Alexandria Gazette AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER

PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

TUESDAY MORNING, JULY 12, 1859.

The readers of the current news of the day frequently hear of the *mobilization* of the Prussian Army. A French military journal explains this as follows:—The army of Prussia is said to be *mobilized* when the numbers of the landwehr (or militia) of the first levy are called into service in connection with each division of the regular army, and, as each division consists generally of 24,000 or 25,000 men, it is at once doubled by the process of *mobilization*. The regiments thus *mobilized* do not leave their military districts until orders are given to that effect, in consequence of further dispositions. By the term "mobilization," therefore, nothing more is meant than a simple summons of the landwehr of the first levy, to muster into the ranks at their military posts, where they hold themselves subject to further orders in connexion with the regular army.

The New York Journal of Commerce states that negotiations are in progress between the Juarez or Liberal Government of Mexico and several leading military men in the United States for the raising and equipment of a large American force, to be employed in restoring peace and order in Mexico, and to constitute the standing army of that country. Gen. Degollado, the War Minister of the Juarez Government, is now at New Orleans, for the purpose of endeavoring to perfect the arrangements of this scheme.

The London correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer writes:—"I have just made inquiry in relation to the rumored insanity of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, the celebrated novelist. It is entirely unfounded. His mind is as strong as ever, although his health is bad, and his person is much afflicted.—The defeat of the Derby Ministry was a boon to him, as it released him from the cares of office. He looks careworn, and requires rest. At present he is at his seat in Knebworth in Hertfordshire."

The Kanawha Star says:—S. Rooke and John Honeyman were lodged in jail last week, charged with the murder of John Hagerman, whose body was found on the day of their arrest, horribly mangled, in an old cabin a short distance above Malden, in this county. It appears that each prisoner charges the other with the crime. The cause of the murder is not known, but it is supposed to have resulted from an old quarrel."

An experienced vintner, who has one of the best vineyards in Hamilton county, Ohio, says that four hundred gallons of wine per acre may be safely depended upon this year as the product of the grape crop. The fermented juice of the grape readily commands, when new, an average of $1,25 per gallon.—At the above rate the crop will yield $500 per acre—about the most profitable crop that is produced in this country.

The average expense per annum to the members of the different christian denominations throughout the United States, for the support of the different church services, is estimated to be about as follows:—A Baptist and Methodist about $3,40, a Presbyterian $7, a Congregationalist $10, a Catholic $15; an Episcopalian $18, a Reformed Dutch $22, and a Unitarian $23.

A highly interesting and important trial of Blanchard's steam boiler, was recently made at Portland, Maine, by a number of practical engineers. The result was a saving of fuel by Blanchard's invention, with the same distance and time, of over 50 per cent. The trial was made with the steam-tug Tiger, which had been fitted with his boilers.

Thirty-eight clerks in the N. Y. Custom-house, have just had their salaries increased in various sums, running from one hundred to four hundred dollars per annum—the aggregate increase being seven thousand dollars, which is therefore to be taken from the reduction in expenses made on the first of July.

Mr. Geo. R. H. Loffer is now completing a new iron steamer of the first class, to be placed on the line between Baltimore, Norfolk, Petersburg and Richmond. She is said to have been built with a view to speed, strength and safety, has three water tight bulkheads, and will reflect credit in every respect on the constructors.

The C. and O. canal is reported in perfect order from end to end. There appears to be a great deal of counterfeit paper money in circulation along the canal, principally on the Northwestern Bank of Virginia. The Board of Directors meet on Thursday next at Berkeley Springs.

The daughter of Joseph Charless recently assassinated at St. Louis, carrying out the intentions of her father, has given $20,000 to endow the Professorship of Physical Science in Westminister College, a Presbyterian Institution, located at Fulton, Missouri.

There are fifty-nine churches in the city of New Orleans; 40 Protestant and 19 Roman Catholic. Of the Protestant churches, 14 are Methodist, 9 Presbyterian, 8 Episcopal, and only 2 Baptist. Dr. Palmer's church, Presbyterian, cost $102,000.

The body of a young man was found in a field near St. Louis, on Wednesday morning last, stabbed in twenty places. He had evidently been robbed and murdered elsewhere, and the body conveyed afterwards where it was found.

Mr. Remus B. Coy, of Colebrook, Conn., while hoeing in his cornfield recently, turned out a bright, clear-cut, gold Louis d'or, coined in 1753—23 years previous to the Revolution.

The San Diego Herald says that General Wm. Walker has resigned fillibustering, and that he intends to unite his destinies with a lady of Lower California, who once saved his life. She is said to be abundantly rich.

Fresh Trouble in British India.

After having completely subdued the Sepoys and restored peace and order to that vast empire known as British India, the British government have another serious difficulty to encounter in the shape of mutiny in the ranks of their own troops. It appears that the troops of the East India Company—who, by the late act of Parliament abrogating the charter of the company, and transferring the supreme government of India to the Queen, have been incorporated into the Queen's service without being consulted—have objected to the transfer, and demanded the payment of fresh bounty, as if they had only just offered to enlist in her Majesty's service.

