THE DISPATCH.

BY COWARDIN & ELLYSON.

CASH—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

The DAILY DISPATCH is delivered to subscribers at FIFTEEN CENTS per week, payable to the carrier weekly. Mailed at $5 per annum; $3 for six months; 75c. per month for a shorter period. The SEMI-WEEKLY DISPATCH at $3 per annum, or $1.50 for six months. The WEEKLY DISPATCH at $2 per annum.

Richmond Dispatch.

SATURDAY.....JANUARY 23, 1875.

BY THE CIRCULATION OF THE DISPATCH IS LARGER THAN THE COMBINED CIRCULATION OF ALL THE OTHER DAILY NEWSPAPERS OF THE CITY.

THE WEATHER TO-DAY.—*From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather to-day will be clear and slightly cooler.*

THE WEATHER yesterday was rainy and disagreeable during the forenoon, but clear, mild, and pleasant during the afternoon and evening.

Range of Thermometer at the Dispatch office January 22, 1875.

6 A. M.	42	3 P. M.	56
9 A. M.	45	6 P. M.	50
Noon	52	Midnight	41

The Gregorian Calendar.

The Hon. Ellis H. Roberts introduced a bill in the House yesterday to reform the Gregorian calendar. Of its exact import we are not informed, but we can think of nothing else aimed at unless it is to legislate out of existence twenty-five years in advance the 29th of February, 1900. Otherwise we cannot see that the Gregorian year needs any particular attention at the hands of legislators.

Julius Cæsar, forty-five years before Christ, by the aid of Sosigenes, an Alexandrian philosopher, obtained a tolerably clear understanding of the length of the year, which is 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, 49 62-100 seconds. To reconcile the solar with the civil year his Majesty decreed that every fourth year should be held to consist of 366 days, for the purpose of absorbing the odd hours. The arrangement he made was, however, somewhat clumsy. A day in February, the sixth before the calends of March (*sexbis*), was to be repeated in the fourth year; and each fourth year was thus *bissextile*. It was as if we were to reckon the 23d of February twice over. In this form the Julian year commenced its being, and lasted, through ages, until near the close of the sixteenth century.

In the year 1582 it occurred to that distinguished pontiff Gregory XIII. that the world had been gaining time—that the civil year was in advance of the solar year. And so it was, as will readily be seen. The intercalation of one day every four years more than absorbs the five hours, forty-nine minutes, and the fraction over. The error of Cæsar was in estimating the year at precisely 365½ days. Pope Gregory found that, from the time of the council of the Nice, in 325, when the vernal equinox fell correctly on the 21st of March, until 1582, there had been an over-reckoning to the extent of ten days, and now the vernal equinox fell on the 11th of March. To correct the past error he decreed that the 5th of October that year should be reckoned as the 15th, and to keep the year right in the future, the overplus still being 18 hours, 37 minutes, and 10 seconds in a century, he ordered that every centennial year that could not be divided by four (1700, 1800, 1900, 2000, etc.) should not be leap-year, as it otherwise would be; thus, in short, dropping the extra day three times every four hundred years.

Pope Gregory, in the *rôle* of a reformer, had no difficulty in convincing the Catholic world of his wisdom. The miracles of the church conformed themselves to his behests; for, for example, the melting of the blood of St. Gennaro, which annually occurred at Naples on the 19th of September, observed the new style with the utmost propriety, and the common people hence concluded it was all right.

In Great Britain the change did not take place until 1752, when by an act it was provided that the legal year should commence not on the 25th of March, but on the 1st of January—another change; and that after the 3d of September in that year the next ensuing day should be held to be the 14th, thus dropping out eleven days. The reformation was attended by tumults of the masses, who, with quite as much of ignorance as their continental brethren, had less of religious faith in their composition. The measure was extremely unpopular, and for some time afterwards the statesmen who directed its passage were met in the streets and on the hustings with the cry "Who stole the eleven days? Give us back the eleven days." The people thought they had been deprived of eleven days of their natural existence, and grieved over it somewhat after the fashion of the pious "Eusebius" in the New York *Observer*, who sorrowed so greatly when he found that sailing westward on the Pacific the profane skipper took a Sunday right out of the calendar, and brought him straight from Saturday to Monday without giving him a chance to say his Sabbath prayers.

Many anecdotes are told of the superstitions which filled the hearts of good English folk in the times when the days were so badly dealt with by the Parliament; but as the generations went and came, and men lived and died, pretty much as they did under the Julian dispensation, the new order came to be accepted, and we presume that there as here many tolerably well educated people think that the 29th of February was never a *dies non*. Perhaps we should not have thought of it ourselves, and delved our text-books for all this mathematical lore, if the scholarly congressman had not come forward in the *rôle* of reformer, and, emulating at once the Roman Emperor and the Roman Pontiff, begun some iconoclastic proceeding, whose ultimate purpose we confess we can but dimly comprehend from the curt message which is brought to us by the telegraph.—*Rochester (N. Y.) Chronicle, 19th.*

The Great Men of the South.

