

From the Albany Argus.

THE INSANITY OF GERRIT SMITH. A gentleman who was covered with Gerrit Smith, shortly after the affair at Harper's Ferry, told us that he was insane—not merely excited by fear and agitated by the questions which his complicity in the affair might produce, but mentally deranged. His eye was wild, and his appearance haggard, and his motions spasmodic and unsteady, but necessarily restless. He was in constant fear of being arrested and carried to Virginia—and he entreated his friends to do an injustice to bring him into the hands of justice. When the crisis, elevating his blood, was circulated that Governor Wise had issued a requisition upon Gov. Morgan for him as a fugitive from justice, he seems to have become so frantic that his friends saw no other hope than to send him to an asylum.

We make an extract from a private letter upon this subject, which gives some particulars of this sad end of a well-meaning but misguided man, fatal in its consequences alike to him and to all whom he involved in his fanaticalisms. A letter from Ulica, dated the 20th instant, says:

"My Dear Sister: Gerrit Smith was brought to our asylum yesterday, and is quite deranged, intellectually as well as morally, and he is also feeble physically. He refused to take an anodyne, alleging that they would put him to sleep for the purpose of loading him up and taking him to Virginia. When informed that he must take it, voluntarily or by compulsion, he opened his eyes, and said, 'I am a victim to the spirit which he has been helped to make general, and which, in various degrees, is now prevailing all the free States. It is much sicker than the excitement against witches now revealed at Salem and other parts of New England, and the time will come when our descendants will look back at it as we look back on the doings in Salem. I am not sure but that the Harper's Ferry outbreak will intensify the excitement.'"

Lawyer.—A goodly number of persons were in from the country on Monday, and a very fair business done of a public character. The Sheriff disposed of three tracts of land at very good prices—the Taylor, Wolf and Ours lands. Two tracts were sold by the Commissioner in Equity.—The Indian tract, containing about 67 acres, was bid off at \$7.75 per acre. The tract, belonging to the estate of Samuel R. Hammond, deceased, about 1075 acres, was bought by Raleigh Hammond, Esq. for \$1,500.

We learn that Dan, a slave, the property of Alvin Massey, which we noticed in our last issue, suffered the extreme penalty of the law on Friday last. It was generally reported that a confession of the crime would be had on the gallows, but we understand that there was some given.

We learn from one of our citizens that Mr. W. Ellis, living in the eastern portion of our District, was expunged and shot by some person crested about the road side, on Friday evening last about dusk. Mr. Ellis was returning home, riding in his buggy with his wife, and at the discharge of the gun his horse took fright, and running off some distance before he could be checked, the assailant in ambush was allowed sufficient time to make his escape. The ball took effect in the back part of his neck and lodged just behind the right ear. At first no hopes of his recovery were entertained, but we are happy to state, from last accounts, he is doing well.

Our streets were silenced on Friday and Saturday last by the military composing the Upper Battalion. The Lower Battalion paraded on the two days previous at New Salem. The Battalion looked at the close of the drill, was addressed by Major J. E. Hartledge, in an appropriate and well-arranged style. Major John D. Wiley addressed the Upper Battalion with one of his characteristic speeches.—Ledger.

A "TALL" FAMILY.—A correspondent of the Ohio Citizen furnishes the following list of a rather tall family, in Bourbon county, Kentucky:

The old gentleman is a native of Maryland and is in his 70th year; he was brought to the State of Kentucky when quite young, and has raised his family in the above county, consisting of six sons and three daughters.

In the following table the height and weight of the entire family are given:

Father,	6 feet 4 inches, 200 pounds.
Mother,	5 feet 4 inches, 226 pounds.
Thomas,	6 feet 4 inches, 230 pounds.
James,	6 feet 6 inches, 215 pounds.
Samuel,	6 feet 6 inches, 165 pounds.
John,	6 feet 11 inches, 295 pounds.
Nary,	6 feet 2 inches, 150 pounds.
Robert,	6 feet 2 inches, 210 pounds.
Matthew,	6 feet 6 inches, 220 pounds.
Ed,	6 feet 6 inches, 197 pounds.
Daughter,	6 feet 3 inches, 160 pounds.
Total—height, 70 feet 8 inches, Weight 2,582 pounds.	