When the news of the first outbreak of this disaffection reached the Commander-in-chief, he caused a close examination to be made by the commanding officers of the different regiments, and when he received their reports was inclined to admit the justice of the soldiers' demands. He made known to them that he would communicate their complaints to the Governor General, and insisted that in the meantime discipline and obedience should be strictly enforced.—Lord Canning and the Judge Advocate General have decided that the soldiers have no right whatever to any additional bounty; that their oath of service to the East India Company, the *trustee* of the Crown, implies an oath of allegiance to the Crown itself, and that therefore there is no need of their re-enlistment or reattestation. The 56th clause of the new India bill is the basis of the Governor General's refusal. It provides that the civil and military servants of the East India Company should be transferred to the service of the Queen, and that her Majesty should immediately assume the same power and command over them as the company held. The home government has sustained the views entertained by the local government, and insists that a British subject once in the service of the State, under delegated authority, can be transferred under the direct authority of the Crown at any moment without his consent

The announcement of this refusal on the part of the government to grant their request, caused deep and almost general dissatisfaction among the East India Company's European troops, who remained faithful during the rebellion, and, under the command of Lawrence, Havelock, and Clyde, bore so glorious a part in the victories of Delhi, Lucknow, and Cawnpore. At Meerut, the artillery threatened to take away the guns and horses, and keep them until their "rights were conceded." With the exception of a few old soldiers, a whole regiment of infantry refused on parade to step to the front, and thus evince their readiness to serve the Queen. A cavalry regiment, to a man, refused to serve, and when ordered to their barracks, laughed at the order, and remained in line until it pleased themselves to retire.

Such was the state of affairs at the date of the last accounts. It was feared that the mutiny would become general among the troops, and that the exaggerated accounts of it which will be circulated among the natives of the recently-revolted provinces, may produce the worst and most dangerous consequences. Lord Clyde and several officers of distinction had repaired to the seat of the mutiny, to endeavor to persuade the soldiers that they are bound to serve Queen Victoria, and forego their claim to fresh bounty, to which Lord Clyde himself believed they were justly entitled. He has enjoined the mutineers to return to their duty, and has ordered a court of inquiry to be held, before which they may appear and speak for themselves, provided they make their submission, and trust to the justice and generosity of the government.—*Wash. Constitution.*

The Battle of Solferino.

When the details of the battle of Solferino are received they will certainly prove it to have been the most sanguinary engagement on record. There are two reasons for this conclusion, the first of which is found in the character of the information already received, and the second in the fact that four days after the battle, nothing like a connected report of the affair had been furnished from either camp. By a glance at the further despatch from Farther Point, which we publish to-day, the reader will at once perceive the force of the first of these reasons. The victors claim to have taken seven thousand prisoners, to have placed an immense number of Austrians *hors de combat*, to have seized flags and captured cannon innumerable, and this at a heavy loss to themselves of killed and wounded. The Austrians acknowledge their defeat, with extraordinary heavy losses, and their retreat under pressure of the Allied forces. The force of the second reason will appear on a little reflection. There can be no doubt that the Emperor Napoleon would be anxious to send to the Empress and his subjects the earliest and fullest information of so great an achievement as the defeat of the whole Austrian army. Nothing but an inability to do this can account for the Emperor's brief and unsatisfactory despatches, and that inability most probably arose from the terrible shock which his own army, as well as that of Austria, had recevied in the conflict, which called into requisition his utmost attention in order to reorganize it and place it in a position to retain what it had acquired as well as prepare it for new victories. While we have no account of French losses, &c., there can be no doubt that in a battle of such magnitude, and where the Austrians had so much at stake, even the victors must have suffered fearfully. *N. Y. Commercial.*

Explorations in the Northwest.

A steamer has been constructed during the present season, and is now running upon the Red River of the North. This river is navigable from the mouth of the Sioux Wood to Lake Winipeg, a distance of about 450 miles. It is the intention of the boat to ascend the rapids at the mouth of the Saskatchewan. If successful, there will probably be no difficulty in taking it to the very base of the Rocky Mountains. If the mountain passes be found practicable, an emigrant route over the continent, following the valley of this river, will be immediately opened.

In the month just closed, a Government steamer has ascended the Minnesota River 446 miles. With a slight improvement of the channel, we presume, it might have ascended to Big Stone Lake, the source of the river. At any rate, the explorations that have been made of the Minnesota and Red Rivers, indicate that in their valleys must be the great commercial avenue between the hydrographic basin of Lake Winipeg and Hudson's Bay and the United States. The necessary improvement of the rivers can be easily effected by a series of locks and dams.—*Railroad Journal.*

Another Railroad Accident.

