THE NORFOLK POST
Published EVERY MORNING (Sunday's Excepted) at
No. 18 ROANOKE SQUARE,
NORFOLK, VA.,
and sold to Dealers and News Boys at
THREE DOLLARS PER HUNDRED
or sent to subscribers by mail at the rate of
TEN DOLLARS PER YEAR
payable in advance. Single copies, at the counter, FIVE CENTS.

Residents in the city of Norfolk or Portsmouth, desiring the paper left regularly at their houses or places of business, will be served by a carrier, by leaving the name and address at the counting-room of the publication office. They will settle with the carrier weekly for the same.

The Norfolk Post.

VOLUME I. NORFOLK, VA., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1865. NUMBER 156.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.

THE NORFOLK POST

Offers the best terms to ADVERTISERS, and its prices will always correspond with the general advertising rates of other cities.

TWELVE LINES or less will constitute a square.

For a single insertion per square ONE DOLLAR will be charged, and for each subsequent insertion TWENTY FIVE CENTS.

Merchants, Auctioneers and all others who advertise regularly, and occupy one-fourth of a column or more, can make special terms, and will receive a liberal deduction.

Business Cards, FIVE DOLLARS per month or FIFTY DOLLARS per year.

All transient advertisements payable in advance—all others monthly.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

GREAT SALE OF
WATCHES, CHAINS, DIAMOND RINGS, &c., &c.,
ONE MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH.
TO BE DISPOSED OF AT
ONE DOLLAR EACH;
Without regard to value.
Not to be paid for until you know what you are to receive
SPLENDID LIST OF ARTICLES.
All to be Sold at One Dollar Each.

300 Musical Boxes	$ 20 to	$100
150 Musical Boxes with Bells & Castinets	200 to	500
500 Silver Teapots and Coffee Urns	10 to	50
500 Silver Chafing Dishes	30 to	100
1000 Silver Ice Pitchers	20 to	50
2500 Silver Syrup Cups with Salvers	20 to	15
6000 Silver Goblets and Drinking Cups	5 to	50
2000 Silver Castors	15 to	50
2000 Fruit, Card and Cake Baskets	20 to	50
5000 Dozen Silver Tea Spoons	10 to	20
10000 Dozen Silver Table Spoons & Forks	20 to	40
250 Gents' Gold Hunting-Cased Watches	50 to	150
250 Ladies' Gold and Enameled Hunting-Cased Watches	35 to	70
500 Gents' Hunting-Case Silver Watches	35 to	70
200 Diamond Rings	50 to	100
5000 Gold Vest and Neck Chains	4 to	30
3000 Gold Oval Band Bracelets	4 to	8
5000 Jet and Gold Bracelets	6 to	10
2000 Chatelaine Chains and Guard Chains	5 to	20
7000 Solitaire and Gold Brooches	4 to	10
5000 Coral, Opal and Emerald Brooches	4 to	8
5000 Mosaic, Jet, Lava and Florentine Ear Drops	4 to	8
7500 Coral, Opal and Emerald Ear Drops	4 to	6
4000 California Diamond Breast-Pins	2 50 to	10
3000 Gold Fob and Vest Watch Keys	2 50 to	8
4000 Fob and Vest Ribbon-Slides	3 to	10
5000 Sets Solitaire Sleeve-Buttons, Studs &c.	3 to	8
3000 Gold Thimbles, Pencils, &c.	4 to	6
10000 Miniature Lockets	2 50 to	10
4000 Miniature Lockets, Magic Spring	10 to	20
3000 Gold Toothpicks, Crosses, c.	2 to	8
5000 Plain Gold Rings	4 to	10
5000 Chased Gold Rings	4 to	11
10000 Stone Set and Signet Rings	2 50 to	10
10000 California Diamond Rings	2 to	10
7500 Sets Ladies' Jewelry, Jet and Gold	5 to	15
6000 Sets Ladies' Jewelry, Cameo, Pearl, Opal and other Stones	4 to	15
10000 Gold Pens, Silver Extension Holders and Pencils	4 to	10
10000 Gold Pens and Gold Mounted Hold's	6 to	10
5000 Gold Pens and Gold Extension Hold's	15 to	25
5000 Ladies' Gilt and Jet Buckles	5 to	15
5000 Ladies' Gilt and Jet Hair Bars and Balls	5 to	10

ARRANDALE & CO., MANUFACTURERS AGENTS,
No. 167, Broadway, New York,
Announce that all of the above list of goods will be sold for One Dollar Each.

