THE FLOWER COLLECTION

North Carolina Argus.

JOHN W. CAMERON, PUBLISHER. | *Ohio Argus o'er the People's rights hath an eternal vigil kept: No soothing strain of Maia's Son can lull his hundred eyes to sleep.* | TERMS: TWO DOLLARS IN ADVANCE

New Series.—Vol. III.—No. 25. | Fayetteville N. C. Saturday June 28. 1856. | Whole No. 129.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY,
BY
JOHN W. CAMERON,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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ARTHUR'S
AIR-TIGHT SELF-SEALING
CANS.

Important to House-keepers and Fruit Growers!

ARTHUR'S Patent Air-tight **Can**, for preserving fresh Fruits and Vegetables for Winter use, was introduced into this market last season by the subscriber, and found to answer the purpose so well, that he has been induced to obtain the exclusive right to manufacture them in this vicinity. This is the most simple and economical vessel for the purpose ever offered to the public. The manner of sealing these Cans is so simple that any house-keeper may use them without the slightest risk of failure. The Cans may be used year after year, with care. Purchasers will be supplied with full directions for putting up Fruit and Tomatoes. Orders from the country are solicited as early as convenient, that the Cans may be ready in time for the Fruit season. A good supply now ready for sale. A circular, containing a description of the Can, with directions for its use, sent by mail to those applying for it.

W. S. TILLINGHAST,
Dealer in China, Glass, &c.
June 12, 1856. 127-3t.

WM. H. HAIGH,
Attorney at Law,
FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
OFFICE ON OLD STREET.
January, 1854. 1-1y.

TROY & McLEAN,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW,
LUMBERTON, N. C.
May. 5th 1856. 122-tf

"Law Copartnership."

WE, the undersigned, have this day formed a Law Copartnership, and will practice in the Courts of the following counties of this State: Chatham, Cumberland, Moore, Harnett, and the Supreme Court.

J. H. HAUGHTON,
JNO. MANNING.
Pittsborough, N. C., Jan'y 1, 1856. 112-tf

J. A. SPEARS,
ATTORNEY AT LAW.
Attends the Courts of Cumberland, Harnett, Wake, and Johnson.
Address, Tomner, Harnett Co., N. C.
110-1y.

W. P. ELLIOTT,
GENERAL COMMISSION AND FORWARDING MERCHANT,
Wilmington, N. C.
June 13, 1854. 28-tf

DR. K. A. BLACK,
OFFICE FRONT ROOMS, OVER
Dr. S. J. Hinsdale's
Chemist and Drug Store.
February 7, 1856. 109-tf

ANDREW J. STEDMAN,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
PITTSBOROUGH, N. C.
☞ Will attend the County and Superior Courts of Chatham, Moore, and Harnett Counties.
July 14, 1855. 79-tf

JOHN WINSLOW
Attorney at Law.
Office on the South side of Hay street, opposite the Fayetteville Bank.
FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
February, 1854. 71y

R. H. SANDFORD,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR
AT LAW.
Office at Dr. Hall's New Building, on Bow Street.
Sept. 1855. 1855-88ly

A. M. Campbell,
Auctioneer and Commission Merchant,
GILLESPIE STREET,
Fayetteville, N. C.
Feb'y 16, 1854. 6-Y

Charles Banks,
CONFECTIONER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN
Foreign Fruits, Nuts, Cigars, Tobacco, Snuff,
GREEN STREET,
Fayetteville, N. C.
January 16, 1854. 2-tf

S. M. THOMAS,
DEALER IN
FANCY AND STAPLE DRY GOODS,
READY-MADE CLOTHING,
Hats, Caps, Bonnets, Boots and Shoes, Sheetings, Cotton Yarns, Kerseys, Blankets, &c., &c.
CORNER MARKET and GILLESPIE St., Fayetteville, N. C.

