ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER.

PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 28, 1879.

The last days of the General Assembly of Virginia are better than the first. It has not only passed the bill providing for the settlement of the State debt, but has resolved to adjourn sine die on the 21 proximo. The debt bill and the bill to transfer the James River and Kanawha Canal to the Richmond and Allegany Railroad Company are almost the only two bills that will reflect credit upon it in the years that are to come, and they only got through after a prolonged struggle. Some, possibly nearly all, of the members are doubtless actuated by the best motives, but the present age seems unfavorable for the palpable exhibition of such motives in legislative assemblies.

Mr. Wright, the greenback candidate for Speaker, has gone back to the democrats, and now takes part in the democratic caucus. The most ridiculous annex of the present Congress is the prolonged ideal of a third party, supposed to live under the designation of greenback or national organization, but whose reality exists only in the minds of the dozen self-deceived gentlemen who continue to issue manifestoes in the name of that imaginary party. It had better resolve itself at once into its two natural elements, democrats and republicans, and thus conclude a farce that has become almost too trite to be laughable.

The House republican caucus has resolved that no pairs shall be made by republicans until the appropriation bills are disposed of. The republicans of the Senate consumed all of yesterday in inveighing against the preparation of congressional business by a democratic caucus, but the republicans of the House, on the same day, decided in caucus to obstruct business by refusing to allow a republican to pair with a democrat who is forced by sickness to be absent. The divergence is remarkable, but it only affords another instance of the great difference that is occasioned by the ownership of the gored ox.

The audacity of the attempt of Mr. Blaine, yesterday, to make party capital by asserting that the democrats, in waiting for the action of the House upon the appropriation bills decided upon in the democratic caucus, were pursuing a course unheard of before in the history of the Senate, was only exceeded by that gentleman's course in reference to the Mulligan letters, Caldwell dispatch, and attack of brain fag.—The whole history of the republican legislation is marked by just such compliance with the orders of the republican caucus.

Under the new apportionment of representation in the General Assembly Alexandria, Fairfax and Prince William constitute one Senatorial district, and is entitled to one Senator. It is understood that neither General Lee nor Judge Sinclair, the present Senators from the district as now composed, will be a candidate for re-election next November.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

A black bass was caught in the Rappahannock river last week weighing 14 pounds and 9 ounces.

Judge Dickinson, after full argument at Farmville, has put the Farmville Insurance Company in the hands of a receiver.

A shad hatching station is being erected at Greenlaw's wharf, in King George county. This building will have a capacity for hatching three millions shad per day.

Fredericksburg has been selected as the place for holding the State regatta of the Virginia Rowing Association, and Petersburg, Lynchburg and the University clubs are already entered.

The statement in the Gazette that Judge Haythe, of Campbell county, one of the judges indicted in the United States Court for violating the Civil Rights bill, intended going before Judge Rives for trial, is denied by Judge H.

Rev. John A. Broadus, D. D., Professor in the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, at Louisville, Ky., has accepted the invitation of the literary societies of Richmond College to be their orator at the commencement in June.

On Thursday night of last week Wm. Koontz, living near Montevideo, Shenandoah county, met with a misfortune in the wholesale slaughter of a flock of sheep by his own dogs. There were thirty-six in all, sixteen being lambs.

The Harrisonburg Old Commonwealth says: We learn that Mr. Borst resigned the Presidency of the W. C. and St. Louis N. G.R.R., to take the contract for the construction of the entire road. B. F. Grayson, esq, of Luray succeeds Mr. Borst as President.

Beavers are becoming quiet numerous in the streams which empty into the Dan. Judge H. F. Brandon, of Yanceyville says that there are many in Hogan's creek, where they built a dam across one of the little streams which empties into that creek near the bridge, and thus blocked up the water so as to inundate the low grounds, and the owner of the property had to break the dam to prevent damage to the wheat.

The Lynchburg Agricultural and Mechanical Society have determined to make the spring fair equal to any similar gathering ever held in Virginia. It combines the qualities and accompaniments of a great southern leaf tobacco exhibition, a spring meeting for a contest of fast blooded horses, a German "feast of flowers," and a pomological exhibition. The premiums are large and will justify contributions from other States, not only in fast horses, but in tobacco.

Murder and Suicide.