FATHER RYAN'S LECTURE IN NEW ORLEANS—HIS DISCOURSES OF WASHINGTON, JEFFERSON, LEE, THE SWORD, THE PEN, THE BAYONET, AND THE BANDITTI.

An unusually large and appreciative audience assembled at the new St. Patrick's Hall last night to hear Father Ryan in his lecture upon the great men of the South—the number being estimated at over 3,000, the majority, of course, being of the sterner sex, but with a very large representation of ladies. Seated upon the stage and in the audience awaiting the arrival of the lecturer were quite a number of prominent gentlemen, some of whom, no doubt, anticipated from the subject a scathing rebuke to some of the great men of the North for the course recently pursued by those great (?) men, and attended to hear what the eminent lecturer had to say about them.

Father Ryan, stepping forward, began his lecture by referring to General Sheridan and the breaking up of the Legislature, and wondering whether the meeting now assembled would be broken up. Some people, said the lecturer, call others names when properly they belong to themselves. [Applause.] He was here in the midst of "banditti"; the ladies stole the men's hearts, and the men the purses. It had been announced that he would give a lecture on the great men of the South. Greatness has its elements known to all, and especially to the South, as the southern people had placed in the front rank of history names that could never be matched. [Applause.]

Then, going back to the days of the Revolution, he quoted Patrick Henry, and said that although reckless he was the voice of the people as well as of the Revolution; and in mentioning the Revolution he said that was all right then, but now it was all wrong; that then the people were right, but now they are banditti! Then the Government was wrong; now it was the "best Government (?) in the world." Virginia sent Patrick Henry forth, as she did George Washington; and referring to the latter he said Washington never told a lie, but that it was a question of much doubt whether some of his political successors could say as much.

There was great danger in putting a soldier in the President's chair. Such men think more of force than of fact—more of the sword than of the pen. Then, again, referring to Henry, he quoted his words, "Give me liberty or give me death," and remarked that the Government was a farce on liberty; that in the days of Madison and Monroe there was no breaking up of Legislatures by the bayonet. Then the heart was held higher than the brute force. Civil war was supreme. Now it is the reverse.

Then the lecturer gave his idea of sovereign rights, and declared them now subservient to those of a military officer. And proceeding further he eulogized General Robert E. Lee in most appropriate and complimentary terms, which frequently brought forth loud and prolonged applause. And further on he mentioned General Gordon as a great man, and cited a circumstance related to him by the General, the substance of which is that at about the time of the surrender, when Generals Gordon and Sheridan were riding along the lines, a Confederate soldier raised his rifle to shoot Sheridan, but that Gordon lowered it with his sword.

Then returning to his subject, the speaker referred to Sidney Johnston, Joe Johnston, Pat. Cleburne, General Adams, General Granberry, and paid a beautiful tribute to each, and, referring to President Grant, said he was strong but not immortal; General Sheridan less so, General Emory still less, and General De Trobriand still, still less; and in noticing the difference between people he gave some of the customs of the different people. Here, he said, if one man calls another a liar a duel is the result. (He did not approve of duelling; that his church was against it, but if the church was for it he was, too.) In the West if you call a man a liar he knocks you down. In New York he will call you another, but away down East, if the term is applied, the retort will be, "I'll bet you five cents you can't prove it." This brought down the house, and it was some moments before the lecturer was able to proceed. This he finally did; though again referring to General Lee, who, he said, were he here, would advise the people to be calm and patient; and again alluding to some of the prominent men of the South, he bade the audience good-night, and retired amid loud and prolonged applause.—*New Orleans Times, 18th.*

SOUTHERN SOCIETY-GIRLS.—[Chicago *Tribune* Washington Letter.]—This life of gayety does not seem to embarrass southern women in the least. They are, from their tenderest years, educated in social calisthenics up to this point of endurance. Southern children are oftener in the parlor than inmates of the nursery, and pass the hours which should be cradle-rocked among the evening guests, talking, eating, and flirting with amusing grace and maturity. Their complexions suffer, as does their health in the after years, and the rush to cosmetics, to cover up deficiencies in coloring, is as natural and necessary as their use of quinine or health-sustaining medicines. But they have the easy, elegant, unconsciously-graceful manners of well-bred women of the world, whom no exigency surprises, and who look upon the world as hung with roses for their especial plucking. You never see a southern society-girl act awkwardly, or look miserably out of place, as did poor Joe Gargery when dressed in his Sunday clothes. They act natural, because they are as much in their element as are swans on the breast of the river.

George Q. Cannon, the delegate in Congress from Utah, was expelled on Thursday for polygamy.

LIST OF LETTERS.

LIST OF LETTERS REMAINING IN THE RICHMOND POST-OFFICE JANUARY 23, 1875.

