REMARKS OF MR. EATON,

OF WARREN,

On the Bill to incorporate the Greensborough and Danville Railroad.

Although the bill under consideration does not ask for a single dollar from the public chest, or the use in any form of the State's credit, still I regard it as an extremely important one. This bill, authorizing a connection by railroad between Danville and Greensborough, is fraught with perilous consequences to our system of internal improvement. Such a connection would injure seriously the N. C. Railroad, and would endanger the existence of the 130 miles of that road which lie between Greensboro' and Goldsboro'. Establish the proposed connection, which the Committee on Internal Improvements tell us will afford the most direct route from New Orleans to Washington City, and most of the passengers will take the Danville line at Greensboro'. Most of the produce, too, from the Western counties that comes east at all, would then go into Richmond, a first-rate wheat and tobacco market, and a town with nearly four times the population and capital of any in North Carolina. Richmond is remarkably well located at the falls of James river, and has inexhaustible water power for mills and factories. Although situated in the interior, she has a ready access to the Atlantic by steamboats; and railroads run from this metropolis of Virginia to almost every section of the State. Make this connection and produce from the west must go there.—It will be carried in that direction by a law of trade as imperative as that law of nature which causes the waters of James river to flow from the western mountains of Virginia to their ocean home. Render Richmond more accessible to the Western planter than our North Carolina markets—as you most certainly will do by allowing the proposed connection—and neither Wilmington or any other town in North Carolina can hope to compete with her for the western trade. The passage of this bill will be detrimental to the Atlantic Road, and will blight the hopes we had cherished of building up a commercial city at Beaufort. It will be injurious, to some extent, to the Raleigh and Gaston road and *deeply so* to the Wilmington and Manchester Roads, and consequently to Wilmington herself. Gentlemen fancy that trade will be diverted from Virginia into North Carolina by the proposed measure. They are more sanguine than I am. I have but little hope of getting any of the products of Virginia within our borders. She has excellent market towns of her own. I have already dwelt on the advantages of Richmond. Petersburg is a superior market, with several of the advantages enjoyed by Richmond, and a high character for intelligence and enterprize. She has been properly styled "the "Cockade of the Old Dominion." Norfolk has a very fine harbor, and is almost surrounded by navigable waters. It has been handsomely and appropriately said of her, that she sits like the sea-bird, "'mid its wave-girdled nest." The coast of Virginia affords the very best navigation, certainly better than ours, which has been called the "Terror of Mariners." The beautiful Chesapeake, as the steamboat ploughs its crested billows, seems to spread out its bosom, as if to invite the commerce of the world. I have made these remarks in order to dispel any day-dreams which may exist in any quarter as to the prospect of getting Virginia produce into North Carolina.

The State of North Carolina owns a large amount of stock in the various works that must be injuriously affected by this Danville connection. It is true that she has none in the Wilmington Railroad, and in the Manchester Road; but the Literary Board has a large investment in the stock of these companies, which we ought to regard as sacred.

It is said that the people of Caswell, Rockingham, and the adjacent counties have a right to demand the passage of this bill. If justice really requires it, then it ought to be passed, however injurious it may be to our railroads or our towns. But, sir, I have been unable to perceive the existence of such right as that contended for. Generally, I admit that a charter ought to be granted to the people of any section who seek to obtain railroad facilities without any charge upon the Treasury; but the State is not bound to charter any company, whose work is evidently and materially detrimental to the interests of a large majority of her citizens; and still less is she bound to allow to such a company the privilege of a junction with her own main line of communication. The interests of the few must yield to the many, upon every principle of reason, justice, and sound policy. If North Carolina is bound to allow the proposed connection, then she has devolved upon herself, so far as internal improvements is concerned, the duty of self-destruction, and is bound to furnish the dagger that is to stab her to the heart. The people along the line of the proposed railway, it is true, are not in such a favorable condition as those of some counties in reference to marketing facilities, but they are not in a very bad condition.—Some of them are convenient to the North Carolina Railroad, and others not remote from the Richmond and Danville road. At all events, they labor under no evils sufficiently great to warrant us in inflicting a deep and vital wound upon the best interests of the State, in order to relieve them. In the nature of things, it is not to be expected that the steam-whistle is to be heard in every neighborhood within our borders. Railroads are immensely beneficial, but they are also very expensive, and they cannot exist too thickly together. They cannot bear such ruinous competition. To build them up at an expense of millions, and then break them down again, is anything else but a wise and prudent policy—any thing else but justice to our people who use them, or to the private capitalists who have subscribed for their stock.

It has been said that the North Carolina Railroad, by the proposed connection, will gain enough in the increased number of passengers between Charlotte and Greensboro', to make up for her losses between Greensboro and Goldsboro.' I do not believe it.—Besides, if such should be the case, many of the additional passengers between Charlotte and Greensboro' would be taken from the Wilmington Road, and the Manchester road, and most of them would otherwise pass over their whole line, instead of the 94 miles from Charlotte to Greensboro'.