HARRISBURG, Pa., March 28.—Hadessah Douglass, while out walking last evening with a female friend, near Dauphin, Pa., was met by a man named Gaynor, who drew a pistol and shot her in the right and left breasts, killing her instantly. Gaynor then shot himself dead. Hadessah was at one time a domestic servant in the family of Gaynor, and was about 19 years old. Gaynor was a married man of about 41 years of age, but it is thought that jealously caused the murder and suicide.

Storm.

NEWPORT, R. I., March 28.—The storm last night was one of the severest that has been experienced here for a long time.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

Capital punishment will not be re-established in Switzerland.

Debate was begun in the British House of Commons last night on the government's Zulu war policy.

It is reported that Turkey rejects the scheme for a mixed occupation of Roumelia, which consequently may have to be abandoned.

It is announced that Halim Pacha is about to issue a manifesto urging his claims to the the Egyptian succession and repeating his former liberal declarations.

Senor Ulloa, a former Spanish minister of foreign affairs and a distinguished member of the Sagesta party, died in Madrid Wednesday.

Justin McCarthy has been accepted by the home rulers of Longford as their candidate for the British Parliament at the next general election.

The grand national steeple chase took place at the Liverpool spring meeting to day. It was won by Mr. G. Moore's b. g. the Liberator, Jackal second and Martha third.

A dispatch from Vienna says that the town of Devavanya, which a few days since was threatened with inundation by the bursting of of a dike is now safe.

Great anxiety is felt in Spain regarding the condition of the Princess Christina, daughter of the Duke of Montpensier. The Count and Countess of Paris, with Dr. Mussy, have arrived at Seville, where the Princess lies.

The London Times in its financial article says: "Various reports were circulated on Thursday concerning Turkish finances. The most authentic of these is that a serious effort is about to be made to help Turkey out of the difficulties which have become so pressing as to alarm the English government."

At a meeting of the weavers, at Blackburn, Eng., yesterday, delegates reported that the masters had resolved to enforce the proposed reduction of wages. Much angry feeling was manifested, which it was feared would eventuate in the passage of a resolution in favor of a strike on Saturday.

The London Sportsman says: "Hanlan, the oarsman, is considerably better since the beginning of the week, but the carbuncle from which he is suffering, and his general health, make it necessary to shelter himself as much as possible from the prevailing severe weather. Until it improves he will hardly venture on rowing exercises. Howdon had a long pull yesterday."

A letter from Bangkok Siam, dated on the 17th of March, says that the King of Siam has sent an autograph letter to General Grant inviting him to visit Siam and become his guest. General Grant is expected at Singapore about the first of April. The American consul at Bangkok, accompanied by the King's aid-de camp, and one of the Princes, will proceed down the Gulf of Siam on a government steamer to meet and welcome Gen. Grant and escort him to Bangkok.

In the British House of Commons last night Hon. Edward Stanhope, Under Secretary for India, in introducing the bill authorizing the raising of £10,000,000 in England for service in India for the ordinary expenses of the current year, said: "The government would use the borrowing powers for which they asked as sparingly as possible, and would undertake to endeavor to pay off whatever sum they were compelled to raise when circumstances are more favorable for remitting to England."

The Paris correspondent of the London Times telegraphs:—"The voting in the Bureaux of the Senate shows 93 Senators in favor of return of the Chambers to Paris, and 130 against it; but as there were 77 Senators absent the result is a full sitting is uncertain. The Government will merely give an opinion in favor of return and not make the matter a Cabinet question. In the event, however, of the Chamber of Deputies attempting to dispense with the concurrence of the Senate the Government would be bound to prevent such a violation of the Constitution."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA

In the Senate yesterday bills were passed to authorize the counties of Greene and Madison to subscribe to the stock of the Fredericksburg and Piedmont R. R. Co.; to determine what allowances shall be made to Commonwealth's attorneys, clerks and sheriffs; to work and keep in repair the roads in Orange county, and authorize the qualified voters to vote on the acceptance or rejection of same; to incorporate the York Ferry Company, and authorize it to establish a ferry across the Shenandoah river in Warren county; to amend an act to provide for working of roads in Fairfax county; repealing the act allowing the County Courts of Essex and Richmond counties to grant persons the right to establish ferries across the Rappahannock river at Tappahannock; and to prevent and prohibit hog pens and the keeping of hogs therein within the corporation limits of the city of Alexandria.

The resolution of the House fixing Wednesday, April 23, as the time of adjourning sine die was taken up and passed.

