ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER

SIC SEMPER TYRANNIS

PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 15, 1858.

Senator Hale, of New Hampshire, is the most genial of Abolitionists—though, we believe, he disclaims being counted as an abolitionist proper. There is nothing "grand or gloomy" about his politics, although there is a good deal of the *peculiar*. He will have his fun, and provoke mirth in others—and so by raising a laugh and enjoying it himself, he escapes somewhat the odium that would otherwise attach to his doctrines and course. A case in point, occurred in the Senate, on Wednesday. He sat and listened very complacently to long explanations from Senators Fitch and Douglas about the real purport of certain resolutions recently passed by a Democratic Convention in Indiana—as to what the resolutions really were, and what they meant, touching the Administration, Kansas, &c., &c., and then, with great gravity, rose and said:—

"As "personal and political explanations" seemed to be the order of the day, he ought to be indulged in a few remarks explanatory of the position occupied by the Democratic State Committee of New Hampshire, the members of which had recently promulgated, on behalf of the party and with reference to the Kansas question, a resolution very similar in its terms to that adopted by the Indiana Convention. He deemed it unkind to scan too closely these resolves of the Northern Democracy, who, it was to be remembered, were exceedingly hard pressed at home, insomuch that they found it difficult to live in any place less secure than a custom-house or a post office. Resolutions passed by gentlemen in such a critical situation deserved, he thought, to be treated very tenderly, when brought to the notice of the Senate. The Democracy of New Hampshire, for example, had been reduced to even greater straits, if possible, than their Indiana brethren. An election was close at hand in the former State, and it was apparent that something must be done to relieve the party from the pressure of the Lecompton Constitution, on the one hand, and the Administration's approval of that instrument on the other. The State Committee, therefore, in a series of resolutions, had re-endorsed the Kansas-Nebraska act, re-affirmed the Cincinnati platform, complimented Mr. Buchanan, *and* repudiated the Lecompton Constitution; in other words, the New Hampshire Democratic State Committee approve Mr. Buchanan, but do not approve his measures! This, it seems, was about the position they occupied in the premises, and if it appeared even less comfortable than that of the Indiana Democracy, it was probably because the former were reduced to even greater extremities than the latter."

The facetious remarks of the Senator provoked much merriment on all sides of the chamber, and, in taking his seat, he thanked the Senate for its courtesy in permitting him to plead in behalf of the Democracy of New Hampshire, as Mr. Fitch and Mr. Douglas had done in behalf of the Democracy in Indiana.

The Staunton Spectator, speaking of the Fillibuster movements, says:—"The attempt made in some quarters to link Walker's enterprise with the cause of the South, we earnestly protest against. The South has heretofore been placed in false and untenable positions by the hot-headed zeal of certain politicians. These gentlemen seem to imagine that it is only necessary to raise the "banner of the South" in order to enlist our entire people in behalf of any measure or enterprise.—Every question which comes before the country now-a-days is represented as sectional—the South is vitally interested in the issue one way or another, and every Southern man must come to the rescue! Hence they seek to prejudice the case of Paulding by stigmatizing his friends and apologists as Abolitionists! We respectfully submit that this absurdity has been carried far enough. We can perceive no sort of connection between the success of Walker and Southern rights and interests, and we shall not be misled by any such pretence. The question presented to the people at this time is one of national honor—whether a man who violates our laws shall go free with the plaudits due to a hero who has done a meritorious act. We rejoice that during the debate in Congress last week, at least one Southern man stood up for the right. Mr. Gilmer, of North Carolina, said, that Walker, previous to his late departure from New Orleans, had given bail to answer to a criminal charge and then escaped. The object of the recognizance was to insure his appearance, and Mr. Gilmer held as a lawyer that Walker had violated his bonds and was a fugitive from justice. There was such a thing in common law Mr. G. said, as trespass without damage, and that, if anything, was the character of Paulding's offence in arresting Walker on the soil of Nicaragua. "Suppose," continued Mr. G., "Walker had gone off with three hundred North Carolina slaves, and had been pursued by Paulding and captured just after landing them on the beach of Nova Scotia. They would never have heard Southern politicians complain that Paulding was getting the nation into trouble."

We sincerely hope that the Legislature of Virginia has gone over all the topics of "federal legislation" which are likely to distract its attention, or to disturb its equanimity. Walker, Paulding, and the Neutrality Laws, and the Kansas disturbances are surely *enough*, considering the pressing calls of the public for legislative action touching the great and important interests of the *State*. There are an hundred matters, relating to *Virginia*, much more worthy of a day's consideration than either Nicaragua or Kansas.

The steamship Isabel has arrived at Charleston with dates from Havana to the 10th instant. An English steamer at Havana from Mexico reports riots and rebellions through the country. The late firm of Drake & Co., of Havana, have drawn the $100,000 prize in the Havana Lottery.

