The North Carolina Whig.

"Be true to God, to your Country, and to your Duty."

VOLUME 6. CHARLOTTE, N. C. APRIL 21, 1857. NUMBER 8.

THOMAS J. HOLTON,
EDITOR & PROPRIETOR.

TERMS:

The North Carolina Whig will be afforded to subscribers at TWO DOLLARS in advance; TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS if payment be delayed for three months; and THREE DOLLARS at the end of the year. No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, except at the option of the Editor.

Advertisements inserted at One Dollar per square (16 lines or less, this sized type) for the first insertion, and 25 cents for each continuance. Court advertisements and Sheriff's Sales charged 25 per cent. higher; and a deduction of 33⅓ per cent. will be made from the regular prices, for advertisers by the year. Advertisements inserted monthly or quarterly, at $1 per square for each time. Semi-monthly Legal Advertisements per square for ... insertion.

☞ Postmasters are authorized to act as agents

Union Line.

CHARLESTON TO CHERAW VIA GEORGETOWN.

STEAMERS MARION AND GOV. GRAHAM.

THE well known and Popular steamer Marion Capt. Jno. Ferguson is now regularly engaged in the Trade between Charleston, Georgetown, and Cheraw and is known as the most prompt and efficient Boat in the trade.

The Gov. Graham is a very light draught and well calculated for the River trade, and being now in the hands of an old and experienced commander, Capt. J. Reiyer can be relied upon, to deliver her freight without detention. The Gov. Graham will only run to Georgetown but will connect with the Marion in low stages of the River, thereby avoiding any detention from low water both Boats being well provided with suitable lighters.

Consignments to the Agents in Charleston will be forwarded free of commissions.

CALDWELL & ROBINSON.
Agents at Charleston,
SHACKLEFORD & FRASER
Agents at Georgetown,
DAN'L A. HORN.
Agents at Cheraw.

Dec. 2 1856 41 6m

Encourage Home Industry!

HAVING PURCHASED the CONCORD FACTORY, I am prepared to fill all orders for

YARNS.

Checkerings,	*Threshing Ropes,*
Skeinings,	*Bed Cords,*
Shirtings,	*Well Ropes,*
Grain Bagging,	*Carpet Chain,*
Heavy Drilling,	*Wrapping Twine.*

I am making an article of Cloth for the purpose of **Shipping Flour**, Wheat and Corn. Farmers and Produce buyers will find it to their advantage to use it. All orders from a distance will be attended to with promptness.

J. McDONALD.

Concord, Oct. 28, 1856. 36tf

SASH, DOOR & BLIND FACTORY,
CHARLOTTE, N. C.

HAVING associated ourselves together for the purpose of carrying on the

CARPENTER AND JOINER'S BUSINESS

in all its branches, we take this method of informing the public that we are at all times ready to Plane lumber at short notice, in a superior manner, all kinds of Lumber dressed and jointed to order, our Sash and Blind machines are in constant operation, which turn off Sash and Blinds in the most approved style. A supply of Sash of ordinary sizes kept constantly on hand at reasonable prices.

☞ Orders from a distance for Sash or Blinds or any work in our line will be promptly attended to.

We have on hand and expect to keep a supply of the best Lumber the country affords.

Our machine shop is on College street, East of the Methodist Church, where one of us can be seen at any time.

House building in the latest styles of work particularly attended to. We would invite the attention of the citizens of Charlotte to the advantages we have in doing work with dispatch our motto is, "By industry we thrive."

RUDISILL & WHISNANT.

Mar 27, 1856. 14tf

☞ Thankful for the patronage so liberally bestowed upon me by the citizens of Charlotte and the surrounding country heretofore, I ask a continuance of the same, feeling assured that no pains will be spared to please.

JONAS RUDISILL

☞ Notice.

PERSONS Owing accounts at the Charlotte Book Store, for the year 1855, must call and settle for first opportunity.

LOWRIE & ENNISS.

April 8, 1856. 7tf

☞ New Establishment. ☜

THE undersigned having established himself permanently in Charlotte, intends carrying on the following branches of business, viz:

Silver Plating, Gun and Locksmithing, Bell Hanging; Silver, Brass and all kinds of Metal Work repaired; Composition Mill Inks and Boxes of the most durable kind made, and warranted to be superior to any other kind for Mill and Factory purposes.