The Senate bill to authorize the James River and Kanawha Company to make sale and transfer of all its work, property and franchises, and to invest the purchaser or purchasers with certain rights &c., was passed.

Mr. Johnson offered a joint resolution, that our Senators in Congress be instructed and our Representatives requested to urge upon Congress to propose the following amendment, or one similar thereto, to the Constitution of the United States for ratification:

Article XVI. "Neither the United States nor any State shall assume or pay for any loss or damage to any person or property, or for the use, occupation or consumption of property of citizens of the United States anywhere, caused by or in consequence of the late civil war, or incurred by reason of military operations; which loss, damage, use or consumption has been incurred or suffered during the existence of the said civil war."

Referred to the Committee on Federal Relations.

In the House of Delegates the bill to allow liquor dealers in the city of Alexandria the option of conducting business under a specific license tax again came up. Messrs Anderson and Mushbach each offered amendments, which were rejected. The question being on ordering the bill to be engrossed and read a third time, was put and decided in the negative.

The bill to amend an act prescribing the duties, powers, &c., of certain county officers, &c., came up and the bill was passed.

Bills in relation to the boundary line between Virginia and Maryland; and to furnish commutation to one legged soldiers on certain condition were passed.

The Senate bill authorizing an increase of the salary of county judges of Loudoun was favorably reported upon.

At the night session a bill revising and amending the registration and election laws, and repealing chapters 6 and 8 of the Code after being amended in numerous particulars, was passed.

Savings Banks.

BOSTON, March 28.—In order to guard against a repetition of the rascality of the treasurer of the Reading Savings Bank in disposing of the securities, a bill was accepted in the House yesterday under a suspension of the rules, and referred to the Committee on Banks and Banking, which provides that no assignment, transfer or release of a mortgage held by a savings bank shall be valid unless signed by the president and treasurer and two of the trustees and acknowledged before a justice of the peace.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

In the United States Senate, yesterday, Mr. Groome introduced a bill to aid in the construction of the Maryland and Delaware ship canal.

The executive committee upon the world's fair proposed to be held in New York has decided to hold the fair in Central Park. The action fixing the date in 1885 was reconsidered, and it is probable 1883 will be decided upon.

A strike occurred in the goverement printing office yesterday, but new hands were found and the presses kept at work. Employes being in arrears to the Pressman's Union caused the trouble.

Robert Sheehan, the boy who several weeks ago was severely punished at Racine (Wis.) by Mr. Sheires, superintendent of schools, died yesterday. The superintendent claims that the lick which injured the boy was accidental.

The Chambers Clark prize fight, which took place yesterday at Navy Island, in Canada, was won by Chambers, 137 rounds having been fought. The affair was generally tame. Chambers gave Clark $100 after winning the fight.

Governor Nichols, of Louisiana, has signed the bill repealing the charter of the Louisiana State lottery, but the officers say that it will not affect the business of the lottery. The constitutionality of the law is to be tested in the courts.

The lower house of the Tennessee Legislature amended the Senate bill to adjust the State debt at forty cents by striking out "forty" and substituting "fifty cents," at which rate it is believed the Lerislature will agree to settle it, if the bondholders will concur.

The proceedings by the court of inquiry in the Fitz John Porter case have reached the President. The friends of General Porter are confident that the findings are in every way in his favor, and that he has been completely exonerated from the charges preferred against him.

The skeletons of two infants were found in the garret of a house in Martinsburg, W. Va., last Saturday. A jury of inquest rendered a verdict that their death resulted from strangulation at the hands of Anna D. Reed. The young woman was therefore arrested, and had an examination before a magistrate, but nothing was elicited and she was discharged at the instance of the State's attorney.

The beautiful old Church of St. Nicholas, in the Swiss town of Freiburg, suffered severely during a recent hurricane. Many of the pinnacles were broken, and the famous rosette window was badly damaged. The statue of St. Nicholas over the chief portal was turned three quarters round by the hurricane, but curiously enough, it was not thrown down or injured.

The Louisa Murder.

