



ALEXANDRIA, VA. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1874.

The Washington correspondent of Baltimore Sun says: "No action has yet been taken by the Attorney General of Virginia in reference to the suit of Phillips vs. Payne, in which the constitutionality and present force of the act of 1846, retroceding Alexandria to Virginia, is involved."

A letter from Washington city says:—"The Gaines-Cushing suit assumes a tripartite form by the intervention of Mr. James Janin, who files his bill against Mr. Cushing and Mrs. Gaines in reference to the same estates that form the subject matter of the suits already reported."

Bishop Johns, Bishop of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Virginia, has written and published, in pamphlet form, a reply to the letter of Mr. Latane, of Wheeling, in which the Bishop takes the ground that Mr. L. has left the church (according to his own showing) without good cause; that the doctrines of the church are scriptural, but that they have been misunderstood, which is no reason for withdrawal. The letter is very kind, and the Bishop seems deeply pained that Mr. Latane should have left such a church for such reasons.

A message was received in the House of Representatives, from the Senate on Saturday requesting the return to that body of the joint resolution authorizing the appointment of a committee to investigate the affairs of the District of Columbia. The request for the return of the resolution has created the impression that the Senate will reconsider its action, and that it will leave the House to conduct the investigation alone.

The following gentlemen were on Saturday appointed the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy at West Point for 1874: General Charles S. Hamilton, of Wisconsin; Commander C. R. J. Rodgers, of U. S. Navy; J. Donald Cameron, esq., of Pennsylvania; Rev. A. B. Kendrick, of Iowa; Hon. Francis Wayland, of Yale College, Connecticut; Hon. O. P. Temple, of Tennessee; and Hon. Richard P. Hammond, of California.

A Washington correspondent in the New York Express, writes as follows in regard to Washington: "The number of really splendid mansions recently erected would adorn New York, while the blocks of less imposing residences compare with those of other cities. Probably nowhere, with the exception of burned Chicago and Boston, has the hand of the builder been more busy within the last two years."

John C. Henry, chief clerk in the U. S. revenue office at Lynchburg, Va., has absconded with a large amount of money. Twenty thousand dollars was found secured in a drawer which he failed to take with him. It is estimated that he carried off about \$100,000. He had the implicit confidence of the collector and did all his banking business, hence the opportunity to default.

Additional particulars of the Tweed rascalities in New York are given this morning. The total amount stolen by "the Ring" is stated to be twenty millions of dollars, of which four millions was on Court-house account. Mike Norton, one of the Commissioners of the Court-house, has made a confession implicating Tweed, Conolly, Woodward, Ingersoll and Watson.

Mr. Dawes expects to begin his great speech on the finances on Tuesday or Wednesday.—The debate will run a long time. Maynard, of Tennessee, will have nominal charge of the Banking and Currency bill, but will not speak much. General Butler has a speech ready, in favor of inflation, while Judge Hoar is to take the floor on the other side of the question.

The British Parliamentary returns received up to date show that seventy-five Conservatives have been elected to seats formerly occupied by Liberals, and that twenty-seven Liberals have been chosen in place of Conservatives. Mr. Gladstone will await the conclusion of the elections before deciding what course the Government will take.

The Galaxy for March will contain an interesting article by Rev. J. L. M. Curry, LL. D., of Richmond College, Virginia, on the Confederate States and their Constitution, in which certain points of advantage in the Confederate Constitution over our existing Federal Constitution are suggested by the writer.

Another attempt will be made in the House of Representatives to get a resolution through requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the House how many of its members are stockholders in national banks. As the stockholders are supposed to comprise a majority, the resolution will fail, of course.

The entire number of persons engaged throughout the country, under the internal revenue bureau, is 3,533 against 8,599 seven years ago.

The Augusta Constitutionalist proposes the organization of an association in each Southern State for the purpose of pensioning Confederate soldiers who have no government to recognize their claims and look after their wants. The plan for raising the money is by lottery, a rather questionable method.

Sister Mary Raphael, (Miss Margaret Ennis), a member of the Visitation Order, died at the Convent in Georgetown yesterday morning, after a lingering illness, of consumption. She was a sister of Mrs. John F. Ellis, and the eldest daughter of the late Gregory Evans, of Washington city.

The railroad law of Illinois, for the equalization of freights and passengers, is about to be put to the test. The Attorney General of that State has brought suit against the Chicago and Alton Railway Company for violating the law in charging more than a fair and reasonable compensation.