If Senators doubt the effect of this connection in drawing off produce to Richmond, I ask them to observe the fact that Richmond will, if this link is completed, be nearer to Greensboro' by Railroad than Wilmington, or any other North Carolina market. I am informed that there are discriminating tolls on the Danville Railroad in favor of Richmond, which will make it very difficult for us, by means of that road, to take from her any of her produce trade, and will enable her to appropriate to herself a good deal of ours.

FATAL AFFRAY IN WASHINGTON—VIRGINIAN KILLED.

A tragedy of the most lamentable character, occurred in Washington city on Saturday morning, which resulted in the death of David Hume, a prominent citizen of Alexandria, Va., by the hand of Col. D. C. Lee, formerly of Loudon county, Va., but for several years a $1400 clerk in the Pension Bureau at Washington, and a member of the Council of that city:

It appears that Mr. Hume, a well known citizen of Alexandria, attended the President's levee Friday evening, in company with his daughter and (we believe) another young lady. While slowly moving with the immense throng that literally filled the entire first floor of the Executive Mansion, a gentleman immediately in front of him turned suddenly around, seized him by the collar, and accused him of picking his pocket. As might have been expected, very angry words ensued, which resulted in an exchange of cards, the accusing party proving to be Col. D. C. Lee, who has for several years held a clerkship in the Pension Bureau.

The Star of Saturday contains the following evidence given at the coroner's jury:

Solomon G. Heaton saw the transaction at the President's levee; was passing towards the East room with a lady, and near the doorway of the President's reception room, came up in the rear of Col. Lee; noticed that he had one or two ladies with him; stood there for a moment, the crowd being so great could not pass; a gentleman coming from the reception room met them and seemed to be trying to pass us and go out; deceased was this gentleman; Col. Lee stood rather facing deceased, and while in that position saw Col. Lee put his hand on his pantaloons pocket; he then spoke to deceased, and at the same moment stepped up to him and collared him, saying, "You have my pocket book;" could not say if deceased had a lady with him or not; Col. Lee remarked further that he would not let him go until he gave up the pocket book, and the Colonel then called for assistance, turning his head towards witness; deceased did not reply immediately, but looked surprised; his first reply, that witness heard, was: "For what reason do you make this charge?" Mr. Lee did not seem particularly excited; Lee said: "Sir, I felt your hand in my pocket and saw you take it out;" deceased replied that he had not taken the pocket-book, and seemed surprised at the charge, and immediately enquired of Col. Lee his name; Col. Lee gave his name and turning to witness said here is a gentleman who knows me; Col. Lee still retained his hold upon his coat during this conversation; witness said to deceased that he knew Col. Lee; deceased began to get a little excited, manifesting some feeling, and said to Col. Lee, "Come, go with me;" witness then passed Col. Lee, and that is all he saw of the occurrence then; came up to the office about 9 this morning, to room adjoining; soon after came into this room; found Col. Lee; made inquiry how the affair terminated last night; he was relating the circumstance; the chief clerk, Mr. Cole, of the Pension Office, opened the door, came in, and inquired if Col. Lee was in; immediately two gentlemen came into the room; Col. Lee was standing by the desk at the time; two or three other gentlemen were in the room; recognised the deceased as one of the gentlemen who entered; Col. Lee passed towards the door from his desk, advancing somewhat towards the gentlemen, or in the direction of the door; think deceased remarked, "you are the gentleman I met last night at the President's, and accused me of taking your pocket book," enquiring at the same time if he recognized him; Col. Lee replied that he did recognise him distinctly; they entered into conversation, and deceased undertook to explain why he should not be accused of committing an act of that kind; remarked that he had lived an upright man for forty-five years, and had probably given away more money than Col. L. was worth, and asked what motives he could have in picking his pocket—also, if he still reiterated his charge: Col Lee answered that he did reiterate his charge; they stood facing each other at that time; deceased had a black cane, with a bent handle, in his hand (a cane was identified by witness as the one;) deceased struck Lee over the head as many as three times; Col. Lee retreated, decease at the same time striking him with a cane; heard report of pistol; afterwards saw the pistol in hands of Col. Lee; deceased fell over and exclaimed that he was a dead man; Colonel Lee stood leaning forward at the same time he fired, with his back towards the deceased; thinks he must have reached his hand around and fired under his arm; Col. Lee told witness this morning that after witness left him at the levee a gentleman touched him and said "You have mistaken your man," telling him who deceased was, that he was a Mr Hume of Alexandria.

King F. Page testified to being in an adjoining room, and hearing a noise as of scuffling or striking, and on entering deceased was falling; assisted in laying him back and opening his clothes; Col. Lee was walking back and forward, and said "You must not blame me, gentlemen. I did it in self-defence;" saw no deadly weapon in the hands of the deceased.

Drs. Storrow and Berry made an examination of the body, and testified to the effect, that the ball entered the abdomen one inch from the medium line and three inches below the umbilicus, passing inwards and downwards, causing death by hemorrhage, and probably by pressure on the spinal cord.