LOUISA, C. H., March 28.—The parties who murdered Mr. Charles R. Walton, at Yanceyville, in this county on the 9th of this month have been discovered and arrested. They are all colored and named Abert Mitchell, Wm. Talley and Ann Eliza Jackson. Some of the money stolen at the time was found upon the person of Albert Mitchell, who afterwards made a full confession, implicating the two parties mentioned. The prisoners were placed in jail, and a guard kept around the building last night, as much excitement prevailed, and fears of lynching were expressed. After the murder the store of the deceased was robbed and then burned.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.—In the Court of Appeals of this State yesterday Neale against Scruggs, on appeal certified from the Supreme Court of the United States. The question involved seems to be whether this court will recognize the Supreme Court of the United States as its appellate tribunal. The case involved the construction of the bankrupt law. Under section 2 of article 3 of the Constitution of the United States the Supreme Court has appellate jurisdiction "in all cases in law and equity arising under the laws of the United States." Under this section of the Constitution the appellant claimed the right to appeal to the Supreme Court, and the right was recognized by the Supreme Court, which took jurisdiction of the case, and reversed the decision of the Court of Appeals of Virginia.

This decision was certified to the Court of Appeals of Virginia, and the motion was made a year ago for the entry of this decision on the records of the court. The court took time to consider: and on yesterday, by a divided Court, directed the entry to be made—Judge Staples delivering the opinion, and Judge Moncure dissenting.

In this case Major I. H. Carrington was counsel for the appellant Neale, and Mr. James Alfred Jones for the appellee.—*Rich. Dis.*

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS OF VIRGINIA. Feckheimer against National Exchange Bank of Norfolk. From the Corporation Court of the city of Norfolk. Reversed. Judge Moncure delivering the opinion.

Old Dominion Steamship Company against Burckhardt. From the Circuit Court of the city of Richmond. Reversed. Judge Christian delivering the opinion.

Bailey's representative against Garnett and als. From the Circuit Court of New Kent county. Reversed. Judge Anderson delivering the opinion, Judges Staples and Burks dissenting.

Crumpton against Hoffman, Lee & Co. From the Circuit Court of the town of Danville. Affirmed. Judge Staples delivering the opinion.

Talbott against Richmond and Danville Railroad Company. From the Circuit Court of the city of Richmond. Reversed. Judge Burks delivering the opinion.

A BOY ON WASHINGTON.—Boys' compositions are often fearfully and wonderfully put together. Here's one about George Washington that puts the "Father of his Country" on a stronger moral basis than any that has got appeared. It serves the still further purpose of showing that where there is real, irrepressible genius great ideas somewhat precede the knack of spelling: "George Washington was a little boy that onct lived in Virginny what had a nax give him by his old man. When george he got the nax he cutted a tree what had cherrys up on it and eat the cherreys he and a nother boy.

"Wen george's old man foun out what george and the nother boy done, he called george to him an he says, george Washington, who cutted the bark ofen the the cherry tree? george sais i did. The old man sais you did. George sais i did and i cannot tell a li. Why cant you tell a li sais the old man. Cez sais george it i tell a li this hore fellerl blow on me and then i'll be spanked twice. That's rite sais the old man; wenever yer get in to trouble the easyest way out is the best."

COLONEL JEROME NAPOLEON BONAPARTE, oldest grandson of Madame Elizabeth Patterson, who is lying very ill, arrived in this city yesterday, having been notified of his relative's illness by cable some time since. Col. Bonaparte sailed from Liverpool in the Scythia of the Cunard line, on the 15th instant, and upon arriving in New York came on to Baltimore as quickly as possible. The Colonel is visiting at the residence of his mother, on the corner of Centre and Park streets. He was much gratified to find the Madame's health as good as it is, having feared that he might learn the saddest tidings upon his arrival. *Balto. American.*

Captain Boyton.

CINCINNATI, O., March 28.—Capt Boyton left Owensboro, Ky., this morning, and will reach Evansville about six o'clock. He lectured to a large audience last evening.

LETTER FROM RICHMOND.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

RICHMOND, March 27.—In the House to day Mr. Hunter under suspension of the rules got up his bill, No. 139, entitled "a bill to allow liquor dealers in the city of Alexandria the option of conducting business under a specific license tax. A free debate, lasting some hours ensued. Mr. Robinson, of Portsmouth, prepared an amendment adding Portsmouth to Alexandria, which was opposed by both the Alexandria delegates. The amendment was lost. Mr. Wilkinson, of Danville, offered another amendment, locking in Danville, which was defeated also. Then up jumped Mr. Myer, from Norfolk, and tried to slip in Norfolk, but his amendment was also voted down. The question then came up, "shall the bill pass." Gen. Anderson of Richmond city, Robinson of Portsmouth, Jordan of Isle of Wight, Wilkinson and others spoke against the bill, and Messrs. Mushbach and Hunter for it. The advocates of the Moffatt liquor law rallied strong together, and one of them said that it was but the opening wedge for its final repeal. The pending question was called "shall the bill be engrossed and read a third time with the following result: yeas 42, nays 38.

