Alexandria Gazette AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER

SIC SEMPER TYRANNIS

PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 7, 1859.

JOHN ROBERTSON, of Richmond, a consistent disciple of the old Republican party of Virginia, whose creed was, and is, the tenets of that party as expounded by Jefferson, Madson, Taylor of Caroline, and other teachers of the State Rights school, and who formerly represented the Richmond district in Congress, with distinguished ability, is again a candidate for Congress. He has issued an Address to the people of his district, remarkable for its manly independence, and its vigor; and which, we doubt not, will have a decided *effect* (no matter what the issue of the election may be) not only in his own district, but throughout the State.

From this Address, we extract the following, in relation to the Distribution of the Public Lands, or proceeds of their sales, among all the states. This measure, advocated by the Whigs, has been always opposed by the *modern* Democratic party, as a *Federal heresy*. Hear, now, what a genuine, old fashined Jefferson Republican, says of this same "Federal heresy."

"I uniformly advocated such a distribution, as in strict accordance with the terms of the deed by which Virginia had ceded a rich and extensive portion of her ancient domain. Of the rights of all the States, and most especially of our own, to participate in the distribution of these and other public lands, I did not then, nor do I now, entertain a shadow of doubt; and, I have the high satisfaction of believing, that the views I presented upon that subject received the approbation of Mr. Madison, the author of the Report and Resolutions of '98—the chief founder of the political school at which I imbibed my creed. The question of our title, so far as relates to the lands ceded by us, is one of a purely judicial character arising under a plain deed of trust, recognized and ratified by the Federal compact. That it ever should have been made a political test, is among the strangest, and, in its influence upon the rights and interests of Virginia, most pernicious results of party spirit. While the public lands and their proceeds have been lavishly granted for the benefit of the new States, railroad corporations, and for various other purposes, without a just equivalent, or at a great sacrifice, we have magnanimously battled against the far juster claim of our own State. We grasp at the territorial possessions of foreign nations, but regard it as a point of honor to refuse what is our own rightful property. I will not trouble you now with an extended argument. I verily believe, could the parties be convened before an impartial tribunal, the United States would be convicted of a fraudulent breach of trust; the new States compelled to disgorge or account for the excess of the shares to which they have in a great measure helped themselves by means of their own votes, and many of the donations for other purposes unhesitatingly set aside.

Although vast tracts of public lands have, as already said, been given to particular States, railroad companies, &c., no distribution among the States generally of land or the land fund specially, was ever made.—Virginia never received by direct grant an acre of the one, or a dollar of the other. But in 1836 a measure of a kindred character was adopted, under which the old States, "Virginia inclusive," were permitted to come in for shares. I allude to "*The Act to regulate the Deposites of the Public Money.*"—This act conformed to a recommendation made by General Jackson in his first message, (who then regarded distribution as a SAFE, JUST AND FEDERAL measure,) and was approved by him. It was in the form of a *loan* or *deposite*, and so called as a *salvo* to quiet his scruples and those of others who, knowing that the surplus necessarily included a part of the proceeds of the sales of the public land, thought they might *lend* us a part of our just share in our own property, which they could never find it in their consciences to *give* us; though they could freely give that property to others, having certainly no higher claims. Nobody believed that this pretended loan would ever be reclaimed or returned. It never has been; it never will be. If the time could ever arrive, when such a demand might be made, it would surely be now, when through the wasteful extravagance and corrupt practices of the Federal Government and its agents, the treasury is on the very eve of bankruptcy.

Under this act Virginia received upwards of two millions of dollars in 1837;—less, perhaps, than her just quota. I rejoice that my vote contributed to restore to her this small portion of the amount which had been unjustly, if not fraudulently, extorted from her. Had she always received even this diminished share, whenever donations have been made to other States, or for other purposes, she would not only have probably arrested the extravagant and profligate expenditures of the Federal Government, but have replenished her own treasury with funds enabling her to endow largely her common schools and higher seminaries of education, and carry on extensive works of internal improvement."

Those who have been taught to vote against the Distribution of the proceeds of the Public Lands, will ponder upon the above.

We add the following extracts from Mr. Robertson's Address, in relation to the Administration, and its measures, and the general condition of the country, without a single comment, confident that they will receive the earnest attention of all dispassionate men:—

"A leading Democratic paper commenting on President Buchanan's last annual message, denounced his *marked and frequent departures from the faith of the Democratic Republican party*. To the instances enumerated by that paper, I added others, far more marked and dangerous. In letters published in the "Enquirer" during the last winter, over my own signature, or initials, I presented the inquiry, *Shall we have a Dictator?* and pointed to the facts which induced me to fear that, at no distant day, such might be our destiny. Without insisting on the charge made against Mr. Buchanan (for whom I may take occasion to say I voted) of *bidding high*, I clearly agree with one of his former supporters that his Federal principles, to which he has seemingly *returned*, do not fall short of those of Alexander Hamilton.