J. S. BANKS,
COMMISSION AND FORWARDING
MERCHANT,
WILMINGTON, North Carolina.
Jan. 6, 1856. 104-ly
125

Fayetteville
FEMALE HIGH SCHOOL.

THE Public Examination of the Students of this Institution will embrace the 15th, 16th, and 17th of July next, commencing each day at 9 o'clock, A. M. Parents, guardians and the public are respectfully invited to attend.

The Annual Sermon will be delivered on Tuesday night the 15th, by Rev. ANDY ERSKINE of Fayetteville; the Literary Address on Wednesday night the 16th, by Col. WILLIAM S. MCLEAN of Marion District, S. C.; and the Concert by the young ladies of the Institution, will be given on Thursday night the 17th.

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Monday the 21st July.

WM. E. ANDERSON, Principal.
June 12, 1856. 127-3t

EDWIN GLOVER,
WATCH MAKER AND JEWELER,
At the old Stand, North side of Hay Street,
FAYETTEVILLE,

HAS just returned from the North with the largest Stock of Goods he has ever offered in this market, which he will sell at very low prices. Among his assortment may be found Gold and Silver watches of all kinds, some very fine; Gold Fob, Vest and Guard Chains; Seals and Keys; Fob Buckles; Spectacles of all kinds; Breast Pins and Ear Rings in sets, something fine; all kinds of Finger Rings; Bracelets; Gold Pencils with Pens; Gold Lockets; Collar and Sleeve Buttons; Gold Pens and Pencils with India Rubber Cases, a new article; fine Pearl Card Cases; Pocket Compasses, with Sun Dial connected; Coral Beads; Port Monnis; Jet Necklaces; fine Jet Pins; Accordeons; Music Boxes, &c.

SILVER WARE: Silver Forks; Silver Table and Tea Spoons; Sugar and Preserve Spoons; Mustard and Salt Spoons; Silver Cups, Butter and Fruit Knives.

Plated Goods: Forks; Table and Tea Spoons; Butter Dishes; Castors; Card Baskets; Ladies' Work Boxes; a good assortment of Military Good; a fine lot of Clocks, and very many other articles which his friends and the public are invited to examine.

Strict attention paid to WATCH REPAIRING.
June 9. 127-3m

NEW GOODS,
WE ARE NOW RECEIVING A
FRESH SUPPLY OF
SPRING AND SUMMER GOODS,
READY-MADE CLOTHING; SOFT
Wool and Summer Hats,
in great variety.

A complete assortment of BOOTS and SHOES will be to hand in a few days. All of which will be disposed of to Wholesale Buyers on liberal terms.

STARR & WILLIAMS.
April 28. 120-tf

DISSOLUTION.

THE Copartnership heretofore existing under the firm of J. H. & J. MARTINE is this day dissolved by mutual consent. The business of the late firm will be settled by either of the partners, who will use the name of the firm in liquidation.

Fayetteville May 5th 1856.

JOHN H. MARTINE.
JAMES MARTINE.

The Subscriber will Continue the business at the old Stand, in his own name.

JAMES MARTINE.
Fayetteville, May 1st 1856— 120-6w.

Notice.

ALL persons indebted to the firm of W. F. & E. F. Moore are requested to come forward and make payment, as their copartnership ceased on the 1st of March 1856.

W. F. & E. F. MOORE.
June 6, 1856. 126-tf.
Town papers copy.

Lost,

ON the night of the 3d instant, between the Market and the Dobbin House, a small PORT MONAIE. It contained about $25.00 or $30.00 consisting of two five dollar gold pieces, three two dollar and a half pieces, and four gold dollars, also some small change and a bill or two. A suitable reward will be given for the recovery of the above described purse and money.

W. McLEOD.
Fayetteville, June 4, 1856. 126 tf

AN NTIRE NEW STOCK
OF
DRY GOODS.