The family are all living except the youngest daughter, are all wealthy and in the best families of Kentucky. I might add, several of the grand-children are over 6 feet, and are still growing.

A letter illustration of free soil sympathy has not been lately seen than that described in the following paragraph about a misguided lady from North Carolina:

An old lady, Mrs. Francis Kinderl, is now an inmate of the Warren county (Ohio) Poor House. She formerly resided in Anson county, N. C., and was vice in lands and negroes, but has spent all her property in liberating the slaves. In 1852 she went to Hillsborough, Ohio, with her last slave. She has since become so reduced in circumstances as to be compelled to take refuge in a poor-house. She and her friends ever appeal to philanthropists to contribute some to get her out of the poor house and place her in a more tolerable institution.—Mrs. Kinderl is now eighty three years old.

Some of the Indians on Lake Superior have formed a Temperance Society. It was organized by the defection of a chief to whom they placed implicit confidence, who indulged a little too freely in the ardent, and while drunk spent a considerable amount of money extracted to his keeping. The red men had an individual named Greer, a Frenchman, who was a good temperance advocate, formed a self-protection association, based on fundamental principles; that is to say, the first Indian who got drunk was to be tied to a stump and shipped with tea to the Indians.

North Carolina Edwig.



CHARLOTTE.

Tuesday, November 29, 1859.

Mr. R. Woodfield, Esq. of Lenoir, has consented to act, and is our authorized agent. He will receive orders for the Wm. Blake or advertisement in the Standard for the week. Any persons desiring to see him within three months will receive the Wm. for two dollars.

Change of Schedule.—Again. The mail train leaves every morning a quarter of an hour after 7, and arrives at 7 o'clock tonight.

Thanksgiving. Thursday last was very generally kept as a day of Thanksgiving in our town, every place of business being closed on all kinds of work being suspended. The meeting in the Presbyterian Church, the Rev. P. T. Peacor, officiating; in the Episcopal Church, the Rev. Mr. Mott, officiating; and in the Baptist Church, the Rev. Mr. Griffin, officiating. At night, the Rev. Mr. Mattison, Missionary from Salem, preached in the Presbyterian Church. Some 24 persons observed that day, and a more moral and edifying spectacle cannot be imagined than 20,000,000 of people, giving up every recreation, to spend the day in the Lord's house with songs of thanksgiving. Had we, as a nation, called sooner upon Him from whom our help cometh, we might have been saved from the straits into which we have fallen.

Election of a Professor. The Trustees of Davidson College met in this place on the 24th instant, for the purpose of electing a Professor in the place of Mr. Hill, resigned. We understand that the Rev. Mr. McRee, of the Fayetteville Presbytery, was elected to fill the vacancy. Professor Fishburn tendered his resignation, but the Trustees requested him to withdraw for the present. The Rev. Dr. Lacy also desired to be elected, but the Trustees requested him to withdraw the aid of one of the Professors if his labors were too numerous, for which they should be paid.

Church Burnt. We learn that the old Methodist Episcopal Church in Salisbury, was burnt one night last week. It was used by the colored members, and a meeting had been held there on the night it was burnt. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. It was situated near the town church and in a thickly settled part of the town. It is a fortunate circumstance that no other buildings were injured.

After no Good. We learn that a few evenings ago, a man in very poor apparel and his shoes so much worn as to be tied together by twine, called upon Mr. Arthur Reed, on the latter road, about 2 miles from Charlotte, and requested permission to stay all night. Mr. Reed was very kind and offered him a room, but he remained all night, and in the morning he asked for a bed. Mr. Reed took him into a room, but told him he would never let him sleep in his bed with such clothes. He told Mr. Reed he had sleeping clothes, but Mr. Reed left the room, but looked in to see what he would do. This man, supposing he was a student, took off all his clothes, which he exhibited to Mr. Reed's eyes a well-dressed person. He remained all morning, but slipped off without Mr. Reed seeing him.