Persons calling for letters in this list will please say "Advertised." If not called for in four weeks they will be sent to the Dead-Letter office, in Washington.

LADIES' LIST.

Anderson, A.	Gill, K.	Nelting, C. S.
Bassett, B.	Grander, M. E.	O'Brine, M.
Banks, N.	Green, M.	O'Briant, L.
Bayle, M.	Haddon, F.	Payne, B.
Bowling, N.	Harris, M. A.	Paul, S. B.
Booker, L.	Harris, I.	Paterson, M.
Brown, A.	Hamilton, A.	Peachy, C.
Brown, F.	Hattern, L.	Pearce, N.
Brown, A.	Hix, S.	Picket, M. L.
Brown, A. A.	Harris, L. J.	Pritz, L.
Cabl, G. W.	Hearce, M. R.	Price, E.
Cheatham, A.	Hillard, L. P.	Rawson, E.
Clark, C. H. (2)	Hicks, B.	Randolph, B.
Colemond, L.	Humphrey, S.	Reynolds, S. J.
Cranes, V. T.	Jones, E. L.	Robinson, A.
Crump, S. E. (2)	Jackson, J.	Ruby, M. (2)
Curlin, J.	Jones, M.	Rudolph, E. W.
Davis, H.	Kelin, M. F.	Tabb, M. E.
Davis, A.	Kent, E.	Tenney, L.
Dabney, M.	McWhinter, A.	Thomas, M.
Davis, M.	J. (2)	Walker, S.
Dewby, Mrs.	McWhorton, A.	Wade, M. S.
Dower, M.	McGwin, F.	Ware, I. W.
Drinard, S.	Marvin, J. M.	Ward, I.
Epps, M.	Marcus, R.	White, B.
Fox, S.	Mayo, E.	Williams, S. E.
Ford, A. M.	Meader, K.	Wood, E. L.
Florugan, M.	Merkins, M. E.	Wylcks, M.
Gates, S. A.	Moore, L.	Woodson, I.
Gaines, G.	Moon, E.	Yateman, P.
Gibson, M. L. (2)		

GENTLEMEN'S LIST.

Allen, G.	Hadeika, E.	O'Hard, P.
Adison, A.	Hargrove, F.	Pace, J. R. & Co.
Andrew, —	Hoely & Bro.	Page, S.
Barker, J. J.	Haden, J. M.	Payne, T. W.
Ballou, J. J.	Harrison, G. T.	Paivel, R. W.
Bateman, S.	Harvey, W. P. & Co.	Pegrum, J.
Backer, G. M.		Plum, A.
Barlow, W. H.	Hazard, T.	Powers, W. B.
Bevill, H. A.	Hill, A. K.	Pougea, Fred'k
Brown, S.	Hobson, M.	Prichett, T.
Brown, D.	Hunter, C. W.	Price, W. H.
Brown, M.	Hubert, P. D.	Quarles, M.
Burch, R. S.	Ingel, L.	Rathgen, E.
Burdell, A.	Jones, W. H.	Ragland, W. N.
Butt, J.	Johnson, A. C.	Ritter, H.
Carter, R. A.	Johnson, J. H.	Richards, T. M.
Carter, W.	Johnson, A.	Ross, H.
Carr, J.	Johnson, A. J.	Rogge, C.
Carpinter, P.	Johnson, J. W.	Ross, J. R.
Clavey, W.	Jehle, B.	Robinson & Co.
Clonley, T.	Jerahl, T.	Rogers, Wm.
Clark, W.	Kleezbrowski, F.	Scott, H.
Colewell, J.	Kraft, J.	Scott, W. C.
Cox, G. G.	Kimble, S.	Selle, J.
Cooper, L.	Kinney, D.	Smith, W. H.
Cottrell, W. F.	Lambert, N. N.	Smith, H. J.
Conover, J. S.	Lawzer, M. S.	Smith, H. D.
Crouch, E.	Lefo, J.	Smith, D.
Coxom, C. B.	Laplner, J.	Smith, C. T.
Daunel, J. E.	Lumkin, J. J.	Sutton, S. G.
Debport, S.	Leamore, R. B.	Staves, J.
Dixon, D.	Lucas, W. P.	Swift, T. F.
Dickinson, A.	McCabb, Thos.	Stedman, N. A.
Dickinson, J.	McCorley, J.	Stroll, M. L.
Dupuy, W. F.	McCrary, W. B. (2)	Strange, J.
Dubil, S.	McDonald, W.	Thomas, H. T.
Dock, G.	Mallory, W. D.	Thompson, L.
Dwyer, W.	Marquise, Brother & Co.	Thomas, T.
Eazin, C.	Maxwell, W. A.	Thomas, H.
Edwards, M.	Massie, McD.	Tompkins, R.
Furlong, I.	Merrell, W. C.	Turner, E.
Frayser, J.	Merriman, W.	Turner, S. H.
Gaines, J.	Miller, J.	Tracy, T. S. (2)
Garrett, J. A.	Moelick, J. R.	Tupman, E. I.
Garnett, J.	Moore, J.	Vaughan, J. M.
Gale, T. J.	Morton, J. F.	Walton, L.
Gaines, K. V.	Moon, E.	Warden, J.
Gaines, W. R.	Motley, J.	Wallen, J.
Garrison, G. W.	Muler & Son	Warren, E.
Glenn, D.	Morriss, N.	Watkins, H. C.
Goode, J. C.	Morehead, N.	Weeden, S.
Gregory & Sands	O'Kane, P.	Webber, J. T.
Griffin, R. S.	O'Brien, M.	Whitted, W. D.
Hagar, J. G.		Woodruff & Bro.