THE Subscriber has taken the stand on the North West corner of Market Square, adjoining the Store of Mr. JAMES KYLE, where he has received in part, and is now receiving, an entirely new Stock of Goods, embracing nearly every variety of styles usually called for in the Dry Goods trade— among which are

Handsome Ombre Strip'd Glace Silks,
Paris, Chene Strip'd do do
Solid Plaids and Strip'd do do
Gre D'Rhine, Handsome Silk Robes, all colors, some very fine; Printed Barreges, all colors,
do Grenadines,
do Organdies,
do do Robes.

A large and handsome lot of Embroideries, Collars and Under Sleeves, &c.; Plain and Embroidered L. C. Handerchiefs; Kid Gloves, Bonnets, Ribbons, Hooped Skirts, Embroidered Skirting &c.; Ready-Made Clothing, Boots, Gaiters, &c. &c.

With many other articles not enumerated.

PETER CROW.
March 29, 1856. 116-tf

Cape Fear Land for Sale,

The subscriber offers for sale **Three Hundred and Eighty-five Acres of LAND** on Cape Fear River, below Smith's Ferry, in Cumberland county, running with the River to the lands of Mrs. Byrd.

A portion of the land is cleared and fenced. It is well adapted to the cultivation of corn, oats, and the usual crops of the river lands. The part uncleared has on it some good swamp, which may be easily prepared for use.

It will be sold on a credit of twelve months. Persons wishing to buy can call on the owner at this place.

J. G. SHEPHARD.
April 8. 119-tf

J. C. POE,
DEALER IN
Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, Hats, Caps, Boots Shoes, and Ready Made Clothing.
Particular attention paid to
LADIES' DRESS GOODS and TRIMMINGS.
Hay Street, Fayetteville, N. C.
May 25, 1855. 72-tf

S. B. HOPKINS, ROBERT HULL, WM. H. RYAN, THOS. W. ATKINSON.
Hopkins, Hull & Co.
WHOLESALE
DRY GOODS MERCHANTS,
No. 259 Baltimore Street,
(Opposite Hanover Street,)
BALTIMORE, MD.
February, 1856 4-y

POETRY.

FOR MOTHER'S SAKE.

A father and his little son
  On wintry waves were sailing;
Fast, from their way, the light of day,
  In cloud and gloom was falling,
And fiercely round their lonely bark,
  The stormy winds were wailing.

They knew that peril hovered near,
  They prayed—"Oh, Heaven deliver,"
But wilder blasts came howling past,
  And soon with sob and shiver,
They struggled in the icy grasp
  Of that dark rushing river.

Cling fast to me, my darling child,
  As sea-foiled voices [illegible]
While silvery clear, o'er tempest drear,
  Rose softer tones replying,
"Oh, mind not me, my father dear,
  I'm not afraid of dying!"

"Oh! mind not me, but save yourself,
  For mother's sake, dear father,
Leave me and hasten to the shore,
  Or who will comfort mother?"

The angel forms that ever wait,
  Unseen on man attendant,
Flew up o'erjoyed to heaven's bright gate
  And there on page resplendent,
High o'er those of heroes bold,
  Or martyrs famed in story,
They wrote the name of that brave boy,
  And wreathed it round with glory.

God bless the child—aye, he did bide,
  That noble self-denial,
And safely bore him to the shore,
  Through tempest, storm and trial.
Soon in their bright and tranquil home,
  Son, sire, and that dear mother,
For whose dear sake so much was done,
  In rapture met each other.

THE GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

SPEECH OF HON. EDWARD BALL,
OF OHIO,
In the House of Representatives, May 26th, 1856.

The Speaker stated that the first business in order was the consideration of the motion made by Mr. Ball on Monday last, to suspend the rules so as to enable him to offer a resolution requesting the President of the United States to inform the House at the earliest practicable day, what amount of money has already been expended or debts incurred upon the enlargement of the capitol, and what further amount of appropriations will probably be required to complete the same agreeable to the present plan of construction; also requesting minute information respecting the work on the Capitol and Post Office extensions.