Excitement at Charlestown. Late news from Charlestown state that excitement there was abating. Gov. Wise has taken every precaution to be prepared for every emergency that may arise, and the troops are regularly in camp, sentinels set, and all the formalities of war observed. But, to show that great excitement still prevails there, it is stated that one of the sentinels searched the whole town very much by firing off his gun upon an examination, it cannot be that he mistook a man for a man, and because it would not stop where he had a gun. A person would suppose that a man could be very much excited who could not tell a cow from a man, even if it was dark—yet there is no excitement.

Nonintercourse. The Richmond Whig makes a suggestion "for the formation of voluntary associations throughout Virginia and the South, united together by a common pledge, not to use any article whatsoever manufactured or imported from the North." This course should have been adopted years ago. We have more than once expressed our surprise that while South Carolina shows the North more than any other State south of Mason and Dixon's line, yet they were among the first to visit their warring places and spend their money. But we hope all will be getting right now, for when the Northern merchants take their pockets affected they will be very apt to cease a change.

Gov. Wise and the Prisoners. On the 22d instant, they were and his staff had a long interview with the prisoners, urging them to prepare for death, as the sentence of the Court would be carried out without any interference on his part. He said to them that the only one of them whose punishment he thought about commuting, but he was determined to hang them all.—Brown declared himself prepared to die, and justified himself in the Harper's Ferry affair, only regretting his crime in allowing the train to pass. Cook professed a willingness to be shot, but he always had a great repugnance to hanging.

Arms for the Cadets. Because yesterday taking us to the Depot, our attention was called to the arms that had been sent out for the Cadets at the Military Institute in this place. They consist of Col. G.'s repeating rifles and pistols and carbines. They are light and strong, and are equipped with the modes of spreading of loading, will be easily managed by the Cadets.—We also notice that the uniforms of the Cadets have been sent, and a good many have appeared with them on. When on parade they will make quite a handsome appearance.

The Intendant. We have received three numbers of a new paper lately established in Goldsboro, under the name of the A. B. Chapin & Co. It is a very neat paper and well printed.

Be on Your Guard.

We would put our citizens in remembrance, that an anonymous letter was received by the Clerk of the Court at Charlestown, stating that if a hair of John Brown's head was burned, every village, town and city in the South would set on fire. Now, as the 2nd of December draws near, let it not be a part of prudence to double our diligence in the protection of our property? We call upon our town authorities to see that an efficient police force be secured for the town, and that every suspicious person be closely watched. And every household, or should look to his own premises, and see that no attempt be made there. That abolitionists are amongst us we have every reason to believe, and it is a duty we owe to ourselves to keep a watchful eye on all who come amongst us in the capacity of peddlers or any similar business. Two of these characters were taken up in Salisbury for selling books in negroes, and one of them informed a negro boy, to whom he had sold a book, that he would send him a letter after he went away. Are we truly to submit to such things? Not! Let us derive them from the country than have the negroes tampered with—some of them are becoming unmanageable now, and with the prospect of being set free they would become worse.

Some of the above was in type, we learn that in examining the carpetbag of one of the men arrested in Salisbury, a list was found containing the names of the negroes, from Goldsboro' to Weldon. We also learn that some of them attended a meeting of colored persons, who addressed and told them that they ought to buy books and, in fact, themselves, for in a short time they would have to fight for their lives.

Gov. Wise Taken Prisoner. The Petersburg Express tells a good joke on his Excellency, Gov. Wise. It appears he formed the idea of leaving the watchfulness of the sentinels at Washington. It appears he went out on Monday night in the gift of vigilance of the sentinels, but forgot to provide himself with the counterintelligence, and after being suspiciously about the lines of the camp, for a short time, and finally approached within a few steps of one of the sentinels. "Stop," said the sentinel, bringing his gun to the position of "ready," and "who are you?" he added as the suspicious character reluctantly halted. "Friend," lamely replied the Governor. "Advance and give the counterintelligence," said the sentinel. "Nary counterintelligence had the Governor—the had forgotten all about getting it—it was a part of the 'old case' left out.

