ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER

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ALEXANDRIA:

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The Gubernatorial Election.

The war, indeed, grows *hot*. Read the following from the *Richmond Enquirer*.—We have seen nothing equal to this in tone and spirit, since the battle commenced:—

"Not content with attempts to forestall public opinion in favor of Mr. Letcher, by most unwarrantably attributing to him a capacity and popularity over other men who are his undoubted superiors in both respects, the Letcher faction have attempted to repress by every species of misrepresentation, and malicious vituperation, all attempts, however moderate, to demonstrate wherein some other candidate is to be preferred to Mr. Letcher.—They it is who have initiated all unfriendly contest, by attempts to brow-beat and suppress the open and fair discussion of the respective merits and demerits of the several candidates for the Gubernatorial nomination. Determined to push their own candidate on the choice of the party, they have not allowed the harmony of the party to stand between the effort and the object. "Rule or ruin," has been their watchword from the start.—The friends of Messrs. Edmundson, Hopkins, Brockenbrough, Smith of Greenbrier, Faulkner, Jackson, Tucker, James A Seddon, &c., &c., were not to be allowed anything more than demure expressions of preference. The Letcherites were to be free to charge them, or any one of them with unpopularity; inferiority to Mr. Letcher in amount and value of public services—even with a want of patriotic loyalty. If, on the contrary, it was attempted fairly, to show wherein Mr. Letcher was inferior to his competitors, no vilification was too much for the devoted head of the anti-Letcher advocate. Every man who would avoid violent abuse must beware how he dares to detract by one jot or tittle from the absurd glorification of Mr. John Letcher. Instead of "ten pluck one," it has been a game of "one pluck ten."

"Now, in the name of all the gods at once,
Upon what meat doth this our Cæsar feed,
That he is grown so great?"

Again, is it for Mr. Letcher or his advocates to deprecate the free discussion of the demerits of a candidate for nomination? Did not Mr. Letcher in 1854, go hand in hand with the "Examiner" itself, in urging vindictively every species of objection, against a candidate who proved, too, the successful candidate? Did he not do this, too, for a more selfish motive—because he was himself a background candidate? Did he stop his objectionable course even after the nomination was made? Did he not hold off and temporise with the spirit of Know Nothingism, until a "sea of up-turned faces" in the Tenth Legion warned him back to his duty? And has he not even lately boasted that although forced to an unwilling support of the ticket, he abstained from using the name of the candidate from the stump during the whole canvas?

Thus Mr. Letcher himself has furnished us with a precedent more than ample for the free expression of opposition to an objectionable candidate. Let the public judge whether our grounds of objection are not more valid than his own. We prefer to support a man whose previous record on the slavery question admits of defence. Certainly, the man who endorsed abolition sentiments and sustained an emancipation candidate in 1847, who could sneer at "negro-ology" in 1851, until he became personally offensive to slave-holding colleagues; who, up to the time of the late repeal of the Missouri Compromise, never engaged in the active advocacy of a great pending measure for the protection of slave property from federal encroachment—surely this man is not to be selected, in preference to a gallant host of competitors, as the standard bearer of Virginia Democracy.

If anything were wanting to demonstrate the partisan nature of the "Examiner's" super-serviceable effort in behalf of Mr. Letcher, it would be found in the expressions "exploded and forgotten charges," "early and harmless indiscretions." What! When and by whom was the charge of Mr. Letcher's endorsement of the Ruffner pamphlet, and his subsequent vote for McDowell Moore, "exploded?" How "early" did these occurrences take place? Just early enough to be 11 years ago, when Mr. Letcher was already a middle aged man, in the prime of intellect and experience. And the "harmless indiscretions" are, indeed, mere trifles; only a war against the institution of slavery and a vote in favor of a red hot Whig emancipationist candidate.

As for the sweeping charge, that Mr. Letcher's opponents have kept their "motives and names alike concealed from the party," we have no necessity to refute it. Our names and our motives are plainly set forth, so that he who runs may read. One prominent motive which actuates us is a determination to thwart the movement of a few intriguing politicians, who, for two years past, have held secret caucuses, and subsidized village newspapers, in a systematic attempt to forestall public opinion in favor of Mr. Letcher. It is for this that the "Examiner" threatens us, in common with our associates in this good work, with a "wholesome lesson," should Mr. Letcher succeed in obtaining the nomination.

Now, we tell our cotemporary, plainly, that we have assumed the proud position of a tribune of the people. We stand between the people and the politicians, to thwart the intrigues of the latter. Whether Mr. Letcher is nominated or defeated, we will maintain this position to the end—to the "bitter end," if necessary. And whenever a politician's newspaper attempts to intimidate us with threats, we will only rise straighter and higher in our stirrups, and sound a fuller, louder, clearer note of entire defiance."

We think our readers will agree with us, that the above sounds like anything but "harmony," either now or *in the future*. Mr. Letcher's friends, of course, cannot remain quiescent under such attacks upon him. And it is likely, that such assaults will only rally his advocates firmer around him.

