Alexandria Gazette AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER

SIC SEMPER TYRANNIS

PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

ALEXANDRIA:

SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 4, 1860.

At Charlestown, on the 2d instant, Judge Kenney, after argument by counsel, refused the motion to compel the Commonwealth to select one count in the indictment, against Stevens and Hazlitt, to be tried for murder, treason, and conspiracy. To this ruling, exceptions were taken by prisoner's counsel. Stevens was then arraigned and plead "not guilty." The empanneling of the jury was then commenced, and the whole twenty-four were exhausted without securing a jury. Additional talesmen were summoned, but at the hour of adjournment, three o'clock, the jury was not complete. Before the court adjourned, Mr. Hunter said he had just been handed a paper from Gov. Letcher, informing him that a brother of Coppie had been arrested in Iowa. Judge Kenny gave orders for another grand jury. The court room was crowded, and much interest was manifested in the proceedings. This case will occupy several days. The witnesses in the case of Hazlitt have been discharged till Monday. The jurors for his case have been summoned from Frederick county.

The President sent to the Senate, on Thursday, a Message, returning to that body, without his approval, a bill which passed Congress, at the last session, making an appropriation of $50,000 for deepening the channel over the St. Clair Flats, in Michigan, and which was presented to him on the last day of that session. He does not deny the power of Congress to make such internal improvements as may be necessary for protection and defence against foreign invasion, but contends that the bill in question is not within that category. The President is opposed to the revival of appropriations, generally, for internal improvements. He makes the Pacific Railroad, we presume, the exception.

The Mobile, Alabama, Register, condemns *in toto* the whole proposed "non-intercourse" policy--ridicules the plan—and hopes the South will have none of it. The arguments of the Register against "non-intercourse," do not, however, touch the question of encouraging home manufactures, and building up the trade, commerce, and business of the South.

The following is the toast, sent by the President of the United States to the Committee at the Dinner given to Gov. Wise, in Richmond:—

"VIRGINIA: The Star in our Constellation which has ever shone with the most steady, propitious, and potent light. May it, for ages yet to come, continue to shed its benign and conservative influence over a united, free, and prosperous Confederacy!"

The Pennsylvanian, (Administration organ in Philadelphia,) hopes that Congress will now proceed "to a thorough revision of the Tariff of 1857, which has so injuriously affected our native industry, and the dearest interests of the people." What do the Virginia Democrats say to *that*.

We publish as a matter of interest and reference, the detailed vote for Speaker, by which Mr. Pennington was elected. It will be seen that the Democrats were unable to concentrate their own vote upon Mr. McClernand.

Stephens, who poisoned his wife, and lately attempted to break jail, in New York, by planning the murder of one or both of the keepers, it is now said, is certainly to be hung. They have kept him *waiting* for a long time.

It is said that the Senate, has *reconsidered* their vote rejecting the nomination of Francis J. Grand, as Consul to Havre, and, finally, *confirmed* his appointment. The appointment is very severely censured, even by some of the strongest Democrats.

Mrs. S. B. Barber, of Stafford county, proposes that every lady in Virginia, give a quarter of a dollar, to be laid out in buying a service of plate, to be presented to Gov. Wise, for his course during the late Harper's Ferry excitement.

A London wine merchant, who has a large proprietary interest in the island of Madeira, says that the accounts from the island respecting the vine disease, are worse than ever, as the new vines are attacked in the same manner as the old vineyards.

There is a blind negro boy, in Savannah, Ga., who has displayed remarkble powers as a performer on the Piano. The Charleston Courier gives an interesting account of his musical skill.

The "Republicans" at Pittsburg, Newark, Albany, and other places, had rejoicings upon receiving the news of Mr. Pennington's election as Speaker, firing guns, &c.

The New York Anti-Slavery Society has been in session, this week, at Albany, the members making incendiary speeches and passing incendiary resolutions.

Mr. Morris, of Pa., is very severely censured, for his recent course, with regard to the Speaker's election.

The Senate was not in session yesterday, having adjourned over until Monday next.

☞ A number of prose and poetical contributions, from correspondents, are on hand, and will be inserted, as we can find room for them. Our columns are necessarily now crowded, with the current *news*—which must have precedence.

ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE OF REPS.—The House of Representatives, yesterday, advanced yet farther in the direction of completing its organization, by the election of Mr. John W. Forney, of Pennsylvania, as Clerk of the House, and Mr. H. W. Hoffman, of Maryland, at Sargeant-at-Arms. Mr. Forney was Clerk to the House of Representatives during the thirty-fourth Congress, and Mr. Hoffman was, at one time, one of the Representatives of Maryland in Congress. In party politics, the new Sargeant-at-Arms is an American.