In Richmond everybody is now discussing the Poindexter trial. The evidence in the case is closed, and the case has been given to the jury. The jury at this hour has failed to agree. It is the general impression that they will not agree, and that the jury will be a hung jury.—Young Poindexter during the latter part of the speeches to day seemed to evince little anxiety as to his fate. He kept his eyes fixed upon Commonwealth's Attorney Wise during the whole time that gentleman was speaking against him. He shed tears in the morning when the death of young Curtis was graphically described by Capt. John S. Wise, one of his counsel.

As soon as this case is over the public will be regaled with the trial of Angelo Bocciccapo for attempting to murder his wife. Richmond has during the past month added her mite to the calendar of crime.

To day was opinion day in the Court of Appeals. It is a noteworthy fact that with the solitary exception of the Circuit Court of Danville all the other courts were now read—that is the Corporation Court of Norfolk, the Circuit Court of the city of Richmond, and the Circuit Court of New Kent county.

Several divorce cases have been filed in this attention here.

In legislative circles there is an absolute cessation of hostilities, and from present appearances the legislature will adjourn so quietly that no one will know anything about it.

SNOWDEN.

The Poindexter-Curtis Homicide.

The Hustings Court, in Richmond, was thronged to overflowing yesterday to hear the arguments in the case of John H. Poindexter for the murder of Curtis. Captain George D. Wise opened the argument for the prosecution. The killing being undisputed, the grade of the crime was the only thing to be inquired into. The premeditation of the accused, who, with a pistol in his hand, said to Curtis, "I mean to take your life," was alone sufficient to warrant a verdict of murder in the second degree. It was a cruel, brutal murder upon the man whom he had degraded with his contemptible stripes. The deceased was depicted as a gentle and Christian disposition, who even while being stricken asked the name of the lady whom he might apologize.

Mr. John S. Wise followed for the defense, and took the ground that the killing was done in self-defence, Curtis having come into Poindexter's house armed with a stick, as accompanied by a friend. Mr. Wise said he would rather see his client hung than to come into disgrace for doing a thing he might or might have done than to linger in a felon's cell and come forth with the finger of scorn pointed at him.

Captain George D. Wise closed the prosecution.

The case was given to the jury at half-past five but not having agreed upon a verdict at 10 p. m., they were locked in the room of the officers of the court until to-day.

Archbishop Purcell.

CINCINNATI, March 28.—Some little excitement was occasioned at a meeting of Catholic priests of this diocese last night for the purpose of perfecting plans for the relief of Archbishop Purcell by an announcement that Frank Geyer, Charles Stewart and Thomas Scanlon had been appointed by the Archbishop a committee to receive all charitable contributions to pay the diocesan debt. This appointment was understood to mean that the committee appointed by the priests was completely ignored and caused a bitter discussion in which Father Gilmour, of the cathedral, who was supposed to be at the bottom of this appointment, was denounced by the German priests especially. The meeting finally adjourned without taking any united action upon the matter in hand.

LAND SALES.—Last Wednesday Messrs. Lewis H. Powell and J. M. Orr, commissioners in the case of McKimmey vs. Beamer sold a piece of land in the Lovettsville neighborhood, containing 38 acres, for $18.00 per acre. Samuel Ropp purchaser. Rinker auctioneer.

Messrs. Harrison, Heaton Alexander, Foster and Orr, commissioners, sold the farm of Thos. H. Clagett, 1 mile south of Leesburg and containing 140 acres, for $50 per acre—Thos. S. Worsley purchaser. Rinker auctioneer.

A portion of "Selkirk," 170 acres, was sold to Mrs. B. G. Carter for $26.10 per acre.

The farm formerly owned by the late French Simpson was sold recently by Messrs. Henry Harrison and R. H. Lee, commissioners, for $16.50 per acre—W. P. Reid purchaser. J. F. Divine auctioneer.

