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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SATURDAY MORNING..MARCH 23, 1861.

VIRGINIA STATE CONVENTION.

THIRTY-SECOND DAY.

FRIDAY, March 22d, 1861.

The Convention assembled at half-past 10 o'clock. Prayer by the Rev. Dr. JETER, of the Baptist Church.

CORRECTION OF REPORT.

Mr. CARLILE, of Harrison, rose to correct the report of his remarks in the official organ of the Convention, the Richmond *Enquirer*.—He said he had written out his speech, and would publish it in the Richmond *Whig*.

CLAIMS FOR SERVICES.

Mr. MACFARLAND, of Richmond, from the Committee to audit claims against the Convention for services prior to its organization, made a report, which was adopted.

EQUALITY OF TAXATION.

The PRESIDENT announced that the subject pending before the Convention was the consideration of the resolutions offered on Monday last, by Mr. WILEY, of Monongalia.

Mr. HALL, of Marion, being entitled to the floor, supported the resolutions. The members of the Legislature from the West, he said, would never have voted for calling this Convention, unless they had supposed that the subject of taxation would be brought before it. Their people demanded action. They had submitted to inequality of taxation because they were compelled to; and now they were disposed not to submit any longer. It was eminently proper that it should be done now. Gentlemen admitted that it was right and proper, and if they would cease their opposition, the matter could be disposed of without occupying any time. He hoped there was no man ready to enter into any bargain upon this or any other interest. He scorned a proposition to bargain for a concession which was just and right. He alluded to other portions of the organic law which required amendment—the Judiciary system and the County Court system were also burdensome to the people, but upon this question of taxation, he could see no objection to the appointment of a committee to investigate the matter.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

The hour of 11 having arrived, the Convention resolved itself into Committee of the Whole, (Mr. SOUTHALL, of Albemarle, in the chair,) and proceeded to consider the reports from the Committee on Federal Relations, with the substitute offered by the gentleman from Harrison.

Mr. BALDWIN, of Augusta, being entitled to the floor, resumed his remarks, adverting in the outset to the tendency to introduce subjects in debate which had no bearing upon the great question at issue. He understood gentlemen to acquiesce yesterday in his declaration, that the agitation of the slavery question at the North was the only grievance of which Virginia had to complain.

Mr. MORTON, of Orange, desired to know if the gentleman represented this as an admission from the entire body of secessionists in the Convention.

Mr. BALDWIN said he distinctly understood the gentleman from Albemarle (Mr. Holcombe) to acquiesce in the proposition as he stated it yesterday.

Mr. HOLCOMBE said he signified his individual assent to the proposition that the action of the General Government on the slavery question was not such as to justify Virginia in taking the issue of Union or disunion; he did not admit that he acquiesced in the entire policy of the Government.

Mr. BALDWIN resumed. He did not expect to find gentlemen who approved every act of the General Government, item by item; but he asserted that the general policy of that Government had been directed by Virginia's own sons, or those of her choice, up to the time of the inauguration of Abraham Lincoln. He then reviewed the acts of various Administrations, showing that the line of compromise had been recognized in the settlement of all the vexed questions before the nation. Coming to the Missouri Compromise, he said it was sanctioned by Virginia's Senators and by Southern members of the Cabinet, and received the approving voice of Virginia herself. The next measure of slavery restriction was under the Administration of the distinguished gentleman from Charles City, now a member of this body.

Mr. TYLER asked to be allowed to call the gentleman's attention to a fact in connection with the Missouri Compromise. He had stated it in the main correctly, but had forgotten a portion of the history. He (Mr. T.) was a member of Congress at the time, and, with eighteen of his colleagues, voted against it.—He would have stood there against it until he had perished, if he could thereby have defeated the measure, for he believed it was unconstitutional. Mr. Tyler was going on to allude to the annexation of Texas, when

Mr. BALDWIN desired to state his point before the gentleman made his defence.

Mr. TYLER merely wished to set history right in regard to the annexation of that State. It was the result of the acquisition of territory, and treaties were made in accordance with the existing law.

Mr. BALDWIN said he had made the allusion to show the recognition of the dividing line in carrying out what the gentleman and his friends called the crowning act of his Administration. He then proceeded to speak of its recognition in the admission of Oregon, and its approval by President Polk. Virginia recognized the right to apply the Wilmot Proviso where it did not interfere with the Compromise line. She also approved the Compromise of 1850 as the great measure of peace, and both parties in the State reiterated it in their political platform. He thought he was justified in defying the production of a single act of the General Government, in reference to slavery, which did not receive, at some time or other, the distinct approval of Virginia.—He hoped, if any gentleman should do him the honor to notice, in the subsequent discussion of this question, any portion of his argument, that he would give particular attention to the challenge which he here threw down.

Mr. WISE.—I take up the glove.

Mr. BALDWIN.—I hope he will take it up; he will find that the battle has but just begun.