A young man recently died in Bangor, Maine, after a life of singular suffering.—When thirteen years of age he was taken with inflammatory rheumatism, and was almost helpless for two years; he then recovered, but in two years thereafter he was attacked again, and continued entirely helpless and confined to his bed for eighteen years! There was but one joint (that of one thumb) that he could move. He was obliged to be bolstered up in bed in one position, partly in a sitting posture, for the eighteen years; he could talk and read well, but could not otherwise stir or move; his food was made very fine, and sucked up or mumbled over in his mouth, as his jaws were immovable; he was nothing but skin and bone, yet his appetite and general health were good. His mind was clear, his memory good, and yet he was a person of considerable intelligence and quite a reader.

Mr. Blue, of Hampshire, in his speech in the House of Delegates, in favor of the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad, said:—"Whether we look upon it in a military point of view, as giving facilities of transit from East to West, in case of invasion, or from West to East, in case of insurrection—or whether as a road to develop the inexhaustible wealth of the Alleghanies, and to furnish commercial connections for Virginia cities with the now remote and inaccessible vallies of the Potomac--in any aspect in which this road may be viewed, the justice and wisdom of former Legislatures, which commenced and fostered it as a great State enterprise, will stand abundantly vindicated."

In the course of Gov. Wise's recent speech, he said:—"I have not said all I have to say on that subject, and I shall guard myself particularly through life not to say all I could say upon it; rubies would not win me to tell all the facts of the raid of John Brown. I will not tell to the world either all the facts in my possession, or all my opinions on the subject of that tragedy. I have told the world enough for the justification of my action in the case, and there is much yet untold, which I will never disclose, for the reason that I would conserve the peace between the North and the South, and tell nothing which would unnecessarily agitate and distract either section.

A number of wealthy and influential gentlemen of New York, among whom are August Belmont, W. H. Aspinwall, Hamilton Fish, Alexander W. Bradford, George Folsom and Benjamin R. Winthrop, have organized an association for the establishment of a great Zoological and Botanical Garden in the Central Park, and have appointed a committee to apply to the Legislature for a charter, and to take other necessary prelimnary measures for the realization of the plan. The garden will be similar in scope and general arrangements to those in London, Paris, and other European cities.

The Lynchburg Virginian says:—"The opinion is advanced by a Southern Democratic paper, that the failure of the Charleston Convention to agree upon a candidate for the Presidency, will eventuate in a speedy dissolution of the Union. We dispute that. The fate of this Union is not in the especial keeping of the Democratic or any other party. The Union is the inheritance of the people of the United States, and its fate is in their hands. The politicians cannot deprive them of it. They only can determine its duration.

The New York correspondent of the Baltimore "American" writes that "the National Union Executive Committee are about to issue an address to the people of the State of New York, recommending the formation of a presidential party, outside the republican and democratic organizations. The movement will be formally inaugurated here with a grand mass meeting at the Academy of Music on the the 22d of February."

Gov. Leteher has gone on to Charlestown, Va.

The Final Vote for Speaker.

FOR MR. PENNINGTON.—Messrs. Adams of Mass., Adrain, Aldrich, Alley, Ashley, Babbitt, Beale, Bingham, Blair, Blake, Brayton, Briggs, Buffington, Burlingame, Burnham, Burroughs, Butterfield, Campbell, Carey, Carter, Case, Colfax, Conklin, Corwin, Covode, Curtis, Davis of Maryland, Dawes, Delano, Duell, Dunn, Edgarton, Edwards, Eliot, Eli, Farnsworth, Fenton, Ferry, Foster, Frank, French, Gooch, Graham, Grow, Gurley, Hale, Hall, Haskin, Helmick, Hickman, Hoard, Humphrey, Hutchins, Irvine, Junkin, Kellogg of Michigan, Kellogg of Illinois, Kenyon, Kilgore, Killinger, Leach of Michigan, Lee, Longnecker, Loomis, Lovejoy, Marston, McKean, McKnight, McPherson, Millward, Moorehead, Morrill, Morris of Pennsylvania, Morse, Nixon, Olin, Palmer, Perry, Pettit, Porter, Potter, Pottle, Reynolds, Rice, Robinson of R. Island, Royce, Schwartz, Scranton, Sedgwick, Sherman, Somes, Spaulding, Spinner, Stanton, Stevens, Stewart of Pennsylvania, Stratton, Tappan, Thayer, Thecker, Tompkins, Train, Trimble, Vandever, Van Wyck, Verree, Wade, Waldron, Walton, Washburne of Wisconsin, Washburne of Illinois, Washburne of Maine, Wells, Wilson, Windom, Wood, and Woodruff—117.