In consequence of the great stagnation of trade in the manufacturing districts of England, through the war having cut off the supply of cotton, a large quantity of valuable Jewelry, originally intended for the English market, has been sent off for sale in this country, and MUST BE SOLD AT ANY SACRIFICE. Under these circumstances, ARRANDALE & CO., acting as agents for the principal European manufacturers have resolved upon a

GREAT GIFT APPORTIONMENT,

to be divided according to the following regulations:

Certificates of the various articles are put into envelopes indiscriminately, sealed up, and when ordered, are taken out without regard to choice, and sent by mail, thus showing no favoritism. On receipt of the certificate you will see what you are to have, and then it is at your option to send the dollar and take the article or not.—Purchasers may thus obtain a Gold Watch, Diamond Ring, or any set of Jewelry on our list for One Dollar.

SEND TWENTY-FIVE CENTS FOR CERTIFICATE.

In all transactions by mail, we shall charge for forwarding the certificates, paying postage and doing the business, 25 cents each, which must be enclosed when the certificate is sent for. Five certificates will be sent for $1; eleven for $2; thirty for $5; sixty-five for $10, and one hundred for $15.

WHAT THE "PRESS" SAY OF US.

The Lafayette, Indiana, Daily Courier, March 18, 1865. says: "A better selected, more varied or fashionable assortment of Jewelry cannot be found on the continent than Arrandale & Co. are now offering. Messrs. Arrandale & Co. occupy a high position in commercial circles as men entirely above the common trickery of trade. Their statements may be implicitly relied upon, both as to the character of their goods and the manner of disposal. Ladies especially, in all parts of the country, are realizing handsome profits as agents, and if any of our fair readers desire to interest themselves in the enterprise, they may do so with perfect confidence.

GREAT GIFT DISTRIBUTION.—A rare opportunity is offered for obtaining watches, chains, diamond rings, silverware, &c., by Messrs. Arrandale & Co., at No. 167 Broadway. They have an immense stock of articles, varying in value, and all are offered at one dollar each. The distribution is very fairly done—you agree to take a certificate of a certain article, enclosed in an envelope, and are not required to pay your dollar unless you are satisfied with the article, which will certainly be worth more than that amount, and may be $50 or $100. An excellent mode this of investing a dollar.—Sunday Times, N. Y. City, February 19, 1865.

Messrs. Arrandale & Co. have long been personally known to us, and we believe them to be every way worthy of public confidence.—N. Y. Scottish American Journal, June 11, 1864.

By Messrs. Arrandale & Co.'s arrangement, the advantages must be on the side of the customer, for he has everything to gain and nothing comparatively to lose.—He knows what he will get for his dollar beforehand, and he need not send it if he is not satisfied.—N. Y. Daily News, August 6, 1864.

We know the firm in question to be very respectable, and thoroughly worthy of public confidence, and recommend our friends to read their advertisement.—New York Albion, September 3, 1864.

EMPLOYMENT FOR LADIES.—The most eligible and profitable employment we have heard of for ladies is the sale of certificates for the Great Gift Distribution of Arrandale & Co. A lady of our acquaintance has been very successful in this way, not only in filling her own purse, but also in doing a good turn to those to whom she sold the certificates, as will be seen by our advertising columns. Gentlemen can also be thus engaged.—N. Y. Sunday Mercury, August 14, 1865.

The British Whig of Kingston, C. W., says, November 26, 1864: "One of our lady subscribers became an agent for Arrandale & Co., and by request brought some twenty articles sent as prizes for her agency, to this office for inspection, and without hesitation we can state that each and all of the articles were worth treble the amount of cost to the recipients, and some of them six times.

AGENTS.—We want agents in every regiment and in every town and county in the country, and those acting as such will be allowed ten cents on every certificate ordered by them, provided their remittance amounts to one dollar; also other inducements which can be learned on application. Agents will collect 25 cents for every certificate, and remit 15 cents to us, either in cash or postage stamps. ARRANDALE & CO.,
nov18—4tlaw No. 167 Broadway, New York.

JOHN VANDERBILT,
NO. 23 FULTON STREET, NEW YORK,
DEALER IN
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS
of every variety, embracing all the different patterns of PLOWS in use in the Southern States, CORN-SHELLERS, HAY and STALK-CUTTERS, HORSE-POWERS and THRESHING MACHINES, FAN MILLS, WHEEL-BARROWS, CARTS and WAGONS, COTTON GINS, GIN GEAR, PLOW and other Castings, SHOVELS, FORKS, HOES, RAKES and GARDEN and FARM TOOLS and IMPLEMENTS of every variety.

SEEDS.

The choicest Garden and Flower Seeds grown in this country or Europe, including every desirable kind and variety. The utmost care taken to have those only which are choice and reliable. Also, Grass, Field and Bird Seeds of every variety.

FERTILIZERS.

Bone Dust, Animal Manure (a preparation of animal matter, blood and bone), a good substitute for Guano and cheapest manure in use; Phosphate of Lime, Land Plaster, Guano, &c.

