North Carolina Star.

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North-Carolina Star.

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TERMS:

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☞ Letters to the Editor must be post-paid

WHY HE DIDN'T PROPOSE.

BY TIM SLY.

"Why did you never think of marriage?" asked I of my friend Lyman Robbins, who is some ten years older than myself, and a confirmed bachelor.

"I have thought of it," said he.

"Well, why didn't you marry, then?"

"I will tell you. You know Frank Palmer, don't you?"

"Yes, he failed last week to the tune of twenty thousand dollars. But what has that to do with your story?"

"Some thing, as you will see. I was never seriously tempted to make a proposal but once, and that was to Frank's wife—before she was married, you understand."

"Oh!" said I growing interested. "And why didn't you?"

"You shall know. I was young and romantic at the time—she was beautiful and accomplished. We were thrown much together in society, and I was just then of an age to yield to her fascinations. Though I had never expressed my love in words, I suppose my looks betrayed me, and I am quite sure that she was aware of my feeling towards her. Our families being somewhat intimate, we were on the same footing, and she treated me in much the same confidential manner as she would a favorite cousin."

"Do you think," I inquired, "that she was in love with you?"

"No," said he; "I never thought that. I presume, however, she would like to have lured me on to a declaration, and then would have acted as fancy dictated. One day, when I had made a morning call and was about retiring, she told me that she was going out shopping, and laughingly proposed to me to go with her, and carry the bundles. Having nothing of importance to take up my time, and not being averse to the proposal, partly on account of its novelty, and considerably, I rather suspect, on account of the agreeable character of the company I should have, I consented in the same spirit, and in a few minutes we were fairly en route."

"I have but little to buy," said my companion. "You may congratulate yourself upon that, as you will have the less to carry."

We made our first visit at a dry goods establishment.

"Have you any lace collars?" inquired Caroline. A large quantity were displayed, but they were only five dollars in price, and they were too cheap. At length one was found at seven dollars, with which, being declared to be the best in the store, my companion at length professed herself satisfied, and decided to take it.

"I suppose," said she on going out, "that I don't really need it, but it was so beautiful I could not resist the temptation."

A beautiful shawl at the door of a store next caught Caroline's attention. "I must certainly go in and look at their shawls," said she. "I never saw any precisely like them."

"New kind," said the clerk. "Yes, miss, just imported from France, warranted to surpass in fineness of texture and durability any now extant. Will you have one?"

"The price?"

"Seventy-five dollars, and cheap at that."

Caroline was startled at this announcement. "That is high," said she.

"Not for the quality. Just feel of it, see how soft it is, and you will not call it expensive."

"I did not think of getting one to-day; however, I think I must. You may charge it to my father."

The shawl was folded, enveloped and handed to me by the clerk.

"I suppose papa will scold," said Caroline; "but it's such a beauty."

We reached, ere long, another dry goods store, the placards over which, "selling off at cost," proved so seductive that we at once stayed our steps and entered. Caroline rushed to examine the silks, the first specimens offered, which to my unpracticed eye seemed of a superior quality, were cast contemptuously aside, and she desired to see the very best they had in the store. Some were shown her at two dollars and a half per yard. After a while, she ordered twelve yards to be cut off for her. This was done, and the bundle handed to me. The bill, of course, sent to her father.

What with the shawl and silk, each of which made a bundle of no inconsiderable size, I was pretty well weighed down, and began to be apprehensive of the consequences in case my companion should make many more purchases.—She, however, relieved my anxiety by saying that she intended purchasing nothing more. She was only going to stop at a jeweler's to have a locket repaired. Accordingly, we repaired to the store of a fashionable jeweler. The locket was handed over with the necessary directions.

But that was not all. A lady at the counter was engaged in examining a very costly pair of ear-rings which she was desirous of purchasing, but demurred at the price. At last she laid them down reluctantly, saying: "They are beautiful; but I do not care to go as high as twenty-five dollars.

"Let me see them, if you please," asked Caroline. They were handed to her. She was charmed with them, chiefly, I imagined, on account of the price, for they had little beyond that to recommend them, and decided to take them. "Now, I must absolutely go home," said she, "without purchasing any thing more."