All of the above branches I warrant to turn out in a workmanlike style.

Coach makers at a distance that wish to have their work done I will give particular attention to repairing as soon as possible.

Persons at a distance wishing Guns altered from flint to percussion or otherwise repaired, except stocking, will have them repaired and returned on the shortest time possible.

I could give any number of reference as to workmanship, but I deem it unnecessary as I will leave the work to speak for itself. So send on your work as soon as possible all.

☞ JOBBING will be cash.

Please give a call at my shop, opposite the Presbyterian Church.

JOHN M. MASON.

Charlotte March 18, 1856. 4tf

☞ Last Notice. ☜

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given, that all the Notes and Accounts of SPRATT & ALLISON.—SPRATT, DANIEL & Co., and ALLISON & DANIEL, are transferred to the undersigned, for the benefit of the creditors of said Firms respectively, and that they are in the hands of J. R. DANIEL for immediate collection.—☞ Longer indulgence cannot be given, as the debts must be paid.

JOHN ALLISON,
J. R. DANIEL.

Dec. 31, 1855. 46tf

PACIFIC RAILROAD STOCK.—Nothing scarcely could equal the strides which this stock has made in the confidence of moneyed men, within a few days past; and if the enterprise on which it is founded continues to advance in popular favor in equal ratio with the progress it has lately made, the stock will in no short time burst like a tempest upon Wall street, frightening the very bears from their dens and making the bulls skip like young buffaloes on the prairies of the West. Only day before yesterday we learn that a gentleman, who had no acquaintance with any of the stockholders or officers of the company, called at the office of subscription in this city and paid $25,000 in cash for stock, solely on the strength of the faith he had in the practicability and feasible undertaking and as a desirable investment. Unquestionably the stupendous but practicable project grows in magnificence and promise every day; and it will be a glorious day for New Orleans and the South—for a new era will dawn upon both—when its accomplishment has been placed, by the liberal and enlightened support of the public, and the sincere and efficient labor of the parties prosecuting it, beyond all question and peradventure. Push on the work in earnest.—*New Orleans Delta.*

A JUST DECISION.—One night a judge, a military officer, and a minister, all applied for a lodging at an inn where there was but one spare bed, and the landlord was called upon to decide which had the best claim of the three.

"I have lain fifteen years in the garrison at B——," said the officer.

"I have sat as judge twenty years in R——," said the judge.

"With your leave, gentlemen, I have stood in the ministry twenty-five years at N——," said the minister.

"That settles the dispute," said the landlord. "You, Mr. Captain, have *lain* fifteen years; you, Mr. Judge, have *sat* twenty years; but the aged pastor has *stood* five-and-twenty years, so he certainly has the best right to the bed."

THE EXPEDITION IN SEARCH OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.—Letters received in this city, (says the New York Day Book of the 20th inst.) from England, convey the intelligence that the government having decided against sending out another expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, Lady Franklin has determined to fit out one from her own private means, devoting the remains of her fortune to a final attempt to discover the lost navigator, or additional traces of his expedition. The qualities of heart and mind which prompt the act command admiration, whatever may be said of the wisdom of the measure.

GOOD RULES FOR ALL.—Profane swearing is abominable. Vulgar language is disgusting. Loud laughing is impolite. Inquisitiveness is offensive. Tattling is mean.—Telling lies contemptible. Slandering is devilish. Ignorance is disgraceful, and laziness is shameful. Avoid all the above vices, and aim at usefulness. This is the road in which to become respectable. Walk in it. Never be ashamed of honest labor. Pride is a curse—a hateful vice. Never set the hypocrite. Keep good company. Speak the truth at all times. Never be discouraged, but persevere, and mountains will become as mole-hills.

ALABAMA SARDINES.—The Columbus *Enquirer* learns that in the Coosa river, a few miles above Wetumpka, *sardines*, precisely like those imported from the Mediterranean, abound and could be caught almost by the wagon-load.

G. F. ANDERSON. W. D. REYNOLDS.

ANDERSON & REYNOLDS,
FORWARDING & COMMISSION
MERCHANTS,
No. 10, Roanoke Square,
NORFOLK, VA.