PLANTS, TREES, &c.,
Furnished from the most reliable Nurseries and Growers.
☞ *Orders respectfully solicited.*
Letters of inquiry cheerfully responded to and price lists furnished on application. nov2—1aw8w*

FOR BOSTON.

Freight of every description will be received at the wharf of the
OLD NORFOLK AND BALTIMORE STEAMBOAT COMPANY
for Boston and other Eastern cities.
The goods will be taken to Baltimore by the OLD BAY LINE, and thence to Boston by the Steamships of the
BALTIMORE AND BOSTON LINE.
Through Tickets will be given accordingly, on as reasonable terms as heretofore, and the goods will have greater despatch. For freight or passage apply to
JAMES PATTEN, Agent,
dec16—tf Norfolk, Va.

POTATOES, ONIONS, and APPLES,
Received THIS DAY per Steamer George Appold, from Boston.
150 bbls. Maine Jackson WHITE POTATOES,
21 bbls. ONIONS,
—ALSO—
Per Steamer Niagara, from New York,
71 bbls. PEACH BLOW
and
8. MERCER POTATOES,
and
60 bbls. WINTER APPLES,
All on consignment, in good order and for sale low by
H. D. WHITE & CO.,
No. 12 Wide-Water street,
dec6—tf Norfolk,

TRAVELERS' GUIDE.

IMPORTANT TO TRAVELLERS
AND SHIPPERS.
THE OLD AND ESTABLISHED
BALTIMORE STEAM PACKET CO.,
Carrying the
UNITED STATES MAIL,
and
ADAMS' EXPRESS FREIGHT,
So well and favorably known to the Traveling Public as the
OLD BAY LINE,
Are now Running their magnificent, safe and commodious Steamers,
THOMAS KELSO,
CAPT. GEO. W. RUSSELL;
ADELAIDE,
CAPT. JAMES CANNON;
The THOMAS KELSO was built for, and is expressly adapted to, the Bay Route, and excels in the splendor of her outfit any steamer now plying these waters. She is provided with Hot and Cold Baths, and all modern convenience.
The ADELAIDE has been recently rebuilt and refurnished throughout. Her accommodations are of a superior order. She is so well known that further comment is unnecessary.
These Steamers leave the Company's Wharf, on Wide-Water street, opposite the Atlantic Iron Works, Norfolk, DAILY, at 3½ o'clock, and High Street Wharf, Portsmouth at 4 o'clock, P. M., SUNDAYS EXCEPTED, touching at Old Point.
Passengers by this Line arrive in Baltimore in time to connect with the early trains to Washington and all points North and West.
Baggage checked to all points, and passengers and baggage conveyed to the depots free of charge.
The Wharf of the Company has been put in excellent order, and is fitted expressly for the protection of freight and other accommodation of Shippers.
Freight taken at low rates and promptly delivered.
For further information inquire of D. C. BALL, Agent, Portsmouth, or to the Purser of the Steamers.
THOS. H. WEBB, Agent.
Norfolk, December 12, 1865. Norfolk, Va. dec12—tf

BALTIMORE STEAM PACKET COMPANY.
STEAMER "EOLUS,"
FROM
NORFOLK AND PORTSMOUTH TO FORT MONROE, EASTERN SHORE, MATHEWS COUNTY, GLOUCESTER AND YORKTOWN.
CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAIL.
The New and Fast Steamer
"EOLUS," Captain P. McCarrick,
commenced her regular trips to the above-named places on the 9th SEPTEMBER.
This Steamer will leave the Company's Wharf, on Wide-Water street, opposite the Atlantic Iron Works, Norfolk, at 6½, and High Street Wharf Portsmouth, at 7 o'clock, A. M., every
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY,
for Cherrystone—every
TUESDAY, THURSDAY AND SATURDAY,
for Mathews and Gloucester counties and Yorktown, touching at Old Point, going and returning each trip.
This Steamer connects with the Baltimore Steam Packet Company's Steamers "THOS. KELSO" and "ADELAIDE," for Baltimore, and all points North and West.
Through tickets sold on this Steamer for Baltimore and her connections.
This Steamer is especially adapted to the service in which she is engaged, being very Fast, having Fine Accommodations, and is noted as an excellent Sea Boat, and will make her trips regardless of the weather.
For freight or passage, apply to D. C. BALL, Agent, Portsmouth, or to the Purser of the Steamer.
THOS. H. WEBB, Agent.
Norfolk, December 12, 1865. dec12—tf

FOR
RIO DE JANEIRO.
CALLING AT
ST. THOMAS,
PARA,
PERNAMBUCO
and BAHIA.
e United States and Brazil Mail Steamship Company will dispatch regularly,
ON THE 29TH OF EVERY MONTH,
A NEW AND FIRST-CLASS
STEAMSHIP,
To leave at 3 o'clock, P. M., from Pier 43 North River.
All letters have to pass through the Postoffice.
An experienced Surgeon will be in attendance on oard.
For freight and passage, having splendid accommodations, apply to THOMAS ASCENCIO & CO.,
oct26—3m No. 17 Broadway, New York.

