

# ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY EDGAR SNOWDEN.

The ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE, for the country, is printed on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

**TERMS.**  
The Daily Paper is furnished for \$5 per annum in advance, payable half yearly.  
The Country Paper (tri-weekly) is furnished for \$5 per annum in advance.  
No subscription is received from the country, unless accompanied by the cash, or by a responsible name.  
Advertisements inserted at the rate of 25 cents per line for three insertions, and 15 cents every subsequent insertion. Yearly advertisements are charged in proportion to the number of their insertions.  
Persons advertising by the year not to advertise except in their regular business, nor to insert in their advertisements any other names than their own.

## ITEMS.

Both Houses of Congress adjourned on Thursday last over to Monday next. The new collector of New York on the 1st inst performed a reform operation in the Custom House, in that city, the like of which is unparalleled. He guillotined ninety four of the officers under him at one slash of the axe. The operation was brought to bear principally upon Conservatives.

A letter from the Postmaster at Tampa, (Florida,) dated Feb. 13, says: "The man who left here on Tuesday, the 3d inst, is lost. The carrier was brutally murdered about sixteen miles this side of Fort King. He was shot from his horse by Indians, his scalp taken off, his eyes dug out, his ears and nose cut off, and other horrid atrocities and torments inflicted upon him. The horse and mail bags have not since been found."

We learn that the Collector of Baltimore, upon information received from New York, seized yesterday several hundred pieces of woollen cloths which had been consigned to a house in Baltimore from N. York.

It was remarked a few days since by a distinguished Senator that now that Baltimore has thrown off the shackles of Locofocoism, there is not one city or town from Bangor to Norfolk, visited by salt water, in which the Whigs have not a decided majority.

The pay of all the members of Congress amounts to \$3000 per day.

The Sirius carried out 4500 letters and packages from Hale's reading room; probably many hundreds more were sent from the counting house of the consignees, or put on board directly.

The number of suits commenced in the district court of New Orleans since the 4th of March 1837 to the 20th ult, is 2309. The expenses of litigation in this court alone for that period are estimated at \$330,000.

We have to add to our Virginia election the gain of Monroe and Marshall, which will make 24, and deduct two Senators lost—one in the Wheeling, and one in Brunswick district. The successful candidates, however, are Conservatives—moderate in their party feelings, and against the leading measure of the Administration. The Whig clear gain deducting the two senators, and two delegates, is yet twenty, giving them the majority in the House of Delegates.

Mr Freeman Gage, captain of a schooner, was knocked down in the city of Rochester, New York, on the evening of the 27th April, and robbed of the sum of \$5,500. A reward of five hundred dollars is offered by the sheriff of Monroe county, N. York, for the apprehension of one Robt. Dunt, who is supposed to be the person who committed the robbery.

Several of the scientific and commercial institutions of Boston have appointed a committee for the purpose of taking measures for the erection at Mount Auburn of a suitable monument to the memory of the late Nathaniel Bowditch.

The \$40,000 purse agreed upon four years ago by forty individuals (each subscribing \$1000) on the produce of their respective three year old studs, came off at New York on Tuesday. Five horses were entered, and a great concourse attended. Mr John C. Stevens' Fordham, won without a struggle.

The Mexican government not having accepted the ultimatum of the French, the Commander of the French Squadron off the coast of Mexico, has declared a blockade of all the ports of that republic.

The State of Maine has refused the proposition for an arbitration of the north eastern boundary question.

The two lines for the conveyance of passengers between Baltimore and Philadelphia begin to charge the old price of four dollars. At the low rates heretofore charged the competition would have been mainly for the benefit of travellers.

A Lucifer match manufactory in the suburbs of Philadelphia, exploded on Monday, and so shockingly wounded the proprietor, named Vogel, (a German,) and a boy with him, that it was not expected they would survive.

The funeral of Mr. Worden Pope, one of the oldest and most valuable citizens of Louisville, who died recently, was attended by thousands of citizens, impressed with one feeling of deep and heartfelt sorrow. The procession was a mile long.