Mr. WISE.—And it will be a long time before it is ended.

Mr. BALDWIN went on to disclaim any purpose, if he used harsh language, of giving offence to any member.

Mr. WISE hoped the gentleman did not think he had taken offence at any portion of the debate. He had said, with a sweet smile, "I take up the glove."

Mr. BALDWIN was not alluding to that. He did not, however, regret having made use of harsh language, since it gave the distinguished gentleman from Albemarle an opportunity of making a graceful disclaimer of having imputed to Virginia a degraded position.

Mr. HOLCOMBE here distinctly defined his position on this point, quoting from his speech that portion as to what might be her degradation in the future.

Mr. BALDWIN went on to say that he regarded any attempt to dissolve the Union in consequence of the election of an unfriendly President, as a direct assault upon the temple of American liberty. The Government was founded in a confidence in the virtue and intelligence of the people; but it is built in that wise distrust which has been well characterized here as the parent of safety—safety against tyranny or abuse. Proper restraints and checks had been introduced in order that every department might be administered with calmness, and with a due regard to the rights of all the people. Its founders had built up five distinct barriers against encroachment, and if one, two or three failed, sufficient still remained to restrain the application of oppressive measures. If all fail, there is still an appeal from the faithless servants to their real masters, the people. He would only give up the great experiment of confederated Republican liberty when the people said the powers of Government had been wielded to their oppression. He feared that we were getting into the habit of exaggerating, grossly exaggerating, the Executive office of Government. He considered it the weakest of all the departments. He would undertake to say, that when the Republican party got possession of the Presidential office, they got hold of the weakest of all, and which would, as circumstances existed previous to the election, have brought them to an untimely end, beyond all doubt or controversy. If they have now got possession of the Government in all its different departments, who is responsible? At the time of the election of Lincoln, all the other bulwarks of the Constitution were unbroken, and who is responsible, before God and man, for their abandonment? Who has withdrawn fourteen from the United States Senate and thirty-odd from the House of Representatives, and left us in a helpless condition there? Who, but the seceding States?—He had no intention or disposition to undertake any denunciation of the seceding States, or any other States. This was no time for denunciation. He would rather speak of things which would make for peace than add to the distractions of the country. But it was due to history that these things should be stated. Why had they left us helpless and hopeless in the hands of those who they tell us are our enemies.—When he thought of the election of Lincoln, which all here regarded as a wrong to the entire South, and thought of the firing of a hundred guns on the reception of the news in Charleston, he was led to inquire if we had the earnest efforts of those people who thus rejoiced over his election to defeat him?

We had the power of withholding the material supplies from the Government, and of compelling justice to the South. This was taken from us by the action of the seceding States. But were we justified in abandoning the great experiment of American liberty because of the mere carrying of an outpost? He felt rather disposed to rally more ardently around the broken fabric, in the hope of preserving the last and only hope of civil and religious liberty on earth.

The idea seemed to be, now-a-days, to precipitate people into a revolution. On this idea, our Southern brethren seem to have acted. He went on to speak of the assertion that they were justified in not conferring with Virginia, because she refused a year ago to go into a conference on the subject. He asked if the cases were similar. She declined a conference because, she said, the time had not come. It was a very different thing to decline a conference then, to declining it as the Southern States had done, and to go into a revolution. South Carolina had undertaken the task, with a determination to confer with nobody. It was common to hear that the embarrassments of business required the secession of Virginia. How further disruption was to restore confidence to the people in this respect, he was unable to see. Seven States had seceded *de facto*, and it was now for us to determine whether we would follow them or not. He denied that it was a commercial or political necessity for Virginia to follow them. He thought he could see that time in the future, when they would find that no Government could be formed on this continent which would satisfy people who had lived under the stars and stripes. It might suit the fancy of some people to wander among the ruins of desolated cities, and to admire the proportion of broken arches and columns; but he preferred the walks of industry and the honor of busy life. He then drew a picture of the great Union, unbroken and undisturbed, contrasting it with the shattered Republic, and small Confederacies formed out of the different States.

In arguing the question of how Virginia was to get out of the Union, he illustrated by repeating an anecdote of a boy who was interrogated on the subject; his reply was that he "guessed she would have to go by water, in a dug-out." It had been said that North Carolina would follow Virginia, that her voice was so potential that the people of North Carolina would reverse their solemn decision, and go where Virginia led. Would it not be at least respectful, he asked, to consult her on the subject? With this remark Mr. Baldwin commenced an argument in favor of a Border State Conference. He repudiated the idea of submitting to any oppressive measures from the North. It was his determination, and the determination of those who thought with him, to demand and to have full and sufficient guarantees for the future, or they would have a "row." They meant to present to the North the alternative, of submitting to their demand, or a peaceable separation.

