Richmond Dispatch.

MONDAY.....FEBRUARY 18, 1878.

PETERSBURG.

SALE OF AN OLD MILL-SITE—RUNAWAY BOYS—THE MERCHANTS AND THE SAMPLE-DEALERS—PARSONAGE TO BE ERECTED—CONFIRMATION—A CONSIDERATE THIEF—ENDORSEMENT FOR JUDGE—OTHER ITEMS.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

FEBRUARY 16, 1878.

The Exeter-Mill property, on the Appomattox river, in Dinwiddie county, twelve miles west of Petersburg, was sold at auction yesterday afternoon for $800. It is reported to have been purchased for the Upper Appomattox Company, whose canal is supplied with water by the dam at that point. This property is one of the oldest and best mill-sites in this section of the country.

Two youths belonging to respectable families in this city are said to have run away from their homes two or three days ago. Evening before last they were seen in the neighborhood of Reams's station.

A committee appointed by the meeting of merchants held on Thursday night is soliciting the signatures of all the merchants of the city to a paper memorializing the General Assembly to so amend the present law in regard to sample-merchants as to allow cities, towns, and counties to impose the same tax upon them as upon the resident merchants. I doubt if there is thorough unanimity of sentiment in regard to such a memorial. Some think such a tax would cut both ways; others are of opinion that the only way to break down sales by sample is for the merchants to bind themselves under a heavy penalty not to buy from any sample-dealer.

The congregation of the Washington-Street Presbyterian church are taking steps towards the building of a parsonage for their pastor. To aid in the matter the ladies propose holding a fair and feast next week. There are only four churches in our city which have parsonages attached.

Rev. Alexander Gross this morning administered the rite of confirmation to one candidate at the Jewish synagogue. There was a large assemblage to witness the ceremony.

The Guanahani Company's warehouse on the wharf, with a large quantity of guano stored therein, is advertised to be sold by the sheriff to satisfy executions in his hand.

A number of our citizens went over to Richmond to-day, including several of the Episcopal clergy, to attend the funeral of Dr. Woodbridge, who was well known and had many warm friends in the community.

Master William Booth fell from a shed on Bank street last evening and fractured his right arm.

Sothern will have a fine house on Monday night. A large number of reserved seats have been sold.

A thief entered the chamber of Mr. Emmett Stroud, on Halifax street, two nights ago, and stole from beneath the head of that gentleman, while asleep, the sum of $350. There was $650 in the pocket-book, but the thief contented himself with taking only the larger half of the amount. Very considerate.

The members of the bar of Lunenburg county, the officers of the court, and other citizens, have endorsed Hon. S. S. Weisiger for judge of this circuit, if, as reported by the legislative committee, that county is attached to the circuit.

The valentine business was rather a failure this year. The number sent through the post-office was much lighter than in previous years. ROBIN ADAIR.

DANVILLE.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

FEBRUARY 14, 1878.

The funeral of Mrs. M. A. Harrington, a lady ripe in years and character, who died yesterday morning, took place this evening from the Baptist church. Rev. Dr. Martin and Rev. J. W. Bledsoe assisted Rev. Mr. Holmes, her pastor, in the services.

Some time last summer Messrs. J. H. Trotter & Son, tobacco-manufacturers, of this county, lost a lot of revenue stamps worth about $930. An application for relief was forwarded to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, at Washington, accompanied by papers which proved the loss and probable destruction of the stamps, and Messrs. Trotter have recently received a check from the Department for the value of the said stamps. The mills of the gods, &c.

Mrs. Holmes, the authoress, was in the city yesterday, and was on her way South. She called at the bookstore, and not being able to find any of her works on the shelves, was told by the polite merchant that the last copy had just been sold.

There was some talk about an invitation to Dr. Curry to deliver his celebrated lecture in Danville, but it was at last pronounced that such a lecture was not needed by these people. ALPHA.

KING WILLIAM COUNTY.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

FEBRUARY 15, 1878.

Our staid and law-abiding community has awakened from its Rip-Van-Winkleism enough to witness the first public flagellation that has been administered by the just and sure hand of the law at our court-house since the beginning of the new departure, or, more plainly, since the close of the war. An enterprising "*man and brother*," hailing from one of our sister States to the south, and claiming to be a large cotton-planter there, with a plethoric purse which he wished to deplete some by an investment in old Virginia land, made his appearance in the "upper parish" of this county lately and succeeded in imposing upon the credulity of some of the very worthy and substantial landlords of old Mangobick to the extent of negotiating for the purchase of a thousand or two acres of farming lands, which he intended to highly improve, &c.; but just about that time "The Church" called a meeting at night at the house of one of the brethren near by, and our capitalist, desiring to put in a good appearance, borrowed some good "store clothes" from his hospitable entertainer, telling him that he could dress much better than he did, but was afraid of being robbed if he wore fine clothes, as he always carried a large amount of "the needful" round his person. Well, his sable, or rather metallic, attractions became so seducing when arrayed in a suit of broadcloth, that lo! the wife of his friend fell an easy victim, and instead of wending his way to "meetin'" the twain struck a beeline, by the light of the moon, for Washington, leaving "mine host" minus one kind of a suit, but with material to make another one of a different stuff—*id est*, a suit for divorce. A warrant of arrest was sued out, and our gay "Lothario" was promptly caught, and received a sound striping after a trial and conviction. It is needless to add that "our planter," after such an experience of the old-fashioned way of doing things in Virginia, suddenly concluded that he wouldn't invest any at present, but made tracks for "de cotton country," without standing upon the order of his going, but went at once, a sadder if not a wiser man.