The news of Mr. Hume's tragical end caused the most intense excitement in Alexandria. A committee of 100 citizens reached Washington city about 2 o'clock Saturday, and having obtained the body, returned with it immediately to Alexandria.

After firing the fatal shot, Col. Lee immediately surrendered himself to the civil authorities.

The Star has the following notice of the deceased:

"He was a gentleman of means, noted for his being governed by a scrupulous sense of propriety in all his conduct through life, for his active benevolence, and, indeed, for the possession of just such traits of character as secure for one the confidence and regard of his fellow-citizens. He came to Alexandria to reside from Orange C. H., Va.; was a widower with 4 children, 2 of them being grown-up daughters, who are now in this city at the residence of a relative. His age was about 45 years. He was a member of the extensive and so well-known family of Humes of Fauquier.

"D. C. Lee is also an aged man of family, and a member of the Board of Common Council of this city from the first ward."

A despatch from Washington says: Dodridge Lee, who shot Mr. Hume on Saturday, has been discharged from the Pension office. There is much excitement here and at Alexandria on the subject. Lee is out on bail, and has gone to Virginia to avoid unpleasant consequences.

The Rev. Mr. Spurgeon, the popular young Baptist minister in England, was preaching at Birmingham at last accounts.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.

SENATE.—The Senate remained in session all last night and down to one o'clock this morning.

Mr. Hunter's substitute for the tariff bill, reducing the present duties 20 per cent., was passed by a nearly two thirds vote.

The Senate passed twenty-five private bills, and then proceeded to the consideration of the post-office appropriation bill.

11 o'clock.—After a long debated on the post-office bill, it was passed, with amendments authorizing an overland mail from the Mississippi to San Francisco. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The House resumed the consideration of the resolution for the expulsion of Mr. Gilbert.

Mr. Purviance offered a substitute that the House will forthwith proceed with the trial, and directing that the Sergeant-at-Arms summon Messrs. Triplett and Sweeney to appear before the bar of the House for examination and that Mr. Gilbert be heard in person or counsel.

Mr. Stanton asked to have read some parts of the manuscript of Simonton's testimony.

Mr. Orr objected, saying it was not testimony.

Mr. Stanton replied that the House could judge of that

The resolution of Mr. Purviance was rejected—yeas 82, nays 100.

Mr. Gilbert then rose to speak, and the members gathered in front of him

Mr. Gilbert remarked that he rose with an unusual degree of emotion, but he felt in his own conscience that he was not condemned. Although he had been placed thus before this assemblage, and his name spread broadcast over the land, he was convinced of his own innocence. He stood here void of offence. The volume of testimony regarding himself had be commented on by others, and he could add no weight to what had been said.

He would submit it to gentlemen, men of intelligence and lawyers, whether, on such evidence, they sitting as a jury, would enforce judgment in a civil suit for twenty-five dollars? On that testimony he had been arraigned and serious charges perferred against him, which, if true, would affix upon his name an enduring stigma. His position in life was well known, and he challenged any man to say aught against his personal or official conduct. If any member of this body felt that he had been injured by associating with him, let him rise and say so.

He had answered to the allegation with perfect confidence that his statement made under oath would receive some degree of credit. He referred to matters connected with this case, to show that it had not been his intention or desire to delay the action of the committee. And he alluded to the confidence reposed in him by his constituency. If he had been that corrupt and obnoxious man represented, very likely it would be known where he was best known. Forty years had he lived, and until the present never had such a charge been laid at his door.

He did not fear the result. Those dearest to him had said, sustain your dignity, let the result be as it may; do no mean act; and if your pursuers follow you there, your friends will take care of you at home. He had two daughters growing up, and if he was alone in the world he should feel as free as air; but he knew his responsibility, and this attempt to fix a stigma on his good name was unprecedented. He charged the House with gross injustice towards him, his family, friends, constituents and the world—in depriving him of a fair hearing. He felt confident that on trial he would come out unscathed.

There was history connected with Mr. Sweeny yet secret. Mr. Sweeny has been home since he testified. He has been associated with men who have used him as their tool, according to his (Mr. Gilbert's) honest belief, and he thought he could be sustained. There are men high in authority who dare not cross Mr. Sweeny's track. If the House had gone into a trial, some astonishing developements would have been made. He was prepared, if a trial had been accorded, to vindicate himself.

Mr. Gilbert here sent up a paper, which was read, stating that the committee had refused him a fair hearing and had reported garbled *ex parte* testimony, with a view to convict him; and concluding by saying that from this moment he has resigned his seat as a member of this House, and that he has notified the Governor of New York of the fact.

The House was evidently taken by surprise at this announcement. Mr. Gilbert immediately left his seat.

The resolutions of the committee in the case of Mr. Gilbert were then laid on the table by a vote of yeas 135, nays 68.

