



ALEXANDRIA: MONDAY MORNING, MARCH 15, 1858.

Mr. Kennedy, of Md., in the Senate, on Friday, spoke on the Kansas question. As he repudiated the whole theory of the Kansas Nebraska act, and deprecated the repeal of the Missouri compromise as wrong in itself and suicidal to the South, he was in no way bound by the partisan engagements which had grown out of the legislation of 1854, and which were supposed to be embodied in the Cincinnati platform. If he confessed any allegiance to that platform he decided in the present question will be different, but as it was, for reasons of his own, he had determined to vote for the admission of Kansas under the Leocompton Constitution. Compelled to side with one or the other of the parties which have originated and fostered this sectional controversy, he should, on questions of national politics, be held in no degree of alliance with the Republican party, which was sectional and only sectional. In voting, however, for the admission of Kansas, he was mainly influenced by the desire of putting a period to a worse than fruitless agitation of the slavery question.

Efforts are to be made to re-open the Rappahannock Canal, as auxiliary to the trade of Fredericksburg. We rejoice always to hear of the enterprise and prosperity of Fredericksburg, and of the use of means to accomplish the revival of business there. But all this, and ought to be, done without depreciating the advantages and capabilities of other places—especially Alexandria. Fredericksburg, our friend of the News will find, is not a better market than Alexandria. But, in truth, there is no need of jealousy and disputes between our cities and towns. Let each and all strive for their own good, and be pleased to see the success of their neighbors.

It will be seen that the bill to amend an act to incorporate the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union, and to authorize the purchase of a part of Mount Vernon, passed in 1856, and for other purposes, has been defeated in the House of Delegates by a vote of 57 to 29. The bill proposed to issue bonds to the amount of \$200,000 (the amount asked), redeemable in 34 years, to Mr. Washington—the money to be paid into the Treasury by the Ladies' Association, as soon as collected. They had already accumulated \$75,000. We thought the bill would be defeated, but did not suppose it would only get 29 votes.

In the House of Representatives, on Friday, the appeal from the Speaker's decision against Mr. Harris's motion in regard to the course of a majority of the Kansas Select Committee, was debated by several members, and propositions were made to print the reports of the majority and minority of the Committee. Finally, the appeal from the Speaker's decision was withdrawn by Mr. Harris, after an unsuccessful motion by Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, to lay it on the table, (109 to 111.) and the House adjourned without coming to any conclusion on the subject of discussion.

A large Kansas meeting was held in Baltimore, on Friday night, Hon. John Nelson, in the chair. It was addressed by Senator Toombs, and Mr. H. C. Pate, of Kansas—Resolutions in favor of the admission of Kansas, under the Leocompton Constitution, and of confidence in the administration of Mr. Buchanan, were unanimously passed.

The Richmond Whig express the hope "that no Southern man in Congress—at least no Southern Whig American—will defile his hands with the bill for the admission of Kansas under the Leocompton Constitution, if either Minnesota is included in that bill, or the Pugh amendment tacked on to it."

The Norfolk Argus says, that Mr. Millson, will, notwithstanding his views on the Kansas-Nebraska bill, vote for the admission of Kansas under the Leocompton Constitution; and further, that he is the most popular man in his district, and could beat any opponent by more than a thousand votes.

It was the Rev. Nathaniel W. Taylor, D. D., Dwight Professor of Didactic Theology in Yale College, and not Professor Dwight, who died on the 10th at New Haven, Connecticut. Mr. Taylor headed the list of clergymen to whom President Buchanan's reply on the subject of Kansas, was directed.

We observe that many of the journals of the country which have devoted much space to the discussion of matters connected with the Kansas quarrel, acknowledge that they are "heartily sick, tired, and disgusted," with the subject, and would be glad to see it shelved.

At a sale of some of the assets of the Lancaster bank, nominally worth \$60,000, the sum realized was \$9,000. The sale, it is added, exceeded the expectations of the bank. Its expectations evidently were not very extravagant.

