Alexandria Gazette AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER

SIC SEMPER TYRANNIS

PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 15, 1859.

It is said that by the arrangements recently made by Gen. Scott, with the British authorities, relative to the island of San Juan, all of Gen. Harney's "army of occupation" that recently held possession of San Juan, has been withdrawn, with the exception of one small company, under Captain Hunt, which remains to protect the American settlers on the island from the outrages of the Indians; and this force remains, after a full understanding with the English local authorities that they represent no pretension to exclusive rights to the island, but are merely there to look after American interests, conceding to the English the same right to come there to protect their rights. Thus, although no British troops were actually on the ground, the occupation of San Juan, when Gen. Scott left, was virtually a joint one—both parties, for the time being, to respect mutually the claim of the other to be there. It is further said, that Gen. Scott does not question the paramount nature of the *title* of the American Government to the island of San Juan. If left to fair arbitration, there is little doubt but we will get it. But the action of Harney in taking armed possession of the island and claiming exclusive title to it in the manner he did, General Scott seems to think was wrong in itself, and not to be sustained by our government, especially in view of the undertaking by Mr. Marcy, that neither party should pretend to exclusive jurisdiction upon the disputed territory, while the title was still unsettled and the boundary line undefined.

The arrival of Lieutenant General Winfield Scott at New York, from San Juan, bearing the news of the temporary settlement of the disputed island question, has been announced. He was accompanied by Col. Lay, Col. Thomas, and Dr. Crane, all of the United States army. The two former were sent immediately to Washington, as bearers of dispatches to President Buchanan, containing a full statement of the terms of the settlement of the San Juan imbroglio. General Scott's arrival was entirely unexpected, and therefore the citizens of New York were precluded from giving him a handsome reception. The Times says:—"Some fears were entertained that the infirmity of years would render the journey too wearisome for his strength, but the result is happily different. Gen. Scott states that since he left New York on the 20th of last September, he has traveled 13,000 miles. So far from impairing his health, the constant changes have been of decided benefit, and he says he was never more robust and vigorous than he is at present."

Prof. Baden Powell, of the University of Oxford, in England, a clergyman of the Church of England—and how he can be one, we cannot conceive—has lately written a work, infidel in its tendency, if its *transcendental* theology could ever make it popular enough to be read generally, so as to influence the public mind. His ideas about miracles, and revelation generally, seem akin to those held by all who would take away the Scriptures as the ground of faith among all Christian people. This work, we observe, has been most ably reviewed, and its "arguments" *pulverized*, both in the Quarterly and North British Reviews. The article in the Quarterly, especially, displays not only logical acumen, and powerful reasoning, but contains one of the most e' quent tributes to the Christian religion we ever read. By the way, the papers in the Westminster Review, of a deistical, if not of an atheistical cast, though sometimes subtle and ingenious, are far surpassed in all that relates to reason, argument, common sense, and classical composition, by the theological articles in the Quarterly and North British. The Edinburg Review, also, has, occasionally, sound and able articles on general religious subjects.

There will be, and need to be, no petty local jealousies between the cities of Virginia, in case *direct trade* be established with the European ports. If the markets of Richmond, Norfolk, Petersburg, and Alexandria contain the goods, let the merchants of Virginia, and the people of Virginia, buy them from the *importers* at those cities, without going to the North at all. But, above all, establish MANUFACTORIES. This is what we want, first and foremost. Materials good enough for the dresses of our ladies, and clothing good enough for our men, can be manufactured, sold, and bought within the limits of the State already. Let the men set the example in buying and wearing Virginia Cloth and Virginia Cotton manufactured goods. If Richmond or Petersburg, make by the operation, we shall rejoice.—If Alexandria makes by it, we doubt not but that we shall have a welcome well done! from our sister cities. We shall rejoice to see all of our own State cities prosper from the trade of our own people. Let us look *at home* first.

We have received the December number of the Southern Planter. It contains, among other valuable matter, an able essay on "Slavery and free labor compared." Farmers will find many articles of interest to them in the present number of the Planter.

"Republicans" have been elected at the recent municipal elections in Lowell, Newburyport, and Worcester, Massachusetts.

The telegraph line on the California mail route, is now completed to Malloy's station, two hundred and eighty miles from St. Louis.

It is generally thought that the speech of Mr. Sickles, in the House of Representatives, on Tuesday, need not have been delivered.

☞ In a notice of the health of Mayor Swann, of Baltimore, in yesterday's Gazette, for "impaired," read improved.

The military organization at Charlestown is as complete as it was at the time of the execution of Brown. Sentinels are to be posted on all the street corners, and roads leading from the town, with instructions to let no one pass without the countersign, unless he be personally known. The jail is now guarded on the outside by two sentinels, who have instructions to keep the sidewalk clear. The various barracks are as carefully guarded as if in the midst of war, and vigilant guards are prompt in preventing a stranger from peeping in. There are at the present time on duty, some eighteen companies, from different sections of the State, and the number of men may be recorded at not less than nine hundred. The force by the day of execution, (to-morrow,) will amount to 1,200.