Another sacrifice has been made to the insatiable Railroad Spirit—another catalogue of torn limbs, bruised bodies and wrecked effects added to our formidable list of "accidents." The Buffalo and New York Express train on the New York Central Road passed through Oneida on Thursday morning at a speed of forty miles an hour! When a short distance out of town it came to a place where new rails had just been carelessly and insufficently laid. The result was natural and simple enough. Three passenger cars were thrown off the track and down the embankment. The wreck was thorough. The people were dashed against each other and the sides and roofs of the cars. Hardly a person escaped greater or less injury, although mysteriously, nobody was killed. About forty passengers were bruised and battered.

The Last Scene of Washington's Life.

Irving's new life of Washington, in five volumes, has just been completed. In the fifth volume, after giving a succinct narrative of the Administration of Washington, his retirement from office, and his mode of life at Mount Vernon, Mr. Irving brings the work to a close with the following description of the finale scene:—

"Winter had now set in, with occasional wind, and rain, and frost, yet Washington still kept up his active round of indoor and outdoor avocations, as his diary records.—He was in full health and vigor, dined out occasionally, and had frequent guests at Mount Vernon, and as usual, was part of every day in the saddle, going the rounds of his estates, and, in his military phraseology, "visiting the outposts."

He had recently walked with his favorite nephew about the grounds, showing the improvements he intended to make, and had especially pointed out the spot where he purposed building a new family vault, the old one being damaged by the roots of trees which had overgrown it and caused it to leak. "This change," said he "I shall make the first of all, for I may require it before the rest."

"When I parted from him," added the nephew, "he stood on the steps of the front door, where he took leave of myself and another. It was a bright frosty morning; he had taken his usual ride, and the clear healthy flush on his cheek, and his sprightly manner, brought the remark from both of us that we had never seen the General look so well. I have sometimes thought him decidedly the handsomest man I ever saw, and when in a lively mood, so full of pleasantry, so agreeable to all with whom he associated, that I could hardly realize he was the same Washington whose dignity awed all who approached him."

For some time past, Washington had been occupied in digesting a complete system on which his estate was to be managed for several succeeding years; specifying the cultivation of the several farms, with tables designating the rotation of crops. It occupied thirty folio pages, and was executed with that clearness and method which characterized all his business papers. This was finished on the 10th of December, and was accompanied by a letter of that date to his manager or steward. It is a valuable document, showing the soundness and vigor of his intellect at this advanced stage of his existence, and the love of order that reigned throughout his affairs. "My greatest anxiety," said he on a previous occasion, "is to have all these concerns in such a clear and distinct form that no reproach may attach itself to me when I have taken my departure for the land of spirits."

It was evident, however, that, full of health and vigor, he looked forward to his long-cherished hope, the enjoyment of a serene old age in this home of his heart.

According to his diary, the morning on which these voluminous instructions to his steward were dated, was clear and calm, but the afternoon was lowering. The next day—11th, he notes there was wind and rain, and "at night a large circle round the moon."

The morning of the 12th was overcast.—That morning he wrote a letter to Hamilton, heartily approving of a plan for a military academy, which the latter had submitted to the Secretary of War.

About 10 o'clock he mounted his horse and rode out as usual to make the rounds of the estate. The ominous ring round the moon, which he had observed on the preceding night, proved a fatal portent. "About one o'clock," he notes, "it began to snow; soon after to hail, and then turned to a settled cold rain." Having on an overcoat, he continued his ride without regarding the weather, and did not return to his house till after 3.

His secretary approached him with letters to be franked that they might be taken to the post office in the evening. Washington franked the letters, but observed that the weather was too bad to send a servant out with them. Mr. Lear perceived that snow was hanging from his hair, and expressed his fears that he had got wet; but he replied "No, his great coat had kept him dry." At dinner had been waiting for him, he sat down to the table without changing his dress. "In the evening," writes his secretary, he appeared as well as usual."

On the following morning the snow was three inches deep, and still falling, which prevented him from taking his usual ride.—He complained of a sore throat, and had evidently taken cold the day before. In the afternoon the weather cleared up, and he went out on the grounds between the house and the river, to mark some trees which were to be cut down. A hoarseness which had hung about him through the day, grew worse toward night, but he made light of it.

He was very cheerful in the evening, as he sat in the parlor with Mrs. Washington and Mr. Lear, amusing himself with the papers which had been brought from the post office. When he met with anything interesting or entertaining, he would read it aloud, as well as his hoarseness would permit, or he listened and made occasional comments while Mr. Lear read the debates of the Virginia Assembly.

On retiring to bed Mr. Lear suggested that he should take something to relieve his cold. "No," replied he; "you know I never take anything for a cold. Let it go as it came."

In the night he was extremely ill with ague and difficulty of breathing. Between two and three o'clock in the morning he awoke Mrs. Washington, who would have risen to call a servant, but he would not permit her, lest she should take cold. At daybreak, when the servant woman entered to make a fire, she was sent to call Mr. Lear. He found the general breathing with difficulty and hardly able to utter a word intelligibly.—Washington desired that Dr. Craik, who lived in Alexandria, should be sent for, and that in the meantime Rawlins, one of the overseers, should be summoned to bleed him before the Doctor could arrive.