INITIALS.

Editor of the Register; J. W.; R. L. T.

E. L. VAN LEW, Postmaster.

LIST OF ADVERTISED LETTERS REMAINING IN THE MANCHESTER POST-OFFICE JANUARY 23, 1875. Persons calling for letters in this list will please say Advertised. If not called for in one month they will be sent to the Dead-Letter Office, in Washington, D. C.

LADIES' LIST.

Boyle, M.	Feiss, L.	Mann, A. D.
Brandis, S. A.	Harding, T.	Osterbin, S.
Clesby, L.	Jefferson, E.	Reams, L.
Cheatham, S.	Kelley, B.	Mondray, L.
Deming, M. A.	Kahl, A.	Wicks, W. S.
Dannallay	Lipscombe, S.	Winfree, A. V.
Duval, L. M.	Laprade, M. F.	

GENTLEMEN'S LIST.

Anderson, J. H.	Hallsboro, P. A.	Sampson, F. J.
Allen, T.	Hogans, W.	Smith, J. R.
Baker & Martin, (2)	Husand, E. H.	Shelton, J. B.
	Hopson, S.	Schaube, F.
Burton, T. J.	Johnston, J. M.	Schwartz, M.
Berry, G. W.	Johnston, E.	Starke, W. E.
Cheatham, A.	Ludwigsdorff, W.	Westmoreland, J. E.
Clark, T. J.		
Coursons, C. M.	Mitchell, J. G.	Worsham, W. W.
Craig, J. W.	Moore, A.	
Dunn, W. A.	Mayo, G. W.	Walker & Saunders.
Davis, John R. (2)	Mann, J. W.	
	Moore, A. C.	Waugh, A. A. (2)
Foster, P.	Ody, E.	
Farmer, C. E.	Phaup, J. H.	Woodans, S.
Geschwind, G.	Reed, H.	Weisiger, B. B.
Gates, J. W.	Risby, R.	Watkins, T.

Noble Grand, I. O. O. F.

ROBERT BEATTIE, P. M.

DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XLVII. RICHMOND, VA., SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1875. NO. 20.

LOCAL MATTERS.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES TO-MORROW.—The usual services will be held in all of the city churches to-morrow except the following special appointments:

Seventh-Street Christian church.—Rev. W. A. Belding, D. D., of New York, at 11 A. M. and 7½ P. M. Dr. Belding will also preach at this church every night next week.

Trinity Methodist.—Rev. James A. Duncan, D. D., at 11 A. M.

Sidney Methodist.—Bishop D. S. Doggett at 11 A. M. The pastor at night.

Nicholson-Street Methodist.—Rev. W. W. Bennett, D. D., at 11 A. M. The pastor at night.

Union Station Methodist.—Rev. Stark Jett at 11 A. M. The pastor at night.

Grace-Street Baptist.—Rev. N. W. Wilson, D. D., at 11 A. M.; Rev. J. B. Jeter, D. D., at 7½ P. M.

THE ICE HARVEST.—A block of ice five and a half inches in thickness was left at our office door on yesterday by Colonel John B. Young, of Henrico. It was cut from "Young's pond," a few miles north of the city. During the last few days more than 100,000 bushels have been gathered from this pond and safely housed. It is said to be the best ice that has been taken there for many years. This is only one of the many ponds in the vicinity from which ice has been obtained. The recent "cold snap," or "polar wave," as it is now usually called, though it has caused suffering, has not been without some compensating advantages, as it has furnished a *home* supply of this indispensable article.

THE GOOSE-BONE AND THE WEATHER.—An old gentleman of this vicinity, whose reliance in the predictions of the "goose-bone" has remained unshaken through the political changes of the past and dangers of the present, remarked some weeks ago that there would be a cold spell about the middle of January, the rest of the winter being mild. He was led to this conclusion from the goose-bone being dark or clouded on only a small point near its centre. All can attest how well the goose-bone "probabilities" have been verified thus far. It is to be hoped that the remaining portion of the winter will be as mild as the bone predicts.

