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BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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DOMESTIC.

Rise in Staple Goods.—Extract of a letter from a merchant of Columbia, S. C. to his friend in that town, dated New-York, Sept. 1831:—

"Dear Sir: I have forwarded you some New-York papers, and now discharge what I feel to be a duty, in stating to you the state of this market: this I could do with some accuracy, by saying at once that there is an advance of 20 per cent. in all descriptions of staple goods, such as are indispensable to planters. I will however go more into details. Since Sept. 1830, nails have advanced 1 cent per lb.—bar lead 14 cts.—bale roping 3 cts. &c.

"Hardware has advanced in price from 10 to 20 per cent.—all descriptions of domestic goods, such as brown and bleached homespuns, striped homespuns, checks, tickings, negro clothing, &c. have advanced 20 per cent. in 12 months, and cotton yarns 25 per cent. Duffle blankets and coarse woollens 20 per cent.

"Thus far the holders of goods are more than usually firm in their prices—whether this will continue throughout the season, is doubtful, at least as regards imported goods—American goods will maintain their present prices, or may probably advance.

"Every thing appears to be improving in this country—stocks, real estate, manufacturing establishments, all do well. Every one speaks with confidence of what he is to clear this week, or this month; the idea with us is, to hold on with both hands, to what little we may have made in the whole course of our lives, but the idea here is to hold on with one or two fingers, and gather with the other eight or nine.

Custom House Duties.—It is stated in the New-York Mercantile Advertiser, that the amount of duties secured in the Custom House in that city for the quarter which ended on the 30th June, is now ascertained to be upwards of \$5,500,000—which, added to the amount of the preceding quarter, makes nine and a half millions for the first six months of the present year.

Steamboat Explosions.—The last number of Silliman's Journal of Science contains a review of Professor Renwick's treatise on the steam engine. A list of explosions of steamboats is laid down making the whole number 48—of these, 8 were high pressure, 27 low

pressure, and 13 not specified. On the 8 of high pressure, 74 persons were killed and 14 wounded—on the 27 of low pressure, 95 were killed and 29 wounded—on the 13 not specified, 85 were killed and 61 wounded. These explosions took place in 1824, '5, '6, '7, '8, '30 and '31—none in 1829. Total killed, 254—wounded, 104.

Rapid Travelling.—The Charleston, S. C. Rail Road is now completed to Ten Mile Branch, and parties of pleasure travel upon it in a steam car to that place, at the rate of about 33 miles an hour. For about two miles, on one part of the route, rails are laid on a perfectly straight line through a pine forest, at the distance of a few rods from the State road, and exactly parallel to it.

Blacks in Baltimore.—The last Baltimore Chronicle contains the proceedings of a meeting of the people of color of that city on the 26th ult. held in consequence of the very unpleasant excitement, originating from suspicious reports "that had been entertained and propagated through the city, for the last few days." Like most other meetings, it professes to be "numerous and respectable." They have their Chairman and Secretary—their preamble and resolutions—all in the usual form. The resolutions do not inform us what were the reports in circulation—but they disclaim in the most solemn terms all the designs which had been falsely ascribed to them. They "challenge the most rigid investigation as to the truth of those vile reports, which have recently been so industriously propagated in this city, by the credulous, and those who are totally unacquainted with the character of colored Baltimoreans."

From Southampton.—The Richmond Compiler says:—We understand by letters from Jerusalem, that a negro girl of about 16 or 17 years of age, has been produced as a witness before the Court of Southampton, who states that she has heard the subject of an insurrection mentioned among her master's (Solomon Parker's) slaves, and some of the neighboring ones, for the last eighteen months; and that at a meeting held at Raccoon Meeting-house, in May or August last, some eight or ten of them expressed their determination to unite in the scheme. Her testimony was at first disregarded, and all who were arraigned upon it, were acquitted—whilst in Sussex, five or six were convicted upon the same testimony. At a subsequent trial, however, in Southampton, three convictions had taken place upon the evidence of the negro girl. These, in addition to the 23 previously condemned, amounted to 26—13 had been executed on the 21st inst.—3 had been recommended to a commutation of punishment, and 2, a woman and a man, remained to be executed on Monday last.

Free Blacks.—We understand that the citizens of Southampton are very desirous of get-

ting clear of the free people of color—several of whom are equally anxious on their part to leave the county. It has been reported to the Colonization Society, that 200 colored people in Southampton are desirous of emigrating immediately to Liberia—and that many others are also desirous of a passage to the Colony. We have seen a letter upon this subject, which states that although the Colonization Society have just appropriated \$5,000 towards an expedition from the West, the Board have resolved to send an expedition from Virginia, to take off free persons of color from the lower counties of Virginia and South-Carolina—and that a committee in Norfolk, of which Mr. McPhail is chairman, are authorized to take measures to this effect. The Norfolk committee is requested to appoint an Agent, to collect the emigrants and to raise the funds.

Richmond Enq.