Well, Mr. *Dispatch*, now haven't our readjusting Solons put their feet into the mire which surrounds our impecuniosity—just stuck them in deep and heavy? Who now says we haven't kept our promise to settle that little matter about that debt and those "vile funders," which we made last fall on the hustings? Why, sirs, we've Barbourized it—shorn it of its Samsonian locks—until "them funders" now "roar it, sirs, as gently as a cooing dove."

Can't you, kind *Dispatch*, furnish us with a synopsis—or, better still, the full plan—of that patriotic Virginian D. H. London regarding the capitalization of the land-tax in Virginia? Let us have it, and if it is a feasible plan let some of the legislative wisdom be spent in trying to relieve the now heavily-burdened land instead of passing botches that only sink us deeper in the mud.

En passant, we once heard a very large landholder—one who now graces a senatorial seat, and does it honor, too—assert in open court that there was no really poorer man in the State than the one who holds a large tract of land, it being in the main unproductive, at least not profitable, and unsalable, yet bound to bear a heavy tax-burden. FARMER.

Rev. Dabney Ball, of Baltimore, died last Friday.

State Grange.

[Reported for the Dispatch.]

LYNCHBURG, February 15, 1878.

The State Grange of Virginia completed the election of its officers for the next two years yesterday. The completed list is as follows: Master, J. M. Blanton, Cumberland; Overseer, W. G. Repass, Wythe; Lecturer, R. R. Farr, Fairfax; Steward, Robert Turnbull, Brunswick; Assistant Steward, J. A. Persinger, Roanoke; Chaplain, D. R. Fielder, Mecklenburg; Treasurer, P. F. Cogbill, Dinwiddie; Secretary, M. W. Hazlewood, Henrico; Gatekeeper, J. M. Benton, Loudoun; Ceres, Mrs. J. M. Blanton; Pomona, Miss L. Cogbill; Flora, Miss S. R. Blanton; Lady Assistant Steward, Mrs. Lucy A. Yager; Chorister, Miss M. Belle Pleasants.

The different sessions of the Grange occupied eleven hours, in which time a large amount of very important business was transacted, and a long and very full lecture, on the unwritten work of the order, delivered by the Master.

It began to rain yesterday morning, and though there has not been much fall of water, there was enough to render the day very disagreeable and keep some of the lady-members from the grange meetings—to the very great disappointment of some of the younger farmers.

The Grange will probably complete its labors and adjourn to-night. "G."

Russia, Turkey, Germany, England.

LONDON, February 16.—Reuter's has received the following dispatch:

"*Constantinople, Friday night.*—Namek Pasha has gone to the Russian headquarters charged with an endeavor to dissuade the Grand Duke Nicholas from occupying Constantinople. The Russians on Friday morning occupied the Samidie redoubt, which is a part of the Constantinople defence. Although Austria has remonstrated against Constantinople she will not abandon her present attitude if the occupation is accomplished peaceably and with the consent of Turkey. Russia has notified the Powers that she has prevailed upon Greece to adopt a pacific attitude.

BERLIN, February 16.—The *German Gazette* says: "A request was received from St. Petersburg yesterday that German influence would make itself felt. That influence cannot be but peaceful. In spite of all assertions to the contrary the relations existing between the Imperial courts not only place all idea of any coolness arising between them entirely out of the question, but also offer a sure guarantee for the maintenance of the general peace."

LONDON, February 16.—The *Times's* leading editorial is very pacific in tone. It says: "It will be due to some gratuitous mismanagement if the relative positions of England and Russia near Constantinople leads to any serious misunderstanding. Our own Government may be trusted to act with combined moderation and firmness. If the Russians are reasonably prudent, there is no reason why the Powers should not enter peacefully into conference."

Mr. Gladstone yesterday received a deputation from the workmen's neutrality committee, and consented to address a public meeting of the workingmen of London on the Eastern question. The object of the meeting is stated to be to hold the Government to its neutrality, and to secure the thorough independence of the provinces which have been freed from Turkish oppression.