The Richmond South enters a most emphatic protest against the course of the Administration in removing Democratic office holders in Illinois, because they are in favor of Douglas. It declares that "the result of the recent elections in the North attests the folly of the feud between Judge Douglas and the Administration, and the uncertainty of the issue in New York and Illinois warrants an apprehension that the unfortunate controversy is still pregnant with disaster to the Democracy;" and then it concludes as follows:

"No wonder that the State-Rights Democracy of the South have heard with surprise and apprehension that Mr. Buchanan is employing the patronage of the Federal Government to determine the election of Senator in Illinois. Nor is their repugnance to the policy mitigated by an imposing recital of Mr. Douglas's delinquencies. If he were worse even than his enemies represent, his punishment would not compensate the violation of an essential principle. Mr. Buchanan may only intend the public good, but some usurper may avail himself of the pretext and the precedent to compass his ambitious projects.—There may be those who will applaud the intervention in the particular case before us; but have they any guarantee that their own State will not be made to choose a Senator at the dictation of the Federal Executive? If we permit Illinois to be subjugated, what security have we for the independence of other Commonwealths? The next attempt may be made upon Virginia, and then her people will appreciate an aggression which impresses them feebly by distant example."

Among the arrivals by the steamer Ariel, at New York, we are glad to see the name of Edward S. Joynes, esq., who was recently elected Professor of the Greek and German Languages in William and Mary College. Mr. Joynes returns to his native country, after a residence of nearly two years and a half in Europe, almost the whole of which time has been spent in the acquisition of classical knowledge in the University of Berlin. Previous to his departure for Europe, Mr. J. had been engaged for three years in the capacity of Assistant Professor of Ancient Languages in the University of Virginia.

A contract has been effected by the Postmaster General, with the Northern Central Railroad Company, for *two daily through mails* between Baltimore and Williamsport, Pa., which, in connection with existing postal arrangements south of Baltimore, and north of the last named place, will secure greatly increased mail facilities not only to our business community, but will shorten the time for the transportation of the mails between Buffalo and the national capital. This measure constitutes the Northern Central Road as a first-class mail route, and the company will receive compensation for that service.

Hon. John McQueen, of South Carolina, recently addressed a portion of his constituents at Cheraw, in that State, on political topics, when he expressed his opposition to any participation by the State of South Carolina in the Charleston Convention. "He insisted that if we went into the convention, we would be bound in good faith to abide by its platform and nominations. That by standing aloof, we would occupy a far better position. If the platform and nominations were satisfactory, we could give them our support; but, if otherwise, we would be free to oppose them."

The Washington States says:—"The Government has received no information in reference to any intended military expedition to Nicaragua under Gen. Walker. The reports which have recently been circulated to the effect that he meditated a return to that country, have not induced the Government to take any steps in the matter. As far as we can learn, the proposed expedition is regarded as legal and peaceable." Away he goes, again, then!

The Liverpool Journal of the 25th, repeats a charge that it is the practice of the State governments of the United States to ship to Europe their lunatic paupers. The Boston papers, in reply to the above, allege that they were originally shipped from Liverpool to Boston, and were sent back by the authorities of the latter city because they were paupers. They deny that they were insane when sent back.

The Union has an article on the Ecclesiastical Troubles in England, and thinks the disagreements and difficulties now experienced—the quarrels between the High Church and Low Church parties—and the restlessness of the landed interest under the exactions demanded, will prove hard and serious blows at the supremacy of the Established Church.

There is published a correspondence between ex-Senators Foote, of Mississippi, and Dixon, of Kentucky, in regard to the course of the Administration towards Senator Douglas. These politicians denounce the Administration in unmeasured terms, and invoke the people to visit upon it the sternest condemnation.

The reported murder at the Gambling House in New York, is still under investigation; but the witness who is relied on to prove that somebody was murdered, is flatly contradicted by other witnesses, and charged with perjury.

The English papers comment on the "last of the stage coaches," on one of the great lines of travel, in England, recently "run off," and stopped by competition with railroad locomotives. There are but few of the old lines left, even on the by-roads.

France and Portugal are quarrelling a little about the seizure of a French vessel by a Portuguese ship, the former carrying to one of the French West India Islands a cargo of free blacks from the coast of Africa. England has been invoked to settle the dispute.

The Courts, and the Mayor of Baltimore, seem to be in earnest in "pitching into" the rowdies in Baltimore. We wish them every success, and hope they may never cease until rowdyism and ruffianism are driven out of the city—to come no where else, however.

A fight recently occurred in the Court-room at Pittsburg, Pa., in which the Judge spat in a man's face, and, was in turn, bit over the head—and the counsel finally, took sides, and there was quite a *melee*.

A Convention of all parties opposed to the present administration has been called to meet at Louisville, Ky., on the 22d of February, to nominate candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and other State officers.