It appears that the fraud committed by Brotherson, the book-keeper of the Union Bank in New York, runs back for many years, and therefore the whole of the combination has not yet been brought to light.

Leonard Scott & Co., New York, have republished the February number of the North British Review. It has able articles on several subjects of interest. Robert Bell, King street, Agent.

The abstract of Senator Hunter's speech in the Senate, on Friday last, on Kansas, will show his position on that engrossing subject.

In reference to a bill which has passed one House of the Legislature of Louisiana, authorizing the importation of 2,500 negroes from the coast of Africa, into the State, to be indentured for a term of not less than 15 years, the New Orleans Picayune declares that if it had been supposed there was any danger of the State's embarking in a scheme to revive the slave trade by indirect means, and bring into Louisiana gangs of pagan laborers, fresh from the bloody and barbaric wars of the African coast, there would have gone up from New Orleans a protest speaking the utter repugnance of five-sixths of the population.

An article in the last number of Blackwood's Magazine, is called "People I have never met." The author's category of these "non est inventus" folks, comprises, first, "the author of a really bad book;" second, "an ugly, disagreeable baby;" third, "the man who wishes to hear the truth;" fourth, "the man who knows his place;" fifth, "the man who has no nonsense about him;" sixth, "the man who believes in a fortuitous course of atoms;" seventh, "the man whose world is as good as his bed."

John Wilnot, the late Adjutant General of Maryland, who died at Annapolis last week, was native of that city, born in 1778. After attaining to manhood he removed to the city of Baltimore, where he resided at the breaking out of the late war between our country and England. As commander of a company in the 5th regiment in Baltimore, he took part in the engagement at Bladensburg and the battle at North Point.

Extravagance in Dress, at the French Court, is said to exceed anything of the kind ever known there. An income of \$20,000 a year scarcely suffices to dress equal to the requirement of the court. An American lady, whose husband was rich, determined to outshine the Empress at one of the receptions. She nearly ruined her husband, but she accomplished her object, and was called the best dressed woman of the party.

Hon. Edward Everett delivered his address on Washington at Trenton, N. J., to an audience of over a thousand persons. Mr. Everett was introduced by a joint committee to both houses in session, and was received by the president of the Senate and speaker of the House in speeches. He replied briefly and eloquently, expressing his heartfelt thanks for the high distinction conferred upon him.

After showing how Americans have deteriorated in physical power, the London Times proves to its own satisfaction that Frenchmen also exhibit great physical decay. This touches a sensitive point in the Frenchmen's feelings, and their journals report that the French soldier has more physical endurance than the English.

The Leesburg Washingtonian says:—"Mr. James S. Oden, of Loudoun county, at Aldie, recently killed 40 hogs, which averaged two hundred and fifty-five pounds, the largest weighing 497—he also has a sow of the same breed, which had seventeen pigs a few days ago, all alive and growing finely."

The village of Lowsville, Monongahela county, Virginia, was purchased a few days since by Jonathan McKeek. The purchase included a very valuable mill property, store house, and several dwellings, together with a well improved farm of about seventy-five acres. The sum paid was \$10,000 cash.

Samuel B. Paul, eq., of Petersburg, has purchased the South Side Democrat, of A. D. Baaks, eq., and will in future have the editorial management of the paper. We tender the out-going and incoming editor each our respect and good wishes.

Messrs. John M. Patton and Arthur A. Morson, two of the most eminent lawyers of Virginia, have given written opinions that the proposed extension of the debt of the James River and Kanawha Company into stock, is perfectly constitutional.

The difficulty at Washington College, Lexington, noticed in letters from that place, has been adjusted, and the dissatisfied students have been reconciled and returned to their studies.

Jefferson T. Martin, eq., has been nominated by the President for re-appointment as District Marshal for the western district of Virginia.

The Boston "Liberator" acknowledges that the Abolition party proper is growing smaller and smaller at the North.