The Senate's Special Committee on the Pacific Railroad have had several conferences, and the prospect is that they will be able soon to unite upon a bill.

Mr. Jas. B. Clay, of Ky., made his *debut* in the House of Representatives on Wednesday, on the subject of the neutrality laws. After modestly alluding to the embarrassment naturally felt by one who for the first time addressed a legislative assembly, he ranged himself on the side of law and order, and expressed his surprise at finding the Administration assailed by its friends. He deemed that the Government was but discharging its duty, under the law of nations, in putting down the marauding spirit now so prevalent. Whatever might be thought of Walker's bravery and energy, Mr. C. could perceive no difference between his case and that of Aaron Burr, except, perhaps, in the matter of citizenship; yet the name of Burr had been handed down as infamous. Mr. C. defended the course of Com. Paulding, and complimented the Navy. He was against all varieties of private war, no matter under what pretext. When the proper time arrived, the United States could propagate free principles by legitimate means.

We are pleased to see the son of Henry Clay, however much we may regret his present *party* associations, advocating, on this occasion, the doctrines and principles which we are quite sure would command the approbation of his honored father.

Mr. Gideon B. Smith, of Baltimore, announces that the Locusts, this year will appear in the State of Mississippi, and will occupy the whole western portion of the State, from the Mississippi river eastward to the ridge of land that divides the State, running north and south, averaging about forty-five miles from the river; they will extend north and south to the boundaries of the State, and will most probably extend northwardly into a small portion of southwestern Tennessee.—They will also appear in a portion of the southeast section of Louisiana, particularly in the parishes of East and West Feliciana. They will no doubt extend into other parishes adjoining. They will not extend east of the ridge in Mississippi; they will appear there (east of the ridge) in 1859, in connexion with other large districts in Alabama, Georgia, &c. These locusts belong to the Southern tribe of thirteen years' Locusts, and their advent is just as regular and precise to the year and to the day as is that of their northern brethren. In Mississippi they begin to leave the ground about the first of May, and in Louisiana (East and West Feliciana) a few days earlier, say 25th to 28th April.

In the Senate, on Wednesday, Mr. Brown gave notice of his intention to offer an amendment to Mr. Doolittle's joint resolution for the presentation of a medal to Commodore Paulding. It is to the effect that Congress has heard with surprise of the arrest of Gen. Walker and others, at Punta Arenas, by Commodore Paulding, and feeling satisfied that said act was a violation of the territorial sovereignty of Nicaragua, and not sanctioned by any existing law, Congress disavows the act, and being officially notified that said Paulding acted without instructions from the President or the Secretary of the Navy, Congress hereby expresses its condemnation of his conduct in this regard.

On Sunday night, a dwelling house in New York was entered by two men for the purpose of plundering. The daughter's room adjoined that of her parents; this night the door between the rooms was left open.—About midnight the daughter was awakened by a noise, and looking around, saw a man in her room holding a dark lantern. Naturally turning her eye where her parents lay sleeping, she saw an accomplice holding a bottle to her father's nose. Whereupon she screamed, "Father, father!" which caused the robbers to make a hasty retreat. The father was so stupefied with chloroform when he arose, that he was unable to follow in pursuit, or raise an alarm.

In the Circuit Court for Baltimore County, on Monday last, William Knight was convicted of manslaughter for the killing of George W. Andrews. Next day, the convict was liberated on a *nolle prosequi*, issued by Governor Ligon, and probably the last of his official acts as Governor of Maryland. The murder was committed in the open street, in the western part of Baltimore, over a year ago, during the parade of a political club, and in no way differed from the many deadly affrays which have resulted from the antagonism of these discreditable organizations.

On Wednesday last, the Examining Court was held for the investigation of the late murder in Staunton, of which the Rev. D. Downey stands charged. The counsel for the defence moved for a continuance of the case, which motion was resisted by Messrs. W. S. A. Baylor and W. H. Harmon. The discussion occupied much time of the Court, and the motion was finally overruled, when the prisoner was brought in, and the examination entered into, and resulted in sending him on for further trial to the Circuit Court, in June next.

The inaugural address delivered by Governor Hicks, of Maryland, is well written, clear and concise in its language. The distinctive principles of the party whose suffrages elevated the Governor to office, are, as was to be expected distinctly affirmed and supported. In regard to the causes of disturbance that were local to Baltimore, the Governor, whilst condemning lawlessness and its attendant increase of crime, does not hesitate to utter a strong disapproval of the course pursued by Gov. Ligon.

Levi Cline, of Hardy County, was arrested in Martinsburg on Sunday night last, as an absconding debtor. In default of bail he was committed to jail. He was about starting to Kansas or some other place, leaving behind him debts to the amount of some three thousand dollars, which he boasted he would not pay, although he had the money in his pocket.