Gov. Wise's letter to the Illinois Democracy, will arrest attention. Senator Crittenden has also written a letter, paying Senator Douglas a high compliment for his independence.

It is stated that the Baptist churches in New York city, have offered Spurgeon, the great star preacher, $10,000 and his expenses, if he will consent to make a six months tour in this country. He may come.

On Thursday afternoon there were sixteen ships, twelve barks and six brigs in the port of Charleston, and twenty-six ships, seven barks and two brigs in the port of Savannah.

The Court of Appeals in New York, awarded a new trial to Cancemi, convicted of murder, because he was tried by eleven jurors only, though the prisoner assented to this arrangement. The court, however, holds that trials for crimes must take place as the law prescribes, and the State has an interest in preserving the lives and liberties of its citizens, and will not allow a surrender of them. If a deficiency of one juror could be allowed, a deficiency of eleven might also be permitted, or the trial be committed to the court alone, an innovation which would destroy the institution of trial by jury.—Cancemi has been tried three times; twice he was convicted, and the verdict set aside, and once the jury disagreed. He has now another chance for his life.

One of the most appalling calamities that ever occurred in Michigan, transpired on Tuesday night. A dwelling house and its contents, including a man, his wife and two children, were totally destroyed by fire without any living person whatever knowing anything of the matter until the next morning when it was ascertained that the house had disappeared. People are busy with explanations; but the most probable is that the building caught fire from the stove pipe, and as the tenement was of boards, it was soon in a blaze.

A trial of vagrancy against four *white* women and one *white* man, took place in the circuit court at Louisville last week, and the jury's verdict was that they be sold for twelve months. This is the penalty prescribed by law. Cases of this kind are of very rare occurrence. Though we have no desire of damaging the Commonwealth's property, says the Journal, we deem it due to say to those who have any intention of making investments of the kind, that the persons are all of the most degraded character, especially the masculine. In case of no sale, they will have to remain in jail for the time specified.

The Baltimore American says, "it is manifest that the immense production of gold which we have seen for the last few years, cannot long go on without making itself felt sensibly in the standards of value throughout the world, and that unless some new contracting agent comes into operation, we are on the eve of a general expansion of prices such as was experienced throughout the world during the century which followed the discovery of America."

A letter in the New York Herald, purporting to be written at Norfolk, Va., says that Capt. Willett Mott, who was forced to leave Norfolk during a slave stealing excitement recently, is about to bring suit against the corporation, because it cannot, or will not, protect him in his return. It appears that he has been back once since, but was forced, by appearances of intended violence, to leave. We do not know what truth there is in this statement.

The numerous friends and acquaintances of Mr. Nicholas Cleary, formerly of Prince William County, Va., but now of California, will be gratified at learning his recent election as Judge of the thirteenth judicial district of that State, which is one of the mountain districts, including the town of Mariposa. This distinction was accorded to Mr. Cleary, as we learn, on the anniversary of the third year of his residence in the State.

We learn from the New Orleans Picayune, that a ship and a barque, the former having eighty, and the latter forty Camels on board, had arrived off the Southwest Pass, and have been ordered to Galveston. These camels are imported by the General Government, and are, no doubt, intended to join those already doing so well at Cape Verde, above San Antonio, Texas.

Liverpool papers notice the cessation this year of the great influx of Irish laborers who annually cross the Channel to engage in the English harvest, and argue therefrom the improved condition of the Irish peasantry, who can now be more profitably occupied in the culture of their own farms or those of their neighbors, than in seeking work elsewhere.

Constans F. Daniels, late editor of the New London Chronicle, died on Wednesday morning, aged sixty-nine years. He was educated for the legal profession, which he pursued only for several years, and was then for many years connected with the press, first in South Carolina, and afterwards in the city of New York, and finally at New London in Connecticut.

The Lynchburg Fair, closed on Thursday last. Hon. Wm. L. Goggin delivered the valedictory address. On Wednesday there was a tournament in which Chas. Williams of Amherst carried off the prize. The fair has been a complete success, and the citizens of Lynchburg have reason to be proud of the energy and liberality which gave it birth.

Another mysterious disappearance is reported in New York. It appears that several days ago, a merchant of Westerly, R. I., named William R Kay, came to that city, with a large amount of money, to purchase goods, since which time he has been missing. He has a wife and five children at Westerly.

The Venezuelan Commissioners gave a grand banquet on Saturday evening at the Metropolitan Hotel, to the Mayor and Common Council of New York, in return for the hospitality which has been extended to General Paez, during the eight years of his exile from his native land, and of his residence in New York.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times gives the following account of the bountiful product of the vineyards of France: "Accounts from the wine growing districts continue to be favorable. There is now no doubt of the vintage being more abundant than was expected."

At the last term of Logan (Va.) county court a Mr. Steele recovered a verdict for $10,000 against a Mr. Hulley, for abuse of his wife by H.'s wife. Steele afterwards generously released the whole judgment, saying that it was his wife's character, not money, for which he began the suit.