IN TROUBLE AGAIN.—Albert W. Rush (colored), who was recently before the United States commissioner charged with dealing in contraband manufactured tobacco and sent on to the United States grand jury to answer for that offence, was yesterday arrested by Captain James M. Tyler charged with having in his possession one box of manufactured tobacco stolen from Messrs. Knight & Mayo. Subsequently a warrant was served upon accused by Sergeant Daniel Wren charging him with breaking and entering the factory of Knight & Mayo on the night of the 24th of December and stealing therefrom a lot of tobacco.

INSTALLATION OF TEMPERANCE OFFICERS.—Excelsior Division, No. 35, (colored) Sons of Temperance, at a regular meeting held at Odd-Fellows' Hall, installed the following officers: Abram Lucas, W. P.; William H. Manning, W. A.; William F. Johnson, R. S.; Samuel Huchless, A. R. S.; William H. Simms, ——; William T. White, T.; Edward Norris, C.; Wilson Taylor, Con.; Richard Lomax, A. Con.; George Taylor, I. S.; Martin Quarles, O. S.; Joseph P. Harper, P. W. P.; William F. Brown, D. G. W. P.

This Division is in a flourishing condition, and is composed of intelligent members.

GRAND UNITED ORDER OF TRUE REFORMERS (COLORED).—This Order is said to be making rapid progress among the colored people of the United States and in this State. Dr. William J. Points, assisted by Rev. James F. Divine, State lecturer, has instituted at Harrisonburg, Staunton, and other places in the State, many Fountains. Four more Fountains will be instituted in this city in a few days. In March, Colonel John J. Hickman, of Kentucky, will institute a Grand Supreme Fountain in this city.

AN AMERICAN EAGLE IN DISPUTE.—Mercer Brown (colored) was before Police-Justice White yesterday charged with having in his possession one live eagle of the value of $5 and the property of Adam Washington. The bird was produced in court, and testified to the novelty of his situation by sundry heavy bass notes. Brown swore that he got the eagle from a white boy, and the white boy said he caught it in the river. It was restored to the owner and the accused discharged.

SENT ON TO THE HUSTINGS COURT.—Police-Justice White yesterday morning sent on to the grand jury for indictment Archer Hays (colored), charged with breaking and entering in the night-time the storehouse of Peter Pacini and stealing one lot of cigars and other articles of the value of $54; and Charles Barefoot and J. S. Diamond (white), charged with entering without breaking the storehouse and dwelling of J. Loterzo in the night-time and carrying away one bottle of whiskey of the value of twenty-five cents.

THE GILES MANDAMUS CASE.—Police-Justice White yesterday answered the *mandamus nisi* issued against him by Judge Wellford at the suit of Frank Giles (colored), who is now in jail, and who desires the Police Justice to be compelled to grant him an appeal. The case was set for hearing on Monday, when the Police Justice will show cause why Giles should not now have an appeal from the judgment of the Police Court to the Hustings Court.

FINED.—The following parties were fined by Police-Justice White yesterday: Charles Wendenburg, for assaulting and beating James Lewis, $2; C. C. Liggon, for being drunk and unable to take care of himself, $1; Walter W. Williams, for being drunk and disorderly in the street, $2; Tim. Sullivan and James Mallory, for being drunk and disorderly in the street, $2 each.

PERSONAL.—The Board of Public Works have appointed Messrs. William Skeen of Alleghany, R. Burke of Augusta, and B. H. Magruder of Albemarle, proxies and representatives of the State in the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad Company.

Edward W. Powell was made a notary public for Loudoun county by the Governor yesterday.

CONFERENCE ON THE TOBACCO-INSPECTION QUESTION.—A number of members of the General Assembly who advocate radical changes in the tobacco-inspection laws of the State held a meeting at Ford's Hotel last night. It is understood to be their purpose to oppose the report of the joint special committee that "it is inexpedient to legislate on the subject" when the report comes up for consideration.

PUNISHMENT FOR RESISTING POLICE. Thomas Dolan, for being drunk and disorderly and violently assaulting Policeman J. B. Angle in the discharge of his duty, was yesterday sent to jail for thirty days with labor in chain-gang; Charles Barefoot, for violently resisting Policeman Pat. Woods in the discharge of his duty, was fined $10.

LODGINGS FURNISHED.—From eight to twelve persons (homeless, friendless, and moneyless,) are furnished with lodgings every night by the officers of the First station-house. During the late cold spell much suffering that would have otherwise occurred was averted in this way.

SAMPLE-MERCHANTS ARRESTED.—B. F. Partlett, Henry Molz, and C. N. Hopkins were arrested yesterday and taken to the First station-house, charged with violations of the State revenue law in relation to selling or offering to sell by sample without license. They will be examined by the Police Justice this morning.

NEW TRIAL FOR WREN.

DECISION OF THE SUPREME COURT YESTERDAY.