A gargle was prepared for his throat, but whenever he attempted to swallow any of it, he was convulsed and almost suffocated.—Rawlins made his appearence soon after sunrise, but when the General's arm was ready for the operation, he became agitated. "Don't be afraid," said the General, as well as he could speak. Rawlins made an incision. "The orifice is not large enough "said Washington. The blood, however, ran pretty freely, and Mrs. Washington, uncertain whether the treatment was proper, and fearful that too much blood might be taken, begged Mr. Lear to stop it. When he was about to untie the string the General put up his hand to prevent him, and as soon as he could speak, murmered, "more, more," but Mrs. Washington's doubts prevailed and the bleeding was stopped, after about half a pint of blood had been taken. External applications were now made to the throat, and his feet were bathed in warm water, but without affording any relief.

His old friend, Dr. Craik, arrived between eight and nine, and two other physicians, Drs. Dick and Brown, were called in. Various remedies were tried, and additional bleeding, but all of no avail.

"About half-past four o'clock" writes Mr. Lear "he desired me to call Mrs. Washington to his bed side, when he requested her to go down into his room, and take from his desk two wills which she would find there, and bring them to him, which she did. Upon looking at them, he gave her one, which he observed was useless, as being superseded by the other, and desired her to burn it, which she did and took the other and put it in her closet.

"After this was done, I returned to his bedside and took his hand. He said to me 'I find I am going: my breath cannot last long. I believed from the first that the disorder would prove fatal. Do you arrange all my military letters and papers. Arrange my accounts and settle my books, as you know more about them than any one else, and let Mr. Rawlins finish recording my other letters which he has begun.' I told him this would be done. He then asked me if I recollected anything which it was essential for him to do, as he had a very short time to continue with us. I told him that I could recollect nothing; but that I hoped he was not so near his end. He observed, smiling, that he certainly was, and that as it was the debt which we must all pay, he looked to the event with perfect resignation."

In the course of the afternoon he appeared to be in great pain and distress from the difficulty of breathing, and frequently changed his posture in the bed. Mr. Lear endeavored to raise him and turn him with as much ease as possible. "I am afraid I fatigue you too much," the General would say. Upon being assured to the contrary, "Well," observed he, gratefully," "it is a debt we must pay to each other, and I hope when you want aid of this kind you will find it."

His servant, Christopher, had been in the room during the day, and almost the whole time on his feet. The General noticed it in the afternoon, and kindly told him to sit down.

About five o'clock, his old friend, Dr. Craik, came again into the room and approached the bedside. "Doctor," said the General, "I die hard, but I am not afraid to go. I believed, from my first attack, that I should not survive it—my breath cannot last long."—The doctor pressed his hand in silence, retired from the bedside and sat by the fire absorbed in grief.

Between five and six the other physicians came in, and he was assisted to set up in his bed. "I feel I am going," said he. "I thank you for your attention, but I pray you to take no more trouble about me; let me go off quietly; I cannot last long." He lay down again; all retired except Dr. Craik. The General continued uneasy and restless, but without complaining, frequently asking what hour it was.

Further remedies were tried, without avail, in the evening. He took whatever was offered him, did as he was desired by the physicians, and never uttered a sigh or complaint.

"About ten o'clock," writes Mr. Lear, "he made several attempts to speak to me before he could effect it. At length he said, "I am going. Have me decently buried, and do not let my body be put into the vault in less than three days after I am dead." I bowed assent, for I could not speak. He then looked at me again and said, "Do you understand me?" I replied, "Yes." "'Tis well," said he.

"About ten minutes before he expired (which was between ten and eleven o'clock on the night of December 14, 1799,) his breathing became easier. He lay quietly; he withdrew his hand from mine, and felt his own pulse. I saw his countenance change. I spoke to Dr. Craik, who sat by the fire. He came to the bedside. The General's hand fell from his wrist. I took it in mine and pressed it to my bosom. Dr. Craik put his hand over his eyes, and he expired without a struggle or a sigh.

"While we were fixed in silent grief, Mrs. Washington, who was seated at the foot of the bed, asked with a firm and collected voice, 'Is he gone?' I could not speak, but held up my hand as a signal that he was no more. "'Tis well" said she, in the same voice, 'All is now over; I shall soon follow him: I have no more trials to pass through.'"

Death from the Bite of a Rattlesnake.