I will not repeat the views presented in the letters alluded to. They related chiefly (1) to *the determination* avowed by Mr. Buchanan, *to enter on a certain contingency a foreign territory, with an armed force*, notwithstanding his distinct admission of the want of constitutional authority—in plain English, to violate the Constitution and his oath; (2) to *his application to Congress for money to negotiate for the purchase of Cuba;* and (3) to *the bill* presented by Senator Slidell, in conformity with his wishes, "*to facilitate the acquisition of Cuba.*" Commenting on these propositions, I endeavored to show that, "in the space of a few months, under a Democratic Republican Administration, schemes were afloat, changing the essential features of our Government, by concentrating its chief powers in the hands of one man"—giving him power

To make war:

To borrow millions at his discretion, and without restriction as to the rate of interest; and therefore, indirectly,

To tax the people;

Power to appropriate millions—at his discretion—and,

To carry into execution treaties made by himself, and never ratified by the Senate.

In addition to all this, the public money has been squandered with unexampled extravagance until, in a time of profound peace, with a revenue more than adequate to meet all expenses under an economical Administration, our public debt has suddenly risen up to many millions, and, it is to be feared, is still on the rise.

As to the idle and insulting proposition to *purchase* Cuba, after the recent repeated and indignant rejection by Spain of every such overture—this Cuban bribe of thirty millions by way of earnest towards a proffer of two or three hundred millions more—I am, myself, much at a loss to comprehend its mighty advantages. Certainly I do not see that Virginia is to be essentially benefitted, even were it gratuitously offered for our acceptance.—We can acquire it in no way but at the hazard of foreign war, costing us, perhaps, some two or three hundred millions more, and domestic feuds far more to be deprecated than foreign war or any waste of public treasure. The mere interest of the portion which would in some way or other be contributed by Virginia, would probably amount to a sum of five or six hundred thousand dollars annually forever. And what would she gain? Nothing, so far as I can see, but the chance of buying sugar a few cents cheaper in the pound, to the loss of the Louisiana planter; bringing Havana cigars and tobacco in competition with one of her own great staples, and drawing from us our already insufficient laboring population.

Witnessing the enormous abuses before their eyes, well might honest Democratic Senators, breaking the shackles of party, concur, as they are said to have done, in expressing their belief that there is not *under the Heavens a Government as corrupt as that of the United States.*

To what causes are we to ascribe the abuses of which we complain? Is it not chiefly the work of the "Demon of Party?"—Party organization? Party drill? Do we, *the people*, really govern the country, or have we committed our rights and liberties to the safe-keeping of partizan editors, scheming political managers, and packed caucusses? Under the principles—if principles they may be called—of party discipline, could General Washington himself, were he to re-appear on earth, be elevated to the dignity of door-keeper to the Presidential mansion? It is as notorious as it is monstrous, that among a people, boasting of a free government, the whole official corps of the Union, created by the President, are, with perhaps few exceptions, bound by self-interest, if not by a tacit understanding, to support the man from whom they receive their daily bread, not merely by their votes and influence, but there is ground to fear by contributions from their salaries. Servility—abject servility—is well nigh the sole passport to party favor. I beg you to reflect for a moment how these deadly weapons of party may be turned against our own dearest rights and interests. Parties are rapidly becoming more and more sectional. Let us suppose, that at the next election a Black Republican—a Fremont or a Seward—shall be raised to the Presidency. How long would it be before every office in his gift, North and South, would be filled with wretches willing to adopt his sentiments? How long before we should have a standing army of venal Abolition propagandists billeted upon us, working day and night to sap our institutions, and ready at the beck of the Commander-in-Chief, to rob us of our rights and property?"

We referred, a few days ago, to the interest that is felt all over the State, by the Whigs especially, in the result of the election in this Congressional District. We have a farther evidence of this, in a letter which is now before us, from a highly respectable and intelligent gentleman, in the western part of the State, who has been for several years past, a member of the Legislature. He writes as follows:—"If the people of your district know what Mr. THOMAS has done for them—how he has attended to their interests—promoted their prosperity—prevented, by his tact and zeal, injury from coming upon them—and furthered the cause of their internal improvements, I do not see how they can refuse him their support. If the people along the line of the Orange and Alexandria and Manassas Gap Railroads can vote against him, they must obliterate all recollection of his faithful services. There is not a man of them who ought not to work faithfully in his behalf." He then speaks of the duty of the Whigs in this behalf, and of the expectation that is entertained by their political brethren, that they will exert themselves strenuously to send, at least, one man to the Capitol, to raise there the Whig banner, and to represent their political sentiments. The whole letter is written with feeling and spirit, and if it were intended for publication, we would give it entire. The above, however, is its substance and language, and expresses what is the public sentiment of the Whigs of Virginia.

The last FOREIGN NEWS is to the effect that WAR is inevitable—and the intelligence conveyed all leads to that conclusion. If war does break out in Europe, upon the issues involved, who can calculate its duration, or who predict what will be its result?

