ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER.

Alexandria Gazette — Sic Semper Tyrannis — And Virginia Advertiser

PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

TUESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 21, 1879.

The bill introduced in the Senate, yesterday, by Mr. Christiancy, provides for legitimizing the children of polygamous marriages, but declares their mothers concubines and punishable unless it may please the President to grant them amnesty. The Mormon men can skip to green fields and pastures new, but the poor mothers, who married in accordance with their religious belief, and a majority of whom are well advanced in life, are to be branded as wantons and turned adrift upon the world, forlorn and unprotected. The recent decision of the Supreme Court on the polygamous marriage question shows that in this age of boasted advanced civilization the same rule holds that governed the world in the old days when might made right, and shows that now as then the weaker party must suffer. According to a principle recently enforced in the South, that an alleged criminal must be tried by a jury of his peers, the Mormon women have been illegally convicted, for no jury composed of women would have rendered such a one sided decision.

The substitute decided upon by the democratic senatorial caucus, yesterday, was a fit supplement to the resolutions adopted by the Virginia State Senate Saturday. As long as the country maintains a republican form of government with constitutional restrictions, its animating principles should be the liberty of the individual citizen and the potentiality, not of one amendment to the constitution, but of the whole constitution in its entirety, and of all laws passed in accordance therewith. If the fundamental principles of the existing government are to be changed, let its form and name be made to conform to the alteration, but as long as it sails under the flag of a constitutional republic let its institutions be those of a free, independent and constitutionally protected people.

Polygamy.

SALT LAKE CITY, Jan. 20.—At a meeting of the anti polygamy society, to day, it was resolved that we have appealed to our country women to join us in urging Congress to pass laws to enable the Courts to arrest simply further polygamy. It was not the Gentiles, but the Utah Legislature, composed almost entirely of polygamists, which took the right of dower away from the Utah wives of Gentiles, a Mormon robbery, but shabbily compensated for by the granting of the electoral franchise. The anti polygamists of Utah, being in the minority, would be unable, if they desired, to afflict the Mormons or rob them. The Gentiles have paid for or created what they own in Utah. In mining they have $20,000,000 invested, and are as much interested as the Mormons in maintaining personal rights. Since the announcement of the decision of the Supreme Court in the Reynolds case there are signs in Utah of a change of sentiment in regard to polygamy. The Congress that passed and the court that sustained the law are denounced by all Mormon editors and preachers, and there is a determination to adhere to polygamy almost universally expressed. If, under existing circumstances, Congress should grant amnesty to polygamists or adjourn without action it would be regarded by the Mormons as a triumph of God and his saints over their enemies. Instead of granting amnesty for the past on mere promised obedience in the future, we ask Congress to enforce the existing prohibition of polygamy in the future. The difficulty of enforcing the law arises from the impossibility of securing legal evidence of plural marriages and from the fact that jurors, grand and pettit, are largely polygamous. Let Congress provide that these shall be excluded from the jury lists and that polygamous marriages may be proved by the same evidence as is received in civil actions and the courts could at once place polygamy in a process of ultimate extinction which is all we ask. Such a law could not be abused as it would be entirely within the control of the Government. Thus can Congress force the abandonment of polygamy and have not even the appearance of harsh treatment of the Mormons. These polygamous delegates charge that dram drinking, dram selling, prostitution and kindred vices were unknown in Utah previous to the advent of the Gentiles when it is a matter of public notoriety that Brigham Young owned a large distillery which supplied Utah saints and many outsiders with whiskey, that Zions institutions deals largely in intoxicating drinks, that it is a well known fact that at the meeting of the Mormon priesthood presided over by Brigham Young every man confesses himself guilty of adultery outside of his polygamous relations and that Mormon preachers publicly lament the great number of illegitimate births in purely Mormon settlements.

Extensive Fire.

ELIZABETH, N. J., Jan. 21.—The Arcade is now on fire, having ignited at 10:30 o'clock. The structure is owned by ex-Congressman Ames Clark, jr.

The First National bank, Postoffice, Western Union Telegraph office, Conservatory of Music, Masonic Hall, Opera House and four stores and fifteen offices, are located in the building. The cause of the fire is yet unknown. The firemen are at work, but cannot approach the building owing to the dense smoke. The loss will be very heavy. The building alone is worth $150,000. The best block of buildings in the city is in danger.

LATER.

The fire in the Arcade is burning furiously. The Opera House is completely burned. The National and Savings banks are safe. The firemen at this writing have the fire under control. The Masonic Hall, Conservatory of Music, National Guard headquarters and all the upper offices, in the building, are destroyed. The Arcade cost $250,000. It is reported it is only partially insured. All the deposits, including money, have been removed from banks and all letters and papers from the Postoffice.