A letter from New York in the National Intelligencer says:—"The result of the late election for Mayor is viewed in very different lights by the calculating politicians of the day. One set consider it an evidence that nationality will prevail over sectionalism, whilst another considers it as proving nothing at all. Certain it is that the Democracy are at present in a state of disorganization, and the probability is that two sets of delegates will be sent to the Charleston Convention. Immense sums of money were spent by the friends of all the candidates."

We learn from the Richmond Enquirer of Monday last, that the *entire expense* of Gen. Taliaferro's command at Charlestown, according to a liberal calculation, up to the sixteenth instant, including the expenses previously incurred under Col. Gibson's and Col. Davis' respective commands, will hardly exceed the amount recently appropriated by the Legislature of South Carolina for the purchase of new arms and ammunition in that State, in view of the present state of Federal relations.

In Daniel Webster's famous "letter to John Taylor," written eight years ago, he said:—"You have no more right to say that slavery ought not to exist in Virginia, than a Virginian has to say that slavery ought to exist in New Hampshire. This is a question left to every State to decide for itself; and if we mean to keep the States together, we must leave to every State this power of deciding for itself."

The Virginia Index says:—"The death of Mr. William Jenkins, father of the member of Congress from the Cabell district, is announced in one of our exchanges. Mr. Jenkins was a native of Rockbridge, but had resided in Cabell county for more than thirty years previous to his death. He was the proprietor of the "Green Bottom" estate, the most extensive and desirable on the Ohio river. He married a sister of the late Gov. McNutt of Mississppi.

Ellen Moore, a free colored woman, was examined before the County Court of Shenandoah, on Monday last, upon the charge of having destroyed her own offspring, in October last; but as there was no postive proof that the dead infant found, and to which reference was made several weeks ago, was her child, she was discharged.

An Episcopal Church is to be erected at the White Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier County, Virginia.

Letter from Clarke County.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

WHITE POST, Dec. 13.—Since the hanging of Brown every thing in the County has become quite calm again, and the people appear almost to have forgotten that on Friday the remainder of the conspirators, rebels, and murderers, have to atone with their lives for their crimes. No more difficulty or disturbance is apprehended; and it is likely that the sentence of the law will be executed in perfect order and quietness.

The weather here has been cold for the last few days, and some have commenced filling their ice houses.

The Clarke County Cavalry paraded at Berryville, on Saturday last, for the first time, under that excellent officer and public spirited gentleman, Major Hugh M. Nelson.

I rejoice to see the number of your subscribers steadily increasing at this Post Office, and that general approbation is given to the Gazette. Your list now is highly encouraging, and it will continue to increase not only at this office, but throughout the county. Yours. M.

AMERICAN SUIT IN A BRITISH COURT.—A case which perhaps will interest commercial readers, was tried in Hamilton, Bermuda, on the 22d ult. It was an attachment suit, brought by Joseph C. Yates, of the firm of Joseph C. Yates & Co., Baltimore, against Alexander E. Outerbridge, of the firm of Outerbridge, Harvey, & Co., Philadelphia. The circumstances of the case are as follows:

The firm of Outerbridge, Harvey & Co., suspended payment some time in February, 1858; and afterwards came to an arrangement with their creditors—Joseph C. Yates & Co., excepted, who refused to join in the arrangement—to convey to them all their property. On the 22d April, 1858, Outerbridge, Harvey, & Co., executed a deed conveying to trustees, for the benefit of such creditors as had come into the arrangement, all their property, included in which was the brigantine Ella Reed. On the 24th of April (two days after) the brigantine Ella Reed put into Bermuda, when on a voyage from Liverpool to Philadelphia, to obtain provisions and water; and on the 26th she was seized by the Provost Marshal General, under a writ of attachment at the suit of Joseph C. Yates, & Co., Mr. Yates happening to be resident in Bermuda at the time. After being detained for about six weeks, the Ella Reed was released on a bond being given to the Marshal by the agents of the vessel. The case was brought on for trial last week, and resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff.

A RAILROAD LUXURY.—A sleeping car leaves Philadelphia every night at 11 o'clock and comes through to Washington. It is taken across the Susquehanna on the ferry boat and passes through Baltimore without disturbing the sleepers, who arrive in Washington at 6 o'clock in the morning. The car contains 48 mattresses, arranged longitudinally in two tiers, like the berths on a steamboat. The car is also supplied with stoves at each end and a water closet. Adjustable ventilators are placed on each side of the car to admit fresh air. A curtain, placed in the middle of the car, divides the ladies' apartment from the gentleman's. A special conductor accompanies the car, who attends to the wants of the passengers, their baggage, &c.

