BRISTOL NEWS,

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I. C. FOWLER.

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JOB WORK

Executed with neatness and dispatch at New York prices.

Bristol News.

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20 " " one month	
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For Congress, Legislature, or County Office, $5 00
Town and District Offices, 2 50
The above rates will be rigidly adhered to.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1881.

JOHN F. LEWIS.

We publish this week in full the masterly and complete reply of Hon. Jno. F. Lewis to the slanderous and mendacious report of the now exploded Lancaster, which has been distributed recently through the mails under the vain hope that Readjusters can be frightened from their state ticket by such news. Lancaster and Leigh Wilson are now detectable Funder characters.

From Hon. John F. Lewis.

TO THE PEOPLE OF VIRGINIA.

I have been reliably informed the Southwestern part of the State has been flooded with what purpots to be a copy of C. C. Lancaster's report on the condition of affairs in the Marshal's office of the Western district of Virginia.

I understand that one Bourbon-Funder paper (the Abingdon *Standard*) has been sending this so-called report out, folded in the regular issue of the paper, thus going to the extent of *violating the United States Laws and Regulations* for the purpose of

CIRCULATING A VILE AND INFAMOUS SLANDER

to help Bourbon-Funderism; and for the further purpose, I presume, of taking front rank amongst Funder papers, by making up for want of ability

BY ITS ZEAL IN THE CIRCULATION OF INFAMOUS STATEMENTS,

which its editors could have known to be such from the most cursory examination into the matter about which it seeks to mislead its leaders.

Now I have answered this report months ago—viz., on the 27th of April, 1881, and I then so fully understood the import and significance of it that I wrote, in my answer to the Attorney-General, in speaking of the utter falsity of almost every allegation made by this man Lancaster, as follows: "The great discrepancies between the allegations of the report and the exhibits filed in support of them, together with the replies of the parties censured and their explanations and evidence, coupled with other facts which have become known to me since the examination and the publication (primarily in certain leading Democratic papers) of the special agent's report, compels me to the conclusion that this whole movement was but an artful and sinister scheme, instigated for the purpose of prejudicing the Administration against me, and destroying, or at least impairing, my political influence just at this time when there is a bold, determined and utterly selfish effort on the part of a few unscrupulous Republicans in this State, who, for the purpose of holding among themselves the Federal patronage, have become the willing allies and dangerous tools of the Bourbon Democracy to aid them in crushing out the Liberal movement so auspiciously begun in Virginia."

Now it is plainly manifest that I perfectly understood and appreciated the motive for this malicious and lying report, at the time I wrote my answer, and also that I knew the parties instigating this man Lancaster to do his dirty work. But if there could have been the least doubt about it, that doubt would have been removed by the recent action of some of these Bourbon-Funders in

CIRCULATING THE FALSEHOOD WHICH THEY HAD ALREADY INSTIGATED.

Now all I have to say in answer to this recent revival of Lancaster's charges is to refer to my answer, which I think was a full and complete vindication, and so pronounced by even a large number of Funder papers which are now supporting the Daniel, Barbour, and McKinney ticket. I will, however, only reproduce two editorial comments, from my own county papers,—here where I was born and raised and have lived for over sixty-three years,—with the remark that both of these papers are supporting the Bourbon ticket.

The Rockingham *Register* says: We have received from Hon. John F. Lewis a copy of his reply to charges of corruption in the conduct of the affairs of the Marshal's office for the Western district of Virginia, made by C. C. Lancaster, acting special agent of the Treasury Department. The reply is very exhaustive, and renders the charge made by Lancaster in a thoroughly satisfactory way. Mr. Lewis now stands vindicated as an officer and honest man at Washington, as he has always been regarded by the people of this county who have known him."