Inauguration.

DOVER, Del. Jan. 21.—John W. Hall, was inaugurated Governor of Delaware to-day in the presence of the legislature and a large concourse of citizens. The city councils and militia companies of Wilmington were also present.

Escaped Prisoners.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 21.—Nine prisoners sawed their way out of the jail at Clarksville, Tenn., Sunday night.

Seven moonshiners have been captured by the revenue force in Lorne county, Ky. They have long defied the law and threatened death to any one attempting their arrest. They were taken by surprise.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate yesterday a bill was passed authorizing the Auditor to set apart 50 per ct. of the monies that come into the treasury to pay the arrears to the Lunatic asylums and Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institution until all of the residue now due thereon is paid, which sum shall be paid ratably to said institutions.

The Committee on Courts of Justice were requested to inquire and report whether any bills now pending in the Congress of the United States the effect of which may be to restrict or modify the present jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia; if so, what is its character, and whether any legislative action is necessary or proper with reference thereto.

The Senate refused to suspend the rules, and passed the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas the public credit of the State of Virginia and the credit of our citizens have been impaired, and are now being impaired, by the apprehension that this General Assembly will repudiate or endeavor to forcibly readjust the debt of the State; and whereas we deem it important to remove this apprehension from the minds of all persons; and whereas of the disposition existed on the part of the General Assembly to pass any such act of repudiation, the Constitutions both of the State and Federal Government positively prohibit the passage of any such laws; therefore, in order to prevent any further injury to our credit,

Resolved, That this General Assembly will pass no such act of repudiation nor any act whereby the public creditors may be forced or constrained by threats, fears or force to accept any settlement of the debt due by the Commonwealth without their free and unbiased consent and approbation.

The bill to amend sections 1 and 3 of an act for the election of three commissioners of the revenue for the county of Loudoun was passed.

The Senate bill appropriating money for the payment of commutation to maimed soldiers, sailors and marines, in lieu of artificial limbs or eyes heretofore provided by law was passed.

In the House of Delegates bills were introduced and referred, for the relief of Wm. Chinn, of Prince William county; to amend the act for the preservation of oysters and to obtain revenue for the privilege of taking the same; to amend the act providing for the working and keeping in order the roads of the Commonwealth; to prevent the overflow or other damages to public roads by persons draining lands across them.

Bills were reported from Committees to amend the Code in relation to promissory notes and to provide for the erection of suitable shutes for the passage of fish by the owners of mill dams across the north branch of the Shenandoah river.

The Committee on Schools and Colleges reported a bill to reorganize the Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical college, which provides that the offices of all members of the present board of visitors of the college shall be vacated on the 4th day of June, 1879, and their successors shall be appointed by the Governor as soon as practicable after the passage of the act and prior to the close of the present session of the General Assembly, whose term of office is to commence on the 4th of June, 1879, and to consist of eight persons, four to be designated as the first class, to continue in office until the 1st of January, 1882; second class to continue in office till the 1st of January, 1884. On the 1st of January, 1882, and biennially thereafter to appoint four persons to fill the vacancies, who shall continue four years; the new board to hold a special meeting on the — day of June, 1879, to remove from office the President, professors and all other officers of the college, said removal to take effect on the 12th of August, 1879, and to proceed at once to reorganize the Virginia Agricultural college by filling the several vacancies so made, the appointments to take effect on 12th of August, 1879. The salary of the president is not to exceed $2,000, and that of no one of the professors shall exceed $1,500

Mr. Hunter, of Alexandria county, offered a resolution inquiring into the expediency of abolishing the board of directors of the penitentiary, which was referred.

The bill providing for the sale and transfer, &c., of the James River and Kanawha Canal Company was again postponed till to-day.

It having been asserted that the State has received about $90,000 worth of arms, &c., from the Federal Government which cannot be accounted for, a resolution was adopted calling for information as to what number of arms and accoutrements have been received by this Commonwealth from the Federal Government since 1865, and the value thereof; what disposition has been made of the same, and the names of the companies to whom the same have been issued and the precise condition of such arms and accoutrements.

Mr. Hunter introduced a bill for the better protection of game in Alexandria and Fairfax counties.

The bill to amend section 13 of chapter 178 of the Code of 1873, in relation to appeals, writs of error and supersedeas was recommitted.

A resolution was adopted for the appointment of a joint committee to revise the laws regulating the fees of county officers, including the clerks of both courts, sheriffs, constables, commissioners of the revenue, and justices of the peace, and to report the same, incorporated in one act, for the purpose of uniformity of charges and conveniences of reference.