Letters from Washington, published in the Northern papers, say, that since the acquittal of Sickles, the knowledge of much suppressed testimony, has been obtained, and that public sympathy as to Sickles, has abated.

The venerable Alexander Von Humboldt has written a letter of compliment and thanks to Lieut. Maury, U. S. N., for the zeal and ability displayed by the latter in his scientific career.

We have received the May number of the Southern Planter. The Planter maintains its reputation as a most valuable agricultural journal.

The Washington States is indignant at the reported employment of the Chevalier Wykoff, and Francis G. Grund, as government agents or employees abroad. It demands of the administration if such a "disgrace," as it calls it, has been permitted.—It says that, if employed, they are not in such capacities as will bring them under the scrutiny of the Senate, for that body, it is known, would reject them, without hesitation.

The United States Consul at Sydney, N. S. W., writing to a friend in New York, as we learn from the Nantucket Inquirer, reports that Hall and Burns, two of the mutineers of the ship Junior, who escaped from the officers, at the time Plummer and his associates were captured, remained in the woods until nearly starved, when they made their appearance. They were immediately arrested and tried, and at the time of his writing he had just returned from witnessing their execution.

The Cambridge Md., Democrat says, that last Thursday, John Simmons, aged about 20 years, son of Carey Simmons, of Taylor's Island, while at the wind-mill of Levin T. Dunnock, attempted to pass too near the arms of the mill, which were in motion, and received a violent blow on the forehead, from the effects of which he is still lying in an insensible state, leaving no hope of his recovery.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Exchange Bank of Va., held in Norfolk, on the 5th inst., the following Directors for the branch in Alexandria, were chosen, to wit:—Robert Jamieson, C. F. Lee, Robert G. Violet and Lewis McKenzie.

The Richmond Whig, of Thursday, has not been received at this office. It contains, we believe, Mr. Rives's speech, or a notice of it. Will our friends of the Whig please send us a copy of their paper of that date?

Another *failure* of a fillibuster attempt upon Cuba is reported. When will these disgraceful forays cease? They are all calculated to injure our government and people in the estimation of the nations of the earth.

David Funsten, esq., of this place, addressed the Young Men's Christian Association, at Culpeper Court House, on Tuesday night. We have heard the address spoken of in the highest terms.

The Baptist General Association, recently at session in Richmond, adjourned on Thursday night. Staunton is the place for holding the next session of the Association.

☞ We are authorized to state in reply to the communication signed a "Stockholder" in yesterday's Gazette, that the allegation that a discrimination is made against Gov. Smith by the authorities of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, in respect to paying fare, is without foundation—that gentlemen having a free ticket from the President of the Company in his pocket. It is also denied that any attempt whatever has been made to "constrain" any employee of the Company to vote for or against any one of the candidates for Congress in this District.

☞ We are authorized to state, that MR. GOGGIN, the Whig candidate for Governor, will speak at Culpeper Ct. House, on Wednesday, the 11th inst.; at Warrenton, on Thursday, the 12th; at *Alexandria, on Friday, the 13th;* at Leesburg, on Saturday, the 14th; at Charlestown, on Monday, the 16th; at Martinsburg, on Wednesday, the 18th; and at Winchester, on Friday, the 20th. Friday, the 13th, is the day in Alexandria. Let all come and hear him!

TELEGRAPHIC DESPATCHES.

LOUISVILLE, May 4.—Four essays, sent in to compete for the annual prize, were read, before the Medical Association, to-day, and all rejected. Dr. Joseph Jones, of Augusta, Ga., read a paper on the Chemical Analysis of the Fluids and Secretions of the Body in cases of Malarious Diseases. It was subsequently proposed to refer this paper to the prize committee for the annual prize, but Dr. Jones objected.

BOSTON, May 4.—At the session of the National Typographical Convention this forenoon, Nashville, Tennessee, was selected as the place for holding the next annual convention.

CINCINNATI, May 5.—The weather is fine, and the wheat and fruit crops most promising. More corn has been planted since Monday than ever before.

The river is falling at this point.

Dates from New Orleans of the 2d., represent the devastation in the valley of the Mississippi by the freshets to be immense, and the loss may be computed by millions. The Mississippi river above was still rising.

A young man of respectable connections, employed by the Hamilton and Dayton Railroad Company, forged a check on the Lafayette Banking Company for $7,000, got the money and started off with a girl. He was heard of at the West to-day.

The Railroad war is becoming more desperate, and fourth class freights have been reduced to 20c. to Baltimore and 25c. to Philadelphia.

Flour declined 5@10c.; super $6 40@$6 45. Bacon—Sides 9c.; shoulders 7 cts. Eastern Exchange is ¼@¾ premium.

TORONTO, May 4.—The Parliament was prorogued this afternoon. The Governor General's speech was a mere repetition of the important business of the session, with the statement that the income of the first quarter of the current year shows signs of the revival of trade and the increase of our resources. It also says that a visit from the Queen, or a member of the royal family, would be nowhere in her broad dominions hailed with more genuine loyalty than in Canada.