Mr. Morgan sent up a letter from Mr. Matteson, addressed to the speaker, to the effect that he had, under a resolution previously adopted, filed his reasons for refusing to submit to the usurpation of the committee. As a trial had been denied Mr. Gilbert, he had no right to expect any larger measure of justice would be accorded him. A secret inquisition, without warrant or or authority, had taken testimony against him, without his knowledge, and on that had invoked the House to punish him to the greatest extent it could inflict.

It was too plain that neither the rights of his constituents nor his own could be longer secure or respected. Therefore he deemed it to be his duty forthwith to resign as a member of this House.

Mr. Bennett, of N. Y., moved to table the committee's resolution respecting Mr. Matteson.

The question was decided in the negative—yeas 95, nays 102.

Mr. Bennett, of N. Y., raised a point of order that, Mr. Matteson having resigned, it was not competent to proceed further upon the subject.

The Chair overruled the objection and was sustained by the House.

Mr. Warner then proceeded to show that Mr. Matteson, notwithstanding his denial that he has committed any offense, had offended against the moral standard, and was obnoxious to the severest condemnation.

The House again refused to lay the resolution upon the table.

The question was then taken on the first resolution, condemning Mr. Matteson for inciting parties, deeply interested, to use corrupt means for procuring the passage of Des Moines Railroad bill, etc., and it was adopted. Years 145, nays 17.

The other resolutions were then read:—That O. B. Matteson, by declaring that members had associated and pledged themselves not to vote for any law or resolution unless they were paid for it, etc., had willfully defamed the members of the House, and had proved himself unworthy to be a member thereof; and that the said Matteson be forthwith expelled.

Mr. Dunn moved that these resolutions be laid upon the table; but the motion did not prevail: Yeas 75, nays 99.

The second resolution was then adopted, and the last (for the expulsion of Mr. Matteson) was laid on the table.

The House adopted resolutions as a substitute for the committee's resolution in Mr. Welsh's case, dismissing it for want of sufficient evidence.

The House then adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28, 1857.

SENATE.—The Senate passed the following House bills: to prohibit the importation of obscene prints, etc.; the bill to establish a port of delivery at Augusta, Georgia; and the bill making appropriations for the completion of military roads in Oregon.

The joint resolution of the House to define and increase the pay of Lieutenant General Scott was debated, and then postponed until Monday.

The Senate also passed the House bills for establishing three additional land offices in Nebraska and three in Kansas.

Mr. Foster offered a resolution, which was adopted, directing the Committee on the District of Columbia, to report a bill making appropriations for enclosing and planting trees in Lafayette Square.

A recess was taken until half past six o'clock. On re-assembling, the Senate took up, debated and passed the bill from the House, making appropriations for the legislative and executive expenses of the Government. An amendment was added for the appointment of a Minister Plenipotentiary to Persia. As the bill has been loaded down with various amendments, it will be returned to the House. It was nearly midnight when the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The House took up the case of the Hon. Francis S. Edwards, and the clerk read the resolutions of the Select Committee proposing to expel him, on the ground that he had improperly approached the Hon. R. T. Paine, with a view to induce the latter to vote, contrary to his convictions and conscience, for the Minnesota Land bill.

Mr. Edwards made a brief statement, to the effect that he could say honestly and with a clear conscience that he had never given a vote on any bill which his convictions of duty did not sanction. He felt in his own heart that he never intended to do wrong to or offend any member on this floor. He knew that friends on all sides sympathized with him; and to relieve them from the pressure which had come from their several localities, and apprehending that he could receive no better treatment than had been accorded to the other gentlemen who had been accused of grave offences, no other alternative was left to him than to resign; which he now did; and he concluded by saying that he had notified the Governor of New York of that fact.

On motion of Mr. Ritchie, the resolutions were laid upon the table.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the resolution reported from the Select Committee for the expulsion of Mr. James W. Simonton, as a reporter; and passed it, with an amendment likewise expelling Mr. Triplett, who, it was represented, was connected with the press.

The House took up and passed the bill reported from the Select Committee, to protect the people from corruption and secret influence in matters of legislation.

Mr. Humphrey Marshall moved a re-consideration of the vote, and, together with Messrs. Quitman, Bocock, and Kunkel opposed the bill as improperly interfering with the rights of the people: and Mr. Davis, of Maryland, argued to show that the bill merely enacted into a law the opinion of the Supreme Court as to the immorality and fraud of secret or sinister influences on legislation.

The motion to re-consider was agreed to, and the bill was laid upon the table.

The Tariff bill, as amended by the Senate, was taken up, when Mr. Todd moved that it be laid on the table; but this was disagreed to, yeas 32, nays 138. The House non-concurred in the Senate's amendment—yeas 63, nays 106; and a Committee of Conference was asked of the Senate. The House adjourned, at a few minutes past six o'clock.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH BILL.

The following is the Atlantic Telegraph bill in printed form, as it passed Congress:

"An act to expedite telegraphic communication for the uses of the government in its foreign intercourse.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of State, in the discretion and under the direction of the President of the United States, may contract with any competent person, persons, or association for the aid of the United States, by furnishing not exceeding two ships, in laying down a submarine cable to connect existing telegraphs between the coast of Newfoundland and the coast of Ireland, and for the use of such submarine communication, when established, by the Government of the United States, on such terms and conditions as shall seem to the President just and reasonable, not exceeding twenty thousand dollars per annum, until the net profit of such person, persons or association shall be equal to a dividend of six per cent., per annum, and then not exceeding $50,000 per annum for twenty-five years.

Provided, That the Government of Great Britain shall, before or at the same time, enter into a like contract, for those purposes, with the same person, or persons, or association, and upon terms of exact equality with those stipulated by the United States: And *provided*, that the tariff of prices for the use of such submarine communication by the public shall be fixed by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States and the Government of Great Britain, or its authorised agent.

Provided further, That the United States and the citizens thereof shall enjoy the use of the said submarine telegraph communication for all time, on the same terms and conditions which shall be stipulated in favor of the Government of Great Britain, and the subjects thereof, recognizing equality of rights among the citizens of the United States in the use of said submarine communication and the lines of telegraph which may at any time connect with the same or its terminus, upon the coast of Newfoundland and in the United States, in any contract so to be entered into by such person, persons or association, with that Government.

Provided further, That the contract to be made by the British Government shall not be different from that already proposed by the Government to the New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company, except such provisions as may be necessary to secure to each government the transmission of its own messages by its own agents. And provided further, That it shall be in the power of Congress after ten years to terminate said contract upon giving one years' notice to the parties to such contract.

After the bill was returned from the House to the Senate with amendments, a strong effort was made to defeat it, and during the absence of several Senators friendly to its passage, it was only saved from defeat by one majority. In a full Senate however there was a clear majority of 8 to 10, and the bill finally passed by acclamation, and has received the signature of the President.

THE MINNESOTA BILL.

The following is the vote on the bill which passed the Senate the other day, giving to Minnesota public lands enough to construct nine hundred and twenty-five miles of railroad:

Yeas—Messrs. *Allen*, Bell, of Tennessee, *Benjamin*, *Brown*, *Cass*, Crittenden, *Dodge*, *Douglas*, *Durkee*, Fish, *Fitch*, Foot, Foster, *Geyer*, *Green*, *Iverson*, *James*, *Jones*, of Tennessee, *Mallory*, Nourse, *Pearce*, *Rusk*, *Sebastian*, Seward, *Stuart*, *Toombs*, Trumbull, Wade, *Weller*, Wilson, and *Yulee* 32.

Nays—Messrs. Biggs, Bigler, Brodhead, Clay, Evans, Hunter, Mason, Pugh, Reid, and Slidell—10.

We have put the names of the Democrats voting *for* this donation of land to Minnesota in italics. It will be seen that out of thirty-two votes in favor of the bill, *twenty-two* of them were the votes of Democrats—who swear it is unconstitutional thus to vote away the public lands! It will be seen, besides, that *thirteen* of these twenty-two Democrats, who voted for the Minnesota bill, are *Southern* (!) Democrats. We have no comment to make on this strange proceeding of Southern Democratic Senators today. We merely submit it to the common sense reflections of the people. We may ask, however, whether, if it be constitutional in Southern Democracy to vote away the public lands to Northern States and Territories, it would not be equally constitutional to vote a few acres to Virginia.—*Richmond Whig.*

SOMETHING NEW.—Ploughing with the power of a locomotive steam engine has been successfully practiced in England the past season. W Smith, Esq., of Wolston, England, publishes a letter in the *Mark Lane Express*, stating that he had ploughed his whole farm by steam, except one field and a small spot purposely left to try the steam plough upon in the spring, and it is stated that the work is much better done than it could have been done by horses, besides being done more expeditiously and at less expense.

ANOTHER FATAL DUEL

We regret to record the repetition of an occurrence by which our community was so much shocked but a week ago. Another hostile meeting took place yesterday at Screven's Ferry, near this city, in which the parties were O. S. Kimbrough and Jacob P. Hendrick, both citizens of Columbus, in this State. The weapons used were rifles and they fought at forty paces distance. Upon the second fire Mr. Hendrick fell, mortally wounded, the ball having entered his side just above the hip and passed, it is thought, through the smaller intestines. He was brought to this city, and was alive at a late hour last night, though his condition is considered hopeless. His antagonist escaped unhurt, and left for Columbus by the evening train.—*Sav. Republican 24th inst.*

Mr. Hendricks died of his wounds the morning after the duel. He was raised in Augusta, where he leaves a mother, brother and sisters.

The Montgomery Mail says:

By private letter, we learn that the anticipated duel between Columbus gentlemen is alleged to grow out of the failure of one of the parties to fulfil an engagement, express or implied, with a young lady nearly related to the other party.

DR. KANE IN THE MEXICAN WAR.

It has already been stated that the lamented Arctic explorer, Dr. E. K. Kane, in addition to his extensive travels in foreign climes, had served his country in the Mexican war. The following is a sketch of this portion of his wonderful life:

On his arrival in Philadelphia, from an expedition to the coast of Africa, he appeared to be but the shadow of a man; but although his limbs tottered and death stared him in the face he could not rest. His country was at war with Mexico, and he resolved, if he had to die, to yield his breath in its defence. Against the entreaties of his family this indomitable spirit made his way to Washington, requested a commission from President Polk, and it was granted. The President entrusted him with important dispatches for General Scott, and he sailed for Vera Cruz. The road between that point and the capital was infested with large bodies of brigands and regular troops of the enemy. At Napoluca the doctor and his escort met a large body of the enemy; and here he displayed a nerve, not only in compelling his own men to fight, but in charging the foe, that was unsurpassed in the war. The enemy were routed and a large number of prisoners taken, among whom were Generals Torrejon and Garona and young Garona. The latter was wounded by Dr. Kane himself, and the chivalry of the young conqueror was now displayed in giving the wounded man the benefit of his surgical skill. With no other instrument than the bent prong of a fork and a piece of pack thread, the Doctor took up the artery, and placed the young man in a condition so that he could be conveyed safely to Puebla. Soon afterwards young Garona informed Dr. Kane that he had overheard Col. Dominguez, of the escort, say that he would put Gen. Garona to death, because he owed him an old grudge. The doctor instantly interfered, placed himself between his escort and the prisoners, and threatened to shoot the first man who attempted the life of Garona. Dominguez became furious, and ordered his men to charge. But the Doctor plied his revolver on all sides with fatal effect, and although severely wounded in the thigh, continued to keep the foe at bay, and conducted his prisoners to Puebla, where they were placed under the charge of Col. Child. At this point the young hero was detained many days, owing to the severe nature of his wound, and was kindly cared for by the family of Garona, who never forgot the Doctor's generosity. The dispatches were delivered to Gen. Scott, and as peace was soon concluded, Dr. Kane returned once more to his own country.

WONDERFUL, IF TRUE.

A small Paris journal, called *Les Contemporains*, has just published a most strange account, signed "Henri Page," of an aerostatic excursion, which the article declares has solved the long canvassed problem of directing balloons. The persons who are stated to have made the excursion are the Count de Pleuvier, M. Gavarni, M. Migeon, Mr. Falconer, an English aeronaut, and M. Henri Page, the writer. The apparatus used is stated to have cost 300,000f, the greater portion of which was furnished by Count de Pleuvier. The machine is represented as consisting of two balloons united together, of a spherical form, able to contain each 100 cubes of pure hydrogen gas. The directing power is a modified screw communicating with the car, and a rudder, made principally of whalebone, to change the direction when required. M. Gavarni, the inventor, it is declared, can obtain the upward ascent of the balloon without throwing out ballast, which system soon exhausts the resources of the very best constructed balloon, and becomes an invincible obstacle to long excursions in the air. The loss of hydrogen is instantaneously repaired by a chemical proceeding of which M. Migeon is stated to possess the secret, and by a little apparatus of communication, also invented by M. Gavarni.—The departure of the aeronauts on the occasion referred to took place on the 15th of January, at ten in the morning, from the park of Ferrieres, in the Sologne, and the next morning at five the aerial travellers effected a safe decents within half a mile of Algiers. "We received," says the account, "the most touching hospitality. The inhabitants wanted to carry us in triumph, but we declined the honor, and as soon as we could, went to take some repose, leaving our aerostatic apparatus under the guardianship of a file of Zouaves. Marshal Randon deigned to congratulate us, and pressed the hand of M. Gavarni with the utmost warmth. We remained on the African soil only 30 hours, and left at noon the day after our arrival, in sight of an immense multitude who had assembled to see us ascend from the Mole. Our return was effected without the slighest incident, but with much greater rapidity. At half-past four the next morning we alighted at the point from which we started, in the park of Count de Pleuvier."

ANTHRACITE COAL MINES DISCOVERED IN DINWIDDIE.—A few days since, a rich vein of pure anthracite coal was struck on the farm of A. W. Cousins, Esq., about 25 miles from this city in Dinwiddie county, by a boy engaged in plowing. Investigations were subsequently made, near the spot, and it was ascertained that an extensive mine existed on the place. The earth was turned up in various places, and found to conceal the mineral, which upon being pierced to any depth, gave indubitable assurances of a valuable discovery. Specimens were brought to this city, and were also examined by experienced colliers at the Chesterfield mines, and pronounced to be of the first quality.

The farm of Mr. Cousins lies within a short distance of Ford's Depot, is easy of access, which will be of great advantage, should the discovery be turned to account. That it will, we are informed, is almost certain, several monied men of our city having made suggestions of forming a company to promote the work. It is considered certain that a large amount of stock could be disposed of, and the work enabled to advance through all the difficulties attendant upon the beginning of such an experiment, with no lack of the "material wherewithal."—*Pet. Ex.*

Dr. Samuel Champney, of Brooklyn, New York, died on Thursday evening from a slight dissection wound received in his finger while making a *post mortem* examination of a deceased person.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA

The steamer Illinois arrived at New York on Friday last with California dates to the 5th Feb., and 77 boxes of treasure.

There was a rumor at Asninwill to the effect that R was had been burnt and that Walker had escaped from the country, but it lacked conformation.

The Illinois connected at the Isthmus with the steamer Sonora, which brought down about $1,700,000. The exact amount transferred to the Illinois is not stated.

The Legislative Committee reported that $124,000 had been taken from the Treasury.—The Treasurer accounted for its disappearance by exhibiting the bond of the Pacific Express Company to pay in July next the interest on the State debt. The validity of the bond is questioned, as it does not acknowledge the receipt of the money. The Treasuser has been called on to give additional security for the money in his keeping. A proposition to impeach him is before the Legislature.

At a meeting of the citizens of Mariposa, it was resolved to resist Col. Fremont's claim to the Mariposa tract.

A bill is before the Senate providing for the working of the mines on grants made before the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which will, if passed enable the Mariposa settlers to defeat Col. Fremont's claim.

Iowa Hill, in Placer county, has been nearly destroyed by fire. Loss $150,000.

A party of Mexican bandits are devastating the Southern country and murdering the inhabitants. The Sheriff of Los Angelos and three Constables, who went to protect the people were murdered. The Legislature has appropriated $5,000 to assist in exterminating the robbers.

The recent earthquake caused the ground to open ten feet wide for many miles in length, in the Southern part of the State.

A hundred men sailed from San Francisco on the 21st ult., for San Diego, intending to go thence by land to Sonora.

The mines are yielding largely, except the Northern, which are blocked up with snow. The receipts of gold at San Francisco are 20 per cent. greater than for the preceding fortnight.

Messrs Kilman & Co., dry goods dealers, have failed. Liabilities $200,000.

The dates from Puget's Sound are to January 15th. The Indians were still threatening hostilities.

THE BURDELL TRAGEDY.—*Another Rumor—Eckel's Brother Insane.*—There are fresh rumors in relation to the Burdell murder, but probably they deserve little attention. The Herald promulgates the following, but does not vouch for its truth:

It seems that at 11 o'clock on the night of the 31st of January, a man was passing through Bond street, on his way to the Bowery, when his attention was attracted to the door of the house No 31 opening suddenly, and in the darkened hallway he saw the figures of two persons, a man and woman, coming forward to the door-step. On seeing him the couple started and shut the door hastily. This awakened the suspicions of the passer-by, and he very naturally came to the conclusion that they were hall thieves, and this suspicion was confirmed in his mind by noticing that the woman held in her hand a bundle, apparently of clothes tightly bound. Had they passed out of the house he would not have noticed them, but their starting back was what awakened his suspicions. Not seeing any policeman he gave no alarm, but walked on to the corner of the Bowery, where he concealed himself to see if the parties would again venture out. In a few moments he descried the man and woman, the latter still with the bundle in her hand, walking towards him. They crossed the Bowery without seeing him, and passed into one of the streets that led down to the East river.—The movements of the pair were so mysterious that the curiosity of their unseen watcher was keenly excited, and he determined to follow them up feeling a strange interest in all they did. The night was dark and cloudy, but he succeeded in keeping the mysterious couple in view without himself being seen. They kept steadily on their course until they came to the river's edge, where they walked out to the end of the pier, and, it is supposed by the person, threw the bundle into the stream, as he did not notice it in the woman's hand when they returned from the pier.

The witness to the above movements is said to be a poor man, and did not appear at the coroner's inquest for fear of being imprisoned.

It is stated that a brother of Eckel, residing at Mount Pleasant, Hunterdon county, New Jersey, has been so affected in his mind by the late finding of the grand jury, that it will probably be necessary to remove him to the lunatic asylum.

REVOLTING OUTRAGE.—The authorities of Boston have recently been engaged in the investigation of an outrage, resulting in the death of a poor but estimable girl, which exceeds, in revolting barbarity, any thing that has met our notice. The investigation closed on Wednesday evening, and we cannot more briefly state the fact than by giving the verdict of the Coroner's jury:

That the deceased came to her death at the Massachusett's General Hospital, in this city, February 10th, 1857, at 11 o'clock, P. M., from fracture of the spine and other injuries received on the night of January 18th, 1857, by throwing herself from the window in the fourth story of a building called the "Herald Building," in in William's Court, in this city, she having been impelled to the act through fright caused by the violation of her person and assaults made on her body by James White, James Holland, Robert Sullivan and Samuel A. Goodrich.

The facts in the case as testified to by numerous witnesses, are that the deceased was a virtuous and respectable domestic; that she, on the 18th of January last, left her residence in Leverett street, to visit some of her friends; that, on returning homeward, during the most severe storm of the season, she lost her way, and wandering about, passed into State Street, where she was met by James Holland, Robt. Sullivan, and James White, of whom she inquired the way to Leverett street; that instead of giving her the proper directions, they forcibly took her to Williams Court; from which they forcibly carried her up some steps into a room in the building occupied by the workmen of the Herald office; that then and there, the said Holland, Sullivan and White assaulted said Ellen Desmond, by throwing her upon the floor and violating her person; that Samuel A. Goodrich, who had charge of the lower part of said building, was then called to her aid, and told her he would conduct her out of the building, instead of doing which, he took her with the assistance of the aforesaid Holland and Sullivan up stairs into a room on the fourth story, the door of which had been previously locked, but on this occasion was forced open; that, having again violated her person in this room, and having kept her there for three-quarters of an hour, they went out shutting the door, and locked her in; that, at 1 o'clock, on the morning of the 9th of January last, said Ellen Desmond, hoping to escape from confinement and further violence, threw herself from a window of the room aforesaid.

DEAD LETTERS.—The Postmaster Gen'l in a recent report, states that the numbers of letters uncalled for or dead is probably three millions, and it would seem absolutely proper that some measures be adopted by the department to insure the delivery of these missives with greater certainty. $120,000 accrue to the post offices without their performance of the duty of delivering letters. This matter has already been brought to the notice of the officials of the department.

The Staunton Spectator says: "We are informed, by farmers, that the growing wheat in this county looks badly. In some parts of Eastern Virginia it was greatly injured by the recent severe weather. A gentlemen informs us that a friend in Missouri writes to him that the wheat in that region never before was so unpromising at this season."

A MAN ATTACKED BY A WOLF IN THE CAPITAL OF WISCONSIN.—Last Saturday morning, says the Madison State Journal, a young man, named P. Bowman, was attacked by a wolf on Washington avenue in that city. It flew at his throat, and, but for his presence of mind, in quickly drawing a small knife and stabbing it, he would doubtless have been killed. It followed him, until he arrived at the American House, where he worked. Even there it stood in the middle of the street, and did not leave till two Germans sallied forth to attack it. The same animal, it appears, also attacked another man the previous evening.

WHOLESALE TRADE,
SPRING 1857.
KERR & MARBURY,
Importers of China Glass and Earthenware,
74 & 76 SYCAMORE STREET,
PETERSBURG, VA.

HAVE just received direct from Liverpool, our usual assortment of China and Earthenware of the newest and most desirable patterns.

We have also received a large assortment of French, China and Fancy Goods, and a complete stock of Glass Ware, Looking Glasses, Stone Ware, etc., making the assortment very complete.

We respectfully solicit an examination of our stock and prices.

KERR & MARBURY.

Goods carefully packed for transportation.
28—4w

SPRING TRADE, 1857.

B. B. HOPKINS, WM. H. RYAN,
ROBERT HULL, THOS. W. ATKINSON,
HOPKINS, HULL & CO.
WHOLESALE DEALERS IN
BRITISH, FRENCH & AMERICAN
DRY GOODS,
No. 258 Baltimore street,
OPPOSITE HANOVER STREET,
Baltimore.

WE beg to call the attention of North Carolina Merchants to our Spring Stock, which comprises a most attractive assortment of BRITISH, FRENCH AND AMERICAN DRY GOODS.

In each department we shall exhibit a large assortment. Many of our goods we received directly from the manufacturers, and our facilities enable us to supply our customers with goods as low as they can purchase them in any of the Eastern Cities. We would further state, that by the recent completion of many of the Western and Southern Railroads tending towards Baltimore, we have increased facilities for forwarding goods with dispatch. We solicit a call from prompt buyers, and shall endeavor to make it to their interest to deal with us.

HOPKINS, HULL & CO.
☞ *Orders Promptly Attended to.*
Baltimore, Feb. 16, '57. fe 21—3mo in.

ON MANHOOD,
AND ITS PREMATURE DECLINE.
Just Published, Gratis, the 20th Thousand:

A FEW WORDS ON THE RATIONAL TREATMENT, with out Medicine, of Spermatorrhea or Local Weakness, Nocturnal Emissions, Genital and Nervous Debility, Impotency, and Impediments to Marriage generally.

BY B. DE LANEY, M. D.

The important fact that the many alarming complaints, originating in the imprudence and solitude of youth, may be easily removed without Medicine, is in this small tract clearly demonstrated; and the entirely new and highly successful treatment, as adopted by the Author, fully explained by means of which every one is enabled to cure himself perfectly and at the least possible cost, thereby avoiding all the advertised nostrums of the day.

Sent for any address, gratis and post free in a sealed envelope by remitting (post paid) two postage stamps to Dr. B. DE LANEY, 17 Lispenard Street, New York City.

December 9, 1856 wly 99

For Hire.

A FIRST