Mr. Phelps stated that he objected on Monday last to the introduction of the resolution of the gentleman from Ohio, and, with the permission of the House, he would call their attention to the fact that there were two committees which were charged with the subject-matters embraced in the resolution. He was willing that there should be an inquiry into the expenditures connected with the construction of the buildings named, and if either of the committees to which he had referred should report that they could not obtain the necessary information except by an order of the House, he would clothe them with power to send for persons and papers. He did not object to the information called for, but the resolution would lead to such an extended inquiry as would necessarily involve the employment of additional force in the office having charge of these works.

Mr. Ball would not dispute the fact that the committees referred to by the gentleman had the power to make the investigations proposed in his resolution; but because those committees had made no movement in the matter was no reason why any member should refrain from doing what he might conceive to be his duty. As chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds he had looked somewhat into these matters, and the discoveries he had made had induced him to submit his resolution, that the House and the country might see the manner in which the law had been disregarded. He knew that the debate was not in order at the present stage of the proceedings, but trusted that the House would suspend the rules, when he would call their attention to matters of which they had certainly never read or dreamed.

The question was then taken; and the motion to suspend the rules was agreed to—yeas 131, nays 25.

The resolutions were read, as follows:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to inform this House, at the earliest practicable day, what amount of money has already been expended, or debts incurred, upon the enlargement of the Capitol; and what further amount of appropriations will probably be required to complete the same, agreeable to the present plan of construction.

Furthermore, that he cause detailed information to be given upon the following heads, to wit: The cost per ton, when delivered at the Capitol, of the wrought, rolled, and cast iron, respectively; and the number of tones of each kind which has been supplied, and the number of tons which will still be required.

The cost per foot, of the various kinds of marble used in said construction; the localities from whence obtained; the amount of each description which has been already delivered; and the amount contracted for which is still to be delivered; and the proportion of that known as the "Lee marble" which has been furnished in blocks of less than thirty cubic feet; and what variations, if any, have been made in the cutting of the marble specified in the original contract of Provost, Winter & Co.; and whether such changes, if made, have increased the cost of the work; and if so, to what extent; having special reference, in this connection, to the windows of the principal story, the capitals of the pilasters, cornice, &c.

The quantity of bricks furnished, with the places from whence obtained, and the cost, per thousand, of each lot when delivered at the Capitol; the cost, per thousand, for laying up the same, including superintendence, tenders, &c., and whether the said bricks were laid up by contract or by the day.

The number and cost of horses, oxen, wagons, carts, drays, carriages, buggies, or other vehicles, used or employed in connection with said extension of the Capitol.

The cost of shops, sheds, steam-engines, turning lathes, slotting machines, stone saws, wire cables, derricks, and other machinery and tools, the property of the Government, used in said extension.

Also, what amount of money has been expended, debts incurred, or contracts entered into, towards the removal of the old dome, and the erection of the new one, upon the original Capitol building.

Also the number of sculptors, modelers, bronze workers, &c.; the prices paid, and under what authority of law they are employed.

And, further, that he cause to be furnished to the House a list of the names of all persons employed, within each year, since the commencement of the Capitol enlargement, as superintendents, architects, draughtsmen, engineers, clerks, inspectors, or receivers of materials, foremen, overseers, messengers, watchmen, or others employed about said work in any capacity other than as workmen or laborers; specifying the particular service performed by each, and the amount of compensation.

That the information here sought be accompanied with a detailed statement of all contracts made in connection with this building; stating whether the same have been made in all cases after advertisement for bids; and if so, whether the contracts have been awarded, in all cases, to the lowest bidder; and if not, the reasons therefor.

POST OFFICE EXTENSION.

Resolved, That the President cause the House to be informed as to the amount of granite or marble contracted for or purchased, to be used in the construction of the extension of the General Post Office building; from what localities obtained; and the prices paid, or agreed to be paid, for each particular description of material.

The amount expended in shops, sheds, stables, and tools; the amount expended in the construction of derricks, including all hoisting apparatus the amount expended in the purchase of horses, oxen, wagons, drays, carts, &c.