The bill proposing to abolish the office of railroad commissioner was after a long discussion recommitted.

BALTIMORE CITY DEBT.—The annual message of Mayor Latrobe, of Baltimore, was sent to the city council yesterday. The finance condition of the city is as follows: The total funded and guaranteed debt December 31, 1878, amounted to $33,968,298.03, and the productive and interest-bearing assets to $22,959,098 11. The net floating debt of the city at the same time was $622,643.18. Of the funded and guaranteed debt interest on $16,122,566 23 is provided for by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, the city passenger railway companies, the Water Board, and the Western Maryland and Union Railroad Companies. The productive investments of the city consist of railroad and turnpike stocks, city markets, docks, wharves, sinking funds invested, and real estate. The estimated expenses of the city, including the floating debt, for the year 1879 are $5 581,065.15, and the estimated taxes in arrear to be collected during the year 1879 and other vouchers of revenue are $2,621,433, leaving the net amount to be raised by taxation $2,959,633.15 less by the sum of $1,519,052.90 than the estimates of last year.

The Theological Seminary Bill.

To the editor of the Alexandria Gazette:

In your issue of the 18th instant you state that the bill for the relief of the trustees of the Episcopal Seminary, &c., now before Congress, would in all probability have passed the House of Representatives, when last under consideration by that body, but for the bad management of those having it in charge. Allow me to say, as representative of the Seminary in this matter, that the management of this bill by its friends in the House has been all that could have been desired in every particular, and that the gentlemen supporting it will undoubtedly receive the hearty thanks of the Episcopal Church for their untiring zeal in its behalf.

Yours, &c., CAZENOVE G. LEE.

New York Militia.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 21.—The Adjutant-General's report shows the entire military force of the State to consist of seven divisions, thirteen brigades, one regiment, and twelve private companies of cavalry, one batallion, and two separate batteries of artillery, and twenty three regiments, six batallions, and thirty-one separate companies of infantry—in all 20,208 men.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The ice gorges in the Ohio at Wheeling broke yesterday.

The Emmanuel Congregational Church, Boston, was burned yesterday. Loss $20,000.

Matthew T. Brennan, ex-sheriff of New York, died yesterday.

Lieutenant Governor Hull, of Florida, has given bonds in $3,000 to answer the charge of election frauds.

Governor Hampton will make his first public appearance since his accident at the Charleston celebration, February 22.

A fire in Tallahassee, Fla., destroyed the Episcopal Church, rectory and school house yesterday. Loss eight thousand dollars.

The woolen mill of John Brown & Sons, Philadelphia, burned yesterday, was insured in Richmond, Va., for $2,500.

Private Jno. S. Hungerford, of the 21 artillery, at Fort Monroe, Va., was drowned Sunday night while attempting to cross Mill creek to the fort in a gale.

Committees from Baltimore will go from that city to Washington to appeal in behalf of the retention of $150,000 appropriation for the harbor of Baltimore.

Lieut. Gen. Sheridan writes to Gen. Sherman that being assured that the Indian service is not improved by the controversy between himself and the Secretary of the Interior he considers it at an end.

In view of the heavy losses of Boston insurance companies by the recent New York fires they have agreed to establish a tariff of rates and appointed a committee to consider the subject of an increase in the rates.

Nicholas Jacoby, who was shot in Pittsburg, Pa., early Thursday morning, while accompanying his wife home, died Sunday. He stated before death that Frank Small, a former lover of his wife, was the murderer. Small is under arrest.

Captain George Prince, of Bath, Me., has been arrested in that city, charged with obtaining a large amount of money from the pension office at Washington on fictitious names. The fraud has been going on for years, and detectives have been on the case for a year.

Governor Hartranft, of Pennsylvania, yesterday issued warrants for the execution, on the 18th of March, of Alex. B. Sayre, of Philadelphia, and Hezekiah Shafer, of Franklin county, Pa., wife murderers. He has also signed the commutation of the death sentence of Blasius Pistorius to imprisonment for life.

The Commissioner of Pensions has issued a series of rules in relation to the arrears of pensions in anticipation of the bill recently passed by Congress becoming a law by the signature of the President. The estimates for the drain upon the United States Treasury caused by this bill, if it becomes a law, vary from twenty to seventy five millions.

An explosion of dynamite occurred yesterday morning at No. 13 shaft of the Gunpowder Water Works, in Baltimore county, terribly injuring three men. The boiler shed was blown to pieces, and the boiler itself fell in fragments fifty feet from its original position, while at the same time the bodies of two men were shot into the air. Neither appeared to have any cuts upon the body, but they were frightfully burned and scalded. A third workman also received injuries from a piece of timber blown from the shed.