Mr. Jas. Wright, an old citizen of Cincinnati, but who moved to Vanceburg (Ky.) last August, for the purpose of devoting his attention to getting out timber for the manufacturing spokes and hubs, which he has been importing largely into this market, was engaged at his usual avocation in the woods, about four miles from that place, on the forenoon of the 4th instant, when, in turning over a log, a rattlesnake suddenly sprung at him and stuck its fangs into the back of his hand. Alarmed at the probable consequences, he immediately started for the town, and ran the entire distance. The heat, fatigue, and excitement of course allowed the poison to circulate through his system and make sure of its deadly work. By the time he reached Vanceburg he was entirely blind, and his body and head were covered with spots of the same color of those of the rattlesnake.—The usual remedies were immediately resorted to, and every effort made by the attendant physicans to neutralize the posion, but without effect. He continued to sink rapidly, and expired between 3 and 4 o'clock next morning. In preparing the body to be laid out a singular phenomenon presented itself. In addition to the spots referred to, there was a picture of the snake itself—perfect in shape and color, and as distinct as if daguerreotyped there—extending from the point on his hand where the fangs had struck up the arm to the shoulder and then down the side to the groin. To the truth of this, our informant assures us not only himself but some four or five other citizens who saw it can positively testify.—*Cincinnati Gazette.*

An Expected Wedding.

The New York correspondent of the Boston Journal says:—"Of all the weddings that New York has seen this century, the one that comes off on the 14th of July, excites the greatest interest. The bridegroom is a Spanish gentleman of the ripe age of 60 years, small and light of frame, but heavy in gold. His wealth is said to be fabulous. The bride is a young damsel, poor in purse, but of marvelous personal attractions. She is quite young, of queenly form, and of a majestic elegance that commands the attention of all who pass her in the street. The stories told of the preparations, dresses and bridal presents, are astounding. Her bridal veil cost one thousand dollars; the bridal jewels one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Tiffany is making the bridal wreath. None of your hot-house plants will adorn the brow of the young bride! But the wreath is of gold, and adorned with jewelry of great value. The said bridegroom will call in the aid of all that is gorgeous in his church, to add to the magnificence of the wedding.

Sale of the Collins Steamers.

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company on Friday completed the purchase of the Collins steamers, viz: the Adriatic, Baltic and Atlantic. It is the intention of the Company to run these boats, on the completion of their contract with M. O. Roberts, September 30, 1859, to Aspinwall, via Panama Railroad, in connection with their line on the Pacific. It is understood that uniform passages of eighteen days will be made from New York to San Francisco. The Collins steamers have large freight capacity—say from eight hundred to one thousand tons, and facilities long needed by shippers to California, will be supplied by the purchase of these boats for the Atlantic service, and must add largely to the business of the Panama Railroad.

Captain Henri A. De Riviere, whose victories in love are more accredited than his achievements in war, was ignominiously sold out in Jersey City, on Friday, by order of the Hudson County Court. Daguerreotyes, saddle, bridle, sheath, even the sword which is said to have led invincible Zouaves in many charges at Sebastopol, were struck off with a hammer to pay charges in which his part is unquestioned. Even the coat, breeches, and spurs of the gallant captain shared the same fate; and the precious relics of his conquests in the service of Venus and Mars, went for the pitiful sum of $50.

The late Balloon Voyage.

Mr. Wise writes to the N. Y. Tribune in regard to his balloon voyage, and among other things says:—

"I say there is a current of air blowing from West to East continually, and this current runs never less than fifty miles an hour; oftener sixty, seventy and eighty. Prof. Henry thinks it is the return current of the trade winds. As we ascend higher in the current it runs faster, until we find it changing a little South of east. The lower current, near the earth, runs toward the North of East.—I have found these currents at all times of the year from the 1st of April to the 12th of December. In my correspondence with Chas. Green of London, a scientific æronaut of much experience, I learn from him that these currents exist likewise in Europe. From my experience of finding them thirty-nine times out of forty trials, I contend that regular and precise voyages can be made from West to East, and to places fifteen and twenty degrees North of East from the point of starting. Why, then, it is asked, did we not sail to the city of New York and deliver our express bag? It is a very rational enquiry, and deserves a rational explanation.

"It could have been done, and should have been done. The reason why it was not done is this:—Some of our party did not provide themselves with extra clothing. Immediately after leaving St. Louis, I took the balloon to an altitude at which she was making due East. In this current we sailed until some of my companions shivered with the cold, so that the balloon quivered with the tremor. Mr. La Mountain had taken no extra clothing, and the other two were not fully provided for the change of temperature. I had on two under shirts, woolen drawers, cloth coat, cassimere pants, and when over these I had two woolen blankets, the expostulations of my companions to come down into a more congenial temperature could not be unheeded. I admonished them, however, of our advertisement to sail for New York; but in response was told that if we got into the state, the programme would be fulfilled. I also told them that the lower current would take us on the lakes, as it was coming from the Southwest; but to this it was answered that we could cross the lakes if we had ballast enough when we get to them.

We finally agreed upon that plan, and to make the voyage one of distance and experiments. One experiment was to try and sail near the earth or water. We did sail one hundred and seventy miles down—over Lake Erie, and at no time over 900 feet above the water. This showed that balloons have no greater tendency to water than to earth. Many æronauts have stated that balloons will not keep up over the water.