We learned yesterday, says the Montgomery Mail of Thursday, that there had been shipped from this point, by railroad, this season, 5,300 bales of cotton, via Columbus, to Savannah, and thence by sea to Baltimore and New York, owing to the low stage of the Alabama river.

There have been seven arrivals of fruit from Sicily and Spain, at New York since Friday last, bringing almost exclusively cargoes of raisins and almonds of the new crop; a number of other vessels are daily expected from the same ports.

It is estimated that pipes, amounting in value to $30,000 per annum, are manufactured in the county of Appomattox, Va.

The village of Warsaw (Miss.) seems to be a desperate place, there having been no less than twelve fatal affrays there lately. On the 8th instant the last occurred between George W. Dorsey, a merchant, and E. L. Magruder, a carpenter, in which both were killed.

It is stated that Hon. J. Glancy Jones will leave this country in about a month, to assume the duties of his new position as Minister to Austria. Consequently, he will not retain his seat in the approaching session of Congress.

The Dubuque Times says that by a recent census of that city made by the District Board of Directors, under the provision of the school law, it appears the total population of Dubuque is six hundred and seventy-eight less than last year.

Hon. John B. Floyd, Secretary of War, returned to Washington, from the West, on Saturday, and resumed on Monday his duties at the War Department.

The Tariff and the Democracy.

The Union alludes to the generality of the demonstrations lately made in favor of a protective tariff as follows:

"The protective doctrine is now presented to the country in a more ingenious form than usual. It is adapted in each locality to the predominant interest and feeling. The protectionist in Pennsylvania clamors for a high duty on iron; in New England he is eager for a thumping tariff on cotton and woollen fabrics; in Louisiana he has a sweet tooth for a large per centage on sugar; and in Virginia he is anxious to exclude English and Welsh rails by a prohibitive import, and to construct the Old Dominion's connexions with the great West with iron made only at Tredegar, Clifton Forge, and Manakin Town."

That is, under the favor of Democracy, the Pennsylvania protectionist may insist on a high duty for the benefit of iron, while at the same time he scouts with scorn and indignation any legislation in behalf of the textile fabrics of New England, or the sugar of Louisiana. Listen, for example, to the following avowal of the Hon. C. L. Pershing, the defeated candidate of the Pennsylvania Democracy in the Congressional district comprising the counties of Somerset, Blair, Cambria, and Huntingdon:

"If I am elected, I will advocate an increase of duties upon coal and iron. *As other States have their peculiar tariff policies, I am in favor of a Pennsylvania policy.* When the question comes up in Congress, I am in favor of the mutual interests of all the States, if such can be effected without detriment to our own; but if such desideratum cannot be realized, *then I am for Pennsylvania against the Union.*"

As no protest has been uttered in any quarter against the "National Democracy" of Mr. Pershing, and as it is an undoubted fact that under the present toleration of the party it is allowed that each State "should have its peculiar tariff policy," whether for the benefit of iron in Pensylvania, or manufactures in New England, or sugar in Louisiana, we respectfully submit that the National Democracy may lawfully do collectively that which it is seen they may lawfully do individually.—*Nat. Int.*

Telegraphic Despatches.

WASHINGTON, October 25.—But $434,000 were received from customs last week at New York.

There is nothing yet to indicate that the Executive will recommend a change of the tariff.

The Canada and America steamers on Lake Ontario have been chartered for the Paraguay expedition, at $4,000 per month.

The support of Douglas by the Richmond South is endorsed, it is stated, by Senator Hammond, of South Carolina.

WASHINGTON, October 25.—Hon. J. Glancy Jones, the newly appointed minister to Austria, leaves for Vienna in November.—By his retiracy from Congress, Mr. Phelps of Missouri, a democrat, is first on the list of the committee of Ways and Means, and if parliamentary usage be followed, will be its chairman next session.

NEW YORK, Oct. 25.—Prof. Deremus has submitted an analysis of the body of Sophia Stephens, who is supposed to have been poisoned by her husband over a year ago. An abundance of arsenic was found and Stephens has accordingly been fully committed for trial.

ALBANY, Oct. 24.—A quarrel occurred in a saloon last night between partizans of Morrissey and Heenan, growing out of the recent fight. Owen Curran was stabbed by a man named Turner. His wounds are mortal.—Turner was arrested.

RICHMOND, Oct. 25.—The United States Agricultural Fair will be opened to the public to-morrow. The display is fine, particularly of horses. Many visitors from other States have arrived, and the crowd is hourly augmenting.

BOSTON, Oct. 24.—There has been a strong northeast gale all day to-day, with thick and quite cold weather. The tides were unusually high.

Senator Douglas and the Administration.