TORONTO, May 4.—Wm. Smith O'Brien arrived here last night, and was met at the steamer by a large number of people, who, with a band of music, escorted him to the Rossin House. To-day, addresses were presented by the St. Patrick Association and other bodies.

ZANESVILLE, May 4.—The fugitive slave Jackson has been delivered to his master, and was taken to Virginia this morning.—There was a large crowd gathered at the depot, but no attempt was made to rescue him.

Miss Priscilla Primrose, which sounds so much like a fictitous name, just as that of Rosa Bonhuer did when we first heard it, is the real name of a very clever lady artist in Rome, who has executed a pretty picture representing the visit of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, in company with the English sculptor Gibson, in the *atelier* of our country-woman, Miss Hosmer, viewing her statue of "Zenobia." The picture has been engraved for the Illustrated Times.

"DELICATELY STATED."—At Huntingdon, Tennessee, on the 25th ultimo, a man named Beloat, shot another man, by the name of Lindsay, for doing what P. Barton Key did!

News of the Day.

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

Silver dollars have become exceedingly rare. A letter from San Francisco states that their coinage is soon to be commenced at the mint in that city. This is thought a matter of considerable importance, as it is hoped that the Chinese can be induced to take the American dollars instead of the Mexican, which are at a premium; and that by that means the discount on over $2,000,000, which amount of silver is annually exported to China, may be saved to the merchants of this country.

On the 17th of January, the Champlain, 513 tons, Capt. Wyman, arrived at Buenos Ayres from Boston, with a cargo of ice.—After discharging, she was fitted up on the lower deck with accommodations for about 200 horses and mules; the large supply of hay requisite for a voyage to Calcutta was stored in the lower hold. While in port she unfortunately took fire and was consumed, sinking in 18 feet of water. She was a fine vessel, and not insured.

Dr. Henry Bond, an eminent physician of Philadelphia, died suddenly on Wednesday, of an affection of the heart, aged 70 years. The deceased was a member of nearly all the historical societies of the country, as well as an active member of the various scientific and literary societies of Philadelphia, and a contributor to the transactions of medical societies. Though suffering for a year past from a paralytic stroke, his literary activity continued to the very day of his death.

The walls of the new college of William and Mary, are as high as the first story, and the contractors, who are from Richmond, have a large force at work on them. The contract price for this part of the work is $20,000. Extensive improvements are about to be made at the Insane Asylum at Williamsburg, Va., under the superintendence of Wm. Percival, architect, of Richmond.

A year ago, the citizens of Cleveland, Ohio, were taking measures to erect a statue of the hero of Lake Erie, in a beautiful park that overlooks the lake. The work is now in progress, the marble being ready, and contracts made, the whole to cost the sum of six thousand dollars, and to be ready for the inauguration on the 10th of September, 1860.

The average of advertisements in the London Times, under the head of "want places," is about seven columns daily, and as none of these exceed three lines, and about half of them are two line announcements, the reader may form some idea of the number of persons in London constantly in want of employment.

It is stated that several hundred barrels of unsound flour have been purchased in New York within a few days, at a price not exceeding $3,50 per barrel, which are to be used in distilling for the manufacture of whiskey, an article, the importance of which, commercially, few but those directly interested will understand.

From the last issue of the Shelbyville Expositor, we learn of a terrible tragedy in Bedford county, Tennessee. A man by the name of Allen had reason to suspect the fidelity of his wife, and charged a man named Hardy with being her seducer. The latter indignantly denied the charge, using abusive language. Infuriated by a positive knowledge of the great wrong that had been done him, Allen rushed upon his adversary and stabbed him to death. He then surrendered himself to the legal authorities.

The St. Louis Republican says that its correspondent at Leavenworth City, confirms the views which it has heretofore expressed, in regard to a foray upon Chihuahua and Sonora, in the event of the failure of the Pike's Peak gold adventure.

Senator Seward, who sails for Europe to-day, is to be invited to a public dinner ere he takes his departure. The object is said to be to draw from him a letter defining his position in relation to the next Presidential election.

In cutting garments for the British soldiers the cloth is piled up, placed between two boards, cut in the shape of patterns, and compressed, and then sawed out, thus cutting one hundred or more garments at once.

On Monday last, the following named gentlemen were elected Trustees of the town of Front Royal, Va.: John B. Petty, G. N. Roy, N. M. Jacobs, G. B. Fishback, and G. W. Jones.

Rev. Dr. Haskill, formerly a wandering juggler, known as the Fakir of Siva, is rumored to have eloped with a young lady of Lafayette, Ind.

Messrs. Faulkner and Boteler will address the people of Warren, Va., on Monday, the 16th day of May.

It is stated that about $5,000 changed hands, in bets, on the election for the Mayoralty, in Petersburg, Va., on Monday.