There was a dilemma the Governor had not thought of, and it came like a small epiphany upon him. He at length replied—"I am the Governor of the State of Virginia—Henry A. Wise." "Perhaps you are," replied the sentinel, who was very confident that he had caught a lying abolitionist, "but you are my prisoner," and so saying he ordered the Governor to march with him to the guard-house, somewhat accelerating compliance and denouncing his objections by a significant movement of his bayonet.

The Governor went along, somewhat chagrined at first, but finally became good humored, and bore his imprisonment like a soldier. He repeatedly sent for one of the commanding officers, to whom he was known, had a hearty laugh with him over his adventure, and was discharged from custody.

Cure for a Felon. We have noticed lately a great many persons suffering from Felon, and to prevent as much harm as possible, we publish the following remedy. A person can very easily tell when a Felon is coming, for it seems as if a hair were in the finger or other place, yet you cannot do anything else—if you then take the skin next the nail off with a sharp knife, and wash it with alcohol for several days, the Felon will disappear.—Now, there is no virtue in the skin of the egg, but being put on wet it will adhere closely to the finger and the healing to what the Felon—the circulation is stopped and it is smothered. We cure one in this way ourselves, and we believe what we say. The remedy is simple, but not the less efficacious. If persons have any doubt let them try it once and all doubts will be removed. We would advise our friends to see this remedy, and as far as they can, communicate it to their friends and neighbors.

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More Troops Called Out!

From information received by Gov. Wise, from persons in whom he has the fullest confidence, that secret societies exist bound together by the most horrid oaths to liberate Brown, he has ordered out an additional number of troops. The time is drawing near, and we hope it may pass off without any outbreak.

Offer of Aid. Gov. Gil, of South Carolina, offered to Gov. Wise an amount of military aid. Gov. Parker, of Pa., also offered ten thousand men and to place a guard on the State line. Several companies from this State have also tendered their services, one from Raleigh, and one from Wilmington. But Gov. Wise declines all, stating that Virginia was fully able to defend her territory.

Although Mr. Johnston, the Marshal of O. H. Jones sending any information to Gov. Wise, that John Brown, Jr., was raising one to rescue his father, yet there is no doubt that letters have been received from various quarters, written by disinterested persons, giving information that companies are forming for the purpose of attempting a rescue. Their plan is to go secretly armed, and arrive at Charlestown privately, and then on the day of execution make a rush for the prison and liberate the prisoners. The Mayor of Charlestown should have every street examined and every armed man give up his arms or have the place. We hope, should an attempt be made, that every man engaged in the attempt, if he is killed or captured, and then they will have a good reason for their duty.

Great Southern Mail. We learn that a part of the Great Southern Mail is taken through the place every night by the Express train. The arrangement commenced last Wednesday night. We learn that it arrives 12 hours sooner by this arrangement at Columbia, than by any other route.

South Carolina Legislature. This body met in Columbia yesterday. We may expect a strong message from Gov. Gil, on the Harper's Ferry affair. We shall look for it with some interest.

For the North Carolina Whig. ATTENTION CITIZENS. Considering the inefficiency of our Military defense, it is deemed necessary and expedient to organize a Volunteer Company, or in the vicinity of Pineville, N. C., that we may be better able to defend our homes and families from the incendiary and murderous attacks of Northern Abolitionists. We therefore earnestly urge every good citizen in Providence, Sharon and Steele Creek, to come forward and enroll under the banner of the old North State. For this purpose a meeting is called at Pineville, 10 miles South of Charlotte, on the First Saturday in December, 10 o'clock, A. M.