The numerous and enthusiastic demonstrations on the part of the Democratic politicians and presses, North and South, in favor of the re-election of Senator Douglas, indicate that the efforts of the powers at Washington to "crush out" the "Little Giant" meet with no favor from the great bulk of the Democratic party. Indeed, the President and his Cabinet, backed by the Washington Union, stand almost alone in their warfare upon Douglas. Day after day leading and influential Democrats, in all quarters of the country, are coming out in letters and speeches, earnestly urging the re-election of Douglas, and appealing to the Administration to cease using its power and patronage against him. The President and his advisers and toadies, however, appear to be inexorable. They seem bent on pursuing and persecuting the "Little Giant" to the bitter end. They are obviously resolved to hunt him down, and beat the last breath out of his body, if they possibly can. No appeal, no admonition, no remonstrance, no entreaty, no matter whence it came, has had the effect of altering the vindictive course of the Administration towards the distinguished Illinois Senator. The President and his Cabinet, through the columns of their special and confidential "organ," have excommunicated him from the Democratic church, and they call upon the "faithful" to lend obedience to their decree, and turn their backs upon the vile "apostate" and "traitor," who deserted the Administration and the Democracy last winter in their hour of need, and who has ever since been engaged in denouncing their Lecompton policy as a swindle and an outrage.—*Richmond Whig.*

Rivalry in the Ball-Room.

The Grand Duke of Tuscany and the fashionable world are returning to Florence from the usual summer jaunt to the baths of Lucca, bringing with them, according to the correspondent of the Providence Journal, the following bit of gossip concerning John Bull and Brother Jonathan:

"By the way, the gossip comes from the Baths that the English and Americans have not been in the best humor with each other on account of jealousies that have sprung up in what is called 'society' there. The quarrel has not gone farther than all quarrels between England and America go in these days—that is, pouting and 'making mouths,' and the utterance of ill-natured words. It appears that this very serious condition of things had its origin in the fact that the Americans danced more than the English with the younger members of the family of the Grand Duke. A sort of invisible scuffle was kept up to monopolize the honors."

Gov. Wise's Letter.

Gov. Wise, of Virginia, having been requested to address the people of Illinois during the pendency of the present exciting canvass in that State, declines the invitation in the subjoined letter, while taking occasion to express his hearty sympathy with Senator Douglas, and the principles for which, as a Democrat, he is contending under circumstances of peculiar interest:

RICHMOND, VA., Oct. 13, 1858.

DEAR SIR: I cannot express to you the emotions of my bosom, excited by your appeal to me for aid in the warm contest which your noble Democracy is waging with abolitionism. Every impulse prompts me to rush to your side. Your position is a grand one, and in some repects unexampled. In the face of doubt and distrust attempted to be thrown upon your Democracy and its gallant leader by the pretext of pretenders that you were giving aid and comfort to the arch enemy of our country's peace and safety and our party integrity, I see you standing alone, isolated by a tyrannical proscription, which would, alike foolishly and wickedly, lop off one of the most vigorous limbs of National Democracy—the limb of glorious Illinois! I see you, in spite of this imputation, firmly fronting the foe, and battling to maintain conservative nationality against embittered and implacable sectionalism; constitutional rights, operating *proprio vigore*, and every way against all unequal and unjust Federal or Territorial legislation.

The right of the people to govern themselves against all force or fraud;

The right of the sovereign people to look at the "returns" and behind the "returns" of all their representative bodies, agents, trustees, or servants;

The responsibility of all governors, representatives, trustees, agents, and servants to their principals, the people, who are "the governed" and the source of all political power;

Utter opposition to the detestable doctrine of the absolutism of Conventions to prescribe and proclaim fundamental forms of government, at their will, without submission to the sovereign people—a doctrine fit only for slaves, and claimed only by legitimists and despots of the Old World;

Powers of any sort not expressly delegated to any man or body of men are expressly "reserved to the people;"

No absolute or dictatorial authority in representative bodies;

The representative principle as claiming submission and obedience to the will of the constituents;

The sovereignty of the organized people, supreme above all mere representative bodies, Conventions, or Legislatures, to decide, vote upon, and determine what shall be their supreme law;

Justice and equality between States and their citizens, and between voters to elect their agents and representatives, and to ratify or reject any proposed system of government;

Submission to the Constitution and laws of the Federal Union, and strict observance of all the rights of the States and their citizens, but resistance to the dictation or bribes of Congress or any other power to yield the inalienable right of self-government;

Protection in the Territories and everywhere to all rights of persons and of property, in accordance with the rights of the States, and with the Constitution and Laws of the Union;

Equity and uniformity in the mode of admitting new States into the Union, making the same rules and ratios to apply to all alike;

The rejection of all compromises, conditions, or terms which would discriminate between forms of republican constitutions, admitting one with one number of population and requiring three times that number for another form equally republican;

The great law of settlement of the public domain of the United States, free, equal, and just, never to be "temporized" or "localized" by temporary or partial expedients, but to be adjusted by permanent, uniform, and universal rules of right and justice;

