



ALEXANDRIA: SATURDAY MORNING JULY 3, 1858.

The Union denies the assertion of the N. York Herald, as to the present condition of the Democratic party; and whilst it admits that "the party has not received any great accessions of strength," it maintains, that it was never in a more healthy state than now.

"When we regard the present condition of the Democratic party, its divisions and dissensions, its intestine feuds and its sectional quarrels, to disguise our fears and apprehensions for the future, would be folly in the extreme."

It is not fair in the Northern papers to give all the adverse accounts from Liberia, unaccompanied by the offsets and contradictions furnished to these accounts, from official sources. If the Colonization scheme should fail, and Liberia, too, prove a failure, the hopes of Southern philanthropists, as to one means of peaceably and fairly solving a great question, will have been destroyed.

The recent Reform, Free Love, Abolition, Infidel, Convention at Rutland, Vermont, appears to have "copped the climax." To have allowed such a meeting in any city in this country, is an occurrence to be regretted.—We are opposed to Lynch Law, but there are very extreme cases, where summary measures should be taken to prevent disgrace and dishonor like this on the part of a community or individuals.

The Baltimore American says:—"The electrical phenomenon of Wednesday night was quite remarkable as well as beautiful.—Whilst the western sky was unclouded and the stars shone with brilliancy, a heavy bank of clouds, sweeping along the northern horizon, gave forth for some hours a continuous discharge of electricity, accompanied by rolling and reverberating thunder. The lightning was exceedingly brilliant and continuous, but was without those vivid flashes and rattling claps of thunder which usually attend a summer gale."

Mr. C. P. Melly, a young merchant of Liverpool, and a partner in the house of Melly, Romilly, and Co., after having beautified that town with numerous wall fountains, at which thirty pedestrians may help themselves without let or hindrance, has recently fitted up a piece of land in the suburbs, belonging to the corporation, as a free gymnasium and playground for the people. Its opening was numerously attended.

The recent dispute about the Letcher case, and the remarks on the subject elicited by the dispute, show still further the real difference of opinion and views, on that, and other political subjects, which prevails in the Democratic party. The Enquirer and the South are again in "battle array."

Mr. Woodman, who had the disturbance with Gardner Furness, in New York, is now engaged in prosecuting a suit for divorce, in New Orleans. The details of the case are given in the New Orleans papers. The wife appears to be partially deranged.

This is the season for College commencements and School exhibitions. We see accounts of them published in the newspapers all over the country. And we are glad that they are thus noticed, and brought prominently before the public.

The Lynchburg Republican, says, on behalf of Mr. Paulus Powell, that that gentleman regards the Western part of the State as entitled to the next Governor, and that he will not be a candidate for that office, or for Lieutenant Governor.

Flora Temple, won the race, in the contest with Lancelot, over the Central Course, near Baltimore, on Thursday, in three straight heats. Time of best heat 2:29. Large numbers were present to see the race.

All parties in Great Britain appear to acquiesce cheerfully in the surrender by the government of "the right of search," and to rejoice that there is to be no difficulty with the United States.

The account of the murder committed by a lunatic, of his father, wife and two children, in Columbus county, N. C., referred to a few days ago, is confirmed. He has been secured.

We have further accounts of the "woman who lives without eating," in Chester, New York. We observe that doubts are thrown over the reality of the case!!

A Convention of Railroad Presidents and officers, is in session at Buffalo, New York, endeavoring to settle the difficulties between the New York Central and Erie Railroads.

We have received the July number of De Bow's Review. It contains a number of interesting articles.

The system of street-begging is said to be carried on in New York, with as much "industry" and art, as it is in London.

A letter from Havana, on the 24th ult., announces the release from jail of Captain Palmer, imprisoned in October last for an alleged complicity with slave traders.—Captain de Riviere left Havana on the Catwabs, determined to seek his affianced bride in the United States. This Capt. Riviere, is the Zouave, who has kicked up all the fuss in the family of Mr. Blunt, of Alabama, going off with Mr. B.'s daughter, accompanied by her mother. Mr. B. has returned with his wife and daughter, and the couple follow. He is a fighting character.

News of the Day. "To show the very age and body of the TIMES." The government at Berlin has begun to imitate that of Louis Napoleon in its censorship of the press. The secretary of the interior of Prussia has accordingly prohibited the circulation in that kingdom of two German papers published in New York—the Staats Zeitung and the Neue Zeit (the latter being already defunct); one published in St. Louis, der Anzeiger des Westens; of the Wisconsin Demokrat, published in Manitowish; of the Volks Zeitung, of Michigan; of the Davenport (Iowa) Demokrat; and of the Chicago National Demokrat.—What offenses they have committed is not known.

Despatches received at the Mexican legation are silent on the subject of the American Minister demanding his passports.—Such a report, however, was current as the capital. Our government has also received advice, but their contents have not yet transpired. Civil proceedings were continued in Mexico against all foreigners who refused to pay contributions on their property, and those who resisted the federal authorities were ordered to leave the capital. Several Russians and Germans, together with Americans, had sought protection from Minister Forsyth.

The branch of the C. & O. canal on the east-side of the island, extending from Shriver's mill to the Cumberland Coal and Iron Company's basin, which is supplied with water from the race, exhibited a sight on Monday, which all members of the presbytery are most desirous to see, just at the edge of the water, were lying with thousands of dead fish, of all kinds, and the stench produced by the bloated and putrid mass was fearful. The destruction amongst the tribes was produced, doubtless, by arresting the flow of water from the race.

Lieut. Henry Brooks, the last surviving officer of the Kane expedition, came to his death in a very sudden manner on Tuesday evening. It appears that while standing by the Lyceum in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, Mr. Brooks was suddenly taken with a fit, and staggering, fell backward. His head struck the pavement with great force, and so violent was the fall that the skull was terribly fractured, indeed completely broken. The unfortunate man was taken to the hospital and died in a few moments afterwards.

The New York Courier publishes a table of Marine losses for the past month, showing an aggregate of twenty-two vessels of which five were ships, one a bark, five were brig, ten were schooners, and one a steamship.—The total value of property lost, was eight hundred and fourteen thousand four hundred and one dollars. As compared with the month of June 1857, the above shows a decrease in the value of property lost, of five thousand and ninety-nine dollars.

A gentleman of Boston has received a private letter from one of the most distinguished physicians in France, which says that upon consultation by the leading doctors in that empire, relative to the case of Senator Sumner, who is now in Paris, it has been decided to perform an operation upon his back, for the purpose of producing a counter-irritation. The operation is that of cauterization the burning of the flesh and muscle to the spinal column.

At the annual meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Science, held lately at Boston, it was shown that, after all, there are no dumb beasts. Dr. Gibbon read a very interesting paper on the language of animals. He says that every variety of animated being possesses some means, by sounds or signs, of correspondence, and a language, understood by its own kind, and sometimes learned by others.

Since Saturday last, some thirty cases of sun stroke have occurred in New York and Brooklyn. The heat is intense everywhere throughout the country, so far as our exchanges inform us. The thermometer steadily ranges over and runs up in many places to 92, 94, 96 and 98.

R. W. Newman, esq., the popular principal of the Winchester Female Seminary, contemplates a change of residence at an early day. Mr. N. has been invited to become a Principal of the Edgefield Female Collegiate Institute of South Carolina, and has accepted the invitation.

A gentleman who ascended Mount Willey, from the White Mountain Notch, in New Hampshire, a few days ago, writes to the Boston Transcript that he found patches of snow eighteen inches deep on the top of the mountain. This is quite unusual for that neighborhood so late in June.

The insurance on the Monocacy Mills in Frederick county, Md., destroyed by fire on Tuesday, is said to be as follows: in the National office, in Baltimore, \$6,000; in the Baltimore Fire Insurance Company \$4,000; and in the Montgomery County Insurance office.

The usual arrangements made by the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad Company, for the convenience of persons visiting Cape May, will go into operation this morning, and continue throughout the season.

The President has designated Mr. Jos. C. Kennedy, the able Superintendent of the Seventh Census, to superintend the digest of the returns of manufactures of that census, for which digest provision was made by act of the last session of Congress.

Oysters, in large quantities, were offered for sale at Salisbury, Md., on Saturday last, at about the prices of shells. Those who bought them read their bargain notwithstanding, for all who ate them became very sick.

The steamers Water-Witch, Commander Rodgers, and Arctic, Commander Hartstene, have been ordered by the Department from the Gulf squadron, to the navy-yard at Washington.

A lad named Charles H. Vicieltich, aged about 15 years, was shot while robbing a watermelon garden near Savannah, on Friday night week. He was found lying dead in the garden on Saturday morning last.

The second trial of James Catlett, in Winchester, for the murder of Samuel Breck, free negro, resulted as the first. He was found guilty of "murder in the first degree." He is to be hung on Friday the 6th of August.

The London Illustrated News says Charles Mackay has returned to the Strand from America, warm in his acknowledgements of the hearty welcome he received from the land of Columbus and the Pilgrim Fathers.

Isaac W. Taylor, a well known merchant of St. Louis, left that city a few days since, to visit New York. He was shown from the cars at Peoria, Ill., and killed. The only business which the "beated term" has not depressed, appears to be that of President-making, platform-building, and party-organizing. Radford J. Crockett, was hung for murder at Atlanta, Georgia, on Friday, in the presence of 10,000 persons.

Two youths of nearly full age, are at the Farmers' Hotel, Indianapolis, on their way to the "far West," the home of their childhood, which they preferred to all others. It appears they were stolen by the Indians when very young, and raised by one of the Western tribes. Their friends ascertained the whereabouts of the lost children some time ago, and induced them to leave the Indians and return to their relatives in one of the Eastern States. They have, after trying civilized life awhile, concluded that they did not like it, and are on their way back to their Western home.

The Pittsburg Journal publishes a letter from John A. Reebing, civil engineer, having reference to recent disasters on the Western waters, in which he proposes that the various Boards of Trade shall unite in urging upon the next Congress the necessity of creating a new Commission to examine more fully into the causes of explosions, revise existing statutes, and report the provisions of a new law which will guaranty more safety than the one now in force.

Several days since, we mentioned that the alleged hotel thieves whose successes in Washington, last winter, set the police on their track, had been arrested and lodged in jail in Baltimore. We learn by the Baltimore Sun, that strong efforts were made to obtain their release on bail. These efforts, however, proved abortive, and those who were engaged in them managed to get up a difficulty in the court-room, which ended in the arrest of a man named Durman.

The New Orleans Picayune recently saw a colored carter procure an old hat, which he filled with raw cotton saturated with water, and tied firmly over his mother's head and ears, taking care to keep the cotton constantly wetted. A contrivance of this kind, with a yard of common muslin spread on a couple of hoops to cover the back and loins, would give comfort and protection to many a poor toiling animal during this sultry weather, at a trifling expense.

The amount of State taxes assessed against the citizens of Richmond, for the present fiscal year, is \$124,029.02, of which \$71,369.76 is the amount of taxation on real estate.—The aggregate number of white males in the city, who have attained the age of 21 years, except those exempted from taxation on account of bodily infirmity, is registered by the commissioners of the revenue at 3,091.

Mr. Baugh, residing near Strong river, in Smith county, Mississippi, about a month ago, was boring for water in the piney woods, and when he had bored about forty feet "a mighty rushing wind" came out of the hole, which continued for several days. He quit boring and waited to see what would come of it. He placed a bottle over the hole, and the wind made a noise in it which can be heard a mile. It "blows" about a week at a time, and then it blows again.

The reported death of Col. Stepien in Oregon, and the loss of a number of officers and men, is doubted at Washington. The Oregon steamer, which arrived at San Francisco before the sailing of the Panama steamer, brought nothing from Gen. Clarke to the War Department, but Capt. McCall, his Adjutant, writes that the rumors of disaster are unfounded.

The New York Eye Infirmary has lately had a legacy of five thousand dollars from the late Joseph Grosvenor and several handsome donations. The New York Eye Infirmary, the first institution of the kind established in this country, was founded in 1820; since which time it has afforded relief to more than 60,000 poor persons suffering from various diseases of the eye and ear.

Hon. Albert Hubart Nelson, late Chief Justice of Massachusetts, died on Sunday last, at the age of 46 years. On account of ill health he resigned his post in March last. He had successively held the offices of District Attorney, member of the State Senate, member of the Executive Council of Massachusetts, and Chief Justice of the Superior Court.

The fall of Canton produces but little perceptible change in the attitude and bearing of the Chinese Imperial Government. The despatch from Peking at Shanghai directs the four foreign plenipotentiaries to return to Canton to meet the new Imperial Commissioner, the recently appointed Viceroy of the two Kwang provinces. Lord Elgin determined on advancing in the direction of Peking.

On Sunday morning last, while the Rev. Mr. Galbraith's congregation, (United Pre-bbyterian,) of Freeport, Armstrong county, Pa., was engaged in prayer, the church edifice was struck by lightning, instantly killing a Mrs. Ramaly, and seriously though not dangerously injuring her two brothers, Israel and George Watson, and her sister, Jane Watson.

One of the most remarkable things of the day is the platform of the Republican convention in St. Louis, that nominated F. P. Blair, jr., for Congress. They determined that slavery should be extinguished in Missouri, and at the same time that the negroes, when emancipated, should not be allowed to remain in the State. Southerners are more liberal to the blacks.

The President of the United States has approved the findings of the courts martial recently held at Panama, by order of the flag officer of the Pacific squadron, upon Second Lieutenant R. A. Whittier, U. S. M. C., and Lieut. E. C. Stockton, U. S. N. The former was sentenced to be dismissed, and the latter to be cashiered.

An excursion on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, on the 4th of July, over the Alleghany Mountains, and as far as Grafton, in Taylor county, Virginia, is advertised. Grafton is at the point where the Parkersburg branch of the railroad crosses with the main stem.

The difficulties with the Caulkers, and others, employed in the ship yards in Baltimore, continue, and the police has to be called on to prevent the outrages of those making the disturbances.

A lady takes a Cocktail. A lady passenger on board the steamer Montgomery, dressed herself in her sleeping husband's vest, coat, boots, hat and pants, and thus attired, came out of her state room, and went forward to the bar in the gentleman's cabin, took her "morning bit," and returned to the ladies' cabin, where her appearance created great consternation, especially among the ladies en dishabille. It was said to be amusing to see the ladies "darting" into their state rooms and screaming out that a man was intruding himself; but when the excitement was at its highest pitch, her hat fell off, and displayed a profusion of curls, which explained everything—except a small bet won from her husband.—Vicksburg Sun.

The Heat. Five lines from Thomson's "Seasons" gives a forcible idea of the heat which has prevailed here for two weeks past. We submit them:—"Tis raging noon, and vertical the sun Darts on the head earth's torrid rays. O'er heaven and earth, far as the ranging eye Can sweep, a dazzling, dazzling reigns, and all From pole to pole, is unquenching blaze."

M. E. Church South. In the Richmond Christian Advocate of the 24th ult., appears the "pastoral address" to the members of that denomination of Christians, signed by the six Bishops, in behalf of the General Conference of the M. E. Church South, which lately held its quadrennial session in Nashville. This document commences by an appeal to the membership for continued unity of effort and of sympathy, and for fresh zeal for the faith. It also commends the society and the spiritual interests of the members of the Sabbath School course, to the warmest and most cordial support.—In relation to the subject of slavery it takes the ground of non-interference by the church, but earnestly urges a zealous effort to teach both parties to the relation, the observance of the duties which grow out of it, and to promote the salvation of both master and slave. Of the action of the General Conference in expunging from the general rules the rule concerning "the buying and selling of men, women and children with an intention to enslave them," the address says:—"This is a most important and a most glorious duty, by which we are to be distinguished from the world; by which we are to be distinguished from the members of our denomination; by which we are to be distinguished from the people among whom we live. The rule itself was expulsive—having no application to an existing state of things, or to one likely to exist. And if, contrary to expectation, the African slave trade should ever be revived in the face of the law which declares it to be piracy, we have rule and authority enough by which to hold our membership to a rigid responsibility. Nor would we fail to justify, sustained as we would be by our sacred duty, the law of the land, and what we know to be the moral sentiment of the people among whom we dwell. We reject, ourselves, and confidently expect your sympathy and approbation, that Southern Methodism at last stands disentangled from this vexed and vexing question, erect upon a scriptural basis—a liberty to circulate everywhere in our bounds her book of laws, without note or comment; and that a rule of doubtful interpretation no longer exists to embarrass our ministers and friends, or to justify the suspicion and assaults of our enemies.—We have arranged to do this, and to correspond to him as his, and holding ourselves to be debtors to "the wise and the unwise, the bond and the free," we can now, uncalculated by the jealous and distrustful, preach Christ alike to the master and the servant, secure in the confidence and affection of the one and the other.

"The relation of master and servant is recognized in the New Testament, and the duties of each prescribed. The members of these moral rules regard it as integral to the moral law, and as a part of the Christian's duty. The benign spirit of our holy religion not only demands that masters should render to their servants that which is just and equal in wages, as to food, raiment and shelter, but that religious instruction should be provided alike for servants as for children. The gospel is God's gift to the black man as well as to the white, and Christian masters should see to it that all their dependants are regularly supplied with the preaching of the word, and all the privileges of the church of God."

"The salvation of the colored race in our midst, as far as human instrumentality can secure it, is a primary duty of the southern church. Let us earnestly seek to meet our responsibilities, and then whatever 'evil things' ignorance and prejudice may say of us, we shall have the testimony of a good conscience, and the blessing of Him who is the Judge of all."

"A Daughter of the Regiment." We believe there is but one case in America of a real incident which somewhat approximates to that of "Marie," in the Opera by Donizetti. This is in New York, where the National Guard (one thousand strong) have a fair orphan protegee, familiarly designated as "The Daughter of the Regiment." The National Guard, under Col. Thurston, is the best regulated and organized military company in the United States. In drill, esprit de corps, organization, and general appearance it will bear close comparison with the "regulars" even of the modern military governments. Some years ago an officer of the New York National Guard committed suicide. This act, according to military discipline, is considered one of cowardice, but the deceased was well known to be one who in active service stood and the bravest of the brave. He had been through the Mexican war, and stood high in esteem as a soldier; but other matters which quietly at home prompted him to become a suicide. He left an orphan child, a bright and promising little daughter. She was alone in the world, and as it were, friendless. The regiment of her father adopted her, and she became thus "a Child of the Regiment," and that regiment the gallant National Guard of New York. A tax of two dollars per annum was levied on each member for the orphan's support and education. This amount was \$2,000 a year, and what was not expended was duly put away in investment for a dowry for the Daughter of the Regiment, who has grown up beautiful, intelligent, and accomplished, and is well off, and doubtless she looks upon her gallant guardians with all the love, honor, and enthusiasm that Marie did on the brave Sulphur and the gallant 21st, in the opera. Such companies as the New York National Guard reflect honor on the country.—Savannah Daily Georgian.

The Plant of a Hundred Years. We have great pleasure in announcing to our readers, and particularly to the horticultural portion of them, the approaching opportunity for their enjoying a rare treat, in being permitted to witness the newer specimens of the "Agave Americana," or "Century Plant," in bloom, which is to be found in this country. This noble plant, the most picturesque and majestic of all our North American succulents, has already thrown up a flower stem, which, with the main body of the plant, is about the height of seven feet in length and about two inches in circumference, and possessed seven rattles in its tail. Mr. Marshall Dyer has him in his possession. It is doubtful whether many of the sterner sex would be found courageous enough to seek combat with a rattle-snake armed with seven rattles in the tail with no other implements of war than a piece of candle and a scut-handled shovel.—Syracuse Courier.

Mr. Tracy and the Zebra. The great horse tamer has again had the zebra subjected to his system of discipline, and under his influence this hitherto untractable creature is becoming as submissive as that most submissive of all quadrupeds, the ass. If any reasonable doubts could be entertained as to the effectiveness of the method which conquered Crusier they must be surrendered by this crowning demonstration, which not only establishes Mr. Tracy's ascendancy over the horse, but even opens up the prospect of reducing to man's use and domesticating other kindred varieties of animal life until now considered quite impracticable.

SELF SEALING JARS—NEW PATENT. The subscribers have received a full supply of the above, both of glass and earthenware, for putting up fruit, tomatoes, &c. The price and simplicity of the Jar, render it more desirable than any yet made. R. H. MILLER, SON & CO. je 24-601m.

CULPEPER MILITARY INSTITUTE.—The next session of this Institution will commence on the first Monday in September, 1858. For Catalogue, apply to CHARLES E. LIGHTFOOT, Culpeper C. H., Va. je 25-601sept.

PERSONS wishing to be supplied with BREAD, PIES, BISCUITS, and BUNS, of No. 1 article, will please leave their names, residence, &c., with the undersigned. JAMES H. SIMPSON, je 29-61w No. 4 Fairfax St. Alex'a. Va.

HAMILTON SAFES.—I have the agency of Herring's celebrated Iron Safes, and am ready to furnish all the different sizes at Factory prices, freight added. Orders are solicited. je 10 JAS. C. NEVETT, Duke st. Wharf.

Collection of the Revenue—Expenses. The following statistics, which we find in the Philadelphia Enquirer, and which, being taken from official sources, are perfectly reliable, will explain how the money is expended:—

At Niagara 19 men are employed at an expense of \$12,000 to collect \$8,000; at Oswego 23 men at \$18,000 to collect \$5,000; at Buffalo 20 men at \$17,000 to collect \$10,000; at Pittsburgh 20 men at \$14,000 to collect \$18,000; at Burlington 34 men at \$16,000 to collect \$5,000; at Westport 35 men at \$7,000 to collect \$150; at Portsmouth 21 men at \$11,000 to collect \$5,000; at Newburyport 13 men at \$3,200 to collect \$9,000; at Marblehead 9 men at \$2,200 to collect \$250; at New Bedford 14 men at \$7,500 to collect \$4,800; at Perth Amboy 13 men at \$4,500 to collect \$1,500; at Norfolk 23 men at \$4,000 to collect \$51,000; at Oronoke 7 men at \$2,000 to collect \$82; at Detroit 7 men at \$4,000 to collect \$495; at San Francisco 134 men at \$42,000 to collect \$1,500,000; at Genoa 3 men at \$4,400 to collect \$2,300; at Stockton 1 man at \$3,100 to collect \$145; at Sacramento 1 man at \$2,000 to collect \$492; at San Diego 4 men at \$7,000 to collect \$30; at Monterey 3 men at \$5,000 to collect \$45; at San Pedro 6 men at \$4,200 to collect \$304.

These are instances of how the public money is made way with. Since 1852, three hundred and forty six men have been added to the revenue corps of New York City alone. The Custom House employees in New York City now constitute a perfect army. They may not be necessary—they are in fact holding, the most of them, perfect sinecures—but are they not valuable in elections? And is not the money they receive of material aid in carrying the score of W. P. Rogers & Co., in Lake street, carrying off the money which did not belong to her—in plain Saxton, stealing. It seems that she has long been a customer to the firm, and kept a running account with them. She was considered a good paying customer, and the innocent clerks always waited upon her with much alacrity and courtesy. But appearances are often deceitful. Within a month or so goods have disappeared very mysteriously. At one time a handsome silk pattern book to itself was found upon the cash book or in the money drawer.

Finally, from certain actions of this woman, she was suspected of being the thief, and the clerks were directed to watch her the next time she came in. Yesterday she came sailing in as usual, not aware that several pairs of eyes were watching her. As she turned to go out again, after looking at some goods, she was politely requested to stop, and under her shawl were found a valuable lace cap and gloves. She was at once questioned, and acknowledged that she had taken several things in the same manner. A compromise was finally made by the woman agreeing to pay \$300 to the firm, and the matter was to be hushed up.—Chicago Journal.

Bank of the Commonwealth. The Directors of this Bank have elected Mr. John B. Merton, Cashier, and fixed his salary at \$2,000. Mr. Merton is a very competent officer indeed. No man understands the modus operandi of Banking better, nor would discharge the duties of the office with more efficiency. The books of subscription to the stock of the Bank have been reopened at the office of Messrs. John A. Lancaster & Son. Subscribers are required to pay \$10 per share at the time of subscribing, \$15 per share on the 10th day of July, and seventy five per cent in bonds of the State, or bonds guaranteed by the State, on or before the 20th day of July.

The Directors are preparing as speedily as possible, with the preparations necessary for the opening of the Bank. They have rented the tenement opposite the American Hotel, and it will be put in proper repair and suitably improved by the time the institution is ready for business. This is a very good location, having several important advantages for a banking house.—Rich. Disp.

A Monster Rattle-snake Killed. Mrs. Cleveland, two miles south of this city, killed a rattle-snake while in the act of coming out of her cellar, on Saturday evening, shortly after dark. She was first attracted by a hissing sound, and the rattling of his tail coming out of the hatchway, when she proceeded to the barn and obtained a shovel, wherewith she returned, and seizing a candle in one hand, and the shovel in the other, she sought out the whereabouts of his snakehood and despatched him on the hatchway. The snake measured about seven feet in length and about two inches in circumference, and possessed seven rattles in his tail. Mr. Marshall Dyer has him in his possession. It is doubtful whether many of the sterner sex would be found courageous enough to seek combat with a rattle-snake armed with seven rattles in the tail with no other implements of war than a piece of candle and a scut-handled shovel.—Syracuse Courier.

Mr. Tracy and the Zebra. The great horse tamer has again had the zebra subjected to his system of discipline, and under his influence this hitherto untractable creature is becoming as submissive as that most submissive of all quadrupeds, the ass. If any reasonable doubts could be entertained as to the effectiveness of the method which conquered Crusier they must be surrendered by this crowning demonstration, which not only establishes Mr. Tracy's ascendancy over the horse, but even opens up the prospect of reducing to man's use and domesticating other kindred varieties of animal life until now considered quite impracticable.

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By Yesterday Evening's Mail. KILLED BY LIGHTNING—NARROW ESCAPE OF OTHERS.—We learn that two negroes belonging to A. D. Fuqua and W. B. Bland, esq., of Notaway, were killed by lightning on Saturday last, about 2 miles from the Court House. Our informant says that several other negroes of Judge Nash, in Powhatan, had a narrow escape from death by the same cause. They were at work in a field made for an old barn close by for shelter, they were stopped by their master, who directed one of them to go back for his saddle-blanket which dropped from his horse some distance off. An instant after, and the barn was struck by lightning and completely demolished. The short delay alone saved the negroes from certain destruction.—Petersburg Daily.

The Coal-Field Road.—It will be seen that a meeting of the stockholders of the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad will be held in Alexandria, Thursday the 22d inst. The appropriation made at the last session of the Legislature subscribes three fifths of \$500,000, one-half to be paid in 1858, and the other in '59. This is as much as was reasonably expected from the State for the present, and every thing now depends upon the decisive action of individuals, corporations and counties along the line of this great work of improvement. Their co-operation, with the assistance afforded by the State, can ensure the construction of the road to Winchester, within two or three years, after which its completion to the coal fields of Hampshire, and to a connection with the Baltimore and Ohio Road will be vigorously prosecuted, and certainly achieved. No stone should be left unturned to accomplish this desirable result, and as matters relevant to it will be discussed at the meeting of the 22d, it should be borne in mind by all concerned.—Winchester Rep.

Cross.—The Charlottesville Exponent says:—"We are now in the midst of harvest, and are glad to learn that the yield will be better than many had supposed it would be. The wheat crop is more than an average one. Farmers are proverbially croakers, and a crop is never judged rightly till it is gathered. We believe that flour will not be extravagantly high, and yet that farmers will obtain good and fair prices."

The Buckingham Register says:—"The farmers of our county are now in the midst of their harvest. The hay crop has been generally secured. We understand that it is very fine. The wheat crop, although affected to some extent by the fly, rust, and so on, is nevertheless a good one, and exceeds, by far, the yield of last year. The corn, so far, looks quite fine, and with a continued good season, will make an excellent crop."

Mrs. Elizabeth Gladden, the aged grandmother of Col. A. H. Gladden, died at her residence in the Fairfield district on Tuesday at the age of 106 years. Mrs. Gladden was married about the time of the outbreak of the war of the Revolution, and was quite familiar with many of the scenes which occurred in South Carolina during that dark period.

Messrs. Conway Robertson and Jas. Alfred Jones, of Richmond, have been selected as counsel for Petersburg in conducting the suit of Moore vs. the City, recently decided with an award of \$5,000 to the plaintiff, to be carried before the Court of Appeals.

B. Fisher has sold his house and eight or ten acres of land adjoining town for \$4,000 to Mrs. Glasse.

Bank of the Commonwealth. The Directors of this Bank have elected Mr. John B. Merton, Cashier, and fixed his salary at \$2,000. Mr. Merton is a very competent officer indeed. No man understands the modus operandi of Banking better, nor would discharge the duties of the office with more efficiency. The books of subscription to the stock of the Bank have been reopened at the office of Messrs.