In the House of Representatives yesterday bills were presented to facilitate and economize work on the Washington monument; for the erection of a congressional library building; to pay certain mail contractors of the southern States for carrying mails prior to the war. A bill was passed providing for the settlement of outstanding claims against the District of Columbia, and conferring jurisdiction on the Court of Claims. Mr. Potter made an effort to introduce his resolutions for the investigation of the cipher dispatches and appropriating $10,000 for the purpose, but the matter went over till to day. Mr. Springer, of Illinois, presented a bill providing for a system of elections for members of Congress to secure the representation of minorities both in the North and South.

Inauguration of the Governor of Pennsylvania.

HARRISBURG, PA., Jan. 21.—Henry M. Hoyt was inaugurated Governor of Pennsylvania this morning to succeed Gov. Hartranft. The city has been thronged with visiting clubs and political organizations for some days, and the inaugural parade this morning was the largest ever had in this city. It was formed into five grand divisions—the first comprising five brigades of the National Guards of Pennsylvania, and numbering about 5,000 men; the second, the Governor, Governor elect, Lieutenant Governor, heads of department, and members of the Legislature, escorted by the Washington troops of Chester county; the third and fourth, the various political organizations of the State, numbering over 3 000 men, and the fifth, the fire department of Harrisburg and the visiting companies. The line was formed at 9:30 a. m., and at 10:30 the procession moved. Upon its arrival at the corner of State and 3rd streets, the second division, with the Governor elect, passed up State street to the Capitol, the troops saluting, the music playing and the arsenal battery firing a gubernatorial salute. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Thomas N. Boyle, of Pittsburg. The clerk of the Senate then read the certificate of election, and the oath of office was administered by Justice W. J. Woodward, of the Supreme Court. The inaugural address was then read, and was followed by the benediction and a national salute.

This evening there will be a grand display of fireworks in front of the Capitol and Governor and Mrs. Hoyt will hold a reception at the Executive Mansion.

HARRISBURG, PA., Jan. 21.—The Governor's inaugural rejoices at specie resumption and henceforth we are to produce and exchange actual things and not gamble in fictitious values. With regard to the maintenance of government by ballot with equal political rights for all, the address says: "Pennsylvania's attitude on this question is known wherever her name is known, and she will insist upon its enforcement in every State as certainly as her mountain peaks point toward heaven and her rivers roll to the sea."

SENATORIAL NOMINATIONS.—The democratic caucus in the Indiana Legislature last night nominated D. W. Voorhees for United States Senator for the long term by a unanimous vote. For the vacancy made by Mr. Morton's death, now filled by Mr. Voorhees by the Governor's appointment, but which must now be filled by the Legislature, George W. Julian and Mr. Voorhees were put in nomination, Julian receiving 5 votes and Voorhees 67. Seventy five votes will be necessary to elect. The republicans have nominated Gen. Ben Harrison for the long term, and Godlove S. Orth for the vacancy.

The republican caucus of the New York Legislature last night unanimously nominated Roscoe Conkling for the United States Senate. The democratic caucus nominated Lieut. Governor Dorscheimer.

In the Louisiana democratic Senatorial caucus the following vote was taken last night without a choice; Eustis 32, Kenner 26, Jonas 21, Lewis 8, the rest scattering.

The democrats of the Pennsylvania Legislature in caucus last night after several ballots decided to cast their votes for Hiester Clymer for United States Senator.

The master tanners of Bermondsey, a suburb of London, have given notice of a five per cent. reduction of the wages of their employees. The men declare that they will resist.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[SPECIAL TO THE ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 21.

The chief attraction at the Capitol to day was the speech of General Butler in the House. The galleries were crowded, great interest was manifested, and the strictest attention was paid to every word he uttered.

Mr. Potter as soon as the journal was read called up his resolution, introduced yesterday afternoon, appropriating $10,000 for investigating the famous cipher dispatches. In doing so he emphatically and with an air that carried conviction with it denied all the charges of interested and partisan motives that had been made against him in consequence of his chairmanship of the committee, and said that he only offered the resolution in consequence of instructions to that effect by the committee. He also explained the expenditure of the $20,000 already appropriated, and said that he supposed $5,000 would be sufficient for the proposed investigation, but that the radical members of the House had fixed the amount at $10,000.