You refer to my silence as to the propelling machinery. That I had not devised nor recommended, and I had no faith in its efficiency from the beginning, as Mr. Gager and La Mountain well know. They never made an attempt to try it. It was thought to endanger the balloon while hitching on the car and boat, and was thus ungeared, and I well knew then that they would not attempt to screw on the fans when we were aloft, unless they would incur a danger as great as that incurred by Thurston, when he attempted an unnecessary feat in straddling his valve plate. Propellers upon the ordinary rigged balloon will do no good, for this reason: The car or platform upon which the propellers are to be worked, is not substantially fixed to the balloon. Hanging by ropes from the balloon, it only serves to wabble it about, and at best to give it a rotary and gyrating motion. I tried it fourteen years ago. With an equatorial hoop around the balloon, with wooden braces to the car which would give stability and unity, something may be done with propellers and rudder. You will thus see that I have not failed on that point, as the machinery was none of my contrivance. My purpose was simply to make a long voyage from West to East, and in that voyage learn what may be done systematically with balloons.

I am convinced that we can go from St. Louis to Baltimore, Philadelphia, and New York city, in balloons, with system and precision. I hold, and am ready to demonstrate it, as soon as I can raise six thousand dollars, that we can sail from New York to Great Britain with system and precision. This we can do with our present knowledge of ballooning. All I ask is a fair chance—a little more experience—one, two, or three more trans-continental trips.

More Wonderful than the Mammoth Cave.

Dr. D. L. Talbot in commencing a series of articles for the Fort Wayne Times, in regard to the Wyandotte Cave, makes the following comparison between the Wyandotte and Mammoth Caves: Wyandotte Cave, one of the most extensive and remarkable in the world, is situated in Crawford co., Indiana, about twenty-five miles below New Albany, on Blue river. I have called it a remarkable cave. The Mammoth Cave of Kentucky has hitherto been designated as the greatest known cave in the world. It may startle your scientific readers to hear me assert the fact, that there is one stalagmite alone in Wyandotte Cave more massive than all the stalagmites and stalactites in Mammoth Cave put together. This cave I have surveyed and mapped a distance of twenty miles in length and there are numerous avenues. I have never penetrated to their end, although I have visited the cave for scientific and other purposes, over a dozen different times, spending on one visit four days and nights within its darksome halls. The Mammoth Cave is distinguished more for its vastness than its beauty; the Wyandotte for its great extent, its mammoth hall, its lofty ceilings, reaching frequently to the height of 267 feet, and especially for its numerous and beautiful natural fountains, which almost continually meet the eye in every direction. A portion of this cave has been known and visited for over forty years. This portion is about three miles in length, and is termed the Old Cave. In 1850, a new door from within the old cave was discovered, which extended the caves united, to about twelve miles in extent.—In 1853 a still newer discovery of ingress was accidentally made, which has added eight or ten miles thereto, and disclosed a plan of formation more extensive and more beautiful than any heretofore known. This cave contains every kind of formation peculiar to the Mammoth and other caves, besides some very peculiar and unique formations found only in Wyandotte Cave.

A Strange Story.

The following story is from the Troy Budget:—"We have for some time been cognizant of a persistent piece of cruelty towards a lady of the first respectability in this city, and whom we hope ere now to find relieved by the interference of friends. It appears that her husband, in a fit of jealousy, something more than a year ago procured a cage complete of iron, into which he compelled his wife to enter, and although it is impossible for her to stand erect within it, she is never permitted to leave it except at night. The social position of the parties is such that we are persuaded not to mention names at present, but shall not fail to do so within a day or two, unless in the meantime, we find the lady quietly relieved."

Patents have recently been awarded to John J. Rollow, of Fredericksburg, for improvement in rotary pumps; assignor to Charles C. Wellford, of the same place, for improvement in threshing machines; Geo. C. Wheeler, of Graysville, Ga., assignor to himself and George Calvert, of Upperville, Va., for improved machine for washing and amalgamating gold.

The 4th of July, at Brandy, Culpeper County.

The officers of the day were, Henry Shackelford, President; John W. Bell, Dr. P. C. Slaughter, and J. S. Barbour, jr., Vice Presidents. Col. Wm. B. Ross, Chief Marshal, and Jas. A. Beckham, John H. Rixey, and Dr. J. P. Thom, assistant Marshals.

After dinner was over, Mr. Shackelford, in a brief but eloquent speech, introduced the reading of the toasts.

REGULAR TOASTS.—1. Our mother country:—We glory in the stripes of her flag.—We spurn the thought of stripes for her sons.

2. Our country:—May no sectional animosities, or geographical distinctions, ever disturb the current of her prosperity and glory.

3. The memory of Washington.

4. The memory of Patrick Henry:—The bright morning star who sang his anthem at the dawn of American Independence.

5. The States, and the Union of the States; "Distinct as the billows, yet one as the sea."

6. Nationality and State Rights:—Observe the one and preserve the other, and the predictions of Kings and Nobles will never be verified.