Mr. Henry Clews, the leading member of the great banking house of Henry Clews & Co., was married on Thursday evening last, at Keokuk, Iowa, to Miss Lucy Worthington, the step-daughter of Hon. Robert F. Bowen, a wealthy merchant of Keokuk, and niece of Hon. W. W. Belmont, Secretary of War.

The detail for the military court of inquiry in General O. Howard's case will probably be announced officially to-morrow as follows: Gen. Sherman, Lieutenant General Sheridan, Major General McDowell, and Brigadier Generals Pope and Meigs.

Examination of the bodies of Chang and Eng will, it is definitely understood, take place at the College of Physicians in Philadelphia, about noon to-day. No one will be admitted unless he is a member of the college, and all will be pledged to secrecy.

The statement of the press of Richmond and other places, that Governor Kemper was preparing and is about to send to the Legislature a message on finance is premature, the Governor not having written, or even determined upon such a course.

We learn from an exchange that a Col. James P. Taylor, of Knoxville, has invented a piece of artillery that will mow down men at the rate of a regiment a minute. It has been tested, and is declared to be the most formidable instrument of war now in existence.

In a few weeks all the cattle trains from the southwest for Baltimore will cross the river at Alexandria and reach Baltimore by the new branch of the Baltimore and Ohio road from east Alexandria.

The effort for holding a convention of the publishers of newspapers, in Virginia is revived. Yesterday was the coldest day of the winter in Hartford, Connecticut.

The famine is said to be increasing and spreading in British India.

NEWS OF THE DAY

"To show the very age and body of the Times" A letter from Austin Texas, states that the recent election of General Maxey as United States Senator was a complete surprise all around. Gov. Throckmorton and Hon. John H. Reagan were the two principal candidates, and their strength in the Legislature was very nearly equal. After a number of fruitless ballots the friends of both, unknown to each other determined to see what could be accomplished by making a division in favor of Maxey, but without the remotest idea of helping his chances. When the votes were counted it was found that Maxey was elected by a majority of one vote.

The House committee on Indian affairs have agreed to report a bill the main features of which make it a penal offense to cheat or defraud an Indian, or to fraudulently obtain his signature or mark to a receipt for money which has not been fully explained to him. The bill generally has the effect of protecting the Indians from swindling agents, contractors, &c., who have heretofore grown rich at their expense.

A hackman named Higgins was fined the other day in New York, for an atrocious assault upon an unprotected girl, who was passing through the city to her home in Providence. Frightened by the prospect of a heavy sentence he offered to marry the girl, and it was urged upon her by others. Wisely, however, she steadfastly refused saying that she "would not marry him for a court house full of people."

Mr. Stewart has introduced a bill in the Senate providing for the payment of legal services of Edmund L. Randolph, in the case of the New Alameda wine of California. It is claimed that but for Randolph's services the Government would have lost the wine. A claim for \$75,000 has now been made by his heirs, who have found among his papers since his death that he is entitled to compensation.

The Rev. Charles S. Thompson, of Chicago, received lately a call to Louisville, Ky., with a salary of \$5,000 a year. He acknowledged the offer very gratefully, but said, "None of these things move me." A telegram came, "We have voted \$500 to move your family and furniture." But he still resists.

The question of fuel is becoming important, even in Minnesota. Coal is scarce, and wood is dear, away from the forests. Peat is considered as the great resource. In some counties where there is no wood, two days' work with a good spade will excavate enough fuel for a year.

Suits have been instituted in the Superior Court of Wake county N. C., by August Belmont & Co., bankers, of New York city, as plaintiffs, to compel the State auditor to collect special tax bonds for the payment of interest for the years 1870, '71 '72 '73 and '74.

Affidavits of New York alleged detectives are published charging Charles Gray, the Democratic candidate for receiver of taxes of Philadelphia with criminal offenses in New York city. Forney's Press publishes a card from Gray, stating that the charges are false.

Edwin Booth is "busted." Booth's theatre did it. He goes into bankruptcy with debts amounting to over \$160,000, which he has to liquidate over \$61,000, to pay. Edwin, however, is young and handsome and able to hamlet himself out of his troubles.

According to the report for January from the Department of Agriculture, the prospect for a good wheat crop in Maryland is not encouraging. Most of the early seeding has been attacked by the Hessian fly. The area sowed is about 21,000 acres.

