ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER.

Alexandria Gazette — Sic Semper Tyrannis — And Virginia Advertiser

PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 14, 1879.

The large decrease of exports and the corresponding large increase of imports for the month of January, and an estimated deficit of over twenty seven millions of dollars in the government's revenue for the next fiscal year, do not present the condition of the United States in such a rose tinted aspect as the optimists would have it appear. Still, however, Congress goes on appropriating indefinite millions to people who were satisfied with what they were already receiving in the way of pensions, and definite millions to accomplish the impossible task of making navigable streams out of brooks hardly deep enough to float a skiff, and trying to give other specified millions to a corporate monopoly in the Brazilian trade, in the shape of a subsidy, in order to drive off individuals engaged in that trade, and upon whom its extension chiefly depends. The Secretary of the Treasury says the anticipated deficit in the revenue will have to be made up by increased taxation, or by a sale of four per cent. bonds. The former would be excessively burdensome, and the latter only less so, because the people would be taxed to pay the interest. The people we refer to are, of course, the poor people, for according to the system now in vogue for collecting revenue for the United States government almost the entire amount is exacted of that class, the rich, being comparatively few, and each one of them paying little if any more than his poor neighbor, contributing but a small sum toward the support of the government. When the custom houses and internal revenue offices, with their swarms of political tax eaters, are swept away, and the government is supported by direct taxation apportioned among the several States, taxation will be equal, and those who lay them be held individually accountable for their votes.

It is a dirty bird that fouls its own nest, and Postmaster General Key has not exalted himself, in the estimation of right thinking people, by his recent remark to a northern friend, in reference to the people of Tennessee, to the effect that a people who would repudiate their State debt would not hesitate long about repudiating one in which they were even more immediately interested. No matter how badly Tennessee may have acted with reference to her financial affairs, Mr. Key owes all he has to her, and that she has paid him far above his real merits no one familiar with him entertains a doubt; and if she was to be censured Mr. Key would have done better to have allowed that censure to fall from alien lips. The old saying, that you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, applies with especial truth to Postmaster General Key. Much could not have been expected from a man who made the speeches Mr. Key did during Mr. Hayes' Presidential tour.

If President Hayes had from the beginning of his term of office pursued the course with regard to appointments in the civil service he has marked out in his recent letter to Collector Merritt, of New York, what a different position from that he now holds would he occupy in the estimation of his countrymen! People who read the letter referred to, no matter how well-disposed toward him they may be, cannot help drawing comparisons between its sentiment and that manifested by the appointment to lucrative office of every single soul who assisted in the accomplishment of the Presidential fraud, and that, too, for no other apparent, or conceivable reason than to complete a bargain made before hand, or to satisfy a claim for black mail. Comparisons are not always odious, but the one between the spirit of Mr. Hayes' letter to the collector of customs at New York and that of most of his appointments is unquestionably so.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

The French Radicals will insist on the impeachment of the Ministry of the 16th of May.

Sir Humphrey Davy's centenary was celebrated at Penzance, England, yesterday.

Negotiations by the Prussian Government for the purchase of all the private railways in Prussia are pending.

A revolution has broken out in Hayti, and disturbances of an alarming character have occurred on the Island of St. Vincent.

The British Parliament met yesterday. Sir Stafford Northcote and Lord Beaconsfield made concurrent statements of the military and political situation.

The Liverpool dock strike holds out. A strike of weavers at Ashton under Lyne has begun. Several strikes are announced among the cotton spinners in France.

The heirs of Napoleon the Third have failed in the suit against the French Republic to recover the value of the Chinese museum and other property claimed by them.

General Zavala is reported as having been elected President of Nicaragua. Don Guzman Blanco is said to be on his way from Southampton for Venezuela by way of St. Thomas.

The thaw in the Russian plague district has refreshed the vitality of the disease, which is increasing at Tzaritzin, and Professor Jacobi, the head of the medical commission has been attacked.

A report, believed to be sensational and unfounded, is published in the Manchester Guardian to the effect that the native auxiliaries of the British in South Africa have massacred their officers.

Robbery.

HIRGELSVILLE, Pa., Feb. 14.—At three o'clock this morning four masked men broke into the dry goods and grocery store of B. K. Bachman & Brothers, three miles from this place, and bound and gagged the two clerks and G. W. Bachman one of the firm, who were sleeping there. The burglars beat Mr. Bachman over the head badly and then broke open the safes. They secured one thousand dollars in money and one thousand dollars worth of goods and escaped, taking with them a wagon and two fine bay horses belonging to the firm. A heavy reward is offered for their arrest.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[SPECIAL TO THE ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 14.