FOR MR. MCCLERNAND—Messrs. Allen, Anderson of Mo., Ashmore, Avery, Barksdale, Barr, Barrett, Bocock, Bouligny, Branch, Burch, Burnett, Clark of N. York, Clark of Mo., Clemens, Cobb, John Cochrane, Cooper, Cox, Craig of Mo., Craige of N. C., Crawford, Davidson, Davis of Indiana, Davis of Miss., Dejarnette, Dimmick, Edmundson, English, Florence, Foulke, Garnett, Gartrell, Hamilton, Harris of Virginia, Hawkins, Hindman, Holman, Houston, Howard, Hughes, Jackson, Jenkins, Jones, Kunkel, Lamar, Landrum, Larrabee, Leake, Logan, Love, Maclay, Martin of Ohio, Martin of Virginia, McRae, Millson, Montgomery, Morris of Illinois, Niblack, Noell, Pendleton, Peyton, Phelps, Pryor, Reagan, Riggs, Robinson of Ill., Ruffin, Rust, Scott, Sickles, Sims, Singleton, Smith of Virginia, Stevenson, Stewart of Maryland, Stout, Taylor, Thomas, Underwood, Vallandigham, Whiteley, Winslow, Woodson, and Wright—85.

FOR MR. GILMER.—Messrs. Adams of Ky., Anderson of Ky., Brabson, Bristow, Etheridge, Harris of Md., Hatton, Hill, Leach of N. C., Mallory, Moore of Ky., Nelson, Quarles, Smith of N. C., Stokes, and Webster—16.

For MR. SMITH, of N. C.—Messrs. Boteler, Hardeman, Maynard, and Vance—4.

For MR. CRAWFORD.—Messrs. Clopton, Curry McQueen, and Pugh—4.

FOR MR. MCQUEEN.—Messrs. Bonham and Miles—2.

For Mr. STEVENS.—Mr. Boyce—1

For Mr. ETHERIDGE.—Mr. Gilmer—1.

For Mr. MILLS.—Mr. Keitt—1.

For Mr. HOUSTON.—Mr. McClernand—1.

For Mr. BOYCE.—Mr. Moore, of Alabama—1.

Receipts from Customs—Demands on Treasury.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2.—The receipts from customs fully come up to Secretary Cobb's estimates, and under the laws some $12,000,000 of treasury notes may be issued, to meet the heavy charges upon the treasury on post office account. There is $1,000,000 of post office money in the hands of subtreasurers embraced in the weekly treasury statements. Another million of the post office receipts for the past two quarters of the present fiscal year is in the hands of the postmasters of the most prominent offices; and yet another million in the hands of other postmasters. As soon as the post office appropriation bill passes, these three millions, with two and a half additional on account of deficiencies for the last two quarters, must shortly be paid out to mail contractors and others; also, four millions and a quarter for deficiencies for the last fiscal year. Only some five hundred assigned claims have reached the department.

News of the Day.

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

It is stated that one of the first things after the organization of the House committees will be to settle contested elections, which, it is said, will make a difference of eight votes in the House in favor of the republicans, by throwing out Barrett, of Missouri, Cooper, of Michigan, Florence, of Pa., and Sickles, of N. Y., and substituting republicans in their places, namely, Messrs. Blair, Howard, Ryan and Williamson.

A Yankee in Utah has invented and set in operation an artificial lady, in full dress, propelled by a small boy, and advertises to sweep the sidewalks and crossings for a certain annual salary. The lady is crinolined according to the width of the sidewalk, the crinoline being so rigged that it can be widened or narrowed at pleasure.

Rev. Francis Marshall, a Catholic clergyman in Philadelphia, whose death was recently announced, is not only alive, but has recovered from his illness, and is now in good health. This intelligence will be received by his many friends with sincere gratification.

An association has been formed for the purpose of securing the erection of a monument on the scene of the memorable opening of the War of Independence at Lexington, Massachusetts. Mr. Everett is at the head of the Association.

A meeting was recently held at Hagerstown, Md., to favor the construction of a railroad between that town and Weverton, or some other point on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad. A committee was appointed to obtain a charter from the Legislature.

A large and happy-looking company of boys and girls, from the Children's Aid Society, left New York Tuesday afternoon, under the charge of Mr. H. Friedgen. A great proportion of them had been homeless and utterly destitute.

The Maryland House of Delegates has passed the five "Baltimore bills," as they have been termed, and which now only wait the signature of the Governor to go into operation.

The Mississippi River at St. Louis Feb. 2, was falling and is full of floating ice. The weather is very cold, the thermometer indicating zero daily. There are no indications of an immediate change.

A fanatical Hindoo cultivated for forty years the growth of a finger nail, and he found its measure to be thirteen inches and a half. The finger nails grow their whole length in a few months.

A Newbern paper says that Mrs. Alice Day, of that city, was lately delivered of four sturdy boys. "We know not what a Day may bring forth."

The present length of the Capitol is 740 feet, and the entire edifice covers three acres of ground.

Senator Davis's Resolutions.

[OFFERED IN SENATE OF THE U. S., Feb. 2.]