Pay active attention to the sale of Flour and other kinds of Produce, avoiding unnecessary charges and rendering prompt returns.

☞ Notice.

THE CHARLOTTE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY continues to take risks against loss by Fire on Houses, Goods, Produce, &c., at usual rates.

☞ Office in Brawley's Building, upstairs.

DIRECTORS:

M. B. TAYLOR, *President.*
S. P. ALEXANDER, *Vice President.*
J. A. YOUNG,
J. H. WHITE,
J. H. CARSON, } *Executive Committee.*
C. OVERMAN,
A. C. STEELE,
J. H. WILSON, *Attorney.*
E. NYE HUTCHISON, *Secretary.*

Aug. 12, 1856. 25tf

☞ Notice.

IN CONSEQUENCE of having lost by the fire which occurred in this place, on the morning of the 27th of May last, various Notes and claims against numerous persons in this and adjoining counties—which notes and claims, being the property of A. C. Steele, A. Bethune & Co., and others, which were placed in my hands for collection: All persons, therefore, against whom any of such claims are still standing unsettled, are hereby duly notified, that unless they appear immediately and close up the same, by note or cash, I shall be compelled to file, forthwith, Bills in Equity, thereby subjecting such persons to additional and unnecessary costs.

S. W. DAVIS.

Charlotte, June 17, 1856. tf

PROFESSIONAL CARD.

DR. B. M. COBB

WILL be pleased to receive Professional Calls in the departments of MEDICINE and SURGERY. Unless professionally absent, he may be found at his residence, Fort Mill Depot, York District, S. C.

Feb. 12, 1856. tf

Poetry.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.

Life is a race where some succeed,
While others are beginning;
'Tis luck at times, at others speed,
That gives an early winning.
But if you chance to fall behind,
Never stand in your way to whine;
Just keep this wholesome truth in mind—
'Tis better late than never.

If you can keep a head, 'tis well,
But never trip your neighbor;
'Tis noble when you can excel
By honest, patient labor;
But if you are outstripped at last,
Press on as bold as ever;
Remember though you are surpassed,
'Tis better late than never!

Never labor for an idle boast
Of victory o'er another,
But while you strive your utmost,
Deal fairly with a brother.
Whate'er your station, do your best,
And hold your purpose ever;
And if you fail to beat the rest,
'Tis better late than never!

Choose well the path in which you run,
Succeed by noble daring;
Then, though the last, when once 'tis won,
Your crown is worth the wearing.
Then never fret if left behind,
Nor slacken your endeavor;
But ever keep this truth in mind—
'Tis better late than never!

Miscellaneous.

From the American Union.

FRANK EARL.

"I hate you, Frank Earl!"

I didn't mean to say it—I'm very sure I didn't. I was angry, excited, out of sorts, and the words slipped from my lips before I thought.

I was frightened. In all our quarrels I had never before said so many bitter things—never hazarded so unguarded, impulsive a speech. I covered my face with my hands, peeping through my fingers to see what effect my words had produced upon my lover. He stood looking right at me, his great blue eyes wide open with surprise, but he didn't turn pale, or groan, or rush towards me, as I partly expected he would. He did not stir.

I grew tired of watching him, at last, and took my hands down.

He remained immovable.

I looked up at him, half defiantly, half-penitently, for I was to blame and I knew it—and my pride was oozing away at a rapid rate.

He smiled.

It was the worst thing he could have done. My pride came back faster than it departed. I was not to be conquered in that tame manner—not I. I stamped my foot.

He smiled again.

Aggravation of aggravations! I could think of nothing bad enough to do, as an expression of my feelings. I would leave the room. No, that would be beating an inglorious retreat, and I was determined to come off victorious, if it cost me—Frank! I would play a tune on the piano. No, with such internal commotion for my inspiration, the music would all come crooked, and I was proud of my playing—even before him!—the odious creature.

Finally I went to the window. Still he stood, motionless as a statue, in the middle of the room.

I lowered the curtain between him and myself. No movement, on his part, rewarded me for my pains.

I curled myself up on the low window-seat, in a fit of desperation. I played with the curtain-fring; I tapped on the window-panes with my finger-tips; I even went so far as to hum a tune.