It is the present intention of the friends of the Texas Pacific railroad, under the lead of Mr. Garland, to call up the bill for the benefit of that road in the Senate to morrow. Should no opportunity occur some of them, principally, however, those whose term of service in the railroad company's employment will expire with definite legislation, continue to assert that no compromise has been made with the other proposed Southern roads, but others contradict them and say that the Southern Pacific is so comparatively moderate in its request that Mr. Scott will be compelled to come to terms or be left out in the cold. The best informed men about Congressional proceedings think that no bill for any Southern Pacific railroad nor for a subsidy to steamers in the Brazilian trade will be passed at this session of Congress.

Another democratic caucus was held this morning, at which it was generally conceded that the repeal of the test oath for U. S. jurors must be insisted upon, and that such a determination would not meet with much opposition from the republicans, as several of the leading members of that party in both the House and Senate had so expressed themselves. There was a prolonged discussion upon the question as to whether or not the repeal of the federal election law should also be insisted upon, and a vote upon it was being taken when the hour of twelve arrived, which, together with the absence of some of the members, put a stop to further proceedings. The spirit of the most staid, sober sided, and conservative members of the caucus, as manifested this morning, is decidedly opposed to insisting upon the repeal of the election law at the probable expense of an extra session. Senator Withers was not present at the caucus, and, in this connection, it may be stated that he says he is opposed to caucuses in which two or three men consume the whole time, and the action of which is not considered binding upon those who attend. His idea of a caucus is that it is a meeting of the representatives of the party at which, after an interchange of the views of those present, the sentiment of the majority is fairly ascertained, and that the legitimate action that should result from that expression of sentiment should be insisted upon by every man who has taken part in the caucus. He, therefore, approves the action of Mr. Culberson, of Texas, who withdrew from the joint caucus last Saturday night, because it refused to adopt his motion that its action should be binding. The republicans, he says, are bound by the action of their caucuses, and consequently control the order of business, and get along much better with their bills than the democrats.

The tobacco men tried to get up their bill in the Senate to day but failed. All those in favor of it, lobbyists as well as members of the House, swarmed the corridors, the galleries, and the floor, and the intention was at one time to antagonize the preference of the Chinese bill, but as that bill was the regular order, that intention was abandoned with the understanding that the California Senators will assist them in getting up their bill as soon as the Chinese bill is disposed of.

Mr. Withers in the Senate, to day, introduced the resolutions of the General Assembly of Virginia respecting the recent usurpation of State jurisdiction by Judge Rives of the U. S. District Court.

After the morning hour in the Senate to day the bill to prohibit the immigration of Chinese to this country came up, and Mr. Blaine addressed the Senate. The galleries were crowded to hear him.

The time of the House to day was consumed in the consideration of private bills. Among them was one to put Gen. Shields, the present senator from Missouri, on the retired list of the regular army, his pensions to stop at the date of such restoration. Republicans vied with democrats in its support, and when Gen. Harry White, republican from Pennsylvania, raised the point of order, that as it was a bill appropriating money, it would have to be considered in committee, a storm of whoops and yells of opposition from both sides was raised, and lasted about five minutes, but Mr. Ellen, who was in the chair, sustained the point, and the bill, consequently, had to go over. Among the bills introduced was one by Judge Harris, to remove the political disabilities of James T. Harrison, of Virginia.

Among the appointments sent by the President to day was that of Horatio C. Burchard, of Ill., a member of the present House, to be director of the United States mint; Jas. Sullivan, to be postmaster at Harrisonburg, and H. B. Wilson, to be postmaster at Camden, N. J.

Mr. Lowery, counsel of the Western Union Telegraph Company, was before the Senate Committee on Roads this morning, and argued against the proposition of Gen. Butler to authorize railroad companies having telegraph lines to carry messages for the public. He stated that the spirit of the age was against railroad monopolies, but the proposition referred to would increase that monopoly. The committee will hear Gen. Butler to morrow.

The House Committee on Commerce held another meeting this morning. Mr. Goode tried to obtain an increased appropriation for Norfolk harbor, but failed. The River and Harbor bill is now ready for the action of the House, and the intention now is to try to pass it next Monday under a suspension of the rules.