The irrepressible conflict doctrine of Wm. H. Seward was considered, and the speaker denied that the institution of slavery was on the retreat; on the contrary he maintained with pride and pleasure that it was on the increase, and at this moment stood higher and more powerful than at any previous history of the world. He could remember when slavery was looked upon by Southern people as a moral incubus, but now it was regarded as a beneficent and advantageous institution. He also maintained that there were now at the North more pro-slavery people than there were in the South and in the whole world beside, thirty years ago. He believed that if slavery had been let alone by the fanatics of the North, there would not to-day have been a slave in all the broad limits of this Commonwealth. He alluded to an address delivered years ago in the city of Petersburg by the gentleman from Albemarle, as an illustration of the great change that had been wrought in public sentiment. He thanked God that slavery now stood firmer than even before.—He then went on with a history of the Abolition movement at the North, commencing with a few fanatical old women and weak-minded preachers, singing Psalms and *hymns* and spiritual songs; then spreading among the uneducated masses, and finally the politicians got hold of it and used it as an element to secure the spoils of office. He did not believe that there existed at the present time such a fanatical feeling upon the subject at the North as had been represented on this floor. If he thought the disruption of this Union would be the means of restoring public sentiment, and drawing the sections together again, he would be willing to make the experiment. But he did not believe any such result would follow. Public sentiment at the North would no more be reached and operated upon then than now. Slavery, he charged, had been made the toy of politicians, North and South; and in the great day of final account there would be a fearful reckoning for the political gamblers of both sections, who had used it as the counter in the game they were playing.

In speaking of making a bargain with the North, he said he would consent to no plan which did not involve a direct appeal to the people of all the States. It had so happened that the North had got the majority, and the time had come for a solution of the question whether the minority should be invested with the rights of a majority. The administrative power must be entrusted to the will of the majority, for this principle lay at the very foundation of Republican government. The idea had been advanced by the gentleman from Albemarle, that the minority must have the power of expansion—the power of acquiring territory. He could not conceive how this was to be done. The proposition of the Peace Conference proposes to settle the question as to all the present territory; but as to future acquisitions, which it could not settle, it proposed a guarantee of power, and to that extent he favored it. But while this was not acceptable to some, those who made objections had other propositions to bargain with the North. As it seemed to be admitted, then, as the sentiment of Virginia that some bargain should be entered into with the North, he begged gentlemen to come up and join in an honorable effort in that direction. He gave a history of the Peace Conference, which he called a most august assemblage, and in which the Northern States were represented in the proportion of two to one. The Northern Commissioners represented Black Republican States, and might therefore be regarded as fair exponents of Northern sentiment. They agreed upon a proposition, to which he called the attention of the Convention. He did not look upon it as a failure. It had never yet had a fair chance and a fair trial. He believed that if this Convention had sent it forth as the expression of its own sentiment, the Union men would have rallied around it, and it would have ere this been received as the great measure of pacification.—A resolution which he had offered with that object in view, had failed, and he now subscribed to the report of the majority of the committee. It was, in some degree, an improvement upon the former, because it stopped the mouths of all cavilers against the Peace Conference propositions. He believed that there was no subject in regard to which the South had complained, that was not covered by the Peace Conference propositions. He maintained that they were better than the Crittenden propositions, and argued upon the point at some length.—With regard to territorial expansion and protection, he assumed that we had no territory now in possession which was adapted to slave labor; and even if we had, there were no surplus slaves to take there. He alluded to the importation of Africans by the South, to show that there was really a deficiency in slave labor. To disrupt the Union upon a question so devoid of policy or reason, was abject infatuation. The Missouri Compromise was the great line of peace, and he looked upon it as a happy omen that every measure of adjustment proposed, maintained this line of 36 30. He thought it indicated a disposition to return to the spirit and principles which actuated the fathers in the formation of the Government.

At this point, Mr. BALDWIN, who had spoken three hours, yielded the floor, and,

On motion of Mr. GRAY, of Rockingham, the Committee rose and reported progress.

On motion of Mr. HALL, of Lancaster, the Convention adjourned.

THE EVACUATION OF FORT SUMTER.—The Charleston Courier of Thursday morning has the following announcement:

On Wednesday rumors were rife in this city that Major Hutto, Paymaster of the U. S. Army, had made arrangements with the agent of the New York steamers for the transport of the garrison at Fort Sumter to New York, on the steamship Columbia, to leave Saturday.

Reliable information shows that it was only conjecture. Major Hutto visited the Fort on Tuesday for the purpose of paying the troops the amount due them for regular service. The assertion made in various papers that the terms of enlistment of twenty-six of the men had nearly expired, is also a mistake. Some two or three of the privates will have served their time out in August next, and one in December. Beyond this, their terms of enlistment are for two and three years longer.

Major Anderson, in conversation with Major Hutto, stated that he was in daily expectation of receiving by mail the orders for evacuation, and hoped to get them that day. His supply of fuel and provisions was nearly exhausted, so much so that if not speedily relieved they would be compelled to burn some of the gun-carriages for fuel.