Thaddeus Hatcher has bought the Hatcher farm, 212 acres, near Hamilton, for $70 per acre. Edgar Gregg has purchased 100 acres adjoining, without improvements, for $60 per acre. The entire farm was last assessed at $48 per acre.—*Loudoun Mirror.*

ABANDONED ON HER WAY TO THE ALTAR.—Last Tuesday a bridal party from Seaford, Del., arrived on the steamer Georgiana, and the prospective bridegroom left the vessel ostensibly to procure a minister to solemnize the contract. That was the last his bride elect saw of him. She remained on the boat all day, and went with it on the trip down the Bay, returning with the Georgiana again yesterday to resume the vigil, hoping for the return of her absent lover. Her efforts were in vain, however, as he did not turn up, and the heart sick girl returned last night to her home in the little Diamond State. Inquiry revealed the fact that after leaving the boat Tuesday morning the bridegroom got to drinking, and, it is supposed, is still carousing or if his money and that of his intended bride, which he had in his possession when he parted from her, has disappeared, is probably ashamed to return and face her. She says she knew of his fatal appetite for strong drink, but trusted in her influence to reform him when they had been married.—*Baltimore American.*

Pedestrianism.

NEW YORK, March 23.—At 12 o'clock noon to-day there were only eleven pedestrians on the track at Gilmore's Garden, whose records were as follows: LaChapelle 114 miles; Walker 103; VonBerg 102; Cushing 95; Kilburne 95; Tobias 95; VonKlamash 85; Barnard 81; St. Clair 75; Williams 75; and Rich 70 miles. La Chapelle and Tobias appear to be the freshest of the lot.

The Gallows Ball.

Our Richmond correspondent in his letter published yesterday gave a description of the "gallows ball" that took place in New Kent on the night of the hanging of two negro murderers. A dispatch from New Kent C. H., gives the following additional particulars of the wild scene:—

"The negroes came in immense numbers. It was a gala day for them, and they were all in a holiday attire. The field in which the men were hanged looked like a country fair. Booths were erected. An enterprising Yankee had a side show and educated pig, and itinerant musicians enlivened the occasion. After the hanging the crowds of whites went away, but the negroes hung about the field and around the shallow graves of the felons until dark. They had determined to have a ball, but according to some superstition among them it could not begin until after the midnight hour. A large pen near the field was swept clean by hundreds of willing hands. At 12 o'clock it was crowded. On a small stage in a corner the stand for the musicians was placed, which was occupied by four banjo players and one fiddler. In the middle of the room was another stand, upon which the man who called out the figures stood. It was a weird scene. Boys stood in the corners of the room with pine knot torches, which filled the place with black smoke, and made a murky light.

"At 12.15 the festivities began. Peter Johnson, a burly tobacco hand, occupied the stand in the middle of the room, and sang out in stentorian voice:—"Choose your partners." The strangely made up orchestra struck up "The Mississippi Sawyer," a wild Ethiopian air, and the dancing began. As the music went on, the musicians and dancers grew wild and wilder, until they shouted and sang as though possessed by the devil. Such exclamations as "I could die this moment!" "Oh, Lord, how happy I am!" and the like were heard, especially from the women. At about two o'clock Lucinda Macon, an old Voudou negress, suddenly made her appearance in the barn. The musicians and dancers stopped in terror. The old hag slipped into the middle of the room, and then began a series of strange incantation scenes. The "trick" doctress was dressed in an old blue and white checkered dress, and had in her hand a large bundle tied up in a red handkerchief. She opened it, and after muttering a lot of gibberish, in what the negroes say here was an African dialect, she said she had the rope with which the men were hanged, and that after she had touched any bit of it that piece would secure the possessor against the evil designs of any person who tricked them or poisoned them. She cut it up in small bits, and over each bit she muttered and sprinkled something from an old jug, and then she sold it for fifty cents. The rush for these pieces of rope was great. The men fought for them.

"This ceremony was kept up until 2.30 a. m. The rope did not go around, and when this became known those who did not get a piece acted like fiends, and begged the hag for a thread only. She told them that nothing else would effect the charm except small particles of the clothing in which the men were buried. A large party then started off to the grave underneath the gallows, for the purpose of disinterring the bodies and bringing back the garments. They soon returned in horror to the ball room, swearing that they had seen the two men who were hanged walking around the grave. The hag added to the excitement by shouting at the top of her voice, singing out the words, that Smith and Christian had not died, because she had given them a charm. The secret is, that the visit of the dancers to the grave frightened off two resurrectionists who were after the bodies for the doctors.—The dancing and singing were kept up until 5 o'clock. It was announced by the Voudou doctress that all who danced at the gallows ball would be able to dance as long as they lived, no matter if they lived to be ninety one.