Senator Johnston continues to improve. He is now out of all danger, and is only prevented from occupying his seat by the weakness resulting from his late sickness.

The Senate Committee on the District of Columbia will hold another meeting next Monday, when it is expected they will decide upon the compromise bill for a free bridge across the Potomac. Messrs. Dorsey and Spencer are, it is said, in favor of reducing the amount asked by the lessees of the Alexandria canal for the use of their piers to $50,000, but the other members of the committee are supposed to be willing to pay the sum the lessees have fixed—$100,000.

Another Ackles affair, with the screams left out, General Rosser's part filled by the landlady of a boarding house, and the role of the principals supplied by a handsome young lady, for some years past a resident of the city, and another, until now prominent member of the House, is said to have occurred last Wednesday night, and is the topic of much gossip.

Quite a commotion was raised this evening in the neighborhood of Harvey's undertaking establishment. The body of young Willie Dorsey, who died of yellow fever in New Orleans last September, arrived there, and the proprietor of a rival establishment hearing of it posted off to the Health Officer with the information. A descent was immediately made upon the place, while the neighbors established a quarantine, but, as the body was found to be in an air tight case, and was accompanied with a certificate of its innocousness, the excitement subsided.

Horrible Accident—Explosion.

CINCINNATI, O., Feb. 14.—A special dispatch says that Marie Azwune, a female trapeze performer at the Theatre Comique, Detroit, Mich., was seized with vertigo last night when at the height of a swing thirty feet from the floor, and fell head foremost striking a seat with a dull thud the body rebounding in the air and then falling apparently lifeless in the centre aisle. She suffered a fracture of the collar bone, and three ribs besides internal injuries, which latter will undoubtedly prove fatal.

By the explosion of a quanity of giant powder at the Champion mines, at Ontonagon, Mich., yesterday, Samuel Bennett and John Rudder were instantly killed and two others seriously injured.

Zachariah Chandler was unanimously nominated for United States Senator by the republicans of the Michigan Legislature on Wednesday night to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Senator Christancy.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

F. Foster, charged with grand larceny, was tried, convicted and sented to five years in the penitentiary at the February term of the Loudoun County Court.

We regret to learn from the Richmond Dispatch that Major Thomas P. Wallace, the genial member of the House from Orange, is confined to his room from the effects of a fall, by which he sprained his ankle.

According to the report of the Finance Committee of the City Council of Richmond the reassessment of real estate next year will show a shrinkage in the values amounting to at least $4,000,000 or $5,000,000.

E. J. Sullivan, the postmaster at Harrisonburg, died of pneumonia on Tuesday morning last. Mr. Sullivan was appointed postmaster of Harrisonburg in 1865 by Andrew Johnson, and retained the position up to the time of his death.

William Jackson died at his home in Leesburg last Saturday morning, after a brief illness, in about the 60th year of his age. He was well known by the travelling public as an old driver in the days of stage coaching between Winchester and Washington.

The George suit, involving the question of the marriage of the late W. O. George and one Caroline Jackson, a former slave of the deceased, will come up in the Chancery Court of Richmond during the present term of that court. This case has been tried three times in this court, the jury twice failing to agree upon a verdict. An estate of about $60,000 is involved in the case.

The readjusters of Botetourt Co. called a meeting at Fincastle for Monday last to send delegates to the readjusters' State convention; but the people turned out in large numbers and adopted resolutions to the effect that there was no need for a convention of readjusters, that the offer of the bondholders was fair, and that it was the duty of the State to accept.

In the United States Circuit Court in Richmond yesterday the case of Alexander Vaughan, judge of election in Petersburg, charged with ballot box stuffing at the November election, was concluded, the jury rendering a verdict of guilty. The evidence showed that when the ballots had been emptied out of the box to be counted Vaughan attempted to drop a number of fraudulent ballots from his sleeve into the pile of legitimate votes.

The Virginia State Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry concluded its sixth annual session in Norfolk yesterday. There was a full attendance of officers and a good representation from the subordinate lodges. The number of granges originally organized in Virginia was 732. Of these 80 have consolidated and several have been discontinued, leaving about 650, which are located in nearly every county in the State, and embrace a membership of some 25,000 farmers.

Hon. C. Y. Thomas, of Henry county, who was very prominent in politics before the war and after it was over, became a republican leader in his section, died on Wednesday at his home in that county. He took part in the "Black and Tan" Constitutional Convention, and was one of the most conservative and enlightened members of that body. He represented the Fifth district in Congress for one term after reconstruction, but was beaten in the next election, and has since retired from public life. Recently he had been spoken of for Federal appointment.