Mr. Davis submitted the following resolutions, which were read:

1. Resolved, That, in the adoption of the Federal Constitution, the States adopting the same acted severally as free and independent sovereignties, delegating a portion of their powers to be exercised by the Federal Government for the increased security of each against dangers, domestic as well as foreign; and that any intermeddling by any one or more States, or by a combination of their citizens, with the domestic institutions of the others, on any pretext, whether political, moral, or religious, with the view to their disturbance or subversion, is in violation of the Constitution, insulting to the States so interfered with, endangers their domestic peace and tranquility—objects for which the Constitution was formed—and, by necessary consequence, serves to weaken and destroy the Union itself.

2. Resolved, That negro slavery, as it exists in fifteen States of this Union, composes an important portion of their domestic institutions, inherited from their ancestors and existing at the adoption of the Constitution, by which it is recognized as constituting an important element of the apportionment of powers among the States; and that no change of opinion or feeling on the part of the non-slaveholding States of the Union, in relation to this institution, can justify them or their citizens in open and systematic attacks thereon, with a view to its overthrow, and that all attacks are in manifest violation of the mutual and solemn pledge to protect and defend each other, given by the States respectively on entering into the constitutional compact which formed the Union, and are a manifest, breach of faith and a violation of the most solemn obligations.

3. Resolved, That the Union of these States rests on the equality of rights and privileges among its members, and that it is especially the duty of the Senate, which represents the States in their sovereign capacity, to resist all attempts to discriminate, either in relation to person or property, so as, in the Territories—which are the common possessions of the United States—to give advantages to the citizens of one State which are not equally secured to those of every other State.

4. Resolved, That neither Congress nor a territorial legislature, whether by direct legislation of an indirect and unfriendly nature, possesses the power to annul or impair the constitutonal right of any citizen of the United States to take his slave property into the common territories; but it is the duty of the Federal Government there to afford for that as for other species of property, the needful protection; and if experience should at any time prove that the judiciary does not possess power to insure adequate pretection, it will then become the duty of Congress to supply such deficiency.

5. Resolved, That the inhabitants of an organized Territory of the United States, when they rightfully form a constitution to be admitted as a State into the Union, may then, for the first time—like the people of a State when forming a new constitution—decide for themselves whether slavery, as a domestic institution, shall be maintained or prohibited within their jurisdiction; and if Congress shall admit them as a State "they shall be received into the Union with or without slavery, as their constitution may prescribe at the time of their admission."

6. Resolved, That the provison of the Constitution for the rendition of fugitives from service or labor, "without the adoption of which the Union could not have been formed," and the laws of 1793 and 1850, which were enacted to secure its execution, and the main features of which being similar, bear the impress of nearly seventy years of sanction by the highest judicial authority, have unquestionable claim to the respect and observance of all who enjoy the benefits of our compact of Union; and that the acts of State legislatures to defeat the purpose or nullify the requirements of that provision, and the laws made in pursuance of it, are hostile in character, subversive of the Constitution, revolutionary in their effect, and, if persisted in, must, sooner or later, lead the States injured by such breach of the compact to exercise their judgment as to the proper mode and measure of redress.

EXIT BELLY.—The following item appears in the latest intelligence from Nicaragua:—"The government, on the 18th December, in consequence of M. Felix Belly having failed to comply with the provisions of the contract it had made with him for the construction of a canal through the territory of Nicaragua, annulled the grant. It will be recollected that M. Belly agreed to pay the government of Nicaragua 240,000 francs on or before the last of September, 1859, but up to the present time the amount, or any portion it, is unpaid, and the government has very wisely revoked the grant."

THE SMALL POX.—No new cases have appeared within the last eight or ten days, and it is but reasonable to infer that our community will soon be entirely free from the malady. There are but two cases of real small-pox now, one a prisoner in the jail and the other a citizen whose house is on the outskirts of the town near the hospital for the negroes. In the hospital a couple of negroes have varioloid from which they have almost recovered.—*Lexington Gazette.*

Letter from Petersburg.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

PETERSBURG, Feb. 1.—While the people of the South at this time seem to be generally excited upon the subject of direct foreign trade, and home manufactures; and are holding enthusiastic meetings, and passing flaming resolutions looking to that end; the citizens of this thriving city are quietly but surely, proving their faith by their works, as will be seen by the following announcement. The ship Erie, Capt. Preble, cleared from this port, for Liverpool, on the 16th ult., with 1050 bales of cotton, 200 boxes of manufactured tobacco, and 250 bags of citron bark, &c., shipped by Thomas Branch & Sons. This is a capital way for manufacturing the direct trade disposition, and we trust it will be continued. We copy the above notice from a recent issue of the Daily Express, a journal which for public spirit and enterprise, is not excelled by any paper within the range of my observation, as its publishers seem to spare neither time nor expense to furnish its subscribers with the very latest intelligence.