General Butler then arose. He said that whether the cypher dispatches were intended to buy the votes of certain States or not, they had certainly effected no such purpose, that those who sent them were not in the employ of the Government, and that as was shown by the action of the House in the Acklen case the House had nothing to do with peoples' private character, and should not appropriate other peoples' money to any such purpose; that the whole affair was a scandal and that the proper plan to adopt towards it would be to advance upon it backward and cover it with the mantle of oblivion as a disgrace to free institutions. With regard to the possession of the dispatches, he said they were delivered to a committee of the Senate upon the order of that body and that the Western Union Telegraph Company was in no way to blame as it had resisted the delivery thereof as long as resistance was possible. He said that if the investigation was now entered upon it could not possibly be thorough and complete as the dispatches had been unguarded. Some had been lost, some abstracted, and some possibly altered. The whole matter, however, was a private affair, with which Congress had nothing to do; that if Congress wanted to give away 110 000 let them give it to some object that would help the poor, and that one of the reasons that induced him to oppose the resolution was that he wanted the people of the country to know that they had one congressman independent enough and disinterested enough to be in favor of devoting the few remaining days of the session to national interests even if party motives suffered, or a desire to scorch somebody's character was ungratified.

Mr. Hale, of Maine, favored the adoption of the resolution, and in a week attempt at sarcasm said the investigation would be the only opportunity afforded the poor old man who had been imposed upon by his underlings—[alluding to Mr. Tilden] to defend himself.

Mr. Conger, of Michigan, made one of his characteristic speeches in favor of the resolution, and attributing its introduction solely to the spurs of the republicans.

Mr. Hewitt, of New York, also favored the adoption of the resolution, and said the investigation would prove that no telegram attempting to buy an electoral vote had ever been received or sent by a member of the National Democratic Executive Committee; that Mr. Tilden was the fairly elected president of the country, and that he [Tilden] was guiltless of all the charges that had been brought against him. That there was no truth in the charge that he had attempted to use money. Mr. Hewitt asked if there was a member of the House who supposed that if money had been wanted for any such purpose there would have been any difficulty in obtaining it. His time expired before he had concluded his remarks and the republicans being anxious to reply, Mr. Garfield moved to extend the time, and on this the ayes and nays were called, and were being taken at a quarter before 3 o'clock, when this report closed, the democrats voting no, the republicans aye.

It having been stated that a few of the Virginia delegation had determined to make an effort to attach Virginia's claim to the sundry civil appropriation bill, Mr. Atkins, chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, says that such an effort will be subject to a point of order as new business, and that he will make it.

The Finance Committee of the Senate is still engaged on the House internal revenue bill, the principal proposed amendments to which are the removal of the tax on matches and a reduction in the tobacco tax. As Mr. Morrill, the chairman of the committee, is opposed to the latter, and has the means at his disposal of delaying action, and seems disposed to use them, the friends of the measure are not as sanguine of its success as they have been.

Messrs. Garland and Bailey, the democratic members of the Teller committee, have returned, and Messrs. Randolph and Wallace have gone to take their places.

Col. Joseph Segar's claim for pay as Senator from Virginia still hangs fire in the Senate. The Colonel, by the way, is quite sick with the gout.

The Committee on Commerce of the House this morning heard arguments pro and con on the question of free ships.

Should the bill now before Congress for paying the collectors of custom houses a commission on all expenditures made by them pass, it will add quite a little sum to the receipts of the collector of the port of Alexandria.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Germany and Austria are about adopting measures to prevent the spread of the plague.

Johann Most's London newspaper, the Freiheit, has been prohibited in Germany.

The Berlin Post says that Prince Bismarck is preparing to submit to the federal council a law for the regulation of railway tariffs.

Angell, the runaway secretary of the Pullman Palace Car Company, has embarked at Lisbon on his return to the United States.

A Berlin dispatch to the Pall Mall Gazette says it is stated that Prince Bismarck has decided to withdraw the parliamentary discipline bill, leaving the matter to the Reichstag.

The London Daily Telegraph, in its financial article, says: "The liabilities of the Gottenburg Commercial Co. are £200,000. The failure was the result of advances to Swedish lumber merchants and paper mills."

A dispatch from Breslaw says that the police have prohibited the collection of contributions of money solicited by socialist leaders, and have arrested a man for soliciting in violation of the prohibition.

The French Ministry yesterday offered a compromise with the Left, and a motion of confidence passed the Chamber of Deputies by a majority of 102, thus ending the crisis that has been exciting Paris and France for some days.

Owing to the severity of the weather the forests of the Bernese Jura, in Switzerland, are infested with droves of wild boars, which are sometimes so numerous as to defy attack. The farms are frequently attacked by wolves, and hundreds of chamois have descended into the valleys in search of food.

The Prophetic Conference.