The eclipse of the Sun takes place this morning, early. Fifty-nine minutes after 7 o'clock, or thereabouts.

The House of Representatives was not in session on Saturday last.

Negro men hired in Marshall, Texas, on the 1st inst., as high as \$300 per annum.

A case of garroting in the streets of Baltimore, is reported.

Later from Utah.

St. Louis, March 12.—The Council Bluffs Battle of the 31st instant, says that Lieut. Wingate had arrived there from Salt Lake, on the 25th of January. He reports no snow in the Salt Lake valley, and but very little in the mountains.

Lieut. Wingate came over the mountains by a route hitherto known only to the Mormons. By this route he crossed in single file can pass Col. Johnston's camp undiscovered. The Mormons at Salt Lake were actively manufacturing small cannons, with percussion locks and telescopic sights, which will carry two pound balls with as much certainty as a common rifle. They were also manufacturing revolvers at the rate of five hundred per week; also a course kind of powder for mining purposes.

A skirmish had taken place between a party of Mormons and a picket-guard of the Army. Two Mormons and four soldiers are reported to have been killed.

Affairs in Kansas.

Accounts from Kansas to the 1st inst. represent that the free-State party was actively engaged in making preparations for the election of delegates to the new Constitutional Convention, which is required to meet on the 29th inst. The election of delegates was appointed for Tuesday last, the 9th instant. In some of the counties, it appears, the party was not very harmonious in the selection of candidates for the honor of seats in the Convention. This, however, will not affect the political complexion of the body, as the proslavery party had shown no disposition to take any part in the election. On the contrary, they deny the legality of the act of the Territorial Legislature by authority of which it is proposed to organize this Convention, and in this view of the matter they are sustained by G. W. Denver, who, at the request of several citizens of the Territory, has made public his opinion on the subject.

Speech of Senator Hammond, of S. C. The real object, Gov. H. said, of the opposition to the admission of Kansas, was not to prevent it, but to agitate the slavery question. He had very great doubts whether the opposition desired to defeat the bill. They were striving only to crush out its friends in the North. They intend to make Kansas a free State, but they intend while it is a slave State to use it as a means of overthrowing in the North the party that favors its admission. Gov. H. said that regarding the whole movement as designed to operate against a domestic institution of the Southern States, he was prepared to discuss the merits of that institution, but was not disposed any longer to consider it in its abstract form. He would only discuss slavery as a practical question. He wanted the issue settled as soon as possible, and was anxious to bring the North and the South face to face, that they might stand in the event of disunion on the same ground, and that they might stand in the event of disunion on the same ground, and that they might stand in the event of disunion on the same ground.

The Senator from New York, said yesterday that the whole world had abolished slavery. Ay, the name, but not the thing; and all the powers of the earth cannot abolish it. God only can do it when he repeats the fiat, "the poor ye always have with you;" for the man who lives by daily labor, and who has no other means of support, and who has to put out his labor in the market and take the best he can get for it; in short, your whole class of manual laborers and operatives, as you call them, are slaves. The difference between us, is that our slaves are hired for life and well compensated; there is no starvation, no begging, no want of employment among our people, and not too much employment either. Yours are hired by the day, not cared for, and scantily compensated, which may be proved in the most deplorable manner, at any hour, in any street, in any of your large cities. Why, sir, you need more a grievance than we have, and more to beget in the life of the whole South. Our slaves are black, of another inferior race. The status in which we have placed them is a servitude in which God first created them, by being made our slaves. None of that race on the whole face of the globe can be compared with the slaves of the South, and they know it. They are happy, content, unspiring, and utterly incapable, from intellectual degradation, ever to give us any trouble by their aspirations.

Your slaves are white, of your own race; you are brothers of one blood. They are your equal in natural endowment of intellect, and they feel pained by their degradation. Our slaves do not vote. We give them no political power. Yours do vote, and being the majority, are the depositaries of all your political power. If they knew the tremendous secret, that the ballot-box is stronger than an army with bayonets, and could combine, where would you be? Your society would be reconstructed, your government reconstructed, your property divided, and your equal in natural endowment of intellect, and they feel pained by their degradation. Our slaves do not vote. We give them no political power. Yours do vote, and being the majority, are the depositaries of all your political power. If they knew the tremendous secret, that the ballot-box is stronger than an army with bayonets, and could combine, where would you be? Your society would be reconstructed, your government reconstructed, your property divided, and your equal in natural endowment of intellect, and they feel pained by their degradation.

Mr. Wilson and others. Send them along. Mr. Hammond. You say, send them North. There is no need of that. They are coming here. They are thundering about doors for homesteads of one hundred and sixty acres of land for nothing, and say that they will support the interests of Kansas in their hands, and demanding work at \$1,000 a year and six hours a day. Have you heard that the ghost of Mendoza is stalking in the streets of your big cities; that the inquiry is at hand? There is about a rumor that there have been consultations for vigilance committees. You know what that means already. Transient and temporary causes have thus far been your preserver. The great West has not your kind of sentimentary emigrants, who are crowding in year by year. They make a great movement, and you call it progress. Whither? It is progress; but it is progress towards vigilance committees. The South have sustained you in a great measure. You are our factors. You bring and carry for us. One hundred and fifty millions of dollars of our money passes annually through your hands. Much of it sticks; all of it assists to keep your machinery together and in motion. Suppose we were to take charge of your hands, we should consign you to anarchy and robery.

You complain of the rule of the South. That has been another cause that has preserved you. We have kept the Government conservative to the great purposes of the Government. We have placed her, and kept her, upon the Constitution; and that has been the cause of your peace and prosperity. The Senator from New York says: that that is about to be at an end; that you intend to take the government from us, that it will pass from our hands. But do not forget; it can never be forgotten; it is written on the brightest page of human history—that we, the slaveholders of the South, took our country in her infancy; and after ruling her for sixty out of the seventy years of her existence, we shall surrender her to you without a stain upon her honor, boundless in prosperity, incalculable in strength, the wonder and the admiration of the world. Time will show what you will make of her; but no time can ever diminish our glory or your responsibility.

Trial of Col. Sumner. CARLEISLE, March 12.—The court-martial trial of Col. Sumner was continued to-day. Colonel Harris testified that neither he nor Sumner contracted the note to Colonel Harris to imply a challenge. Col. Sumner had selected no friends. Col. Sumner submitted in defense three affidavits as evidence were not the product of sudden emergency or an expression of passion, but the result of deliberate consideration and conviction of an absolute necessity. The charges were met in detail.

In the court at Leavenworth Col. Harney charged the accused with ungentlemanlike conduct and falsehood, and when appealed to relieve the accused, he wrapped himself in the silence of insinuation. He denied that the letter was intended as a challenge, but an invitation to leave the District of Columbia to examine the cause of the difficulty. The accused condemned the practice of dealing, through circumstances might occur to render it necessary.

The court was in secret session for a very short time. The judge advocates proceeded immediately to Washington with the papers.

Real Estate in Large Cities. With the gradual departure of financial difficulties, and a more cheerful aspect being apparent in business channels, the value of real estate in large cities, begins to improve. The Philadelphia Inquirer states that within the past fortnight "we have heard of no less than ten private residences located in the southern part of the city, which were sold at prices ranging from twenty-five to thirty-five thousand dollars."

The same journal gives these reports as cheering evidence of improvement in the times, looking well for future prospects of real estate.

We observe also by the New York and Boston papers, that this description of property is likewise assuming higher value there, whilst we may justly assert the same thing of Baltimore.

It is a fact, however, which must be taken into consideration that but few, comparatively speaking, improvements, in the way of dwellings, warehouses, &c., have been constructed during the past year, or especially six months. This, doubtless, makes the demand greater for those thrown into market, tending to enhance their value. It is an agreeable indication, however, to witness this return of confidence in real estate.

—Balt. Pat.

Speech of Mr. Hunter, of Va., on Kansas. In the Senate, on Friday, Mr. Hunter, in a brief but loud argument, discussed the merits of the pending question in connexion with the general relations and destiny of slavery. He acknowledged that the subject was enmeshed with difficulties—difficulties, however, were greatly exaggerated by the spirit of party, from which they sprang. After presenting a rapid summary of the events which had resulted in the formation of the Leocompton Constitution, he alluded to the fact that its recognition was opposed by two classes of objectors, of whom the one deny the legal authority of the act, and the other its validity on the ground that it had not been framed under the sanction of an enabling act and had not been submitted to popular ratification in its entirety.

To the first of these classes he replied by arguing that even if it were true that Missourians had evaded the first Legislature of Kansas, it would still remain an unconstitutional act, and that the government thus established was the only one under which the people of that Territory had been organized as a political community, and therefore was at least a government de facto, entitled to recognition by Congress and competent to be acted upon by the organic act. If any of the people of Kansas refused to exercise the right of suffrage under this government, they were none the less bound by those who voted.

To the second class of objectors he replied by denying the necessity of even expediency of enabling acts, whose only effect was to pledge in advance the assent of Congress to the admission of a State. The argument directed against the Leocompton Constitution on the ground that it had not been ratified by the people in mass, proceeded upon a recognition of the principle of representation, and was as unavailing as it was impracticable in fact as it was unavailing in theory. He thought that the vote on the Constitution, as authorized by the Territorial Legislature, and at which it was said that more than ten thousand votes had been polled against it, formed no proper element in the present argument. The Legislature had no legal authority to pass such an act, which was an encroachment on the province of the Convention. It still is to be said that this vote offers a strong presumption against the acceptability of such a proceeding; but it is not sufficient to add that such a proceeding is in fact by the legal authority of the Convention, and that the vote on the Constitution, as authorized by the Territorial Legislature, and at which it was said that more than ten thousand votes had been polled against it, formed no proper element in the present argument. The Legislature had no legal authority to pass such an act, which was an encroachment on the province of the Convention.

Mr. Hunter then proceeded to review a portion of the argument lately made by Mr. Sumner on the historical and constitutional relations of slavery. He believed that the public sentiment of the civilized world was growing daily more just to the South and its peculiar institution. He did not doubt that it was the destiny of the white man to hold the American continent, but he would hold it as the master, and would keep inferior races in their due subordination. In this way only could the great mission of Young America be fulfilled, and he regretted that, in this stirring period of human history, the Congress of the United States should be engaged in a party inquiry into the result of an election held at the Delaware Crossing in Kansas!

An Extraordinary Case. A negro man employed on the South Side Railroad, met with a dreadful accident on a short distance below Farnville, on Tuesday last week. He was employed, says the Journal, with a number of other workmen, cutting away an embankment, when the coming train approached, causing them to stop until it passed by. In the meantime the negro slipped, and stepping upon the handle of his pick, when the jar of the passing train caused the earth into which they had been cutting to give way and tumble down, burying him underneath it, and throwing his body with such force upon the handle of the pick as to impale him. It entered near his stomach, and piercing through, emerged from his back. One would naturally suppose that such a wound with such an instrument would produce immediate death, yet, strange to say, the negro was alive day or two since, and his chances for recovery are by no means altogether hopeless.

The case is regarded as such an extraordinary one by the attending physician, that we understand, he designs reporting it in extenso for a medical journal.

The Career of a Mail Robber. In the latter part of 1856, a young man, named Page Ennis, a mail carrier between Bowling Green, in Caroline county, and Leesville, in Hanover county, was arrested by J. W. Fink, U. S. Mail Agent, upon a charge of robbing the mail. He was carried before a U. S. Commissioner, who sent him on for trial before the U. S. Court. For the want of sufficient evidence, at the time, the Grand Jury failed to find a true bill against him.

A short time before Christmas last, articles stolen from the mail were found in his room, and were identified by those who saw them as articles stolen from the mail. J. W. Fink was notified of the facts. The young man, finding himself in rather a tight place, fled to the western part of Missouri. The Postmaster in Missouri, near the place where the facts in regard to the matter, the Postmaster had him questioned, and was of the opinion that he was not the same man. Young Ennis, however, became alarmed, and with way with his life, by taking poison.—Rich. Dispatch.

Mormon Elders from Europe. A company of twenty-four Mormon Elders arrived at New York on Wednesday afternoon in the packet ship Underwriter, from Liverpool. The Herald says: "The twenty-four were divided in the ranks of the priesthood. There were bishops, presiding when at home in Utah over the temporal and spiritual interests of the inhabitants at Box Elder, Ogden, and Willow Creek. One of them holds the high office of 'one of the seven presidents over all the Seventies'—numbering under that head forty-six times seventy elders. The others were either members of the 'Quorums' of the Seventies, or High Priests."

They reported themselves citizens of America, principally of Eastern and Middle States. The recent orders from "President Yang," as they now and again called Brother Brigham, to stop the emigration from Europe to the United States, had so changed the character of the company that they had been "released" to return and see their relatives.

State Bonds—Taxing State Securities. To the editor of the Alexandria Gazette: You will oblige me by inserting in the Gazette the following article, from the Richmond Enquirer, on the subject of taxing State securities. There seems to be two sides to this, as to all other questions, and public opinion is not at all settled with regard to the matter. The arguments pro, however, are very well put in the subject, and I should like to see them answered, if they can be. It would appear not to be right to allow the particular investments of some men to go free, whilst other capital of all descriptions is subjected to tax—and yet the advantages, in a state point of view, are very clear. Yours, respectively,

"Of all the shifts and contrivances which have resulted from a narrow and tortuous policy, that which taxes our State credit is the most reprehensible. Not only did the Legislature of 1856 arrange a financial scheme, by which the State of Virginia should impose a tax on her own bonds, but, in addition to this, every municipal corporation throughout the State was permitted and invited to lay an additional burden on our State securities. We are aware that this system was initiated without consideration of the part of many senators and delegates who proposed the scheme were prospective effect, and that it was instituted for a concealed purpose which they did not venture to expose to general recognition. But when its object has been discovered, and its operation tested by experience, each of the above reflections adds a new reason for its prompt and entire abrogation.

Properly conducted, the system of finance indicated by our present State constitution would afford the best possible guarantee of a limitless State credit, which would lead our government entirely independent of the foreign capital, by retaining the means and labor of the State, which would tempt our own capitalists. State stock yielding an interest of six per cent, and with the payment of the principal within thirty-four years, secured by a sinking fund, would furnish the safest, least troublesome, and, indeed, the most profitable investment which could be devised. The average rate of investments will scarcely yield the same interest, and every other investment within our reach either involves a risk of the principal invested, or requires, in addition to the actual purchase money, a serious outlay in the form of an absorbing investment of time and labor of the capitalist. Farmers, renters of principal and interest, must apply all their time and labor to secure a profit, and when the profit is secured, it will hardly average annually six per cent, and on the first investment of capital. Let the State creditor have been secured from all risk of delay or failure of payment, enable him to devote his labor to profitable pursuits unimpeded by the investment, ensure him a clear interest of six per cent, and it is mathematically demonstrable that the floating capital of the State will be the exact amount of one year's interest, at six per cent, on \$76,666, and if Virginia sixes were now quoted at 74 at Richmond, they would yield at 94. In stead of this, they are quoted by 94—i. e. nearly twenty three per cent above par.

This is a calculation which a child could understand. The inference is unavoidable, that stocks yielding but 4 per cent, and standing at 94, would inevitably rise above par, if the interest were raised to six per cent. And what is the result of the tax on State credit? Plainly, the State must either content itself with a lower bond price, and thus enter upon a course which will tend to the further depreciation of her credit, and tax her citizens to pay a heavy surplus in addition to the amount a tax applied to the benefit of the State—or the State precludes her own citizens from the purchase of stock and becomes entirely dependent on the stock markets of other States or of foreign nations. A few stocks indeed, may finally be purchased at a discount by our own citizens, at prices so reduced as to exhibit the shameful degradation of the State credit—and the paltry revenue derived from the sale of the tax on State credit is the only pretence of benefit which can result—a miserable satisfaction to be weighed against the injury done to the interests of our own capitalists, the embarrassment and derangement of our finances at home, and the mortifying depreciation of our State credit abroad.

And the system is as immoral as it is inexpedient. It is to be described by one word in our language—a harsh word, indeed, and painful to the honest pride of every Virginian; but it furnishes the only just description which can be applied, and it is the duty of honest men to give its political character to the public. Whenever a State imposes a tax on her own credit, to the extent that the tax she is guilty of repudiation. The State of Virginia is now paying but \$450 cents to creditors, under a contract by which she has promised to pay \$5. It is useless to seek an excuse in refined distinctions. Such conduct would be dishonorable in an individual citizen and can be considered in no other light than a government is concerned. Even the palliative suggestion that the creditor has entered into the contract with a full knowledge of the condition to be imposed, is not in this instance admissible. The stocks issued under the contract to 1852 were sold at a time when such a tax was imposed or even contemplated. And even with regard to all cases subsequently issued, the principle is the same. If one Legislature has the power to lay a tax of one per cent, a succeeding legislature may raise the tax to four per cent, or may even repudiate the payment of interest altogether by imposing a tax of six per cent. Moreover, the power of taxation granted to corporations removes the extent of taxation even from the control of the legislature itself. Richmond, Wheeling, Alexandria, and Norfolk, each may exclude entirely the sale of Virginia stock within the limits of a corporation. Place the matter in whatever light we may, the State is involved in a transaction which would disgrace a private citizen, and which would not be permitted in the case of a citizen by any State of equal rights in Christendom. The State is not only placing her credit and honor at the mercy of all her municipal corporations, but she is engaged in sharing her own power.

The history of this unfortunate innovation is not devoid of instruction. It furnishes developments which have not yet been made apparent to the public. The new Constitution of Virginia provides that taxation shall be equal, uniform and ad valorem. This provision is qualified by the discretion awarded to the General Assembly of deciding what property shall be exempted from taxation. The Constitution thus recognizes the necessity of some exemptions and necessarily contemplates that of the State credit—the most important and a necessary exemption. The Legislature of 1852-53 passed general provisions for taxation, under which the

State credit was entrusted to be subject to a tax. Thus the present odious system had its origin in a legislative omission, which we are disposed to consider purely accidental and unintentional. The Legislature of 1852 first gave express recognition to this mode of financial arrangement. Strange to say, the report of the financial committee which embodied the suggestion, immediately became the subject of extravagant puff, being generally received by the press and the politicians, even by the advocates of internal improvement, as a most statesmanlike specimen of astute financial wisdom. We can discover but one plausible motive, which could have induced this recommendation, and that motive was not made apparent at the time. The whole thing was a blow at internal improvements.

It could have been intended for no other purpose than to prevent the sale of State stock, and thus to place an insurmountable obstacle to the application of any large appropriation which might be made for the completion of our system of canals and railroads. Otherwise, it was a mere purposeless bludgeoning, in any event, it operates to withdraw funds from the relief of public works.

We appeal to the friends of internal improvement, who now hold the power in their own hands, to remove this incubus and relieve the energies of the State. We submit to all honest and far-sighted men who may stand on either side, that this species of warfare on the system of public works, is not only insidious to be tolerated even by the votaries of the system. We appeal to senators and delegates from all sections representing all interests and opinions, to unite in promptly abrogating a vicious enactment, which prostrates our State credit, and results the sovereign dignity and integrity of Virginia, deprives our own citizens of a valuable opportunity for investment, blackens the wheels of public enterprise, and detaches the State from its long engaged creditors. Let our legislators exempt entirely our State credit from taxation. Let them, moreover, remove the stigma from our credit by the hypothetical sale of State bonds in New York. The immediate effect of these two salutary measures will be to place all our bonds above par, and thus infuse new life and vigor into our financial system, lessening the public burden and affording an increasing impetus to the development of all our material resources.

Pine Cattle—Rockingham Enterprise.

Rockingham county enjoys the reputation of furnishing some of the finest and best cattle that are driven to the Northern market, and it affords us pleasure to particularly those who have contributed in this way to the reputation of our county. Amongst these our farmers who have excelled in this particular, and succeeded in raising the best cattle that are driven from the Valley, is an enterprising county-man, Geo. W. R. Berger, of Smith's Creek. A few years since this gentleman, at considerable expense, procured the finest blood stock to be found in the country, and commenced raising and raising his own stock, and by this means has contributed greatly to the improvement of cattle in this section. His cattle are acknowledged by all to be of the very best kind, larger, hardier, better doers, and the meat sweeter and better than that of other breeds; the cows give more, and richer milk than others that could be mentioned. His cattle have received premiums at all the agricultural fairs they have been at, and always command a high price for the country. For proof of this, we refer to the notice in our issue for the 29th of Feb. of a flock of eight steers and one heifer, for the sum of \$810, or \$90 per head of the farm. The weights of the cattle were not less than four years, and the high price they commanded in these "hard times" is a conclusive proof of the superiority of his cattle over all others, and that he is lost by our farmers raising the best stock. We have no doubt Mr. R. would be ready to sell such cattle, as no letter could possibly be driven to any market, and we are confident that the reward of his labor and trouble in procuring and introducing into our county his fine breed of blood stock.—Valley Democrat.

Shooting an Orange from a Boy's Head.

We have already alluded to the dollar wage, made by Jan. Travis, that he shot three oranges from the head and neck of a boy—distance, thirty feet—weight, one ounce. When we reflect that the movement of a musket may be sufficient to dislodge the fraction of an inch from the head, the feat appears as wonderful as that of a boy's head. Travis formerly resided in Saratoga. The first time I saw him in the State, he was in the city of New York, in diameter—eye is placed on the top of the head, and one on the back of each hand, arms being extended. In this position the distance of ten paces, or thirty feet, is not a great distance, and with no interfering object, and has equally as much in the eye, which cannot be surprised. The boy is placed twelve inches apart, as the distance upon his hips. The Captain shoots the angle made by the bending of the neck, and between the feet. This is done, and the custom the boy to the firing, and if he does not give him more confidence and make him a case. The little fellow is a very good shot, and he is always practicing the practicing. She is entirely satisfied that it will result in safety to her, and it is probably the most dangerous feat undertaken by any man in the country. The police should be directed to interfere to prevent any such cruelty, and danger to human life.

Children and their Nurses.

Mothers are scarcely a ware of, or indifferent to the treatment which their children too often receive when committed to the care of nurses and servants. Infants express their wants and sufferings, and cry; and when old enough to make their wrongs in words, a knowledge of the dread of the punishment with which they threatened if they dare to make any complaint, constrains them to silence.

But a few days ago we saw a beautiful girl, about four years old, who was called to overtake her nurse, a good-looking girl, who, at every few steps, would hang back at her little charge, and would stop to see what a whippersnapper she was. The strength of the little girl was evidently almost exhausted, and she was streaming down her flushed cheeks, her protector hurried on with a malicious smile. What a scene was that!

But this is only one of numerous instances which have come under our observation, which the cruelty of nurses, or other domestics, is openly manifested. It is a natural supposition that injuries of this kind, inflicted by irritable and spiteful persons when out of the sight of the parents, would impair the development of the physical and even the mental structure, for a long time.

The subject demands the attention of the generation of parents.—Rich. Whig.