENATOR WILSON.

Senator Wilson's letter to Hon. Caleb Cushing is out. It is mainly devoted to the exhuming of the declarations of Gen. Cushing in opposition to slavery, made from three to thirty years ago, and explains his own position on the question. Gen. Wilson says, in relation to his remarks made just after the election, that "the slave power was now broken beneath our republican feet—that our heels were upon it—that it was ground to powder."

My unpremeditated, unguarded words, concerning the slave power, may perhaps be tortured by the reckless tongue or pen of political malignity so as to appear to mean the entire slaveholding interest of the South, the slave property and the constitutional and legal rights of the fifteen Southern States, their rights and their persons. But I never conceived, thought, nor intended to give utterance, to any such sentiments. If I knew myself I should blush with a sense of self-abasement if I could cherish in my heart a sentiment of hatred or the wish to put the brand of inequality or degradation upon my countrymen of any section of the Union. In hundreds of addresses before the people, in the public press, in the halls of legislation, I have over and over again recognized the doctrine of State rights in its fullest sense, disavowed any purpose to make aggressions upon the constitutional rights of the States within the Union to regulate their domestic affairs, and disclaimed all hostility towards our countrymen of the South. I have voted as cheerfully for measures for the interests of the South as I have for the interests of the North. I would pour out the treasure and the blood of the nation as generously for the defence of the South as I would for the defence of my native New England.

Senator Wilson also quotes from speeches of Lincoln, Seward, &c., to show that the Republican doctrines are based upon non-intervention regarding slavery, and the recognition of State rights in the fullest sense.

THE NEW GOVERNOR OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

The Charleston Courier, announcing the election of Francis W. Pickens, Governor of South Carolina, says:

Mr. Pickens is too well known to many readers to require any particulars. He served acceptably in Congress from the "Old Ninety-six District," once represented by Calhoun and McDuffie, and now forming part of the Congressional District lately represented by Preston S. Brooks, and for the last time in the Congress of the United States by M. L. Bonham. Mr. Pickens, after retiring from Congress, remained some years in private life, and last appeared before his fellow-citizens in this State as President of the Convention which nominated delegates to the Cincinnati Convention of 1856. He was appointed by President Buchanan to the Court of St. Petersburg, and has lately returned at his own request. He bears a name conspicuous in the service of the State, in council and in arms, and his own record gives full guarantees that he will never err in want of devotion to the State. W. W. Harlee, of Marion, has been elected Lieutenant-Governor—a worthy choice in all respects.

A letter, noticing the duties of the office, says:

The office of Governor is not one generally sought after in South Carolina. The salary is only $3,500 per annum, and as the Governor is compelled to visit every district in the State at least once a year, in order to inspect the military, his traveling expenses alone amount to twice as much as his salary. He has no veto power, and has not a single office at his disposal, the Legislature even appointing his private secretary; yet it is a position of high honor, and one always conferred upon some citizen of renown. Until the present time the position has never been declined when once tendered.

SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.

A proposition is before the South Carolina Legislature to appropriate $30,000 to aid in deepening the harbor of Charleston, and $50,000 to erect buildings to be used as arsenals and depots for the ordnance, arms and munitions of the militia of Charleston. There is also a bill preventing free negroes entering into mechanical pursuits, or riding in carriages or other vehicles, unless accompanied by a white person. Another bill pending authorizes the Board of Ordnance to make contract with such responsible persons as shall, within the period of fifteen months, establish and put in operation, within the limits of the State, or in any one of the cotton-growing States, an armory capable of turning out ten thousand stand of small arms, of standard military patterns, for the delivery to South Carolina of fifty thousand dollars' worth of small arms, annually, for the term of five years.

ANTI-ABOLITION EXCITEMENT AT BOSTON—WENDELL PHILLIPS MOBBED.