To the editor of the Alexandria Gazette:

I would like to state for the information of your readers who are interested in the matter, that a letter has been received in this city from Rev. Nathanael West, D. D., of Cincinnati, which states that the essays read at the Prophetic Conference are now rapidly passing through the press, and that the volume will be published by F. H. Revell, of Chicago, sometime in February. Dr. West, who read one of the ablest essays at the Conference, on the history of the doctrine of premillennialism, is himself editing the book, which will contain all the essays, only parts of some of which were read, and of which less was reported in the Tribune Extra than was actually read. The book will contain about 450 pages, and its publication will doubtless mark an epoch in the history of Premillennialism in this country. D.

Thievery at Falls Church.

To the editor of the Alexandria Gazette:

FALLS CHURCH, Va., Jan. 18, 1879.—The Gazette of the 16th contains an article headed "Thievery at Falls Church," which was evidently either taken from or furnished by the author of an article which appeared in the Evening Star of Washington, D. C., 16th inst., over the nom de plume of "Ros." That letter was an evident effort on the part of the writer to scrape up material for a sensational article; and, to do so, he gathered up a list of petty offenses that have appeared at various times during the past several months in the Gazette, and which, taken singly at the time of the occurrence created no particular sensation. Such articles are not calculated to recommend the location to parties desiring to locate with us, and are simply the result of a lack of discretion or a surplus of spleen. The article of "Ros" caused much comment among our acquaintances in Washington, and much regret among our own people, who are laboring for the advancement and prosperity of the town; and, at the suggestion and request of some of our people, I wrote and handed to the editor of the Star on the 15th inst. the following communication, which, I presume, he declines to insert, as he has issued three copies of his paper since without its appearing. This does not surprise me, since experience has proven that while the Star is always ready to publish derogatory articles of persons and things south of the Potomac, it is seldom willing to admit the possibility of error on the part of its informants, or furnish opportunity for the refutation of their statements. You are requested to publish this with the hope that if "Ros" is a resident of our neighborhood and a reader of the newspaper of northeastern Virginia, he may possibly obtain an idea of the opinion held by some of our people of his article and the spirit which prompted it:

"To the editor of the Washington Star:

"FALLS CHURCH, Va., Jan. 15, 1879.

"The Evening Star of Washington, D. C., of the 13th inst., contains an article purporting to come from Falls Church, which contains such severe and unmerited reflections upon the town, and such derogatory incuendo as to the desirability of the vicinity as a place of residence, as to call for a brief notice at the hands of some one conversant with the circumstances detailed therein.

"Who 'Ros' is I am not aware, but if he is a resident of the town I can conceive of no good reason why he should deal in such wholesale condemnation, unless he desires to detract from its reputation, with a view to some mercenary gain by way of speculation; and that a man should wish to detract from the character of a place with a view of thereby being enabled to enrich himself at the expense of his neighbors is such a contemptible idea I should not want to be obliged to entertain it of one of my neighbors.

"'Ros' goes out of his way to gather up a list of small petty offenses covering a space of several months in time, and an area of many miles of country, with a view to saddle the entire mass upon the poor little town of Falls Church, when, in truth and fact, but three out of the entire list of offenses enumerated occurred within the limits of the town, the others occurring, all of them, outside of the town and some of them miles away.

"We lay no claim to entire exemption from depredation; I know of no locality that can; your columns are daily filled with accounts of depredations in your own midst, and until that happy day, when the lion and the lamb shall lie down together, shall arrive, I presume we shall be disappointed in expecting perfect morality. But we do desire justice, and, when 'Ros' or any other scribbler desires to relieve himself from a periodical attack of 'Cacoethes scribendi' we ask him if he can say nothing in our favor, to at least not go out of his way to build up obstacles to our advancement.

"With no desire to screen myself behind the anonym of a nom de plume, permit me to subscribe myself. J. C. DEPUTRON."

Shocking Tragedy.

One of the most atrocious murders that was ever known in New Kent was committed near Tunstall's station, on the Richmond, York River and Chesapeake Railroad, Friday night, when Mr. John S. Lacy, an old and inoffensive citizen of that county had his head severed from his shoulders.

The crime was not discovered until Saturday when the dead body was found on the road. The head was horribly mashed, and when parties attempted to lift the body up it dropped off, having been held on by only a small piece of flesh. News of the bloody deed spread rapidly, and two negroes, a man and a boy, were arrested. They protested their innocence, but the boy confessed that two other negroes had told him of their purpose to murder Mr. Lacy, and asked him to aid them. He declined to have anything to do with it, but, upon their threats, he promised to keep quiet. The negroes to whom he alluded were arrested on Sunday and plead guilty. The coroner held an inquest, and the jury returned a verdict that the deceased came to his death at the hands of the prisoners.