The Loudoun Mirror says:—"Mr. John Hammerly, of this town, last week slaughtered one of the finest beeves that has been offered in this market for some time—it weighed 1140 lbs. nett, and was exceedingly fat, the kidneys alone more than balancing a 38 pound weight. It was raised on the "Farmwell" farm of Dr. Geo. Lee."

We observe by the papers of New Orleans that a subscription has been opened in that city for procuring and presenting Commodore Paulding a sword of honor, and to the officers and crew of the frigate Wabash a flag, as an evidence of the approval of their acts in capturing Gen. Walker and his followers.

A visit of the Cincinnati police, on Monday evening last, to a public house, known as the Kentucky Hotel, in that city, resulted in discovering between two and three thousand dollars in counterfeit bank bills, and $2,50 and $1 bogus gold coin.

We are indebted to H. W. Thomas, esq., the Senator from this district, for copies of public documents.

The Richmond South declares that what it calls the President's "palliatives" in the Walker case, "are any thing but acceptable to the South"—that they in truth are "insulting to her understanding and offensive to the integrity of the government;" and adds, that "the Administration is unwittingly passing into the hands of a corrupt combination," &c. It was feared at one time, that there would be a whig opposition to the Administration, in the face of the Black Republicans—and it was thought such an opposition would be dangerous. What sort of an opposition does the administration now encounter from the Democracy?

It is stated that a letter signed by a large number of Congressmen has been addressed to Messrs. Lawrence, Stone & Co., of Boston, asking if the $87,000 disbursed by them in securing the passage of the last tariff bill, was disposed of in Congress, and if so, who received it.

The Fredericksburg Recorder says:—"A Shanghai cock belonging to James Kendall, esq., of this place, was accidentally buried in straw on the 19th of December. The straw was removed yesterday, (12th inst.,) and the fowl was living, and is now apparently in good condition."

The sessions of the U. S. Agricultural Society commenced in Washington on Wednesday. President Wilder delivered the annual address. Resolutions of respect to the memory of Senator Rusk and Mr. Custis were passed, &c., &c.

The nomination of Mr. Clifford, as Justice of the Supreme Court, was confirmed by a majority of three votes, which shows that the opposition was not of a strict party character. The rejection of the nomination would have caused much inconvenience.

Whilst the workmen were employed upon a new house in Baltimore, on Tuesday, the wall fell upon them, killing one, and severely wounding three others.

It is stated that the Banks of the United States have a circulation of one hundred and ten millions, upon a specie basis of seventy-five millions of dollars.

A court is to be, at once organized by chief Justice Eckles, in Utah territory, for the trial of offenders charged with treason, or violation of the laws of the United States.

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

The regular monthly meeting of the board of directors of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad took place at the company's office yesterday, when the revenue of the road for the month of December was reported to be as follows:

	Main Stem.	Wash. Branch.	Total.
For Passengers	$ 52,518 83	$20,746 57	$ 73,264 40
For Freight	291,037 13	10,841 89	301,879 02
	$343,555 96	$31,588 46	$375,143 42

Compared with December of last year, there is now a decrease of $88,098 62 on the main stem, and an increase of $3,138 27 on the Washington branch, leaving an actual decrease of $84,960 35. During the past month there were brought to this city over the road 119,959 barrels of flour, being the largest receipt of the article yet reached in a single month. We learn that considerable time was spent in the discussion of subjects which were brought before the board, among them that of reducing the freight on coal.—There was, however, no change made, the subject being referred to a committee.—*Balt. Sun.*

Virginia Stock Market.

The stock market, in common with the other departments of trade, exhibits a marked activity. At an auction sale held at the Planters' House on Saturday, G. Johnston, Auctioneer, $1400 Farmers' Bank stock brought $100,25 per share, J. B. Hall purchaser, and $1600 of the same brought $100, per share, George Rowe purchaser, $1000 Bank of Commerce brought $79,75 per share, W. F. Cheek purchaser, and $1000 Virginia State Stock brought $94,50 per share, J. B. Hall, purchaser. These stocks belong to the estate of Mrs. Stevenson, and were sold on a credit of ninety days. In addition to this exponent of ruling prices, we remark, a few days since, a sale of $40,000 Virginia sixes, in New York, at prices ranging from $90 to $91 per share, and since then sales, on different days, amounting to $30,000, at $91,-50 to $92,50, an evident improvement in price, showing a favorable appreciation of this solid security abroad.—*Fred. Recorder.*

Gas and Ventilation.

We notice a paragraph going the rounds, to the end that gas when burnt in ill ventilated rooms is unhealthy. One editor says, and perhaps with truth, that its abuse and bad management cause more mischief than any other kind of light; he adds, that its very excellencies are turned to bad account; its extreme cheapness, compared with other sources of illumination, naturally leading to its use in excessive quantities. The air is heated by the excessive combustion, and poisoned by large quantities of carbonic acid, which there are no means of removing. In cold weather shopkeepers shut their doors so that the gas may warm their stores. This, however, is considered a most dangerous and unhealthy practice; as dangerous as a charcoal stove. No doubt where gas or any other combustible is consumed to excess, there should be good ventilation.