Pennsylvania Politics.

The anti-Buchanan or "States Rights" Democratic Central Committee of Pennsylvania, of which Colonel Forney is the leader, met at Altoona, in that State, on Wednesday, and adopted among others, the following resolutions:

First—That it is inexpedient at the present time to nominate a State ticket.

Second—Formally proclaiming an unalterable opposition to the doctrine of Congressional intervention in relation to slavery in the Territories, as advocated by the Republicans in the platform of 1856 for the prohibition of slavery in the Territories, or as advocated by the administration democrats, for the protection of slavery in the Territories.

Third—Recommending the friends of popular sovereignty to vote for no candidate at the coming and future elections for county, State, or national offices, who refuse to stand clearly upon the doctrine which recognizes the principle that the Territories like those of a State shall form and regulate their own domestic institutions in their own way.

Mormons Coming.

We are informed that a Mormon Elder has been in this city and made arrangements with H. W. Love, to have between 50 and 100 hand carts made as soon as possible, to be used in crossing the Plains the coming summer. Between 3,000 and 4,000 of the faithful followers of Prince Brigham, are expected here between the 1st and 10th of next month. They purchase their wagons in Chicago, but they are to come here and lay in a stock of provisions and the necessary outfit for the trip. The Mormons are mostly English, Welsh and Danes, and will most probably go better prepared to endure the hardships of the journey than did those who went out in the summer of 1856.—*Iowa City Republican, April* 19.

Austria's Financial Troubles.

The Paris correspondent of the New York Journal of Commerce writes:

"So desperate is the state of the Austrian finances that the Government is said to have seized upon the metallic reserve of the Bank of Vienna. A forced loan is also supposed to be in contemplation, to the great alarm of the wealthier portion of the community."

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER NIAGARA.

WAR DAILY EXPECTED!!

HALIFAX, May 5.—The steamship Niagara has arrived here, with Liverpool advices of the 23d ultimo, containing alarming intelligence from the Continent.

Austria had sent an ultimatum to Sardinia, demanding her disarmament and the disbanding of her volunteers, giving three days for its consideration. If a refusal shall follow, Austria will immediately declare war.

Eighty thousand more Austrian troops are ordered to Ticino.

Austria had rejected England's final proposition for peace.

The French troops are moving towards Piedmont.

There was a panic at the Paris Bourse.

The three days given Sardinia by Austria, in which to consider the latter's ultimatum, would expire on the evening of the 24th ultimo. The English Government had telegraphed to Vienna a strong protest against Austria's menace. It was reported that Austria had replied, refusing to reconsider her resolve, and had already prepared a manifesto to accompany her declaration of war.

There was an active movement in France. Troops were concentrating on the Sardinian frontier, at Toulon, and at other convenient points.

The English holydays prevented a full development of the effect of the news on the commercial world, and the funds. The Paris Bourse, however, fell three per cent.

England's final proposition to Austria was a general disarmament by means of commissioners from the Powers, including Sardinia, and admitting the Italian States to the Congress, as at Laybach. All except Austria gave their assent.

The Paris Patrie says that Gen. Marmora has informed the French Government by telegraph, that the Austrian army had made a significant movement on the strategical line of Ticino, and that he feared an attack at any moment. Napoleon held a council of Ministers, which was attended by the Princes Jerome and Napoleon, as princes of the blood. The King of Sardinia also held a council of Ministers on Thursday.

VIENNA, Friday.—The following official statement is published: "Piedmont, which has for some years past endangered Austria's rights, has been summoned most urgently by Austria to disarm. Besides this demand, expressly addressed to Piedmont, Austria adheres firmly to her proposal for a general disarmament, although she cannot make that proposal subordinate to the summons she has sent to Sardinia."

The Constitutionnel announces that a part of the army of Paris has been ordered to be ready to march.

LONDON, Saturday.—The Daily News says the reply of the Emperor of Austria has been received. That Power declines to reconsider the responsibility incurred in commencing a war in the heart of Europe. Count Buol declares that his master, has taken his course, and will pursue it to the end.

The London Times says the Imperial manifesto which is to accompany the declaration of war against Sardinia is already prepared. Austria, the mistress of her position, is ready, by act of state and deed of war, to initiate the sanguine drama upon which the curtain is about to rise. There is no doubt that a general movement of the French forces has taken place on the entire Piedmontese frontier.

The English journals generally think that the last chance of peace has vanished. The London Herald gives in a semi-official form specific and exclusive information as to the movements of the French army. It says that orders have been given for the embarkation at Toulon of 30,000 men, but that the troops will not sail until further orders. The divisions at Lyons, Grenoble, Besancon, &c., are also ordered to be ready to march at a moment's notice, but not to move until the receipt of further instructions. The total French force designed to operate with Sardinia in the event of a war is fully 80,000, and will be in two divisions; one under Canrobert, and the other under Baraguay d'Hilliers, and the whole under the Emperer in person.