New Orleans is said to have a population of 230,955, an increase of 39,567 over the census of 1870. Assuming this statement to be a fact it makes New Orleans the eighth city in the Union, or next to Boston.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

The schooner Forest Oak is now taking on board 500 tons of gas coal at the wharves of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, at Richmond, destined for New Haven; about 3,000 tons are hauled over the line for New York, Brooklyn, and other points. This is merely the beginning of an important trade in canal and gas coals, which have been heretofore derived from foreign countries.

The course of Virginia is semi-annual elections. A voter scarcely perfects reconciliation with his neighbor against whom he has cast a ballot before the trouble is to be gone over again. Then the mischief of the thing is, voters have to pay about \$80,000 a year for this luxury.

There is a strong probability that the people of Rockingham county will soon have a new Court house, to take the place of the present old dilapidated and very unsafe building.

An excited competition is going on in regard to the place where shall be established the new lunatic asylum, which it is believed the General Assembly will create.

Thomas Jones Bebb, is largely circulating information about Virginia in Germany, whence he hopes to attract settlers.

J. Another Smith, representative of the Richmond district, in the youngest member, of Congress.

From Cuba.

Two full pages of the Havana Official Gazette of the 7th are devoted to numerous orders issued by Captain General Jovellanos, who was recently reinstated with extraordinary powers.

The first proclamation of the Captain General gives a full explanation of the present state of the insurrection, and the reasons why it continues. It also contains assurances that peaceable citizens can live tranquilly and securely under the protection of the laws as long as they do not infringe them.

The second declares the entire island in a state of siege. All rebels and persons accused of sedition, murder and similar crimes are to be tried by court martial.

The third orders the mobilization of one volunteer out of every ten for active service. This is to begin immediately and will continue for six months.

The fourth orders that the militia shall be divided into four classes, according to age, and that everybody shall be included in the militia, all to be liable to military duty, under certain restrictions and conditions.

The fifth provides that free colored people enrolling themselves in the militia shall be subject to the same conditions as the whites, and shall be mobilized in the same manner.

The sixth orders that owners of slaves shall give each order that owners of slaves shall work in the camps and on the fortifications, and on the trenches. At the end of the campaign the government will liberate all these slaves, paying their owners \$1,000 for each.

The seventh augments every battalion in the army by two companies.

The eighth creates a junta for the inspection of all reports of the expenses of the war.

The ninth organizes a vigilance committee in the interior, who will take note of everything going on, and furnish guides and act as house guards.

The tenth orders that all officers and soldiers shall be paid in future in gold, or its equivalent in paper.

The eleventh increases the extra allowances and food of soldiers in the field.

The twelfth relates to towns and settlements in the interior, ordering that only such new settlements be preserved as may be necessary in a military and political sense.

These orders are published simultaneously throughout the island. The Spaniards suppose they will be sufficient to crush the insurrection within six months.

A SINGULAR CASE.—About nine years ago Mr. Julius Condry, of Chesterfield, Va., was shot at the battle of Hatcher's Run, near Petersburg. The ball, striking him behind the left ear, entered on the lower edge of the mastoid process, and passing in front of the cervical vertebrae detached eight small pieces of bone; then glancing to the left, passed through the facial region (or upper part of the throat) and behind the right tonsil gland, and lodged under the lower jaw bone near the submaxillary gland, producing a tumor which could be both seen and felt externally.

Recently, from some cause unknown to the writer, but traceable, perhaps, to some occult power of the vis medicatrix naturae exerted in order to get rid of extraneous matter, the ball commenced retracing its course by pressure on the side of the more yielding tissue, thereby causing ulcerative absorption, and soon appeared behind the right tonsil gland, whence it was easily dislodged.

The suppurating attending this retrograde movement of the ball caused much inconvenience to the sufferer, but that disappeared after the foreign body was removed. The most permanent injury inflicted by it is the loss of flexible and rotary movements of the head. He cannot look behind him without turning his body. What is exceedingly remarkable in this case, and gives it so much interest, is that so large and tough a missile as an eight-ounce Minie ball should plough through such vital parts, lacerating and contusing the fleshy structures, knocking to pieces the bones of the neck, producing comminuted fractures, wounding and injuring perhaps the very axis upon which the cranium rests and turns, and that he should survive such a terrible shock to the animal economy.—Rich. Dispatch.