RICHMOND VISITORS.—Judge John A. Meredith, William H. Scott, C. L. Todd, T. H. Ellett, L. D. Crenshaw, B. T. August, Z. W. Pickrell, and John A. Curtis, members of the Richmond City Council, came down on the last trip of the New York steamer, and yesterday visited the Soldiers' Home at Hampton. They came up to our city last evening, and are stopping at the Atlantic. They will leave for home this evening on one of the steamers of the Old Dominion Line.—*Norfolk Ledger, 15th.*

FRAUD IN LIFE INSURANCE—RIGHTS OF THE ASSURED.—*Annapolis, Md.*, February 13.—Senators Stump, Dennis, and Humphries, a select committee, have agreed to report favorably a bill of great importance to persons whose lives are insured. The bill provides that after the premiums on policies have been paid for two years the companies shall be considered as having waived all right to dispute the truth of the application for insurance, or that the assured person had made false representations when insured. Power is given the company to institute suit within two years for alleged false representations. This bill, if made a law, will prevent life companies from waiting for years, when perhaps the assured person may be dead, before bringing up charges of misrepresentation.—*Special dispatch to the Baltimore Sun.*

PETROLEUM EXPORTS.—Five hundred and fifty million gallons of petroleum were exported from this country from 1866 to 1871, which brought an average price of thirty-four cents a gallon, amounting to $187,000,000. From 1871 to 1876, covering the same period of five years, there were shipped 1,100,000,000, or twice as much oil, which sold at the average price of fifteen cents per gallon, realizing $165,000,000. The increased exports netted less money by $22,000,000 than the shipments of the first-named period.

The following public bequests were made by Mrs. John Deshler, a wealthy lady, who died Tuesday, at Columbus, Ohio: "To the charitable board of the Presbyterian Church, $15,000; to the Columbus Benevolent Society, $25,000; to the Orphan's Home at Hamilton, $5,000; and $45,000 and her family residence, valued at $35,000, for the establishment of the Columbus art gallery; and $100,000 for building and supporting the Columbus law library and providing for lectures.

The two cotton factories near West Point are adding new machinery, and will soon commence running day and night—an indication that Georgia industries are in a prosperous condition.

In sixteen days five hundred and sixty horses and mules were sold in Montgomery, Alabama.

Somebody in Denmark has sent to Lexington, Ky., for a large lot of blue-grass seed.

APOLLINARIS WATER.

APOLLINARIS

NATURAL MINERAL WATER,

THE QUEEN OF TABLE-WATERS.

HIGHLY EFFERVESCENT.

DR. HUNTER McGUIRE, RICHMOND (Surgeon to late Stonewall Jackson). "Healthful and delightful to drink. Valuable in Dyspepsia and Gout."

PROFESSOR J. A. WANKLYN, ST. GEORGE'S HOSPITAL, LONDON. "Highly effervescent, wholesome, and absolutely pure; superior to all others."

DR. R. OGDEN DOREMUS. "Absolutely pure and wholesome; superior to all for daily use; free from all the objections urged against Croton and artificially aerated waters."

DR. PETER HOOD, PRESIDENT OF THE HERTS. MEDICAL SOCIETY, ETC. "Superior to Vichy and Vals."

PETER SQUIRE, F. L. S., CHEMIST TO THE QUEEN; 10th edition of *Companion to the British Pharmacopœia*. "Exhilarating; good for sickness, dyspepsia, and loss of apetite."

MACNAMARA, F. R. C. S., C. S. I., Surgeon to Westminster Hospital, London. "More wholesome and refreshing than soda or seltzer water."

W. ALLINGHAM, F. R. C. S., Surgeon to St. Mark's Hospital, London. "By far the best sparkling water for daily use."

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BOOK AND JOB WORK NEATLY EXECUTED AT THE DISPATCH PRINTING-HOUSE

SATURDAY NIGHT'S TELEGRAMS.

PASSAGE OF THE SILVER-BILL IN THE SENATE.

HOW THE NIGHT WAS SPENT—FULL TEXT OF THE BILL—KUKLUX IN KENTUCKY—THE INTERNATIONAL ROWING-MATCH—GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS WILL ENTER CONSTANTINOPLE WITH A PORTION OF HIS ARMY, BUT WILL COME AS A GUEST—GERMANY'S POSITION IN THE QUESTION—NEW YORK BANK STATEMENT, &c.

Washington.

A NIGHT IN THE REPORTERS' GALLERY IN THE SENATE—THE SENATE AS IT APPEARED AT FIVE O'CLOCK ON SATURDAY MORNING—ON THE EVE OF A POLITICAL REVOLUTION—THE FINAL TRIUMPH—THE TOBACCO QUESTION—CABINET RUMORS—DOORKEEPER POLK'S CASE—VARIOUS ITEMS—FULL TEXT OF THE SILVER BILL.