HORSES BAY DOG TEAMS.—Probably—and particularly French probably—seems a necessary adjunct to dog driving. It is very unfortunate that, by some inscrutable dispensation of Providence, the only method of reaching a dog's reason should be through unlimited imposition. But, speaking with the experience of many days of dog travel and an intimate acquaintance with a score or more of dog trains, I have, while a traveler, never seen an attempt made to teach it in any other way. I do not seek to exaggerate, but simply to present dog driving as it really is—an inhuman thrashing and vehement cursing. The cruelty with which dogs are treated cannot be excused. It is true they are often obstinate and provoking, and require severe beating, especially from a new driver, till the team is brought into subjection.

But when helpless animals, undergoing severe labor in the traces, are not merely beaten on the body with heavy lashes, but systematically thrashed on the head till their ears drip blood—beaten with whip handles till their jaws and noses are cut open with deep wounds—cudgeled with clubs, knelt upon and stamped upon until their howls turn into low moans of agony—punishment merges into sheer brutality. And yet such treatment is of common occurrence. As I said, the beatings from being intermittent become incessant. Many of the dogs had so exhausted themselves by violent dartings hither and thither in their endeavors to dodge the blows of the descending whip, that they had no strength left for the legitimate task of hauling the sledge. The heads of others were reduced to a swollen, pulpy mass by tremendous thrashings, while one or two had given out altogether, and had been taken from the harness and abandoned on the plain. The operation of "sending a dog to Rome" had been performed more than once—a brutal operation in which the driver sinks below the level of the beast. Sending a dog to Rome is effected by simply beating him over the head with a club or heavy whip handle until he falls insensible to the ground. When he revives, with the memory of the awful blows that deprived him of consciousness fresh upon him, he pulls frantically at his load. A dog is sent to Rome for various and often trivial provocations—because he shirks or will not pull, because he will not permit the driver to adjust some hitch in his harness. While he is insensible, the necessary alteration is made and upon recovering consciousness he receives a terrible lash of the whip to set him going again.

Corn fed hens do not lay in winter, and especially when snow covers the ground because there is nothing in corn which furnishes the material for the white and shell of the egg, but abundant material for fat and rudimentary yolks. As soon as spring comes, corn fed hens commence laying and continue to do so simply because they are able to supplement this food by grass, worms, insects and other albuminous substances, and also find materials for egg shells in bits of lime, stone and shells and debris of a variety of decaying matter that we have no just conception of. On the other hand, when wheat is fed to hens there is fat enough in it to supply all that is needed for the yolk, and gluten enough to make the white and lime enough to furnish the shell, and it does not seem difficult now to understand why corn fed hens should not lay, as they do not, and why wheat fed hens should lay as they do.—*Country Gentleman.*

Fire.

PHILADELPHIA, March 28.—A one story stone building at the Port Richmond coal wharves used as a repair shop by the Reading Railroad was burned at an early hour this morning. Five of the engines stored there were badly damaged. The total loss is about $15,000, fully insured in the railroad's own fund.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Notwithstanding the bright, balmy and delightful weather that set in about noon to day, and which drew crowds upon Pennsylvania avenue, but comparatively few people were at the Capitol.

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

In the House the first hour was spent in referring a memorial from the democratic contestant for the seat from the 9th Iowa district to the Committee on Elections.

Mr. Young, of Cincinnati, then had read an article from a paper of that city, giving the proceedings of the grand jury in reference to the charges of fraud that had been preferred against himself and Mr. Butterworth, which charges, according to said report of such proceedings were so groundless that nothing was done with them.

At one o'clock the House went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, with Mr. Springer in the chair, for the further consideration of the Army Appropriation bill, and at two adjourned.

G. W. Brent, of Alexandria, was appointed a page in the House to day.

Among the candidates for the position of captain of the capitol police is Mr. George Smith, of Alexandria, now a member of that force, and strange to say, among his warmest supporters, is Captain Blackford, who holds the position at present, but who as a republican has accepted the situation and made up his mind that he will have to vacate.

Gen. Hunton is still detained in Warrenton by sickness.

The office-seekers are thinning out rapidly, many of them giving up all hope and returning to their homes disappointed and angry men, and others satisfied that such changes as will take place will be made slowly and in order.—All the officials of the Senate who have offices to dispose of have received letters from the democratic caucus of that body telling them to make no changes until further orders, and they are by no means indisposed to obey these instructions to the letter.