7. Edmund Pendelton, Richard H. Lee, Richard Bland, George Wythe, and George Mason, of Gunston Hall: the Parliamentary leader, the accomplished Advocate, the Virginia Antiquary, the Lawyer and Jurisconsult and the Statesman of the Revolution, more lasting than brass, they will ever stand the stubborn and immovable barriers against wrong and false government.

When this toast was read, John S. Pendleton, esq., was called up, and responded in a few, but pertinent remarks, alluding to the distinguished services of the great men alluded to.

8. The memory of the Minute Men of Culpeper.

When this toast was announced, Jas. Barbour was called up, and, in turn, called upon Henry W Thomas, of Fairfax, to respond, which he did, in a speech replete with patriotic sentiments, eloquently expressed. His allusion to the "Minute Men," was appropriate and feeling.

9. The President of the United States.

10. The Governor of Virginia.

11. The Army and Navy, sure defences in the hour of peril.

12. The Ship of State:—With experience at her helm, valor at her prow, and Union for her pole star, may she sweep proudly over the breakers, and laugh the tempest to scorn.

13. Woman:—Ever foremost in the work of charity—always ministering to the sick—lingering longest at the cross, speeding earliest to the sepulchre. She never erred but once, and had the offence been committed at a later period of the world's history, after 4,000 years of bright and lovely deeds, the accusing spirit had carried the record to Heaven's chancery in vain.

The latter toast was received with immense applause, and Wm. H. Dulaney, of Fairfax, was called upon to respond; but he declined, in a few remarks, saying that he could not speak about the ladies in their absence. They ought to have been invited.

J. Horace Lacy, Orator of the day, was called up, and responded in a happily conceived speech, complaining, also of the absence of the ladies. J. S. Barbour, the Chairman of the Committee, replied in an amusing strain.

VOLUNTEER TOASTS.—A guest proposed the memory of James Madison, who was indebted to Culpeper for his first seat in Congress. John Willis, of Orange, responded, and said he was proud to speak of the great man of his county—a great man of the age. His country had erected no monument to his memory, but his old neighbors, and their sons, had placed a simple Obelisk over his grave—so characteristic of the man—and inscribed upon it the single word "MADISON." That was all the eulogy he needed. Mr. Willis's remarks were beautifully appropriate.

One of the company then proposed Hon. Samuel Chilton, of Washington city. Washington might be his place of residence, but Virginia claims him for her own. Mr. Chilton responded in a speech of some length, paying a hearty tribute to the land of his nativity, and to the memory of his old associates, many of who are now no more. His account of a recent visit to the "Minute Oak" was touching and eloquent. He urged that a portrait of Philip Slaughter, one of the Minute Men, should grace the Court House of the county.

Daniel F. Slaughter proposed Inman Horner, of Fauquier, who responded, in a short speech, making some happy allusions to his old acquaintances and friends in Culpeper, where he had, in his early life been so liberally encouraged, and so kindly treated.

By Col. Wm. B. Ross:—The Spirits. The Spirit of '76, the Spirit of '98, and the Spirit of '59—*Sic Semper Tyrannis.* Wm. D. Wallach, editor of the Washington Star, was called out, and responded in an eloquent speech.

By Henry Shackelford:—The Press, next to the pulpit the great light of the world.—H. M. Garland, jr., editor of the Blue-Ridge Republican, was called up, and responded in an appropriate and eloquent manner.

John Gibson, of Orange, proposed Major Zeph. Turner, of Rappahannock, who responded in a few well-timed remarks.

J. S. Barbour proposed the health of Col. J. B. Dade, "true type of the old Virginia gentleman," which was warmly responded to by the company.

James Barbour was called for, but declined speaking, saying he had come to listen to the speeches of the gentlemen from a distance, and not to make one.

Charles B. Hood then proposed Col. J. F. Strother, who, however, had left the ground, and did not respond.

Sent by a lady:—The Soldiers of the Revolution. Their deeds of heroism are as familiar as household words.

"They fell devoted, but undying,
The very gale their names seem sighing;
The meanest rill, the mightiest river,
Rolls mingled with their fame forever."

By John W. Bell:—May the Maine liquor law never lay its restricting hand on the *Brandy* which has been the *scene* not the *cause* of our festivities.

By H. M. Garland, jr.:—The people of the United States. Whatever differences may divide them, on questions of public policy, in love of liberty, and in sympathy for the oppressed in other lands, they have but one mind and one heart.

By J. O. Harris:—Thomas Jefferson:—The author of the Declaration of American Independence, the bill for religious liberty, and the founder of the University of Virginia.

By Dr. C. R. Harris:—Henry A. Wise, the Governor of the old Dominion. A bold and fearless patriot and a Statesman. The highest honor in the gift of the American people awaits him.

By H. D. Luckett:—Our civil and religious liberties; may they be perpetuated to the latest generation.

By G. S. Ficklin:—Andrew Jackson, the hero of the battle of New Orleans, whose name is embalmed in the hearts of his grateful and admiring countrymen.