JUDGMENT OF THE HUSTINGS COURT REVERSED.

A large number of citizens assembled in the room of the Supreme Court of Appeals yesterday to hear the decision of that tribunal in the case of John Wren *versus* The Commonwealth.

Judge Christian rendered the opinion, as follows:

This is a writ of error to a judgment of the Hustings Court of the city of Richmond. The plaintiff in error was tried and convicted as accessory after the fact to one John Dull, who had been convicted in the same court of a felony. The indictment in this case, after setting out the felony committed by John Dull, charged that John Wren, of said city, well knowing the said John Dull to have committed the said felony in form aforesaid—to wit, since the said felony was committed in the year aforesaid in the city aforesaid the said John Dull did then and there unlawfully *receive, harbor, and maintain*, against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

After the evidence was closed and the case submitted to the jury, and after some time passed in deliberation, they returned into court and propounded to the Court a written inquiry in the following words:

"Are we considering the question against John Wren, or John Wren a detective officer; if a detective official, does the fact that he allowed Dull, after the compromise, to go unarrested make him accessory after the fact?"

To this inquiry the Court responded:

"If you believe from the evidence that at the time of the transactions detailed in the evidence John Wren was a detective officer and police-constable of the city of Richmond it is proper for you to consider and weigh that fact in determining his guilt or innocence, it being his right and duty as such officer to arrest any felon upon knowledge of his felony. If you believe from the evidence that the prisoner, a police-constable and detective, with notice that John Dull had committed a felony, permitted him to go from his presence after the alleged compromise without arresting him, intending to allow him to go free of arrest, it is a material fact to be considered by the jury in connection with the other conduct of the accused in determining upon the guilt or innocence of the prisoner."

The Court is of opinion that these instructions in the form in which they were given were calculated to mislead the jury, and were, therefore, erroneous. They were given, as will be observed, in response to an inquiry made by the jury upon a single point: "Are we considering the question against John Wren, or John Wren a detective officer. If a detective official, *does the fact* that he allowed Dull, after the compromise, to go unarrested make him accessory after the fact?"

It is apparent that the jury were seeking at the hands of the Court a definition of what in law constitutes an accessory after the fact; and the particular point of the inquiry to which the Court was called upon to respond was: if they were to consider the case against John Wren as a detective officer, and being a "detective official" does the fact that he failed to arrest Dull make him accessory after the fact?

This inquiry plainly ought to have been answered in the negative.

The question propounded by the jury was not whether the fact that the accused was a detective officer and police-constable of the city of Richmond was a fact which they ought to consider and weigh in determining his guilt or innocence, nor whether, being a detective officer, and having notice that Dull had committed a felony, the accused permitted him to go from his presence without arresting him, was a material fact to be considered by the jury in connection with the other conduct of the accused in determining his guilt or innocence. If the inquiry had been directed to these points the response of the court would have been entirely unobjectionable. But the single inquiry propounded by the jury was, in effect, "Does the fact that the accused, who is a detective officer, failed to arrest Dull make him accessory after the fact to the felony committed by Dull?" This was the single and pointed inquiry, and to this there ought to have been a negative response. The jury ought to have been told by the Court, in response to their inquiry, that the fact that the accused was a detective officer, and allowed Dull to go unarrested, did not of itself make him an accessory after the fact to the felony committed by Dull. If such declaration had prefaced the instructions given they would have been in all respects proper and unobjectionable; but the failure to give such negative response to the single inquiry of the jury, and giving the instructions without such direct response to their question, was calculated to mislead them.

Now, it cannot be questioned that a mere failure to make arrest of a felon taken by itself does not in law constitute the party an accessory after the fact.

Accessories after the fact, by the common law, are those who, *knowing* a felony to have been committed by another, receive, release, comfort, or assist the felon. 1 Hale P. C., section 618; 1 Whar. Am. C. L., section 146; 1 Bishop C. L., sections 633, 634. The true test, says Bishop, for determining whether one is accessory after the fact is to consider whether what he did was done by way of personal help to his principal with the view of enabling the principal to elude punishment—the kind of help rendered appearing to be unimportant. Thus he is an accessory who, with requisite knowledge and intent, furnishes the principal felon with means of escape, money or victuals to support him, a house or other shelter to conceal him, or offer force or violence to rescue or protect him. So likewise to convey instruments to a felon to enable him to break jail, or to bribe the jailor to let him escape, make a man accessory to the felony. Ib., section 634.

But when the thing done amounts to no more than the compounding of the felony, or a misprision of it, the doer will not be an accessory. Thus, a person will not be such who merely neglects to make known to the authorities that a felony has been committed, or forbears to arrest the felon, or agrees not to prosecute him. Ib., section 633.