At last—O, relief! he started. I thought he would come to me, but he didn't. He marched right straight by, through the door, and up stairs, whistling as he went, an accompaniment to the tune I was humming.

If he hadn't been a guest in my father's house, I would have vowed never to see him again. As it was however, I leaned my head and tried to cry; between thinking of Frank and Frank's coolness, and myself and my wicked temper, I actually succeeded in shedding a tear or two.

But it couldn't last long, even though my reflections were anything but delightful.—Back and forth, back and forth, in the chamber above, I could hear Frank walking; and, somehow, it made me uncomfortable. I wouldn't think of him any longer—I declared I wouldn't! What was the use of making one's self miserable for nothing?—If he had a mind to be stubborn and ill-natured, or to take offence at what he ought to have known I didn't mean, I didn't see as I could help it. Here I tried hard to cry again, but the attempt resulted in a dead failure.

I pressed my face up against the cold glass, and looked out. It was snowing furiously, and but few persons were abroad.—The street lamps were lit, and I amused myself watching those few as they struggled along against the wind and snow. Here came a fat man, puffing and blowing, and there a little boy was running after his cap, which the wind had lifted from his head, and was carrying tantalyzingly before him. After them followed a poor, decrepid old woman, thinly-dressed, and tottering as she walked. Then I remembered that, only the day before, I had seen Frank pick just such a poor, forlorn-looking creature up from the slippery pavement. He didn't know I saw him, though, and when I teased him about it, he blushed like a bashful school-boy.

"Frank is noble about some things, if he is stubborn!" I ejaculated, mentally.

One thought suggested another, and Frank *would* be uppermost in my mind, in spite of every effort to the contrary. All the events of our acquaintance, from the first time we met, to that evening's engagement, came back vividly to my recollection. I couldn't remember a single naughty thing that he had ever done. I couldn't remember an ungentle word, or an impatient look, or an unmerited rebuke, that he had ever given me. On the other hand, I *could* remember a great many things to his credit. Hadn't he helped me more about my French lessons than all my teachers put together?—Didn't he take a terrific flogging, in school once, rather than tell who put a dead snake in the master's hat?—and that, too, after he had entreated me not to do it, and remonstrated with me upon the wickedness? Didn't he bring me strawberries and freshest lilies to be found, when I was sick? Hadn't he more than once coaxed me out of a fit of the pouts, laughed me into good nature if I was fretful?—or, when my tigerish temper was up, borne with me patiently, till I grew heartily ashamed of my ternagant propensities? To be sure he had.

I uncurled myself from the window-seat, and drew a rocking-chair up before the rosy grate. The steps overhead had ceased. The whole house was still. Father and mother and little Susie had gone out to spend the evening. I was alone, and likely to be, until ten or eleven o'clock, for I knew Frank too well to imagine he would come back to me before I had had abundant time to recover from my paroxysm of rage.—'Dear Frank!' I said it over softly to myself, with a little choking in the throat, and then looked up, fearful lest the very ceiling should betray to him the usual softness of my heart.

I thought he must be awfully lonesome, up there in his chamber alone. I wondered if it wouldn't be pleasanter for him down in the parlor with me, before the shining fire? I didn't think I should be any happier—of course not.

Shouldn't I go and ask him to come down? I could be very cool about it—just as though it was a mere matter of politeness. I wouldn't apologise, though; I put my foot down on that. I was sure I hoped I had too much spirit to do such a thing, if I *hadn't* done just as I ought.

Well, I went. Creeping carefully up stairs, I tapped at his door. No answer. Surely, he couldn't have gone down without my hearing him, and it was much too early for him to think of retiring.

I tapped again, and then softly opened the door and peeped in. There he sat—his head upon the table—one hand thrown carelessly across his books and papers, and holding (couldn't I have kissed him when I saw it?) my daguerreotype—the very one I had given him six months before, because, as I told him, it wasn't fit for anybody else. I began to think I *would* apologize.

"Frank!" I called, in a whisper.

He didn't move.

I tiptoed up behind him and peered over into his face. His eyes were shut, and I thought he was looking rather pale.