By H W. Thomas:—The Elective Franchise. Upon its purity depends the blessings of our Union and its civil liberty. Let not freemen be intimidated in its exercise by the threats of partisans, or awed by executive intimidation.

By H. M. Garland, jr:—Hon. John Letcher, Governor elect of Virginia. A speedy regeneration to his wonted health.

By R. C. Brown:—The Minute Men of Culpeper, may their memories be sacred, their example be imitated, and their virtues emulated by their descendants.

By J. C. E. Lawrence:—I propose the Memory of Capt. Philip Slaughter, one of the heroes of the Revolution—and one of the Minute Men of Culpeper. Drank standing and in silence.

By John P. Williams:—Col. William B. Ross, the Beckhams, and the Barbours, fit representatives of Old Virginia hospitality.

By Wm. H. Dulany:—Jas Barbour, one of the pioneers of Virginia Improvement.—All who are in favor of the progress of their native State, will unite to do him honor.

By John S. Barbour:—Virginia. Her resent material and improvement, exhibit in striking colors, the extent of her originality, capacity, and the possession of all the great natural resources which constitute national wealth and power.

By John W. Bell:—Henry A. Wise, Governor of Virginia. The Patriot and gifted Statesman. In fulfilling his schemes for the developement of the great natural resources of our native State, we make ourselves and our children his heirs and distributors.

By John S. Barbour:—The intervention of Congress upon the question of Slavery in the Territories. The exercise of the power has heretofore always operated against the South. If again invoked, with an increased representation from the Free States, is there anything to promise more hopeful results in the future?

G. S. Ward:—The late John S. Barbour. By his talents, fitted to adorn the highest stations—by his virtues, endeared to the hearts of all who knew him. We with pride cherish the recollection both of his talents and virtues.

Letters were received from the gentlemen named below, who, being unable to attend, sent their acknowledgements, with the following toasts:

J. T. Harris:—The Union of the States. Based upon the Federal Constitution, strictly construed.

Robt. A. Banks:—The memory of the patriots and heroes of 1776, and of the war of the Revolution, will ever be revered by a free and enlightened country.

B. E. Harrison:—Intervention:—To the full extent of our Federal Constitution and to the abolishment of all the unconstitutional acts and useless compromises made by the Congress of the United States.

Shelton F. Leake:—The Declaration of Independence:—It secured the *independence* of the *States*—not the *sovereignty* of the *Federal Government.*

Charles Mason:—The Democratic Party. Temporary triumphs may follow expedience but permanent success can only be attained by a rigid adherence to principle.

Invitations were sent to Gov. Wise, and Hon. John Letcher, but were received too late for them to send a toast.—*Blue Ridge Republican.*

"Grand Reception by the Ladies of Luray, Page County, Va., to William R. Barbee, the American Sculptor," July 4, 1859.

The reception took place at the Court House in Luray, which was decorated in the most tasteful and appropriate manner. Every part of the capacious hall was encircled with running festoons of cedars, interspersed with the gayest and most beautiful flowers, arranged by the fairy fingers of the fairest of our land. Placed on the rear wall of the building, were the words "*Welcome*," emblematical truly of what a thousand tongues would have expressed, had they given vent to their expressions: on either side of this beautiful and appropriate word, were the mottoes: "*Honor to whom Honor is due*" and "*Be his the Palm who Merits it;*" in the centre of the building, facing the seat of the distinguished sculptor, encircled in a tastefully arranged star, was the expressive word "*Art.*" The welcoming address was delivered by Dr. G. W. Rust, and during the whole course of my life, I never heard such a refined and chaste oratorical effort as fell from the lips of that gentleman; it seemed as though his very soul shone out in all its brilliancy, and, with tears in his eyes, he welcomed him, in the name of the ladies and gentlemen, in such a manner, that the old hall reverberated with rounds of applause such as made the building shake from dome to foundation. He did very high credit to himself, and reflected honor upon the ladies who had designated him to represent them. After concluding the welcome, the band struck up a lively and most appropriate air.

Mr. Barbee then arose to reply, and gave vent to his feelings of emotion and gratitude in language of the most expressive character. He spoke at some length, and recited the many interesting incidents connected with his progress in the world of Art; the audience were affected to tears by the touching scenes recounted, and testified their appreciation by showers of boquets—his reply was in good taste, and highly creditable indeed. After some fine music by the band, Addison Borst, esq., came before the audience, in behalf of the ladies, and recited a most beautiful piece of poetry, appropriate to the occasion, composed by himself. It reflected great credit on him, and was received with round after round of applause. I would like to insert it, but time nor space will not permit. Mr. Barbee replied in a most feeling and eloquent manner. At the conclusion of each address, the band would discourse some of its sweetest strains. Captain McPherson was then called for, and responded most cheerfully, paying high and well deserved tribute to the worth of his friend. He was followed by a few well selected words from Jacob Baker. Maj. P. Borst then took the stand. This gentleman was associated with Mr. B. at the Bar, former times; he knew him from childhood, and compliment after compliment did he