A correspondent of the Richmond State telegraphs from Tunstall's as follows:—

"A large company of citizens gathered and attempted to lynch the prisoners Sunday night, but were prevented. They are safely secured at Talleyville. Bodies of armed men have been gathering all the morning, and the excitement is on the increase. The prisoners were arraigned at Talleyville this morning. Two of them pleaded guilty. When asked if they committed the deed, they replied, 'Yes.' They then confessed that they waylaid the deceased and murdered him for money. They first used a razor, with which they cut his throat. Then they went to work on his head with a hatchet. They got his money, which did not amount to a great deal."

Mr. Lacy was a native of New Kent, and was about 44 or 45 years old. The two negroes who confess the crime worked for Mr. Lacy, and were subsequently familiar with his habits. They knew that he had taken some bacon to Richmond to sell, and that he would return with the money Friday night. They therefore waited in the road, two or three miles from his house, until he drove along in his wagon. The deceased leaves a wife and two children.

Excitement in Protestant Circles.

PETERSBURG, Va., Jan. 21.—The religious world hereabouts is greatly exercised over a lecture delivered here on Thursday night by Bishop Keane, of the Roman Catholic church, the subject of which was "The Church and Human Nature." It is charged that the ministers of Protestant churches were invited to occupy seats on the platform and assured that they would hear nothing sectarian in the address. The Bishop was introduced by Mayor Cameron and several prominent citizens were on the stage of the Academy of Music, where the lecture was delivered. Many Protestants who were present thought that the lecture severely attacked the principles and leaders of the reformation, especially Calvin, and last night the Rev. Thomas Spencer, of the Episcopal church, replied to this lecture. The Rev. Dr. Witherspoon, of the Presbyterian church, stated from his pulpit that the lecture was a cunning "sell" upon the community, and that if he had been present he would have hurled back the abuse that the Bishop poured on the Protestants. Dr. McDonald, of the Baptist church, a native of Ireland, and formerly a Catholic, is tell how he changed his religion, and a reply to the Bishop will probably also be made. There is considerable feeling on the subject and learned discussions on theology are the order of the day.

[COMMUNICATED.]

Retrenchment and Reform.

At this time, when the thoughts and energies of good citizens are directed to the ways and means to save our public credit, (which is most laudable,) permit me to make a few suggestions as to the *modus operandi* to accomplish this much desired end. The capital of this article must be our watch word, if we hope to succeed. It is true, there will not be a vast sum saved, if these suggestions are carried out, but as the old union goes, "every little helps." I know it will give satisfaction to our citizens outside of our limits, for some of them have informed me. Let us, first and foremost, abolish the Corporation Court, and return as speedily as possible to the good old system—a bench of magistrates, gentlemen of repute, of course, to compose it. Let us abolish that most unnecessary appendage to our city government, the Board of Aldermen. Let us consolidate the offices of Auditor, Clerk to Gas, and Clerk to Council—no more work to do in all three than one "live" man ought to do. Let us do away with at least five men of our "ancient doubtfulries" upon the police force. Let us clean out the alms house of the paupers who have been foisted upon us by other counties, and remove them whence they came. Let us reduce the salary of that ancient "bone of contention," the Mayoralty. Let us consolidate the gatherers into one—one is ample sufficient. Let us employ a farmer at the alms house, or elect a superintendent who is a farmer—one who knows a cabbage head from a horse's &c. These proposed changes may appear radical, but I think they are no more than are needed to meet the exigencies of the times. We should cut deep to find the source of the wound. It is high time that we stop poverty in this poor, old, and hard town, and, perhaps, by the fate of war. Let us look to the shore, for we are a little here. Let citizens, curtail in every possible way, no matter whose foot is pinched. The public demands a change, and let us have it now. Other changes and improvements might be suggested, but this will suffice for the present.

TWO BOND TAXPAYERS.

[COMMUNICATED.]

"The United States the Model Republic of all Nations." On this theme I love to dwell. We can all help to make our country the model. By temperance, honesty, industry, hopeful action it can be done. These must be deeply rooted in our souls to be potent in the work of Christianity. Mere philosophy will be inadequate. We must rely on our Redeemer. Our poet laureate says: "One night, the Son of God, bleeding brows were crowned with thorns, in universal nature." Our Rhymer says: "I Am" who spoke to Moses in the burning bush and became the babe in the manger, crowns us success. I will close to produce the truths. J. R. JOHNSON.

Cedar Hamlan, Va.

For Stiffness and Sores—Of the muscles and joints of the body, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, in fact any ache or pain of the body—Salvation equals Kell's Roman Liniment. Sold by all druggists.

☞A Citizen in yesterday's Gazette tries to injure me by saying I live "at the upper end of King street. By his not using the English I am compelled to use this word in saying the more to quote him is not mine.