ATLANTIC COAST MAIL
STEAMSHIP LINE
FOR NEW YORK!
THE NEW AND FIRST CLASS SIDE-WHEEL STEAMSHIPS
HATTERAS AND ALBEMARLE,
Leave Norfolk for New York as follows:
HATTERAS, CAPT'N LEWIS PARISH,
Will leave Dickson's Wharf every WEDNESDAY at 8 o'clock, A. M.
ALBEMARLE, CAPT. H. A. BOURNE,
Will leave Dickinson's Wharf every SUNDAY at 8 o'clock, A. M.
Passengers by this line will be only one night at sea. Returning, these Ships leave New York every
WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY,
at 12 M., from Pier No. 36, North River.
These Ships have superior accommodations for passengers and freight.
The undersigned having been appointed Agent for the above Line, respectfully solicits the patronage of his friends and the public, assuring them that he will use his best endeavors to give satisfaction to his patrons, which, from a long experience in this business, he feels confident he can do.
For Freight or Passage, apply to me at Dickson's Wharf
S. C. ELLIOTT.
Agents in New York, Messrs. LIVINGSTON, FOX & CO., 141 Broadway. oct24—tf

FOR PHILADELPHIA.
RICHMOND AND NORFOLK STEAM PACKET COMPANY—SEMI-WEEKLY.
THIS LINE IS COMPOSED OF THE
SWIFT, FIRST-CLASS STEAMERS
VIRGINIA,
(CAPTAIN SNYDER;)
MAY FLOWER,
(CAPTAIN J. ROBINSON;)
CLAYMONT,
(CAPTAIN E. ROBINSON;)
And one of them will leave Higgins' Wharf, Norfolk every TUESDAY and SATURDAY, forming a Semi-Weekly Line of fast and reliable Steamers, with good passenger accommodations and plenty of freight room.
For freight (which will be taken at low rates, or passage), apply to
THOS. P. CROWELL & CO., Agents,
Higgins' Wharf, or No. 6 Campbell's Wharf,
Norfolk, Va.
☞ One of these Steamers leaves Philadelphia every WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY for Norfolk.
aug26—tf

HARNDEN EXPRESS.
OFFICE, NO, 6 ROANOKE SQUARE.
SAFE, RELIABLE,
COURTEOUS, PROMPT.
Owing to the facilities offered us by the
NEW LINE OF STEAMERS,
and our connection with all the
RELIABLE EXPRESS COMPANIES
IN THE UNITED STATE
EAST, WEST, NORTH and SOUTH,
We are prepared to forward
FREIGHT, MONEY, and VALUABLE PACKAGES, &c. at lower rates than ever offered the public before.
NOTES, DRAFTS and BILLS for COLLECTION made on all acceptable POINS, and RETURNS PROMPTLY DELIVERED.
SHIPPERS in NORFOLK and PORTSMOUTH will find it to their advantage to give us a call before engaging their freight by any other Express.
Freight delivered in Portsmouth without extra charge.
For further particulars apply at the Office, No. 6 Roanoke square.
Express closes for the North 2.45 P. M.
" " " South 6.30 "
oct11—tf F. R. HILL, Agent.

H. P. WORCESTER & CO.,
GENERAL COMMISSION
AND
Forwarding Merchants,
NO. 12 CAMPBELL WHARF.
HENRY P. WORCESTER, C. LITTLETON UPSHUR

TRAVELERS' GUIDE.

NOTICE.
NORFOLK AND RICHMOND STEAMERS.
On and after
TUESDAY Dec. 5th,
The steamers
M. MARTIN
AND
CITY OF RICHMOND,
Will leave from the wharf at the foot of Roanoke and Market Squares, for RICHMOND daily, "SUNDAYS excepted," at 6½ A. M., until further notice.
dec 4—tf

NEW LINE STEAMERS.
FOR OLD POINT AND BALTIMORE.
CARRYING
THE NATIONAL AND HARNDEN'S EXPRESS FREIGHT.
The new and elegant Steamers,
GEO. LEARY (Captain Blakeman),
JAMES T. BRADY (Captain Landis),
DICTATOR, (Capt. Mulligan,)
Leave Norfolk for Baltimore, DAILY, (Sundays excepted) at 3½ o'clock, P. M.
Through Tickets sold for all principal cities North and West. Passengers and baggage transferred from boat to cars free of charge.
Fare to Baltimore $4 00
" " " and return 6 00
The Superior Accommodations
offered by the
NEW LINE STEAMERS
are well known by the traveling public. The Steamers are all NEW, constructed with great regard to speed, comfort and safety, and are commanded by experienced, courteous and attentive officers. Their superior speed enables them to make sure connections with all trains, thereby causing no delay at either end of the route to travelers.
The Fare has been reduced by the general solicitation of the traveling public, to whom we feel grateful for their very liberal patronage, which, we trust, by a just course, to continue to merit.
N. B.—Passengers and baggage transferred to and from Portsmouth free of charge.
Leave Norfolk from wharf foot of Roanoke and Market Squares.
oct27—tf H. V. TOMPKINS, Agent.