[From Our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, February 16.—I left the Senate chamber this morning at 5 o'clock and do not care to spend another night in the reporters' gallery. After 12 o'clock the only amendment adopted was McDonald's, which provides that where there is no stipulation to the contrary in a contract that silver shall be a legal tender for all dues, &c. Some of the gold senators and Mr. Blaine thought it horrible that people who had bought bonds with the understanding that the low interest on them was to be paid in gold should be paid in silver.

Mr. Howe said the Government has a perfect right to pay according to the face of the bond, and Blaine quoted Shylock.

Amendments were offered in regard to the weight of the dollar by Mr. Cameron, of Iowa, who wanted a dollar of 420 grains; by Mr. Blaine, who wanted one of 425 grains; and Mr. Eaton, who wanted one of 440 grains. All these, after discussion, were voted down, and the weight fixed at 412½ grains.

Mr. Gordon moved that not less than $35,000,000 of silver shall be coined annually. Lost.

INAPPROPRIATE SPEECHES.

Between 2 and 3 o'clock, when the Senate was working under the five-minutes' rule, Messrs. Cameron, of Wisconsin, and Christiancy, of Michigan, drew manuscript speeches and read them, to the disgust of everybody, in instalments. Raw oysters coated with brown sugar, before breakfast, would not be more unpalatable than were these ill-timed efforts under the circumstances.

WHAT SENATORS DID.

Messrs. Butler of South Carolina and Lamar voted on every proposition with the gold-men, and evinced as much interest—especially the former—in defeating the bill as Kernan or Edmunds. Bayard, Sargent, and Edmunds were particularly active, and favored every proposition looking to delay. Mr. Randolph kept quiet, but voted with them. Mr. Conkling made no speech and offered no motion, but at 1 o'clock petulantly alluded to the fact that the Senate had unanimously agreed to vote on the 15th. He knew gentlemen might say that a parliamentary day lasted until adjournment, but he did not want to be compelled to listen to oft-repeated arguments, but wanted a vote taken and the question settled. His temper was not improved when Mr. Christiancy here got the floor and commenced reading another instalment of his speech. Finally Mr. Conkling left his seat and paced the chamber rapidly, like Von Hillern walking for a wager. This did him good. The speeches of Messrs. Merrimon, Morgan, and Maxey against the proposition for an international conference in regard to the ratio of gold and silver were sensible and in good temper. The Virginia senators, Messrs. Johnston and Withers, patiently awaited the result, voting every time on the side of silver. Mr. Hoar occupied the chair, the Senate being in Committee of the Whole while considering the amendments, and one of his rulings made Mr. Jones, of Nevada, wrathy. Mr. Hill, of Georgia, who was absent, was paired with Mr. Harris, of Tennessee, who is sick, and Mr. Butler was paired with his colleague, Mr. Patterson. Mr. Bruce, the colored senator from Mississippi, antagonized Mr. Lamar on every proposition—all his votes being on the side of silver remonetization. On the silver side Messrs. Ferry, of Michigan, and Allison, of Iowa, did most of the talking in the running debates.

SENATORS LOOKED FATIGUED.

There is no lager sold in the Capitol now, and some senators had to refresh themselves with Rye-o coffee. The effect was bad from a gallery outlook. Some of these had watery eyes and flushed faces, others articulated clumsily and moved about unsteadily, while others were exceedingly lively and good-natured. Coffee affects people differently when taken too frequently.

ON THE EVE OF A POLITICAL REVOLUTION.

The remarks of Mr. Ingalls (extreme Republican) were a feature of the debate when he said: "We are on the eve of a great political revolution. The South and West have come together, and they intend to remain together." He then spoke of New England, New York, and New Jersey as the salt-water despots. Mr. Ingalls is not accustomed to the applause which the gallery gave him while making his speech in the closing debate on the silver bill.

THE FINAL TRIUMPH.

As the hand of the clock neared 5 senators, from sheer exhaustion, gave up the contest, and a vote was taken, and the bill and amendments reported to the Senate. The final vote on the adoption of the amended bill was—yeas, 48; nays, 21; and this secures beyond a peradventure or accident the restoration of silver to its former dignity as the equal of gold as a legal tender. The bill as adopted, as was anticipated in last night's dispatches, is the Bland bill with free coinage stricken out, and with the further provision that not less than two millions or more than four millions of silver shall be coined per month. Then Allison's amendment for an international conference was added, and also McDonald's, intended to prevent any ambiguity as to the complete legal-tender capacity of silver under the bill. It will go back to the House and be disposed of without delay.

THE TOBACCO SITUATION.

Your correspondent to-day asked a leading congressman, who is an earnest advocate of the proposition to reduce the tax on tobacco, whether he did not think it best to bring in a separate bill for tobacco, and he promptly answered "No." Said he: "You then make it a target, and deprive it of all outside aid. There are anti-tariff men in Congress who are so anxious for a change in the present tariff that if they thought tobacco stood in the way of this they would vote to let the tax stand as it is. But put it in the general bill and they will vote for it." A tobacco man, who is looking after the tobacco interest here, added: "The reduction in 1872 was made by a general bill, and tobacco was helped by being associated with other subjects."