BOSTON, Dec. 16.—A great crowd attended Wendell Phillips' lecture to-day on the subject of "Mobs and Education." The excitement against him being very great, a large force of police were in attendance, and the military were ordered under arms for fear of a riot. He was frequently interrupted by hisses, and on the conclusion of his lecture the crowd made a rush on Phillips as he made his appearance outside of the building. He was, however, protected from violence and escorted home. The services of the military were not needed. It is believed that an organization exists to prevent Phillips from speaking, and it would have been successful on any other day but the Sabbath.

GENERAL SCOTT ON SECESSION.

A telegraphic report from Washington city says that General Scott has given the President an elaborate opinion in reference to the present condition of the military defences of the country, and what should be done in view of possible contingences. He of course deprecates secession, and begs his own State of Virginia to pause and bear the ills she has rather than fly to those she knows not of. But, if secession occurs, he says it will result not in the formation of two, but four distinct nationalities. The correspondent gives the divisions as near as he can recollect them, as follows: The first will probably consist of New York, New England, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota; the second will consist of Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Western Virginia, and so along down the Blue Ridge, taking in Western Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Missouri and Texas. The third will consist of South Carolina, Georgia, East Florida, Eastern Virginia, and perhaps Maryland and Delaware. The Pacific States will constitute the fourth. The General treats the exclusion of the grain-growing States of the West from a direct communication with the Gulf of Mexico as an impossibility. They will have free course to go down the Mississippi, and will insist upon Pensacola as a naval depot. He also gives, it is said, an elaborate statement of the disposition of the military forces of the nation, and the condition and needs of the fortified places.

COUNTY MEETINGS IN VIRGINIA.

In Wythe, Halifax, Northampton and Loudon, meetings were held last week, at all of which resolutions were adopted declaring that this is the time for a final settlement of the difficulties between the North and South. A meeting was held in Clarke county, on the 12th inst. The resolutions declare, among other things, "that we believe that in all human probability the extreme South will withdraw from the Union, and that the interests of Virginia and the South are one; that we should resist any attempt to coerce a seceding State; and that the Government has no right to collect revenues in a State that has withdrawn from the Union.

Dispatches from Washington.

Among the dispatches from Washington we find the following of interest:

The Kentucky delegation had a conference last night, with a view of comparing opinions and shaping their course unitedly. Mr. Crittenden has indicated a plan of adjustment, which it is believed will be offered as an ultimatum on behalf of the South; and it declined, after an earnest appeal from him, without the suggestion of an alternative compromise from the North, may lead to very serious consequences. Its general features are an extension of the Missouri line to the Pacific, to be made as an amendment to the Constitution; more effective laws, if necessary, for the prevention of the African slave trade; slavery not to be abolished in the District of Columbia, or the forts, docks and arsenals of the United States in the Southern States; the repeal of all laws conflicting with the spirit and obligations of the Constitution; and the Fugitive Slave law amended to satisfy both sections. Mr. Crittenden thinks these terms, or others embodying the same principles, would kill off the secession scheme, and be accepted by the great body of the Southern people as a peace-offering and settlement.

The condition of the Treasury is far worse than is understood by the public, or disclosed by the weekly statements. It has not been so bad at any time since 1814, when Treasury notes were sold at 25 per cent. discount. Overdrafts, amounting to $250,000, have been made on New York, and orders have been dispatched to St. Louis, to transfer $300,000, sent there to pay army and other demands, to New York, to satisfy these drafts. There are only a few hundred thousand dollars in all the depositories, scattered in small sums, and thus rendered unavailable at any particular point. The Mint fund, which is rarely touched for any other purpose, is exhausted, and there are warrants, amounting to $2,000,000, on the Secretary's table, which are not signed, because they cannot be paid. Mr. Thomas will take immediate steps to secure payment of interest on the public debt due on the first of January, if all other demands have to be temporarily postponed.

A melancholy state of facts surround the Post-Office Department, so far as the domestic affairs of its principal officers are concerned. Postmaster General Holt is confined to his house with pneumonia, and is considered quite dangerous. Assistant Postmaster General King is depressed by the illness of his daughter, who is quite low with typhoid fever. Mr. Dundas, Second Assistant, is not expected to live, having suffered for some time with a fatal disease of the kidneys. Mr. Childs, who has been acting for Mr. Dundas, was yesterday summoned from his duties by the death of a child. These facts, together with the natural complications presented in that department at this crisis, combine to embarrass the business to a great degree.