Now that the Harper's Ferry affair has entirely subsided, and the more recent Northern invasion, in the forms of Ice, Snow and Sleet—has been subdued by the genial rays of the glorious sun, the business men are brushing up, preparatory to a heavy spring trade, which many predict with great certainty.

In addition to the large number of church edifices here, two more are now in course of erection, which will not only afford additional accommodation to the church going portion of the community, but will prove highly ornamental to the neighborhood in which they are located. They are to be used respectively by Episcopalian and Presbyterian congregations, the former under the pastoral charge of the Rev. Mr. Gibson, the latter of the Rev. Dr. Pryor—than whom two more worthy and successful ministers are rarely found. The Rev. Mr. Gibson commenced his labors here as a missionary, and by his industry and rare christian endowments has so won upon the affections of the people, as to require a larger building, in which to accommodate the increasing numbers that attend upon his ministry. He is truly a "workman that need not be ashamed," and is a credit to the church of which he is a representative, and an honor to his race. Of the Rev. Dr. Pryor it may be said, that he is eminently fitted to discharge the high and important functions to which he has been called, for none can attend upon his ministry without being convinced of his decided ability, whilst his liberal views and evangelical sentiments, qualify him for much usefulness in the sphere in which he is wont to labor. He preaches without notes, and the energy which characterizes his pulpit ministrations, together with his studied simplicity of style, render his public efforts highly effective, whilst his suavity of manners and gentlemanly bearing has secured for him a host of warm personal friends. Truly, the good people of Petersburg, can point to their pulpits with pride and pleasure, for I know of no community, which can boast of a more able and efficient corps of ministers, than those who now serve the different churches here.

I trust that the 22nd instant will be celebrated (as usual) by the good people of Alexandria, for while I have always thought that your citizens—above all others—should cherish the name and fame of Washington at all times, yet it seems especially proper, in this the day of our country's trial, that his sage and patriotic counsels should be more closely studied, and that his devotion to the Union of the States should be more frequently brought to the attention of his countrymen; for whenever the advice of Washington shall cease to be heeded by the people of this country—then, indeed, will despotism exult in seeing the last hope of liberty vanished from the world. I hope then to hear of a real old fashioned celebration of this glorious day in your midst.

What has become of your Agricultural Association? I have not heard from it lately. I trust that your citizens will not suffer it to lanquish, for I am satisfied that it will only be necessary to hold one exhibition in order to place it upon a permanent basis, as I know your people too well to suppose that they will ever suffer themselves to be eclipsed in any thing they undertake in earnest. H.

Letter from Rappahannock County.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

RAPPAHANNOCK CO., VA., February 1.—After a season of uncommonly fine weather, we have now a snow of six or eight inches depth, which fell last night—with the prospect of returning cold. A good deal of ploughing has been done for the corn crop, as should be, for the prevailing high price and scarcity should stimulate all to apply every available moment to that end. Whether fall and winter ploughing is beneficial to land and crop, in the abstract or not—on the whole, I know it is vastly more profitable—for very few get corn planted and oats seeded in good time. The best farmers and those who have improved their own land, plough in fall and winter, and work it early, and always make the best corn. Many drop too much corn in the hill, which makes the labor of thinning a great draw back in culture, as also injures the crop.

Our election for County and Circuit Court Clerk comes off the 9th of the present month, as also the County Clerk of Fauquier. The same Clerk in this County acts for both offices. The late Clerk, Mr. Peyton, was all that could be asked of a man. The candidates are, Robert M. Heterrick, F. White, T. Massie, and Addison Turner. Candidates for Sheriff, in May, John Miller, now deputy, and Joseph Reid. We hear it often said that this or that man will succeed, "because he had so many worthy backers on his side." And another, because he is "the man for the liquor party." All right thinking men will agree that this state of things is wrong, yet many such will go for the strong man right or wrong, *if they can find him out*, and there is little sympathy for the "bottom dog" however worthy. But men ought to have sympathy for themselves, and the best interests of the county. The time is well nigh at hand when men who scorn to rely on such appendages, will abstain from the conflict for office. Will the evil correct itself? or where is the remedy?—Time will show. In the mean time let all strive to raise the common standard by promoting education. "God save the Commonwealth."

I notice in the Gazette that some of the New York papers are down upon the Pennsylvania Delegation on "the subject of Speaker." Very proper too. Some want a Tariff Speaker—some anti-Lecompton—some Republican." How in the good name of common sense can all get their choice in "Speaker?" The people are made to suppose that the "Speaker" is the soul and body of law making—has more power than all Congress and the rest of mankind! Whoever they may squeeze into the chair can do but little, for self or party, or local interest this session, take it for granted. None can loose or gain by it now. The people are now on the look out, and this state of things will never happen again in twenty years to come. R.

Neal Dow is out in a letter declaring that he is not a backslider from his temperance principles.