Maintaining these and the like principles, I deem them to be the aim of the struggle of the devoted Democracy in this signal contest; and so understanding them, I glory in their declaration and defence. I would sacrifice much and go far to uphold your arms in this battle. I would most gladly visit your people, address them, and invoke them to stand fast by the standard of their faith and freedom, and never to let go the truths for which they contend; for they are vital and cardinal and essential, and can never be yielded without yielding liberty itself. But, sir, I am like a tied man bound to my duties here; and if my office would allow me to leave it, I could not depart from the bedside of illness in my family, which would probably recall me before I could reach Illinois; and my own state of health admonishes me that I ought not to undertake a campaign as arduous as that you propose. I know what the labors of the stump are, and am not yet done suffering bodily from my efforts for Democracy in 1855. For these reasons I cannot obey your call; but permit to add, fight on! fight on! fight on! Never yield but in death or victory! And on that I was unbound, and could do more than look on, throbbing with every pulse of your glorious struggle—with its every blow and breath—cheered with its hopes and chafed by its doubts. You have my prayers, and I am yours, truly, HENRY A. WISE.

HON. JOHN MOORE, Chairman, &c.

M'lle Piccolimini.

M'lle Piccolimini made her first appearance before an American audience at the Academy of Music, New York, on Wednesday night. The papers highly praise her.—The Tribune says: "In person she is rather under the middle height. In carriage she is graceful and high bred. Her face boasts a pair of dark eyes of exceeding vitality and expression, well turned features, and remarkable powers of mobility. Her nature evidently is quick, ardent and enthusiastic.—Her voice is warmly toned, and in the lachrymose portions of the opera, which abound, is full of the loveliness of tragic sorrow. In quality it is not of the highest rank, but the electricity of the artist lends it at the climax of intensity an expression which is apart and truly admirable. In the three acts which we heard there is no fibrid music, so we cannot judge of her ability to execute it. In declamatory and sustained singing passages she is excellent. Her phrasing leaves nothing to be desired. Her enunciation is perfect. With a true air of high Italian nature, she is prodigal of facial expression, answering to the sentiment of the moment. As an actress, she is charming. Her play of the arms is particularly good. The last scene of the broken-hearted, dying consumptive was best at the close. The tremulous agony of joy at meeting her lover was exquisitely faithful to nature. The impression left on us was not that of a grand, but a beautiful artist—finished and fascinating. The applause of the audience was heartiest at the end, when M'lle Piccolimini received the honor of a triple call before the curtain."

Burning of an Orphan School.

On Sunday morning last, between nine and ten o'clock, the main building of the Kentucky Female Orphan School at Midway, took fire, and in an incredibly short time was utterly consumed. The building was one hundred and twenty feet front, ells about fifty feet, with a two-story porch along the entire rear of the edifice, both centre and ells. At the time the fire broke out the principal and the pupils were at Sunday school in the village, and many of the citizens had gone to a funeral some miles in the country. The girls lost all their clothing except what they had worn to church.

The Female Pedestrian Match.

Up to a late hour on Friday night, Montgomery Hall, New York, was visited by a curious and half incredulous crowd, to see the females who still walked vigorously on the platform raised for their pedestrian feat. The match commenced at 12 o'clock, noon, on Wednesday, and at 12 o'clock on Thursday, Flora Temple manifested signs of fatigue. She complained of a cold, and walked wearily, while her antagonist, Prioress, was as erect and sprightly as though she was just setting out on an afternoon walk in Broadway. It was predicted that Prioress would win the prize. But Flora seemed to gain strength as the contest proceeded, and last evening both parties appeared in fine order, notwithstanding they had been on their feet fifty-seven consecutive hours, at 9 o'clock in the evening.

A majority of the persons present had cigars in their mouths, and puffed away as though no females were in the room. The pedestrians complained of this as ungentlemanly. A crazy violin, in the hands of a disinterested person, in one corner of the room, sent out occasional discordant notes to cheer the heroines; but whether or not this irregular accompaniment attended their footsteps, the lionesses marched with unfaltering tread. Flora took off her boots, and walked in her striped stockings. Both said they felt tired, but in the dim light of the hall, made more obscure by the smoke, it was hardly observable.

They walked until 3 o'clock this morning, at which time they had been on their feet sixty three hours. Neither would "cave in," though both equally complained of exhaustion and extreme fatigue. Under the circumstances, it was agreed that it should be called a "drawn game," and that the receipts at the door should be equally divided between them.

Soon after the match was concluded, a carriage took the good natured twain to a downtown hotel.

Incredulous persons raise the question, whether there was ever any hundred dollar prize in the case, or whether the performance was not a "dodge," to allow these well-made and stout-limbed females to exhibit their powers to an astonished crowd, at 25 cents per head.—*N. Y. Evening Post, 23d.*

Charity in Mobile.

We believe it was Nero who fiddled when Rome was going through a roasting, for which act of levity that amiable barbarian has come down to posterity with a very dubious odor hanging about his reputation. And this was just, for he made merry over a very bad and uncharitable act.