A dispatch from Richmond, in the morning papers, says:—In the House of Delegates yesterday the Committee on Courts of Justice reported a resolution declaring that the Commonwealth of Virginia is not responsible or liable for the debt represented by West Virginia certificates, except so much as may be paid to her by that State. These certificates of debt amount to about $10,000,000. The Legislature of West Virginia has recently declared that that State is not responsible for this debt, and that she will not assume to pay it.

One reason given by the Culpeper News for the appearance of Geo. W. Leteh and sister, evangelists, among the colored people of Culpeper county, but which probably does them great injustice, is that it has been frequently asserted, by democrats as well as republicans, that should Grant be nominated in 1880 he would carry the State of Virginia, and that it is thought by some that this evangelistic work is a mild way of uniting and controlling the negro vote in that campaign. This can hardly be true, from the fact that Grant's previous record is not of such nature as to warrant his being run on a religious platform.

As heretofore stated in the Gazette Judge Hughes has decided that a judgment rendered in a United States court need not, in order to continue a valid lien on lands, even as against a subsequent purchaser for value and without notice, be docketed, in accordance with the statute of Virginia, in the county or corporation where the lands are situated. The case came up on the question of priority of lien of a judgment rendered in the United States Circuit Court at Richmond in 1877 against J. M. Humphreys, late collector of customs in that city, and sureties, or that of a deed conveying to Thomas N. Page, trustee, certain lands of said Humphreys. This decision will affect the title to many thousand dollars' worth of property throughout this State. The Richmond State says that it is difficult to conceive how, under the law as here laid down, a purchaser can be satisfied that the land he buys is not encumbered by judgment liens, as a judgment rendered in the United States Court at Alexandria or Abingdon, or anywhere in the State, is a lien on all lands of the defendant throughout the State, and even though an examination were made in each of these courts, as no dockets are kept therein, every order book would have to be examined; and, the same paper adds, what renders this decision at this time particularly important is the fact that the Government has recently issued an order to its attorneys to investigate and collect these judgments whenever possible.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14, 1879.

SENATE.

The Vice President laid before the Senate the credentials of Hon. Benj. F. Jonas, elected United States Senator from Louisiana, for 6 years, from March fourth 1879; also the credentials of Hon. James B. Groome, elected U. S. Senator from the State Maryland, for 6 years, from March fourth 1879. Read and place on file.

Mr. Morrill, of Vt., from the Committee on Finance submitted a motion that the House of Representatives be requested to return the bill to authorize the issue of certificates of deposit in aid of the funding of the public debt, passed a few days ago. In explanation of the motion he said the object in having the bill returned was to amend it so that the proceeds may be applied to something besides the 5 20 bonds.—These bonds were being so rapidly refunded that soon there would be none of them.—It was thought by the Committee of the House of Representatives that it would be best to amend the bill so as to have it apply to other bonds and the House could not amend it, the bill having already passed that body.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Ransom, of N. C., presented the credentials of Hon. Z. B. Vance, elected U. S. Senator from N. C., for six years from March 4th, 1879, which were read and placed on the file.

The Senate, after considering bills on the calendar, resumed the consideration of the unfinished business, being the bill to restrict Chinese immigration, and Mr. Blaine spoke in favor of restricting it.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

In the House of Representatives the regular business of the morning hour of Friday was proceeded with, and a bill for the retirement of Gen. James Shields was, amid a good deal of confusion, referred to the Committee of the Whole.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate, yesterday, the bill to amend the code in relation to receiving and disbursing school moneys was laid on the table by a vote of 18 to 15.

After some debate the House bill confirming the sale of the James River and Kanawha Canal Company to the Richmond and Alleghany Railroad, was made the continuing order from to-day.

During the discussion Mr. Hurt, of Pittsylvania, stated that the legal point he raised was that Virginia had no right to dispose of the interest in the canal belonging by right to West Virginia.

Mr. Johnson contended that that matter would, as is always the case in similar settlements between States, be easily arranged.

Mr. Daniel took the same ground.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That in the judgment of the Senate no improper influences were exerted by Senator W. E. Hinton to procure the passage of the act of March 29, 1877, to extend a credit of twelve and twenty-four months from the ratification of the sale of the State's interest in the Upper Appomatox Company to the board of superintendents of said county."