The London Stock Exchange was closed from the 21st to the 23d; the result of the crisis is therefore only partially developed. The news transpired after the official close on the 21st. Consols were offered, without sales, at 94½—a decline of one per cent. on the highest point of the day. The panic in the French Bourse on the 21st continued on the 22d, it being at one time reported that an actual engagement had taken place on the banks of the Ticino. The market closed flat at 94f. 90c—a fall of over 3 per cent. in two days.

The Vienna correspondent of the Times telegraphs, Thursday noon, as follows:

"Day before yesterday Austria forwarded a categorical summons to Sardinia to dissolve the free corps: a reply to be given within three days from the receipt of the summons, and an evasive answer would be considered equivalent to a refusal."

The Paris Moniteur of Friday says that Austria had not given her adhesion to the proposition made by England and accepted by France, Russia, and Prussia; besides which it appears that the Cabinet at Vienna had resolved upon addressing a direct communication to the Cabinet at Turin, in order to obtain the disarmament of Piedmont. In consequence of these facts in Emperor has ordered a concentration of several divisions of the army on the frontiers of Piedmont.

The sales of cotton at Liverpool for five days were 29,000 bales, closing at 1-16@⅛ decline, principally on the middling and lower qualities, while fair remained generally unchanged: Fair Orleans 8¾; Uplands 7¾; middling Orleans 7¼; Uplands 6 15-16. Manchester advices were unfavorable.

Flour closed steady, (there had been no regular market since Tuesday,) closing at 10s.@12s. 6d.—Wheat closed quiet; red 5s. 9d.@6s. 5d.; white 9s.@10s.; Southern wheat 10s.@12s. Corn closed steady at 1d. advance; white 7s. 3d.@7s. 6d.; yellow 5s. 9d.@6s. 1d.

Provisions: Beef, pork, and bacon closed firm. Lard dull. Rice firm at 6d.@9d. advance. Rosin heavy; common 4s. Spirits of turpentine firm and higher at 43s.@43s. 6d.

Contracts Falling Due on Sunday

A very important question has been raised and decided in the Superior Court of New York, upon this subject. The particular case was that of a policy of life insurance expiring on Sunday, the premium upon the renewal of which was not tendered till the following Monday. But the discussion involved the whole question as to fulfilling any contract, the day for doing which comes upon Sunday. The general notion is that in all such cases the contract must be performed, or the offer made to do it, on the preceding Saturday. But the court in this case overruled the motion and declared that when from accident or mutual error, the day of fulfilling an agreement falls upon Sunday, there is enough of principle and authority to justify the party in deferring his performance to the Monday ensuing, without impairing a right or incurring a forfeiture.

Harriet Martineau says:—"The Bonapartes are not men of character, of political wisdom, of patriotic temper, of philosophical sagacity. They are low in aim, vulgar in quality of intellect, and consequently in manners, and by no prepossessions inclined to rescue Italy for the advantage of the Italians. They are regarded as selfish adventurers rather than as emancipators of nations.

Later from Cuba and Hayti.

NEW ORLEANS, May 5.—The steamer Quaker City's mails embrace advices from Port-au-Prince to the 15th ult. The brig African, from New York, arrived there on the 12th, with some 35 fillibusters, and 240 guns and other munitions of war on board, having attempted but failed to land at Nuevas Grandes, on the coast of Cuba. The attempt was made on the 7th, but the boats were swamped, and the munitions placed in them were lost. The owners of the African had received a thousand dollars advance of the amount to be paid for the service.

The Spanish consul at Hayti had notified Gen. Concha, who had dispatched a steamer to capture the fillibusters. Nothing had been heard of any other fillibustering vessels.

Later advices received from Hayti to-day indicate the prevalence of quietness in that country, and an increased popularity of the new President. The soldiers were being discharged from the regular army, and being entered in the national guard.

NEW YORK, May 5.—The steamer Cahawba, from Havana, with advices to the 30th ultimo, arrived here this evening. The advices confirm the account of the failure of the fillibuster expedition against Cuba, and add that they were wrecked on the Island of St. Domingo, and there remain, dependent on charity. The guns in possession of the fillibusters were put into the public stores at Port-au-Prince.

At Havana the sugar market was slightly depressed—stock, 260,000 boxes.

The Cahawba brings $168,000 in specie from New York.

Reports from Washington.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—Official advices received from Vera Cruz mention as a rumor that the principal cause of Gen. Degellade's retreat was the destruction of his ammunition by the explosion of a shell at Tacubaya. The only cities in posession of Miramon are Codora, Orizaba and Mexico. Three thousand troops under Gen. Ampudia were marching towards the last named city and Gen. Garcia was moving in the same direction by way of Huasteca, with 1,500 men. These would be joined by 4,000 men from San Louis Potosi together with Degallade's forces and others from the South. The reactionary army in the city of Mexico does not number more than 6,000 men.

The Juarez government speaks in confident terms of their ability to conquer the capital.

Col. Carlos Butterfield has obtained from the Juarez government an extension of the time for commencing his contract for his mail service betwen the United States and Mexican ports.

It is known here that our government can obtain a right of way over Mexican territory to Arizona, with an outlet at Guaymas, on the Gulf of California. The importance of such an arrangement has for months occupied the attention of our government, especially with reference to saving the time and expense incurred in the transportation of supplies and troops to the Pacific coast. It is highly probable that these subjects will be embraced in the instructions to our minister, Mr. McLane, as calculated to strengthen the friendship between the two countries.

A Difference of Opinion.

The new organ of the Administration, the Constitution, says the Mobile Register, possesses a happy and hopeful disposition. It thus paints, *coleur de rose*, the sound and harmonous condition of the Democratic party of the Union:

"It fills the heart of a Democrat with pride to contrast the position of his own party with that of the Opposition, &c. It matters not where you meet a true Democrat—whether in Massachusetts or Virginia—you will find him the advocate of the same cardinal doctrines of constitutional right and justice.—He carries with him the same platform of principles. His note book for Maine answers as well for Florida and Minnesota as for his own State. It requires no change of programme for each locality in which his battle is to be fought."

The Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser, in commenting on the above, says:

"Now, we would that this were a true picture. We do not believe it is, nor do we see the wisdom, much less the honesty, of saying so, and thus trying to deceive ourselves or others. So far from its being the truth, if there is a common ground upon which the party, North and South, could stand if called into the Charleston Convention to-day, we are not able to see it, and we have puzzled our brain hugely to make the discovery. "We are bound to confess we have never seen the time when political 'confusion was worse confounded.'"

A Defaulting Shoe Dealer.

One Henry Morris has been swindling his creditors at Toledo, Ohio. He gave out that his brother was dead, closed his store, and tied crape on the door. The Blade says:

To-day, however, strange to relate, the crape was still waving from the shoemaker's doors, and no signs of life were visible about the establishment. Suspicion was, perhaps, started by the noticeable fact that a very small portion of crape was allowed for his brotherly mourning demonstration, coupled with the report that certain friends of his were "severely bound" by certain instruments of writing, much to their pecuniary disadvantage, in case of any "accident," and an examination of the premises was resolved on.

"'Twas said—'twas done, and lo!"—a beggarly account of empty boxes, and a stock of boots and shoes non est, proved to be the only remains for which the crape did duty.—The enterprising merchant and his goods were gone! Whether his creditors will each attach a piece of that "weed," by which to remember their bereaved friend, or not, we won't pretend to say, but we do think that this mourning dodge will pass muster among the sharpest tricks of the day.

Origin of Odd Fellowship in the U. S.

On the 26th day of April, 1819, just forty years ago, at the house of William Lupton, sign of the Seven Stars, Second street, Baltimore, Thomas Wildey, and four others, being the only five members of the Order who could be found in that city, met and formed themselves into Lodge No. 1. Very soon after this, foreseeing the evils that would ensue, if the system of self-institution was continued, they applied to and obtained from a competent legal authority—the Duke of York Lodge, of Preston, England—a charter by which they were legally constituted and duly authorized as the head of the Order, to grant charters and exercise supreme authority within the United States. From this humble commencement originated the Grand Lodge of the United States, and the State Grand Lodges, and contributing members.—*Petersburg Exp.*

Gilt-Edged Paper.

The Cleveland Herald learns that three of the banks in that city have lately had a nice rap over the knuckles to the tune of eighty-five thousand dollars. This was on produce paper—paper known in financial circles as gilt-edged paper—paper which had so much apparent gold on its surface that all else save its face was lost sight of. One of the banks is said to hold $45,000 of this gilt-edged paper, another over $30,000, and a third $10,000. The discounts were made on drafts drawn on a commission house in New York, the proceeds of paper invested in produce, which was sent forward. The drawers and acceptors, if the adventure had been fortunate, would have divided profits with the discounting banks, but as it was not fortunate, the banks must stand the loss.

A Swindler Absconded.

Simultaneously with the retirement of Commodore Stringham from the command of the Charleston Navy Yard, certain developments are made, which implicate J. A. Bartlett,—who for three years has filled the post of confidential secretary to the Commodore—in a series of swindling operations, in which not only the Government but numerous private individuals and firms have been victimized.

Bartlett, who was formerly a lawyer in New York, was accepted by Commodore Stringham upon the recommendation of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher at a salary of $800 a year. At the time of entering upon his duties here, he was accompanied by his wife, and their entire personal effects were contained in a single trunk and carpet bag, but so shrewdly had he financiered, that upon returning to New York, last week, under peculiar circumstances, which will presently appear, his goods and chattels amounted to six truck loads, most of which appear to have been obtained under false pretences.