What portion of the work upon said building is constructed by contract, and what portion by mechanics and laborers employed by the day; together with the prices paid and the number of men employed upon each description of work.

The number of days already expended in cutting granite, and the number of surface feet now cut.

The price paid per day, or per foot, for cutting marble, the number of days's work already applied to that service, and the number of surface feet dressed.

The average cost (including superintendence) per foot for setting granite and marble.

The number of tons of iron beams and other metal contracted for; from whom obtained; and the cost per ton when delivered.

What other material has been purchased or contracted for; the prices to be paid; and with whom the contracts, if any have been made.

The names of all persons employed as superintendents, architects, draughtsmen, engineers, clerks, inspectors, receivers, overseers, foremen, messengers, watchmen, &c., together with the compensation paid to each per day or per month; and the peculiar service which each performs.

Mr. Ball then said:

When, on Monday last, I presented these resolutions, it was not my purpose to have said a single word upon the subject-matter to which they relate, for I did not then anticipate objections, from any quarter, to their adoption; and, Mr. Speaker, I must be allowed to express my surprise, this morning, at the degree of sensitiveness manifested by some of our friends on the other side of the Hall, at a simple call for information touching the expenditures of public money in the construction of the public buildings in this District. The objection just now made by the gentleman from Missouri, [Mr. Phelps,] that it will require a large additional force of clerks to furnish the desired information, does not strike me as important, even if it were correct; but having visited the various offices of the superintendent in charge of the Capitol and Post Office extensions, and found the books kept in a systematic manner, I am satisfied the information sought can be furnished with very little extra labor. At any rate, I think it highly important to the country that this call should be made and answered, that the people may see precisely how their money *is* being expended upon these buildings. Before I proceed further, let me say, that I have not been actuated in this movement by any feeling of hostility towards the people of this District; I entertain no such feeling—far otherwise—I am in favor of a liberal expenditure of money here so far as it may be necessary to provide suitable buildings for the accommodation of Congress and the various departments, and am desirous that these structures should be substantially made, and willing also that they should be adorned and beautified, so far as may be consistent with what ought to belong to our Republican character. But, sir, I am opposed, ever strongly opposed, to all expenditures which add nothing to the strength, or convenience, or true beauty of these edifices, and which are lavished to provide decorations, and trappings, and gewgaws, for the purpose of emulating the magnificence of royalty in the aristocratic Governments of the Old World. Such things are not congenial to Republicanism, and ought never to be transplanted and cultivated in our land.

Very soon after my arrival here last December, I heard many rumors in regard to the extravagant manner in which these building were being constructed, of inexcusable waste of the public funds, and of the wrong and proscription which had been exhibited in the management of some of them. When, by your partiality, Mr. Speaker, I was assigned to the post of chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, I determined to inquire into these rumors. To this end, I visited the various shops where the granite and marble were in process of preparation for the walls; I inspected the buildings, examined the original plans and modified plans, sought information, and obtained it from whomsoever I could in reference to the changes in the plans, the probable cost of these changes, the quality and cost of the materials, the amount and description of machinery purchased at Government expense, &c, &c. It was soon apparent to me that there was grave reason for believing that *some*, if not all these rumors were well founded, especially those in reference to the manner in which the contracts had been awarded for the material of the south wing of the Treasury building. Thus believing, I asked and obtained the unanimous consent of the House, on the 7th of April, to the passage of a resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury to furnish the advertisements, together, with the bids and proposals, and the contracts which had been made for material and workmanship of said building; the cost of machinery which had been procured for setting the stone in the walls, and all such other information in detail as would enable us to understand what was going on in that particular branch of the public service. On the 29th of the same month, the Secretary favored us with this information, and the document is now before me. It is my purpose, if I can have the attention of the House, briefly to examine the disclosures made in this report. I am sure gentlemen cannot have examined it with care, and made the necessary computations properly to understand it, otherwise no objections would have been interposed to the introduction of the resolutions under consideration.