The Mobile people, though they may not fiddle, "laugh and grow fat" amid the ravages of the dark pestilence that is almost desolating their beautiful city, but turn their conviviality to good account. If they take down potations of strong drink and aldermanic turtle soup, they turn loose streams of living charity, blessing those that give and those that receive. They are a noble set of people—their vices always leaning to virtue's side.

We have mentioned the contemplated *frolic* at Asa Holt's on Saturday last, and we now have the pleasure of chronicling its eminent success. The Register says the crowd, beginning at early dawn, and only dispersing at the midnight hour, was greater than could have been imagined even here in Mobile, where any and every appeal of charity and benevolence is an attendance *en masse* of our generous-hearted people.

All went on in good humor, except in one slight fuss towards night. But it was too good humored to be deemed a quarrel, bred of a whisky fever—it must have been the sugar in the bottom of the drinks, which had just began to ferment and brew.

The Tribune states that the amount realized on the occasion was $581.95—including $247 for the sewing machine. The amount received at the bar was $334.95. This is a generous and handsome donation to the Can't-Get-Away-Club.

Singular Match—Man vs. Steam.

The Buffalo Courier says that some time since a match was made between Capt. Beman of the steam ferry boat Cygnet, and Mr. I. Staley of Grand Island, for forty dollars, that the latter could not pull a boat from Grand Island to Black Rock, while the steamer was going the same distance—nine miles. Mr Staley came to Buffalo and succeeded in getting the race-boat "Mary" to pull the match with, and immediately commenced preparing for the race, which came off Wednesday, resulting in favor of Mr. S. and the Mary. They started from Hibbard's dock, Grand Island, at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, and arrived at Moon's dock, Black Rock, the boat at 3 13 o'clock and the steamer at 3 o'clock 14½ minutes, Mr. S. winning by a minute and a half—the whole distance being accomplished in one hour and thirteen minutes, which, considering they had a four mile current to pull against, is very fast time. The Mary was built last Spring by Messrs. Kingston Bros., of Buffalo city, for Mr. J. C. Beecher, and is considered the fastest boat West of New York.

Are the Times Hard?

It is the almost universal remark of our merchants that though business has much improved since the great commercial crash a year ago, trade cannot by any means be said to have recovered itself. There is a good deal of business done now, but not nearly so much as it was hoped and expected there would be. Therefore, so far as trade and business are concerned the era of hard times has not yet elapsed. Economy and short credits are still the governing rules of trade and will continue to be so long as our imports are kept down to such a low figure that the duties paid into the Treasury do not amount to more than one-third of the drafts paid out for the current expenses of the government.

And yet, while the business atmosphere is so murky, any one who regards the lavish expenditures of our citizens would be induced to suppose that money was never more plentiful and times never more prosperous.—*New York Herald.*

The Cunard Steamers.

The British Mail steamer Persia, which was to leave Liverpool on Saturday, the 16th instant, will be due at this port on Wednesday or Thursday of the present week. We understand that upon her return to Liverpool, she will be laid up for the Winter, and that the Europa, now on the Halifax and Boston line, will take her place. The reason of this change is found in the fact that the Persia burns 120 tons of coal per day, or *twice* as much as the Europa, and that the freight, passenger and mail business of the winter, can be as well performed by the latter as the former.—*N. Y. Times.*

Shooting a Minister.

We learn that the Rev. P. E. Green, Methodist preacher in charge of Warren County Circuit, was shot at Montalbon, on yesterday morning, by a man named Fisher. The wound is supposed to be mortal. All we could hear of the cause of shooting was, that Fisher's wife had joined the church lately, and Fisher meeting Mr. Green, abused him terribly and finally pulled out a pistol and shot him. We hope the miscreant will be apprehended and meet his just deserts.—*Vicksburg Whig.*

TRIAL OF W. S. WITHERS FOR THE KILLING OF J. T. JORDAN.—This affray took place last January, in Campbell county. On the 18th inst., at Campbell Court House, the accused, Withers was tried, and the jury after some time, found a verdict of "not guilty."

In the case of the Commonwealth vs. R. H. Withers, Jr., a nolle prosequi was entered, and the case dismissed.—*Petersburg Intel.*

The Balloon Race.

Our readers have already been apprised that Mons. Godard and Prof. Steiner left the earth at Cincinnati on Monday afternoon, the 18th instant, on a balloon race, and landed in about six hours near Sandusky. The following is one of the incidents of this curious adventure.