"Frank!" I spoke a little louder—but in vain. What if he were dead! I knew the physician told him, the last time he was ill, that there was a difficulty with his heart.—What if my unkindness had seriously grieved him, and brought on a fatal crisis of his disease. I had heard of such things.—The house was so unnaturally hushed and still and lonesome-like, that it seemed almost natural for death to come in some unexpected and startling shape to take up its abode within the walls. My very heart stood still with agony at the terrible suspicion.

I went along and touched his hand. It was cold as marble!

With one wild scream I threw my arms around his neck, and poured a torrent of caressing epithets and passionate entreaties in his ear. I did not stop to think, or breathe, or reason with my absurd and sudden fear. I only thought that Frank was dead and I had killed him.

But what? Could a corpse move? Was it possible for the dead Frank to clasp me closer than the living Frank had ever dared to? Surely, the eyes that met mine were not glazed or dim, but open, blue, bright and saucy as ever; and the lips that raised such a shower of kisses upon my upturned face, were not clammy, but moist and warm.

"Why, Nell, how came you here?—and in my arms, too?"

I won't tell you what I said. I won't tell that he was only asleep, and my impetuous hugging and screaming waked him up—not from death, but a comfortable nap. I won't tell how I shed tears—real genuine tears of mortification and shame and wounded vanity. And I won't tell how Frank comforted me, neither, would you?

Who'll come to the wedding?

THE HARD-SHELL BED-FELLOW.

Sam Jenkins, in his younger days, played so many jokes upon his venerable daddy that the old gentleman at last got wrathy, and Sam had to leave, which accounts for our finding him out West. He was a great chap for a lark, and full of fun.—After residing in the woods for several years he got the idea in his head that he would like another taste of the glorious lobsters such as he used to get at his father's; so he sent by express and imported some of the real articles, which arrived safe, "alive and kicking."

Sam had in his employ an Irishman and his wife who had left the old country when they were "children," and who had grown up in the Western forest as green and fresh as the leaves which shaded their shanty.—Sam, fully aware that they had a perfect horror to anything of a creeping kind, resolved to play a trick upon the verdant pair. Accordingly, selecting one of the liveliest lobsters, he obtained an entrance to their shanty, and deliberately pulling down the covering of the bed, stowed away the lobster; and with a smile of satisfaction made tracks, and selected a good sitting position outside of the shanty where he could hear every word spoken in the bedroom. The evening had far advanced, and Sam's eyes twinkled as he heard Bridget and Patrick preparing for bed. Very soon the light was put out, and Sam, after strangling a noisy bull frog, prepared to listen.

"Ah," said Patrick, "I dreamed last night, my darlint, that we were in ould Ireland. But what makes your feet so cowld, my honey?" said he abruptly, as something cold touched his legs.

"Sure, it's your own feet that are cowld, so they are," replied Bridget testily.

"Would yees be afther telling me that it's my own feet that are cowld?" said he, "don't I feel your cowld feet on my warm legs?"

"Throth," said Bridget, "and it's me that feels the likes of it too; and sure your toe nails are afther making me unasy, now! But it bites?—ah! ah! Och hone! sure *it has me by the leg!* Let go! Bloody murthers, but it's a ghost! Let go! will yees?"

Here Pat and Bridget dove out of bed, crying "bloody murther;" and Sam choking with laughter, rushed into the room with a light, finding Pat and his lady both on a table, one armed with a shovel and the other with a pair of tongs.

"Oh, boss!" cried Pat, "sure the devil is in the bed, and he has claws like a needle, so he has! and will ye look at the blood on me legs! Oh, murther, how he did bite me; and it's an ugly mouth that it has! The blissed Vargin presarve ye, boss, but don't go near it."

"Shut up," roared Sam, "what the devil are you making such a fuss about?" and pulling down the bed clothes, the lobster was revealed to the astonished Pat and his better half. The undaunted Sam picked it up, and finally succeeded in calming their fears.

"Sure!" said Bridget, "isn't it an uncommon big spither?"

"Spither!" replied Pat; "devil a spither is it! sure, it's the biggest of all bed bugs, so it is."

FASHIONABLE AMUSEMENTS.—A correspondent writing to a rural paper from Albany, thus refers to a new amusement introduced at fashionable parties:

"New fashions have been introduced into Albany by the wives of 'Hon.' gentlemen from New York city. After a 'hop' at the Delevan, the other night one of the ladies who gave the fashions which are followed by the country girls, 'rode the Elephant' for the amusement of the party. This is performed thus: Two gentlemen stoop down on their hands and knees, pillows and blankets are piled on their backs for saddles—a tale and trunk are made of suitable material—when the rider-ess is placed upon the saddle and carried around the room! I expect to hear that 'riding the Elephant' is 'all the go' in the rural districts!"

The Albany Atlas admits the fact, and thus describes the *modus operandi* of the performances:

"The gas in the parlors is partially turned off so as to produce a sort of twilight darkness, when two gentlemen, the tallest present, are requested to take their position in the back parlor. Their position is that adopted by boys when playing leap-frog.—A large cloth of some subdued color—dark gray, for instance—is then thrown over them, and another rolled up, is attached to the front, which constitutes the trunk.—Two sheets of white paper are then rolled up and tacked on, one on each side of the trunk. These represent the ivory tusks.—The Alabany Elephant is now complete.—The lady rider takes her seat on its back, amid cushions, etc., and under the guidance of a leader, the monster proceeds with heavy tread to display itself and precious load to the company in the front parlor. The arrangement is unexpectedly perfect, and suggestive of the life in the East. The play of the 'Elephant' is a success here, and we will not be surprised to hear of its adoption in the rural districts."

WATER-PROOF TEXTILE FABRICS.—Take one pound of wheat bran and one ounce of glue, and boil them in three gallons of water in a tin vessel for half an hour. Now lift the vessel from the fire, and set it aside for ten minutes; during this period the bran will fall to the bottom, leaving a clear liquor above, which is to be poured off, and the bran thrown away; one pound of our soap cut into small pieces is now to be dissolved in it. The liquor may be put on the fire in a tin pan, and stirred until all the soap is dissolved. In another vessel one pound of alum is dissolved in half a gallon of water; this is added to the soap-bran liquor while it is boiling, and all is well stirred; this forms the water-proofing liquor. It is used while cool. The textile fabric to be rendered water-proof is immersed in it, and pressed between the hands until it is perfectly saturated. It is now wrung, to squeeze out as much of the free liquor as possible; then shaken or stretched, and hung up to dry in a warm room, or in a dry atmosphere out doors. When dry, the fabric or cloth so treated will repel rain and moisture, but allow the air or perspiration to pass through it.

The alum, gluten, gelatine, and soap unite, together, and form an insoluble compound, which coats every fibre of the textile fabric, and when dry, repels water like the natural oil in the feathers of a duck. There are various substances which are soluble in water singly, but when combined forms insoluble compounds, and *vice versa*. Alum, soap and gelatine are soluble in water singly, but form insoluble compounds when united chemically. Oil is insoluble in water singly, but combined with caustic soda or potash, it forms soluble soap. Such are some of the useful curiosities of chemistry.

Scientific American.

SIDNEY SMITH ON KISSING.—The Rev. Sidney Smith once said in writing of kissing, "We are in favor of a certain degree of shyness when a kiss is proposed, but it should not be continued too long; and when the fair one gives it, let it be administered with warmth and energy. Let there be soul in it. If she closes her eyes, and sighs deeply immediately after it, the effect is greater. She should be careful not to slobber a kiss, but give it as a humming bird runs his bill into a honeysuckle—deep but delicate. There is much virtue in a kiss when well delivered. We have had the memory of one we received in our youth, which has lasted us forty years, and we believe it will be one of the last things we will think of when we die.

SLAVERY IN OUR SAVIOUR'S DAY.

"Abolition" being set down as the Christian's mission, in this, our day, and as about his only mission, it becomes often necessary to recall the fact that slavery of the worst sort existed in the Roman Empire in our Saviour's day, and that he no where preached "abolition," nor civil nor servile war: but, on the contrary, "Servants, obey your masters." We do not mean to say, our Saviour loved or defended slavery, for we have no revelation or reason to say so, and, perhaps, reason to say the very reverse; but we do mean to say, Christianity in his day consisted in rendering to Cæsar the things that were Cæsar's, and in letting civil and servile institutions alone.

When Christ was on earth, He rebuked sin of all classes and kinds, and dared to rebuke the Jewish Priest in his temple, or titled Roman Gentile, if they were guilty of sin; but while slavery was all about him, neither He nor his apostles ever preached an abolition sermon. The slavery Christ saw daily was that under which a master could sell a slave, work him as many hours as he pleased, or put him to death. A Roman slave could not contract a marriage.—His co-habitation with a woman was contubernium, and no legal relation between him and children was recognized. A Roman slave could not have property. A runaway slave could not be lawfully received or harbored; to conceal him was furtum. The master was entitled to pursue him wherever he pleased, and it was the duty of all authorities to give him aid in recovering the slave. A person became a slave by capture in war.

A free woman, who co-habited with a slave, might be reduced to slavery. The immense number of prisoners taken in the constant wars of the Roman Republic, and the increase of wealth and luxury in Christ's day, augmented the number of slaves to a prodigious extent. Very many Romans possessed 10,000 and 20,000 slaves. A freedman, under Augustus, who had lost much property in the civil wars left at his death, 4,116 slaves. The games of the amphitheatre required an immense number of slaves. The gladiators in Italy, (before Christ, 73,) rose under Spartacus, and were not defeated by the Romans till 60,000 slaves were said to have fallen in battle. Slave dealers usually accompanied an army, and frequently, after a great battle had been gained, many thousands were sold at once at very cheap rates.

In the midst of this system of slavery was the Christian era inaugurated. Christ preached principles which subverted the atrocities of slavery—as of every other system of government of life—but abolitionism was not his mission. Christians in the Apostles' day owned slaves, and considered it no crime to own them. What we mean to infer from these facts is, that if slavery was the sin and crime the abolitionists of this day say it is, Christ saw it in a worse point of view, and never preached an abolition sermon against it—never warred upon the government that recognised and supported it—but on the contrary, taught obedience to that government. His mission was to bring sinners to repentance, not to concentrate all men's minds upon the abolition of slavery, nor to divide society, or a country, only upon that issue.

If we could only impress upon our Abolition preachers of what they call "the Gospel," the example of Christ when on earth, in the midst of Roman slavery—in itself indefensible, because of its atrocities—we might, perhaps, make them useful in ameliorating and christianizing African slavery in the United States. The early christian writers, after Christ's day, inculcated the duty—not of abolition, but of acting toward slaves—as masters in their condition would be acted by—and thus they did much toward promoting the ultimate extinction of slavery, or in the end of merging slaves into the *adscripti glebæ*, or serfs of the middle ages.

If our Northern Abolitionists would only reason with, instead of cursing our Southern Countrymen, the rights and duties of slaves, husband and wife, might be legally established in our Southern States—divisions of families under executions might be done away with, and a system of education be instituted—but their railing and cursing for twenty years have only strengthened slavery in the United States and drawn tighter the bonds of the master over the slave. Suppose, then, our Abolition theologians should spend a month or two in studying up the system of slavery Christ and his apostles saw on earth, when they preached "Servants obey your master,"—and "render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's—and when they returned fugitive slaves, as in the case of Onesimus.—They have tried the cursing, now, for a quarter of a century, and it has done no good. Suppose, now, they try the Christian creed of "Love one another."—*New York Express.*

GEORGIA.—The Macon correspondent of "The South," says:

"I understand from a private source, but without any confirmation of the report, that Hon. Alexander Stephens will decline a renomination to Congress. It is said to be doubtful whether he would be returned in any event, as there are some very strong men in his district; and as his unfortunate speech in the house, resigning Kansas to the manifest destiny of Freesoil, after he had vaunted here its certain admission as a Slave State, has made him the subject of a great deal of unkind comment, and materially affected his position."

DEATH AT PRAYER.—While Mr. Davis was at prayer on Thursday morning, at the residence of his son-in-law, Mr. Robt. Peed, of Norfolk county, a chimney caught fire, which caused an alarm of fire to be given. Mr. Davis started up, but immediately fell, and instantly died. His death was supposed to be occasioned by a sudden shock to the heart, with which he has been affected for some time. He was an elderly gentleman, and very much respected.—*Norfolk Argus.*

From the National Intelligencer.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The immense donations of public land made of late years by Congress to corporations within the new States have awakened the attention of the people of the old States to the subject, and of Virginia especially, where the burden of taxation for internal improvements has been greatly increased. It strikes us, therefore, that a brief recurrence to the history and conditions of the tenure of the public domain may be of general interest at this time.

At the commencement of the Revolutionary war there belonged to some of the States large tracts of wild and unappropriated lands, whilst in others none such existed. The States possessing no such lands claimed that as the war was waged with united means and equal sacrifices, the waste lands which might be conquered from the enemy should become common property, and, under the recommendations of Congress, 10th October, 1780, "that the unappropriated lands which might be ceded to the United States by any particular State, pursuant to the recommendation of Congress of the 6th of September last, shall be disposed of *for the common benefit* of the United States."

Virginia promptly made a cession of her vast domain north of the river Ohio, out of which six States have since been formed.—The condition of her cession (adopted substantially by other States) was, that all the lands conveyed "shall be considered as a *common fund* for the use and benefit of such of the United States as have become or shall become members of the confederacy or federal alliance of the said States, Virginia inclusive, according to their usual respective proportions in the general charge and expenditure, and shall be faithfully and *bona fide* disposed of for that purpose, and for *no other use or purpose whatever.*" Thus were the lands ceded, accepted, and held *in trust*. How they have since been disposed of, in total disregard of the conditions of the trust, the history of the country tells in the annals of Congressional legislation.

In disregard of the plain obligations of the trust, President Jackson, in the early days of his administration, proposed to cede the lands thus acquired, and all subsequently purchased, to the States in which they lie, gratuitously or for a nominal price.

To counteract this movement, which at that time met with no favor in Congress, but which has since been substantially adopted in the system of partial grants, Mr. Clay introduced his well-known distribution bill, which was passed by Congress on the 2d day of March, 1833, by a vote of 24 to 20 in the Senate, and 96 to 40 in the House of Representatives. This Bill President Jackson refused to approve, and it did not become a law, the popular will, as indicated by the vote of the House, to the contrary notwithstanding. Some of the Western members did not hesitate to avow the purpose of eventually appropriating to the States in which they lie all the public lands, and one of the most eminent of them declared that after the census of 1850 the power to do so would be irresistible. The fulfilment of this menace is almost complete, and after the census of 1860 the old States will be utterly powerless unless they unite cordially for their common protection.

The whole amount of money which would have gone into the Treasury of Virginia, under the provisions of Mr. Clay's land bill, from 1832 to 1841, a period of seven years, would have been four million three hundred and sixty-nine thousand one hundred and sixty-nine dollars, or for each year seven hundred and twenty-eight thousand one hundred and ninety-four dollars.

On September 4, 1841, an act was passed to appropriate the proceeds of the sales of the public lands amongst the several States. The first section provides that from and after the 31st December, 1841, there should "be allowed and paid to each of the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Alabama, Missouri, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Michigan, over and above what each of the said States is entitled to by the terms of the compacts entered into between them and the United States, upon their admission into the Union, the sum of ten per centum upon the nett proceeds of the sales of the public lands, which, subsequent to the day aforesaid, shall be made within the limits of each of said States respectively."

After deducting the said per centum, the residue of the nett proceeds was to be divided amongst the then twenty-six States of the Union and the District of Columbia, and the Territories of Wisconsin, Iowa and Florida, according to their respective federal representative population, as ascertained by the last census, (1840,) to be applied by the Legislature of the said States to such purposes as the said Legislatures might direct, provided that the distributive share to which the District of Columbia shall be entitled should be applied to free schools or education in some other form, as Congress might direct. In the sixth section of the act there was a proviso that if at any time there should be an imposition of duties consistent with the act of March 2, 1833, beyond the rate of duty, (twenty per centum,) fixed by that act, the distribution should be suspended until this cause shall be removed.

The proceeds were thus divided for one year, and accepted by all the States, we believe, except Virginia. The Legislature of that State refused to receive the forty thousand dollars for that year, a much smaller sum than the average would have been had the law been continued, on the ground that it was an attempt on the part of Congress to corrupt the people of the State by gifts from the Federal Treasury.

By the operation of the act of August 4, 1842, to provide revenue from imports, &c., the distribution of the nett proceeds of the public lands among the States was suspended. The proceeds of the lands up to and including the 1st of January, 1850, amounted to the sum of $17,227,320.