MANY CITIZENS. For the North Carolina Whig. Mr. Editor: Will you allow me through your columns, to inform that class of crippled and deformed persons who are unable to walk, except with great difficulty, that they can find relief by applying to Dr. J. P. Maud, No. 126 West Thirty-third street, New York. I have spent some time in his family and have had a good opportunity to witness the cure of the deformed of all kinds and descriptions; and the experience I have had of his skill in my own family, has been such that I can speak positively of his success. I have been more than repaid for my trouble and expense in visiting him, for I have received that help for my son which I failed to find elsewhere. Some who have not walked for years, have applied to him and have returned home walking. He is equally successful in the most difficult cases. I can most cheerfully recommend any one suffering from deformed limbs to apply to him, and if for their information, in the hope that they may find relief, that I give this public notice.

A TOWNSEND. Rocky River, Colerain Co., N. C.

NEW TRIAL FOR JOHN BROWN.—The petition of Old John Brown for a writ of error to Judgment rendered by the Circuit Court of Jefferson county, was presented to the Supreme Court of Appeals at Richmond on Friday last. The Court on Saturday refused to award the writ of error, being of opinion that the judgment of the Circuit Court is plainly right. Therefore, the execution of Brown will certainly take place on next Friday week, the 2nd of December, as sentenced.

A COUNTER PROPOSITION.—An enraged individual of La Salle, Illinois, opens as follows: "I noticed, in your issue on the 9th instant, an advertisement copied from the Richmond Whig, (Va.) offering \$10,000 reward for the safe delivery of Joshua R. Giddings at Richmond, or \$5,000 for his head. As he (the advertiser) offers to be one of an hundred, I offer to be one of seventeen to take Richmond and destroy it root and branch, if one hair of the head of this aged man (J. R. Giddings) be harmed."

COMPLIMENTARY BEHEV.—A correspondent of the Charleston Mercury, writing from Bamberg, S. C., under date of Nov. 10, says: "The general estimate has been eight or nine hundred inhabitants, which is more than any other European country. Great Britain and Ireland have 2,500,000 horses; France 3,000,000; Austria Empire, exclusive of Italy, 2,000,000; Russia 3,500,000. The United States have 3,000,000, which is more than any European country; the horses of the world are estimated at 57,420,000.

A LUCID EXPLANATION.—A gentleman on board a steamboat thus explained to his children how the boat was made to go: "You see, my dear, this thingamabob here goes down through that hole, and fastens on to the jigger, and that connects with the crankshaft, and that makes the engine, you know, kind o' stir up the—what you call it, and they all shove along, and the boat goes ahead."

TO DESTROY RATS.—A contemporary says that a lady whose house became so infested with these troublesome vermin, gives the simple remedy of dissolving copperas in water, (make it strong) and sprinkle in the most prominent places, will make them stare at you forty days, or on a mistake—this tried it successfully, and has not been troubled with rats or mice since. It is simple, and will not cost much to try it.

N. C. State News were quoted in New York on the 27th: 93.

JUDGE RUFFIN'S RESIGNATION.

We are indebted (says the Raleigh Standard) to the courtesy of his Excellency, Gov. Ellis, for a copy of Judge Ruffin's letter of resignation, which will be found below. We learn that the Governor has notified the members of the Council of State to meet in Raleigh on the 6th of next month, to fill the vacancy.

ALABAMA, Nov. 10th, 1859.

Sir:—It is my duty, I think, to resign the office of a Judge of the Supreme Court, and I now do so.