Major Anderson expressed a preference for the Charleston and New York line of steamers to that of a public vessel for the embarkation of the troops, the former having better accommodations. He stated that the fort would be given up to the South Carolina authorities after an examination by an authorized officer, and a receipt for the property.

Modena, the greatest of Italian actors, is dead.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.

[*EXTRA SESSION.*]

SENATE.

FRIDAY, March 22, 1861.

The Senate was called to order at the usual hour, Mr. CLAIBORNE, of Petersburg, in the Chair.

Joint Resolution.—Mr. JOHNSON offered the following joint resolution, which was laid over under the rules:

Resolved, by the General Assembly of Virginia, That Colonel Angus W. McDonald shall have the exclusive right and privilege of printing and publishing such portion of the manuscripts obtained by him from England, and mentioned in his report to the Governor of this Commonwealth, of date the 3d day of February, 1861, and communicated by the Governor to the General Assembly, as he may deem proper; but this resolution may be rescinded, and the authority hereby given revoked, at the pleasure of the General Assembly.

Harper's Ferry Raid.—Mr. AUGUST proposed the following:

Resolved, by the General Assembly, That the Commissioners appointed at the last session to audit and pay the expenses of the invasion of Harper's Ferry, are hereby directed to pay the companies of the 80th Regiment of Militia, commanded by Captains Hunter, Courtney, Rider and Alderston, and the field officers of said regiment on duty, as recommended by said Commissioners in their report of the 5th of February last, made to the House of Delegates.

Bills Reported.—To incorporate the town of Rathbone, in the county of Wirt; to incorporate the Rocky Point Lime and Marble Manufacturing Company, in the county of Botetourt; to incorporate the Newport and Gap Mills Turnpike Company; to amend and re-enact the second section of the act passed May 11, 1852, entitled an act to authorize the construction of the Wolf Creek Turnpike Road, in Giles and Tazewell counties; to incorporate the Old Dominion Mining and Manufacturing Company; refunding to Jas. A. Russell excess of taxes paid by him, and authorizing the County Court of Frederick county to correct erroneous assessment.

On motion of Mr. DICKINSON, of Prince Edward, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance inquire into the expediency of refunding to Sam'l E. Lee a part of the license tax paid for keeping a hotel in the city of Richmond, for such time as the same was not used.

Information Wanted.—On motion of H. W. THOMAS,

Resolved, That the Auditor of Public Accounts be requested to inform the Senate what increase in the rate of taxation, if any, will be necessary to defray the expenses of the Government, discharge its present liabilities, and those already incurred or authorized during the present session, by either branch of the General Assembly.

Bills Passed.—House bill to alter and amend an act entitled an act to incorporate the Blacksburg, Catawba Creek and Fincastle Turnpike Company, passed February 15, 1860, and to change the name to the Montgomery, Roanoke and Botetourt Turnpike Company.

Covington and Ohio Railroad.—On motion, the rules were suspended, and the bill "for the partial suspension of the sale of State bonds, and to provide for complying with contracts already made upon the Covington and Ohio Railroad," reported from the House during the morning, was taken up, read a first and second time, and put upon its passage.

Mr. SMITH, of Greenbrier, and Mr. STUART, of Augusta, advocated the passage of the bill.

Mr. BRANNON opposed the bill, and on his motion it was laid on the table.

York River Railroad.—On motion of Mr. DOUGLASS, the rules were further suspended, and the bill for an increase of the capital stock of the Richmond and York River Railroad Company taken from the table for consideration. A memorial, drawn up by the President, (Ro. SAUNDERS,) in behalf of the Board of Directors, was read by the Clerk.—The bill provides for an increase of one hundred thousand dollars.

After a few remarks in favor of the bill, by Dr. HUBBARD, the vote was taken and the bill lost for want of a constitutional majority—ayes 23, noes 12.

Tax Bill.—The unfinished business, the Tax bill, was taken up. When the Senate adjourned yesterday, it was considering the proposition of Mr. BRANNON, taxing charters.

Mr. NEESON proposed an amendment providing that the tax should be paid before the introduction of a bill giving a charter.

On motion of Mr. DAY, the whole amendment proposed by Mr. BRANNON was referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice.

On a motion to reconsider the vote by which the 31st section, in regard to auctioneers, was amended, a discussion arose.

Mr. AUGUST maintained the injustice of the amendment.

Messrs. COGHILL and BRANNON opposed the reconsideration.

Pending the discussion,

The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

FRIDAY, March 22d, 1861.

The House was called to order at 10 o'clock, by Mr. YERBY.

A message was received from the Senate announcing the passage of a number of bills.

Senate bill transferring the Cacapon and North Branch Turnpike to the County Court of Hampshire, was passed.

Adverse reports were returned to the petition of Henry C. Perkins, of King George county; to the petition of Samuel E. Lee, of Lunenburg county; to the expediency of incorporating the American Agency.