"Any assistance," says Wharton, "given to one known to be a felon, in order to hinder his apprehension, trial, or punishment, is sufficient to make a man an accessory after the fact." The author then gives various illustrations similar to those given above, and adds: "Merely suffering the felon to escape, however, will not charge the party so doing, such amounting to a mere omission." 1 Wharton, section 146, and cases there cited.

We do not believe that the able and efficient Judge of the Hustings Court of Richmond intended by his instructions to controvert or deny these acknowledged and well-settled general principles. But in the hurry of a jury-trial his instructions were so shaped that we are bound to say they might have had the effect to mislead the jury as to the law of the case.

Now, the failure of a police officer to make an arrest when he knows that a felony has been committed is certainly a gross violation of duty and a grave offence against the law; but this does not constitute him an accessory after the fact to the felony committed. Whether it does or does not is a *question of law* which it was the province and duty of the court to decide when propounded either by the jury or the prisoner's counsel.

The jury had asked whether such failure to arrest did in law constitute the accused an accessory to the felony committed by Dull. To this no direct response was given, but they were told it was a material fact to be considered by them.

The failure to give a negative response to this inquiry, and simply submitting it to them as a material fact to be considered by them, might have misled them as to the law upon the subject.

The jury, composed of men (as is mostly the case) without knowledge of legal principles, might have been led to believe that the judge (when he gave no negative response to their inquiry, but left it to them as a material fact to be considered along with other conduct of the accused) intended, in effect, to affirm the proposition that the failure to arrest Dull constituted Wren an accessory after the fact to the felony committed by Dull.

At any rate, the inquiry propounded was a *question of law* to which the court ought to have responded, and not a question of fact to be submitted to the jury.

The instructions given by the court would have been proper and unobjectionable if they had been preceded by the declaration that the mere failure of the accused to arrest Dull did not constitute him an accessory to the felony committed by Dull. But because the failure to make the declaration might have misled the jury as to the law of the case this court is of opinion that for this reason the judgment of the said Hustings Court should be reversed, the verdict set aside, and the case remanded for a new trial to be had therein.

Judges Staples and Bouldin, while not concurring in all respects in the details, concurred in the conclusion reached. They were inclined to go even farther than Judge Christian.

As soon as the judgment of the Supreme Court is certified to the Hustings Court the counsel for Wren will apply for bail to be allowed him.

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS, FRIDAY.—Manchester Cotton Mills *vs.* Town of Manchester will be heard to-day.

Dabney *vs.* Preston will probably be called Tuesday, having been substituted for Beckham *vs.* Botts, which will now take the place of Dabney *vs.* Preston.

The Broad-street cases were set for Wednesday next, having been continued by reason of the sickness of Judge Ould and Mr. Steger, two of the counsel for the railroad company.

HUSTINGS COURT.—This court will to-day adjourn for the term.

UNMAILABLE LETTERS REMAINING IN THE RICHMOND POST-OFFICE JANUARY 22, 1875.—John H. Cox, Esq., No. 11 west Marshall street, Richmond, Va., care of E. J. Cox; Mr. Tom Robinson, Richmond, Va.; Frank A. Christian, care of Mr. John C. Miller, Richmond, Va.; Mr. Richard Wilson, No. 326 Arch street, Richmond, Va.; S. H. Haines, Esq., Eighteenth and Cary streets, Richmond, Va.; Miss Keziah Meade, care of Hon. Mr. Atkisson.

ENOCH ARDEN.—Mr. Edwin Adams, whose talents as an actor have excited the most favorable comment of critics, will commence a brief engagement in Richmond on Monday night. The sale of reserved seats began yesterday, and with fine indications of crowded houses. Efforts are being made to put the piece on the stage in first-rate style as to scenery and costumery.

INSPECTION OF THE GRAYS.—The Grays were drilled and inspected at the Old Market Hall last night. Their ranks were full, and they displayed much skill and readiness in the practice of the manual of arms and in various difficult movements through which they were carried.

RICHMOND PENSION AGENCY.—From our Washington telegrams this morning it will be seen that Hon. L. H. Chandler has been nominated for the Richmond pension agency.

CONVICTS RECEIVED.—Peter Scott from Staunton, Alex. Parrish from Danville, and Walter Broadnax, were received at the penitentiary yesterday.

DOOR OPEN.—Policeman Fox found Messrs. Dupuy & McKinney's commission-house door open last night.

MANCHESTER NEWS.