I have taken the bids contained in the document furnished us by the Secretary, and have compared them one with another. I have carefully calculated the several items bid for, and in all cases where I had any doubts as to the correct method of making the computations I have submitted them to an experienced architect, and the only result to which I can arrive is, that in one single contract—that of Beals & Dixon—the Government has been "chiseled" out of at least one hundred thousand dollars. Whether this has been the result of wilful corruption or of an inexcusable carelessness on the part of those whose duty it was to make the computations, I am not prepared to say. Certainly the contract was not awarded to the lowest responsible bidder; very far from it, as any gentleman may ascertain who will take the trouble, as I have done, of wading through the calculations. I will presently take up some of these bids and compare them, item by item, with the bids of Messrs. Beals & Dixon, that that gentlemen may see I am not mistaken. I will not go into a comparison of all the bids, but take only those of Mr. Matthew G. Emery of this city, and Mr. J. B. Emery of Baltimore. I take these bids because I think they are the lowest, and also because I am acquainted with the gentlemen whom they offer as guarantors that they will perform their contracts in case they shall be awarded to them. In both instances the security proffered is entirely responsible, as is duly certified by Mr. Berrett, the postmaster of this city.

Messrs. Beals & Dixon propose to furnish what is known as "Dix Island" granite. Mr. M. G. Emery proposes to furnish the granite from a quarry near Quincy, Massachusetts. Mr. J. B. Emery proposes to furnish Baltimore county granite—than which there is none better; but in a note appended to his bid, he says, "if granite from any other quarry is preferred, he will substitute such other."

All the bids are for the materials ready wrought to be put into the building. Messrs. Beals & Dixon make their bids in each case so far as relates to the character of the hammering Nos. 1, 2, and 3.

M. G. Emery, in his bid, says he will furnish the material wrought to *dimensions* and *molds*, &c., as *directed* by the Department, and in *all respects* to comply with the advertisement.

J. B. Emery says:

"I propose to furnish the granite required by the Treasury Department building equal to the sample marked E, and to execute all the work agreeable to your advertisement for the following prices."

I have seen the sample referred to in Mr. Emery's bid, and compared it with that of Messrs. Beals & Dixon, and can discern no difference in the style of the hammering—if there be any difference in the quality of the stone it is in favor of that of Mr. Emery from Baltimore county.

The bids are as follows, to wit:

Cornice, per foot in length:

Beals & Dixon, No 1, hammering	$39 00
M. G. Emery	29 00
J. B. Emery	24 75

Architrave over columns, per foot:

Beals & Dixon	$44 00
M. G. Emery	32 00
J. B. Emery	30 00

Architraves over antæ:

Beals & Dixon, per foot	$19 00
M. G. Emery	10 00
J. B. Emery	09 00

Mr. Craige, (interrupting.) After the vote just taken it is evident that the House will pass the resolution. I will suggest, therefore, that it is hardly necessary for the gentleman to make a speech upon the subject until we obtain the information called for by the resolution from the proper Department. The gentleman from Ohio, I have no doubt, from his position, has information upon this subject which no other member of the House has.

Mr. Ball. If other gentlemen have not looked into this subject, it is no fault of mine—These things have been done here in open day, in sight of all who choose to look upon them. I desire now to call the attention of the House to them.

Mr. Craige. It is certainly a mistake to say that other gentlemen have had the same opportunity of looking into this matter that the gentleman from Ohio has. Of course he has had opportunities for investigation which other gentlemen have not had. I think, therefore, that it is but fair that the discussion of this matter should be postponed until we have received this information from the proper Department.

Mr. Ball. Mr. Speaker, the session is progressing, and I think it is full time this matter was looked into; and what I now propose to do is to call the attention of members to some of the developments which are contained in this Treasury document. Nearly a month has passed since it was laid before this body. For some two or three weeks it has been in print, and could at any time have been had by sending to the document room for it. Surely there has been ample time for gentlemen to look it over, and become acquainted with its main features, if not to go over the calculations item by item.