Among the losers by his operations is a well known firm of manufacturing jewelers, on Washington street, of whom he obtained about $100 in goods and money; a well known music dealer, who holds one or two notes for $125 each, given in payment for a piano, and a gentleman on State street, of whom he borrowed $250, and upon whose claim Bartlett was arrested by deputy sheriff Dearborn, of Charlestown, one day last week. In order to escape the meshes of the law, he gave a bill of sale of the piano, on which he owed $125. He ordered, in the name of Commodore Stringham, of a stationer in State street, about $450 worth of Government blanks, in consideration of the profits on which, he obtained a discount of his own note for a considerable amount.

The evidence of his rascality accumulating too rapidly for his safety, Bartlett fled the city on Thursday last, and his wife, who seems to partake largely of the peculiarity of her husband, following him soon after, had the assurance, with the balance of Bartlett's salary, amounting to about $75, in her pocket, to direct the hackman who conveyed her to the cars, to call on Commodore Stringham for his pay.

Since his departure it has been discovered that Bartlett has obtained several hundred dollars worth of postage stamps, which he has applied to his own use, and it is whispered that the government are further losers through the unaccountable disappearance of some letters connected with a contract for lumber, in which Bartlett is supposed to have been a gainer. He is also said to have ordered goods in various places in the name of Commodore Stringham, to the amount of $400 or $500.

He has enjoyed the unqualified esteem and confidence of the Commodore; been foremost in the religious education of the sailors and marines in the Navy Yard; he was an efficient and to all appearances a consistent member of the Young Men's Christian Association, and took an active part in the prayer meetings held in the hospital at Chelsea. His transactions have created considerable scandal where he is known, and measures have been taken by some of those who are sufferers by his operations to have him brought to justice.—*Boston Journal.*

Buried Alive.

A singular circumstance, says the Albany Knickerbocker of the 27th, came to light on opening a vault attached to one of our burial-grounds, on Sunday last. The body of a female, who was deposited therein for dead, some two months since, was found, on opening the coffin, lying on her side with one hand under her head. From this it is evident that the woman was alive when placed there, and, awaking from the trance in which she had fallen, endeavored to extricate herself. This was impossible, the cover was not only screwed down tightly, but the space was too contracted to allow even an effort.

It was evident, however, that the unfortunate woman became convinced of this fact, and concluded to die. She therefore took the easy posture in which she was found, and breathed her last. The thought that they had buried her while yet alive set her friends almost crazed. The body was that of a woman who formerly resided in the Bowery. The father and mother of the deceased had just arrived from the old country last week, and were brought to the vault to see their child. The scene is related as heart-rending.

SMITH O'BRIEN ON THE CONDITION OF THE IRISH IN AMERICA.—Mr. Smith O'Brien arrived in Detroit on Thursday, from his trip through the Southwest, and had an enthusiastic reception. He was escorted to the Biddle House, where an address of welcome was delivered by Mr. Wm. Gray. In reply, Mr O'Brien spoke briefly of his impressions of the condition of his countrymen in the United States. The Detroit Advertiser gives the following report of his remarks:

"Mr. O'Brien commenced by saying that he was very much fatigued by travelling, and did not intend to enter at length into a speech. He was travelling simply as a private gentleman, but could not help responding to the expressions of kindness which had been made. Since his arrival in America, he had travelled over 5,000 miles, and had been in the principal cities, and during his journeys had met multitudes, and everywhere had met with enthusiastic greeting.

He found that *hard work was done by the Irish*, and in the South, where he thought he should find but few of his countrymen as laborers—where the climate was so warm—there were a great many; but it gave him pain to find that, all over the country, he found many of the Irish, who earned from one dollar and a half to two dollars per day, *who spent it all in whiskey*, and intimated that such of them would be better off in their native land, earning a shilling per day, and *where whiskey was better*. He found that everybody who came to America from Ireland had a chance to become independent, and also that he had found many of them in affluent circumstances, and many holding prominent positions, and cited the mayor of Detroit—an Irishman—as an instance. He thought there should be the kindest feelings between the born Americans and Americans by adoption. He could see no reason for this kind reception by Irishmen other than that they loved the land of their birth and should report to his friends at home that the Irishmen in America were all doing as well as they expected to when they left Ireland. [A voice in the crowd—"Three cheers for Tipperary."] "Yes," responded Mr. O'Brien, "and one for old Ireland."

CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND.—Our Circuit Court has been in session since Monday, and for holding Court we have had the most delightful weather, so far. His honor, Judge Crain, is present, giving his usual close attention to the proceedings as they transpire. Although no term was held last fall, we understand the dockets are still small. On the criminal docket not a single case appears for an offence against the State, other than for some slight misdemeanor—a fact no less gratifying to every good citizen than creditable to our whole community, and did the custom prevail here, as formerly in England, our Sheriff might well have presented the Judge with a pair of white gloves, to be worn on the opening of the present term.

In the absence of Mr. Cooksey, the efficient Clerk of this Court, from indisposition, his place has been most ably filled by Mr. Henry Brooke, of