TO DESTROY THE APPETITE FOR TOBACCO.—A clergyman says that he cured his appetite for tobacco in the following manner:

"I had a deep well of very cold water, and whenever the evil appetite craved indulgence I resorted immediately to fresh drawn water. Of this I drank what I desired, and then continued holding water in my mouth, throwing out and taking in successive mouthfuls until the craving ceased. By a faithful adherence to this practise for about a month, I was cured. I loathe the use of the weed in every form, far more than I did before I contracted habits of indulgence."

News of the Day.

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

Though the excitement will not be near as great as when John Brown was hung, yet a considerable demonstration will be made in New York, to-morrow, when Cook and his associates are executed. There will be an all day prayer meeting at the Church of the Puritans, and special services at the African Church in Worth street. Besides which there will be a proposition to have a meeting at the Cooper Institute.

A man named Meyers, keeper of a disrespectable house near Scranton Pa., has been shot and instantly killed by a man named Bob Shay, a bartender of Bloom's restaurant. It appears that Shay had been hunting, and, entering the house was ordered out by Meyers, who seized an axe to drive him out; whereupon Shay fired upon him, carrying away the back part of his head.

Princeton College, New Jersey, in the Senate of the United States is well represented. Vice President Breckenridge, Hon. Mr. Iverson, of Georgia, the Hon. Mr. Chestnut, of South Carolina, the Hon. Mr. Pearce, of Maryland, the Hon. Mr. Bayard, of Delaware, and the Hon. Mr. Thompson, of New Jersey, received their education at this college.

Captain Pike, of the ship Mameluke, arrived from Manilla, reports that on the 9th August, at 7.30 P. M., in lat. 12 52 N. long. 119 45 East, felt two distinct shocks of an earthquake. The weather was calm and clear, and no unusual phenomena accompanied the shocks; got a cast of the lead, but found no bottom at 25 fathoms.

The French troops stationed at Tahiti, according to advices thence to August 8, had been sent to the island of New Caledonia, to repress a revolt of the cannibals who inhabit there. The war was reported to be fierce and undecided; the cannibals subsisting on the bodies of slaughtered Frenchmen, and the Frenchmen giving no quarter.

The Senate of Alabama has refused by a vote of 18 to 14 to concur in a resolution of the House to go into the election of a United States Senator. This is regarded by the Montgomery Advertiser as equivalent to a postponement of the election for two years. Senator Fitzpatrick's term will not expire until the 4th of March, 1861.

Among the passengers by the steamer Atlantic, at New York, from Aspinwall, is Col. F. W. Lander, superintendent of the great trans-continental wagon road, accompanied by John C. Burch, esq., one of his assistants; also Captain Maguire, of Washington; and Lieuts. Bradford, Haywood, Bryan and Moorhouse of the United States navy.

The rumor of a personal reconciliation between Mr. Douglas and the President, is incorrect. Mr. Douglas has not visited the President. It is understood that Mr. Douglas intends to co-operate cordially with the democracy in an effort to elect the nominee of the Charleston convention for the Presidency, whosoever he may be.

The Elmira Gazette says that Hazlett, one of the Harper's Ferry insurgents, was formerly connected with a gang of horse-thieves in that vicinity, and escaped punishment by turning State's evidence. This is a specimen of the martyrs who are to make "the gallows glorious as the cross."

The annual report of the Auditor General of Pennsylvania sets down the receipts of the State treasury for the present year at $3,826,350, and there was a previous balance on hand of $892,027. The expenditures of the year amounted to $3,879,054, leaving a surplus of $839,423.

A number of business men and other citizens of Philadelphia have requested the Hon. John Covode to permit the use of his name as a candidate for the Governorship of Pennsylvania. Mr. Covode replies that he will accept the nomination if tendered him by a Convention.

Henry Jumperts, who has been on trial at Chicago for the last twenty days for the murder of Sophia Werner, (whose mutilated remains were found in a barrel at the Hudson River Railroad depot, at New York, in the spring of 1858,) was acquitted on Monday.

The Commander of the Brooklyn Navy Yard has got orders from the Department at Washington, to have the steam frigate Niagara housed over forthwith; it is said by men who are thoroughly skilled in naval architecture, that the Niagara is a failure as a man-of-war.

Three young men of the name of Bass, children of the same parents, were married to three others named Teel, also of one family, in Alabama, on the 16th of October—They were all married with but one ceremony.

Allen A. Hall, of the Nashville News, charged with killing G. G. Poindexter, of the Union and American, has been held to bail in the sum of $2,500, to appear at the next term of the Criminal Court.

It is stated that the Secretary of the Treasury refuses to pay the members of Congress mileage and salary, though appropriated, on the ground that no evidence of membership exists till a speaker's certificate is furnished.

Six inches of snow fell at Columbus, Miss., on the 7th inst. At Mobile, on the 8th inst., the thermometer was only 18 degrees above zero—the coldest day there for many years.