Respectfully, E. J. POLLARD.

Alexandria, Va., Jan 21th, 1879.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

ALEXANDRIA MARKET, Jan. 21.—The sales on 'Change to-day were scarcely so firm as yesterday, but the quality of the offerings may have been the cause of the slight decline. Flour unchanged. 1150 bushels of Wheat sold at 89, 101 and 102 for Fulte and 105 for [illegible]. Corn sold at 41, 42 and 43 for fair to choice white with offerings of 700 bushels. No Rye reported and 50 bushels of Oats brought 31.

BALTIMORE CATTLE MARKET, Jan'y. 20, 1879.—[Cattle are sold at these figures live weight. Hogs are sold at net weight, that is 20 pounds (generally) off from the live weight. Sheep are sold gross, that is live weight, or nothing off.

Beef Cattle—Prices to-day ranged as follows:

Best Beeves	4 87 a 5 [illegible]
Generally rated first quality	3 87 a 4 [illegible]
Medium or good fair quality	3 87 a 3 [illegible]
Ordinary thin Steers, Oxen and Cows	2 70 a 3 [illegible]
Extreme range of prices	2 50 a 5 [illegible]
Most of the sales were from	3 62 a 4 [illegible]

Total receipts for the week 1751; total sales [illegible]

The wholesale market was more active, and prices 1-4c better than last week, but the retail trade was generally slow. Prices in some of the pens are reported with but very little change, while in others 1-4c lower rates ruled, as compared with last week. The best decline was on the tops, the variation being finally considerable most on the middle and common grades. The quality was fully as good as last week, there being some to fully as good as were those of last week, while there was a long line of middling grades.

Milch Cows—The common grades are in excess of the demand, which is slow. The best Cows are more active than last week. We quote at 25a50 per head.

Sheep—There is a full supply of sheep on the market, and while there are some common among the receipts, there are also some very prime lots, which are quoted at 5 6-8 cents, close grades sold down to 3 3-4 cts, with very few at 4 cents per lb. Lambs are quoted at 4a5 cents per lb., but they are generally slow with the Sheep. Trade is dull, being confined entirely to the domestic demand. Receipts this week 2[illegible] head.

Swine—With a much lighter run than last week prices are advanced 1-4c, then fully been. The trade has been fairly active at the advance in most of the pens, and the prospect is favorable for better figures at the next change in price. We quote rough sows and stags at 3 1-4 cents, bacon Hogs at 4½ cents, and best butcher Hogs at 4a4½ cents per lb. net, with most sales ranging near the latter figures. The arrivals to Saturday were some 2800, and since then 3100 head. Receipts this week 5[illegible] head.

BALTIMORE, Jan'y. 21.—Virginia 6s, old, [illegible] do deferred 6; do consolidated 6½; do 2d series 37; past due coupons 77½ bid to-day. Cotton quiet and steady; middling 9 1-8. Flour fairly active and firm. Wheat—Southern quiet, and small offerings; Western excited and higher. Southern red 100a105; do amber 106a107; Pennsylvania red 107; No 2 Western winter red spot and Jan 105; Feb 104½; Mar 103. Corn—Southern quiet and nominal; Western quiet for spot and firmer for later options; Southern white 50; do yellow 46; Western mixed spot Jan and Feb 42½a44; Mar 44½a44½; steamer 40½. Oats quiet and steady; Southern and Penna. 28a32; Western white 29½a31; do mixed 28a29. Rye nominal; Southern 56a58. Hay firm and unchanged. Sugar dull; A soft 8½a9. Coffee quiet; Rio cargoes 11a16. Whiskey quiet and steady at 1 03a$1 09.

NEW YORK, Jan. 21.—Stocks strong. Money 2a3. Flour quiet. Wheat quiet. Corn quiet.

COBURG AND OTHER STYLES OF BREAD, manufactured by Geo. H. Bailey & Co., for sale at
jan 21 J. C. MILBURN'S

ORANGE BRAND HAMS, Sugar Cured Shoulders and Breakfast Bacon, very cheap at
jan 21 R. W. AVERY'S, 225 King st.

A FRESH SUPPLY OF NEW YORK SWEET CIDER received this day by
jan 21 R. W. AVERY, 225 King st.

STRICTLY CHOICE NEW ORLEANS SUGAR received and for sale very cheap by
jan 21 R. W. AVERY, 225 King st.

15 SACKS RIO COFFEE received and for sale at bottom prices by
jan 21 R. W. AVERY, 225 King st.

300 LBS CHOICE DRIED PEACHES (halves) just received by
jan 21 J. C. MILBURN.