The Kansas Legislature.

St. Louis, Jan. 13.—Gen. Denver's message to the Kansas Legislature calls attention to the second section of the Schedule of the Lecompton Constitution, and advises an avoidance of legislation until after the action of Congress in the premises, as, if the Territory be admitted as a State, the acts of this Legislature would be a nullity. He alludes to a rumor of an organization in the Territory similar to that of the Utah Danites, and recommends some action in relation thereto.

[The clause of the Constitution above referred to provides that "all laws now in force in Kansas, which are not repugnant to this Constitution, shall continue and be of force until altered, amended, or repealed by a Legislature assembled under the provisions of this Constitution."]

Our Minister at Berlin.

The new American envoy at Berlin, Ex-Governor Wright, has created some sensation in diplomatic circles by his temperance principles. He lately gave a *Dejeuner a la fourchette* (breakfast) in honor of Alexander von Humboldt, on which occasion all American residents of Berlin, about forty, were present and introduced to the latter. At the dejeuner, as well as at the dinner of Mr. Wright, in accordance with temperance law but contrary to the German custom, there is no wine on the table; instead of which was an abundance of all sorts of American fares, made of Indian corn, etc.

Prices at the West.

A gentleman who has spent the last two months in the West writes that grain is plenty, but in no demand. Wheat at forty cents and corn at twenty cents a bushel have no buyers. The farmers cannot raise money enough to pay their debts and almost every every day somebody's farm is put under the sheriff's hammer.—*Nat. Int.*

Telegraphic Despatches.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—The committee on elections of the House have been occupied for three days, on the cases of Messrs. Brooks and Davis, of the fourth congressional district of Maryland. Mr. Brooks closed today, and the committee passed a resolution declaring it to be a case demanding rigid examination. The committee adjourned till Monday, and will then decide whether to send a special committee to Baltimore, or send for persons and papers.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 12.—The San Francisco papers of the 20th ult., report trade very dull.

Lieut. Beale would soon return to Texas. The samels remained on the Tijon reservation in Sonora.

In Lower California, political affairs were quiet. A dreadful hurricane on the coast had occurred. It drove thirteen vessels ashore and destroyed many house at La Pose and San Barnardino.

The Mormons had all gone to Salt Lake.

From Aspinwall the further news is that the United States frigate Wabash was bringing home Colonel Anderson's command.—Colonel Anderson before surrendering, destroyed all the buildings and cattle at Castillo, and broke up the machinery of the lake steamers.

CLEVELAND, Jan. 13.—The Ohio Legislature has passed resolutions expressing confidence in the administration; re-affirming the Cincinnati platform; declaring the refusal of the Lecompton Convention to submit the constitution to the people as unwise and unfortunate for the peace of Kansas; instructing the Senators of the State and requesting Representatives to vote against the Lecompton constitution, or any other constitution not a clear expression of the will of the people.

TRENTON, Jan. 12.—The State Legislature assembled yesterday, and organized. Mr. Mickle introduced a resolution instructing the Senators and Representatives in Congress to vote against the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution.

SAVANNAH, Jan. 13.—The Republican of this morning, reports the wreck on Tybee beach, of the brig Terpsichore, from Rio, with 2,700 sacks of coffee. Cargo lost.

BOSTON, Jan. 11.—Charles L. Cater, the convicted murderer of Warden Temny, of the State prison, died in jail this morning.—He was 22 years of age, and had nearly served out his year's probation before his execution.

BOSTON, January 13.—The steamer Niagara, sailed hence at noon today, with fifty passengers for Liverpool, and $100,000 in specie.

MADISON, Jan. 13.—The Wisconsin legislative Democratic caucus, passed resolutions endorsing the course of Senator Douglas.

An Unpleasant Joke.

On Monday evening, a fashionable boarding house in New York, was the scene of great confusion and distress, which resulted in a terrible fright to the occupants, but fortunately in little if any harm. At the usual hour the tea bell sounded and the family soon after were all seated. The meal passed off very pleasantly. After supper some retired to their rooms, while others repaired to the parlor to enjoy themselves in conversation, dancing, or whist playing. Could any one outside have looked in upon that gathering, he would have considered them among the happiest beings in the world. Matters thus progressed, when all of a sudden one of the party hastily quitted the room. Two or three of the gentlemen in whispers complained of peculiar griping pains, and expressed wonderment at the cause. Another now retired in haste, followed by another and another, and soon the room was nearly cleared. The parlor was deserted. Those who had sought their rooms were struck with similar pains in the abdominal region, and were at a loss to account for their illness.—The consternation now became general, and the family believing they were poisoned, became panic-stricken. Horror was depicted on every countenance. The servants were dispatched in every direction for physicians, and ere long the house was besieged by medical men. The establishment presented at this time the appearance of a private hospital. The doctors administered emetics and other remedies, and in a short time the patients were restored. A chemical examination subsequently made resulted in the discovery that some mischievous person had put something in the tea.

Gov. Wise and the "Democracy."

The South Side Democrat is equally amazed and indignant at the extraordinary letter of Gov. Wise on the admission of Kansas into the Union. The Democrat cannot trust itself to give utterance to what it cannot altogether repress—the intense shame and abhorrence produced by this bid for Northern favor by the "ambitious and unscrupulous Democratic Governor of the State." It may not be inappropriate just here to remind the public that when Gov. Wise was a candidate for the post he now holds, there was no extravagance of Southern fuss and folly that he did not employ to incense the prejudices, and alarm the apprehensions of the people of Virginia. We all remember how he threatened to draw "the sword of Virginia," and "by the Gods of Virginia, when drawn, to flesh it"—how he threatened to hang citizens of the State—how he even dared to impugn the Southern loyalty of Stanhope Flournoy. And we remember likewise that when again he wanted the vote of Virginia to secure a Democratic triumph for his friend Mr. Buchanan, he went to Raleigh to plot for the dissolution of the Union, if Fremont should be elected. This is the man who does not hesitate now, *as judged by Democrats*, to betray the cause of the South, and court the favor of those whom, but a short time ago, he was willing to put to the sword!—*Petersburg Int.*

A Spiritualist Fillibuster.

The other day a pair of mediums advertised that the spirit of one John King, supposed to have been a pirate while on earth, and yet who keeps up the reputation of the profession so far as profanity is concerned, would invest their clay habitations for the entertainment of the citizens of Newburyport. A few Newburyporters, always on the alert for novelties, went to see. The mediums were tied up, and put in a box per programme, and then J. K. called for a speaking-trumpet, which was forthwith supplied. With that instrument, to aid his not particularly feeble lungs, the departed fillibuster "let out" his profane anathemas upon Newburyport, warning his subjects to leave a place which promised so little pay.—"Where shall we go?" cried the mediums.—"Go to h——l," was the reply. They took the next train for Portland.

Change of Circumstances.

The practice of selling out paupers to the lowest bidder—or rather of putting up at auction the undertaking for their support—still prevails, it seems, in some of the towns of Maine. The Rural Intelligencer of Gardiner, in that State, calls attention to the sad case of Parker Sheldon, a few years ago one of the most prominent business men of the State, widely known and highly respected, several times a member of the Executive Council, formerly Collector of the port of Bath, and the first Mayor of Gardiner after it became a city. In old age and reduced to second childhood, his bodily and mental powers exhausted, and his property all gone, he is now a pauper, dependant on a neighboring town, and was lately disposed of at auction to the lowest bidder for his support.

The Ailanthus Tree.

A writer in the Tribune comes to the rescue of this beautiful tree from the bad name that some have given it, and very conclusively, in our judgment, shows that whatever objection may be urged against it as a purely ornamental tree, it has characteristics that give it real value. Its free and rapid growth is one of these characteristics. As is generally known, the ailanthus is a native of India, and was introduced here only about twelve years ago. Some of its qualities are thus described by the writer in the Tribune:—"It is not a soft, worthless wood; on the contrary, when seasoned, it is firm, hard, strong and durable. It will make fence-posts nearly as valuable as locust timber, and when seasoned, it will burn freely and give a strong heat. It is a good fuel."

If this description of its qualities is correct, as we believe it is, there is great force in the recommendations and suggestions which follow in the article under notice. The writer maintains that there are many barren tracts on Long Island which have never produced any profit, but which planted with the ailanthus tree, would in ten years supply an annual cutting of fence posts and fuel worth more than the product of the best farms.—Such tracts indeed abound throughout our country. The Tribune says:

We will instance one such tract, because, it is one so often seen by numerous persons travelling from New York to Boston; and because it lies so near that beautiful town, the city of New Haven, and in the very midst of the most enterprising people in the world—the most improving in machinery; the most money making, in trade; the most neglectful of any other equally educated people, of improvements of the soil. It is the sandy plain, through which the railway passes from New Haven to Meriden, that we allude to; once a fine, cultivated, productive tract; now a wast of drifted sand.

Upon this waste, we are confident that ailanthus trees may be planted, with only a wheel-barrow load of rich loam to a tree, and that in ten years the growth would not only be such that it would hide the desolate barrenness of the land, but would make it of a saleable value of $100 an acre.

Valuable suggestion are also contained in the following:—

Upon a hundred hills, denuded of their wood by the insatiable wood consuming dragon, the New York and Erie railroad, the ailanthus might be planted where no food crop can be profitably cultivated, where it would bring a sure return to the planter.—But of all places were it might be grown most rapidly, and to the greatest profit, we must look to the great prairies of the west. There, where the richest soil of the world that is susceptible of cultivation without irrigation must lie waste for want of wood, a systematic business of tree-planting might be made the most profitable of any ever practised in this country. There we would not confine the planting to this one tree, but certainly would use it for the first plantation, on account of its easy production from seeds, its rapid growth, its hardy nature, withstanding cold and heat, wet and dry, and not being liable to attacks of insects. A belt of these trees would afford shelter for the production of other more valuable ones—such as locust, oak, elm, cedar, pine, sugar maple, and fruit trees.

Sir William Donn.

The eccentric baronet, Sir Wm. Donn, lately received a complimentary benefit at the Theatre Royal, Bristol, at which over a thousand persons were unable to obtain admission. At the end of the first piece (Used Up,) he was called before the curtain, when he made a speech, in the course of which he alluded to his recent arrest and imprisonment for debt, and his financial difficulties, as follows:

"I do not wish, ladies and gentlemen, to appear before you this evening as a martyr. It often happens when a man has been arrested for a debt, he is the victim of some undeserved calamity, and does not owe anything. Now, I am compelled to acknowledge to you that I am in debt. But let me assure you that I was doing every thing in my power to discharge that debt, but the benighted creditor to whom I owe my present condition thought that he would get every thing at once, so he arrested me. In this, however, he was mistaken. I hope that the step he has taken will put my affairs in a proper state for settlement with all my creditors, and I assure you that it is my wish that everybody shall be righteously dealt by (cheers.) Before I retire I hope that you will allow me to say a few words to the young men. Depend upon it, there is no such a demon as debt. I have suffered from it all my life time; ever since I was thirteen I have been constantly in debt. I hope now to get rid of the burthen, and, I assure you that I will take very good care never to get into debt again. Should there be any fast young gentlemen present—and I dare say there are many of them—I would say to them, "Look at me and take this long monumental warning—(roars of laughter)—if you wish to keep a horse but cannot afford it—if you wish to go to Bath and ride fast, take a second class ticket by the railway—(renewed laughter)—I speak from experience—and I tell you that if you can take the ready money in your hand, whether it be to buy a leg of mutton or a pair of kid gloves, you will get all the advantage, and all the happiness, and the independence too." (Cheers and laughter.) Our old friend in "David Copperfield," Mr. Macawber, is quite right when he says, "Income, $20; expenditure, $20 1s; total, misery. Income, $20; expenditure £19 19s 11½d; total, happiness."

ALEXANDRIA SAVINGS INSTITUTION.—The President and Directors of this Institution, in addition to the annual dividend of 6 per cent. to Stockholders, and 4 per cent. to Depositors, have out of the profits of the Institution for the past five years, declared an extra dividend of 10 per cent. to Stockholders, and 10 per cent. to Depositors, payable on and after this date. BENJAMIN BARTON,
jan 15—eod [Sent.] President.

FRESH SUPPLY.—
10 hhds. new crop New Orleans Sugar
5 " handsome Porto Rico do
10 bbls. new crop New Orleans Molasses
5 hhds. Muscovado do
25 bags prime Rio Coffee
10 boxes Cavendish Tobacco, just received, and for sale by
McVEIGH & CHAMBERLAIN,
jan 15 Prince-street Wharf.

CARD.—*EDWARD SNOWDEN* having opened a *GENERAL AGENCY OFFICE, corner of 7th street and Louisiana Avenue, Washington City*, offers his services to the public, in prosecuting claims in all the Departments, and before the Court of Claims, buying and selling Real Estate, buying and selling Land Warrants, buying and selling Stocks, negotiating Loans, and all other business of similar character, with promptness. Washington, jan 15—d1y

NOTICE.—POTOMAC INSURANCE COMPANY.—An election for seven Directors, to serve in this Institution for the ensuing year, will be held at the office of the Company, on Monday, February 1st, 1858, between the hours of 10 A. M. and 2 P. M. By order of the Board.
ROBERT JAMIESON, Jr.,
jan 15—eote Secretary.

VALLEY PRODUCE.—This day received 2000 pounds nice Country Bacon, a lot of rye Flour, Butter and Lard, by
jan 15 ZEPH ENGLISH.

GUM DROPS AND JUJUBE PASTE.—A fresh supply of best quality, just received, and for sale at MILBURNS' Drug Store.
jan 15

WINDOW GLASS.—A full assortment of all the different sizes; also, Putty, of the best quality, received, and for sale by
jan 15 H. COOK & CO., Sarepta Hall.

[COMMUNICATED.

The following article, from the Norfolk Argus, is applicable to mercantile affairs in this city as well as in Norfolk, and its insertion in the Gazette is respectfully requested by SEVERAL MERCHANTS.

While the merchants of our State are making an effort to have the burden of taxation, hitherto bearing so heavily in proportion upon them, equalized by a proper distribution among all classes, I would call their attention, especially those in our own city, to an evil which seems to me to call as loudly for removal as the other.

I refer to the fact, that we are liable to have our trade taken right out of our hands at any time, and more particularly liable when we most need that trade. This is done by means of men who come here with stocks of goods, and either by private sales or auction, throw them upon the community, to the detriment of the regular merchant. To illustrate—A speculator living in New York may happen to have a few hundreds or thousands of dollars in cash. A severe presure occurs, and goods of all sorts are sacrificed at half price to raise money. He steps in and invests. He ships his purchases immediately to Norfolk, and places them either in a private warehouse, in a hotel, or in an auction house, and pays a small per centage on amount of sales. The next thing an unoccupied store is taken and out come flaming handbills of extensive auction sales of merchandise bought at tremendous sacrifices.—And for two or three weeks, morning and evening, you may see the place crowded with the customers of the citizen merchants, paying away all the ready money they can raise for things, which would not be cheap if they had not been *bought at auction*, when probably a good many of them ought in justice to pay with that money the bills they have run up with regular dealers.

Again, let us take another case similar in principle but operating somewhat differently. A brother speculator of the one just cited, having some money at command, sees an opportunity and invests. But he does not wish to auction off his stock. He prefers to turn Jobber. He takes his goods to some private rooms, or perhaps loft of an auction house—and then goes round to all the dealers, large and small, and offers great inducements for cash, which probably he gets in considerable amounts.

Once more, and the last instance. An agent or a drummer of any house, wholesale or retail, from Baltimore to Boston, comes here with several large trunks containing *baggage* (?) in the shape of samples of merchandise. If a jobber, he probably remains at the hotel on no other expense than his board, and in a few days sells thousands of dollars worth of goods by orders. If disposed to retail, he can do so by putting his goods under a small commission in an auction house, and succeeds in effecting sales, realizing profits, and getting cash, which, in justice, ought to go into the hands of our own merchants.

Now, what is the result of all this?

In the first place, it operates very oppressively upon our own merchants. They are deprived of that to which they are justly entitled—entitled on the ground that they are identified with us, paying heavy taxes and licenses to city and State, giving their money, labor and influence in almost every public benevolent enterprise and spending the amount necessary to the support of their families in our midst. Look at the contrast! The speculator has no interest at stake here, he bears no burden, he is under no house rent, he gives no employment to clerks, he spends nothing for his family among us. As soon as his ends are accomplished, like a bird of passage, he is off with his clear gains, until another favorable opportunity invites his return.

If such a policy as this is to be pursued, nothing may be expected for our own merchants but discouragement and failure.—Where is the inducement for him to invest his money and exercise all his experience and taste to cater for his customers, if he knows that at any time he is liable to have his sales cut off by parties who may think it their interest to flood the market. Aye, the time of his greatest need is the time when he may most certainly expect his supplies of ready money to fail. Witness the auction and other sales during the last three months.

[COMMUNICATED.

What a sight of trouble environs the Democracy about this time! The election of Buchanan was to settle the slavery question forever, and as a consequence, to save the Union. About the first act of his administration was to send Walker to Kansas to preside over that territory. Walker following in the footsteps of his three illustrious democratic predecessors, soon turned his back upon the South, and joined the free-soilers, and now almost the entire democracy of the North are singing hosannas over what is called his defection! Just at this point, when the administration was in the deepest of its afflictions on account of the stampede of its friends of that section, the Governor of Virginia, the man who killed Cock Robin, and who stood highest in the signagogue, turns up in a letter denouncing the schedule, under which the administration is seeking to admit Kansas into the Union as an "unveiled trickery and shameless fraud." The "harmonious" are certainly in a fair way of settling the slavery question, and saving the Union! MADISON.

[COMMUNICATED.

Once or twice a year there is raised in this town, what the people of the upper country call an "Alexandria Railroad fuss," and which is a subject of great amusement and laughter to all outside of the corporation—and to many also within the bounds—especially as the "hobbery" ends generally in just nothing at all, and the only result effected is a quarrel between some three or four victims who are drawn into the "fuss." What under the sun can be expected, at this time, from the present Railroad disturbance, considering that Congress cannot interfere to build *bridges*, whilst it has enough to do to keep the government expenses paid, no reasonable person can tell. Let every man be persuaded in his own mind about these railroads, and stop that racket! Noise and confusion can do no good, especially when it makes us an object of ridicule to our neighbors. ALEXANDRIA.

[COMMUNICATED.

All experience has shown that the *taste* for Lectures in this country, and in this community, is quite *periodical* in its nature.—This season, is evidently, not favorable for Lectures. Notwithstanding, permit me to endorse the account of the Lecture of Mr. Reese, at the Lyceum Hall, given under the Local head in the Gazette, and to say, that if any address of the kind could bear repetition this would. Those who were absent missed a great treat. If a crowded audience had been present, all would have said they were highly delighted and gratified.—Probably one more Lecture is as much as will be called for this winter, considering the experiments already made; and, if so, I think Mr. Reese would find the Home Affections again an attractive theme.

HOMESPUN.

2,500 SUPERIOR GRAIN BAGS, for sale by
jan 8 HILL, BROWN & PARTLOW.

Chicago and St. Louis.

RECEIPTS OF GRAIN AT ST. LOUIS AND CHICAGO IN 1857.

ST. LOUIS.	bu.	CHICAGO.	bu.
Wheat	3,360,618	Wheat	10,314,761
Corn	2,597,224	Corn	7,440,159
Oats	812,979	Oats	3,597,332
Barley	216,574	Barley	125,000
Rye	30,441	Rye	8,731
	6,825,035		19,886,023
Flour (into Wheat)	2,852,035	Flour (into Wheat)	1,600,573
Total	9,677,070	Total	21,486,596

With respect to the progress of the Grain Trade of St. Louis, some facts are presented showing the receipts of wheat for a period of years, which we give, along with receipts at Chicago during the same years:

RECEIPTS OF WHEAT AT ST. LOUIS AND CHICAGO FOR SIX YEARS

ST. LOUIS.	bu.	CHICAGO.	bu.
1852	1,603,422	1852	601,616
1853	2,008,893	1853	1,087,160
1854	2,340,217	1854	3,068,267
1855	3,021,197	1855	7,587,[illegible]
1856	3,067,621	1856	8,247,750
1857	3,360,617	1857	10,314,761

The amount of corn received at St. Louis in 1857, is nearly double that received in 1856. This is to be accounted for from the fact that much of the corn on the Illinois river, which is usually attracted to Chicago on account of the lateness of the season, went to St. Louis.

The manufacture of flour in St. Louis has increased in 1857 over 30,000 bbls. We find that by the Chicago, Alton & St. Louis, Terre Haute, Alton & St. Louis, and the Ohio & Mississippi Railways, 83,552 bbls. were received. The balance was received by the river and Missouri railroads.

Below we give the number of cattle and hogs received in St. Louis since 1857—alongside which we place the number received in this city:

HOGS RECEIVED AT ST. LOUIS AND CHICAGO IN 1857.

ST. LOUIS.		CHICAGO.	
Hogs, head	81,617	Hogs, head	241,243
Cattle, do	16,923	Cattle, do	48,324

The following is the number of arrivals at St. Louis during 1857, with the total tonnage—compared with the arrivals and tonnage of Chicago during the same period:

TONNAGE OF ST. LOUIS AND CHICAGO FOR 1857.

ST. LOUIS.		CHICAGO.	
No. of arrivals	3,943	No. of arrivals	7,507
Total tonnage	1,266,099	Total tonnage	1,756,[illegible]

—*Chicago Press.*

Farmers' Bank of Virginia.

State of the Farmers' Bank of Virginia, including the Branches, on the first day of January, 1858.

Debt outstanding	$5,823,423 96
Sterling bills	8,127 11
Stocks	42,493 96
Specie	182,053 61
Notes of other banks in Virginia, including $200,495 82, on special deposit, to the credit of the Treasury of Virginia	489,510 44
Notes of other banks out of Virginia	8,805 00
Due from other banks	430,587 16
Real Estate	187,475 00
Loan to the Commonwealth in treasury notes	189,600 00
In transitu between the bank and branches	16,168 91
	$8,677,773 78
Capital stock	$3,150,000 00
Notes in circulation	1,543,098 50
Deposit money, including $200,486 82, on special deposit, to the credit of the Treasurer	2,241,894 83
Due to other banks	237,502 30
Surplus and contingent fund	344,250 58
Profits of the institution	160,067 87
	$7,677,773 78
Reserved fund, as above	$344,250 58
Profits of the institution to 1st Jan., 1858	160,067 87
Dividend on the 1st inst.	126,036 00
Tax paid State	5,835 46
State bonus	7,877 25
	139,748 71
	20,319 16
Surplus	$364,569 44

MARRIED.

In Grace Church, Washington, on Tuesday, 12th instant, by Rev. W Holmead, GEORGE COOPER, esq., of Alexandria, Va., and Miss ANGIE, eldest daughter of Capt. Thomas W. Beard, of Piscataway District, Prince George's county, Md.

DIED.

In Washington, (Ky.) November 6th, 1857 JOHN W. HENRY, M. D., in the 50th year of his age. Dr. Henry was born in Lexington, and educated at the University of Transylvania—Selecting medicine as a profession he in due time graduated with marked distinction. About