The Orange and Alexandria Railroad was brought to the attention of the House by a motion of Mr. BARBOUR for its relief. The bill proposes that the collection of the interest on $400,000 shall be deferred until 1864. The mover explained the bill, and advocated its passage, saying that, on account of the condition of public affairs, the road receipts had been diminished, per month, from $60,000 to $25,000.

Mr. MAGRUDER advocated the passage of the bill. Similar ones had been passed when there was no such national agitation as now exists.

Mr. HAYMOND opposed the bill.

Mr. SEGAR said it was wiser for the Legislature to afford the relief asked for, than that the entire State's interest in the road should be sacrificed under the auctioneer's hammer.

Mr. COLLIER said he only desired to see even-handed justice. If this road really needed the relief asked for, he was willing to grant it, hoping that reciprocity would be the sentiment of the Legislature with reference to the roads running to Petersburg.

Mr. GIBSON, of Hampshire, and Mr. ANDERSON, of Botetourt, advocated the passage of the bill.

The House refused to pass it, and, on motion of Mr. LOCKRIDGE, the vote was reconsidered; and then, on motion of Mr. BARBOUR, the bill was laid on the table.

Mr. WATSON, of Accomac, offered for adoption a resolution providing that, with the consent of the Senate, the House would on Saturday, the 23rd of March, 1861, proceed to the election of Militia Major and Brigadier Generals. It was objected to and laid on the table.

House Bills Passed.—Establishing an inspection of leather for the county of Hampshire; incorporating the Virginia Lumber Company, of the counties of Augusta and Rockbridge; and amending the charter of the town of Guyandotte, in the county of Cabell.

Night Sessions.—The House took up and considered Mr. TOMLIN's resolution, providing that on and after to-morrow the House shall sit till 2 o'clock, and the chair being vacated at that time, the House shall resume its business at 7½ o'clock.

On motion of Mr. JONES, of G., "Monday next" was inserted in place of "to-morrow."

Mr. BASS moved that the Clerk be authorized to withhold the pay of those members voting for night sessions, for each day on which they failed to attend such sessions.

Mr. COLLIER moved that the Clerk be authorized to draw such pay and expend the same, under the direction of the SPEAKER.—Amidst the most dire confusion, both amendments were declared lost.

Mr. BISBIE offered a resolution that the Clerk be required to make a full report of the highly-edifying and instructive debate on this occasion, and that 2,000 copies of the same be printed for circulation among the constituents of members. It was not considered.

Mr. MEDLEY said he did not think outsiders should be allowed to witness the uproar in the House. He therefore moved to clear the galleries. [Uproarous applause.]

Mr. COLLIER moved to amend the resolution by substituting the following:

Resolved, That on and after Monday next this House will meet at 8 o'clock A. M., and sit all day, taking 20 minutes recess at 1 o'clock P. M.

Not considered.

Mr. COWAN moved to amend by substituting Monday week, (April 1st, the day fixed on for adjournment *sine die*,) for Monday next.—Lost. The resolution was then agreed to, (more than an hour was consumed in debating the resolution and amendments,) and the greatest confusion prevailed.

Mr. McKENZIE addressed the House, while eating an apple, in favor of a motion made by Mr. KEEN, to strike out that section of the Code requiring merchants to take an oath that they would not pass notes of a lower denomination than five dollars.

Mr. MEDLEY rose to a point of order. He did not think it in order for a member to address the House and eat apples at the same time. [Great laughter.]

Mr. McKENZIE did not mean any disrespect to the House, and would remind the gentleman who called him to order that he frequently came in and walked to his seat with his hat on.

Mr. COLLIER said if the gentleman would pass the apples around, members would not object to his eating. [Renewed sensation and laughter.]

The SPEAKER.—"Order, gentlemen. Members will please conduct the business of the day with dignity and decorum."

The motion was finally indefinitely postponed.

The bill providing for bringing the remains of Gen. Harry Lee to his native State, was passed to its engrossment.

On motion, the House adjourned.

DEATH OF A NOTED VAGRANT.—The Philadelphia papers chronicle the death, on Wednesday morning, of a well known vagrant, named Margaret Harman, aged about 50 years. The Inquirer says:

"Margaret was considered a very hard case, but possessed qualities of heart which, if they had not been prevented and obscured by intemperance, would have won for her lasting respect. When sober, she was a civil and kind-hearted woman; but liquor changed her into a brawling, fighting termagant. When she was in full vigor of her strength, and before intemperance and exposure had destroyed her constitution, she was a dangerous character to meddle with, and many an officer had his clothes torn to pieces while attempting to take Margaret into custody. Upon the breaking out of the cholera in Moyamensing prison, some years since, she was an inmate of that institution, and she at once devoted herself to the duty of nursing the sick prisoners. She labored assiduously for their comfort, and no trouble was too great, no exposure too severe, and no endurance too painful, if they tended to relieve the sufferings of her patients. Margaret received a handsome acknowledgment of her services upon that occasion, and subsequently, when there were numerous cases of the ship-fever at the Lazaretto, she was called upon to act as nurse there, and for a time she won golden opinions. But her old appetite returned, and having become drunk and turbulent, she was discharged in disgrace. For several years she has been a constant inmate of the station-houses in the upper wards, either as a prisoner or a lodger, and there are many stories told of her exploits. When taken into the rope-walk, where she breathed her last, she commenced singing 'Hail Columbia,' and the air and the words only died upon her lips as the vital breath left them."