Wm. W. Ryan, a weather prophet, located at Detroit, forbodes fifty two storms before the 1st of March,

Judge Stump has decided in favor of Mr. Whitney's claim to the District attorneyship in Baltimore.

Hon. R. W. Johnson, U. S. Senator from Arkansas, announces his determination to retire from public life.

The people of Lawrence, Kansas, held a mass meeting Dec. 2d, to sympathize with John Brown.

Nelly Custis's Harpsichord.

In Lossing's new book, "Mount Vernon and its Association," mention is made of a harpsichord which Washington purchased in London, at a cost of one thousand dollars, as a present to his step grand daughter, Nelly Custis, who then lived at Mount Vernon. The piano forte was little known in America at that time, and seldom used. A drawing of this instrument is given by Mr. Lossing. It somewhat resembles in form the grand piano, but has two banks of keys. This instrument was for upwards of twenty years at Mount Vernon, and had a place in one of the parlors. The best teachers were employed to instruct Nelly, and her grandmother, Mrs. Washington, made her practice four or five hours every day. "The poor girl," says her brother, the late G. W. P. Custis, "would play and cry, and cry and play, for hours, under the immediate eye of her grand-mother, a rigid disciplinarian in all things." This harpsichord, says Mr. Lossing, is now, (1859,) in the possession of Mrs. Lee, of Arlington House, who intends to present it to the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, when the home of Washington shal have passed into their absolute possession, that it may take its ancient place in the parlor of the hallowed mansion.

Particulars of the Late Accident in Norfolk.

NORFOLK, Dec. 12.—The most intense excitement prevailed here from Friday afternoon last until 1 o'clock Saturday, growing out of the fact that an interesting little son of Abram F. Leonard, esq., one of the editors of the Southern Argus, had been found dead in room No. 31, National Hotel, which was then occupied by Lieutenant P. Murphy, U. S. N. Lieut. M. was absent from the house from about 2 o'clock, and returned between 4 and 5 o'clock and discovered the body of the lad lying upon the floor of his room, with what appeared to be a deep incised wound in his throat, which had severed the windpipe and caused instant death.

A jury of inquest was empanneled at 11 o'clock Saturday morning, and sworn in over the body of the deceased, which still occupied room No. 31. Lieut. Murphy was the first witness sworn, who testified relative to his visit to the steamer and his return, after which he went to his room, for the purpose of taking a nap, and on pushing open the door, as he stepped upon the threshold, he saw the body of Virginius Leonard stretched out on the floor. He then called Mrs. Garrison, who occupied the next room, and said to her, "Good God, Leonard's boy is dead!" He then called Purser Johnson, and while speaking of the matter to him, Mr. Leonard came up from his dinner, and passed by Lieut. Murphy's room into his own, which was adjoining. Lieut. Murphy then broke the sad news to Mr. Leonard, who immediately repaired to the corpse of his son, and requested that medical aid be called in. Drs. Andrews and Holmes then came in, and pronounced the wound an incised one. On his cross-examination, Lieut. Murphy said his swords were locked up in his chest, but there were two guns in the room, one of which he had loaded, and did not know whether it was loaded or not when he returned. Mr. Leonard was the first one clearly inside the room. Nothing had been disturbed.

At this juncture it was proposed to exclude all but the jurors from the inquest-room, and the members of the press retired after protesting against such a proceeding.—They were soon permitted to return to the room, and the *post mortem* examination took place. Drs. Andrews and Holmes decided that the wound was incised, and pointed out to the jury that the wind-pipe was severed as nicely as knife could have done it.—The jury, being thoroughly convinced that murder had been committed, were then ready and willing to spend a week in the investigation of the matter, rather than the vile assassin shou'd not be brought to punishment. Dr. Galt, however, a young man, but one of the most promising physicians in this city, and brother to Galt, the sculptor, persisted after the other physicians had given the case up, in examining farther. He then turned the body on its face and made an incision on the back, just above the right shoulder-blade, and just below the skin, found a full charge of No. 6 shot, together with paper wad, and a handful of lead-color-wadding from the over-coat of the deceased. This charge had passed through the body, severed the wind-pipe, and broken the first and second ribs, near the column of the vertebræ. The whole matter was at once cleared up—the little fellow had gone in Lieut. Murphy's room, and while playing with the gun, had *accidentally* shot himself. The guns were then examined, and one of the barrels found empty and bearing the appearance of having been recently discharged.—One or two other witnesses were then examined, who testified to hearing a noise like the explosion of fire-arms about the time that the little fellow came up stairs, and the jury soon rendered a verdict to the effect that "the deceased came to his death by the accidental discharge of a gun in his own hands."

This was a great relief to the friends of Mr. Murphy, who is one of our most esteemed naval officers, and who, in the eyes of many, was placed in rather a delicate position, from the fact that it had been supposed that the child had been killed and placed in his room, that he might be implicated in the deed. It was also a great relief to the friends of Mr. Wm. L. Walters, the proprietor of the National Hotel, who was in great distress at the idea that so horrible a crime as child murder should be committed in his house.