Letter from Loudoun County.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

LEESBURG, Feb. 1.—The rain that began to fall at half-past five yesterday evening, soon turned to a snow, and we have now six inches of snow on the ground. This snow is seasonable, as there was considerable complaint of scarlet fever in the neighborhood of the Potomac Furnace, near the Point of Rocks, which, it is hoped, this fine winter weather will drive off.

The general health of the County has been quite good during the fall and winter.

I am happy to say that the docket for March Quarterly Court, shows a considerable falling off from last year. The number of suits, including those convenient things, suggestions, was then 225; it is now about 105, with a prospect of going to 125.

Another encouraging feature is the increased number of marriage licenses issued this January, compared with last, being 11 against 7, while the number in last December preceding, was 8.

By the way, the following marriage statistics of Loudoun may not be unacceptable. The marriage licenses issued in 1852, leap year was 110
In 1853, next to it 101
In 1854 92
In 1855 95

During the four years 398

In 1856, leap year, the number issued was 109
In 1857, next to it 97
In 1858 87
In 1859 69

In the four years 362

Being in the two quadrennial periods a difference of 36.

Now, I would not like to say (what the above figures hint so strongly,) that the Loudoun girls did improve the privilege given them from time immemorial of asking during leap year, for I think it can be accounted for *otherwise*.

In 1856, every department of industry in the County, was in the highest degree of prosperity, while in 1859 every thing was at the lowest point of depression, and our folks being prudent, agreed to remain as lovers a while longer.

We heard this morning that Pennington had been elected Speaker, and yet there "was *no* silence as of death," and the boldest did *not* "hold his breath" for a single minute. We would have preferred Smith, of course, but we are satisfied to bide our time, and if we are let alone, that is all we ask. Yours, ALIQUIS.

Letter from Middleburg, Va.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

MIDDLEBURG, LOUDOUN COUNTY, VA., Feb. 1.—On Monday evening last, our community enjoyed the pleasure of hearing a Lecture on Genius and Talents, delivered before the Middleburg Lyceum, by J. E. Young, esq., of Leesburg, Va. It was an eloquent and instructive discourse, and was listened to with unflagging interest by a very large audience, and all present expressed themselves delighted with the address as a literary effort. I have seldom listened to a discourse which gave such universal satisfaction. The Lyceum Association returned their thanks to Mr. Young, and unanimously elected him an honorary member.

Subsequently, at a meeting of the Lyceum, it having been announced that Mr. John H. McGinn, one of its esteemed and respected members, was about to remove to another County, a gentleman moved a series of resolutions, expressing regret that the community of Middleburg and the Lyceum were about to part with Mr. McG.; bearing testimony to his zeal and services, and his Christian and gentlemanly deportment; speaking in high terms of his merits as a citizen; tendering him sincere wishes for his future prosperity and happiness; and expressing a hope that he would still continue a member of the Lyceum. These resolutions were unanimously adopted. Mr. McG. deserves what has thus been said of him, and he will find warm friends wherever he may go.

It is the purpose of the Lyceum to keep up a regular series of Lectures. I need not dilate upon the advantages which will accrue from this determination, or speak of the benefits already received from the exercises of this institution. All persons of literary tastes, or desirous of encouraging mental improvement, will fully appreciate them—and all should lend their aid to the object in view. C.

Wise Pitches into Botts.

Ex-Governor Wise shows that he does not like the criticism of Mr. Botts upon his official course, and in his late dinner speech he thus "pitches into" him in reply:

"As you are deliberating on the raid of John Brown, it may not become me to put in any defence of my conduct in calling out the military force of the State; and I should have nothing to say on that subject, if a helper of Helper (laughter) had not arraigned me before the public. All I have to say is, that it is well for him that I am not now Governor, and do not now wield the sword of Virginia. [Cheers and laughter.]

"So far as I am personally concerned, the ravings of Black Republicans, and of those who would clothe these wolves with sheeps' clothing for the sake of the "power, place and plunder," which they may have to bestow, pass me as idle winds. But as Governor of this Commonwealth, I had duties to perform far beyond the scope of my personal vindication. When Commander in Chief of the militia, and the militia were called out to repel invasion and suppress insurrection, I ordered the Black Horse of Fauquier to scour from our mountain passes the Black Republicans of the Under-Wood order. And it is well for him who has lately published more incendiary matter than Helper's book, that I am not still Commander-in-chief, and that the troops of Ashby and of Scott are not still on the scout, or they might be ordered to scour this metropolis of a worse traitor to this Commonwealth than Underwood ever proved to be.

Were I Governor of Virginia to-day, I would have the constitutional right and power to order the same troops here to sweep from Richmond the helper of Helper. (Cheers and cries of good.) There is no use, it is all a farce, it is all a pretext to have Vigilance committees, if you allow such helpers of Helper to play incendiaries with torches as inflaming as those that were found at Harper's Ferry."

Mr. Botts may reply to this assault.

