

We were visited with Frost, for the first time, on Friday morning last.

Rumors have reached this city, which we fear are but too well founded, of the death of the Hon. GABRIEL HOLMES, member elect from the Wilmington District and late Governor of this State.

Free-om of the Press.—If there be any one axiom more firmly settled than another in relation to a free Republican Government, it is, that no such Government can flourish in its purity without the accompaniment of a free Press. It becomes, then, an enquiry of high importance to the citizens of every free Government, to ascertain how long it can be sustained, when its principal Officers use all the means in their power, both directly and indirectly, to warp and corrupt the Press! We are of opinion in such a case, a free Government would presently sink into a despotic one, provided the People could be so blind to their own interests as silently to suffer the operation to take place; but we have no doubt, however slow they may be in making the discovery, that whenever they shall become fully sensible that an attack is really made on their dear-bought privileges they will rise in their strength, & drive such Officers from their stations with as much unanimity as they placed them there. The People will never knowingly harbour a Viper in their bosom.

On the opposite page, will be found an article from the Greenville (S. C.) Mountaineer, communicated for that paper by a traveller. We are influenced in transferring it to our columns, by two considerations. First, a confidence, that the writer does not sketch from fancy and secondly, because it is so unusual to see any section of our State complimented by citizens of neighboring States. It is refreshing to meet with such a writer, and his testimony in our favor should be a "burning rebuke" to the class of politicians among ourselves, who never speak of their own State but in terms of reproach. We are informed, that the gentleman so highly complimented in the concluding paragraph, is Charles Baring Esq. who has settled 25 miles south of Ashville and is drawing round him, some of the most respectable and intelligent gentlemen from South-Carolina.

Penitentiary System.—An interesting account of the present condition of the Kentucky Penitentiary, appears in an Ohio paper. From this, we learn, that the Keeper, instead of receiving a salary, pays the State a considerable sum annually, out of the profits derived from the labor of the convicts, after defraying all the expenses, his own compensation included.

New Stage Line.—The Newbern Spectator says that it is the intention of the Steam Boat Company to place the boat Norfolk on the line between Newbern and Elizabeth City, and to establish a line of Stages from Newbern to Fayetteville, to be intersected by a line from Wilmington.

Reform.—J. M. Campbell has been appointed by the President, Surveyor and Inspector of the Port of Louisville, Ky. in the place of Richard Fergusson, removed.

The Legislature of Tennessee convened at Nashville, on the 20th of September.

The merchants of New-York have presented to Hugh Maxwell, Esq. late District Attorney, a superb silver Vase, "in testimony of the ability, firmness, industry, perseverance and public spirit, exhibited by him in the discharge of his official duties." The weight of the Vase is 357 ounces, and its cost \$1000.

The New Bedford, (Mass.) papers mention, that in blasting the ground in that town, a short time since, a large charge of powder having been introduced into an opening of a rock, where danger could not have been anticipated, the explosion was so unexpectedly powerful, that a piece of rock weighing 96 lbs. was thrown at least an hundred feet into the air; and falling upon a neighbouring house, passed through the roof, and found a temporary resting place in one of the chambers.—Several panes of glass were broken by the concussion of the atmosphere.

The Augusta Chronicle of the 26th inst. speaking of the recent fire in that place, says:

"The amount of property destroyed must we think, exceed \$100,000. The Offices, it is understood, will be the principal losers, as we are informed that in-

surance was effected in almost every, if not in every instance."

A postscript to the same paper also gives the following account of another fire.

"We stop the press to announce the distressing intelligence that the large and elegant summer residence of Thomas Cumming, Esq. on the Sand Hills, with nearly the whole of the furniture, has just become a prey to that destructive element which has lately so largely desolated our city. The fire was communicated from the outside, and under circumstances which leave no doubt that it was the work of an incendiary. Owing to the calmness of the evening and the exertions made, the out buildings were all saved."