PEOPLE'S LINE FOR NEWBERN
AND THE
INTERIOR OF NORTH CAROLINA!
CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAIL.
The Only and Entirely New Route.
The Steamers of this line will leave mail wharf, Norfolk for Newbern, on the arrival of the boats from Baltimore on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
Returning, will leave Newbern Tuesdays, Thursday, and Saturdays, connecting with railways for Goldsborough, Raleigh, Weldon, Beaufort, Morehead City and Wilmington.
The various lines of Railways are nearly all completed in the State of North Carolina, and passengers will have little or no difficulty in reaching their destination on any of the lines of Railway.
The boats are of the first class, and commanded by men of experience, who will see no pains spared to make passengers comfortable.
Being entirely an Inland Route, it will be found far more pleasant than by a sea route.
☞ Freight taken at Low Rates.
For further information, apply to
W. C. EDWARDS,
Roanoke Island, N. C.
GEO. OLNEY, Newbern, N C. jy 1—tf

NEW YORK AND VIRGINIA
STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
OLD LINE,
The New and Elegant Side-Wheel Steamship,
NIAGARA,
GEORGE W. COUCH, COMMANDER,
Will leave Norfolk for New York every
WEDNESDAY, AT 8 A. M.
The New and Splendid Side-Wheel Steamship,
SARATOGA,
will be on the Line in about ten days.
J. M. SMITH & BROTHER,
dec2—tf Agents, Town Point.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP
COMPANY'S THROUGH LINE
TO CALIFORNIA,
TOUCHING AT MEXICAN PORTS,
AND
CARRYING THE UNITED STATES MAIL,
Leave Pier No. 43 North River, foot of Canal street, at 12 o'clock noon, on the 1st, 11th and 21st of every month (except when those dates fall on Sunday, and then on the preceding SATURDAY), for ASPINWALL, connecting, via Panama Railway, with one of the Company's Steamship's from Panama for SAN FRANCISCO, touching at ACAPULCO.
DECEMBER 18T,
HENRY CHAUNCEY,
CAPTAIN GRAY;
connecting with
CONSTITUTION,
CAPTAIN FARNSWORTH.
11TH,
ATLANTIC,
CAPTAIN MAURY;
connecting with
GOLDEN CITY,
CAPTAIN BRADBURY.
21ST,
NEW YORK,
CAPTAIN HORNER;
connecting with
COLORADO,
CAPTAIN WATKINS.
Departures of 1st and 21st connect at Panama with Steamers for SOUTH PACIFIC PORTS. Those of 1st touch at MANZANILLO.
THROUGH PASSAGE RATES IN CURRENCY.
First Cabin, $350; Second do, $250; Steerage $125
A discount of ONE QUARTER from steamers' rates allowed to second cabin and steerage passengers with families. Also, an allowance of ONE QUARTER on through rates to clergymen and their families, and school teachers; soldiers having honorable discharges, HALF FARE.
One Hundred Pounds Baggage allowed each adult. Baggage masters accompany baggage through, and attend to ladies and children without male protectors. Baggage received on the dock the day before sailing, from steamboats, railroads, and passengers who prefer to send down early.
An experienced Surgeon on board. Medicines and attendance free.
A Steamer will be placed on the Line January 1st, 1866, to run from NEW ORLEANS to ASPINWALL, via HAVANA.
For Passage Tickets or further information, apply at the Company's Ticket Office, on the Wharf, FOOT OF CANAL STREET, NORTH RIVER, NEW YORK.
dec2—3m F. W. G. BELLOWS, Agent.

NOTICE.
On and after the 29th INSTANT, the Steamers of the Baltimore Steam Packet Company,
OLD BAY LINE,
will leave the Company's Wharf on East Wide-Water street, opposite the Atlantic Iron Works, Daily, for
BALTIMORE,
OLD POINT,
CHERRYSTONE,
MATHEWS,
GLOUCESTER and YORKTOWN.
T. H. WEBB, Agent.
Norfolk, November 28, 1865. nov28—tf

ADAMS' EXPRESS COMPANY.—
OFFICE NO. 54 CHURCH STREET,
(THEATRE BUILDING.)
FREIGHT, MONEY, and VALUABLES forwarded with care and despatch to all parts of the United States.
BILLS, DRAFTS, &c., collected, and prompt returns made.
Our wagons call in any part of Norfolk and Portsmouth for goods to be forwarded: and will deliver without extra charge, all goods that arrive by Express.
Express going North closes at 2.30 P. M.—going South, at 6 P. M
sept6-tf J. H. RIGNEY, Agent.