AN OLD SOLDIER'S INDIAN POLICY.—Gen. Harney, whose name exercised such a wholesome terror over the hostile Indians a score of years ago, but who has been retired from active service for the last ten or twelve years, has been before the House Committee on Military Affairs, and was asked to give his views in reference to Indian matters. He gave it as his opinion that if the Indians were treated fairly there would never be any difficulties with them. He had known but two instances in which they had ever violated treaty stipulations, and in these two instances the Indians were to be excused, for the treaties had grown old before they were sought to be enforced by the government, and the chiefs and head men who had used them were principally caused by fraudulent agents and by whiskey dealers. He had never known an Indian agent who had not grown rich in office, except one. On being asked how the whiskey sellers could be suppressed, he answered without hesitation that they should be hanged or shot by the nearest military officer. He would have the officer take that responsibility. He was decidedly of the opinion that the management of the Indians would be much more effectively and honestly conducted by army officers than by civilians, unless army officers had changed very much since he knew them.

A COLORED JURY.—A dispatch from Charleston, S. C., says:—"The trial of James and B. L. Deffus, for the murder of Harry West, in July last, was closed late last night with a verdict of guilty of murder in the case of the former, and of manslaughter in the case of the latter. All the parties were young white men, respectfully connected. The accused were defended by three leading lawyers, and prosecuted by the Attorney General of the State. A peculiar feature of the trial was the selection by the prisoner's counsel of a black jury, composed exclusively of black men of the most ignorant and uneducated class; the reason assigned being that these would be free from the prejudices caused by newspaper reports of the atrocious circumstances of the murder. The jury were out three hours. The defence has moved for a new trial."

FROM RICHMOND.

RICHMOND, Feb. 7.—In the Senate, to-day, bills were reported in relation to actions of detainee; to amend the code in regard to the disturbance of religious worship, and amending the act to incorporate the Washington, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad Company.

Adverse reports were made upon bills in reference to inspection of jails; as to punishing the concealment of birth of children; requiring litigants residing outside of the county or corporation in which they institute suit to deposit five dollars with the clerk in actions at law, and ten dollars in suits in chancery, to pay fees; as to substituting the question of adopting a new charter for Petersburg to the voters of that city, and as to increasing the pay of jurors. Also as to the constitutionality of depriving citizens of the Commonwealth of an original trial by jury in cases where the right of trial by jury is guaranteed by the Constitution of the State.

The Committee for Courts of Justice were instructed to report upon the expediency of providing by law that the property of a single woman shall not be liable after marriage, for ante-nuptial debts of her husband.

Bills were presented to amend section 5 of the act for the encouragement of immigration; to provide for the payment of the indebtedness of Harrisonburg town-ship, in the county of Rockingham, and to incorporate the Culpeper Library Association.

The bill to provide for a lease of the penitentiary was made the order for Wednesday next. Bills amending the code providing for organizing chain gangs, and to prevent the obstruction of streams and highways, were passed.

A number of bills were advanced to engrossment. In the House of Delegates the Senate bill to provide a charter for Petersburg was reported to the Senate, and was referred to the Committee on Courts of Justice—pages 46, news 41.

A report was agreed to that it would be in violation of the constitution of the State to abolish the registration laws of the State except in cities and towns containing over one thousand inhabitants, as provided by the bill referred to the committee.

The report of the Committee on Courts of Justice, declaring it inexpedient to legislate on the subject of amending the code in reference to exemptions in case of distress was agreed to.

Bills were passed for the relief of sheriff in the service of civil process of other counties than the one in which they reside; to amend the code in relation to executors; to incorporate the One Dollar Savings Bank at Charlottesville, and to amend the code in reference to judgment liens.

Judge Cockrell, of Fairfax, presented a memorial of citizens of Fairfax Court House, asking for the passage of a law forbidding the sale of ardent spirits on Sunday.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Several members of the Senate and House of Delegates left the city to-day, for an excursion to Norfolk by rail and from thence to Baltimore by the Bay line steamers. They are to return by way of Washington and the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad.

Citizens of Westmoreland county have sent to the Legislature a petition praying for the enactment of a law that will prevent the destruction of mocking birds in that county. They represent that apart from their sweet notes, these birds are friends of the agriculturalist, by destroying insects and worms.

The new charter for Petersburg has been referred to the Judiciary Committee of the House of Delegates, a number of Conservative members desiring to have the opinion of the Judiciary Committee upon the Constitutional points involved.