The bill in reference to the reorganization of the county government system was taken up and discussed to adjournment.

In the House of Delegates bills were introduced and referred to amend the code with reference to the compensation of assessors; appropriating to the use of public free schools the claim of Virginia against the United States for advances made during the war of 1812, and to provide for the assessment of property for taxation for the year 1879.

Bills were reported from committees to amend the code so as to protect the right of counties to roads across mill dams; to amend the act to provide for working and keeping in order the roads of the Commonwealth; for the relief of John F. Lewis and L. L. Lewis, executors of S. H. Lewis, deceased; and to repeal an act to empower the county courts of Essex and Richmond counties to grant any person the right to establish a ferry across the Rappahannock river at Tappahannock.

A resolution was referred to the Committee on Courts of Justice, inquiring what amendment, if any, of the jury laws can be made to secure more effectually such selections of jurors as will secure more effectually the admission of qualified citizens to jury service without special regard to race or color.

The Committee on Courts of Justice was instructed to inquire into and report whether or not the General assembly has the power to modify the rates of transportation now charged by the several railroads in this Commonwealth.

The substitute for the House bill for the protection of the institutions of the State, public trusts and funds, coming up on its second reading, several amendments were agreed to, when the bill was recommitted, with instructions to the committee to bring in a bill forbidding any director, trustee, or member of the Board of Visitors, or employee of any public institution from contracting with such institutions in any manner, or from furnishing any supplies or performing any work for said institutions.

A joint resolution was introduced authorizing the Governor to place at the disposal of the civil authorities of each of the counties of Middlesex and Mathews sixty rifle muskets and 2,000 rounds of ammunition to enable the citizens of said counties more effectually to enforce the laws of this Commonwealth passed for the protection of oysters, &c.

The Senate joint resolution authorizing an appropriation of $800 to complete the survey and define and fix the boundary line between Virginia and West Virginia, and authorizing the appointment by the Governor of engineers and commissioners to assist in the survey and fixing said boundary line, was adopted—ayes, 31; noes, 1.

The bill restoring the old special license tax system and repealing the Moffett register law was recommitted.

The House resumed consideration of the joint resolutions proposing amendments to the constitution.

Mr. Talisferro offered to amend the second section as follows: "In all elections votes shall be given openly or viva voce, and not by ballot."

Messrs. Robinson and McCabe opposed the motion. Messrs. Henry and Norton favored it, and the question was pending at adjournment.

Letter from President Hayes.

The following is a copy of President Hayes' letter to General Merritt, recently appointed Collector of the port of New York:

EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb'y. 12, '79.

My dear General: I congratulate you on your confirmation. It is a great gratification to me, very honorable to you, and will prove, I believe, of signal service to the country.

My desire is that the office be conducted on strictly business principles and according to the rules for the civil service which were recommended by the civil service commission in the administration of General Grant. I want you to be perfectly independent of mere influences from any quarter. Neither my recommendation, nor that of Secretary Sherman, nor any member of Congress or other influential person must be specially regarded.

Let appointments and removals be made on business principles and according to rules.—There must, I assume, be a few confidential places filled by those you personally know to be trustworthy, but restrict the area of patronage to narrowest limits. Let no man be put out merely because he his a friend to Mr. Arthur, and no man be put in merely because he is our friend. The good of the service should be the sole end in view. The best means yet presented, it seems to me, are the rules recommended by the civil service commission. I shall issue no new order on the subject at present. I am glad you approve of the message and I wish you to see that all that is expressed or implied in it is faithfully carried out. Again congratulating you and assuring you of my entire confidence, I remain, sincerely,

R. B. HAYES.

GEN. E. A. MERRITT.

COURT OF APPEALS, YESTERDAY.—Camp against Cleary and others. Writ of error and supersedeas awarded to a judgment of the Corporation Court of the city of Norfolk on 23d of September, 1878.

Queensberry, &c. against Barbour. From the Circuit Court of Culpeper county. Affirmed, Judge Moncure delivering the opinion.

Brown against Brown's administrator.—From the Chancery Court of the city of Richmond. Affirmed, Judge Christian delivering the opinion.

Richmond and Arlington Life Insurance Company against W. Lean. From the Circuit Court of the city of Richmond. Affirmed, Judge Anderson delivering the opinion.

Trevilian's executor against Guerrant's executor. From the Circuit Court of Goochland county. Affirmed. Judge Staples delivering the opinion.