The *Old Commonwealth*, in an editorial headed "Marshal Lewis' Answer," says; "Elsewhere to-day we print a synopsis of the reply of Hon. John F. Lewis to the charges made against the officers of the Federal Courts for the Western district of Virginia, by a special agent of the department, C. C. Lancaster. In John F. Lewis the agent caught a Tartar; for, as bad as Mr. Lewis is politically, being a Mahone-Republican, yet no one has ever impugned his honor and personal integrity. This is just what cannot be done. As a countryman Mr. Lewis excites our pride, and we are glad to see the manner of his defense. Politically, however, we have nothing to do with the affair, and perhaps no right to say a word, as the fight is between Republican Lancaster and Republican Lewis—both of the same party—which at present does not appear to be a very happy family."

These articles speak for themselves, and modest y would have prevented their reproduction by me had it not been for the malicious and unjustifiable attacks upon me by Funder papers and speakers. I hope, however, that the voluntary evidence of these two papers—Funder papers, published right here at my own home—will have some weight with those papers and speakers who are engaged in the *high-toned* business of re-hashing and circulating Lancaster's exploded slanders. The fact that Lancaster's report was made on the 28th day of February, 1881, more than six months ago, and the further fact that if one-half of what he asserted had been true,

I OUGHT TO HAVE BEEN DISMISSED FROM OFFICE AT ONCE,

together with this additional fact, that

I AM STILL PERFORMING THE DUTIES OF THE OFFICE

and have not received the slightest intimation, from the proper authorities, that my administration of the affairs of the Marshal's office is in any manner distasteful to them, is, or at least ought to be to any unprejudiced mind, conclusive proof of how Lancaster's report is regarded by those in authority who have read and considered my answer to it.

But I am charged with having many innocent men arrested because my numerous deputies have to execute the warrants of arrest which are placed in their hands. In answer to this I will state what every man of ordinary intelligence ought to know, viz: That I am simply a ministerial officer, and am bound by my oath of office to execute all warrants which come into my hands properly attested, and that consequently I have nothing to do with the guilt or innocence of the party arrested. So that I may make myself the better understood, I will state that the duties and powers of the Marshal and his deputies under the United States laws correspond with those of the Sheriff and his deputies under the State laws; in other words, the Marshall is the United States Sheriff for the district in which he is appointed.—Now who ever heard of a Sheriff being held responsible for the arrest of men because it afterward turned out that some of them were acquitted? His simple duty is to arrest them and not to determine their guilt or innocence. However, as it has been stated that only 35 men had been convicted out of the hundreds arrested, I will state that up to the date of my answer the total number of cases disposed of in the United States Courts, at Lynchburg, Abingdon and Danville, since July 1st, 1878, were 633,

OF WHICH 461 WERE CONVICTED,

and only 67 were acquitted, while 105 were dismissed, either because their cases had been compromised by the Secretary of the Treasury, as provided by law, or the witness had died, or from other similar causes.

This is from the records of the Court and consequently incontrovertible.

Of course it is impossible for me to give my personal supervision to the duties of the office at all times in every part of the district, which is over four hundred miles long and embraces about half of the territory of the State of Virginia. It would not then be surprising if some irregularities had occurred in parts of the district in which I could not give my personal attention to the business, and it would not, therefore, have been fair to have held me morally responsible (though undoubtedly I would have been legally so) for such irregularities, but I am happy to be able to state that my deputies have performed their duties not only in a legal manner, but so conscientiously as to merit and receive the approbation of those State officers,

BOTH FUNDERS AND READJUSTERS WITH WHOM THEY LIVE

and by whom they are best known. As a proof of this I refer to the letters filed with my answer, which embrace letters from Gen. Jas A. Walker, our present Lieutenant-Governor; from Circuit Judge John H. Fulton, from County Judges Lybrook, Ward, McTeer, Mays, Bailey, Morgan, and Cornett, and from Commonwealth's Attorney John S. Crockett, J. D. Watts, H. W. Holdway, and C. T. Duncan.

I think, then, no unprejudiced man can hesitate for a moment in coming to the conclusion that this report of Lancaster's and the charges founded upon it are not only unjust and untrue, but are maliciously false, and obviously intended for political effect.

In other words, the attack is not so much on me as it is a sneaking attempt to injure the liberal Readjuster cause.

