

THE GAZETTE AND ADVERTISER.

PUBLISHED ON
Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays,
BY SAMUEL SNOWDEN,
ALEXANDRIA.

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 16.

By a private letter from Washington, dated on the 5th, we are gratified to learn the appointment of Judge Southard, of this city, to be Secretary of the Navy. It is believed he is not to enter on the duties of his office until the last of this month.
[Trenton True American.]

The Right Hon. Stratford Canning, Envoys Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from Great Britain to the United States, embarked at New York on the 9th inst. for England, upon a leave of absence from his government.
Henry Unwin Addington, Esq. is received and recognized by this government, as the Charge d' Affaires of Great Britain in the absence of the Minister. [Nat. Int.]

The Treasurer of the American Bible Society acknowledges the receipt of 2,852 Cols. 56 cts. in the month of July last.—The issues from the depository during the same month have been as follows: Bibles 2552, New Testaments 3967—total 6539 Value 3200 doles. 27 cts.

The Newburyport Herald of the 8th inst. asserts upon unquestionable authority.—that the far famed Sea Serpent, or something very much like him, was taken at Plum Island on the 6th, after a sea fight of two hours and a half.

Extract of a letter from New Orleans, to a gentleman in Philadelphia, dated July 14, 1823.

"Within a few days flour has risen to 10 dollars, and no boat can come down the river on account of the low state of the water above. We should not be surprised to see flour up to 12 or 15 dollars unless there should be some heavy arrivals from the north. Whiskey 45 cents."

From the Connecticut Mirror of August 9, Perhaps we shall be thought desirous of taxing the credulity of our readers by publishing the following dimensions of a mass of ice, said to have fallen in the presence of several respectable persons, during a hail storm, two or three weeks since, in Munson, Mass. The fact was related to us by a gentleman of the first respectability in that town who saw and measured for himself. And though more novel we consider it by no means so unaccountable as many other phenomena of nature. But without speculating on the subject we present it as received. The appearance is said to have been that of a compact body of hailstones as firmly united as ice usually is.

Extremes	4 feet long
	3 " wide
	2 " thick

After removing the rough parts of the body there remained a solid block

	2 feet 3 inches long
	1 " 6 " wide
	1 " 3 " thick.

As the public have expressed great desire to hear from Major Long and his party, we can assure them from good authority, that they were in fine health and spirits, preparing on the 24th of June, at Prairie du Chien, to leave there the next day for St. Peter's River, which they would ascend, and probably extend their excursion as far north as Lake Winnepeg.
[Philadelphia paper.]

A rumor prevailed at St. Louis on the 16th ult. that another hunting party had been attacked near the Crow village, by a body of the Black-foot Indians. They were passing (says the account) a narrow defile in the mountains when a small party attacked them in front and rear, while the rest threw down stones from the mountains; the two leaders, Messrs. Robert Jones and Jinnell were shot down first; the men finding themselves left without a commander, took flight, and were cut to pieces by the Indians. The accuracy of the account was doubted at St. Louis, as it depended on the assertions of a man lately arrived from Ashley and Henry's expedition, in whose veracity no great confidence was placed.
[New York American.]

INDIANS AND WHITES.

FRANKLIN, MISSOURI, June 17.—We regret to state, that the company, whose departure for Santa Fee we mentioned about four weeks since, have sustained the loss of nearly all their horses. Some Osage Indians, conjectured to be about twenty, followed them 80 miles undiscovered, with a view, as appeared in the sequel, of committing outrage. On the morning of the 1st instant, at about dawn, while all the company were asleep but two, who, not apprehending danger, had retired from an advanced position to the camp fires, they were alarmed by the discharge of guns, and the yells of the savage. Although the guns were discharged towards the encampment, it is not the belief of those from whom we had our information that they designed personal injury. Their object was to frighten away the horses, in which they completely succeeded. Being on horseback, they took advantage of the alarm and momentary confusion occasioned by such an unexpected attack, and evident appearance of immediate assault, to drive off the horses unmolested, whose speed was increased by shouting and other exertions. Four men pursued them about ten miles, when their horses failing, they were obliged to desist.