CABINET RUMORS.

Republican information is to the effect that unless Attorney-General Devens becomes aggressive in regard to Louisiana matters his term in the Cabinet will soon end. It is furthermore said that Postmaster-General Key will shortly retire to Tennessee. The reasons given are that he has no southern following and brings no southern support to the Administration. The President, it is declared, wants a southern man in the Cabinet if he can get one who will secure him an earnest southern support. Little has been said to-day, or within several days past, in regard to the rumor that Mr. Sherman was to surrender the Secretaryship of the Treasury.

THE DOORKEEPER.

Among the charges against Colonel Polk is that he made his daughter his secretary, his son a page, a cousin a messenger, and his cook a laborer. He isn't as great a man as old Grant, but Grant had more kin in office than that.

The investigating committee will meet Monday. It is not in session to-day. If the Republicans vote solidly for his dismissal he will lose his office, for enough Democrats will vote against him to secure this result. If, on the other hand, the Republicans divide, he will retain his position. Judge Buckner and Dr. Hinkle were infinitely surprised and amused to learn that it was supposed they could be influenced by Messrs. Polk and Silver in their votes on District appropriations.

THE FRENCH AND THE POLAR EXPEDITION.

A letter was received yesterday from the French Geographical Society, at Paris, commending in the highest terms Captain Howgate's plan for the proposed Polar expedition. This Society thinks the colony which is to be established as the basis of explorations should be a permanent one. The letter will have its due influence with Congress.

BRIEF ITEMS.

Neither house and none of the committees were in session to-day.

The iron-men are active to-day, and are not only visiting members of the Committee of Ways and Means, but members of both houses.

Ex-Postmaster-General Reagan's reply to Conger, who bitterly assailed southern postmasters and mail-contractors yesterday, was spoken of to-day at the hotels as the right speech at the right time. He gave the malignant Michigander a genteel setting-down.

The activity of Senator Butler in offering amendments which could not pass, and calling for the ayes and noes during the silver discussion last night, is a subject of comment to-day.

The weather is perfectly beautiful to-day, and the avenue is thronged with pedestrians.

The only southern and western senators who voted against the silver-bill were Messrs. Butler, Lamar, Christiancy, and Sargent.

The Committee of Ways and Means will further consider iron Monday.

There was a conference at the office of Secretary Evarts in regard to Mexican matters.

The Black Hills territory is to be called Lincoln.

J. Gould is here looking after Pacific-railroad interests.

[Associated Press Reports by telegraph exclusively to the Dispatch.]

TEXT OF THE SILVER BILL.

WASHINGTON, February 16.—The following is the text of the silver bill as passed by the Senate to-day:

An Act to Authorize the Coinage of the Standard Silver Dollar and to Restore its Legal-Tender Character.

Section 1. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That there shall be coined at the several mints of the United States silver dollars of the weight of 412½ grains troy, of standard silver, as provided in the act of January 18, 1837, on which shall be the devices and superscriptions provided by said act, which coins, together with all silver dollars heretofore coined by the United States of like weight and fineness, shall be a legal tender at their nominal value for all debts and dues, public and private, except where otherwise expressly stipulated in the contract, and the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to purchase from time to time silver bullion at the market price thereof, not less than $2,000,000 worth per month, nor more than $4,000,000 worth per month, and cause the same to be coined monthly, as fast as so purchased, into such dollars, and a sum sufficient to carry out the foregoing provision is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and any gain or seigniorage arising from this coinage shall be accounted for and paid into the Treasury as provided under existing laws relative to the subsidiary coinage: *Provided*, That the amount of money at any one time invested in such silver bullion, exclusive of such resulting coin, shall not exceed $5,000,000: *And provided further*, That nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the payment in silver of certificates of deposit issued under the provisions of section 254 of the Revised Statutes.

Section 2. That immediately after the passage of this act the President shall invite the Governments of the countries composing the Latin Union (so called), and of such other European nations as he may deem advisable, to join the United States in a conference to adopt a common ratio as between gold and silver, for the purpose of establishing internationally the use of bimetallic money and securing a fixity of relative value between those metals; such conference to be held at such place in Europe or in the United States at such time within six months as may be mutually agreed upon by the Executives of the Governments joining in the same. Whenever the Governments so invited, or any three of them, shall have signified their willingness to unite in the same, the President shall, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint three commissioners, who shall attend such conference on behalf of the United States, and shall report the doings thereof to the President, who shall transmit the same to Congress. Said commissioners shall each receive the sum of two thousand five hundred dollars and their reasonable expenses, to be approved by the Secretary of State, and the amount necessary to pay such compensation and expenses is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Section 3. That any holder of the coin authorized by this act may deposit the same with the Treasurer or any Assistant Treasurer of the United States in sums not less than ten dollars, and receive therefor certificates of not less than ten dollars each, corresponding with the denominations of the United States notes. The coin deposited for or representing the certificates shall be be retained in the Treasury for the payment of the same on demand. Said certificates shall be receivable for customs, taxes, and all public dues, and when so received may be reissued.