The probable fate of the appropriation bills is as much a matter of doubt now as it was before the session commenced. Some democrats, General Beale among the number, are inclined to think that the democrats by their change in regard to the federal election laws have made concessions which render the President's approval of those bills by no means improbable, while others like Judge Harris, seem to think that so far from concessions the caucus programme is more sweeping than the measures proposed at the last session, and that a veto is almost a certainty. Nobody however knows or even has a definite idea of what will happen, though most expect a dead lock. It is not even known now whether when the probable dead lock occurs Congress will repass similar bills or adjourn, or whether when that possible adjournment takes place the President will call another extra session or attempt to carry on the government by means of promises to pay. Many think he will pursue the latter course, and they say that none will sustain him in that event with more fidelity than those who will have to live on such promises, as it is notorious that the army and navy men, who have been subjected to such treatment once before during the recent past, had quite large sums due them when the appropriation bill finally passed, and saved much more money than if they had been paid regularly.

CONGRESSIONAL.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Young, of Ohio, referring to the appointment of the select committee to investigate the election of his colleague (Butterworth) and himself, sent to the clerk's desk and had read an extract from the report of the grand jury (which had just examined the matter) to the effect that the grand jury after examining 50 witnesses, had found no ground to take further proceedings in regard to it. He explained that his object was to prove to members of the House that his colleague and himself were not considered in the county of Hamilton as very bad persons.

The House then at one o'clock went into Committee of the Whole on the Army Appropriation bill.

Mr. Tucker, of Va., offered an amendment repealing the law which prohibits any person who has served in any capacity in the military, naval or civil service of the Confederate States from being appointed to any position in the army of the United States. He trusted that it would meet with approbation on both sides and that the stigma resting on a very large class of the population of the Southern States should be wiped out from the Statute book now and forever. A point of order was made by Mr. Conger, of Michigan, and insisted on by Mr. Sparks of Ill., Mr. Clymer of Pa., and others, Mr. Conger remarking that Mr. Tucker had thrown down the gage of battle, and that that gentleman had had the courage to offer what the democrats had repeatedly said was a premature proposition. He himself had been laughed at scornfully, when he had suggested that the reduction of the army was proposed in order to make room for southern brigadiers.

Mr. Conger subsequently withdrew the point of order, but it was renewed by Mr. Sparks, of Ill., and was sustained by the Chair.

TELLER COMMITTEE.

The sub committee of the Wallace-Teller Committee met this morning, in the Girard House, Philadelphia, and commenced the examination of witnesses. The inquiries were principally directed to the operations of the Deputy U. S. Marshals on election day.

LARGE LAND SUIT DECIDED.—The suit of Wall vs. Carson, which has been pending in the Circuit Court of Frederick county for some years, and which involved the title to about 10,000 acres of land, nine miles west of Winchester, in this county, was decided in our Circuit Court last week, confirming Mr. W.'s rights to one-half of the land. This land is said to contain a large amount of valuable timber both for lumber and bark and large deposits of iron ore of fine quality.—*Winchester News.*

FIRE IN LOUDOUN.—The store of Mr. O. A. Purcell, at Wood Grove, near Round Hill, was destroyed by fire last night. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. A small portion of the goods only was saved. The loss is not ascertained, but the insurance was $1,500.

The honest public sentiment of the people of the United States is unanimously in favor of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. The druggists pronounce it to be the *only* standard Cough Remedy

DIED.

At Meadia, White Post, Clarke county, Va., on the 27th instant, Miss MARY MEADE, sister of the late Bishop Meade, aged 84.

FOUND—A small BUNCH OF KEYS, which the owner can have by calling at this office and paying for this advertisement. 1t

FINEST OLD JAVA COFFEE, for sale low by F. J. DAVIDSON, 147 King street.

GOOSE GREASE Quince Seed, Lip Salve Glycerine Wash, Camphor Ice and Nightingill's Oil, for sale by feb 21 E. S. LEADBEATER & BRO

SMOKED BLOATERS for sale by dec 6 F. J. DAVIDSON, 147 King st.

FAIR RIO COFFEE at 12½c for sale by mh 17 J. C. MILBURN.

CHOICE LOT OF PEACH BLOW POTATOES in store and for sale by feb 13 CHAS. S. TAYLOR, Jr.

CHOICE NEW ORLEANS MOLASSES received to-day by mh 17 J. C. MILBURN