Leath against Commonwealth. From the Hustings Court of the city of Richmond. Reversed, Judge Burks delivering the opinion; Judge Moncure dissenting.

A Galveston, Texas, dispatch states that sixty of the excursionists who recently visited Mexico report that they found everywhere the most cordial feeling and unbounded hospitality on the part of the Mexican people, and a strong desire for closer commercial relations with the United States.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—Italian advices seem to show that Italy is more panic stricken by the reports of the plague than are the countries nearer Russia. The Rubattino line of steamers between Italy and Egypt has been discontinued. The importation of Egyptian cotton is prohibited. At Palermo a Greek cotton laden vessel, attempting to enter the port, was warned off by a cannon shot.

The Republique Francaise, of Paris, energetically protest against permission being accorded to Russia to carry out her intention of sending four of her volunteer fleet, which have been employed in transporting troops to the Black sea, to Marseilles to repair. The Paris correspondent of the London Daily News says it is believed that in consequence of this protest, the entry of these vessels will be forbidden and that very severe quarantine precautions will be adopted. The medical authorities recommend careful fumigation of all letters and newspapers at the Russian frontier.

The Daily News Paris correspondent, who is a good representative of the opinion of the advanced section the of Left, says it is rumored that the report of the committee on the acts of the ministry of the 16th of May, will present such a crushing case in favor of impeachment that the ministry will be unable to prevent the Chamber of Deputies from voting it. A majority of the special correspondents of the London papers, however, believe that it will be rejected.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The Lower Heyes cotton mill, at Macclesfield, employing one thousand hands, has given notice that it will close indefinetely a fortnight hence in consequence of the depression in trade.

A strong "whip" has been issued by both sides for the division, which is expected to night in the House of Commons on a motion by Mr. Meldon, home ruler, member for Kildare county, in favor of assimilating the Irish borough franchise to the English and Scotch. The liberals will unite with the home rulers against the government on the question.

PARIS, Feb. 14.—The left will to-day elect Count de Montalivet, a former minister of Louis Philippe, a life senator, vice M. Paul Morin, deceased.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—The Standard's correspondent at Rome says: "A decision has just been reached at the Vatican to create certain new dioceses in the U. S. in consequence of the growth of the Church in that country."

Rear Admiral Fouilley, of the Mediterranean squadron, is dead.

LONDON, Feb. 14.—Weston arrived at York this morning, having walked 1,227 miles. He is 172 miles behind time.

LIVERPOOL, Feb. 14,—At a meeting of the Liverpool Health Committee yesterday the town clerk stated that the recent order of the Privy Council would entirely prevent shipments of live stock from the United States to Liverpool, because Liverpool is not registered under the act as a foreign animals' wharf. The only ports so registered are London, Hull, Grimsby, Hartlepool, New Castle, Plymoth, and Sunderland. The committee decided to address a letter to the Privy Council, calling attention to the disastrous effect of the order on the port of Liverpool and the population of Lancashire and Yorkshire, and expressing the hope that arrangements now making by the Liverpool Dock Board may lead the Privy Council before the 31 of March to define a part of the port of Liverpool where foreign animals may be landed.

VIENNA, Feb. 14.—The Presse and Fremdenblatt state that the attempt to reconstitute the Austrian Cabinet has failed for the present.

PARIS, Feb. 14.—The Official Journal says: "The latest reports of the plague are reassuring. It has not increased, and energetic measures have been adopted for its suppression. The French government has dispatched a physician to investigate the disease. The reports that the plague has appeared in Turkey are unfounded. There is no ground for panic and no danger for the present from arrivals from the Black Sea or Sea of Azov. Nevertheless the Minister of Commerce has ordered a quarantine of two days at French ports on the Mediterranean and in Algeria, including arrivals from the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov, even when provided with clean bills of health."

TORONTO, ONT., Feb. 14.—A London dispatch published here this morning says: "The following regiments and battalions are to sail immediately for Natal: The 17th Lancers, the 1st Dragoons, the 58th Regiment of infantry, the 91th Regiment of infantry, 21st Regiment, 91st Regiment, and 60th Regiment of rifles, a detachment Royal engineers and a battery of Royal Artillery. There is much bustle and excitement at each of the headquarters of these regiments. The following is the composition of the English forces in South Africa: 31, 4th, 13th, 24th, both battalions of the 80th and 88th, 90th and 99th Regiments—in all, nine battalions, or 7,500 officers and men. In these forces in the ranks there are 4,518 Englishmen, 385 Irishmen, and 301 Scotchmen. Forty eight of the officers are Irish and 178 English.