After the discovery of the cause of the childs death, and the rendition of the verdict, the excitement subsided and gave place to grief, not alone for the death of the innocent little victim, but for the sufferings of the bereaved father and step-mother, and the large circle of distressed relatives.

The whole community are under such deep obligation to Dr. Galt, that it is the intention of the citizens to present him with a magificent set of surgical instruments.—*Correspondence of Richmond Dispatch.*

Robbery at Savannah.

The coolest act of robbery we have heard or read of for some time, was perpetrated last Thursday in the city of Savannah, on the boarders of Mrs. McCormick. The Republican gives the following particulars: "A short time after dinner, and when the occupants of the upper rooms had returned to their places of business, a young man deliberately entered by the front door and made his way up the stairs. After remaining for some time, he descended the stairs, and bowing to those he passed in the hall, quietly took his departure. Though seen on entering and leaving by several members of the family, nothing was thought of it at the time, they supposing that he was an acquaintance of some of the young men who are boarding in the house. It was soon ascertained, however, that he was a thief, and had made good use of his time in the rooms above, all of which he had thoroughly rummaged, breaking open trunks, drawers, &c. One boarder he left minus $400 and a gold chain, while another suffered to the amount of $10. The rogue is described as a young man, of medium size, about 22 years of age, and clad in a black coat, with very long waist, blue pants and a Scotch cap. Such success will doubtless embolden him to repeat the experiment.

The Right View.

We would not hold the whole body of Northern people responsible for the fanaticism of a few—but if the majority perpetually permit themselves to be represented in all legislative bodies, state and national, by men who are hostile to Southern institutions, we cannot but hold them responsible for it, whatever may be their private opinions on the subjects, and however strongly their individual sympathies may be with us on this side of the line. For our part we cling to the belief that the majority of the people at the North are conservative, but if so, we have a right to ask, as something due to us, and due to themselves, that they will express their conservatism, practically at the polls.—*Central Presbyterian.*

VOLENTARY STARVATION.—A singular instance—singular from the length of the terrible experiment—of voluntary starvation, occurred recently near Oskaloosa, Mahaska county, Iowa. A Mrs. Crozen, having been laboring under mental aberration for some three years, came to the determination, over two months since, to starve herself to death. She refused every kind of nourishment, even water. Entreaties were of no avail. She persisted in her resolution until death came to her relief, sixty-eight days after she first refused nourishment. It is proved by ample testimony that, in the shape of liquids or solids she never took two ounces of any nourishment whatever.

Virginia Items.

The correspondent of the Norfolk Argus writes as follows from Charlestown, Va:—The bad weather has created a want for boots and shoes, and the men are getting them by giving orders on the Paymaster. When the companies are paid off these orders are to be deducted from the pay. New Yankee leather is creaking unmercifully under the feet of valiant Virginians to-day. The pay of a private is $11 per month, of a musician $12, of a corporal $13, of a sergeant $15 per month. The pay of the lieutenants and captains amounts to between $50 and $70 per month. Not less than one month's pay is given. Those who return before their company, lose their pay. Old Virginia will have a "small bill" to pay for preserving her dignity."

At a meeting of the citizens of Caroline county, for the formation of a Cavalry Company, at Bowling Green, on Monday, a resolution was adopted that in uniforming the members confine themselves as far as practicable to fabrics made in the State of Virginia; and that the Governor be requested to equip the Company with arms manufactured entirely in the State. The following officers were elected: Captain—Henry H. George, 1st Lieut.—Samuel F. Swann.

In both Houses of the Legislature on Monday, memorials from a citizen of Illinois, were presented, invoking the clemency of the State, in behalf of Coppie, one of the condemned prisoners at Harper's Ferry.—The Committees of each House met on Monday afternoon. Gov. Wise was sent for, and on appearing before them, he spoke in favor of the commutation, but both committees reported adversely to the prayer of the memorial.

The Fredericksburg Herald says:—"On Saturday morning week, about 6 o'clock, the dwelling house of Mr. Henry Jett, three miles from town, in Spotsylvania, was destroyed by fire, with nearly all his furniture—including all his corn, which was in the upper part of the building. The fire was first discovered about the centre of the roof. It was not ascertained how it originated."

The Staunton Spectator says: 'Of the many families in this county, who have furnished victims to the malignant sore throat, which is prevailing in the Valley and elsewhere, none perhaps exhibit such a record of mortality as that of Mr. Richard Sly, of Clay Forge, a mile from Waynesboro. A few weeks ago Mr. Sly had eight happy and rubby faced children, and now only one survives."

A meeting was held at Bowling Green, Caroline county, on Monday, to organize a a Rifle Company. Fifty-four promptly enlisted. Thomas B. Coghill was elected Captain, J. W. Scott, 1st Lieutenant, Phillip Samuel, jr., 2d Lieutenant, R. O. Peatrop, 3d Lieutenant, and J. C. Luck, Orderly Sergeant.