CULPEPER LANDS.—We were misinformed in stating, in our last, that the farm of Col. Ross, near Brandy Station, in this county, sold to Messrs. Kenedy and Wise, of Augusta, contained 1,400 acres. Col. Ross informs us that it contains a little over 1,200 acres, making the price, per. acre, in the neighborhood of 43.50 per acre.—*Blue Ridge Republican.*

ROCKINGHAM ITEMS.—Edward S. Peale's barn, about a mile and a half east of Harrisburg, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday evening last, a little after dark. The fire is thought to have been the work of an incendiary.

Wild Pigeons are abundant in the region of country about Harrisonburg.

1000 LBS. BUCKWHEAT, just received, and for sale by
feb 4 J. E. DOUGLASS.

The new French Premier.

Edward Antoine Thouvenal, the successor of Count Walewski, was born at Verdun, Nov. 11, 1818. He received a good education, and studied law. At the age of twenty years he set out for a tour in the East. He was absent for nearly a year, and upon his return to Paris, he published a narrative of his travels. In 1843 he entered the diplomatic service, as as attache to the legation at Brussels. The minister at that court, M. Piscatory, soon after left Athens and M. Thouvenel became charge d' affaires. This post he held until the breaking out of the revolution in February, 1848, when he was superceded.

He was soon restored, however, by the French provisional Government. In 1848, he was promoted to the rank of full minister to Greece. In 1850, he was sent as minister plenipotentiary to Munich. After the *coup d'etat* of December 2, 1851, he was placed at the head of one of the bureaus in the Foreign Department, at Paris, where he remained until 1855, when he was sent to Vienna, and soon after to Constantinople; where he remained as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary until his appointment as successor to Count Walewski.

It will thus be seen that M. Thouvenal has had ample experience as a diplomatist, as he is a man of great talents, and an accomplished scholar, we may reasonably expect that in his new position he will make his mark.—*Petersburg Express.*

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE.—ANOTHER MORGAN AFFAIR PERHAPS.—Everybody is of course familiar with the Morgan disappearance, which caused so intense an excitement a number of years ago, not only in this country but also in Europe. It was said the Masons made way with him for revealing the secrets of the Order, and many believe the story to this day. A somewhat similar occurrence is now exciting the citizens of Zanesville. The Aurora not long since published what was purported to be a full expose of the mode of initiation, signs, secrets and mysteries of the Sons of Malta, which was extensively copied. The expose was considered a good joke, got up by some wag to amuse the Sons, and was laughed over by not a few. It, however, assumed a serious aspect when it was discovered that one Curtis was the author, and that he had suddenly and mysteriously disappeared. Suspicion pointed at once to the Sons of Malta, and it is feared that unless the mystery which enshrouds the case is cleared up, the citizens will rise *en masse* against the Order. We regret, exceedingly, that such an unfortunate occurrence has transpired, as it will work infinite mischief to the Order if the person should not be found.—We are sanguine, however, that he will turn up somewhere, and it will be found that his disappearance had not the remotest connection with any jokes he may have perpetrated on the Sons.—*Sandusky Register.*

Agassiz has a human jaw and a portion of foot taken from conglomerate rock in Florida, which he thinks is at least ten thousand years old; he might add one hundred thousand years as well. Dr. Dickenson has a portion of a human pelvis (a true fossil) obtained near Natchez, Mississippi—intertiary deposite supposed to be one hundred and twenty thousand years old. The world renowned Gaudaloupe fossil, to which no antiquity has been assigned with any degree of probability, is certainly as old. In fact no definite time or age can be ascribed to any fossil, we can only approximate to it, and that not very closely. We may say of fossils that they are ten thousand, one hundred thousand, or five hundred thousand years old, and yet that will seem short in geolgical computation.

It would be impossible to set a limit to the period when man did not exist on our globe; nor can we approximate that age until we can, by geology or some other means, determine how long a time has elapsed since the continents were covered with the waters of the drift, and then determine how long anterior to that the stone hatchets and other implements which were found, passed under the hand of their fabricators.—*Scientific American.*

UNCONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS.—The Philadelphia Public Ledger calls attention to a fact which at this juncture deserves to be better known—which is, that the Constitution of the United States expressly provides, "that no State shall enter into any alliance, treaty or confederation, and adds subsequently, in order to prevent all misunderstanding about the matter, that "no State shall, without the consent of Congress, keep troops or ships of war in time peace, or enter into *any agreement or compact with another State*, or with a foreign power." Commenting on this, Judge Story gives as a reason for the prohibition, "that it might lead to mischievous combinations injurious to the general interests, and lead them, the States, to agreeing into confederacies of a geographical or sectional character.

A Capt. Walker, stated to be the Captain of the slaver Wanderer, and who recently arrived in Liverpool under extraordinary circumstances, was under arrest in that place, charged with having conspired with others to obtain money by false pretences.—The evidence before the Magistrate showed that Walker was treating for the purchase of a ship for a slave expedition.