"Mons. Godard in his 'Leviathan,' gained rapidly upon his rival for the first mile or two from town, until the aeronauts were within speaking distance. When three miles from the city, both moving about twenty-five miles an hour, Mons. Godard sailed up majestically beside Mr. Steiner, who greeted him with a welcome, and pointed to the beautiful sight which everywhere met the eye.—'Magnificent!' responded the representative of France. M. Godard then introduced his passenger, Mr. William Hoel, to Prof. Steiner, and at the same time proposed that they should take a friendly drink. Both aeronauts opened a bottle of wine, when Mons. Godard proposed the toast 'To the Great Republic.' This was drank with a will in sparkling Catawba, when Prof. Steiner gave the following: 'To Mons. Godard, the justly celebrated French aeronaut.' The compliment was returned by Mons. Godard, 'To Prof. Steiner, the greatest aeronaut in America.' Mons. Godard drank 'bottom up' and his companion followed suit; and then, after filling their glasses, Mr. Hoel gave a toast, 'Here's to our sweethearts and wives.' Three cheers for that,' shouted Pro. Steiner, as the balloons were coming nearer together, and the three heartily joined in a 'tip-top hurra.'

"Scarcely five minutes afterwards the balloons came in collision, at an elevation of some 1[illegible] feet from the earth. The balloon of Professor Steiner drove rapidly toward its rival, and the basket of the latter struck the former about midway of the balloon. Mons. Godard and his companion promptly forced off with their canes, and Professor Steiner shouted to Mons. Godard to throw out ballast, which he did, and rapidly rose above the Pride of the West and out of danger of any further contact.'

Claqueurs in Paris.

The Paris correspondent of Dwight's Journal of Music gives an interesting account of the *claqueurs* at the Grand Opera:

"The *claqueurs* are exceedingly numerous in this theatre, and I had an opportunity of gaining some information regarding them.—They probably number from fifty to a hundred, and occupy seats in the parterre, very nearly under the chandelier, where they applaud at the signal of their director, who sits in another part of the house. Any one can be a *claqueur*, and the *claque* is composed of a different set of people every night. If you want to be a *claqueur*, you must go to the opera where they meet before the performance, and a ticket will be given you which will admit you to the parterre on payment of a franc—one quarter the regular price. At most of the theatres the *claqueurs* are admitted freely; but for the grand opera there are plenty of people—generally poor students—who are willing to pay a franc for the privilege of listening to a good opera, though probably they could not afford to pay any more. Of course it is not considered quite respectable to join the *claque*; though it must be confessed they are a very intelligent looking set of people, and applauded in excellent taste and always at the right time, but with a monotonous, heartless clap in unison, *à la machine*. The audience generally seem disposed to look on the *claque* as a convenience; for, as my companion said, 'they are much more familiar with the operas than we; their leader is a man of excellent taste; they always applaud at the proper place; and, in short, save other people much trouble and kid gloves.'"

The Peabody Institute.

We are informed upon the best authority, and we take great pleasure in making it public, that George Peabody, esq., has most generously added $200,000 to the Peabody Institute fund, for the erection of the noble edifice now going up in Baltimore. This with the previous endowment on the part of Mr. P., makes more than half a million of dollars.

We also learn, from the same authority, that this distinguished and liberal minded gentleman has not only passed through, unscathed, the tremendous financial crisis that so deeply effected the old and new world, but that he is at this time, in possession of a larger fortune than at any previous period of his life, and that this additional sum of $200,000 will not at all interfere with his ability and willingness to go on to "do good" while he lives, and thus to a great extent be his own executor.—*Baltimore Patriot.*

Lawless Proceedings.

LOUISVILLE, (Ky.) October 25.—Horace Bell, who released his father and brother from the Brandenburg (Ky.) jail last July, (to which they were committed on the charge of running off negroes,) was taken last Saturday from the fair ground at New Albany, Indiana, without a warrant, and brought into Kentucky by Louisville police officers.—The New Albanians were tremendously excited. The fire-bells were rung, and a large meeting was held in the evening. Upwards of a hundred persons have chartered a ferry-boat and intend leaving for Brandenburg today. They avow their purpose to rescue Bell. An express has been sent from Louisville to Brandenburg to place the citizens on their guard. Governor Willard, of Indiana, has promised a requisition on the Governor of Kentucky for the men who captured Bell. A public meeting has been called here to denounce the proceedings of the officers.

From Paraguay.

By an arrival at New York we have recent dates from the Rio de la Plata. The announced demonstration of the United States Government against President Lopez attracted much attention in Buenos Ayres, but hopes were entertained that the peace of the Republic would be preserved, notwithstanding our heavy money demands. Mr. Carlisle, the new special minister from England, presented his credentials to President Lopez in a moderate and sensible speech, urging time, a still further extension of the privileges of river navigation, and a continuance of friendly relations with Brazil and Great Britain. His Excellency replied, expressing a desire to perpetuate the good feeling, political and commercial, which existed in the Republic towards England. When Mr. Christie proceeded to Brazil, Lopez pointed significantly to a division of infantry then under drill close at hand.

The Florida War.

It is stated that nearly a million of dollars will be required to pay the volunteers who engaged in service against the Florida Indians during the late troubles previous to their removal, and for losses by depredations. Each Indian will have subjected the Government to a cost something near one hundred thousand dollars. Of the above sum about $500,000 will be required to pay the