Some years ago, Mr. Speaker, when these public buildings were being carried on under the direction of Mr. Fillmore's Secretary of the Interior, our friends of the Democratic party were continually manifesting their vigilance in looking after those in charge of them. Session after session charges of mismanagement and corruption were made here and in the other wing of the Capitol. Investigating committees were raised, with power to send for persons and papers and examine witnesses upon their oaths. Officers were brought before them, and examined; witnesses were sworn, depositions were taken, and in the reports of that day we find that Timmy Gleason and Paddy Cusack, and Jimmy Duffy and Jimmy Maher, and Hughy Donohoo and Johnny Schmidt, and all the M'O'Bees, and O'Conners, and McGinnises who had ever shoveled mortar, or handled a brick, or shouldered a hod about the capitol, have their testimony spread out at full length, to prove that the *marble* was purchased in blocks *unnecessarily large*, or that some other waste or indiscretion had been committed in the management of the work by those acting under Mr. Fillmore's authority. But gentlemen appear to have changed now.

It is no part of my purpose to enter into any defense of that Administration; its history is before the country; it can be judged of by its deeds. But if that Administration merited censure for its expenditures upon these buildings, the present one is ten fold more censurable; of which gentlemen will probably become satisfied before my disclosures are through with.

But I must return to a comparison of the bids. I have been drawn aside by the interruption of the gentleman from North Carolina. [Mr. Craige.]

Capitals of columns.

Beals & Dixon each	$900 00
M. G. Emery	480 00
J. B. Emery	400 00

Capitals of Antæ

Beals & Dixon each	240 00
M. G. Emery	60 00
J. B. Emery	58 00

Bases of Antæ.

Beals & Dixon, (bid for each)	80 00
M. G. Emery	16 00
J. B. Emery	15 00

Shafts of Column.

Beals & Dixon, for No. 1 hammering, (in one piece)	2,700 00
Beals & Dixon, for No. 2 hammering, (adopted)	2,460 00
M. G. Emery, for No. 2 hammering, In two pieces	1,800 00
M. G. Emery, for No. 2 hammering, in three pieces	1,300 00
J. B. Emery, (bid to be done according to advertisement)	1,200 00

Plain steps, (per foot in length.)

Beals & Dixon bid	2 00
For each additional three inches in width up to eight feet, per superficial foot	50
M. G. Emery bid	1 50
For each additional three inches, &c., per foot	03
J. B. Emery bid	1 50
For each additional three inches, &c.	04

Platforms three feet wide, not to exceed ten feet in length.

Beals & Dixon bid per foot	1 25
M. G. Emery	87½
J. B. Emery	80

Balustrade per lineal foot.

Beals & Dixon bid	37 50
M. G. Emery	40 00
J. B. Emery	35 00

17,192 *feet No.* 1 *Hammering.*

Beals & Dixon bid per foot	80
M. G. Emery	70
J. B. Emery	65

10,174 *feet No.* 2 *Hammering.*

Beals & Dixon bid	60
M. G. Emery	60
J. B. Emery	55

10,791 *feet No.* 3 *Hammering.*

Beals & Dixon bid	48
M. G. Emery	50
J. B. Emery	45

Now, on all these items there can be no mistake as to who is the lowest bidder. J. B. Emery is below Messrs. Beals & Dixon on every item so far, and both he and M. G. Emery very far below them in the aggregate; but there was a lot of rough stone to be bid for, and it was upon this item, by a *hocus pocus* mode of computing the bids, that the officers at the Department were enabled to swallow up all the advantage which the Emerys had over Beals & Dixon in the items here enumerated. Bidders were requested to bid for them, stating the prices they were willing to furnish them for in blocks not exceeding thirty cubic feet in each; and in blocks containing from thirty to seventy cubic feet each; and also in blocks containing over seventy feet each. No larger figure than seventy feet was named in the advertisement, but bidders were therein referred to the present Treasury building for the sizes, shape, dimensions, &c.; and were told that they would be the same as in the present building. The following extract is taken from the advertisement referred to:

"On the court or rear side of the exterior, the walls will be plain ashlar, with plain window openings of equal height in the three upper stories, and crowned with a cornice similar to the rear of the present building, without the architrave and frieze."