PARIS, Feb. 14.—Henry Goodyear, the well known india rubber manufacturer, died in this city on Tuesday night. The funeral took place to day, and was attended by many Americans.

The State Debt.

In the Senate and House of Delegates, yesterday, the report of the joint finance committee of the Legislature, accompanied by the propositions of the representatives of the bondholders for an adjustment of the State debt, was presented without recommendation. The report is a mere resume of the proceedings of the Conference, all of which have been published in the Gazette.

In reference to a proposed modification of the proposition to provide that the coupons in the new bonds should be receivable at and after maturity for all taxes, debts, dues, and demands due the State, except such portion of the annual revenue, not to exceed 25 cents on the $100, as may be specifically appropriated by the Legislature to the support of government, and except such portion, not to exceed 10 cents on the $100, as may be in like manner appropriated to the support of free schools, Messrs. Carrington replied that they were not authorized to consent to any such modification, and that, from their knowledge of the views of the associations which they represent, it would be useless to submit the proposition to them; that they were satisfied the proposition would not be accepted, because if the said modifications were made the bondholders could not be induced to come in and fund.

The New York Sun gives an amusing description of a pretended Brooklyn pedestrienne of the uncommon name of Smith, who made 708 quarter miles in her fourth story room in the intervals of housekeeping, nursing and cooking. A great many other pedestriennes, unknown to fame, daily make a good many of these domestic quarter miles, and never say a word about it. Young mothers afflicted with sleepless babies could give a good deal of testimony on the subject of midnight pedestrianism, and their quarter miles are made without the stimulus of any applause except that set up by the infant tyrant when she ventures to slacken her pace or tries to get a casual nap in the rocking chair.

In the House of Representatives, yesterday, the death of Hon. Julian Hartridge was announced and a number of eulogies delivered.

NEWS OF INTEREST FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.—From my experience and observation I unhesitatingly recommend Keller's Roman Liniment as being the most remarkable pain destroyer in case of Burns, etc., that I ever saw or heard of. H. M. PEAKE,
Charleston, S. C.

Letter from Rappahannock Co.

To the editor of the Alexandria Gazette:

WOODVILLE, RAPPAHANNOCK CO., VA., Feb. 10.—In your issue of the 7th instant [the last number received by me,] you give the hour of sunrise for the port of Alexandria as 6h 30m, and sunset 5h 30m. The port of Alexandria is in lat. [circa] N. 39°, and on the 7th of February the sun's declination south was about 15°.30′, which, according to the table in Bowditch's Navigation [and which has been the standard work in the United States navy for many years,] would make the apparent time of sunrise at your city 6h 52m, and sunset 5h 08m. Add to these the equation of time for the same date—14m, and you have true [or clock time] for sunrise 7h 06m, and sunset 5h 22m. It is true that some slight correction is to be made for refraction, but not sufficient to materially alter the result.

I dislike very much to have to differ from you in some of your views of political economy, but in regard to the public school question I am exactly opposite to you. Nor am I alone in such opposition, for I have not met with a single person in the county (I mean outside of towns and villages,) and especially among the poor, for whose benefit they are presumably established, who does not agree with me in opinion. This county is probably more closely studded with houses and more thickly settled than most others in the State, yet there is no public school nearer to me than that at the postoffice, (above indicated) and which is three and a half miles off. Other portions of the county are equally unfortunate in that respect. The consequence is that the parents of the poor children not being able to send their little ones in vehicles or on horseback over rough and rugged roads in rain, hail and mud, and over streams devoid of safe crossings (to speak of no other evils which are so common in these degenerate days) keep them at home, and are taxed for visionary benefits which exist only in Eutopian dreams. But you may suggest that they can send their larger children, and especially their boys, if they cannot trust the more tender ones to such risks. In answer to this I will say that the poor [and it is the great political hobby upon which the system was inaugurated that it was for the benefit of the poor] find it requires the labor and assistance of these larger children to enable them to live, and being unable to feed and cloth them without their assistance on the little farm, or at the mill, or other calling, they cannot avail themselves of these misnamed school privileges. Now in order to make these schools available and beneficial to the poor you must either have them so thickly dotted over the country as to be within easy reach of all, or you must provide the proper transportation, and even subsistence for such scholars as can not otherwise attend them. Take the whole State over and I make bold to aver that of the registered number of children of an age to attend school not one in four do so, and I appeal to the statistics in confirmation of the assertion. But apart from the utilitarian view of the question the whole system is wrong in principle and unjust and oppressive, all of which I could demonstrate, but that I do not wish to be lengthy and prefuse. I will, however, advance one idea in this connection, viz: You profess to be (as I do) in favor of paying the State debt. Now it seems to be conceded by every one that it will take every cent that we can raise to accomplish this object at the present (or even a higher) rate of taxation. We must be just before we are generous, (if voting away what does not belong to us can be called generosity,) and as our debts were incurred long before this public school system was saddled upon us by the "black and tan" convention. It is our duty in morals as well as in law to curtail every expense not vital to our existence as a State, (including the whole public school machinery,) and to discharge our honest obligations. "Straws show which way the wind blows," and that action on the part of our legislature, which you so much condemn, is but a reflex of public opinion with regard to this pernicious system of public schools. The whole affair is an exotic not adapted to our climate, tastes or habits, and I hope yet to hail the day [when retrenchment in ways and usages of "Auld Lang Syne in Virginia] secret ballots, public schools, supervisors, townships and county judges, with all the attendant etcetera, may never be named among us. Lest some of your readers may suppose that I am a "bloated bondholder" and not in sympathy with the poor, I will state that I was an officer in the service of the United States, and receiving a salary which would now support me in luxury; that because I preferred principle to promotion and profit I left that service at the first call of my State; that property of considerable amount, which I would have inherited in the city of Washington, was taken from me and mine by Chief Justice Carter and Walter A. Davidge, of that place, in like manner as from Mr. McVeigh of your own city, and that I was too poor to fee counsel and take the necessary steps to recover it; that the little left to me in this, my native State, was absorbed in paying off ante bellum security debts; that I am too poor to provide transportation for my little children to the nearest public school to me. So poor that "there is none poor enough to do me reverence." Aye, even so poor that the representative from my district in Congress cannot remember me long enough to ask for the removal of my political disabilities.

P.

☞ A SOURCE OF MUCH BODILY EVIL.—If the habit of body becomes irregular, much evil is inflicted on the system. The stomach becomes dyspeptic, bilious symptoms develop themselves, the circulation is contaminated, and the nerves share in the general disorder. It is of the utmost importance that the bowels should be thoroughly and speedily regulated when they grow derelict. The corrective agent best adapted to this purpose is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, a wholesome, non griping vegetable laxative, worth all the rasping cathartics invented since the time of Paracelsus. People who have been in the habit of using blue pill, calomel and other drugs and cheap nostrums for constipation, should abandon such hurtful and useless medicines, and substitute for them this pleasant and gentle aperient, which not only produces the purgative effect naturally, but also strengthens while it regulates the bowels, stomach and liver. It moreover cures and prevents intermittent and remittent fevers, gout, rheumatism, debility and urinary troubles.

☞ BY UNIVERSAL ACCORD AYER'S CATHARTIC PILLS are the best of all purgatives for family use. They are the product of long, laborious, and successful chemical investigation, and their extensive use, by Physicians in their practice, and by all civilized nations, proves them the best and most effectual purgative Pill that medical science can devise. Being purely vegetable no harm can arise from their use. Intrinsic value and curative powers no other Pills can be compared with them, and every person, knowing their virtues, will employ them, when needed. They keep the system in perfect order, and maintain in healthy action the whole machinery of life. Mild, searching and effectual, they are specially adapted to the needs of the digestive apparatus, derangements of which they prevent and cure, if timely taken. They are the best and safest physic to employ for children and weakened constitutions, where a mild, but effectual, cathartic is required. E. S. Leadbeater & Bro., Agents.

☞ A meeting of the Sun Fire Company will be held to-morrow (Saturday) night at 8 o'clock. [feb 12-2t] BY ORDER.

By O'Neal & Lucas, Auctioneers.

WILL BE SOLD by public auction, on WEDNESDAY MORNING, February 19th, at the late residence of Miss H. H. Wheat, deceased, on Columbus, between Cameron and Queen sts., all the HOUSEHOLD and KITCHEN FURNITURE, consisting of Carpets, Chairs, Tables, Sideboard, Feather Beds, Mattresses, one Organ, Parlor and Cook Stoves, &c. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock a. m. Terms—Cash on delivery.

feb 14-4t B. WHEAT, Adm'r.