The writer of the Money Article of the New York Day Book, 10th inst., says that the market there, for Virginia State stocks, has been unfavorably affected by the prospect of another loan being made of $5,000,000, to be applied to various works of internal improvement. Sales of 200 six per cents. at 92½, with a downward tendency.

It is said that the Norfolk and Chesapeake Steamboat Company have determined to run a river boat on the Rappahannock during the winter, between Fredericksburg and Urbana. The boat will be under the command of Capt. Wm. B. Kirwan, of the "Selden," with Mr. White as Clerk.

A Rifle Company has been formed at Hague, Westmoreland county. They are called the Potomac Rifles, and number about sixty men. The following officers have been chosen: Captain—Joseph Mayo, 1st Lieut.—Fleet W. Fox, 2d Lieut.—R. B. Davis.

The Fredericksburg Herald says:—"We could not help remarking the fact at Caroline Court on Monday, that all political designations had been ignored, and that men were neither Whigs, Americans nor Democrats, but simply and purely Virginians."

On Sunday morning, about four o'clock, a brakesman named Ned Trent, was suddenly killed at the Central Railroad Depot, in Richmond. The coupling between the engine and tender broke, and the man, Trent, fell between and broke his neck.

The Norfolk (Va.) Day Book announces that Gov. Wise has purchased a tract of land called the "Mosely Farm," in Princess Anne county, near Norfolk, whither he will retire upon the expiration of his term of office.

The Tannery, belonging to the estate of the late John P. Massey, at Bowling Green, Caroline county, was sold on Monday last by Dr. R. G. Holloway, Commissioner, for $700.

BOOKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.—The subscribers have now on exhibition at their store, a choice collection of BOOKS, suitable for CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS, and invite the public to call and examine their stock.

They have for sale the choicest GIFT BOOKS now published, among which will be found The Parables of our Lord; Gallery of Famous Poets; Raphael's Madonnas; Gallery of English and American Female Poets; La Fontaine's Fables, &c., &c., superbly bound in Turkey Morocco, antique, and illustrated with steel engravings, by best artists.

Also, the finest editions of THE POETS, in Turkey antique, octavo, twelve, sixteen, and thirty two mo. The Waverly Novels, in cloth, sheep, and half calf bindings. Prescott's works, complete, in fifteen volumes, half calf. Motley's Dutch Republic, in three volumes, cloth, sheep, and half calf. Together with a great variety of MISCELLANEOUS BOOKS, in fine bindings; ANNUALS, ALBUMS, AUTOGRAPH BOOKS, BIBLES, of every size and style of binding; PRAYER BOOKS, HYMN BOOKS, &c.

A great variety of CHILDREN'S BOOKS, to suit all ages and tastes.

JAMES ENTWISLE & SON,
dec 14 No. 95, King street.

FOR RENT.—The STORE, on the corner of King and Pitt streets, now in the occupancy of W. A. Hart, together with the rooms above, and below on Pitt street, being sufficient for a good sized family. The STORE is a good one, and well located for any kind of business, and to a punctual tenant, the rent will be low. Possession given February 1st, 1860, or sooner, if desired.

dec 13—eo1m HENRY CHATHAM.

FOR SALE.—Three two story FRAME HOUSES, fronting on St. Asaph street, immediately south of the residence of F. L. Smith, esq. For terms, apply to

EDGAR E. HARPER,
dec 5—eo1w or JESSE OWENS.

LOST.—On Friday evening last, in the North part of the city, a boy's BLACK RIBBED CLOTH OVERCOAT, with Black Silk Velvet Collar. The finder will be liberally rewarded, by returning it to my residence, on Washington, corner of Oronoco street.

dec 13—3t* SIDNEY G. MILLER.

SERVANTS FOR HIRE FOR THE YEAR 1860.—A Country BLACKSMITH, about 25 years old; a WOMAN, first rate Seamstress, cook, and dairy maid; a WOMAN, good plain cook, washer and ironer; a GIRL, useful servant.

M. MASON.
Rose Hill, Fairfax County, Va., dec 13—3tdaw1

NOTICE.—The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the Washington and Alexandria Turnpike Road Company, will be held on Monday, 24 day of January next, at 12 o'clock, M., at the Office of the Company, No. 4, South Wharves.

JAMES S. ROGERS, Treasurer.
dec 7 eod

GLASS, GLASS—
We have just received 200 boxes 8 by 10 GLASS
200 do. 10 by 12 do., and a large additional supply of extra sizes, to which we invite the attention of dealers.

12th mo 13 R. H. MILLER, SON & CO.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate on Tuesday, Mr. Coghill, from the committee of Courts of Justice, made a report adverse to the petition for the commutation of the punishment of Edwin Coppie. Subsequently, Mr. Coghill explained the action of the committee, and said that the Governor of Virginia had expresed the opinion that, if the Legislature of Virginia would give him the power, he would commute the punishment of Coppie into penitentiary confinement for life; but the committee saw no reason for changing the sentence.