WESTERN VIRGINIA M. E. CONFERENCE—*Action on the Slavery Question.*—The Western Virginia M. E. Conference, at its annual session at Wheeling, which was brought to a close on Tuesday, adopted the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, The General Conference at its late session at Buffalo has inserted a new chapter in our Book of Discipline on the subject of slavery; and whereas, there exists some difference of opinion as to its meaning; and whereas, uniformity in administration and harmony among ourselves are very desirable: Therefore,

1. *Resolved*, That we deeply regret the action of the General Conference changing the chapter on slavery, we regarding such action as unnecessary.

2. *Resolved*, That in our judgment, as a Conference, the new chapter is not to be regarded as law; that no administrative or judicial action can be had under it against any member or minister; and that we are left under it to be governed by the Scriptures, amenable as individuals for our administration only to God and our Annual Conference.

3. *Resolved*, That we utterly condemn any attempt, in any way whatever, to interfere with the legal relations of master and servant, and that we will seek to promote, as did our fathers, their best interests by preaching to them the unsearchable riches of Christ, and by teaching them their reciprocal duties as taught in the Holy Scriptures.

FORT PICKENS TO BE REINFORCED.—The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun gives the following intelligence:

It is confidently rumored that orders have been sent for the landing at Fort Pickens of the two companies of artillery that were sent out in the United States ship-of-war Brooklyn, under the orders of the late Administration, for the succor of that fort. The order was suspended by President Buchanan, and is now said to have been renewed. The military *status* will thus be changed on the part of the United States Government. Whether the Government of the Confederate States will permit this, we are to see. It is not believed, however, that President Davis will order an assault of the fort prior to a formal demand for its surrender, and this demand he will not, it is said, make immediately.

AN ABORIGINAL SENSATION PREACHER.—White Cloud, the Indian, has made his mark as a moving preacher, and last week a hearing was arranged for him in the Baptist Church, Broome street, New York. While the congregation was waiting in anxious stillness, White Cloud suddenly made his appearance at a side-door, not in the peaceful and sober robes of the pious divine, but decked out in the savage finery of an Indian warrior. Flourishing his tomahawk in the air, and indulging in a series of war-whoops that nearly split the ears of the horrified spectators, he passed up and down the aisles of the church, and finally brought up in the lecture room, where he continued to regale the ears of the audience with his terrific yells, some of whom, after recovering from the first effects of this new method for producing a sensation, began to look about for the most ready means of escape. The ladies, particularly, screamed with fright, and one is said to have fainted, as White Cloud passed near her, brandishing his tomahawk, and throwing himself into the demoniac attitudes of the war-dance. The chief subsided, however, after a time, fancying, probably, that his introduction had been favorably accomplished; quiet was restored, and White Cloud proceeded with his sermon—rather interesting, by the way—which he was about proceeding to enhance by some love stories among the red beauties of his tribe, when the deacons of the church present very unfeelingly brought him up all standing, doubtless under the impression that the congregation were already sufficiently instructed in matters of that nature.

THE POSITION OF THE POPE.—A French Bishop, who has lately had an interview with the Pope, gives out that his Holiness is firmly resolved not to quit Rome under any circumstances whatever, and reports the following as the substance of a statement made by the Pope in the course of conversation. The Pope has not the least doubt that sooner or later France will withdraw her troops, and that the Piedmontese will take possession of his small remaining territory. But this "crowning act of spoliation" will in no way change the conduct of the Holy Father. "I may perish," he says, "but the Papacy will not perish. I may suffer martyrdom, but the day will come when my successors will enter into the full possession of their rights. St Peter was crucified, and I am here." It being remarked to the Sovereign Pontiff that he would very soon be penniless, he replied that he was quite devoid of anxiety upon that subject, since he should always be sure of finding three francs a day to live upon, and that was all he wanted.

GLASS CASK.—A patent has been taken out by A. Hubert and U. Cantillion, of Liege, in Belgium, for making small casks and barrels of glass. The idea is to apply glass in the formation of casks of five gallons capacity and downward. They blow the glass in a mould of wood or iron, the mould being in two parts of the form of the cask. A certain portion of the molten glass is introduced into the mould on the end of the glass-blower's staff; then the mould is closed, and the glass is blown until it assumes the form of the mould, and is hollow inside. The tap hole is pierced in the cask with a red-hot iron. Small flasks of a barrel-shape, made of glass, are common, but flasks of five-gallon size appear to be an extension of glass application to this particular purpose, and for holding ether, oils, &c. In situations where they are not required to be moved about, they will answer a most excellent purpose.