Riots at Providence, R. I.—The northern papers give a detailed account of a very serious disturbance which prevailed in the town of Providence, R. I. from the 20th to the 23d ultimo, and which resulted in the death of five or six of the citizens, and the wounding of several others. The riot originated in an affray between a party of sailors and colored people of dissolute characters; in which one of the former was shot dead and four others wounded. As soon as intelligence of the death of the white man was spread throughout the town, a mob assembled, and, in spite of the authorities, demolished three or four houses in which the blacks resided. To restore peace and prevent a recurrence of similar outrages, double the usual number of watchmen were ordered on duty; the Governor, Sheriff, Town Council, and many other respectable citizens also turned out; but the utmost exertions of the civil authorities to maintain order having proved inadequate, the Governor called out one of the military companies to aid in suppressing the tumult. On reaching the place of disorder, this company was assailed by various sorts of missiles, and several of its men were wounded by large stones; and, being loth to fire upon their adversaries, after bearing most patiently several furious attacks, they were constrained to retreat, rather than resist, under the hope of restoring peace and order without bloodshed. But the mob continued their work of destruction until near morning. A few of the rioters having been seized and confined in Jail, an attack upon the prison for their release, and a repetition of the destructive scenes of the previous evening were threatened. Upon receiving information of this, the Governor ordered several independent companies to hold themselves in readiness to prevent the execution of such designs. Intimidated by the superior force that had been thus put in requisition, the mob, although they assembled at the approach of evening, dispersed without committing further depredations; not, however, without expressing a determination

of increasing their number and accomplishing their purpose on the ensuing evening. When the hour arrived, the mob, amounting to several hundred in number, accordingly assembled for the fourth time, and the work of destruction of buildings and other private property went on as usual. [The mob had experienced leaders, and touched no house occupied by orderly people.] The alarm bell was sounded, and the military, numbering about 400 men, repaired to the scene of riot. Here a moderation, firmness, and forbearance was displayed by the troops worthy of commendation. The rioters were first deliberately ordered to disperse, which they answered with insulting menaces and a violent attack upon a house in the immediate presence of the military. A part of the force proceeded with a view of checking the assailants, but were soon compelled to halt by a shower of stones from the mob. Two volleys were now fired over their heads, without any other effect than producing repeated volleys of stones in return. After being thus assailed until several of the soldiers were severely wounded, and enduring as long as endurance could be called a virtue, they were ordered by the Governor to fire a volley of balls into the mob. Five or six fell dead, and several were badly wounded. In a few minutes afterwards the mob dispersed, and quiet was again restored.—*Ral. Star.*

Sickness in Washington City.—Extract of a letter dated Washington, Sept. 26:—

"This city, at this time, is a great hospital. The most prevailing malady, is intermittent fever, not generally severe.—Since Friday, every member of my family has been down except our servant. I scarcely know a family in which there is not a patient. The President has been very unwell, since he returned from his visit to Mr. Carroll."

Another death by violence.—The Kentucky Reporter of the 21st ult. says:—

"We understand that a Mr. Robinson was lately shot and killed by Dr. Pierce, the member of the Legislature elected from Russell county, in this State. The circumstances are of the most painful nature, such as need not be detailed, as they relate to an aggravated case of seduction, which resulted in the death of the guilty individual."

Supposed Murder.—The Doylestown (Penn.) Democrat says:—

"Considerable excitement prevails at this time, in the lower section of this county, on account of the supposed murder, by poisoning, of Wm. Chapman at his residence in Andalusia. A villain of no ordinary character, named Lino Amalio Esposy Mina, has been arrested in Boston, on the charge of swindling, and since his arrest, circumstances have been developed, which will most probably bring upon him a more serious charge than that of forgery. It appears that he had become ac-

quainted, by some means or other, with the family of Mr. Chapman, who was an English gentleman, and had a school at his residence, on the Bristol road, for the cure of impediments of speech, and that the villain above referred to, was in the habit of intercourse with his family. Mr. Chapman took sick sometime in July last, at which time Mina was assiduous in his attention to him. He died, however, and, in about ten days after, Mina married the widow, who, report says, he induced to believe he was the son of the celebrated Gen. Mina, and a foreigner of distinction. He procured all her jewellery, plate, of which she had a large amount, horses and carriage, and other valuable articles, and took them to Baltimore, where he converted them into cash. Mr. Ross, prosecuting attorney for this county, receiving information of the facts, proceeded to the place last week, and had the body taken up, and an examination made by Dr. Hopkinson of Philadelphia, assisted by Dr. Coates, of Bristol, for the purpose of a chemical analysis by Drs. Hare and Mitchell, of the city.

"The Governor has made a demand for Mina, and we may expect to have him here shortly. A forged draft for \$1000, drawn by him on a merchant in Philadelphia, had been intercepted. Several letters from him to Mrs. Chapman have been lying in the post-office here for some time. The lady of Mr. C. left this county on Monday or Tuesday last, since when she has not been heard of. It is unnecessary to state any thing further, as the facts of the poisoning, which are said to be almost positive, with other evidence, will be brought forth on the trial."

Riot in New-York.—The N. Y. Journal of Commerce says:

"An affray of a riotous character took place in Hester-street on Thursday night. A person by the name of Hall was standing on the side walk, conversing with a Mr. Palmer, when a man who knew Mr. Palmer approached and addressed him in threatening and abusive language. Almost immediately four individuals rushed out of the house, No. 28, Hester-street and commenced an assault upon Palmer, who concluding that the better part of valor was discretion, sought safety in flight. Foiled in their design of chastising Palmer, they directed their attention to Mr. Hall, knocked him down, tore his clothes and beat him severely. The cry of watch being sounded, the watchmen in the vicinity repaired to the scene of action, when they were attacked with such vigor and violence by several persons who issued from the house, that it was deemed advisable to wait for a reinforcement. An additional supply having been obtained, a charge was made upon the house, which resulted in a general battle, in which hats, caps, noses, heads and faces were treated with little ceremony. The engagement resulted in the capture of 12 of the rioters. One of the watchmen was very severely bruised."