There is a petition now before the Legislature asking the incorporation of the Virginia Chemical and Mining Company, the purpose of said organization being to develop the mineral and other resources of the State by mining the native sulphur and other ores, &c., and by manufacturing these and other materials into chemicals, fertilizers, &c. The capital stock of the company to be \$100,000, in shares of \$100 each, and the works of the company are to be established at Richmond or such other place or places in the State as the company shall determine.

The Finance Committee of the House are hearing evidence and argument in the case of Kelly, who has a claim against the Commonwealth for \$10,491.97, with interest from the 12th of September, 1857, on account of work done on the Blue Ridge Railroad and Blue Ridge Tunnel.

The code of 1873, recently published, has been adopted by the House of Delegates as the law of the State, but the Senate refuses to agree to this arrangement for the reason that the work has never undergone legislative revision. Notwithstanding this both Houses are daily passing acts amending this code, thereby recognizing it as law.

The balance in the State treasury to-day is \$594,567.61.

ASHANTEE.—The Ashantee expedition has resulted in a great success, within a shorter period than the most sanguine believers in British pluck and endurance could have anticipated, and with a comparatively trifling loss of life. The enterprise has proved a holiday excursion compared with the long marches, the dangers, mountains and defiles and the many dangers which had to be met and overcome by Napier's Abyssinian expedition. But the results from the subjugation of King K-floe will be infinitely more valuable to England than the conquest for the suppression of King Theodore. It means substantially the annexation of an immense territory in Equatorial Africa, exceedingly rich in all the products of the tropics, and capable of development into a great market for English manufactures. Commae, the Ashantee capital, is reported to be a wealthy city in the rude manufactures of the natives in cottons and ornaments of gold, and rich, too, as a depot of palm oil, gold dust, ivory and all the exchanges from the surrounding tribes. As Sir Garnet Wolesey, within thirty miles of this famous unknown African capital, has halted only for a few days, we infer that after this halt he will resume his march to the city and occupy it. We shall then probably learn that the reports heretofore spread abroad of its barbaric riches were fabulous inventions; but, nevertheless, the occupation of Commae by the British army will be another entering wedge for civilization into the heart of Equatorial Africa.—N. E. Herald.

A MISSING STEAMER.—The gravest apprehensions are entertained in relation to the safety of the steamer Candi de Marca, Captain Henry Hanson, which sailed from the mouth of the Mississippi river on the 15th of November last, bound for the Madalena river in South America. She had a crew of seventeen men, all from that region, who had been sent to New Orleans to assist in working the steamer to her destination. The boat was built at Pittsburgh. In getting it down the Ohio river it was delayed nearly a month by getting aground near Troy, Indiana, and consequently left New Orleans much later than was considered prudent. The boat was built to run up the Madalena river, and Captain Hanson had previously navigated two or three steamers of the same kind safely to that locality. His usual course has been to touch at Key West, Cuba and San Domingo, from which places he always wrote promptly. Key West is about four days' sail from New Orleans. Nearly twelve days have now elapsed, and all the points have been repeatedly heard from, but no tidings of the boat of any kind have been received.—Balt. American.

The Washington Ring in Trouble.

The petition of prominent citizens of the District of Columbia asking for a re-investigation of the official acts of the late Board of Public Works, asserts that the signers have proof of their allegations of fraud and corruption. The alarm of the District ring is shown by the frantic assertions of the Washington organs that Congress cannot afford to waste time in fruitless enquiries. In the Senate Monday and on Friday, the apologists for the Board of Public Works were unanimous in the belief that the petition ought not to be printed. The following is a sample of the character of the documents upon which the accusations are made, in the form of a letter from Hon. H. H. Starkweather, member of Congress from the Third Connecticut District, to W. S. Huntington, of the Washington "paying ring."

(Confidential.) Forty-First Congress, United States, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C. March 13, 1871.

My Dear Sir: On Friday, before leaving Washington, I called at your banking house, but I was detained by illness from business. I hope you will soon be well. Allow me to make a suggestion not to embark in any of the least. As you are aware, I have been nominated for Congress, and our election is three weeks from to-day. My opponents are making vigorous efforts to defeat me, but all my friends say my election is sure. I know it is; but I shall be compelled to embark in any of the least. As you are aware, I have been nominated for Congress, and our election is three weeks from to-day. My opponents are making vigorous efforts to defeat me, but all my friends say my election is sure. I know it is; but I shall be compelled to embark in any of the least. As you are aware, I have been nominated for Congress, and our election is three weeks from to-day. My opponents are making vigorous efforts to defeat me, but all my friends say my election is sure. 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