"On the remainder of the exterior walls, the columns and antæ, their capitals and bases, the entablature and balustrade, the window and door dressings, &c., the style of architecture of the present building, as far as practicable, is to be followed, will be preserved throughout, with the exception of the door and window openings, which may be varied, except those in the east end of the two wings. The sizes, shape, and dimensions of the columns, antæ, capitals, bases and cross section of the entablature and balustrade, will be the same as in the present building."

"If of granite, the shaft of the columns may be either in one or three pieces of equal length."

The advertisement further notifies bidders that "any further information can be obtained by application to the Treasury Department." Well, sir, applications were made: and I have in my possession two schedules furnished by the architect, Mr. Youngs, to persons who intended to bid. Neither of these papers has a single word which would lead any one to infer that stone would be required of a size *larger* than those contained in the old building. Indeed, I am assured by one of the gentlemen who applied that it was with much difficulty he could obtain any satisfactory information on the subject, there appearing to be an evident design to keep bidders as much in the dark as possible. I understand there are no stones in the old building which contain so much as one hundred cubic feet.—The rough stones bid for were calculated in lots, as follows:

24,000	cubic feet,	averaging	30	feet each.
4,000	"	"	50	" "
4,000	"	"	100	" "
16,000	"	"	330	" "
2,500	"	"	613	" "

In the competition of the bids of Messrs. Beals & Dixon there is no difference between that made at the Department and my own, excepting that about $17,000 is yet to be added to the cost of the twenty-five hundred feet, which I will hereafter explain. We each compute it at $71,751 in the grites; but, in the computation of both the Messrs. Emerys' bids, we differ widely.

According to my calculation, M. G. Emery's bid for all the rough stock amounts to $27,202
The Department makes it amount to 416,550
I make J. B. Emery's bid " 25,895
The Department makes it 341,714

This is a very wide difference—one or the other of us must be very unreliable in figures. I will give the bids of M. G. and J. B. Emery, and let gentlemen calculate for themselves and determine where the error lies. The following is taken from the proposal of M. G. Emery as given in the report of the Secretary, and comes immediately after the bid for the steps and platforms already referred to:

For stock in all the other stone whose contents does not exceed thirty cubic feet, per foot	$0 50
For all stone from thirty to seventy cubic feet, an additional price per cubic foot of	2 1-2
For all stone exceeding seventy cubic feet, an additional price per cubic foot of	5
For all stones of greater width than three times their thickness, add two per cent. for each additional three inches in width.	

Now, this I understand to mean fifty-two and a half cents per foot for all blocks of stone containing more than thirty and up to seventy cubic feet; and fifty-eight and a half cents per foot for all stones containing over seventy cubic feet each. Such is the opinion of every architect to whom I have submitted it, and such I learn from Mr. Emery is what he intended. At these rates the 2,500 feet of 613 feet average, would amount to $1,462. The 16,000 feet of 330 feet average, to $9,300. The 4,000 feet of 100 feet average, to $2,340; and the 4,000 feet of 50 feet average to $2,100. But by some mysterious method of ciphering, familiar only at the Treasury I presume, and there only know to such as control matters when absolutely necessary to accomplish a purpose—this 2,500 feet of rough stone is made to amount to $87,700! and the 16,000 feet of 330 feet stone to $289,650! So much for M. G. Emery's bid.

Now let us look a little into the bid of his brother, J. B. Emery—here it is:

Stock in all other stone of thirty cubic feet	$0 48
All stone measuring from thirty to seventy feet, an	