The office has been a recently accepted by me, that its resignation—especially during the recess of the General Assembly—seems to require a word of explanation, which I trust you will allow me to offer. The call to the station at the last session of the Legislature I regarded as so high an honor, that, with my habitual deference for that body, and my desire to serve my country, when I could do so usefully, I could not then decline it. But, certainly, I undertook it with much misgiving as to my capacity to perform its duties to my own satisfaction for any considerable period. You are aware, and the whole profession must know, that the piece is one which not only requires learning and ability, but is also full of labor, to which health of body, as well as mind, is indispensable. At my age that was hardly to be expected, and the experience of the year evinces that I am not an exception to the general rule. I have had considerable difficulty during much of the session of the Court, which I am obliged to attribute mainly, at least as to its duration, to the labors belonging to the office; and during the two summer terms I have suffered from a cough and fever, threatening a permanent decline and materially interfering with the discharge of my official duties. I ought, perhaps, to have laid down office at the adjournment of the Court at Montgomery; and I would have done so had I not thought myself obliged, under the hope of regaining health, to serve as long as I could with out improperly restricting my faculties in the period you might wish for the selection of a successor. The interval has not resulted in such improvement as would justify me in longer deferring my resignation. I had I have taken on me too much, and I am satisfied that I ought now to resign. For it would be against the principle of my whole life to hold office without a moral certainty of doing its duties to the entire satisfaction of intelligent and good men, so as to reflect back on the country some portion, at least, of the honor conferred by so high a public trust. I cannot, therefore, anticipate the course of a single one of my fellow-citizens for seeking, in such a condition of things, to be discharged from service.

I must add that I retire both with regret and the deep sense of obligation to the Legislature and the people of the State, and with an earnest prayer to Almighty God for peace and prosperity in all our borders. I am, with great consideration, your Excellency's most obedient servant, THOMAS RUFFIN, His Excellency, Gov. Ellis, Raleigh, N. C.

At the Capitol, preparations for the reception of Congress at its coming session are nearly completed. At every fresh visit to that noble building one can easily mark the new rooms and passages finished, and the whole of it is rapidly approaching what it was designed to be—a magnificent assembly hall, convenient, and handsomely ornamented. We notice that the room in the Senate wing for the use of the President of the United States when attending the Capitol, is more than half done; it will partake of the stately character that pervades the entire edifice. The ceiling of it is very full of historical and emblematic paintings, among the former of which we may mention representations in more than half life size, and of much probable accuracy in lineament and figure, of Christopher Columbus, Amerigo Vesputius, Benjamin Franklin, and William Brewster. Very little requires to be done throughout the wing to complete the laying of the encaustic tiling for the pavement of the passage; the flooring of the upper story is now perfect throughout. Hundreds of visitors circulate through the Capitol daily, feasting their minds with a sight of its glories.—National Intelligencer.

A GENTLE AFFAIR.—A Lander Nature of an apple has been sent us by a gentleman of Abingdon, Virginia, just as it had been picked from the apple tree in the garden of Mr. Jos. Carson, of Washington county. It resembles a human head of the long hair, such as we see in pictures of "Old Brown." The face thereon is a remarkable feature, with eyes, Roman nose, mouth and flowing beard strangely marked thereon! We are assured by the sender that Nature alone, (so fruitful in her fancies) was the only artist that designed this human head apple.—Whether the link on which this curiosity grew was a grafting from the "tree of life," or human nature, we cannot determine.—Richmond Enquirer.

HORSE CHURNS.—The following curious account is given in Appleton's Cyclopaedia, of the number of horses in the various parts of the world: "The general estimate has been eight or nine hundred inhabitants, which is more than any other European country. Great Britain and Ireland have 2,500,000 horses; France 3,000,000; Austria Empire, exclusive of Italy, 2,000,000; Russia 3,500,000. The United States have 3,000,000, which is more than any European country; the horses of the world are estimated at 57,420,000.

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TO DESTROY RATS.—A contemporary says that a lady whose house became so infested with these troublesome vermin, gives the simple remedy of dissolving copperas in water, (make it strong) and sprinkle in the most prominent places, will make them stare at you forty days, or on a mistake—this tried it successfully, and has not been troubled with rats or mice since. It is simple, and will not cost much to try it.

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POOR "OLD BUCK."

The New Orleans Crescent believes in the doctrine of compensation, as it is called. It believes that good deeds are a source of happiness to their performer in this world, as well as his reward in the next. It holds that the systematic, premeditated dose of evil can enjoy little or no happiness on earth, because of the ceaseless stings of conscience, and that his punishment hereafter is inevitable. This is what it understands by the term doctrine of compensation.