For once she kept her word, and I was released from my attendance. But the thought that she had expended one hundred and thirty-five dollars in a single morning's shopping, and that on objects of none of which, by her own confession, she stood in need, could not help recurring to me, and I decided that until I could find some more rapid way of obtaining money, such a wife would be altogether too expensive a luxury for me to indulge in. How far I am right you may judge by Frank Palmer's failure. At all events, that is the reason I didn't propose!

Excellent Reparter.—The Rev. Dr. M'C——, minister of Douglas in Clydesdale, was one day dining in a large party where the Honorable Henry Erskine and some other lawyers were present. A great dish of cresses being presented after dinner, Dr. M'C., who was extravagantly fond of vegetables, helped himself much more largely than any other person, as he ate with his fingers, with a peculiar toxicity of manner. Mr. Erskine was struck with the idea that he resembled Nebuchadnezzar in his state of condemnation. Resolved to give him a hit for the apparent greediness of his taste and manner of eating, he wit addressed him with, "Dr. M'C., ye being main kind of the king Nebuchadnezzar," and the company were beginning to titter at the ludicrous allusion; when the reverend reputable replied, "Ay, do I mind ye o' Nebuchadnezzar? (ha'll be because I'm eating among the brutes!"

Judge Brosson, in accepting the "Hard" nomination for Governor of New York, expresses himself in favor of the fugitive slave law, and the principles of the Nebraska bill and adds:

"Whether such sentiments are now popular or not, I entertain no doubt that they will ultimately be approved by a great majority of the people of this State. Error and fanaticism may triumph for a time, but reason will prevail in the end."

RALEIGH, N. C.

SATURDAY MORNING, SEPT. 16, 1854.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT CONVENTION.

It will be seen by a notice that we publish in our present issue that an internal improvement Convention will be held in Salisbury on the 2nd day of November, next, to devise some general plan for improving the State by railroads. The friends of such improvement are invited from all sections of the State. We recognize in the names appended to the call many staunch friends of internal improvement, and can but express our gratification that so large, so respectable and so influential a body of public spirited men from all sections of the State, should unite in a call for such a Convention.

We hope the Convention will meet and that every section of the State will be ably and fully represented, and when it meets we trust that a spirit of harmony will prevail. The friends of improvement in North Carolina now are many. A few years ago the subject was an unpopular one, but now it meets with more favor from the people. Now is the time for the wise and intelligent men of the State to consult together and devise a plan which will meet the demands of all sections of the State. Internal improvements in North Carolina are comparatively in their infancy, we have but commenced a system which, if successfully completed, may develop the untold resources of the State and enable us to compete with our neighbors in energy and in enterprise.

From the names appended to this call, we conclude that nothing partizan is intended by the movers, but that all will meet together, as North Carolinians to consult for the interest and welfare of North Carolina. Whilst as a Whig, we are proud of the position our party has always maintained upon this subject, we are ready and willing to co-operate with our Democratic fellow citizens in furthering any plan that may develop the resources and increase the prosperity of the State.

We repeat, then, we hope a full representation from all sections of the State will be present to deliberate upon this the most important question that will come before the next Legislature, and that something will be done in which all sections will readily concur.

FLOURISHING.—The Senior Editor of the Fayetteville Observer, now on a visit to the North, writes in a glowing style of the success and fortunes of some of the leading Northern editors. The prosperity of the press in the Northern cities is undoubtedly due to the ability with which it is conducted, and the public spirit of the business men of the cities; still are they very liberally patronized at the South for their commercial and other intelligence. If all those Southern people who take only Northern journals would only bestow some of their patronage upon papers nearer home, the publishers and editors could furnish them a more handsome sheet and a much more able and instructive journal; and whilst they might not be able to emulate the splendor of New York editors, or become as wealthy as they are, they might be more easy and comfortable in life, and have less the feeling that they had spent their time, energy and talents for the edification of the public, and had received but a small return for so much toil. We venture to assert that the editors in this State labor as hard and as constantly as their more favored brethren in the North; and whilst a few of them have probably made quite a handsome fortune, the larger portion have been compelled to rest satisfied with but little. But to the account given by the editor of the Observer:

I accidentally fell into conversation at the dinner table the other day with a gentleman who proved to be one of the editors and proprietors of one of the leading New York papers. Before dinner was over he had invited me to go out with him to his residence 12 miles from the city to spend a day or a night with him; and I accepted his invitation and had been hurried along by the cars about half the distance before I found out his name. Seventeen years ago he bought 80 acres of land where he lives for $8,200, and last year he was offered for the same land $72,000. He is just finishing a large and substantial stone house at a cost of $20,000. It is most beautifully situated, within view of the Harlem and Hudson rivers, Long Island Sound, the High Bridge, and the Ocean; and is near to the Hudson & Harlem rail roads. The establishment of the Harlem road has led to settlements and villages all along its borders, and quadrupled the value of real estate. Hundreds of people who do business in New York live on the line of this road and pass up and down every day. One of the editors of the paper in question lives in New Haven, another at the place I have just described, and five or six others in the city or elsewhere,—my informant did not even know where. The paper is owned by three persons. The other editors have salaries. Its market value as property is about $250,000, and one of its proprietors, a hard working man too, is individually worth that amount. My Editorial brethren at the South may judge from these facts that their city cotemporaries have a flourishing time of it. About 20 years ago, this my acquaintance among them, then a young man, entered upon employment in this city at $50 a year!

THE SENATORSHIP.—The Washington Daily Globe says:

"It is stated that the election of the Hon. J. C. Dobbin, as United States Senator from North Carolina, has been definitely arranged, and that Mr. Mallory, of Florida, will succeed him as head of the Navy Department."

NEW HANOVER.—The Democracy of this County have nominated Dr. Peter M. Walker of Wilmington as their candidate for the House of Commons—in Judge Person's place.

THE UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE for September contains some quite readable articles. The editors seem to be industrious and persevering, and resolved to serve up an interesting monthly entertainment for their readers.

☞ Thomas Bragg, Governor elect of this State, was on a visit to this city on Tuesday and Wednesday last.

Sold.—On Saturday last our Court House was sold at auction. The main building brought $500, the south wing $50, and the north wing $37. We didn't learn what the chimneys and underpinning sold for. The old house will soon be removed and the new Court House commenced on the site. *Warrenton News.*

Internal Improvement.

☞ A GENERAL CONVENTION of the friends of Internal Improvement will be held *AT SALISBURY, on THURSDAY the second day of November next.*

The object of the Convention will be to consider and recommend a general system of Internal Improvement, by Rail Roads, for the State.

All counties are requested to send Delegates, and friends of Internal Improvement are invited to attend.

ROWAN COUNTY.	GUILFORD.
Chas. F. Fisher,	D. F. Caldwell,
Nath'l Boyden,	John A. Gilmer,
John W. Ellis,	HAYWOOD.
D. A. Davis,	Jacob Siler,
John I Shaver,	H. G. Woodfin,
Wm. Murphy,	IREDELL.
Michael Brown,	W. F. Cowan,
ALEXANDER.	JOHNSTON.
A. C. McIntosh,	D. W. Sanders,
ANSON.	LINCOLN.
E. F. Lilly,	C. C. Henderson,
BERTIE.	MONTGOMERY.
J. B. Cherry,	E. Doherty,
BURKE.	S. H. Christian,
E. J. Erwin,	NORTHAMPTON.
R. C. Pearson.	D. A. Barnes,
BEAUFORT.	NEW HANOVER.
M. F. Arendell,	P. K. Dickinson,
F. B. Satterthwaite,	A. J. DeRosset,
BUNCOMBE.	Thos. H. Wright,
J. F. E. Hardy.	ONSLOW.
CUMBERLAND.	John A. Averitt,
Geo. McNeill,	RANDOLPH.
R. K. Bryan,	John. Worth,
E. J. Hale,	H. B. Elliott,
C. T. Haigh,	A. H. Marsh,
Joseph Arey,	RICHMOND.
E. L. Winslow,	A. Dockery,
John H. Cook,	ROBESON.
D. G. McIlae,	R. S. French,
CATAWBA.	R. E. Troy,
W. L. McCorkle,	Edmund McQueen
CLEAVELAND.	N. A. McLean,
A. R. Hounsly,	SAMPSON.
COLUMBUS.	Patrick Murphy,
A. J. Troy,	STOKES.
CHOWAN.	R. D. Golding,
R. T. Paine,	SURRY.
CALDWELL.	J. Cowles,
S. F. Patterson,	STANLY.
W. A. Lenoir,	M. T. Waddill,
DUPLIN.	WAYNE.
D. Reid,	S. L. Love,
DAVIE.	WAKE.
R. Bailey,	L. O'B. Branch,
G. W. Johnson,	Wm. Boylan,
EDGECOMBE.	YADKIN.
J. S. Dancy.	Jos. Williams.
GRANVILLE.	
A. W. Venable,	

☞ All Newspapers in the State, friendly to Internal Improvement, are requested to publish the above notice.

Maine Election.—The latest dispatches from Maine state that the Governor's vote is very close; but it is believed that Morrill is elected by a small majority. The following congressmen are believed to be elected:

First district—John M. Wood, Second—John J. Perry. Third—Ebenezer Knowlton. Fourth—Samuel B. Benson. Fifth—Israel Washburn, jr.

These are all whigs. The Washington Union sets them down as whigs and abolitionists. The following dispatch comes to us from Portland:

Returns have been received from 107 towns, showing the following vote for Governor:

Morrill, the Fusionist,	21,600
Reed, Whig,	4,644
Paris, Democrat,	10,245
Carey, Liquor Law,	1,377

The returns from the Legislature show the election of 30 Fusionists, 6 Democrats and 7 Know-Nothings.

The Argus says that everything from Congress down has gone by the board. The papers ascribe the result to the action of the Know-Nothings.

A Rare Curiosity.—Dr. Franklin R. Freeman, of this county, sent us on Monday last a Chicken with *four* legs and *three* wings. The legs and feet are fully formed, and of the usual size. The wings, are small, two appearing on one side and one on the other. How long it lived after being hatched, we are not informed. It was sent to us preserved in alcohol, and we shall keep it at our office for the inspection of such as may desire to see it. *Hillsboro Recorder.*

We regret to learn that Mr. Watts Riggan of this county, had his dwelling house and kitchen destroyed by fire last week, together with all their contents, except a few unimportant articles; such a misfortune could not have befallen a better man, or one less able to bear it. He is old and infirm, and has under his care some of his children and grand children who are dependant upon his unassisted labors for support. He deserves the sympathy and assistance of his fellow citizens. *Warrenton News.*

Acquittal of Christian.—The trial of Christian, in the circuit court of Bedford, indicted for the murder of Cadet Blackburn, in Lexington, last February, was concluded Monday evening by a verdict of Not Guilty. The jury was out only twenty-one minutes. The verdict (says the Lynchburg Virginian,) was received by the audience with evidences of the warmest approbation. The unfortunate young man gave expression to deep feeling on the occasion, threw himself in tears on the neck of a juror, and on leaving the court house was escorted by a large number of sympathising friends to the room occupied by his anxious mother and sisters.

Dancing with a Bad-Black.—A correspondent of the New York Times, writing from Saratoga, is responsible for the following:

"There has been aristocracy here of all grades and shades, from the genuine 'simon pure, down to the 'mushroom' and 'codfish;' and I looked in one evening and saw the *valet de chambre* of a gentleman at one hotel waltzing with one of the haughtiest beauties who was denominated 'belle' at the other. He may have been quite as good as his master; but I doubt whether the young lady would have smiled so graciously on him, or permitted his moustache to come so near her cheek, if she had known that he had spent part of the evening brushing coats and blacking boots."

Fall Potatoes.—A gentleman writes in the Maine Farmer—I left, last fall, some potatoes in the ground—in July they were more than as big again as my others. He strongly recommends to farmers to plant some in the fall and try the experiment. I have seen some that others have raised, he says by planting in the fall, they were excellent—better potatoes than he ever saw before—very large, sound and handsome.

Death of Mrs. E. H. Benton.—The estimable lady of the Hon. Thos. H. Benton, died on Monday night at her late residence in Washington.

TITLES.

The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser happily hits off the love of titles displayed by our Republican people:

"Never was there such a dragging down of lofty titles as in this country. Every little paltry school, dignified with a college charter by the Legislature of the State—and such colleges spring up like weeds in the West—showers its titles annually upon men who don't know the Latin words they represent. Crops of D. D., LL. D., come with every annual Commencement, until the whole thing has become ridiculous, and but few worthy men accept the proffered distinction. This whole matter of conferring degrees has been "run into the ground" so far—if the expression is a pardonable one—that it is more a mark of distinction not to be written D. D. or LL. D., than to have the common handle follow the name. Bungtown College and Snuggleton University, out in Iowa, or near Oregon, make Rev. Mr. Puggins, or Rev. Mr. Whanger, in Hardscrabb, D. D.'s, an old Givemfits, the member of Assembly, and Putemthrough, the lawyer at a new river mill, become suddenly wiser and greater with an LL. D. A man will have to be very obscure to avoid these degrees, for they come thick as leaves in Vallambrosa. The most abused term, however, is that of Professor, once honored in academic halls, and meaning an instructor occupying a professional chair in a college or university. Nowadays the public are informed that Professor this or Professor that, is ready to give lessons in writing, phrenology, or slight o'hand trick, in necromancy, or cards. The whole rabble of travelling showmen, vagrant venders of universal panaceas, itinerant lecturers on phrenology, spiritualism, biology, and mendicants generally, are all Professors; an illusorious crew certainly, and though professing much, poor specimens of mankind, taken in the aggregate. As for Generals, Colonels, and the lower military dignitaries, the militia furnishes an abundance of such titles, and you may find Generals in men of the most unmilitary occupations, and perhaps a Colonel, certainly a Major or Captain, to mix a cobbler or make a julep at the next restaurant. Republicans as we are, proud of talking of our Democracy, titles don't come amiss, and if we don't say, "your lordship," and "your grace," Bishop Huges being the only man in our State so called, we show our innate love for titles in the most republican form of Rev., Rt., Rev., Dr., General, Captain, and Squire."

One of our oldest and most respected merchants told a story (a true one) which very well illustrated the same penchant. He had a customer, who, year after year, came to this place and bought a large bill of goods. On one occasion handing his bill to the buyer he was surprised to see it turned over and over, and examined for a long time, evidently to the great dissatisfaction of the examiner. "What's the matter, isn't your bill all right sir?" "Why yes, its all right I believe, but the fact is that since I was here last year, my company have elected me Captain"! The bill was altered and the customer departed well pleased with his bill and delighted to see Captain at the head of it. *Fay. Ob.*

History of the Word Esquire.—The word is from the French *escurier*, (shield bearer) and originally signified nothing more. It was applied to armor bearers of Knights and Barons, who were second in rank to them. The esquire was a gentleman, and had the right of quartering arms on his shield, as also of wearing a sword, which denoted gentility—though he was not girded with the knightly belt. This was the esquire of chivalry, of whom we have an amusing burlesque in the person of Sancho Panza, the valorous attendant of that famous knight errant, Don Quixote.

Another class, feudal esquires, consisted of those who had not been dubbed. The sons of younger sons of Dukes and marquises, the younger of viscounts, earls and barons; and their elder with the eldest sons of baronets and knights in all orders are regarded in England as esquires by birth, though their precedence, which differs widely, is regulated by the ranks of their respective ancestors. Officers of the Queen's Court and household, her army and navy down to captains inclusive, doctors of law, barristers, and physicians are reputed esquires. A justice of the peace is only an esquire during his term of office; but a sheriff of the county holds his title for life. In this country it is usedalmost indiscriminately as an expression of respect.—[*New York Sunday Times.*

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

A correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, writes from Washington as follows:

The policy of the administration in relation to island acquisition, continues to be developed.—The long expected proposition for the annexation of the Sandwich Islands has come at last, and at the same time with a project of a treaty for the privilege of a naval depot and station and commercial ports in the Dominican portion of Hayti. These measures are consistent with the commerce, and its security from foreign naval aggression.—The political consequences involved in these measures are unimportant compared with the manifest commercial advantages which they present.

The means of acquisition proposed are peaceful and honorable, and there can be no doubt that the Senate and the country generally will concur in them. A great commercial nation—soon to be the greatest in the world—must have the facilities of foreign posts and stations for its mercantile and marine. This will tend to prevent rather than to excite hostilities with foreign powers.

Another correspondent says:

There was a protracted meeting of the Cabinet to-day, supposed to be in reference to the treaty just received for the annexation of the Sandwich Islands, and also the treaty with Dominica for a naval depot.

The constitution of Florida provides that the seat of Government shall be removed from its present position at the end of five years from the first session of the Legislature to be held under it. That time is now at hand, and the people of the State are agitating the subject in public meetings. Tallahassee, the present location of the capitol, is two hundred miles from the geographical centre of the State, and at least one hundred and fifty miles from the centre of actual population. The State House is stated to be in a dilapidated condition, and this is urged as an additional reason. The voters are to vote upon the question of "removal" or "no removal" at the general election in October next. One of the public meetings in Marion county looks forward with interest to the time as "fast approaching when 'Rowlegs' and his tribe will seek for a home in the West, which will add some 200 miles to the present settlement." And it is further anticipated that "the Indians once gone, their places will be filled by an almost numberless rush of inhabitants, and instead of the crack of the Indian rifle will be the busy hum of the industrious husbandman." These are cheering anticipations. The white population of the State in 1850 was 41,049.

DROPS OF COMFORT.

Some wag enumerates the following among the "Drops of Comfort generally administered by friends"

"Reading a newspaper on a railroad, containing an account of 'Five-and-twenty lives lost!' on the same road, and near the same place, only the day before!

"Losing a small fortune in an unlucky speculation, and all your friends wondering how you could have been *such a fool.*'

"Putting on a white neckcloth, which you fancy becomes you, and being hailed all the evening as 'waiter.'

"Breaking down before ladies in the middle of a song, and a malicious rival calling out *Encore! encore!*"

FIGHTING SHADOWS.

The Ghosts have determined to establish an organ to prevent their opinions from being misunderstood, and Judge Edmonds as editor of the Spiritual Circle is now intervening upon their behalf in sublunary affairs. We presume that there will be a ghost-ticket in the field, and politicians must know their opinions upon the odic forces and spiritual sympathy before they can get the endorsement of the disembodied. What will our Democratic friends do about this? They are now fighting the misty and impalpable cohorts of the Know Nothings. Our Democratic friends very properly denounce intolerance.—They have prepared long and doctrinal articles to show that the fathers of the Republic were tolerant of all religious opinions. They speak of the services of Kosiusko and of Lafayette, and ask with indignation if the right of suffrage is to be denied to a German gentleman whose goods are contained in a large iron bound box, who smokes a long meerschaum, is followed by a bear headed lady carrying the smallest specimen of Teutonic manufacture in her arms, and followed by the remainder in procession. Well, it is very cruel in the Quien Sabes to insist upon examining this party, until they can learn to spell and pronounce the word "constitution." In the mean time the Teutons are furnished with gift-lands, protected by law and receive liberal pay for their labor, and in nearly every respect as well off as ——Whigs.

Our Democratic friends inveigh against the injustice of proscribing men for their religious opinions. They point to the fact that our liberties were won by the swords of both Protestant and Catholic soldiers. Bishop Hughes has argued some time since that the trial by jury—the system of election, indeed, all that we most boast of in our institutions, had been copied from Papal models. He has also made the pointed remark that whilst Protestant Hessians were hired to cut our throats, Catholic Ireland aided in defending our liberties. But we do not know what defence the Quien Sabes will set up on that subject. Unlike the Ghosts they seem to have no organ. They seem to have adopted the tactics of Bunker Hill, they do not fire till they "see the whites of their enemies eyes." Like the gallant commander of the Constitution, they will not return the Democratic fire until they are within half pistol shot. Not, having held, or even expected to hold any office, we cannot take a very lively interest in this war on one side, but we should very much like to hear what the Quien Sabes will have to say in reply. Mum candidates have been always denounced by our Democratic friends, with great indignation. Perhaps we shall have an answer from the Quien Sabes one of these days. "We don't know." But our Democratic friends must find it very hard fighting such impalpable enemies this disagreeable weather. *Balt. Patriot.*

AN INCIDENT OF JURY TRIAL.

The last number of Harper's Magazine contains an article entitled "Incidents of Jury Trial," the perusal of which reminded us of an amusing and somewhat novel method of arriving at a verdict adopted by a Jury in this county on a certain occasion. The story is told by a facetious friend of ours, who was a member of the Jury, and is as follows: The Jurors in the case referred to, as often happens, found themselves unable to agree upon the amount of damages to be assessed.—Many unsuccessful efforts had been made to agree upon a verdict. All the means usually resorted to on such occasions were tried in vain. The opinion of each Juror was ascertained, and the sum thus obtained added together and the aggregate divided by twelve, but it failed to produce unanimity. Their patience was exhausted—their appetites were keen—the dinner bells were ringing, and yet there was no prospect of agreement. In this condition of affairs the happy expedient we are about to relate was suggested and immediately carried into execution, with complete and wonderful success. A large circle was drawn upon the floor of the Jury-room with a "piece of chalk;" this was next divided into twelve equal compartments by drawing lines from its centre to its circumference. Each Juror then wrote down in one of these divisions the amount of damages he "went for." This done the Foreman with a gravity becoming the solemnity of the occasion took his stand in the centre of the circle, and having *spit* in the palm of his left hand, struck it violently with the fore-finger of the right, at the same instant whirling his body rapidly around on his heel. The sum contained in the division on which the *spit* fell as it flew from under the finger of the Foreman was taken as the *verdict* of the Jury.—*Staunton Spectator.*

SAD STATE OF THINGS.

"One of the most pitiable and painful sights in this city, says the New York *Mirror*, is the thousand and one barefooted, ragged and filthy children idling about the streets, or, in stormy weather, plying old brooms at the street crossings. Running among the omnibuses and carriages, they perform, it is true, a fair share of what little street cleaning is done, to the shame of our authorities be it said—and their remuneration consists of the few pennies dropped into their palms by pedestrians.

"No less than a thousand of these unfortunates may be counted in New York on any rainy day. They are principally girls, most of them under ten years of age, but many of them twelve, fourteen and still older. Mixed among these girls are enough boys to educate them, in all the viciousness and vulgarity of their sex; and between their own depravity, ingrained by a life in the streets almost from infancy, and that caught from their male companions, they present a picture of debasement which might delight a fiend bent on the annihilation of humanity.

"Low slang, obscenity and blasphemy of the coarsest kind, is their current language from morning until night. This is visible to anyone who traverses our streets, unless his eyes be strained on Africa, or some distant land of lesser heathen.—When the night comes, these children scatter to their haunts—where? Some go to homes more filthy than the streets they have been sauntering or sweeping, where drunken fathers and mothers eagerly seize the earnings of their children's sin and shame, to prolong the foul orgies of Five Points and kindred places and some, already reckless or homeless, seek rum holes, or halls of vice still more disgusting.

The Cholera at Columbia, Pa.—A dispatch from Columbia, dated Sept. 12, says:

The cholera still rages here with great virulence. Up to this morning there were seventy-two deaths, and forty new cases to-day. All business continues suspended. Not a store is to be found open. A large proportion of the citizens have left for various places in the country, and others are leaving every hour. Two-thirds of the population are gone, leaving probably not over 2000 inhabitants in the place; and with these we have forty new cases to report to-day, showing an unprecedented virulence. The mortality and distress are appalling. There is great difficulty in burying the dead. A perfect panic exists. Many of the best citizens are falling victims.

The New King of Saxony, who assumed the crown after his brother's sudden demise, does not appear to be very popular with his "subjects." They remember that he caused the soldiers to fire upon the people of Leipsic during some slight disturbance a few years ago, and they criticised his recent proclamation very severely, by spoken and written comments. A few arrests were immediately made, but it is probable that the King was informed of the state of feeling which, to some extent, prevailed, for he followed his first proclamation with a second, upon the same day, in which a much more conciliatory tone was manifest.

Boston a Hundred Years Ago.—In 1754 there were nearly as many colored persons as there were houses in Boston, the number of each being 1,000. The number of slaves of that period was 989. About 45 Indians of all ages resided in the town.

For the Star.

A MEETING OF THE CITIZENS

For the Accommodation of Visitors at the North Carolina State Fair.

The undersigned takes pleasure in stating, that a public meeting of the citizens of Raleigh was held at the City Hall on the 12th inst., for the purpose of making all necessary arrangements for the accommodations of visitors to the second annual State Fair of the North Carolina Agricultural Society, beginning on Tuesday, Oct. 17th next.

There was much interest expressed by all present, and from the desire manifested, there will doubtless be ample accommodation afforded to the agriculturists and mechanics, and others of the State, who will by their presence, *show*, that they have the true interest of the country at heart; and every assurance was given that all would be properly accommodated.

These committee were appointed by the meeting, one to attend at each of the three principal Hotels of the City, for the purpose of referring visitors to places where they can be comfortably lodged—after the rooms of the Hotels and other public Houses are occupied. All those who may desire to be relieved from the trouble of looking out for themselves will please call at the *Yarbrough House*, where a committee consisting of Messrs. Yarbrough, J. K. Marriott, T. J. Lily, P. F. Pescud, and Seaton Gales.

At the City Hotel.—Capt. Lawrence, O. H. Pery, Col. R. J. Wynne, James, M. Towles, and T. H. Selby.

At Guion's Hotel, Messrs E. P. Guion, R. S. Tucker, J. H. Biggs, W. Whitaker, