ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER

PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

MONDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 13, 1858.

An article from the Richmond Enquirer, in another column, excuses and defends Judge Douglas for the late expression of his opinions, on the subject of the powers of a Territorial legislature over the subject of slavery. It may be proper, on the other hand, to state that the Union declares that "the doctrine of Judge Douglas is even worse than that on which Massachusetts acted in setting the Fugitive-Slave law and the officers of the federal judiciary at defiance; for hers was the action at least of a sovereign State, with a fixed community and settled population, having the right, in extremity, of judging the constitutionality of an obnoxious law of Congress: but Judge Douglas claims this right of action for a Territory, a mere ward and dependant of Congress, although having but a few hundred or thousand people, unstable of purpose and interest, with no fixed public sentiment or sense of public duty and obligation."

The Paris Academy of Sciences has again advertised its prize, amounting to about $20,000, for the discovery of the cause and the effectual cure of cholera. This prize, remarks the Scientific American, is a bequest left some years since by M. Briant and a competition has already taken place for it without success. No less than one hundred and fifty-three essays were presented on the subject, but only two of them came within the scope of the condition.

The United States Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows,' will assemble at the Odd Fellows' Hall, in Baltimore, on next Monday, the 20th inst. Representatives, it is expected, will be present from every State in the Union, besides the territories of New Mexico, Kansas, Nebraska, Oregon and Washington, the Sandwich Islands, and probably from some portions of the British possessions. George W. Race, of Louisiana, is Most Worthy Grand Sire.

On Tuesday night last, the police of Columbus, Ohio, were notified by a despatch from the Chief of Police, in Baltimore, to arrest a convict who would shortly be discharged from the Ohio Penitentiary, named Augustus Stilts, and retain him there until a requisition should arrive from the Governor of Maryland. Upon making inquiry, the police ascertained that only a few hours before the dispatch was received, Stiltz died of typhoid fever in the Penitentiary.

Dr. James Sinclair, an eminent physician, died of yellow fever in New Orleans, on Wednesday of last week. During the epidemic he was attending the sick, and fell a victim in the discharge of his duty. Dr. V. Deschamps, one of the physicians employed by the "Howard Association," died of the fever on the same day.

Much satisfaction is expressed at the determination of the President of the United States to send the recaptured Africans to Liberia. For less than $150 a head the Colonization Society has agreed to take the captives and support them a year. As a matter of economy as well as humanity the arrangement is a good one.

It appears that the mortality in the London hospitals has increased since the introduction of etherization from twenty-one to thirty-three per cent.—or to vary the expression, instead of amputation being fatal in a less proportion than one in four, of those operated upon, it now proves fatal to one in three.

The Directors of the Western Maryland Railroad Company, it is stated, have entered into an arrangement with Messrs. Irwin, Taylor, Norris & Co. for the construction of their road, from its commencement on the Northern Central Railroad through Westminster, to its terminus at Union Bridge.

The Union is down again upon Mr. Reverdy Johnson, accusing him of inconsistency in his course on the Kansas question. The principal inconsistency, we expect is, that Mr. J. will not be a "Democrat."

Mr. Whelan, late principal of the Missouri Blind Institution, and himself almost totally blind, was seized, gagged, and robbed of all his money, in one of the bye streets of St. Louis, last week.

Private advices from Kansas, and the tone of the press in that Territory, all show the prevalence there of a quiet feeling, which is a presage of good to the best interests of the Territory.

The St. Mary's Beacon, Md., says that Judge Spalding has tendered his resignation as a Judge of the Orphan's Court of that county, to his Excellency, Gov. Hicks.

Dr. W. P. Floyd, of Jeffersonville, Tazewell county, Va., has been appointed surgeon to the Pacific Railroad Surveying Expedition. Salary $3 000.

The Warrenton Flag states that Wm. H. Payne, esq., of Fauquier, has been appointed an aid to the Governor of Virginia, with the rank of Colonel of Cavalry.

The State tax on a Deed is $1, which the law positively requires in advance, before the deed can be recorded.

We regret to hear that the Black Tongue has made its apearance in the vicinity of Rappahannock Academy.

Chas. W. Helm, esq., lately of Warrenton, Va., has commenced the practice of law at Leavenworth City, in Kansas.

A few cases of yellow fever have occurred at Mobile—three in all—up to latest dates.

The Atlantic Telegraph, up to Saturday last, had not *spoken* for ten days.

Business is said to be rapidly reviving in Baltimore and Philadelphia.

News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the TIMES."

It has already been stated that the United States Government has made arrangements with the Cromwell line of steamers for the use of some of the boats of the line for the Paraguay expedition. The boats in question are the Memphis, Thomas Swann, Atlanta, and Potomac. These steamers are to undergo immediate overhauling at New York for greater strength, and as soon as possible sail for their destination. It is stated the government pays $10,000 a month for each steamer and supplies the coal—the owners paying for the crew. The contract is for six months.

The steamboat Catharine Maria left New York on Thursday, for San Juan del Norte. The Cass Yrissari left on Monday last, and the Laura Franceson Saturday. These three steamboats are destined for the River San Juan and the Lake of Nicaragua. Two other steamers for the Isthmus have been contracted for, to be built of iron, and the entire line between New York and San Francisco, *via* Nicaragua, is expected to be in operation about the latter part of October next.

The war steamer, building in New York by Wm. H. Webb, for the Russian Government, is so far advanced in construction, that she will be launched towards the close of this month, if possible on the 21st inst., that being the anniversary of the birth of the Grand Duke Constantine, and exactly one year from the laying of the keel. The General Admiral will be a 72-gun frigate, and of course a steamer of the first class in point of size. She is said to be the largest wooden ship in the world.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued new general regulations, in which he says that no subordinate officers of the customs can be removed or appointed without his previous sanction. Incompetency or neglect of duty is to reported to him for consideration and action. Hereafter, in all cases, where parties allege to have claims for the return of duties paid in error, illegal exactions or otherwise, the application must be made direct to the Treasury Department.

The Missouri State Agricultural Fair, now being held at St. Louis, is said to be the finest one ever held in the State. The premiums for thorough bred and native cattle were divided on Thursday, between the States of Missouri, Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky.—The display of horses is unusually good, and the attendance of farmers and others numbering thousands.

The catalogue of the New York Publishers' Association contains a list of twenty-four different biographies of notorious highwaymen, pickpockets and burglars, and fourteen stories of New York life, such as is usually seen at the Five Points and other similar delectable and moral localities. These are called "the most saleable books in the market."

In Boston, a young woman named Mary A Dooley shot one Patrick Canney, a grocer, whom she alleged had seduced her under a promise of marriage. The weapon used was a pistol loaded with two balls, each of which produced a wound, neither of them however are likely to prove fatal.

Mormons Renouncing the Faith.

The Jefferson City (Mo.) Examiner, of the 14th ult., says:

"By the arrival of a young man named Robert Brandon we have been furnished with the following information from Salt Lake: 'I came down with two Mormon trains from Camp Scott, numbering about 300 persons, principally women, who were chiefly English and some Scotch; and the principal topic of their conversation throughout was the absurdity of Mormonism and its principles. They were all unanimous in their denunciations of Brigham Young and his apostles, and talked of his assassination by the Mormons who remained at Camp Scott, as a sure event. They have all (without exception) become digusted with Mormonism, and renounced it, and expressed their determination from henceforth to use all their efforts for the total annihilation of Mormonism."

New York Politics.

The American and Republican Conventions of the State of New York, have failed to effect a union, and separate tickets for State officers have been nominated—a result which, probably, will not be unacceptable, to any, but those especially interested in New York *State* politics. The Republicans have nominated Edwin D Morgan for Governor, and the Americans, Lorenzo Burrows. The result will, probably, be that the Democrats will prevail at the ensuing election—and the other two parties being thus defeated, good may ultimately result, in the union and organization of a national conservative party, on Whig principles, and for national purposes, irrespective of sectional considerations.

Ground and Lofty Tumbling.

On the 8th inst. Spalding & Rogers' circus company performed in Carlinville, Illinois, and on the same day was held the democratic meeting for the reception of Senator Douglas. The large show bills announcing each event were in numerous places in the town posted one above the other. Some wag, where the bills thus placed occupied a most conspicuous position, by a little cutting out and repasting made them read as follows:—

"The forty horse wagon.
Largest travelling show in the world.
Ground and lofty tumbling by
The Hon. Stephen A. Douglas,
The only man who performs everything on the bills."

Effects of low Tariff.

The Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire R. R. Company has sent an agent to Europe to purchase the iron rails for a portion of their road. This is a necessity which the present policy of the Government forces upon all our railroads. With our mountains abounding in iron ore of superior quality, and coal in abundance to convert it into iron, our companies are forced, by the low tariff policy of this Government, to lay out their money in foreign markets, sustaining foreign furnaces and laborers, while our own are languishing for the necessary protection to enable us to compete with the low wages of Europe.—*Leesburg Washingtonian.*

Excessive Charges.

Extract of a letter dated Knoxville, Tenn., Aug. 24th, '58.

"The freight on flour from here to Norfolk via Richmond and river, is 1 68½ per bbl; the freight from here to New York, is 1,34 per bbl. With this difference in freight can Norfolk be as good a market for flour as New York?

"If we should wish to send flour to Norfolk we could probably send it cheaper by way of Savannah than by the high priced Railroads between here and Norfolk"

This letter needs no comment; it speaks for itself.—*Norfolk Argus.*

Wanted as soon as Possible.

A bran new sensation or fresh excitement. We are are sick of Cable, and nauseated with Governor's proclamations, Quarantine Rebellions, and Gallant Zouaves. There's a comet in the heavens doubtless—the astronomers say—but its caudal extremity is too small to excite "an apprehension," or get up "a panic." He won't answer. Will nobody give us a new shock?—*N. Y. Express.*

Senator Douglas.

Our advices from Illinois are of the most cheering description. It is confidently asserted that the Democrats will have a majority in the Legislature of at least twenty votes over the combined votes of the Black Republicans and the "Bolters"—or rather over the Republican vote alone—for it is improbable that their allies will carry a single county election.

The coalesced opposition have been fairly beaten on every issue started, either on the stump or through the press. They have not scrupled, however, to resort to the most dishonorable dodges. Among these stands conspicuous the ludicrous attempt to construe Judge Douglas' speech, at Freeport, into a squatter sovereignty anti Dred Scott pronunciamento. The Illinois statesman never did better service to the constitutional rights of the South, than will be effected by following up the frank and manly suggestion of that speech. It repeats, from an authoritative source, what the "Enquirer" has persistently held up to the attention of Southern men, viz: that the present state of Federal legislation is entirely inadequate for the thorough and effectual protection of slave property in the Territories. The Kansas-Nebraska act gives the people of a Territory full power to legislate for themselves, subject only to the limitations prescribed by the Federal Constitution. The Dred Scott decision demonstrates that the Constitution of the United States only denies to a Territorial Legislature the power to prohibit slavery.

Senator Douglas has come forward boldly to point out to Southern men the exact locality and nature of the nuisance to which they are subjected. He has proclaimed the truth, that the Kansas-Nebraska act and the Dread Scott decision, are of themselves insufficient for the protection of slave property in the territories.

Have we no reason to be thankful for this honest lesson? It is true teaching, and it behooves Southern men to heed the only just conclusion to be drawn from it. *Congress must intervene to protect slavery in the territories.* Let us put our shoulders to the wheel, and labor earnestly, faithfully, and prudently, for the consummation of this constitutional necessity.—*Rich. Enq.*

Forney Stands up to the Rack.

The following card from Forney, which we find in the last number of his paper, the Press, will show that the abuse of the Administration and its friends, has no terrors for him; and that he says he will shortly prove the truth of all he has asserted in reference to the President:

A CARD.—When I spoke to the electors at Tarrytown, New York, I did so upon the deliberate expectation that from the impenitent calumniator and convict of the New York Herald, down to the pensioners of the Washington Union, I would be abundantly traduced and misrepresented. An Administration which I assisted, not inconsiderably, to elevate to the power which it has basely abused, has not hesitated to make an honest difference of opinion the pretext for a proscription extending to my business and to my most intimate relations: and I am not surprised at the spirit which my remarks at Tarrytown have created in that quarter. This is to state that I shall calmly await the accumulation of all the accusations of the Administration and its agents, when, in my own way, and in my own good time, I will prove all that I have written and spoken as to the gross betrayal of a great principle and a solemn pledge, and still further establish the justice and strength of the position of THE PRESS and of myself.

J. W. FORNEY.

Geo. W. Summers.

There is no nobler specimen of the true Virginia gentleman, no abler or sounder statesman, and no more brilliant orator in the land than George W. Summers. And we had indulged the agreeable hope that he might be prevailed upon to again stand as the candidate of the Opposition for the office of Governor. We desired for him a fair and full opportunity for exploding the calumnies of his enemies in the previous canvass; and we desired for the Whigs of the East, an opportunity of repairing the injustice they did him in 1851. But for the inexcusable wavering of a portion of the Whigs of the East in 1851, Mr. Summers would have been triumphantly elected.

We still indulge the hope that Mr. Summers may be induced to reconsider his determination, and consent to become a candidate in obedience to the earnest and unanimous desire of the Whigs and Americans of the State. His resignation of his Judgeship took effect on the 1st of July last—eighteen months before the commencement of the next Gubernatorial term. But such is the explicit and emphatic character of his card declining to run, that we must conclude there will be but a faint hope of inducing him to change his purpose.—*Rich. Whig.*

Senator Pugh for Douglas.

At a meeting of the Democracy held at Zanesville, in Ohio, on the 4th instant, the following colloquy is published as having occurred between Mr. Senator Pugh and an interrogator whose name is given. This dialogue we find quoted in the Democratic papers as indicative of Mr. Pugh's "position" in relation to the present exciting canvass in the State of Illinois:

Dr. Drake—Do you approve of the course Mr. Douglas in Illinois? [Hisses, and cries of "put him down," &c.]

Mr. Pugh—What is the question?

Dr. Drake—Do you approve of the course of Mr. Douglas in Illinois?

Mr. Pugh—I do! [Cheers.] I do! And I will tell you why. *Because he is the nominee of the Democratic party* [Applause.] And, as the President is said to have written to Mr. English, if I had a thousand votes I would give them all to him if I was in Illinois. [Enthusiastic applause.]

Case of Mr. Letcher.

Let us find out where we stand!—True, we figure up pretty largely in the way of votes; but then, if Mr. Letcher and any of his constituents who sympathize with him by reason of their former opinions, are still unworthy to be the leaders of the party, are they worthy to vote and to hold fellowship with it at all? We regard the matter precisely in this light. No man can deny that a large portion of the people of this district and the West generally, formerly entertained the same opinions held by Mr. Letcher. To whom are they responsible for those opinions? Who has the right to say that they are now unworthy of confidence because they thought differently at a former period from what they think now? These considerations are all involved in the discussion of Mr. Letcher's merits.—*Valley Dem.*

A Notice Served.

If John Letcher is rejected because of unsoundness on the slavery question, we give notice, in advance, that whoever takes the position of candidate for Governor of Virginia, will have to show a record as clear as day, and an escutcheon as pure as the virgin snow. If there is to be no palliation—so be it! The Democracy of the Tenth Legion will require any and every man to come up to the same standard by which John Letcher is to be measured; and his enemies will learn this in due season!—*Rockingham Reg.*

The Captured Africans.

The contract between the government and the American Colonization Society, by which the latter agreed to subsist and instruct the captured Africans for one year after their arrival out, having due regard for their health and comfort, was concluded on Friday last. Less than $50,000 will be paid to the Society for this service.—*Union.*

Telegraphic Despatches.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—The Young Men's Christian Association of Washington, held a special meeting this afternoon, in response to a dispatch received from New Orleans, asking for relief, and stating they have 300 sick under treatment.

NEW ORLEANS, Sept. 9.—The yellow fever deaths in the Charity Hospital in the last twenty-four hours were twelve. Outside the hospital, the fever is decreasing: forty-nine deaths.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 10.—Nothing definite has as yet transpired respecting the action of the railroad presidents. The agreement of the 5th of July has been gone over and mostly agreed to. The main point of difference was relative to the rates for all rail and for rail and water carriage. It has been settled to have separate rates where water carriage forms part of the route.

WORCESTER, Mass., Sept. 9.—The second annual firemen's muster held in this city has been in every respect successful. To-day was observed as a general holiday. The banks and many stores were closed. The various fire companies assembled, fifty-two in number, and competed for prizes offered by the department and citizens of Worcester. The playing was perpendicular. The first prize, four hundred dollars, was taken by the Edmund Hopkins, of Woodville, one hundred and eighty feet.

DETROIT, September 9.—The American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions were again in session to-day. The committees on the various missions reported, and addresses were made by several returned missionaries, including Dr. Peter Parker, of China. The next annual meeting was appointed to be held in Philadelphia in October, 1859. The officers of last year were re-elected and the board adjourned.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 10.—The Salt Lake mail has arrived at Leavenworth in twenty-one days, en route. The Mormons were orderly. The trials for treason would commence on the arrival of the Associate Judges. The Indians were troublesome, and a Mormon family had been massacred whilst travelling southward. Dr. Forney, the Indian agent, had been very successful in making treaties.

HARRISBURG, September 9.—The democratic conferences in the York, Cumberland and Perry congressional districts were in session all last night at Bridgeport. Ahl's men stuck to him, but no nomination was made. At 4 o'clock this morning the convention adjourned until the 21st.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—With a view to render the Paraguay expedition equal to any emergency, a proposition to send out a strong force from the army is under advisement.—Every possible precaution will be taken to guard against a failure of the objects sought to be accomplished.

ZANESVILLE, Sept. 9.—The express train on the Central Ohio Railroad ran off the track near this city to-day. Several persons were badly hurt, but none dangerously. The train was detained seven hours.

ST. THOMAS, CANADA, Sept 9.—The Mansion House, Albion House and Telegraph office, with several other buildings, were destroyed by fire this morning.

SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Sept. 9.—The yacht Marie Louise, of New York, with Ericsson's caloric engine, is here and excites great interest.

CLEVELAND, Sept. 9.—The firemen's State parade took place to-day. Forty-seven companies took part in the trial of engines, &c.

Will Gov. Smith go into a Convention?

The Richmond Enquirer contains an editorial wherein the claims of Colonel W. H Payne, of Fauquier, are prominently set forth for a seat in Congress. The Enquirer closes its laudatory article with the remark, that "a Convention at the proper time will doubtless settle the question of candidacy, and to the decision of that tribunal, all must submit, or assume their position among the disorganizers of the party."

This is decidedly significant, denouncing as it does all who refuse concurrent action with the proposed Convention as "disorganizers of the party." According to this ruling about seven-eighths of the Democracy were "disorganizers," when some few years ago they set at naught the action of the Democratic Convention which met in Alexandria, and voted for Gov. Smith, against the express will and desire of that political caucus!

The question naturally arises, will Governor Smith permit his name now to go before any nominating body? Or, will he do, as he did then, take the stump, and vanquish not only the nominee but the very Convention itself!

It is useless to disguise the fact that Gov. Smith has no hold whatever on the affections of the political leaders of his party in this District; and it is equally true that no man can occupy the hustings with a more telling effect upon the popular pulse—that of the people themselves—than Gov. Smith.

Conscious of this strength in the one quarter, and of its entire absence in the other, it would be madness on his part to submit his name where a rejection of his claims would seem to be a foregone conclusion.—*Fred. Herald.*

The Spanish Mission—Cuba.

We learn from Washington that Mr Buchanan has tendered the mission to Spain to the Hon. J. P. Benjamin, Senator from Louisiana. In tendering him the appointment, Mr. Buchanan has made a good selection, and we hope he will be able to induce Mr. Benjamin to accept it. Should he do so, we shall believe that some project is actively on foot for the final settlement of the Cuban question. That island is fast outgrowing the leading strings in which Spain holds her, and if she cannot sever them in any other way she will do it by violence. Cuba has derived the impulse of her material development from this country. It is the constant intercourse of her people with ours that has stimulated her in the construction of railroads, the introduction of steam engines and machinery for her productive labor and the development of the mechanic arts. To us she looks for a market for her sugars and cigars, and to supply her with grain, meats and lumber. These industrial ties have generated political sympathies between the two peoples, which are working out their results. We should be sorry to see her reduced to the anarchical condition of most of the other Spanish American countries, and she would be glad to have extended over her the guarantee of the American Union to her social permanence and industrial prosperity. Spain may be brought to see these things, and a practical Minister like Mr. Benjamin could do much at Madrid to assist in her enlightenment.—*N. Y. Herald.*

Imports of Wheat.

The Buffalo Commercial states that, even though there be no further increase upon the business of last year, the imports of wheat will exceed two and a half millions of bushels, an increase of one-third over last year. Of flour we shall have one million four hundred thousand barrels; also an increase of about two-fifths. Lake Michigan shipped last year, 7,704,000 bushels of wheat to other points than Buffalo. We stated last spring that the probable receipts of wheat for 1858 at New York would be twelve millions. We now claim fourteen million bushels of wheat as the amount to be received at the port during the season of navigation.—Of flour we should have at least a million and a half of barrels, against 845,000 last year. This is a wonderful result.—*N. Y. Letter.*

We wish that our very ingenious friend who invented what was called the "*paying out* machinery" for the Niagara and Agamemnon, would get up a little machine of the sort to be used in the case of every newspaper subscriber!—*Prentice.*

The Fraser River Gold Mines.

The Rev. Bishop Scott, of the Methodist church, who is now on an official visit to the Pacific, has recently visited the neighborhood of the newly discovered gold mines. He took passage to Olympia, by the way of Bellingham Bay, stopping a short time at Victoria. He thus humorously describes his visit to that place:—

"Some fifteen or twenty of the brethren came together on Wednesday night, when, after preaching a short sermon, I consulted with them in regard to what we ought to do to meet the spiritual wants of those at Victoria who may be willing to profit by our ministry. The brethren do not doubt that if the mines meet expectation, and Victoria do not go in, they will be able to give a preacher a decent support, and I have determined, at any rate, to send them one, if I can find the right sort of man, and also to Whateom and Senecome. I found the people at Bellingham Bay and at Victoria in great and painful suspense in regard to the future, but the prevailing feeling is that of discouragement. Many have spent all their funds, have nothing to do, and know not how they are either to live here or to get away. So it is also, I am told, up Fraser River. If the trail can be cut through, if the water fall sufficiently in the river, if the mines prove rich and sufficiently extensive, if and if—it is all if. I am not, you know, a miner, and my opinion is not worth much, but at any rate, I have no motive to be partial; and my opinion is, that this Fraser River excitement will prove to be the greatest humbug of the age, and that many people will suffer even to the last extremity. This was my opinion before I left California, and I have seen no reason to change it since I came here, but much to strengthen it. I fear that some parties will have an awful account to settle in regard to this matter in a coming day."

Hotel Thief in a Perilous Position.

About twelve o'clock Saturday night, (says the Cincinnati Gazette of Monday,) Mr. T. Caldwell, a gentleman from New York, stopping at the Burnet House, retired to his room, and, after disrobing himself for the night, took his usual precaution to look under the bed for thieves. His surprise may be imagined upon discovering a man lying snug against the wall! Without raising an immediate alarm, or calling the fellow from his hiding place, he quietly slipped on his pantaloons and started down stairs locking the door behind him. Procuring the services of Watchman Harvey, on duty in the house, he returned to the room, but after a search no one could be found. As the door was locked, it was pretty evident he had not escaped by that exit. The inside blinds were opened but nothing cold be discovered of the thief, until one of the persons accidentally caught a glimpse of his elbow. It was then ascertained that he was standing with one foot upon the projecting portion of the stone sill, and the other upon a gas pipe running along the building which was not over an inch and a half in diameter, and maintaining his position by pressing his fingers against the smooth stones of the side of the window! To have held on for a minute even, must have required considerable strength. The window was on the third floor, opening into the yard, and at least forty feet from the ground; so that his position was indeed a perilous one. The fellow was taken to the Hammond street station-house.

Steam on the Erie Canal.

Mr. Canal Commissioner Ruggles, whose zeal in the cause of canal enlargement has abundantly justified his appointment to the important office he temporarily holds, has directed his attention specially to increased facilities for employing steam on canals. At his suggestion a trial was made on Wednesday afternoon of Mr. Blanchard's improvement in steam boilers, the steamer John Faron making a trip to Haverstraw for that purpose.

In the Scientific American of last week we find a diagram and discription of this improvement, to which we must refer the scientific reader. The boat ran up to Haverstraw and back to Sing Sing, the distance, making proper allowance for running against the tide, being eighty-six miles. It was performed with ease in five hours and forty five minutes, being at the rate of fifteen miles an hour. The quantity of coal consumed was only 3444 lbs., while the mean pressure of steam on the cylinder was 16 lbs., on the vacuum 12 lbs.—total pressure 28 lbs. The wheels made twenty-two revolutions per minute. Indeed, the whole performance was highly satisfactory, and received the warmest commendation from gentlemen on board, familiar with the working of steamboat machinery, but without any personal interest in Mr. Blanchard's improvement.—*N. Y. Com.*

China—The Future.

The opening of the ports of China and the toleration granted to Christianity are events which may affect the commerce and progress of mankind to an extent which it is as yet impossible accurately to shadow forth or predict; for, if the London journals are warranted in eagerly calculating the golden results likely to accrue to British enterprise from the lucrative commercial relations which may be formed between British Columbia and the "Central Flowery Kingdom," it cannot be questioned that our fellow-citizens on the Pacific coast will not be slow to profit by the new trading facilities placed within their reach; and if "fleets of British merchantmen may soon be expected to ply between Vancouver's Island and Canton," it is no less reasonable to suppose that the trade between San Francisco and the latter port will preeminently share in the quickened activity imparted by the new commercial concessions. A philosophical historian has strikingly observed that the great event of modern history is the introduction of Russia, lately a barbarian Power, into the system of European politics and civilization. It will be a still greater event when the more populous empire of China shall have entered the commonwealth of Christian nations, and discarded those institutes of her civil and social polity which now justify the contrast of the poet, when he exclaimed, "Better fifty years of Europe than a cycle of Cathay."—*Nat Int.*

Episcopalian Tendency of the Navy.

At a meeting, yesterday, of the Warren Baptist Association of Rhode Island, a committee reported on a letter from the church at Wickford, in regard to the treatment of clergymen of the Baptist and other denominations, after which a letter from Rev Joseph Stockbridge, chaplain of the United States navy, was read, in which were stated facts showing the tendency of Government influence in establishing the Episcopal form of worship in the army and navy.

The reading of this letter and report was followed, says the Providence Journal, by an animated discussion, in which the Roger Williams doctrine of entire freedom in all religious opinion and concernments, and of perfect abhorrence of all interference therein on the part of Government or of individuals, was fully illustrated and set forth. It was finally voted that the subject be referred to a committee consisting of Rev. Frances Wayland, D. D., Rev. Barnas Sears, D D, Rev. Henry Jackson, D. D, Hon. B. B. Thurston, and Hon. Thomas G. Turner, to investigate fully, and, if deemed advisable, to prepare a memorial to be laid before Congress, at its next session, setting forth their views as a denomination on the matter of religious liberty.—*Boston Traveller, Sept 9.*

WASHINGTON & CO., WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCERS, COMMISSION and FORWARDING MERCHANTS, No. 11 NORTH UNION STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VA. sep 11

Loudoun County, Va.

We are informed by Thos. L Ellzey, esq., of this county, that two brick-makers, from Hagerstown, Md., by the name of Geo. Stimitz and Frederick Shriver, employed to make brick for him, were detected tampering with one of his slaves, by endeavoring to induce him to run off. These individuals both left immediately they discovered their conduct was known. The evidence against them, we learn, is positive. Proceedings will be instituted to have them arrested and returned here for trial, by a requisition upon the Governor of the State of Maryland. So serious have been the losses of our citizens, by the absconding of slaves, that they are determined to rigidly enforce the law against all offenders.

Those gentlemen who have had lists for subscribers to the Mercer Monument, will please remember that it was understood that they would report at September Court.

Some few of the committee have been quite active, and it is hoped that the exertions generally made will justify the Committee in contracting for a monument, to be inaugurated during the Fair.

There is not a house unoccupied in the town of Leesburg, and within the last two months there have been several applicants for houses from persons who wish to establish themselves in business in our town.

We understand that an upholsterer, having failed in procuring a house, has been obliged to give up the idea of settling here.

It is probable that eight or ten small houses could find permanent occupants at remunerative prices. Will none of the owners of town lots improve them in that way?

Two of the hands employed on the Alexandria, Loudoun, and Hampshire Railroad, named Daniel Henry and Patrick Connelly, were seriously injured on Friday last, near Goose Creek, by the unexpected discharge of a blast. No limbs were broken, and we are pleased to learn they are recovering.

At an election held in the Lovettsville precinct, for a magistrate, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Thomas J. Cost, esq., Gideon Householder, esq., was elected.

We have of late had the pleasure of seeing in our town, Col. Monroe Taliaferro, of Stafford, a member of the State Senate, who has been on a visit to this county. We cordially welcome him to Loudoun, and trust that a gentleman so bland and agreeable, who has shown himself so fully devoted to the true interests of the commonwealth, may not retire from his position in the Senate, but that he may continue a member of that body, to sustain the great cause of internal improvements consistently with the financial abilities of our State, as he has so well done heretofore. To him we are greatly indebted for the aid voted at the last session of the Virginia Legislature to both the Railroads of Loudoun.—*Leesburg Wash.*

A Chicago Transaction.

Illustrative of Chicago life, we can vouch for the following, as true in every particular. A produce operator from Watertown, (N. Y.,) watching the signs of the times, and arguing that when wheat was down to sixty cents, and corn thirty-five to forty cents, in Chicago, they could not get much lower, went to the grain city and invested his pile, some $30,000, all in "stub-tail" corn. This corn is last year's Illinois growth, and is called "stub-tail" because about one-third of it is rotten, fit for nothing but to make rot-gut whiskey. He bought it at a very low figure, and had it all put into one pile in a big warehouse, where it was to wait a "rise;" several days elapsed and there was no inquiry for "stub-tail." He played billiards, rode around the city, and occasionally took a "nipper," by way of keeping his courage up. At length he was informed that his corn was *heating*. He examined the pile, and found it "hot as *hades*." Supposing it was all up with him, he went off on a "bender," and for thirty days he did not know stub-tail from A No. 1 corn. At length he blowed out, cooled off, and upon examining his corn again, found that it had cooled off also, and without damaging it a whit. He opened his eyes to the market reports, and found his corn had so risen in price, that he found no difficulty in selling it at a good round profit of *eleven thousand eight hundred dollars*. Had he remained sober, he probably would have sold it at a sacrifice. So much for a Chicago spree. No wonder, with such luck, that the operators in that fast town should occasionally imbibe!—*Cleveland Plaindealer.*

Madeira Wine.

WHERE IT COMES FROM.—A travelling correspondent of the New Hampshire Patriot, writing of Madeira says:

Mr. March, U. S. Consul at Madeira, is a native of the fine agricultural town of Greenland, N. H., whose ample and cheerful hospitality amazed others as well as myself. It was absolutely princely; at the same time it was without ostentation and boast. Not only did he keep a free table, spread with all the delicacies of the island, at his house out of the town, but he keeps an open house in the town, where ample rooms and chambers were at the disposal of our party, with attendants to do the waiting, and servants to provide our breakfasts. Indeed we 'were lords of all we surveyed,' whether house, beds, servants, fruits, books, or food. Mr. March has been for many years largely engaged in the wine culture and wine trade, in which he has made a princely fortune. I wish that all the 'wine bibbers, publicans, and sinners,' would remember the statement Mr. March made to me, that not five pipes of wine are now made a year in all the island of Madeira. And yet it is abundant in the United States, and as delicious as abundant. The American crop never fails, though blight and mildew have killed all the vines in Madeira. Strychnine does not fail either, if the vine does.

Low Rates for Cattle.

The New York Tribune says:—"The present race of drovers have never seen the day when beef cattle sold as they did at Bull's Head on Wednesday, and it was for a very good reason. Last week we had over 5 000 head, and this week we have over 5,800 head, which has so overstocked the market that eight cents a pound net was considered a top price, and very liberal estimates of weight had to be given at that. It is true that a very few cattle sold at 9½@9c. on Tuesday, but it was hard to get that for any on Wednesday, and equally true that many sold for 6@7, and some for 5c. per pound net, and, of course, the market was a dull and losing one to the cattle owners. We suppose there must have been from 300 to 500 head left over unsold, in spite of all the efforts of cattle brokers to close them out at almost any price offered. The surplus over the real wants of the city for the last two weeks, renders an increase of price, to any considerable extent next week, whatever the supply of fresh stock may be, almost impossible. The price now is but little more than half what it was during the Summer of 1857, and the large increase in numbers shows how consumption increases as the price recedes.

A Soft King-Crab.

Almost every body residing in this vicinity has seen these crustaceous animals composed of a large hard shell, with nothing but a series of claws and flaps completely concealed beneath it. They are very common about here in the hard state, and from the fact that the empty shells are frequently found on the beach it was known that they underwent the process of *shedding*—but it was not until yesterday that we saw one alive in a soft state, and the fisherman who showed it to us, said it was caught in a seine, and the first one the oldest of them had ever seen in that state.—*Norfolk paper.*

[COMMUNICATED.

I had not the slightest idea of dalling [illegible] by my communication of August 19th, [illegible] retorts of "Another Countryman," and "Chotank"—my sole object was to weigh the [illegible] forts, (however feeble) of one who had been accustomed to travel on the steamer Columbia, and to receive at the hands of her officers that gentlemanly and prompt attention for which they are so justly celebrated—against the attacks of those who denounce them as Sabbath breakers.

I am, by no means, an advocate of Sabbath breaking, for I think if there is any one passage in Scripture marked more strongly than another by Divine wisdom and foresight, it is the commandment which declares, we shall do no manner of work on the Sabbath, nor our servants, nor our cattle; by the *proper* observance of which the laborer is enabled to enjoy that rest, which God in the abundance of his wisdom foresaw to be necessary to the preservation of vital force and energy. But I am one of those who believe that the Sabbath was created for man, and not man for the Sabbath; for Christ himself has said: "The son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath day." But I say nothing of the moral good the Columbia may do in keeping on her decks and in moderate and orderly employment a number of individuals, who are too apt to disregard those benefits which our Divine Master intended the Sabbath should bring to mankind, I will pass on and endeavor to defend myself against the powerful thrusts of "Chotank."

He says the holy horror of running the Columbia on Sunday has not sprung up at once, but has been felt and talked of for years past; but, like many other things, no action taken. To this, I can only reply, that if an evil is to be felt and talked of for twenty odd years, before any attempt at correction is made, unless he is more fortunate than most of persons, and has far fewer than your humble correspondent to contend, he need scarce expect a higher reward in the future, than was granted Moses upon Mount Nebo—"A view of the promised land." Again, says he, "I should like to know of "Observer" what has been the duty of elders, deacons, class teachers, &c., in the past, if they have just begun to read the Bibles? What has become of the early lessons taught in childhood by every mother, &c?" Now, probably, "Chotank" knows ought to know better than I can tell him, but certainly, I have never thought they were simply to read their Bibles, and cry out against and proscribe every body who does not see as they see, act as they act, and believe as they believe. They had far better, I think, learn to teach and practice more brotherly-love, kindness, humbleness of mind, forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, better even pray as Pope does—

"Let not this unknowing hand,
Presume thy bolts to throw,
And deal damnation round the land
On each I judge thy foe."

And above all, remove first the beam from their own eyes; for Christ has even said, "That every idle word men shall speak they shall give an account thereof in the day of judgment." "Praise God in his sanctuary," to the exclusion of steamboats travelling, when it becomes necessary for us to do so, is a commandment that I have never found given, nor have I ever been interrupted upon the Columbia, in any reading or meditation in which I might wish to engage, by that medley of whistle blowing, bell-ringing, segar smoking, and name changing, which "Chotank" so graphically describes; and that last, though not the well known "wink," and the welcome of the "very gentlemanly bar-keeper" Dick, with the inquiry, "what will you take to drink gentlemen," with which he seems to be so familiar has never disturbed me at all, probably, because I have never been initiated into the "wink" or familiarised to the welcome.

There are doubtless instances in the country, which "Chotank" cites, of a servant and horses being kept solely for the purpose of driving to Church, but I have been acquainted all my life with country customs and manners, and cannot now call to mind a single instance where a servant and horses have been kept for the sole purpose of driving to Church on Sunday; but on the contrary, know of many, where the horses have to drag, and the servant to follow, the plough or wagon, through the whole of the week, and brush up himself, and horses, Sunday morning, in order to make a genteel appearance at Church, where, in many cases, he is compelled to stand about, out of doors, and be excluded from the services.

"But," says "Chotank," "if the writers above referred to, would read their bibles more, they would find an instance given where the Saviour entered Jerusalem on the Sabbath day, sitting upon a colt, the foal of an ass, entered the temple, &c. And where are we to find a better example?" Now, I would state for "Chotank's" edification, that my bible does not teach me on what day the Saviour entered Jerusalem, nor does it teach that he intended his entry as a precedent for riding to Church on Sunday, but to teach by example meekness and humility. I cannot think "Chotank" would be willing to follow the example, which he quotes in such an unheard of connection, throughout, for with all his zeal for the observance of Sunday, he would sooner take the Columbia than an ass's foal to travel, even to the plain old town of Alexandria; Nor do I blame him.

The gentleman above referred to, attempts to disprove a position which I never assumed—that the patronage of the passengers on the river "pays expenses"—I know very well that freight and not passengers "pays expenses" on the Columbia, therefore, our great obligations for