The Crescent illustrates this doctrine by reference to the present Federal Executive. Shortly after the election of Mr. Buchanan he predicted, it says, that his term would expire before he became the most odious man in the confederacy. Our prediction was partly verified earlier than we expected; for at the session of Congress succeeded by the election, his Administration encountered a formidable opposition in the House of Representatives, and since that period has been powerless and impotent. In the next House the Buchananites proper will be in a woful minority; and we should not be surprised if the Federal Senate, Democratic as it will be, improve the occasion to administer rebukes to the Democratic President. Such will be a fitting reward to one who has been false to all, and true to none.

There are "none so poor," says the of fine blades and tide waters, "as to do him reverence," and even their forced respect is all gone, which will disappear day by day as the term of their employer draws near and nearer to close. On the 4th of March, 1861, he will go out of office without a solitary sincere friend, in all human probability, throughout the length and breadth of the land.

The Cincinnati Times says, of the city which witnessed his nomination, "there is not a single paper in Cincinnati—a city of two hundred and thirty thousand people—that has a word to say in apology for his fall, or to show to mitigate the damages claimed against him by the people of America." Cincinnati is a Democratic city. It gave Mr. Buchanan, in 1856, eight or ten times as many votes as it has cast for any other Democrat since. It cannot sustain a journal favoring Mr. Buchanan, an odious has become, and so odious have his constitutional advisers become. This is a telling, a significant fact, and its lessons should not be lost upon those who will sincerely cling to the stars of a doomed and fallen administration in this section of the country.—Richmond Whig.

EXAMINING BOTTOMS OF WELLS.—It is not generally known, we think, how easy a matter it is to examine the bottom of a well, either, or pond of water by the use of a common mirror. The New Hampshire Journal of Agriculture says:

"When the sun is shining brightly, hold a mirror so that the reflected rays of light will fall into the water. A bright spot will be seen at the bottom, so light as to show the smallest object very plainly. By the means we have examined the bottoms of wells fifty feet deep, when half full of water. The smallest stone or other small objects can be perfectly seen from the surface. In the same way one can examine the bottom of ponds and rivers, if the water be somewhat clear and not agitated by wind or rapid motion. If a well or cistern be under cover or shaded by buildings, so that the sunlight will not fall near the opening, it is only necessary to suspend two mirrors, one to send it down perpendicularly into the well. Light may be thrown fifty or a hundred yards to the precise spot desired, and then reflected downward. We have used the mirrors with success to reflect the light around a field to a shaded spot, and also to carry it from a north window through the north side of the house. Half a dozen reflections of the light may be made, through such mirror diminishes the brilliancy of the light. Let any one not familiar with the method try it, and he will find it not only useful, but a pleasant experiment. It perhaps reveal a mass of sediment at the bottom of a well which has been little thought of, but which may have been a fruitful source of disease by its decay in the water."

PEAKS.—A recent traveller, speaking of the Chinese town of Pekin, and the first impression a stranger receives on entering within the wall says:

"Once he has passed under the ponderous northern gate, measured the thickness of the stupendous wall, and is fairly in Pekin, he will be entirely bewildered; all before him is a confused and dusty mass of colors, men, mules, carts, hundreds of small, with the weary Mongols in their soiled gowns, entangled and fast asleep on their high seats; an immensity of wide, perfectly straight, and endless streets; a living ocean of the most degraded beggars, of rickshaws, barbers, blind men beating on kettle drums, orators delivering speeches; rickshaws, rickshaws, rickshaws, and hotels, surrounded by long poles of all colors, wooden walls beautifully carved and gilt over; in fact it is a scene so unique in the world that no discern could ever be so ecstatic."

A DEFENSE FOR HALE.—The Concord N. H. Statesman has come out in defense of Mr. Hale. It says: "The charge of plotting the Harper's Ferry rescue has been promptly denied. We are disposed to place full credence in the denial of Mr. Hale. We do not think he cares much about the real issue of political nigger; his devotion is to the ideal of political nigger; and that sort of nigger he only esteems for his use in helping himself and others of his party into office. We have no idea that Mr. Hale has any relish for the genuine, fragrant son of Africa. That sort of nigger he would exclaim, 'O pious!' The farther off the better. Perhaps Mr. Hale may learn that demagogism has pushed its love for the political nigger about as far as safety will warrant."

SPOT ON THE SUN.—A spot of remarkable size, it is stated, is now visible on the surface of the sun, more than 60,000 miles in diameter, or eight times the diameter of the earth. It can be seen without difficulty with the aid of an opera glass, the eye, of course, being protected by a screen. The area occupied by this disturbance of the sun's surface is about three thousand millions of square miles, some fifteen or sixteen times the whole surface of the earth. As the spot was near the middle of the sun on Saturday, 29th October, it will be visible some days yet.

THE FIO AT THE SOUTH.—Of all the 6000 cultivated in the South the fig is the most rare and useful. South of the latitude of 32 degrees the figs are produced there, and 20,000,000 are produced in the States south of the latitude of 32 degrees. The figs are mostly raised in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, and Georgia. The figs are mostly raised in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, and Georgia. The figs are mostly raised in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, and Georgia.

EXAMINING TRIAL.—The examination of Haxlett, alias Harrison, one of the persons named in the prisoner being sent on to further trial. Through his counsel, Leason Bous, Esq., he made a water of examination, but the court being of opinion that he could do this only in the time of the circuit court, the water was denied.—Charleston (Va.) Dem. Times.

Another Insurrection in Preparation at the North.

From all the signs of the times, from every thing that we can see and hear around us, there appears to be another serious insurrection on foot at the North, but on a larger and more extensive scale, and of a more violent character, than the late outbreak at Harper's Ferry. The Republican leaders in Congress and in the press, and, above all, the lights of the pulpit, are preparing the way for the coming events which are casting their dark and ominous shadows before. They all exhort John Brown as far as they can, and some of them mislead him as a hero, a demigod, second only to Jesus Christ. They mix up religion with the movement, and thus add another formidable and dangerous element to the political fanaticism of the "higher law."

Take, for example, the sermon of Rev. Edwin M. Wheelock, of Dover, New Hampshire, published in yesterday's Herald. This man, who boasts that he is "of Partisan blood on both sides—blood that is always revolutionary"—says that the Banker Bill of our second revolution has been broken and now by John Brown, the second Warren, who has paid the glorious forfeit of his life; and that "his sacrifice is no failure, but a solemn success," and "from the martyrdom of Brown dates a new era of the anti-slavery cause; no moral agitation will now be added physical, to argumentation—other devoted men will follow in the wake of Brown, and will carry on to its full result the work he has begun." "I think the time is fast approaching," continues this "poor of treason," "when you will be forced to do as he has done."

Such are the sentiments and very language uttered in the pulpit. Now is this all? We are told that "John Brown is a Virginia religion, and that to be hanged in Virginia is like being crucified in Jerusalem," and that the pulpit in Virginia is a symbol in our politics as the cross in our religion." When we recapitulate this inflammatory language from the pulpit and similar appeals of other traitors, lay and clerical, with the fact that a collection is now started by the same parties who raised a former subscription of \$10,000 to purchase revolutionary rifles and pistols, and to be used in Kansas by John Brown and his associates, we can come to no other conclusion than that the money now collected will be applied in the same way, and that the phrase "John Brown's family" is to be understood figuratively, as meaning his followers, like the expression, "the family of Clovis," so often used by divines. According to Rev. Mr. Wheelock, John Brown has a very large family in the metaphysical sense; he says he, "if an honest expression of the will of the North could be taken to-morrow, John Brown would be the people's candidate for the next Presidency, and he would receive a million of votes." And this is the family for whom the subscriptions are raised to metamorphose them into a million of men in arms, like the dragon's teeth which were sown of old in the earth and sprang up a crop of armed men.

By the spirit of the sympathizers with the cause of John Brown he has not proceeded to issue, because they are not prepared to fully identify themselves with the overt acts of treason at Harper's Ferry.—But Rev. Mr. Wheelock repudiates the idea of this "God-fearing Partisan