What does this mean?—The United States' Telegraph contains a letter from Abraham Bradley, lately removed from office, addressed to the Postmaster General, Mr. Barry, which is more severe than any thing we have recently read.—It seems the letter was intended as private, but Mr. Barry having chosen to make it public, "the hardest must now send off." We subjoin the following extracts, presuming that further explanations will be given:—

"There is a law which prohibits the payment of money to any one who is indebted to the public, until that indebtedness ceases. Being no longer your subordinate, it has now become my duty, to state in due form to the Comptroller of the Treasury, that you are in that predicament. I have also added that your indebtedness to the amount of ten thousand dollars, is as clear, distinct, and indisputable, as it is in any case whatever. That he knows very well, as a lawyer, and the pretended exculpation which lately appeared in the Telegraph, is equally at war with common sense, common law, & the decision of the Supreme and Circuit Courts of the United States.

You know it has always been my course and my desire to pass smoothly along the current of life, to avoid every ruffling tempest that was practicable, to serve my friends, and to do acts of courtesy and kindness to all who came in my way.—But you was advised through Mr. Simpson, that the public is already a loser by you in payments and engagements to the amount of nearly one hundred thousand dollars; and you have been hardly six months in office.

The duty, therefore, of making these representations is no less indispensable than it is unpleasant. I cannot but hope, therefore, that you will review your course since you have been in office, and resign a situation for which you are so entirely unfitted. You know the law, that the President must discharge you from office: his duty is imperative; and if he was desirous to serve you, which I am confident he will not be, & should hesitate, it would, in the present state of parties & of the country, bring on a motion for impeachment, which, although his friends might be too powerful & partial to allow of its reaching maturity, would occasion him inexpressible chagrin and disturbance, too great for his advanced years. You can, therefore, at the utmost, hold your station but a short period, and ought, therefore, on every account, to give up the office immediately. This measure will save me from the pain of being a public accuser, yourself from the disgrace of a removal for adequate cause, and this communication will then become confidential. For, whatever has passed, I have no wish to depreciate you in the opinion of your friends. But it would be unpardonable, knowing you as I do, to let the quarter pass, and the making of the great contracts in October next, to come into your hands, without proper efforts for prevention."

The American Colonization Society has eleven State Auxiliaries. The Legislatures of eleven States have publicly expressed their approbation of its plans, and of these eleven, six are Slave States.—Ten States have recommended it to the patronage of the Federal Government, and of these, five are Slave States. One Slave State has made an annual appropriation to aid the Society. Among the passengers, sent out the last year by the Society, were 88 manumitted slaves. At the close of the year a passage was sought for 200 more, and 2000 were ready in July last to be sent from North-Carolina.—The agent of the State Society in Kentucky says, "I am perfectly astonished at the ardor, with which all men of all ranks enter into the plans of the Society. In going round to receive members, I was informed by many individuals, that they were perfectly ready to surrender their negroes at any time the Society might be prepared to receive them."—Boston Pat.

A Poser!—The pensioned editor of the New-York Enquirer, in one of his recent publications, says—"our commerce is almost annihilated—our shipping is rotting at the wharves." Mr. Noah's veracity, in making this assertion, was soon put to the test by the following question propounded to him by the editor of the Cabaret: "If this be true, Mr. Editor," says he, "I beg of you to inform me why is it that twenty-seven more custom house officers are appointed under the present administration of Mr. Collector Swartwout, that were under Mr. Thompson? If you do not answer this question satisfactorily, or do not answer it at all, the people will say you have told an untruth." Twenty-seven additional custom house officers, at a salary of \$3 per day, every day in the week, have been appointed by the reformed Collector at New-York, and yet,

says the stipendiary editor of the N. Y. Enquirer, "our commerce is almost annihilated—our shipping is rotting at our wharves!" Truly, if Noah tells the truth, our patriotic, economical Executive is reforming and retrenching with a vengeance, when he creates, at a dash, twenty-seven useless offices, with an aggregate salary of \$29,565 a year, merely to reward the scavengers of party.—The Administration must employ more discreet apologists and defenders than the "Judge of Israel" and Duff Green, or all the patronage of the government, wielded, as it is, with the sole view to sustain themselves in power, will not prevent their downfall.—Catawba Jour.

Imprisonment for Debt.—In the Jail in Johnstown, N. Y. there are imprisoned two hundred and fifty poor debtors; and in the Jail at Rochester, in the same State, about double that number. The laws of New-York, we believe, inflict a severer punishment on inability, from misfortune or any other cause, to pay a debt, than those of any other State in the Union;—for the poor debtor, if he have not the means of supporting himself while incarcerated, must starve, unless his existence be sustained by the hand of charity. The law makes no provision for his support.—Ib.