Mr. Johnson said that the committee were divided as to the appeal. He was satisfied by the evidence of the Governor, that Coppie was not so guilty as the other prisoners, as he had been seduced by John Brown, who made him believe that his whole object was to run away negroes. He thought we should make a discrimination.

Mr. Coghill, said that while Coppie might not be so guilty as Brown, he was guilty, and had been so pronounced by Jury and Court, and the matter had been fully adjudicated and settled. Mr. C. saw not one single ground upon which this petition could properly be based. Coppie was engaged in open rebellion against slaveholders, which led to their murder. He had been convicted of treason, murder, &c. This is a question of absolute, and not comparative guilt. He (Mr. C.) had the highest respect for the Governor, who always discharged his duties with fearless honesty and firmness, still he (Mr. C.) had his own duty to perform, and would do so.

Mr. Isbell saw no reason for any delay in this matter, after the action of the Courts and the legislature. Mr. I. saw no difference in the guilt of Coppie and the other prisoners. The testimony showed that he was one of the most desperate of the insurgents, having himself killed the Mayor of Harper's Ferry with a ball from his Sharpe's rifle. The people of Jefferson were universally in favor of the execution of all the prisoners sentenced to death, and would be shocked by the intelligence of the pardon of any of them. Coppie is as guilty of murder as any of the convicted.

Mr. Thomas, of Halifax, had agreed with the Senator from Bedford, that it might be politic to temper justice with mercy, especially after the emphatic pledge of the Governor to assume the responsibility of making a discrimination. But a paper had just been put into his hands, containing a letter from Coppie, which had entirely changed his views, and satisfied him that Coppie was as guilty as any of the insurgents. Mr. T. read the letter, which was read at Brown's funeral, and concluded by saying that he was now entirely opposed to the commutation of Coppie's sentence.

Mr. Johnson, said that had he known the facts of the case as stated by Mr. Isbell, he never would have entertained the opinion expressed by himself this morning, in favor of the commutation. Mr. J. therefore took pleasure in withdrawing his motion to lay on the table, and in sustaining the committee's report.

The report was then unanimously adopted.

A bill was reported providing for the payment to the Bank of Commerce of lost coupons.

The following resolution was offered by Mr. Rives: Whereas it has been alleged that Beverly B. Douglass, the Senator returned for the District composed of the counties of King William, King and Queen and Essex, was, at the time of his election, incapable of being elected, under the provisions of law disabling any person concerned in a duel from holding office, be it resolved that the Committee of Privileges and Elections be instructed to enquire into and report the facts touching the eligibility of the member returned, and the legality of said election, and whether, in their opinion, a new writ of election should be awarded in this case.

Mr. Smith moved to lay on the table.

Mr. Thomas, of Fairfax, advocated the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. Coghill considered the resolution premature, and after a few words from Mr. August against the resolution, Mr. Smith's motion prevailed.

A petition was presented by Mr. Taliaferro, of citizens of King George, to prevent trespasses, &c., upon the Potomac and other tide-waters.

In the House of Delegetes, the following bills were reported.

Adverse to the petition of Thomas Winn, for the pardon of Coppie.

Making an appropriation to the Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institution at Staunton.

For the relief of Stephen Shinn.

For the establishment of a Board of Claims.

Allowing the Sheriff of Jefferson longer time within which to pay in the revenues of the county. The rule was suspended, and the bill read the first and second times and ordered to its engrossment.

Mr. Barbour presented a report adverse to the proposition to increase the pay of members.

He announced that the first Thursday in January had been fixed for considering the License Laws.

He also presented a resolution of inquiry into the expediency of increasing the salary of the Auditor of Public accounts.

The following resolutions, enquiring into expediency, were presented, adopted and referred to appropriate committees.

To authorize the Virginia and Kentucky railroad company to extend their road to the Tennessee line, at the eastern terminus of the Virginia and North Carolina railroad, and to incorporate an independent company for its construction.

That the county court of Albemarle make provision for constructing an armory for accommodation of certain volunteer companies.

For exempting from distress, one rifle or other fire-arm when the property of a citizen.

To reduce the tax on licenses or ordinary keepers and licenses to merchants, and graduating the scale of taxation in favor of small dealers.

To provide an armory at Lexington.

To establish an armory at Harrisonburg.

To authorize one of the banks to establish a branch at Parkersburg, in Wood county.

For the protection of slave property and excluding free negroes from the State.

On passing an Act to prevent vessels from fastening to any buoy placed by the United States Government in any of the waters of Virginia.

By Mr. McKenzie—That Senate Bill No. 390, of last session, be referred to the Committee of Roads and Internal Navigation.

On so amending the 27th section of chapter 195 of the Code, as to enlarge the operation of said section and make it apply also to any attempt to intimidate or impede any officer appointed by the municipal authority of a city or town or other legally constituted authority in the State.