Section 4. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

HILARIOUS SENATORS.

The Senate this morning at 5 o'clock was very funny. It may be said that it was hilarious.

Kentucky.

KENTUCKY KUKLUX AT WORK KILLING NEGROES.

NEW YORK, February 16.—A special from Louisville says: Near Shelbyville yesterday morning masked men set fire to the cabin of some negroes, compelling the inmates to come out and call aloud their names. The last man to respond was Reuben Dennis, and as he uttered his name they literally riddled his body with buckshot. Dennis bore a bad name. Feeling is strong against this renewal of kukluxism.

True Inwardness of the Electoral Count.

AN OFFER OF $250,000 TO GOVERNOR WELLS TO GIVE THE VOTE OF LOUISIANA TO TILDEN.

NEW YORK, February 16.—A special from Cincinnati says: A letter received here from a warm personal friend of General Anderson and ex-Governor Wells, of the Louisiana Returning Board, contains some facts in relation to the means used to secure the vote of that State for Mr. Tilden which have never before been brought to light. Pending the decision of the Electoral Commission there was a rush of distinguished visitors from the North, representing both parties. Prominent among them was Mr. Pelton, who we understood to be the immediate personal representative of Governor Tilden. Mr. Pelton brought with him drafts to the amount of $250,000, and immediately began his

EFFORTS TO BUY THE RETURNING BOARD.

Governor Wells, president of the Board, was the first person approached. He was offered $100,000, $150,000, and finally $200,000. The money was to be placed in any bank, subject to draft contingent upon certain results. Governor Wells said he would take $300,000, but he alone must be trusted; the money must be placed in his hands. If he returned the vote for Mr. Tilden it should be his; if he failed, he would return the money to the parties from whom it was received. Those were the only terms he would treat upon, and the gentlemen seeking an "honest count," fearing a trick, determined to try General Anderson, and State Senator Robertson was chosen as the avenue of approach, and through him the same offer of $250,000, contingent upon the result, was made to General Anderson.

ANOTHER FAILURE TO NEGOTIATE.

The latter took time to consider, but failed to meet the appointment he made with Mr. Robertson to give his decision, and when plied further declined to carry on the negotiations. These statements came directly from Governor Wells and General Anderson. Governor Wells says he gave ear to the offer with the hope of drawing Tilden's representatives into a trap.

UNWRITTEN HISTORY OF THE ELECTORAL COUNT.

The New York *Sun* of to-day prints a Washington dispatch under the heading "Southern Democrats Betraying the Democracy," which says that "on Sunday, December 3d, 1876, Mr. Hewitt had an interview with President Grant, during which they talked over the political situation, and President Grant expressed his views with great frankness. He had doubts, he said, as to the result in Louisiana, and intimated that it was his private judgment that the electoral vote of that State should not be counted at all. He was careful, however, to impress upon Mr. Hewitt that the decision of this and all kindred questions was wholly outside the province of the Executive. It belongs exclusively to Congress. It would be his duty, however, to see that the decision, whatever it might be, was acquiesced in. If necessary, he would enforce it. He stated, also, that it was his conviction that the Constitution gave the President of the Senate alone the power to count the votes and declare the result. Whoever might be declared President-elect by the President of the Senate he would see inaugurated and installed in office. Mr. Hewitt's return from this interview at the White House was awaited anxiously by a number of prominent Democrats who had gathered at his rooms. After he had told his story Lamar, Gibson, and Tucker held a consultation apart from the others, and subsequently, on that same evening, Mr. Gibson told Mr. Hewitt that they would be compelled to sustain that construction of the Constitution which invested the President of the Senate with the power to count the electoral votes and make the declaration of the result."

Aquatic.

THE INTERNATIONAL ROWING-MATCH.

BOSTON, February 16.—A special from St. John's, N. B., to-day says a letter has been sent by the backers of Wallace Ross to Hanlon, in reply to a note from his representative at Toronto, stating that Ross would row Hanlon for $1,000 aside, the amount that was suggested, the contest to take place on the Kennebecasis river, St. John's, N. B., June 20th.

Alabama.

MEETING OF THE UNDERWRITERS OF THE SOUTH.

AUGUSTA, February 16.—The Executive Committee of the underwriters of the South to-day selected Mobile as the place of holding the next annual meeting in April.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

England.

MINCING-LANE AND OTHER MARKETS.