CAPTURE OF CHICKEN-THIEVES.—Friday night a colored man named John Walls, who resides in the county of Chesterfield, about a mile from this city, succeeded in capturing a colored boy named Sydney Granger, who was endeavoring to steal his chickens. It seems that Walls heard a noise proceeding from his hen-house, and went out to ascertain the cause, but could not see or hear of anything that accounted for it. He, however, discovered that the plank was down in front of the hole through which the chickens made their egress and ingress. This he replaced in position and returned to the house. In a short while thereafter he was again aroused by a noise in his hen-house. He got up, hastily dressed himself, procured his pistol, entered the hen-house, and found the boy above-named with a bag in his possession. He secured the thief and marched him to the station-house, where he was locked up. Upon information received from Granger, Officer Fitzgerald was led to believe that Sydney Hall, aged about twelve years, and Thomas Glademan, aged about seventeen years, both colored, were his confederates. He therefore repaired to the residence of one Mary Dangerfield, in the vicinity of the attempted robbery, and arrested both. Her house was searched, and several articles of clothing supposed to be the property of Mrs. Perkins, of this city, whose house was robbed some weeks ago, were found in her possession. She was also taken to the station-house and bailed in the sum of $200 for her appearance before the Mayor's Court to-day.

ROLL OF HONOR at the Male High-School for the week ending January 22, 1875: R. H. Winfree, Charles Sharp, David B. Winfree, G. E. Chiles, B. E. Bransford, J. H. Ingram, E. Everett Morrisette, W. O. Sims, Paul Atkinson, Walter Burgess, B. P. Owen, William Hatcher, J. C. Jenks, R. C. Stanard, W. G. Owens, R. V. Owen, Luther Nunnally, James Moore.

THE REV. J. L. M. CURRY, D. D., will preach in the First Baptist church on Sunday at 11 A. M. and 7½ P. M.

SANDAL TIES—IMPORTANT NOTICE TO LADIES A new supply of those beautiful SANDAL TIES at C. L. SIEGEL'S, 421 Broad street.

BIBLE-LECTURE ON SUNDAY (to-morrow) at 3 P. M., at Levy's Hall, UPON HELL as taught in the Bible, utterly subversive of orthodox teaching. Seats free. No collection.

IF YOU WANT MEDICATED RED FLANNEL SHIRTS or any other kind of underwear at low prices call on our friends E. B. SPENCE & SON, 1300 Main street. Their stock of gentlemen's furnishings and ready-made clothing is varied, stylish, and cheap.

ALL THAT GOES TO MAKE UP A GENTEEL AND stylish outfit for a gentleman contemplating marriage may be had at E. B. SPENCE & SON'S, 1300 Main street.

TRAVELLERS should wear Elmwood collars. They are easily carried, wear well, look nicely, and do not require washing.

SWEET ORANGES at 25c. per dozen.
Ripe California pears, for the sick.
Brandy peaches, cherries, and grapes.
Sweet Jamaica oranges.
Malaga grapes in bunches.
Ice-cream of all flavors.
Plain and French candies manufactured daily at
D. COLUMBUS'S, No. 321 Broad street.

AUCTION SALES THIS DAY.

AUGUSTINE ROYALL, 12 M., a lot in Buckhill, near Manchester.

W. K. SMITH, 10 A. M., at 615 Broad street chromos and fancy articles.

JOB PRINTING.

Send your orders for printing to DISPATCH PRINTING-HOUSE. If you wish to have them promptly, neatly, and cheaply executed. se 16

BY TELEGRAPH.

Latest News from Washington.

Senators Sherman and Johnston on the Louisiana Question—A White Elephant in the Radical Camp—Startling Sums Paid by Irwin to Messrs. Shumaker and King and Ex-Governor Randall, &c.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 22.—The never-ending Louisiana question was again before the Senate to-day, and Mr. Sherman concluded the speech which he began last Saturday, taking strong Administration ground, abusing Wiltz, and defending Sheridan, whose telegrams he said were all true. The speech created no sensation, but is considered as exhaustive of the Radical view of the situation in Louisiana.

Senator Johnston, of Virginia, got the floor, but had only spoken a short time when he yielded to a motion for executive session. In the few remarks he made the senator challenged a comparison of Virginia with any State in the Union with respect to obedience to the laws and a proper obedience of the rights of all citizens, and scouted the idea that certain senators have endeavored to set up before the country that there is a feeling extant throughout the South in favor of a new rebellion, saying emphatically that he doubted the sincerity of the senators who have stated it.

Mr. Pinchback is getting to be very much of a white elephant in the Radicals' possession. They are afraid to give him his seat, and doubt the propriety, in a partisan point of view, of not admitting him, so that to-day, pursuant to a caucus determination, his new credentials were referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections. This was hardly expected, and was a rare disappointment to Pinchback; but had they not been so referred a debate would have opened that would have equalled in bitterness any discussion that has taken place for a long time. It is certain that there are several Republicans who would join with the Democrats in protesting against Pinchback's admission.

Irwin's testimony is getting to be like Moulton's in one respect. His tale is being told in daily doses. To-day that witness testified that he gave Shumaker $275,000 and King $145,000 entirely for themselves to use as they saw fit. He also said he had paid ex-Governor Randall $35,000 to be used by him to silence a "bear" movement gotten up by Daniel Drew. He had heard that Drew had sent for Senator Harlan, and he had been informed that Harlan went to New York, and had stated