The Norfolk Post.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1865.

INVECTIVE.

[From the Richmond Dispatch of Dec. 10.]

There is no function of eloquence, whether with the tongue or pen, which is more generally popular than that of invective. Of every species of eloquence it seems to be the most attractive part, except the eloquence of the pulpit, where, though sometimes used, it is revolting to good taste and the most ordinary sense of propriety. The pulpit is commissioned to preach peace and good will; and when the howl of the wolf is heard from under the clothing of the sheep, there are few, however fond of the truculent, who are not shocked. Divines who infuse into their polemics personal bitterness and denunciation, might learn wisdom from the Athenian priestess, who refused to anathematize Alcibiades "because it was her duty to implore blessings, and not to pronounce execrations." Nor in any species of eloquence does invective add to the influence of an oration, save when exerted against wrong, wickedness, and folly, then it must be justly proportioned to the object of its reprehension. It is a great mistake, made by various imitators of Junius in composition and the ancient orators in speech, that severity is a proof of independence and ill nature of wit; or that even sarcasm, when wielded in a morose or savage spirit, is an efficient instrument, and increases the influence of him who uses it. In truth it does no such thing. It is a powerful weapon, but when often and needlessly employed, it loses its capacity of terror, as do pestilence, storms and wars, when they become objects of frequent occurrence; and when employed against virtue and justice, its keen edge is turned like that of an axe upon the granite rock. It is only when assailing great crimes and criminals, or in self-defence from unjustifiable assaults, that it performs its office with greatest dignity and effect.

Of various kinds of invective, one of the most effective is that which, with a smiling face, turns an opposite position into ridicule more completely than could be done by a grave argument. Thus it was by the dexterous use of this weapon that Lord North, who could lay claim to none of the impassioned declamation of his Whig opponents, kept his ground in debate. Burke and Fox once took him angrily to task, in the House of Commons, for calling, in a public document, the insurgent colonists by the name of rebels. "Very well," replied North, "if it will please you better, I will call them gentlemen of the opposition, over the water." Nothing could be more graceful than the manner in which Brougham, usually clumsy at satire, once gave the lie to an opponent. An imputation which Brougham had made upon Melbourne's government was flatly denied by the latter, and it was for the interest of Brougham's argument to sustain what he had said without directly accusing Lord Melbourne of falsehood. "My noble friend," he remarked, "though but a novice in office, made the denial with a glibness and readiness that might have done honor to the inveterate habits of official assertion, only acquired by those who are born at Whitehall and bred in Downing street." The element of unexpectedness in thought and statement has been regarded a considerable charm of invective. It has been observed that the best criticism on Harriet Martineau's atheistical book is the remark of a London wit, who was asked what was the doctrine which it inculcated. He replied: "The doctrine seems to be this: there is no God, and Harriet is his prophet."

The following example is given of a peculiar kind of invective by epigram, which springs directly from personal character. Sydney Smith once justified an assault on a man of moderate abilities, whose purposes he considered as mischievous as they were well meant. "I do not attack him," said he, "for love of glory, but from a love of utility as a burgo-master hunts a rat in a Dutch dike for fear it will flood a province."

Burke was a great master of lofty contemptuousness. A fine specimen of that is the well-known passage in which he likened the English sympathizers with the French revolution to grasshoppers, filling the air with their importunate chirp, "whilst thousands of great cattle, reposing under the British oak, chew the cud and are silent." Scarcely less celebrated is his attack on the Duke of Bedford, where his object is to degrade the whole house of Russell by emphasizing the corruption, servility and extortion of its founder. Knowing how well aware was all England of the patriots who had been connected with that house, he makes that fact a deviation from the natural character of their family. "It is little to be doubted," he says, "that several of his forefathers, in that long series, have *degenerated* into honor and virtue."

The practical business of invective is best done by irony, uttered with coolness and deliberation. The emotional element must not be permitted to predominate. That method which implies the greatest self-possession imparts the keenest edge to the blow, and irony does not admit of a successful reply. No one understood better than Grattan the effect of the contemptuous method. The best illustration of his use of it is his reply to an obscure but aspiring opponent in the Irish House of Commons, who assailed him in a stupidly scurrilous speech with the hope of drawing upon himself the invective which had so often smitten Flood and Fitzgibbon. But Grattan could not condescend to give his opponent the celebrity he craved. Rising in his seat, he simply said:

"I shall make no other remark on the personalities of the honorable member who has just spoken than merely to say that, as he rose without a friend, so he has certainly sat down without having made an enemy."

An example of irony, covering the most insulting scorn, is found in the celebrated encounter of Curran with Judge Robinson. This Judge had risen to power by sycophancy and the composition of some miserably written political pamphlets, distinguished by nothing but their venomous personality. Curran when a poor young man, had a case to argue in the Judge's court, and, in controverting a position taken by the opposing counsel, remarked that he had "studied all his law books, and could not find a single case where the principle contended for was established." I suspect, sir, interrupted the Judge, "I suspect that your law library is rather contracted." Curran, feeling that this was intended as a sneer at his poverty, looked the Judge steadily in the face and said: "It is true, my Lord, that I am poor, and the circumstance has rather curtailed my library: my books are not numerous, but they are select, and, I hope, have been perused with proper dispositions. I have prepared myself for this high profession rather by the study of a few good books than by the composition of a great many bad ones. I am not ashamed of my poverty, but I should be of my wealth, could I stoop to acquire it by servility and corruption. If I rise not to rank, I shall at least be honest; and should I ever cease to be so, many an example shows me that in ill-acquired elevation, by making me the more conspicious, would only make me more universally and more notoriously contemptible."

Among the few specimens of personal invective which one can read with unmixed gratification, not only on account of its lofty self-assertion, but as a just retribution of aristocratic insolence, is the answer of Lord Thurlow to the taunt of the Duke of Grafton on his want of noble birth. Its effect in the House of Lords is said to have been overwhelming, and derived peculiar pungency from a quiet allusion to a bar sinister on the Grafton escutcheon. How thrilling must have been the effect, as Thurlow, roused by the acute sting, stepped forward from the woolsack, and with the native majesty of his great intellect, heightened by just and manly indignation, exclaimed: "The noble Duke cannot look before him, or behind him, or on either side of him, without seeing some noble peer who owes his seat in this House to his successful exertions in the profession to which I belong. Does he not feel that it is as honorable to owe it to these as to being the accident of an accident? No man venerates the peerage more than I do; but, my Lords, I must say that the peerage solicited me, not I the peerage. Nay, more. I can say, and will say, that as a Peer of Parliament, as Speaker of this Bright Honorable House, as Keeper of the Great Seal, as the Lord High Chancellor of England; nay, even in that character alone, in which the noble Duke would think it an affront to be considered, but which character none can deny me,—as a man I am, at this time, as much respected as the proudest peer I now look down upon."

Commenting upon a mode of invective somewhat too common in what are called deliberative bodies, the direct personal assault, it has been remarked by Emerson that it makes a great difference in the force of a sentence whether a man be behind it or no. It was his personal manhood which gave peculiar energy to the invective of Chatham, who was described in his youth as "that terrible cornet of horse, whose scowl gave Sir Robert Walpole a pain in the back." It is sad to think that even Mansfield, so supreme in understanding, should have been cowed by a more ferocious physical organization. It is said that the younger Pitt inherited the fierceness and brute force of his father, and that even the accomplished Erskine quailed before him in the House of Commons. "The fact is, Erskine, said Sheridan once to him, you are afraid of Pitt, and that is the weak point of your character."

EXPLOSION AT THE ARSENAL.

NINE MEN KILLED AND THREE WOUNDED.

[From the National Intelligencer of Dec. 19.]

Two years have not elapsed since seventeen young women were hurled into eternity by an explosion at the Washington Arsenal. The excitement at that time was intense; for, although amid the scenes of war and of suffering, the people of Washington had no such horror to disturb their peace of mind as that which in a moment, by the agency of fire, sent almost a score of human beings to the world from which no traveler returns. Yesterday the tragedy was repeated. In the morning, ten men, most of them husbands and fathers, and many of them discharged soldiers who had served their country with faith and honesty in the shock of battle, went forth to their labors joyfully and full of life and hope. In the evening they were crisped and blackened corpses, hardly to be recognized; and all the result of carelessness, it is believed, on the part of one of the workmen.

At two o'clock, or a little while before that hour, the city experienced a shock, almost as of an earthquake, and it was natural to suppose that an explosion had taken place either at the Arsenal or at the Navy Yard. All doubts were speedily set at rest by the fire-bells ringing out number 17, which box is at the corner of M street south and Four-and-a-half street west. Hastening to the locality, our reporter ascertained that an explosion had taken place in a frame building, a few yards inside the first gate of the road leading to the Arsenal building proper, and some yards from the road. The building was used as a receptacle for the ammunition which has been turned in from the abandoned forts around and about Washington; and there the powder was taken out of the shells and turned into barrels. The theory of the explosion is, that a friction match was carelessly allowed to remain in one shell, and that another was dropped upon it, thus causing the explosion.

In the absence of a coroner's investigation, all statements are somewhat speculative, and so great was the confusion at the scene of the accident, that it was with difficulty that any facts could be collected. It was at one time reported that the explosion was the result of a spark dropped from a pipe or cigar which a workman was smoking; but we were informed by Major Benton, the efficient commander of the arsenal, that no smoking is allowed inside the grounds; and we have proof positive that such is the case. An individual in the uniform of a sergeant of infantry endeavored to create the impression that the workmen were in the habit of smoking while at their work, by saying that he had warned the men not to smoke. When closely questioned, however, he evaded a direct reply, and gave no satisfactory reason to induce a belief in his statement.

The persons killed were Jeremiah Mahoney, Patrick Reardon, Marshal Whiteley, James Moran, Michael McDermott, John Meahan, Martin Coyle, Thomas Fealey and Peter McGarry. All of the above had their clothes completely burned off, and portions of their flesh were burned to a crisp. In some instances heads were partially torn off, arms and legs were drawn up, and entrails protruded from nearly all the bodies. Blackened, crisped, bloody, and tortured into every conceivable position indicative of misery, there the bodies lay, guarded by a sentinel and hid from view by a canvas covering, which was only removed as some relative approached and desired to recognize the form of some loved one.

Jas. Lawler, James Crane, and Chas. Lynn were badly wounded, and were conveyed to the Arsenal hospital, where the last named died a short time after being taken there.

The scenes at the entrance of the Arsenal grounds were heartrending in the extreme. There were wives calling for their husbands, parents for their children, sisters for brothers, and friends for friends; and they refused to be comforted because those whom they sought "were not." Legs, arms, and portions of the human body were blown hither and thither, and were picked up on the tops of buildings and in the streets and avenues leading to the arsenal grounds. Unlike the accident of 1864, none of the corpses were so badly disfigured but that they could be recognized by their relatives and friends, and many of them were removed to their late homes. Coroner Woodward was summoned to hold an inquest, but he did not appear up to a late hour. An investigation will probably be had to-day, when all the facts will be brought out, and after the witnesses have testified the public will be best able to judge where the blame should rest. We doubt, however, whether any culpability can attach to the officers in charge at the arsenal. But the hurling of nine lives into eternity, and without a moment's notice, is a matter most horrible to contemplate, and the investigation as to the cause should be clear, complete, and searching.

KING LEOPOLD OF BELGIUM.

Our advices by the steamer Cuba announce the death of King Leopold I. of Belgium, a monarch whose name has often been conspicuous in the history of the thirty-four years during which he occupied the Belgian throne. At the time of his death King Leopold was 75 years of age, being born on Dec. 16, 1790. He was one of the most aged monarchs of Europe, only two—the Landgrave of Hesse-Hamburgh and the Prince of Reuss-Schleis—being his elders.

King Leopold descended from the ducal house of Saxe-Coburg, being the youngest son of the Duke Francis of Saxe-Saalfeld-Coburg, who was the grandfather of the present Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. The latter prince, therefore, and Prince Albert, the late Prince Consort of England, were his nephews. He was also an uncle of King Ferdinand of Portugal (the father of the present king) and of Queen Victoria, whose mother, the Duchess of Kent, was his sister.

In May, 1816, Leopold married the Princess Charlotte, the Princess Royal of England, who was daughter of George the Fourth, then Prince Regent, and heir to the throne. Had his wife lived, Leopold would have become, in the course of time, Prince Consort, a position which his nephew, Prince Albert, subsequently obtained by marrying Queen Victoria; but Princess Charlotte died in November, 1817, after having been delivered of a still-born child. Leopold's relations to the English Court continued, however, to remain most intimate. On his marriage he had been made Duke of Kendall, with a pension of $250,000 a year.

He declined, in 1830, the Crown of Greece, but, in the following year, accepted that of Belgium. In 1832, he married Princess Louisa, the daughter of Louis Phillipe, by whom he had three children, Prince Leopold, Duke of Brabant, who succeeds his father as King Leopold II.; Prince Philip, Count of Flanders, and Princess Charlotte, the wife of Maximilian of Mexico. Queen Louisa died in 1850. Of late King Leopold was reported to have entered a morganatic marriage with a German lady and to have greatly offended his children by his attempt to introduce his wife at Court.

In his private life, Leopold was known to be one of the most parsimonious princes, and to have amassed a very large property. He lived, in general, retired, and carefully abstained from taking a personal part in the conflict between the Liberal and the Catholic parties, which continued during all his reign. He was by birth a Protestant and remained so until his death, although his children were brought up Catholics, his natural sympathies were with the Liberal party, but he was careful to withhold any public exhibition of his own views, and always subordinated them to the majority of the Belgium Parliament.

As regards foreign policy, King Leopold was frequently called upon by other sovereigns to give his advice on important questions. He was anxiously intent upon avoiding any complications with foreign Powers, and upon strengthening, by all means within his power, the independence of his Kingdom. In this endeavor he was, on the whole, very successful, as Belgium throughout his reign enjoyed a profound peace. Even with Louis Napoleon, who sequestrated property of his wife, together with that of the other members of the