Salisbury, Sept. 29. Fire.—We learn from Charlotte, that the Jail in that town was burnt to the ground on Saturday night, the 19th inst. It seems to be suspected, that a negro, confined in the Jail, set it on fire. No person was harmed, and no other house injured. It was a wooden building, and rather a frail tenement for the purposes intended.—West. Car.

Interesting to Mechanics.—One of the best works ever published for the use of mechanics and artisans, is now for sale at the book store of E. J. Coale. A slight examination of its contents has convinced us of the simple truth of the above remark. It is entitled "The Science of Mechanics as applied to the present improvements in the useful arts in Europe, and in the United States of America." It is adapted as a Manual for Mechanics and Manufacturers, and is of daily use as a guide to every description of mechanism. It is indeed the essence of the Encyclopedias and libraries, the results of the improvements and inventions, ancient and modern, in mechanics, which were before diffused, like the otto of roses, through the leaves of immense numbers of volumes, condensed into a compass convenient to the possession of every apprentice—and every apprentice, as well as every master ought to possess it. We have not time just now to take such a view of this excellent book as we could wish, but must defer it for a few days. We, however, earnestly solicit the attention of every person interested in the mechanic arts to this most useful publication.—Balt. Pat.

Murder and Suicide.—These horrid acts were committed on the night of the 18th inst. in this District, about 15 miles from this place on the Catawba river, by the wife of one Jesse Lovcn, in the destruction of herself and her child, an infant about three months old. It is supposed she drowned the child in a branch, as it was found covered up in the sand, on the borders of the same, without any marks of violence upon it. After which, it is thought, she got on a fence that was built across the branch, on one side of which was a deep hole of water, into which she plunged herself and drowned. The cause which led to this, we have not learned.—We understand, though, that she lived unhappily, and, on the day of the 18th inst. after a sickness of two weeks, was heard to remark, that "she knew she would die, and did not know what would become of her children, especially the youngest." During the night, she went out with the child, and was found the next day in the situation related above.—Yorkville S. C. Pioneer.

Strange but True.—Among other curiosities of nature, which Major John Kennedy, of Chesterville, has preserved and keeps in a Museum upon a small scale," is a Lamb with two heads, two necks, one pair of shoulders, with two feet, one body from the short-ribs to the necks, and two hind parts, branching off at the short-ribs, with four feet. This is a fact; for we have seen and examined said lamb.—It was born in the above mentioned form; and we should judge from its size, that it lived about a month.—When it died, it was stuffed for preservation, and may be seen at Chesterville by any who doubt the reality of this story.—Ibid.

The next Presidency.—It is time enough to start a candidate, a year or two hence. Let us be quiet. The Administration will make an ad of itself, by the time its four years run out.—N. Hampshire Jour.

It will be seen by reference to another column, that the Chancellor of Maryland has given a decision upon the controversy submitted to him, between the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Companies. This decision places the matter at issue no nearer a termination than it was before, and we are likely to witness, another example of the "glorious uncertainty of the law."—In the mean time, two important works of internal improvement may be suspended until the question is decided finally. It is not probable, even if the Chancellor had given a positive opinion, that the successful party would have been satisfied; & we may therefore expect it will be carried to the Supreme Court of the United States, after a few years more delay.

We can see no termination to the controversy unless it can be adjusted by compromise.—Georgetown (D. C.) Gaz.

The London Times of August 5th. contains a report of a case in the Court of Chancery, in which the Chancellor said, he would order a new trial of the issue at law, if either of the parties insisted on it; but he would recommend a special case, as the facts were agreed on, because the sum in dispute was not sufficient to justify the expense. The sum in dispute, was little more than £1100 sterling, about \$5000. And one of the Solicitors said, that double that sum had been already expended. This suit cannot have been pending more than two years, if we remember aright, as it arose out of one of the Forgeries of Fautleroy.—The wit of man could not devise a system better adapted to effect the purpose of its creation, than the Chancery System in England. This purpose is clearly to fleece the clients, and to put their money into the pockets of the attorneys and other officers of the law!—Queer! How much better is ours, with all its amendments?—Rich. Whig.

Providence, (R. I.) Sept. 19. Frost.—The bridge in this town, on Friday morning was glittering with an envelope of frost. The sear and yellow leaf, in the woods, particularly in the low grounds, mark the presence of this wither of earth's green and beautiful things, and remind us that forest trees, instead of furnishing a grateful shade from summer's heat, are now only fitted to enliven the cheerful hearth of winter. Nevertheless we may yet hope for a few, fine, mellow days of autumn, when the air has all the invigorating properties of winter, and yet is tempered with all the softness of June.

New-York Sept. 22. The Peacock.—This beautiful ship, which has been fitted for sea at the Navy Yard, was hauled into the stream on Saturday, and anchored opposite to Brooklyn Heights. She is expected to sail for the West Indies in the course of the present week. Commodore Elliot, who is to take command of the West India Squadron, goes out in her as passenger. This ship had been furnished with a new suit of rigging and sails; the latter of cotton, as an experiment, by order of the Secretary of the Navy. She is now in complete order carries 22 guns, and has a compliment of 180 men, including officers.

The Louisiana Advertiser, of August 25, announcing the death of the Rev. M. de Fernex, a Protestant Clergyman, a native of Geneva, who came to this country, and settled at New-Orleans, prefaces his obituary with the following remarks, which no one can read without a deep felt sympathy for the suffering and distress of his fellow beings:

"At a season like the present, when gloom rests on every countenance, when death walking at noon day through our streets, and visiting or threatening to visit by turns the habitations of every family, each individual is concerned for his own preservation, but partial notice is taken of the value of those who fall, and whose places we all see and feel to be vacant; we pass on without a pause, without estimating our loss, and without enquiring how it is supplied. When the storm rages, the pride of the forest is laid low; and the mountain stream, coming in fury down, desolates the plain, carrying away all that men most value, and when it subsides, presenting a wide waste of ruin. So now, while the Angel of Destruction is pouring out the vial of wrath upon our ill-fated city, men are daily and hourly summoned to depart and appear among us no more forever;—we look on with amazement, and cannot estimate the number of those who are gone, nor conceive the extent of the loss sustained."

Mr. Jefferson's Works.—We understand that the four volumes of Mr. Jefferson's Works, have passed the press—and that they are only waiting the engraved portrait and the fac simile of the original Declaration of American Independence, to be bound up with them, before they are distributed among the subscribers. These engravings are executed in Philadelphia—and the Work may now be expected to issue in a few days.—Rich. Com.

Pork.—It is the general opinion that Pork will be high. Hogs are said to be scarce, and it is supposed that a much smaller number than usual will be sent to the Southern markets. There will be a good home market at Louisville, Cincinnati and Lexington, for all the farmers have to spare.—Lex. K. Reporter.

Amends for a broken heart.—In a suit for breach of promise of marriage, at the Circuit Court sitting in this city, on the 17th ult. a verdict of five hundred dollars, was rendered to the female plaintiff. The plaintiff is near 40 years old; the defendant a little over 20.—Albany Adv.

It is now customary at dinner parties in Paris, where ladies assist, to hand round, just before sitting down to table, a pin cushion, that the fair guests may pin up their sleeves, which would otherwise preclude the operations of the table.

POSTSCRIPT
LATE AND IMPORTANT.

By the Packet-ship Napoleon, Captain Smith, arrived at New-York from Liverpool, files of London papers to the evening of the 24th of August, and Liverpool of the 26th inclusive, have been received at New-York.

Seat of War.—If the last German news is to be depended upon, the campaign in Europe must have ere this terminated in the downfall or abandonment of Constantinople, unless the Porte should have come to terms.

The Allgemeine Zeitung of the 17th August, says—

"We have just learnt at this place, from a quarter that may be depended upon, that official news was received, early in the morning of the 12th, by the Russian Legation at Vienna, that General Diebitsch, after being joined by the corps that landed at Szabolcz, had totally defeated and dispersed the Turkish army in a great battle near Kirki-Kiltassa (20 German miles from Constantinople). The fate of the capital must be now decided. The next post from Vienna will bring us the particulars."

Similar intelligence is said to have been received at Munich on the 15th August, from an authentic source. It is added, that notwithstanding this defeat, the Divan persists in its refusal to come to an arrangement.

BERLIN, AUG. 15. The Prussian State Gazette gives at full length the bulletin of the Russian army, dated Aidos, July 26, which details, with great minuteness, all the particulars of its victorious progress after passing the Balkan. Abdul Rahmau, Pacha of three tails, who commanded the troops on the Kamtschio, the garrisons of Messembria, Acholi, and Bourgas, had assembled 6000 or 7000 men on the right bank of the Jaskichioi-Dere, but was attacked and driven back by Gen. Roth, abandoning his position with two strand batteries of 4 guns each, and a dockyard, with a beautiful new corvette of 23 guns. He lost 400 prisoners and seven standards. Messembria, which is well fortified, was attacked by land, and also by Admiral Greigh with his squadron. Osman Pacha, the Governor, surrendered on the 23d, with 100 officers; the Russians took 15 cannons and 2000 prisoners, and 10 standards.

The garrison of Bourgas made a sally, but was repulsed, and the Russians, entering the town pell-mell with the fugitives, the garrison fled through the opposite gate. The garrison of Acholi abandoned the place without waiting to be attacked.

ENGLAND.—The London Gazette, of the 18th August, contains an order of the King in Council, for the prorogation of Parliament from the 20th of August to the 15th of October.

A London Morning paper says: A letter from Mexico has been received in town, which, if its statements may be relied on, discloses a very curious negotiation which has been carrying on between that Government and the Minister of the United States. The letter, we understand, is addressed to so respectable a quarter, that its authenticity is hardly to be doubted. It is affirmed that a proposition has been made by the American Minister, in consequence of the threatened invasion of Mexico by the Spaniards, to lend assistance to counteract it, in the most effectual way, by a large advance of money, but not, of course, without a 'valuable consideration.' Mexico it is proposed, shall make over to the Government of the United States, for a term of years, in the first instance, the Province of Texas, and the peninsula of California. If, at the end of that time, the money advanced shall not be repaid, the possession of these rich and extensive countries is to vest in the U. States. The sum to be advanced under this guarantee is stated at between 10,000,000 and 12,000,000 sterling (fifty millions dollars,) quite sufficient if properly applied, to bring that country into a state of prosperity as great as it has ever enjoyed.—The temptation, however, might prove too great for the virtue of those who administer its affairs. It is not stated in what manner this proposition has been received by the Mexican Government."

The John Bull, referring to this letter, says: "The proposition of America must not be quietly listened to, or tamely permitted. While we are earnest in our endeavors to put a stop to the power of Russia, we must not forget the necessity of checking the aggrandisement of America. And we repeat, we can conceive no ground more strong for co-operating with Spain in the present struggle, than that of stopping the union of Northern and Southern America, which must be the inevitable result of the scheme now negotiating by the Cabinet of the United States."

Phineas Bradley, the 2d Assistant Postmaster-General has been removed. His successor is not yet named.

MARRIED. In Hillsboro', on Wednesday last, Samuel I. Johnston, Esq. of Northampton county, to Margaret Burgwin, daughter of G. W. Burgwin.

DIED. In this City, this morning, of bilious fever, in the 68th year of his age, Sherwood Haywood, Esq. Agent for the Bank of Newbern. About a month since, Mr. H. visited his plantation in Edgecomb, where he no doubt imbibed the seeds of that disease, which has terminated his earthly career. The loss of such a man as Sherwood Haywood is not easily supplied. To his family and friends, his death will be irreparable, and the remembrance of his virtues will be coeval with the existence of all who knew his worth. Years may roll away, before we see united in the same person, so many virtues, so much urbanity and kindness, such unostentatious manners, and such sterling integrity.

Near Fayetteville, on Saturday last, Mrs. Margaret McRae, a native of Scotland, in her 85th year. In Cumberland county, on the 21st ult. Miss Margaret Buie, aged 21 years. Also, on Tuesday evening last, Mrs. Mary Guy, wife of Hinton Guy. On the 25th ult. Mr. Jos. Jacobs, of Hingham, Mass. aged 54 years; and for more than 30 years an inhabitant of Wilmington. In Franklin county, on the 25th ult. the Rev. Bartholomew Egler, in the 61st year of his age. In Washington, Ga. on the 19th ult. Maj. A. H. Sneed, of Granville county, in this State. In Nuthford county, a few days since, the Rev. Jos. D. Kilpatrick, for many years Pastor of Third Creek, Back Creek and Unity congregations in Rowan county.