I hope, then, and confidently believe, that there is no Readjuster so weak as to be swayed from his allegiance to the great cause of Readjustment by any such shallow tricks; but if there are any such in the State who are not satisfied with the conduct of my office, or who object to me on any other grounds, I say to all such that I implore them not to refuse to aid this great movement simply because I am on the ticket. That is no reason why you should vote against your principles and for the Bourbon-Funder ticket.

To all such I would say that you have a simple remedy, for you can vote the rest of the ticket leaving me off,

I fully appreciate the fact that the cause of Readjustment for which we are now struggling is too important to the interests of our beloved State to allow

ANY ONE MAN TO STAND IN THE WAY OF THE SUCCESS.

I was placed upon the ticket without the least solicitation, or even the slightest desire on my part. It was done by the almost unanimous voice of the Readjuster Convention, but if your representatives in that convention made a mistake it is very easily remedied in the manner I have indicated, and I hope I would be one of the last men to allow my own interest to stand in the way of success when I have believed that success at this time means a new life of unexampled prosperity for Virginia, when defeat means a continuance in the same old rut of policy which has brought Virginia down from the position which she occupied when our present Federal Constitution was adopted, of the first State in wealth and population, to the 16th place on the roll of States which compose our glorious Union, and which same policy, is urged by the Funders, will place her in the humiliating position of talking grandiloquently about "honor and honesty," while persistently enforcing practical repudiation.

My fellow-citizens, I warn you to beware of these Funders, whose only hope lies in their ability to hoodwink you by introducing into this canvass side-issues. They will talk to you about the danger of "negro rule," and when they do so ask them how such a thing is possible in Virginia when

THE WHITE VOTERS ARE IN A MAJORITY OF OVER FIFTY THOUSAND,

and have nearly all the properly and all the advantages of a superior education. To admit the danger of "negro rule" under such circumstances is a palpable admission of the inferiority of the white race.

But I say to the credit of the colored people that their every action shows their determination not to make a race issue, as is particularly evidenced by the action of the Petersburg Convention.

Therefore, I say that the man who talks to you about "negro supremacy" is either a fool himself, or a takes you for a set of fools. Ask him what that has to do with free suffrage or the public debt, and in every instance you will find that he is opposed to free suffrage and in favor of assuming

THIRTEEN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS MORE THAN WE EQUITABLY OWE;

which will, in the end, either necessitate an increase of taxation or will bring about repudiation.

Another side issue with which these Funder speakers and writers will attempt to obscure the real issues of this campaign will be by charging that it is a Republican movement instead of a Readjuster movement, and they will assert, in support of their position, that all of the Republicans are supporting the Readjuster ticket. In reply to that you can tell them that all Republicans are not supporting the Liberal movement.—Amongst the white Republicans woh are in effect giving material aid and comfort to the bourbons are Gen. Wickham and Messrs. Dezendorf and Jorgenson, and among the colored Republicans are Mr. G. M. Arnold, Mr. Wilson, of Norfolk, and Mr. W. H. Lester. The truth is, this is a fight between Bourbon-Funderism and all which that implies, on the one side, and Liberal Readjusterism and all which it implies, on the other; consequently we find the republicans, to a certain extent, divided in their support of the tickets,

THE BOURBON REPUBLICANS SUPPORTING DANIEL,

while the Liberal Republicans are heartily for Cameron.

Now that the Readjusters of Virginia have certain victory within their grasp, if they are not so foolish as to be diverted from the real issue by such stuff as the exploded falsehoods contained in Lancaster's report, and silly twaddle about "negro rule," then I say they are not campetent to mannage the affairs of a great State, and might do as much harm

BY THEIR INCOMPETENCY AS THE FUNDER OFFICE-HOLDERS HAVE BY THEIR DISHONESTY.

I have not in this address attempted to show why you should support the Readjuster ticket, as I begun it only with the intention of calling your attention to the *animus* of these Funders in introducing false issues into this campaign.

At some future time between this and election day I hope to meet many of you personally, and to demonstrate to you that in the interest of the public schools, in the interest of low taxes and a final settlement of this vexed Debt question, in the interest of free suffrage, and consequently in the interest of the material development of our old State, we must see to it that we secure the State ticket and elect a Legislature in harmony with it.

Respectfully,

JOHN F. LEWIS.

P. S.—While speaking of the testimony given as to my official integrity, I intended to mention the fact that Senator John W. Johnston, in a conversation with me, in the presence of another gentleman, voluntarialy offered to 'get up in the United States Senate and say in reference to this Lancaster report that there was no man in Virginia in whose official and personal integrity he had more implicit confidence in than in mine. I, however, thanked him and told him I thought that would be altogether unnecessary.

I mention this because it was Senator Johnston who offered the resolution in the Senate calling for Lancaster's report, and in consiquence of this some persons have been led to believe that the Senator thereby endorsed the report, and I deem it a matter of justice to him, as well as to myself, to make this statement in this connection.

A Free Education.

"Common schools fostered and protected.
—Democratic Platform, 1880.

	1879. *Last year of Funder rule.*	1880. *First year of Readjuster rule.*
No. of Schools	2,491	4,854
Graded Schools	128	205
Pupils	108,074	220,736
Teachers	2,504	4,873
Expenditures	$570,389.15	$946,109.33
Colored Teachers	415	785
Colored Schools	675	1,256
Colored Pupils	35,768	95,600

—*Whig.*

The Just Debt of Virginia.

Old registered and coupon debt, as of Jan. 1, 1861,	$31,506,582.90
Old James River Stock and James River and Kanawha bonds,	294,130.00
Total State Debt of Jan. 1, 1861	$31,800,712.90
Interest from Jan. 1, 1861 (including arrears at that date), to July 1, 1871,	$21,504,342.90
Debt and Interest to July 1 1871,	$53,305,055.80
One third off for W. Va.,	17,768,351.93
Virginia's two-thirds,	$35,536,703.87
Interest paid from Jan. 1, 1861, to Jan. 1, 1867,	4,711,243.99
	$30,825,459.88
Interest paid under acts of 1867,	2,545,479.67
	$28,279,980.21
State's interests in public works sold for *old* bonds between Jan. 1, 1866, and July 1, 1871,	2,687,179.82
	$25,592,810.39
State's interest in public works sold for bonds of '66-'67, between Jan. 1, 1866, and July 1, 1871,	1,023,060.85
	$24,569,750.54
Deduct four years' war-interest on two thirds of the original debt at 6 per cent,	5,088,114.06
	$19,481,636.18
Add interest at 6 per cent from July 1, 1871, to July 1, 1881,	11,688,981.88
	$31,170,618.36
Interest paid in cash since July 1, 1871,	2,321,311.78
	$28,849,306.58
Interest paid in coupons since July 1, 1871,	7,801,917.00
Redeemed by sinking fund since July 1, 1871,	5,694,726.38
Virginia's just debt	$15,352,663.20
Add four years' war interest deducted above,	5,088,114.06
	$20,440,783.26

—*Whig.*

THERE is no dependence to be placed in the Republicans, now that Yost has gone over to the other side. We can not count upon any considerable number of them—upon none, perhaps, but Wickham and those who immediately surround him; and, therefore, we may as well make up our minds at once that it is the same old enemy we have to meet, the same old Radical party reinforced by a few thousand recruits, deserters from our ranks, that we are to overcome again—and let us see that it be done in the same old way.—*State.*

"The same old way," eh? Forewarned—fore-armed. Keep a sharp lookout, ye judges of election, for tissue ballots!—*Whig.*

Godey's Lady's Book For October.

The steel plate is a scene from Sir Walter Scott's "Tales of a Granfather;" it is a real gem in its design and execution. A very clever novelette by Clara F. Guernsey and a large array of well written shorter stories and poems, make the letter press up to Godey's standard. The fashion illustration are new and numerous, and all the departments are worthy of commendation. Any of our readers who do not take the Lady's Book can be supplied, promptly, by leaving their orders at this office. We will furnish our own paper and the Lady's Book for the low price of $2.65 per annum. The publishers agree to start a subscription with any month you may select.

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., JAN 31, 1879.

GENTLEMEN—Having been afflicted for a number of years with indigestion and general debility, by the advice of my doctor I used Hop Bitters, and must say they afforded me almost instant relief. I am glad to be able to testify in their behalf.

THOS. G. KNOX.

Length of the Mississippi.

Mark Twain mourns over the diminished length of the Mississippi in this strain: Therefore, the Mississippi between Cairo and New Orleans was one thousand two hundred and fifteen miles one hundred and seventy six years ago, it was one thousand one hundred and eighty after the cut-off 1722. It was one thousand and forty after the American Bend cut off some years ago. It lost sixty-seven miles since. Consequently its length is only nine hundred and seventy-three miles at present.

Now, if I want to be one of those ponderous scientific people, and to prove what will occur in the far future by what has occurred in late years, what an opportunity is here! Geology never had such a chance, nor such exact date to argue from! Nor development of species, either. Glacial epochs are great things, but they are vague—vague. Please observe:

In the space of one hundred and seventy-six years the Mississippi has shotened itself two hundred and forty-five miles. That is an average of a trifle over one mile and a third per year. Therefore, any calm person, who is not blind or idiotic, can see in the old Oolitic Silurian period, just one million years ago next November, the lower Mississippi was upward of one million three hundred thousand miles long and stuck out over the Gulf of Mexico like a fishing rod. And by the same token, any person can see that seven hundred and forty-two years from now the Mississippi will be only a mile and a quarter long, and Cairo and New Orleans will have joined their streets together and be plodding comfortaby along under a single mayor and a mutual board of Aldermen. There is something facinating about science. One gets such wholesale returns of conjecture out of such a trifling investment of fact.

A Beautiful Science.

Norristown Herald.

Astronomy is a beautiful science. We are told that if a railway was run from the earth to the nearest fixed star, and the fare was a penny for every one hundred miles, and if you were to take a mass of gold to the ticket office equal to the National debt—or $3,800,000,000—it would not be sufficient to pay for a ticket to the nearest fixed star aforesaid.

If this be the case, it matters very little to us whether such a railway is ever constructed. It would be discouraging to go to the ticket office with a mass of gold equal to $3,800,000,000 and be informed that the fare was $5,678,032,000.

If the ticket agent wouldn't trust until we got back we'd be compelled to forego the trip.

The Death of the Innocents.

In Salt Lake City there were 101 deaths in August, of which sixty-three were little children. In Ogden there were ten deaths, of which nine were little children. Returns are not in from the other settlements, if, indeed, records are kept in them of the monthly mortality. But there is no doubt they would all tell the the same story; that the murder of little children by the wholesale is the universal and inevitable accompaniment of the polygamous system; that the care of the mother alone is far from sufficent to preserve the lives of the children, who need the combined care and attention of both parent. A poor mother, who lives with her "husband" but one week in a month or three months, and with her family feasts for that week and fasts for the rest of the time, has an unnatural life, and her children are the most speedy sufferers. The fast or the feast had better be continual and the irregularity would not then be felt to the detriment df the health of all. The father is in a continual feast, and in some instance it might be hard to make him understand the difference in the living when he is present with and when he is absent from any particular family. But, in general, he understands it well enough, and if a wife mentions it he is very apt to reply, "Why do you bother me about such things? Why can't you get along as well as Jane?" (or some other of his women who never complains). And so the story of outrage, affliction and death goes on, and the little children are the victims. They filled two-thirds of the graves in Salt Lake in August, and nineteenths in Ogden. They filled three-fouths of the graves throughout the territory. And the slaughter goes on, and men here, their ears deaf to the wails of these wretched victims to Ashtaroth, cry out that the system which slays the children is ordained of God and worthy the acceptance of the men and women of America.

Dr. Thomas Convicted of Heresy

CHICAGO, Sept. 10.—The case of Dr. Thomas was given to the jury at a late hour last night, and after a brief deliberation a verrdict was returned convicting him of the charges of disseminating ideas contrary to the doctrines of the Methodist religion, as specified in the general indictment, the verdict being signed by all the members of the jury. The verdict has the effect of sending the case to the Conference for trial. There was much excitement during the speech of Prosecuting Counsel Parkhurst last evening, who made use of the following words:

"There are grayhaired godly men in this city; there are broken-hearted mothers in this city, who are weeping over the ruin of their sons, whose downfall in theatre going and dancing and beer drinking and cards-playing began with their acceping these views from Dr. Thomas." The speaker was loudly hissed at times, and he retorted sharply on the audience.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas stated to a *Journal* reporter to day that he was disappointed and grieved at the verdict rendered yesterday. He said that he was sorry to see the Church bring in other standards than the article of religion as a criteria by which to try and condemn a minister. He severely criticised Dr. Parkhurst and the method in which the prosecution was conducted. He said, referring to Dr. Parkhurst's charge that his ministry was misleading the youth of the city, that he was content that the public before whom he had labored so long should be the judge. Dr. Thomas, notwithstanding his suspension, will preach in the Presbyterian church tomorrow, but as to the remaining Sabbaths between now and the Conference, he will confer with his counsel and the Trustees. Dr. Thomas thinks that if he is finaly condemed there are more who would fall before the same test, and instances the case of Bishop Foster, who denies the resurrection of the body.

Mothers Don't Know.

How many children are punished for uncouth, willful, and indifferents or rewards, simply because they are out of health! An intelligent lady said of a child of this kind: "Mothers should know that it they would give the little ones moderate doses of Hop Bitters for two or three weeks the children would be all a parent could desire."

The first ingredient in good conversation is truth, the next good sense, the third good humor, and fourth wit.

The Polar Night.

It is a mistake to suppose that the Arctic winter, in the higher latitudes, is a long dreary one of opaque darkness. The highest latitude yet reached by man is 83 deg. 20 min. 20 sec., and there twilight lasts 4 hours and 42 minutes on Dec. 22nd, the shortest day of the Northern year. Man will have to go some 327 miles further North than he has yet gone if he is to reach the region of absolute darkness. The pole itself is in the dark but 77 days—from Nov. 13th to Jan. 29th. There is a period of about four days in the year during which the sun shines on both poles at the same time. This is due to the fact that the sun is larger than the earth, and that his rays are bent by the earth's atmosphere in such a way as to converge upon his surface.

Choice Extracts from Druggists.

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"Physicians prescribe them in this town."

"The largest bottle and best medicine."

"Best blood purifier on our shelves."

"Our best people take 'Malt Bitters.'"

"Sure cure for chills and liver diseases."

Wm. B. Gale,

PIANO TUNER, REPAIRER &c

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It will cost you but a postal card to ascertain whether you can SAVE $50 to $50 by buying a PIANO or ORGAN from me. I believe you can. I have no BIG RENT to pay for STYLISH WARE-ROOMS. No TRAVELING AGENTS at HEAVY EXPENSE and BIG SALARY. No EXPENSIVE ADVERTISEMENTS, all of which COMES OUT OF YOUR POCKET when you buy. I get my instruments direct from workmen's hands, and will furnish at lowest possible rates. Honest dealing and Full Warrant—good for all the practice—in every sense. It will pay you to see and write me before buying. Address

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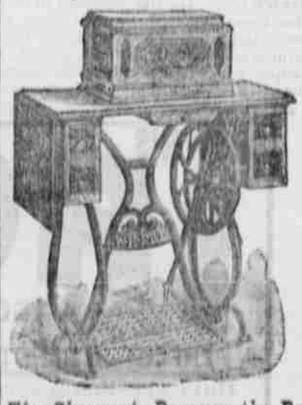

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July 17, '81—2m

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