LONDON, February 16.—The Mincing-Lane markets experienced more changes this week than for some time past, there being good speculative demand, and the anxiety caused by the grave political crisis has further generally depressed commercial affairs. The *Economist* says: Money is again less abundant; rate of discount for three-months' bills, 1¼ per cent. There have been incessant fluctuations in the stock market, and prices have risen and fallen as it appeared more or less likely that the Russians would not misuse their successes. The effect of the fluctuations has been to depress some securities very severely. At the close there is a somewhat better feeling, chiefly on rumors of German mediation. Silver is flat at 53⅛d., the sales from Germany having recently been large and exports from India checked by political fears; so that the demand for remittance is curtailed.

The Eastern Question.

GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS ABOUT TO ENTER CONSTANTINOPLE AS THE GUEST OF THE SULTAN—SPECULATIONS AS TO A WAR BETWEEN RUSSIA AND ENGLAND, &C.

LONDON, February 16.—The *Times*, in its second edition, prints the following dispatch:

"*Pera*, February 15.—It is generally expected that the Grand Duke Nicholas will enter Constantinople with a portion of his army, but will come as the guest and friend of the nation with the consent of the Sultan, the Russians considering that this will give England no *casus belli*, especially as her ships are now near the capital, against the express wish of the Sultan and the Porte."

A *Times* telegram dated Tchataldja, February 12th, says: "In the Russian camp a renewal of hostilities is discussed as more probable than peace. Every measure is being adopted to consolidate the Russian advance. The entrance of the British fleet into the Dardanelles before the conclusion of an armistice would have been answered unhesitatingly, it is said, by a Russian declaration of war, but whether such would now be the case is doubtful. War with England would be very popular with the army, though the officers speak of it gravely as a terrible struggle. In this state of feeling if we have to begin again, say the Russian officers, nothing could save Constantinople from us, and we would not leave one stone upon another."

HOW THE RUSSIAN ACTION IS REGARDED IN BERLIN.

LONDON, February 16.—A special to the *Times* from Berlin says: "Not only is it unlikely that Germany will undertake the part of arbiter by declaring against any power attempting to interfere with Russia, but the indications are that the Russian action is regarded here as at variance with the understood programme—namely, the liberation of the Christians—and nothing more. The interpellation on the Eastern question comes up in the Reichstag on Tuesday."

ENGLAND'S POLICY EXPLAINED TO THE SULTAN.

LONDON, February 16.—A Reuter dispatch from Constantinople dated the 15th instant says: "Mr. Layard, the British ambassador, had a long audience with the Sultan to-night to explain England's policy to his Majesty."

A CONGRESS AND NOT A CONFERENCE.

VIENNA, February 16.—According to intelligence received from a trustworthy source a congress, and not a conference, is certain. It will probably be held at Baden-Baden, which place Austria has proposed.

MODIFICATION OF PEACE CONDITIONS WANTED.

CONSTANTINOPLE, February 16.—It is stated that Namyk Pasha, who has gone to the Russian headquarters charged to dissuade the Grand Duke Nicholas from occupying Constantinople, is also instructed to endeavor to induce the Russian plenipotentiaries to reduce certain fresh peace conditions of a very onerous character demanded by Russia.

The Greek Insurrection.

INSURGENTS BESIEGING PLATANO—A RENCONTRE BETWEEN TURKS AND GREEKS.

ATHENS, February 16.—The *Official Gazette* announces that a strong body of insurgents are besieging Platano, in Thessaly. A body of Turkish reinforcements from Armyros were repulsed. Seven hundred Greek volunteers crossed the frontier yesterday, and a considerable number left Piraeus last evening for Lamia.

LATER—PLATANO TAKEN—GENERAL HOSTILITIES IN CRETE.

ATHENS, February 16.—The Thessalanian insurgents took Platano to-day, but it is supposed they will not be able to hold it. Hostilities are breaking out in all the districts of Crete. The insurgents are taking possession of block-houses and strongholds under the flag of the union with Greece.

INSURGENTS DEFEATED IN SEVERAL FIGHTS.

CONSTANTINOPLE, February 16.—There have been numerous encounters between the volunteers and insurgent Kaffirs during the last week, in which the Kaffirs were defeated, many of them being killed and wounded.

FINANCIAL.

RICHMOND STOCK EXCHANGE.

SATURDAY, February 16, 1878.

American Gold.—102 bid.

State Securities.—Virginia consols, 56¼ bid, 56¾ asked; Virginia consols, new, 40 bid; Virginia deferred, 4½ bid, 5 asked; Virginia interest certificates, 6 bid; Virginia tax-receivable coupons, 68¾ bid, 69¾ asked; North Carolina, old, 15 bid.

City Securities.—Richmond city 8's, 116 bid; Richmond city 6's, 101½ bid; Petersburg city 8's, 104¼ asked; Lynchburg city 6's, 98 bid, 98¾ asked; Norfolk city water 8's, 113 bid; Manchester 8's (tax-receivable), 90 bid, 93 asked; Manchester bridge 8's, 100 asked.