The French Scientific Journal says that M. Magendie continues to obtain the happiest results from the application of electricity in affections of the senses, particularly in that acute disease termed tic douloureux.

Within the last fortnight no less than four different steamboat explosions have occurred on the Western waters, viz—the Tremont, near Cape Girardeau; the Butaw, at Steubenville; the Moselle at Cincinnati; and the Oronoko, at Princeton, Miss.

The Petersburg Intelligencer of Tuesday last says: "We learn that a man by the name of Marks, in Prince George shot a man by the name of Ledbetter and his wife, on Friday last. They were both shot at the same fire, and died instantly. We have heard a statement of the circumstances which led to this dreadful outrage, but do not regard them as sufficiently authentic to be made public."

There were five horses on the boiler deck of the Moselle at the time of the explosion, only one of which was injured. The chief force of the explosion seems to have taken an upward direction.

The Chevalier Calderon de la Barca, recently envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from Spain to this country, but who from political considerations tendered his resignation during the last summer, has been reinstated in his former capacity at Washington.

The awful steamboat explosion at Cincinnati, is creating a great sensation, and it is hoped will induce Congress to act speedily on a bill now before them, which bids fair most effectually to prevent a recurrence of such distressing scenes.

A gentleman is now in Washington, who is about submitting a plan to Government for the establishment of another Executive branch, to be called the Home Department, similar to that in France and other countries. The object of the Department would be to attend exclusively to the agricultural interests of the Union. It obtains much favor with several Senators who have examined it.

The imports of Specie at the city of New York, for the week ending the 25th day of April, 1838, \$2,581,645. Previous week over \$3,000,000.

The imports of specie at the city of New Orleans, from the 9th to the 15th day of May, 1838, \$238,008.

Some persons at Indiana city formed a resolution to ride one Asa Crapo on a rail. Two of them, one named Case, went to Crapo's house to get him out. They found him in bed, and when they approached to drag him out, being apprized of their object, he stabbed Case with a butcher knife through the heart.

There is a smart war raging between the Philadelphia and New York papers. The American asserts that in the event of the incorporation of a new bank of the United States, it must be in New York, and not in Philadelphia.

The Banks of Lower Canada, according to the Kingston Herald, will resume specie payments simultaneously with those of New York.

Delaware County, Ohio, sends three hundred delegates to the approaching Whig convention in that state! This is a formidable delegation—equal in number to the gallant band at old Thermopylae.

It is said that Dr. Theller has been relieved, as well as the others under sentence of death in Canada.

We learn from the Cumberland Civilian that the chain bridge across Willis Creek, in that town, gave way on Wednesday morning last, and the whole structure fell into the stream below. Two men and a boy were on the bridge, at the moment it fell, and were precipitated into the creek with it. By great good fortune, they all escaped the perils of the descent and reached the shore in safety.

The readers of this paper have been advised of the circular communicated by the French minister of commerce, M. Martin du Nord, to several of the chambers of commerce in the provincial towns of that kingdom, warning them against an approaching financial crisis in the United States. It is understood that a correspondence has arisen from this publication, between Mr. Cass, our minister at the court of France, and the French government; and we have seen it stated that satisfactory explanations have been given by the latter.

Of twenty-six thousand deaths reported in the London bill of mortality for the year 1837, only a single death was caused by murder—a startling rebuke to the police of our American cities.

Many of our citizens recollect the daughter of Monsieur Sciarra, who made an ascension, on the tight rope, in this place near two years since. We regret to learn, from one of our exchange papers, that she fell from the rope in one of her late ascensions at Wheeling, and was instantly killed.

The Virginia State Loan of \$100,000, advertised to be taken on the 21st inst, is worthy the attention of capitalists. We understand it will probably be the last six per cent. stock that will be offered by the State.

The Richmond and Fredericksburg Rail Road Company are making a very fair dividend of profit on their stock.

If the public are to have any security against steamboat accidents—the press must change its tone. Boats must be praised for their comfort, convenience, and the care and discretion of their managers—but not for their speed. They will always have as much speed as their machinery will bear, without the aid of foreign excitement. Safety is better than speed.

# ALEXANDRIA: SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 5

**DEMOCRATIC REVIEW.**—We have before us the Democratic Review for May. Its leading political article is an elaborate disquisition on the true principles of commercial banking, and an attempt from these principles to vindicate the establishment of the Sub-Treasury system in this country. Its biographical sketch of Mr Speaker Polk is accompanied by a wretched lithograph of that gentleman. Mr Polk, is puffed out of all reason. He is a man of industry, common sense, and unscrupulous devotion to party—nothing more nor less. The Review may prove that he is a good party speaker but can never make him a great man. There is but little poetry in the present number—and that little not much to be praised.—Miss S. Gouney has taken an unwelcome theme, and Mr Butler's sonnets are but "ordinary." Several of the literary articles, which we have not space to particularize or refer to more distinctly, are excellent. Prescott's Ferdinand and Isabella is justly praised.

**THE KNICKERBOCKER.**—The last number of this delightful Magazine is our table. Its contents are varied, and many of the articles equal to those produced in any of the British periodicals. Magazine writing is evidently improving in this country. Some of our first literary men are regular contributors to the pages of the Knickerbocker, and they do credit to themselves by their compositions. We presume from the appearance of the work before us, that it is well sustained by public patronage, as, indeed, it most richly deserves to be.

The readers of to-day's country paper (yesterday's daily) will find reported the remarks of Mr. Wise and Mr. Graves, on the duelling affair. These gentlemen do not pretend to go into the merits of the case, but they expose briefly yet clearly the injustice of the course recommended by the majority of the committee. The calm, unimpassioned, and dignified observations of Mr. Graves, unfortunately the author of the death which he deplores, must particularly strike the reader's attention.

On Monday the Halls of Congress will be fitted up "on the summer establishment." The weather this week would seem rather to require a continuation of the "winter establishment." But we suppose, better things are to be expected after Monday.

In order to excuse the Loco Foco rout in Baltimore, the party organs declare that the faithful "had gone a-fishing." We presume, then, they have been "a-fishing" for several months past, and along shore from Portland in Maine to Richmond in Virginia, if that excuse is to serve for political defeat. It has been a bad fishing season for the Administration—worse than it has been for our Potomac Fishermen!

In the Senate, on Wednesday, Mr. Roane presented a petition from Newton Keene and others, which was referred.

Mr. Roane presented a memorial from the Friendship Fire Company of Alexandria, praying aid from Congress.

A letter from Guernsey County, Ohio, dated 29th ult, received at this office, says: "The growing crop of wheat in this county is most flattering at present, and the Farmers generally say the most critical time has now passed, and they all anticipate a good crop."

We regret to say that the continued cold and unfavorable weather has operated disastrously upon the Potomac Fisheries. The Fishermen are "cutting out."

The Editor of the Fayetteville Observer says:

"It has recently come to our knowledge that Mr. Calhoun does not hesitate to express contempt for the Administration."

The Editor was a member of the Commercial Convention which recently met at Augusta, where he probably mixed much with the members of that body, among whom were Mr. McDuffie, Gen. Hayne and other distinguished friends of Mr. Calhoun, and we doubt not that he there gathered the material for his statement—nor do we doubt that such is the language of the southern senator.

Mr. Prentiss has made a triumphal tour of the State of Mississippi—even the ladies have thronged in crowds to enjoy the eloquence of the stump. On one occasion, after canvassing the topics of the day—discussing the charges that had been brought against himself personally—and holding an immense audience spell bound, by his wit, sarcasm, invective and eloquence for nearly three hours, he closed with a beautiful apostrophe to the ladies who had honored him with their presence—in a style that rendered the appeal a fitting climax to a most brilliant harangue.

At Gallatin he came in contact with a General Brown. But the lance bent to the baton—the military to the civic—or, as Colonel Benton might say—"Cedant arma togæ"—the sword of Mars yielded to the wand of Mercury. The General was unhorsed and left in the dust; while the multitude lifted Mr. Prentiss upon their shoulders and bore him to his lodgings with shouts and cheers of triumph.

When the Duelling case was before the House of Representatives on Wednesday, Mr. J. Q. Adams was proceeding to show that the direction attempted to be given in the matter, by Mr. Thomas and others, was of a party character. when he was interrupted by Mr. Boon of Indiana, who said that he wished to argue that point, in his own way and style, with the gentleman from Massachusetts. That gentleman, said Mr. Boon, had called this an administration measure.

Mr Adams said he would hold that gentleman (Mr Boon,) as an exception to his remark. Every body, said he, who knows that gentleman, and his course on this floor, day after day, would certainly acquit him of the least undue party bias, or partiality for the administration in his votes. He would except that disinterested and impartial member from his remark. But he must still think that the movement of Mr. Thomas, in making the motion to strike out the proposed instruction, was a party movement.

Mr Thomas rose to take his turn in disavowing this. He told Mr Adams he wanted none of his compliments, and called his attack a "wanton" one.

Mr Adams said he would not hold the gentleman on his right, (Mr Thomas) personally included in his remark, any more than the gentleman on his left, (Mr Boon.) He was proceeding, when Mr Boon marched down in front of Mr Adams, and with a face livid with rage and suppressed gall, pointed his long finger at Mr Adams, and muttered some words the character of which could not be mistaken.

The Speaker bade Mr Boon and the other members in front of the chair, to take their seats.

Mr. Adams remarked that the frigate of the member from Indiana was certainly a very formidable instrument, but he trusted that he should be able to survive the finger and the denunciations of that person. He then proceeded with his remarks.

Mr. Thomas responded justly and Mr. Boon in a stream of abuse. Among other things he said that Mr. Adams's remarks were false, and known to be so when he made them,—that they were wanton, and originated in a malignant heart.

At this point the Chair called Mr Boon to order, but he was not ordered to sit down as he should have been; but was permitted to go on with much more of his ribaldry, to all of which Mr. Adams responded not a single word, treating him as he deserved,—with silent contempt.

The question came up upon Mr. Thomas's motion to strike out the instructions moved by Mr. Adams, that the committee be directed to strike out the argumentative parts of their report and the obnoxious resolutions, and to report only the evidence and journal so that it might appear what questions were rejected or not, in committee. This part of Mr. Thomas's motion was lost by the following vote.—Yeas 82, nays 93.

The question is now pending on the recommitment.

**FRENCH ENGINE.**—The Mississippi Fire Engine Company No. 2, of New Orleans, have had manufactured in New York, the most splendid Fire Engine ever seen. Some idea may be formed of its surpassing beauty, from the fact that it has been more than two years on hand, and has cost \$3500. Every thing about it is superb, even to the very brakes. All the iron work on the exterior is richly plated and moulded in graceful forms.—The carved work is profusely elaborate, and very elegant. The body of the engine is highly polished, like the panels of coaches. The lanterns are of stained glass. The decorations, independent of the paintings and carved work, are of arabesque in gold and silver.

**BOOK BINDING WITH GUM ELASTIC.**—A Mr. Hancock, of London, has invented a mode of binding in *caoutchouc*, which, whether the book contains fifty or five hundred leaves, both the first and the last will lie as flatly as if it were wholly free from any tie. Moreover, such is its elasticity of binding that the book may be turned completely back at any division of the leaves, and leave no show of violence behind.

When Mr. Clay introduced his Currency, resolution he said, that the time must come, and speedily come, when some positive action would become necessary upon this subject. If we cannot have a National Bank to regulate our currency,—which bank would aid and secure resumption,—let us have something that will do what can be done without a National Bank to effect this object.

Mr Calhoun said, he should do nothing to aid the union of the Banks with the Government. I shall never aid a union, and I shall do all I can to prevent any union. We must not unite ourselves with them. Mr. Calhoun then said, I believe a National Bank in any form or shape out of the question entirely, and it established, I believe it would do more harm than good.

**AN APPRENTICE TO THE PRINTING BUSINESS** will be taken at this office. As the situation, to a moral, industrious, and well disposed boy, is a very desirable one, no one will be taken who cannot come well recommended. He must not be over 14 years of age, and be able to read and write. may 3—tf

# Assassination in the United States.

It may be asserted, without fear of contradiction, that there is no part of the world professing civilization, where war is not raging, in which life is so insecure, and where the murderer so safe in the indulgence of his propensities, as in certain sections of the United States. Assassination succeeds assassination with such rapidity, that the daily press even so disposed, cannot keep up with the current of events in its record of crime.—There are parts of the Union, which require the energy of a Tacoo for their government, and throw the bloody scenes formerly enacted in the Havana, altogether into the back ground—for three murders were chiefly the refuse of society, and at least slaughtered their victims in secrecy; but in the places to which we allude, the emulators of the "first born Cain" are frequent men of note and consideration—political leaders, lawyers, physicians, planters—sometimes the presiding officers of legislative bodies perhaps members of Congress—often those who give tone to the society in which they move. The statistics of murder in the United States for six months would furnish ample food for meditation in this respect, and would perhaps demonstrate that this state of things arises from something radically wrong in the frame work of society—something that demoralizes and nourishes the worst passions of man.

The passing of severe laws to bear upon this matter and the multiplication of enactments to check the progress of bloodshed, is a mere puffing against the wind. The defect is not in the laws—mere printed paper amounts to nothing, if not animated, brought into action and sustained by public opinion; and therefore, this "chivalrous" assassination will continue to increase in despite of law making, just so long as sympathy is manifested for the "good society" culture, and fighting by one's own hand of injuries, either real or supposed, is regarded as a proof of manhood and of a heroic spirit. While the man, whose passions are as violent and as unregulated as the impulses of a tiger, is considered by his neighbors as a "noble hearted, whole souled fellow," as the phrase goes and an utter recklessness of consequences in every action is a title to praise, and while this false feeling extends both to judges and to juries, individuals will be their "original selves," and obey the promptings of their evil dispositions.—Where self control does not find a place among the virtues, it is not likely that the tempter will be broken and curbed;—where "the assassination does trammel up the consequence," and in fact puts a leather in the cap, impunity and encouragement combined will cause every day to be marked with some such exhibition of "heroism" or "chivalry," as those which continue to heap disgrace upon the country. These things will go on until they effect a cure by their own excess—for who can expect reformation when, as actually occurred a year or two since in Louisiana, a major general and candidate for the executive chair of the commonwealth, pronounces a benediction over the grave of a murderer and a suicide, and when both arrest and trial for the taking of life, are exemplified every day as mere matters of form. A change cannot be expected until the use of the pistol and the bow knife is a certain passport to the gallows, and until this bastard chivalry which strikes down a fellow citizen in his chamber, in the street, or in the legislative hall, is choked by the friendly offices of a Jack Keitch. A few such examples—but they must be of the first class of offenders—your rich, influential, aristocratic assassins—being given in each state, would have the most wholesome effect, and when that happens but not till then, may the people of the South and West anticipate reform.—Public opinion defines crime far more effectually than law, for it is through the influence of public opinion that the offender is brought to punishment. Homicide must continue to flourish, let the statute book say what it may, where ever it stands in the light of a gentlemanly recreation, or at worst receives no more notice than such "juvenile indiscretions" as baking windows and beating watchmen in the great cities.—*Pennsylvanian.*

Extract from the official communication of the Com. of the Mexican brig of war Turbide, respecting her encounter with the steamboat Columbia.

To the Commandant General of the Mexican squadron.

Brig Turbide, under sail in lat. 20 deg. 6 min., long. 88 deg. 45 min, west of Cadiz, 5 o'clock in the afternoon of this day, March 24, 1838.

At the moment when you, sir, announced, by your signals, that you were sailing in the third quarter, I made out the vessel to be a steamboat, coming from the north; and I discovered that she had not the same to which we had given chase this morning, and which was apparently, on her way to Brazilia, as the boat has two chimneys and the other by one. As soon as you gave the signal for chase with all speed, and without losing a moment, I ordered the vessel to be ready for action, and taking the other precaution of seeing that she was beating down on my starboard bow, I ordered all my men to take their proper places and cutting arms, to be ready for an attempt to board. While we were thus sailing towards each other, as you saw, our distance was necessarily becoming less; and seeing that her signal flag was that of the United States, I hoisted mine with a pendant, and fired a gun without ball. I cleared up my mainmast in order that she should stop her engine for the purpose of examining her; but this was not done; and as, on the contrary, her movements towards me were very suspicious, I ordered another gun to be fired, with ball in a direction very wide of the steamboat, which was done as a notice for her to stop. Instead of doing so, however, she continued on her course, as if without view of getting past me to leeward. When I got within speaking distance, I hailed her three times, with a trumpet, and she did not deign to give any answer to either call. On the fourth call, an individual answered, leading me to believe, and telling me, that if I wanted to see his papers, I should come on board his boat. All this was spoken without the speaking trumpet; and although I was called on to stop, in order that his papers and his boat should be visited, I did not do so; but on the other hand, continued to resist my political inquiries by the grossest obscenities and language.

In consequence of these proceedings, I fired two cannon, and three muskets, not aimed at the steamer, for the purpose of intimidating her, that she should stop as required. She, however, took notice of it, but continued on her way, until so near me, that the shot and musket water fell on board my vessel.

# CITY TOBACCO STORE.

This spacious and convenient warehouse is now in readiness for the reception of tobacco, and is located on Dock street ward, at the termination of the railroad leading through the city, and connecting with that to Columbia thereby saving freightage to those transshipping from the west, as cars can be unloaded within the building.

Mr. William Reeder, whose experience of several years as Inspector of the Warehouse, No. 1, Baltimore, has enabled him to be conversant with the quality and plant is in Ohio and Maryland, and has been appointed to take charge of the warehouse, and every facility will be afforded him, consistent with the interests of the trade.

The following rates have been agreed upon:

The owner or receiver of tobacco 100 50 cents per hhd. for inspection.  
The purchaser or shipper 2 1/2 per hhd. outage, to lay free of storage six months, after which time subject to a charge of 25cts. per hhd. a month.  
Philadelphia, March 10—1838

# Information to Pensioners.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, MAY 3, 1838.  
J. L. Edwards, Esq.,  
Commissioner of Pensions.

Sir: In reply to your inquiry of the 24th inst, I answer that no new laws have been deemed necessary in carrying out the law of the 6th of August, 1837, requiring all unclaimed pensions to have been paid by the 1st of August, 1838, to be paid at the Treasury.

The application may be prepared by transmitting to the Third Auditor such documents as, in ordinary cases, are required by law, to authorize the payment of a pension by a pension agent.

The forms heretofore prescribed, and all being observed, and nothing being required.

If the pension is to be paid to an agent, it is necessary that such agent should make oath as required by law, and file the form prescribed by the Treasury, in this office of June 30, 1833, that he will receive the pension as not to be paid by reason of any salary, or mortgage.

The applicant will in every case designate the place to which the money is to be transmitted.

It will be understood that no pension can be admitted by the Accounting Officers until it shall have been made out by the certificate of the Pension Agent, on whose behalf the applicant's name is borne, that some of the pension applications for has remained in the hands of the Agent, unclaimed by the pensioner, at the term of eight months after it became payable. By my Circular of the 12th April, the Pension Agents have all been requested forth to transmit such applications to this office.

As no pension can be paid at the Treasury under the act of April 6th, 1838, unless the money has remained in the hands of a pension agent unclaimed by the pensioner for the term of eight months after it became payable, whenever an application shall be made to the Accounting Officers of the Treasury for the payment of a pension, a part of which has been due and payable for the term of eight months, the claim for so much of it as has been payable for that term of time will be admitted and paid at the Treasury, and the balance will be payable to the Pension Agent until that shall have remained unclaimed from such agent for the term of eight months after it became payable.

I am, sir, very respectfully,  
ALBION K. PARKES, Comptroller.

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