MORE NEW BOOKS.—*Barnet on the Church.* The Path which led a Protestant Lawyer to the Catholic Church, by Peter H. Burnet, one royal octavo volume, price $2.50.

On the Origin of Species, by means of Natural Selection, or the preservation of favored races in the struggle for Life, by Charles Darwin, M. A. Fellow of the Royal Geological Society, &c., $1.25.

Campbell's Virginia.—History of the Colony and Ancient Dominion of Virginia, by Charles Campbell, in one handsome royal octavo volume, $3.

Northend's Teacher.—The Teacher's Assistant, or Hints and Methods in School Discipline and Instruction, being a series of familiar letters to one entering upon the Teacher's Work, by Charles Northend, A. M., author of "The Teacher and Parent," &c., $1.

Theory and Practice of Teaching.—The motives and methods of good School Keeping, by David Page, A. M., late Principal of the Normal School, Albany, N. Y., 25th edition, $1.25. Just published, and for sale by ROBERT BELL.
feb 4

VALUABLE TAN YARD FOR SALE OR RENT.—I offer for sale the valuable tan yard, long and favorably known as one of the best locations for a tannery in the Valley, situated in the town of Front Royal, Warren county, Va., immediately upon Happy Creek. Its proximity to the Railroad, convenience to an abundance of the best of bark, without opposition in the county, render it a most desirable property to those wishing to engage in that lucrative and healthy business.

Any person wishing to purchase, will address Col. Joseph Tuly, Millwood, Clarke county, Va., or call upon Tho. N. Ashby, esq., in Front Royal, who will take pleasure in showing the property. If not sold it will be for rent. In either case the terms will be very accommodating.
URIAL WRIGHT.
Warren county, feb 4—co3t

BRAITHWAITE FOR JANUARY.—Braithwaite's Retrospect of Practical Medicine and Surgery, containing a Retrospective View of every discovery and practical improvement in the Medical Sciences, edited by William Braithwaite, Lecturer on Obstetric Medicine at the Leeds School of Medicine, &c., price $2 per annum, or $1 per No. ☞ Nos. delivered free of expense. Just published, and for sale by
feb 4 ROBT. BELL.

FAMILY FLOUR.—100 bbls. of E. R. Harrison's best Family Flour, for sale, and a variety of Extra and Super, by
feb 4 Z. ENGLISH & BRO.

"MINCE MEAT," of my own manufacture, for sale at reduced price, by
feb 4 J. E. DOUGLASS.

COMMERCIAL.

Monetary.

In Money matters there has been very little change during the week. All kinds of Stocks are quiet, and in prices there are no changes. Some sales of Corporation bonds have been made at some Railroad securities firm, and a lot of Orange & Alexandria Railroad 6 per cent. bonds sold at par and interest. The appropriations by the Legislature to our internal improvements, are causing a better inquiry for bonds, and as soon as the bills now through the House of Delegates, and those which we have no doubt will pass, shall become laws, an advance in these stocks may be looked for. Money is still in active demand, but the pressure is less observable, and an easier state of affairs is now confidently looked for. Gold and silver are in fair supply. Exchange on New York is in active enquiry, but the rates are unchanged, viz: ¼@⅜. The Baltimore money market is quoted easier. First class paper is sought for on the street, and there is no difficulty in placing it at 8 per cent. Short call loans can be had at 9@10 per cent. The Banks are still supplying their customers to the extent of their wants. In the New York money market there is a decided ease. Virginia sixes have recovered somewhat, and are now quoted at 92½.

The Land Warrant market is more active. There is an advance of 2 cents on large sizes, with a good demand. Messrs. Thompson Bros. quote:

	Buying.	Selling.
40's per acre	100 cts.	110 cts.
80's "	84 "	90 "
120's "	66 "	73 "
160's "	68 "	75 "

PRICES OF PRODUCE IN ALEXANDRIA

FROM CARS, VESSELS, AND WAGONS, (YESTERDAY

FLOUR, Super	$5 25	@ $5 37
Do Extra	5 75	@ 5 87
Do Family	6 50	@ 7 50
WHEAT, White	1 33	@ 1 35
Do Red	1 20	@ 1 25
CORN, White	0 76	@ 0 78
Do Mixed	0 75	@ 0 00
Do Yellow	0 76	@ 0 00
CORN MEAL, ℔ bushel	0 80	@ 0 85
OATS	0 37½	@ 0 00
RYE	0 80	@ 0 00
CLOVER SEED, (retail)	6 00	@ 6 25
TIMOTHY SEED	2 50	@ 2 60
FLAXSEED	1 35	@ 1 40
SEMAC, ℔ hundred	1 25	@ 0 00
PLASTER, Lump, retail, delivered on