The Indians killed several horses during the chase, because they would not keep up. This misfortune, by which they lost forty-five horses, being all but eight, took place over 300 miles from this place, on the waters of the Arkansas. Various circumstances combine to fix this outrage on the Osages, who receive regular annuities from the government, and have a school among them through its beneficence and

charity of individuals. They have before been guilty of similar offences, and have long been distinguished for their predatory habits, and are daily becoming bolder; and, unless checked by prompt measures, we fear they will cause a great interruption to western intercourse. Six men, returned for a new supply of horses, are already on their way back, so that the enterprise, although subject to vexatious delay and disappointment, will not be defeated by it.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.

CHARLESTON, August 5.—Yesterday afternoon, just as the ship Franklin, captain Munro, had cast off from Lothrop's wharf, with her decks filled with passengers, and the wharf thronged with their friends and acquaintances, who had assembled to take their leave of them, the usual signal gun being fired, the piece burst, and the fragments flew in all directions. The cook, named Frederick Johnson, an Egyptian by birth, was struck by one of them, and dreadfully wounded in the abdomen; the cook's mate, a black man, named John S. Mitchell, was severely wounded in the temple by another of the fragments; and a young gentleman, Mr. Frederick Dreher, who was standing in the midst of the spectators upon the wharf, received a severe contusion near the groin, by a large piece of the breach of the cannon, which struck him as descending in a slanting direction, from a considerable elevation, to which it had been thrown—but we are happy to state, that strong hopes are entertained, that in this last mentioned case, no serious consequences may ensue. The wounded men were brought on shore last evening and conveyed on a litter to the Marine Hospital.

The escape of the passengers was most providential—many of them (including ladies and children) were standing within a few feet of the gun when it burst; and notwithstanding the pieces flew in every direction, not one was injured. The gun was pointed from the shore.

One of the fragments struck a pile of boards on Chisolm's (adjoining Lothrop's) wharf, but did no material injury.

Aug. 6.—We are happy to state, that the men wounded are likely to do well; the surgeon conceiving them to be out of danger.

MORE MAIL ROBBERY.

A letter from a Western Postmaster, to the Editors, says "I am informed by a note on the Chillicothe way-bill, of the 4th inst. that John Reese has again been apprehended in Kentucky for robbing the mail a second time. It is to be hoped, if this account be correct, he will at length meet his deserts." In the Kentucky Gazette of the 31st ult. we find the following, which, no doubt, relates to the fact above reported; and all the circumstances of the robbery so nearly resemble that committed by Reese in Ohio, that it is almost certain it must have been he who committed it.
[Nat. Int.]

"A man who calls himself Hanover, came here on Tuesday in the Frankfort mail stage, and continued on to Frankville. At the house of Doctor Cochran, 8 miles from town, the horses were watered, and the passenger, the only one in the stage, walked into a field of corn near the house for a few minutes, and resumed his place to Millersburg, 26 miles from Lexington. After the stage left Dr. Cochran's, his negro boy, who was ploughing in the field, found a package of letters, mailed at Louisville, for New York, and the Doctor, following the track of the said passenger to the spot where the package had been cut open, found the seal of only one letter broken; the whole package proving to be made up of single letters, which, no doubt, protected them from further violation.—There were no post bills in this package, therefore it is not known whether 36 (the number of letters found) were all that belonged to the package or not. This villain, no doubt, travels with a key, and will continue with the stage, in hopes that no alarm will be given. He complained of being sick; he laid down by the side of the mail bags, covered with his coat.—Mr. Hailick, an active young man, has gone in pursuit of the robber, and will, no doubt, overtake him before he crosses the Ohio river."

The man lately apprehended in our streets on the charge of piracy, yesterday, at a special session of the Circuit Court of the United States, sent up a petition to have counsel appointed him, in consequence of his want of means to procure counsel. His honor Judge Van Ness, thereupon assigned Josiah Ogden Hoffman and George W. Nivens, Esqrs. two of the counsellors of this court, to prepare and conduct the prisoner's defence. As this is a capital case, and a subject of great excitement, the result will no doubt be interesting.
[New-York Com. Adv.]

FROM MATANZAS.

Capt. Manlove, who left Matanzas so late as the 4th inst. informs that the U. S. schr. Granpus, Lieut. Gregory, was stationed there for the protection of the American trade—officers and crew all well.—Three barges under the command of Lis. Freeland and Platt, and Sailing Master Sanderson, with select crews, were cruising to windward amongst the Keys. The Pirates were so closely watched, and their known haunts so frequently visited, that they have hardly a chance of attempting any depredations without detection.
[New-York Gazette.]

FROM PORTO RICO.

NEW-YORK, Aug. 12.—Capt. Clements, of the brig Commerce, from St. John's, P. R. has despatches for government. When he left that port, a French frigate and gun brig were cruising off the harbor, and most of their officers were ashore. A brig belonging to the Hon. William Gray, of Boston, from Lagaira, was captured by a Porto Rico privateer five days previous to his sailing, and carried into Mayaguez. A vessel that had been fitted out of Porto Rico to capture a Patriot privateer that had been cruising off, had returned after five days search without finding her.
A Porto Rico paper of the 27th ult. received by the brig Commerce, contains no news.
[Gazette.]

PIRACY.

NEW YORK, August 13.—The following is an extract from the log book of the brig South Carolina, Capt. Johnson, which arrived yesterday from St. Croix.
"July 30th, at 6 P. M. Sail Rock bearing S. S. E. distant 4 leagues, saw a brig on our weather bow, with a schooner in company—the brig bore away for us, came alongside, fired a shot, and ordered us to heave to, in the act of doing which, she fired another ball, which passed between our masts. She then boarded us with an officer and 6 men, armed with cutlasses and knives, who drove the crew into the fore-castle, and the passengers out of the cabin. Captain Johnson was ordered below with his papers. After looking at his papers, the boarding officer went on deck, leaving the men below; he struck the mate and drove him forward. The passengers being then separated from the crew, the keys of their trunks were demanded, and surrendered, but the pirates were disappointed in finding that they opened to no money. They then took some bottles of wine and other articles from the cabin, a watch from Mr. Orr, passenger, and some doubloons from Mr. Easton, passenger, robbed the crew of most of their clothing, took the spy glass, and ordered our boat with 3 of our men to take the articles on board their vessel.—Afterwards sent our men back in an old leaky boat, which sunk in coming alongside. The pirate vessel was a brig of about 400 tons, mounted 22 guns, was painted black, with a white streak, and had on board a crew of 30 men, of different nations, most of whom could speak good English."

ARRIVAL OF THE U. S. SCHOONER FERRET.

NORFOLK, August 12.—The U. S. schr. Ferret, Lieut. Com'dt Newell, arrived here yesterday morning, landed some specie, and sailed again about 4 o'clock in the afternoon for Washington City. She had a passage of 9 days from Allenton, (Thompson's Island,) via St. Augustine, E. F. 4 days from the latter, where she touched to land a prisoner, who had been apprehended at Key Vacas, on suspicion of having committed murder.

The officers and crew of the Ferret are all well, and we are much pleased to learn that it was very healthy at Thompson's Island when she sailed.

The U. S. ships Peacock, Capt. Cassin and Hornet, Capt. Smith, were left at Thompson's Island, to sail for Havana in a few days, to take in stores preparatory to proceeding on a cruise. The latter was bound for Tampico and Vera Cruz. The Peacock left Vera Cruz on the 13th June and arrived at Tampico on the 27th, whence she sailed on the 8th of July, and arrived at Port Rodgers on the 22d.—Left at Tampico, the brig Nancy, schr. Maria Ann, both of New York. The yellow fever had made its appearance at Vera Cruz, and had proved fatal to many of the natives, as well as strangers. Castle Ulloa was still in possession of the Spaniards and completely commanded the town and harbor. Duties are exacted, and pilots furnished by the castle. A perfect understanding, however, seemed to exist between the commander of the castle, and Eulogia, the governor of Vera Cruz. A constant communication was kept up between the places. The Mexicans have not a single vessel of war in or cruising off the harbor. A few days previous to the Peacock's sailing, a Mexican gun boat arrived from Alvarado, but was compelled to anchor at the island of Sacrificio, about 3 miles from the town.

H. B. ships Eden and Tyne sailed from Vera Cruz a short time previous to the Peacock's leaving there; the former having on board a quantity of specie and cochineal.

H. B. Majesty's brig Bustard, arrived at Thompson's Island on the 31st July, from Havana, where she had been 9 or 10 days. Out of a crew of 65 men, 53 were on the sick list, 29 of whom were confined to their berths. On the 31st, the boatswain, gunner, carpenter, and master's mate were buried.—She had lost seven officers and men in all. The captain, surgeon, and purser were the only officers on duty. Immediately on her arrival, Dr. Thomas Williamson, Hospital Surgeon at Key West, with that philanthropic spirit by which he is always actuated, volunteered his services on board the Bustard.

A British brig was spoken by the Ferret, about the last of July, 30 miles from Thompson's Island, which had been conveyed round Cape Antonio, by the U. S. brig Spark. Lieut. Com'dt Shubrick, and had parted company with her a few hours previous.

The steam galliot Sea gull was left at Thompson's Island. All the small schooners were out on cruises. The Weazle, Lt. Com'dt Kennon, was to sail on the 17th inst. for Washington City, to touch at Norfolk.

Lieut. Crabb and Midshipman Nicholson, of the U. S. navy, came passengers in the Ferret.

We learn that St. Augustine was very healthy; but little business seemed to be doing, as there was not a vessel in port.

By this arrival we have been favored with the following

GENERAL ORDER.
To manifest our regard to Capt. Alfred Grayson, late of the Marines, and that of Lieut. John M. Maury, late acting as captain of the squadron, and as a small token of the greatest respect in which they were held by their brother officers on this station; it is recommended that crape be worn on the left arm and on the sword for one month—
(Signed) D. PORTER,
U. S. Galliot Sea Gull,
Port Rodgers, August 2d, 1823.

Officers attached to the U. S. schr. Ferret.
Lieut. Com'dt NEWELL,
Lieutenants Rodgers and Ingall,
Midshipmen Hoven and Duke.

THE PENITENTIARY—THE CONVICTS, &c.

RICHMOND, August 11.—We gave in our hurried postscript of Saturday morning, the most important items of the destruction of our Penitentiary.—A few additional circumstances of so afflicting a dispensation may prove interesting to our readers at a distance.

The fire took place, as we have stated, in the eastern wing of the central building, as is believed by most of those who were in the interior, in a shoemaker's shop.—The sentinel who had remained outside of the eastern side of the building, from 10 o'clock, most probably gave the first alarm. The alarm rapidly spread through the interior—one of the turnkeys says, when he was awakened, the fire had broken out on the roof of the central building, and was no larger than his hat. The first object of the officers was to seize the keys, and open the sleeping rooms of the convicts, who rushed into the inner yard. The smoke, however, was suffocating, and the danger imminent; and there were two or three of the solitary cells not unlocked. The public guard rushed to the spot, and when the gate was opened, received the convicts, who made not the slightest effort to effect their escape. When the great body of citizens, and fire engines, had reached the spot, it was too late to save the house; for the fire had rapidly spread to both its wings by means of the unfortunate central building. The first enquiry of every one was, "where are the convicts? are they safe?" They were just outside of the gate; but as they had not been counted, no one could ascertain how many were missing. The fate of the absentees gave rise to the most painful anxiety. It was soon buzzed about, that a great many were yet in the building; that shrieks, and groans, and cries for assistance, had been heard; and that this was a horrible doom to wait even the most abandoned of men. Pity was the predominant feeling; and means were taken by enquiring of those who knew of their location and by shouting at the windows of the cells, to ascertain where they were.—Four only were found. Generous and energetic citizens promptly stepped forward to relieve them. The greatest effort was necessary at a window in the second story, which could only be approached by a shed—several mounted the shed, and after encountering great fatigue, and some danger, from the flaming pieces of the wooden cornice which dropt around them, they finally succeeded in loosening the iron grating of the window and dragged out a man of color whose prayers had been pathetically addressed to Heaven for his safety. Another party mounted a ladder, and saved out of a room in the east angle another fellow creature; the bricks being cut out of the upper part of the window. A third was drawn out of a hole in the wall, which now seems scarce big enough to let a weazle pass through. The last man was taken out of a room on the western side of the building, when the upper part of the whole edifice was on fire. Indeed, if the rooms had not been arched with brick, the lives of these men could scarcely have been saved. Not a life was lost! Not an accident occurred during the awful scene. The heat must have been oppressive, if moral causes had not been too strong to permit the by-standers to feel all its effects.

Mystery still hangs over the causes of the fire—whether it was produced by accident or design—and if by design, whose was the hand that laid the mischief. The loss to the Commonwealth is severe. The house cost at least 150,000 dollars, and the goods and raw materials were probably worth 30 or 40,000 dollars. Its estimate, however, can be made, which can be positively depended upon.

Besides this loss, is the great inconvenience which arises from the unprecedented situation of these 244 wretches. On Saturday they remained at the Capitol, and in the evening, the male convicts were removed, by order of the Governor in Council, to the Armory: many of them unaccustomed to arms. A detail of the militia, and a detachment of captain Rutherford's artillery company were called out to guard them, by way of relief to the Public Guards. The women were conducted to the barracks.

No final disposition is made of them—Few ulterior arrangements of any sort have been adopted. The case is a new one—We understand that it is probable on this day the Council may act on the question, whether the Legislature is to be convened.

ARRANGEMENTS.

RICHMOND, August 12.—We understand that the Executive Council met yesterday and advise certain arrangements to be made for the accommodation and guarding of the Convicts.

A survey will be made of the building, which appears at present to admit of being put in some order to receive the convicts. Several of the cells are very slightly injured—the floors and doors scarcely damaged.—This is also the condition of the Cook's Room &c. &c. It is probable that after the meditated repairs are made upon the wall, doors &c. as many rooms may be prepared as will be sufficient to secure the convicts. (This would be a much better situation even for themselves, than the rooms of the Armory where they are now stationed.) Such of them as are competent to render any assistance are to be employed in assisting to remove the rubbish from the interior of the Penitentiary; other labourers are also to be called in to carry it out. The wall is to be repaired, and such other work be done as is essential to the security of the convicts. By arrangements of this description, it is hoped that in the course of a few days they may be removed to their old quarters, where their health and even their comfort will be better consulted; and where from the strength of the grating of the windows, the position of the building both within and without, a smaller guard will be sufficient for their security.

The draughts upon the militia of this city would necessarily in the present quarters of the convicts become extremely irksome.—To relieve them as much as possible, the Council have come to the determination to authorise Capt. Samuel Cary to enlist 75 men immediately, with the requisite number of officers. These will relieve the other citizens from their duty, and dismiss them to their other engagements. Capt. Cary's notice appears in this day's paper. As soon as the services of this company can be dispensed with, the "ward and watch" of the prisoners will again devolve exclusively upon the public guard.

If these arrangements can be made to the satisfaction of the Council, more especially that part of the which relates to the repairs of the Penitentiary, there will be no necessity of making a direct appeal to the Legislative authority. The prisoners will be secured, and a depot will be opened to those who may be condemned by the courts. The criminal code will be executed even to the letter. The expense of an extra session of the legislature will be saved, and the members will have no absolute occasion to leave their homes at this season of the year.

Commonwealth vs. Joseph D. Ferrel.

In this case the Defendant was brought before the Mayor of the city of Philadelphia, charged with having passed to a storekeeper a forged and counterfeit note, purporting to be a good and genuine note, of the Philadelphia Bank for ten dollars, he knowing at the time he passed it that the same was forged and counterfeit. The Mayor, upon hearing of the case, demanded five thousand dollars security of the defendant, for his appearance at the next Mayor's court, to answer, &c. which he not being able to procure he was committed to prison. In the course of a few days afterwards a writ of habeas corpus was granted by his honor Judge Duncan, to bring the prisoner before him. Upon that hearing the following facts were proved. First, that the Defendant had been charged with a similar offence about three years since; that he at that time absconded from his bail, and did not stand his trial. Secondly, that he confessed to one of the High Constables, that he believed it was a gone case with him now, and that he deserved to be punished for having engaged in the business again, after his former narrow escape; and, thirdly, that he offered to a person in this city, who is in the habit of trading horses, and keeps backs to hire, about two years since, one hundred dollars in counterfeit notes, on sundry incorporated Banks, for thirty dollars in good money, telling him at the same time, he could pass a number of them off in the way of his business; that persons would, in many instances, not recollect from whom they received them, and in that case they would not be returned, and if any of them were returned, all he had to do, was to exchange them, and say you did not know it was a counterfeit, nor can you tell from whom you received it; at the same time telling this person, that he would engage to supply him with as much spurious money as he could dispose of. With all these facts clearly made out, Judge Duncan reduced the bail to one thousand dollars.

Now, we would be among the last to oppress any one; but when a case presents itself so strong and clear as the above, and the crime having been viewed by the Legislature to be of so deep a dye, as to have provided by a special act of Assembly for the punishment of it, making it fifteen years at hard labor for the offence, we must say, that we are of opinion, that the Judge in his lenity towards the prisoner, has in some degree overlooked the interest of the community at large.—It is with pleasure we have learnt, that Judges Tighman and Hollowell have declared, that in future, where the facts of the case will warrant it, they will hold defendants to as high bail as the spirit of the constitution will bear them out in, and that bail shall be unexceptionable.

Persons unacquainted with public business would be astonished to see the number of forfeited recognizances that are returned from each court, to the county commissioners for collection; not one in twenty is recovered, and it is doubtful whether the expense of prosecuting them does not cost the county more in the year than they receive from them. We hope in future to see more attention given to recognizances, by the different persons who are authorised by the law to take them.
[Philadelphia Sentinel.]

From Europe.

Extracts from the late English papers received by the packet ship Columbia, arrived at New York.

From the London Times, June 30.

One act of violence has been perpetrated already in the seizure of our brave countryman Sir R. Wilson, and his side-camp, at Oporto, while travelling peaceably on their way to Lisbon, and unarmed. They were liberated only on their patrol, but this offence will soon of course be attoned for, if England has a public minister at Lisbon, and is not yet a formal member of the "alliance" termed "holy."

The minister of the United States to Spain, and the ambassadors of the Netherlands and Sweden, remained with the British minister at Seville.

BRITISH HOUSE OF COMMONS.
The allies and King of Wirtemberg.

Mr. Brougham asked the secretary for foreign affairs whether there was any foundation for the story in the public papers, that the allied powers had withdrawn their ambassadors from Stuttgart, &c. he believed, by a protest from the king of Wirtemberg against the invasion of Spain, and his refusal to suppress a certain newspaper, and to make alterations in the constitution of his kingdom.

Mr. Canning objected to the interrogatory; adding, however, that no official avowals had been received, although some accounts of that nature had reached ministers. England was no party to the proceedings of the allied powers; she in this case was merely a spectator.

Mr. Brougham protested against being understood to concur with the right honorable gentleman, that this country could be a mere tame spectator of such transactions. The principles of the allies were utterly detestable in themselves, and ruinous to the liberties of the world.

It is very generally rumoured, that the Austrian and Prussian ambassadors intend soon to leave England, and that their successors have not yet been appointed. It is said that Sir Hudson Lowe is appointed governor of Demerara. The reciprocity duties bill has passed a second reading in the house of commons.

On Friday, in the house of commons, Mr. Wilmot moved a grant of 15,000 pounds for promoting emigration from the south of Ireland to the Canadas, and the Cape of Good Hope. The motion, after some discussion, was agreed to.