On encouraging the establishment of mills for the manufacture of gunpowder, at Richmond, and other points in the State, by providing by law that all powder for the use of the State be purchased of said mills, and by such other encouragement as may seem proper.

WASHINGTON FARM, distant two and a half miles from Warrenton.—I have for sale the above highly improved and desirable FARM, containing about THREE HUNDRED ACRES, with comfortable BUILDINGS. It is divided into nine fields, with a young and good Apple and Peach Orchard, and an abundance of Timber and Water. Its position, added to the superior quality of the LAND, makes it a most desirable place. Terms accommodating, and possession given immediately. Address

INMAN H. PAYNE, Warrenton, Va.
Warrenton, dec 5—eo1m

[COMMUNICATED.

Great as may be the evil lately produced by the crime and madness of some lunatics, or worse, we humbly submit that its greatness has been but little, if, indeed, we may not truthfully add, not at all, diminished by the coming together of our National Congress, at so early a date, subsequent to what, had it not been for this, might have proved the point from which the excitement to us as a people naturally attendant upon a mad and disreputable interference with the settled and constitutional institutions of one of the States, might have gradually settled down to a mere level of honest indignation—we mean the satisfaction of insulted justice in the deprivation of the life of one who most offended against her majesty, and in the certain doom that awaits the misguided men who arrayed themselves as his blinded followers.

Whether in a "multitude of counsellors" there is safety, it appears a query by no means, in this instance, so clear as not to be liable to debate. I think some one has remarked, that could the press have been suppressed for a few weeks after the occurrence to which we have alluded, it would have been better for the country. A friend, somewhat eccentric, holds the following proposition—or rather, gives the following receipt:—"To promote the public peace, take the Congress of these United States, and stuff a stout corn-cob *lengthwise* into its mouth, thereby preventing the too frequent use of that portion of the head, with which Sampson is reported to have slain the Philistines." My friend has seen and profited by the manner in which Western pork-raisers treat their swine. His receipt, though not purely classic, is not without its truth.

What has violence ever done for a cause in which it has been employed? And yet moderation is lost in extreme-*ism*; the voice of conservatism drowned by the loud tones of partizanism; the public sacrificed at the altar of self; and all that is sacred and all that is dear to the people—the *heirs* of the patrimony bequeathed by high ancestors, held trembling over the precipice which looks down upon an unfathomable abyss of ruin and desolation, by the rulers—the faithful *executors*, to whose hands has been committed the care and management of the vast estate. They who substitute violence for calmness and judgement—intended to be the representative body—are not representative—save only of the folly of those who run into opposite extremes, we do not think our proposition too broad, when we say that our National Legislature has added fuel and not water to the flame.

But while we sincerely lament the folly of those who persist in a cause, which, from over-heated minds, they are prevented from seeing in that light, in which, in an hour of tranquility, they might be brought to consider it, we can as sincerely commend and admire, and for praise and commendation, the high and noble bearing, the genuine patriotism and dignified and elevated sentiments of a number of the members both of the upper and lower House, whose counsels, though rejected, nevertheless tinge with bright rays of hope the edges of the dark cloud which some, perhaps, and we hope, despairingly too, descry looming up in the distance beyond us.

To the public mind, at a period by no means remote in the history of the Republic, the mere thought of a seperation was treasonable. Patriotism was then the great argument weilded against the slightest intimation of so calamituous an event. But whether or not patriotism has degenerated in the opinion of our prominent statesmen, it no longer affords the chief ground work of their argumentative deliberations. The reasoning founded on a love for what our fathers have handed down, has now taken a subordinate position in the scale, and the logic of *self-interest* supplanted it—a substitute by no means reflecting honor or credit upon the times for which it is made. But even on this ground—how startling, to every calm mind, must be the suggestion. Interest! interest!! for New York and New Orleans to be rival cities of *rival* republics? St. Louis and Philadelphia? The Mississippi to be common property of *two* vast nations? The Ohio? The North and the South are to the Republic as the two hands to the human frame. To the North with her millions dependent upon the South, Union is peace and prosperity—seperation, the reverse of the picture. To the South, separation would bring its evils.

But while despair fills the hearts of many patriotic breasts, used only to beat to the sweet sounds of hope, to suppose it general without more satisfactory evidence than we have as yet seen, would be chargeable with a spirit of pre-determination wholly unwarrantable in a matter of such serious moment. And while the conservative spirit of the Nation, bearing down the geographical barriers which fanaticism would interpose between two sections of one and the same land, is loud and long in its tones of condemnation, let us still pause, in the midst of the events and circumstances that have given them rise, to draw whatever lessons there may be of moderation for the present, and instruction for the future. "The great lights of other days have gone out"—but they have left their example and their teachings for our instruction and guidance. NEMO.

PUBLIC MEETING.

☞ At an adjourned meeting of the merchants and