Railroad Bonds.—Virginia Central Railroad first mortgage 6's, J. and J., 95 bid; Virginia Central Railroad third mortgage 6's, J. and J., 77½ bid; Virginia Central Railroad fourth mortgage 8's, J. and J., 86 bid; Virginia Central Railroad non-mortgage 6's, J. and J., 86 bid, 86½ asked; Virginia and Tennessee Railroad second mortgage 6's, J. and J., 90 asked; Virginia and Tennessee Railroad third mortgage 8's, J. and J., 92 bid; Southside Railroad second mortgage preferred 6's, J. and J., 75 asked; Southside Railroad third mortgage preferred 6's, J. and J., 65 asked; Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad first mortgage 7's, J. and J., 87 bid; Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad second mortgage 6's, J. and J., 93½ bid; Petersburg Railroad first mortgage 8's, J. and J., 35 bid; Petersburg Railroad second mortgage 8's, J. and J., 25 asked; Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad mortgage 8's, J. and J., 100 bid; Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad mortgage 7's, J. and J., 96½ bid; Orange and Alexandria Railroad first mortgage 6's, M. and N., 91 asked; Orange and Alexandria Railroad second mortgage 6's, J. and J., 96 asked; Richmond and Danville Railroad consolidated 6's, M. and N., 71½ bid; Piedmont Railroad first mortgage 8's, A. and O., 92 bid.

Canal Bonds.—James River and Kanawha Canal first mortgage 6's, M. and N., 66 asked.

Railroad Stocks.—Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad six per cent. guaranteed, 100 par, 77 bid; Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad seven per cent. guaranteed, 100 par, 92 bid; Richmond and Danville Railroad, 100 par, 1¾ bid, 2½ asked; Piedmont Railroad, 100 par, 5 bid; Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad, common, 100 par, 83 asked.

Bank Stocks.—Union Bank of Richmond, 50 par, 42 bid, 44 asked; Merchants and Planters Savings, 25 par, 20 asked; Citizens Savings, 25 par, 20 bid, 22½ asked.

Insurance Companies.—Virginia Fire and Marine, 25 par, 39 bid; Virginia State, 25 par, 28¾ bid; Virginia Home, 100 par, 101 bid, 105 asked; Merchants and Mechanics, 100 par, 90 bid, 91½ asked; City, 100 par, 75 bid, 80 asked; Old Dominion, 100 par, 42 bid, 48 asked; Commercial Fire-Insurance Company, 25 par, 19 bid; Richmond Fire Association, 25 par, 15 bid.

Miscellaneous.—Old Dominion Steamship Company, 100 par, 76 bid.

By Telegraph.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, February 16.—Gold opened at 102½.

Noon.—Stocks strong. Money on call, 4@5 per cent. Gold, 102¼. Exchange—Long, 482; short, 484. State bonds steady. Governments firm, and in some cases higher.

Evening.—Money easy at 4@5 per cent. Sterling steady at 482. Gold, 101⅝@101½. Government firm; new 5's, 104¼. States dull.

BANK STATEMENT.

Loans decreased $125,000; specie increased $875,000; legal tenders decreased $50,000, deposits increased $500,000; reserve increased $750,000. The banks now hold nearly $15,000,000 in excess of legal requirements.

BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, February 16.—Virginia 6's, deferred, 4¾; Virginia consols, 56¾; second series, 41. North Carolina 6's, old, 17; new, 8. Bid today.

COMMERCIAL.

CORN AND FLOUR EXCHANGE.

RICHMOND, February 16, 1878.

OFFERINGS REPORTED TO SECRETARY.

WHEAT.—*Red*, 192 bushels; of which 60 bushels were re-exhibited.

CORN.—*White*, 902 bushels. *Mixed*, 124 bushels; of which 50 bushels were re-exhibited.

OATS.—346 bushels.

MEAL.—14 bushels.

PEAS.—10 bushels.

BEANS.—2 bushels.

SALES REPORTED TO SECRETARY.

WHEAT.—*Red*, 44 bushels Fultz at $1.22; 60 bushels very good Fultz at $1.25; 20 bushels very good Fultz at $1.25; 44 bushels prime Fultz at $1.32; 8 bushels very good Fultz at $1.28; 16 bushels prime Lancaster at $1.37—total, 192 bushels.

CORN.—*White*, 40 bushels very good at 58c.; 250 bushels good at 54c.; 250 bushels common at 52c.—total, 540 bushels. *Mixed*, 50 bushels good at 54c.

Flour.

Fine, $4.50; superfine, $5@$5.25; extra superfine, $6@$6.25; common family, $7; fancy family and City Mills, $8, and very dull.

RICHMOND TOB