IMPORTANT FROM TEXAS.—Advices from Texas, received via New Orleans, state that Gov. Houston and the Secretary of State refused to appear on the 16th instant, before the Convention at Austin, and take the oath according to summons served upon them. The other State officers appeared and took the oath.—Lieutenant-Governor Clark was to assume the Governor's powers on the 19th, and it was not known what Gov. Houston would do.—Indians in large numbers were on the frontiers, and the Convention was taking defensive measures against them. By way of Arkansas, we also receive advices from Western Texas. A number of United States officers had resigned, the troops were disorganized and short of supplies, and the Quartermaster's department out of funds. The troops had ceased to do duty, and were awarting means of transportation to the eastward.

A BAD PLACE FOR MORALS.—Hon. T. B. Sedgwick has written the appended reply to a note which he received from a clergyman, asking his influence to obtain a subordinate clerkship in the New York Custom-House for his son, a youth he "had never had occasion to punish, and never knew of his being guilty of a falsehood:"

SYRACUSE, March, 1861.

REV. MR. P.—My Dear Sir:—If you have a son who won't lie nor steal, don't, for God's sake, put him in the New York Custom-House; he would soon loose those qualities there, and get other habits not half so virtuous. Still, if you are inclined to put temptation in his way, instead of being careful and prayerful that it be removed from him, I will give him a letter, provided any friend of mine is appointed Collector.

Very truly your friend, and the friend of your boy, T. B. SEDGWICK.

Gen. Winfield Scott, it is said, is engaged in writing a full and accurate history of his many campaigns. The second volume has been completed.

A YOUNG HERO.—As Lieut. Mowry and a companion were approaching Gila Bend, they met with a surprise of a novel character. At some hundreds of feet from the station, quite near the road was suspended from a tree the corpse of an Indian. It appears that one month since Gila Bend was inhabited only by a single family—an aged American, and his two sons, of whom the eldest was hardly fifteen years old, and a servant. On a certain night the inhabitants of the station were awakened by the well known war cry of the Apaches, and soon discovered that the house was surrounded. The establishment being simply constructed of the branches and leaves of trees like Gila City itself and the majority of the other stations, the dangers environed the inhabitants, now attacked by some five hundred yelling and frantic savages, may be imagined. Not hoping to escape, the men and boys armed themselves and awaited the attack. They were saved in the moment of extermination by a dead shot from the rifle of the eldest boy, which cut short the life of the chief—upon which the whole turned and took to flight. The corpse was suspended to an adjacent tree, and the spoils of war, the arrows, head-dress, and other personal property of the deceased warrior, were preserved by the brave little fellow as memorials of the fight.

A MELANCHOLY CASE OF DISSIPATION.—The Boston Journal mentions the following sad instance of mental and social ruin resulting from unrestrained dissipation:

"Among the tenants of the lock-up on Monday night, was a man—a wreck of what he was before he became a prey to his perverted appetite—who, until within a few years, stood in the foremost rank of the medical profession, enjoying a lucrative practice in one of our suburban towns, surrounded by all the comforts which wealth and social position could give; yet having yielded to a passion for drink, has in the space of eight years squandered a fortune of about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and descended to the lowest degree of degradation."

TRIAL FOR MURDER.—Sarah Herrington, who was married in 1859, at the age of fifteen years, was tried at Binghampton, N. Y., last week, for poisoning her husband, James Herrington, aged thirty-six. On the trial it was proven that the prisoner had purchased arsenic, but also that the deceased had been an arsenic eater for years before his death. The Delaware Republican says the Judge's charge to the jury was clear and impartial, and that the verdict of the jury was *not guilty*. Mrs. Herrington refused to dress in mourning during her trial, and the expression of her face did not change from the time the jury was empannelled until they rendered their verdict, except that she shed a few tears when her counsel was opening her defence to the jury—again, during the Judge's charge, and when the verdict of not guilty was pronounced. Public opinion or sympathy for her was so strong that the immense crowd of spectators joined in when the verdict was rendered, applauded and cheered in the wildest and most excited manner.

A BAND OF INDIANS FLECCED BY AN AGENT IN WEST TROY.—On Saturday night a troupe of Indians gave an entertainment at West Troy. The audience was quite large, and the performances passed off for some time with much spirit. But when the programme had about half concluded, some of the Indians discovered that their agent had run off with the entire proceeds of the entertainment, amounting to between thirty and forty dollars. Their "war dance" was soon changed from sport to earnest, and was enacted in the open air instead of the Hall. The poor creatures could speak very little English, and as they rushed about the streets in pursuit of the recreant agent, jabbering and yelling in the purest Aborigine, there was, of course, no little sensation produced in the village. The Indians had not enough money left to pay their hotel bill.