The Crisis Committee are not making much headway. Mr. Corwin, the Chairman, has reported a series of resolutions, which it is understood are intended to meet the crisis. It is said that they meet the approval of a majority of the Republicans on the Committee.—They are nearly as follows.

First—Pledging the faith of Congress against any attempt to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia.

Second—Against interfering with the interslave trade between the States.

Third—The abolition of slavery in the dock yards and arsenals in the slave States.

Fourth—In favor of any amendments rendering the Fugitive Slave act effective and satisfactory to the South.

Fifth—Against any discrimination by Congress against slave States assing admission.

Sixth—Protecting persons and property in the Territories till they have thirty thousand inhabitants, when non-intervention by Congress shall be the law.

The Committee had a laborious session today, and it is rumored that it is not improbable some plan will be proposed which will be satisfactory, and that the Committee will be able to report by the middle of next week, perhaps earlier.

Mayor Lincoln, of Boston, and a large party of the city government, with ladies, arrived to-night, and put up at Willard's. The business of the party is of a municipal character. They report that Lincoln could not carry Boston by five thousand if the election occurred to-morrow. The revolution in public sentiment is rapidly going on in the eastern States.

It is reported that Mr. Edwin Stanton, formerly of Pennsylvania, but now a resident of Washington, will be appointed Attorney General.

REMARKABLE RASCALITY IN CHICAGO.—The Chicago Journal says:

"The rumor is widely circulated in the city that two parties, the one a banker and the other a liquor merchant, both well-known in business circles, have victimized several business firms in this city and in Philadelphia, to the amount of forty or fifty thousand dollars, and have absconded in company to Australia. The banker obtained about twenty thousand dollars from parties in Philadelphia for investment, upon which he paid regularly 10 per cent. interest, and forwarded to his creditors bogus trust deeds and mortgages with a bogus seal of the Circuit Court attached, in some instances forging the name of his own father, and run away with the principal.—The liquor merchant obtained between ten and twenty thousand dollars on forged bills of lading, attached to drafts, from a banking firm in this city, and cleared out in company with his friend, leaving the banking firm in the lurch. Both parties sailed from New York, for Australia, a few days since. It is to be hoped that they will land in Botany Bay."

STRANGE METEOR.—A correspondent of the Philadelphia Press, writing from Millersburg, Ohio, says:

"A tremendous meteor" passed over here last night, (December 8,) at 7 o'clock. I was coming in from Middletown to Millersburg, (the latter being some four miles north of the former.) The night was cloudy and quite dark. Suddenly it seemed as if a mighty lantern had been let down through the clouds, and gradually drawn back. The light was intensely bright, with a mellow golden appearance and lustre, and lasted about ten seconds. A feeling of external heat passed over my body while it lasted, much such a sensation as that felt when passing over the register of a hot-air furnace, only the heat was from above instead of from below. The clouds seemed melted to a red-hot heat, and I confess I was slightly "skeert," and hardly knew for a little while that I was not "Saul of Tarsus." It exploded about five minutes after, with a loud report.

EMIGRATION TO TEXAS.—The Dallas (Texas) Herald says:

Our streets are daily thronged with emigrants to this State. The class of people coming this season are highly creditable, having with them a large number of negroes and valuable stock. Provisions are plentiful in Dallas county and easily obtained by emigrants. The San Augustine Express says that three carriages, a dozen wagons, and ninety negroes, passed through San Augustine county a few days ago en route for Texas. The Express learns that there will be heavy emigrations from the States of Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee and Alabama, during the present winter.

Moses McLeod, senior editor of the San Antonio Ledger and Texan, died on the 20th ult.

Parisian Gossip about the Empress.

All gossip still centres on the Empress. It certainly is hard to conceive a wilder freak, as far as appearances go, and the details that come over here, and ooze out into Paris Society through Belgium papers, are enough to harrow up the outwardly decorous French, and freeze the marrow in their bones. The story goes not alone that (as the Times said,) Her Majesty left the London Bridge station in a cab (!) but that in that identical vehicle her Majesty had to drive half over London before she found suitable quarters in any hotel! All this is commented on in the tone in which the perpetration of some heinous crime would be spoken of, and positively the Empress's part is very near being taken, so severely is Parisian propriety shocked! When one thinks of it all, it really seems to be almost natural, and one cannot help recalling certain passages of the earlier days of the poor Empress's imperial state, and seeing how impatiently she must have borne her splendid fetters. After she had been about a fortnight the wife of Louis Napoleon, she issued her orders to some of the ladies around her that a walk should be taken in the streets of Paris! A walk! Immediately the *grande maîtresse*, Madame la Princess de Essling, made her appearance, saying she was ready to accompany Her Majesty anywhere in a carriage! At which the unlucky Empress exclaimed, somewhat tartly, that she neither wanted a carriage nor her company! This is the answer on record. And hysterics and nervous attacks ensued, and the once so independent Mdlle. de Montijo was shut up, "for good and all," as little children term it, and left to meditate on the recent change in her habits of life. For two years this continued, until at last certain acts on the part of the Emperor gave his consort the right, as she thought, to her liberty of action. Whilst her lord was at Plombieres, in 1856, the Empress managed, most innocently, as she should think, to amuse herself in pleasant shooting, &c., at St. Cloud, and thereat no less solemn a personage than Marshal Pelissier took exception, and advised himself to lecture the Empress before all her household, telling her the French did not like such "eccentricities," and the poor Empress cried heartily, and said "she would not do so any more!" Then she went to see the "Toros," at St. Sebastine—a pastime of her own country—and they were fearfully scandalized at that, these over decorous French; and in short, on the whole, considering the extremely unconventional mode of her unmarried life (prolonged to the age of 27,) the existence of the Empress Eugenie has not, since she entered the Tuileries, been one of wholly unalloyed satisfaction. Two years ago, to all this was added the intense and harrowing fear of assassination, and since the Orsini attempt this has never entirely ceased.—I have myself often talked with ladies of the household, who every now and then admit that the habitual life at the palace was "distracted by ceaseless alarms;" and it is perfectly well known in a certain set that for weeks together the unfortunate Empress had scarcely done anything but weep and declare that she would set off for Spain, and fly so dangerous a country as France. After all this, can it be wondered at, that she should desire a little freedom, a little amusement, a little absence of the hard etiquette which it is one of the Emperor's weakest points to try and surround himself? The Empress is now with a cousin of her husband's, who, it is true, has for the last year ceased all friendly intercourse with her imperial relative on political grounds, but who will kindly receive and cherish the very amiable lady who comes to her from afar, and who will try to enable her to forget the alarms and apprehensions of her splendid domestic existence here.—*Paris Correspondent of the Literary Gazette.*

TWENTY-SIX MILLIONS OF MONEY IN ONE PILE.—Four miles from Rockport, Indiana, on the Ohio river, there is a coal mountain which is now being extensively worked by three firms, owning as many different mines, and producing an article of coal of a very superior quality. The Democrat, of that place, has attempted an estimate of the wealth of the section, and sums it up in this intelligent manner:

Allowing the "knob" where the miners worked to cover two sections of thirteen hundred acres of land, we have but a small part of the area of the "knob locality." A single acre gives an area of over three thousand square feet, and thirteen hundred acres of over thirty-six millions. The average depth of the "vein" exceeds five feet—Mr. Stevenson's vein being five feet and a half—and at five feet average, we have a cubical quantity of more than two hundred and eighty millions of feet. One foot of coal makes one and a fourth bushels in quantity, and the thirteen hundred acres gives three hundred and thirty millions of bushels. Allowing duly for coal slack and waste, three hundred and thirty millions of bushels, at eight cents per bushel, amounts to over $26,000,000. The county of Spencer is now valued at about $30,000,000.

CURTAILMENT OF BUSINESS.—We understand that though this is the time for commencing the spring work, the large clothing firms of this city are materially curtailing their business, in some cases to the extent of one-half. One firm who usually employed seventeen cutters have discharged nine, while a very large number of journeymen tailors are vainly attempting to obtain work. A month or two since, some shipwrights remarked that unusually large orders had been sent South for timber for shipbuilding purposes. We understand, however, that many of these orders have been countermanded within a few weeks. The decrease of business is beginning to be felt in the receipts of the various railroads. In order, as far as possible, to avert the evils of a hard winter, people who can afford it should make their expenditures for needed improvements, which can now be completed at a comparatively light cost. On the other hand, the working classes should be as economical as possible, in order that their savings may carry them safely through the crisis which is upon us.—*Boston Traveller.*

INTELLIGENCE FROM MEXICO.—Letters from Vera Cruz state that a Convention, held at the Capitol, composed of officers of the Church and of the military, had appropriated $300,000 per month of the Church's funds to sustain Miramon in the defence of the capital. On the 5th the Juarez Government proclaimed that after April, 1861, all duties are to be paid in cash, half of which may be in sight bills on the city of Mexico, for the purpose of paying indemnities. All goods remaining in the Custom-House over one month shall be sold to pay duties. The various foreign Ministers, except the Minister of Spain, were at Jalapa. Gen. Mata was the prominent candidate for Governor of Vera Cruz. Juarez has raised a loan of $600,000 for the purchase of supplies for the army now before the capital.

FATAL STREET FIGHT BETWEEN CALIFORNIA EDITORS.—On Wednesday, the 14th ult., a deadly fight took place at Visalia, Cal., between Wm. G. Morris and Mr. Shannon, editor of the Visalia Delta. The latter attacked Morris in an office there, and beat him over the head with a heavy revolver, knocking him senseless to the floor. Mr. Morris' recovering, he armed himself and started out after Shannon, when they met, and each fired two shots, one of which, from Morris' pistol, struck Shannon in the abdomen, from the effects of which he died in half an hour. Morris surrendered himself to the authorities, and was acquitted by a Justice of the Peace.

MORE OF THE BITTER FRUITS.—The Norfolk Woolen Company, employing nearly a hundred hands, have reduced the pay of their workmen. The workmen now work their 12 hours a day at half pay, and make just about enough to pay their board. Those having families feel the effects of the hard times very unpleasantly. Russell & Birdsall's Bolt and Lock Factory, at Greenwich, employing 150 workmen, has, we learn, totally suspended business. Their trade was chiefly with the South. The cotton mills in Pawtucket, Mass., and R. I., are running now on three-quarters time, and the calico printing establishments are running but four days in the week.—*Hartford Times.*

DEATH OF A WELL KNOWN JOURNALIST.—William M. Hooper, Esq., editor of the Madison (Arkansas) Journal, died on the 11th inst., of diptheria. Mr. Hooper was one of the Douglas delegates to the Baltimore Convention. While acting in that body, an unfortunate difficulty, having its origin in the matters growing out of the Convention by which he was appointed a delegate, arose between him and Hon. T. C. Hindman, Representative in Congress from Arkansas, which for a time engrossed nearly the entire attention of the National Convention, and threatened to result in serious consequences.

MARRIAGE OF CAPT. GREY—*Equerry to the Prince of Wales.*—The marriage of Miss Harriet Jane Pearson, second daughter of Lieut. Col. Pearson, to Capt. Grey, only son of Sir George Grey, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, was celebrated on the 22d ult., at Cheltenham, Eng., having been postponed from the previous week in consequence of the delay which had occurred in the return of the Prince of Wales, to whom Capt. Grey is equerry. The newly-married pair soon after took their departure for the continent.

A REVOLUTIONARY RELIC GONE.—Hannah Carroll, a negro woman, about ninety-six years of age, died suddenly of apoplexy at her residence, in New York, on Thursday afternoon. Deceased, it appeared, was a native of Washington, D. C., and is said to have acted as cook for General Washington during the Revolutionary war. For upwards of twenty years she has been residing with a family named Williams.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Sad Accident.—Yesterday morning, as the steamer "A. H. Schultz," Captain D. J. Hill, was on her return from Windsor Shades to this city, and when about two miles from the former place, on the Chickahominy river, a painful accident occurred, which resulted in the almost immediate death of the Engineer, Mr. JACOB S. WALTON. Just as the boat was crossing the bar, at Cypress bank, Mr W. discovered that the force pump was out of order, and, without stopping the engine, went below to ascertain the cause. Supposing that he could get to the pump without danger, he made an effort to do so, when his head was caught by the revolving crank, and his skull crushed in the most horrid manner. His screams attracted the attention of the fireman, who instantly stopped the engine, but too late to be of any avail. The unfortunate man died in twenty minutes thereafter. Mr. Walton was originally from Pennsylvania, but his wife and two children now reside in Norfolk, to which place his remains will be conveyed to-day by Capt. Hill. Mr. W. was a temperate, industrious man, and enjoyed not only the entire confidence of Capt. Hill, but the company by whom he was employed.

City Council.—An adjourned meeting of the Council was to have been held at the Council Chamber yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock, to take up and act upon the amended city charter, but as only Messrs. Saunders, Grattan, Cruichfield, Burr, Anderson and Hill attended, nothing could be done for want of a quorum. The members present, after consultation, agreed to meet next Thursday afternoon, when it is hoped the absentees will attend promptly, and dispose of the public business. If the charter is to be amended, and it certainly needs it, there is no time to be lost, as the Legislature is to meet at an early day in January, and will get through the work before them with the least possible delay.

Right Spirit.—A Richmond lady, who has been raised in the very lap of luxury, proposes to form an association of her sex, to support and protect home manufactures. So entirely Southern is she in her feelings, that she is not only willing to give up her jewelry and all other trinkets for the general cause, but she proposes that all young ladies, instead of spending the money given them by their parents in silks, satins, and other finery, to dress in home made checks and linseys, and apply the surplus to arming and uniforming the volunteers of the city. What say our fair readers to this proposition? Are they prepared to make the sacrifice suggested? If so, now is the time to begin the good work.

Robber Discovered.—On the 10th inst., we published a notice of the waylaying and robbery of a young man, as he was passing into the United States Hotel building, to visit his mother. The version then given was said to have been his own, on the morning after the occurrence. Yesterday, a gentleman living in the hotel, informed us that the "robbery" was entirely imaginative on the part of the young man. The night before, when on a frolic, his watch was deposited at a restaurant on Main street for safe keeping, and has since been given to him. His cuts and bruises were received in a fight, while in a state of intoxication. So much for the robbery.

Seeking Lodgings.—Straggling vagrants from the North—many of them graduates of prisons and poor-houses—continue to find their way to this city, with the intention of "squatting" for the winter. These creatures, as soon as they arrive, make tracks for the station-houses, and if refused lodgings, tumble down in the market places and there lie until arrested by the police. The Mayor, under the authority of the City Council, has full power to gather up these pestiferous wrecks and return them to the place from whence they came, or to put them to work in the chain-gang, where they can be forced to earn their daily bread.

Stand from Under.—The immense piles of snow that occasionally fall from the tops of houses to the sidewalks below, are sufficiently heavy to crush to death any one upon whom they may fall, and the wonder is that some one has not been killed by them. In some cities, where snows are more frequent, protectors are erected on the eves of the houses, to prevent the immense snow slides. As nothing of the sort is in use here, every citizen, in passing along the streets, must look out for his life and person, and, if possible, avoid the avalanche when it comes.

Mechanics' Hall is now the centre of attraction to all who wish to spend an evening pleasantly. Professor Anderson, the wonder-worker of the age, is entertaining his visitors by new and startling feats of legerdemain, many of which are surpassingly beautiful as well as highly interesting. To the uninitiated his suspension of a young lady on her elbow, and hundreds of other trick, apparently marvelous, that the beholder seems at a loss to comprehend the illusion. Those who have not seen him will be highly edified if they visit the hall to-night.

Fuel is commanding such high prices at this time, that the poor find great difficulty in purchasing enough to keep themselves from freezing. Cannot the railroad companies be induced to bring to the city a few thousand cords of wood, at moderate freights, and thus contribute to the relief of the needy? The friends of some of the roads, when they were soliciting subscriptions to their stock, promised to reduce the price of fuel by cheap carriage, and now is the time for them to redeem that promise.

Public Comfort.—From present indications, pedestrians will be very much incommoded to-day, by the condition of the sidewalks and crossings. As every family is more or less interested in having good walkways, it would be good policy in every tenant, however humble, to set to work at once and remove the snow from the sidewalk in front of his premises. If this is done, and the chain-gang and city hands are made to clear the crossings, walking will be safe and pleasant in a very few hours.

Judge Lyons commenced the December term of his Court yesterday. After disposing of a number of civil cases, Samuel H. Jefford, indicted on the charge of stealing $80 in money from Martin L. Covington, on the 15th of May, was set to the bar, and plead not guilty. A jury was then selected, and adjourned over until half-past 10 o'clock this morning, when the trial will be proceeded with.

The Theatre is always a pleasant place at which to while away an idle hour, but never more so than at this particular time. The management have not only put it in complete order, but night after night they are presenting attractions that in one of the Northern cities would ensure overflowing houses. We invite especial attention to the bill for to-night, and urge the friends of the drama to attend.

Increasing the Police.—With the hope of preventing burglaries and other depredations, and ensuring the quiet of the city during the approaching holidays, the Mayor is enlarging the night police. It would be wise policy to increase the number of night officers as well as privates, so as to have four of them, instead of two, on duty each night, and thus ensure greater vigilance on the part of all.

Encourage Home, is now the word on every lip. No man or woman should think of spending a dollar for anything out of Virginia that can be bought within, and Virginia manufacturers should have the preference, regardless of price. In times like these, every cent that can be saved ought to be carefully husbanded, and superfluities of all kinds ought to be dispensed with.

The Fire-Side Protectors.—A new organization in this city, for the protection of the homes and fire-sides of the people—promises to be the strongest military company in the State. It will be composed of picked men, properly armed, and will prove invaluable in time of need. The corps is being organized by some of our leading men, and will be well officered.

The City will be compelled to come forward, purse in hand, and aid, by liberal subscriptions, the suffering poor in her midst. Individuals can and will do a great deal; but to make all who are able bear a proportion of the burthens, the city, in its corporate capacity, must "shell out" liberally.

Lamp Lighting is the most onerous duty the city watchmen have to perform, and is also the best signal that could be given to burglars to commence their robberies. While the watchmen are engaged in turning off the gas, house breakers have only to get their direction, and then go to work at leisure.

Not Frozen.—A member of the family requests us to say that HENRY JARVIS did not freeze to death—that he had been drinking, and in going up a flight of steps at home, slipped and fell, and so injured him that he never spoke afterwards.

Put to Work—James Hogan, the traveling gentleman who was released by the Mayor last week on promising to leave the city, sought quarters in the First Station-House Sunday night, and yesterday morning was put to work on the streets.

Sleighing was indulged in last Sunday by scores of persons, many of whom enjoyed the sport yesterday. So great was the demand for sleighs and teams, on the Sabbath day, that owners readily hired them at ten, fifteen and two dollars per hour.

Hoop Skirts are costing more lives than burning fluid. Every day or two we are hearing of some lady's being dreadfully burned by her skirts taking fire from grates or stoves—and all owing to the expansiveness of hoop skirts.

Snow Ploughs should be carried on all the railroad trains from now until the winter is past. The Central train, due here Saturday afternoon, could not have reached here that evening, but for the fact that snow ploughs had been provided, and were promptly put on.

Stealing.—Frank, slave to T. & S. Hardgrove, was convicted before the Mayor yesterday, of stealing a pair of boots from a fellow