EARLY OCCURRENCE OF THE NAME OF WASHINGTON.—A writer in the Historical Magazine for the current month gives an early—perhaps the earliest—authentic notice of the land in England from which the name of Washington is derived. In the first volume of the "Chronicon Monasterii de Abingdon," published in illustration of mediæval British History, under the direction of the Master of the Rolls, by the British Government, at page 337, we find a grant of land from King Edgar, the Anglo-Saxon King, to "Athelunold Washingatune." The document bears date A. D. 963, about nine centuries ago.

OMITTING THE PRAYER.—The Wilmington Republican says no little talk has been created on account of the Rev. John L. Gray, pastor of the Episcopal Church, at Seaford, Delaware, omitting prayer for the President of the United States, as laid down in the Episcopal prayer-book. After prayer he made some explanation why he did so, saying "that his sympathies were with the South, he being a Southern man." He says that he shall continue so to do until otherwise directed by the Bishop or the Vestry.

SECESSION IN ARKANSAS.—The Arkansas Convention, after voting down an Ordinance of Secession, agreed, as a compromise measure, to submit to the people two propositions, one a Secession Ordinance, the other resolutions of a Union tendency. Upon these propositions the people are to vote in August next.—The news of the rejection of the Secession Ordinance was received at Fort Smith and Van Buren with great rejoicing. The Convention also appointed delegates to the Border State Convention.

ENFORCEMENT OF THE SOUTHERN TARIFF LAWS.—Measures have been taken by the Secretary of the Treasury of the Confederate States, Mr. Memminger, to prevent the introduction of goods by the inland routes. At all railway connections between the Confederate and Border States officers have been stationed to enforce the decrees and tariff regulations of the Confederate States. The same precautions have been taken to prevent smuggling on the coast line.

A RAILROAD TRAIN PRECIPITATED INTO A RIVER.—On Tuesday night, as a burthen train was approaching Hackensack bridge, in New Jersey, the drawbridge was discovered to be open. The discovery was made too late, and the locomotive, cars and engineer were precipitated into the river, twenty feet of water and mud. The engineer was badly injured.

MRS. GAINES' SUIT.—Mrs. Gaines has no idea of oppressing the people who have been beaten by the decree of the Supreme Court.—Gen. Gaines exacted a pledge from her a few hours before he died, that she would not compromise with any parties to win the case.—She can now, having complied with his dying request, make any just arrangements.

LATEST FROM JAPAN.—Private letters have been received in New York from Mr. Harris, our Minister at Yedo, dated as late as the 10th of December. The Ambassadors who visited the United States had all resumed their official employments, and were loud and sincere in their acknowledgments for the honor and kindness shown them while in the United States.

THE ARCTIC WHALE FISHERY.—Six screw ships, five of which were specially built for the Arctic fishery, and two sailing ships, are now fitting out at Dundee, Scotland, for the Polar regions. Five of these vessels have cost, collectively, £75,000, being an average of £15,000 each.

THE PEACH CROP.—The Rochester Democrat says: "From all parts of Western New York comes unwelcome intelligence respecting the prospects of the peach crop. There is little reason to doubt that the cold snap early in February did great damage to this fruit."

CARRIAGE ROAD UP MOUNT WASHINGTON.—As soon as the snow disappears on the easterly side of Mount Washington, work will be resumed on the carriage road up from the glen. It is the intention of the managers of the enterprise to have the road completed by the 4th of July.—*Boston Transcript.*

THE BEECH TREE A NON-CONDUCTOR.—On the appearance of a thunder storm, the Indians invariably leave their pursuits and seek shelter under a beech tree. In Tennessee it is also considered a complete protection, as it is never known to be struck with lightning, while other trees are shattered to splinters.

IMPORTANT REPORTS FROM NEW ORLEANS.—A dispatch from Montgomery, on the 20th inst, announces that arrangements have been made with the Commissioners of the Confederate States at Washington, to await the withdrawal of the Federal troops from the fortifications before opening negotiations.

DAMAGES AGAINST AN OPERATIC MANAGER.—Damages for $2,000 were last week awarded by a St. Louis Court, against M. Maurice Strakosch, the Operatic Manager, for a breach of contract with Henry Boerustern, Director of the St. Louis Opera House.

YANKEE NOTIONS.—In the town of Concord, Mass., according to the recent census returns, there are annually manufactured 100,000 pails and 75,000 tubs, worth $94,000; 2,000 gross of pencils, worth $4,000; 2,000 packs of gold leaf, worth $14,000.

LOCAL MATTERS.

Poverty.—All people who have had at different periods of their lives the pitiless hand of poverty, destitution and want placed on them, will be ready to acknowledge that while want of means involves no disgrace, it entails, without the name, all the consequences which follow in the train of that undesirable state of affairs. Money or means (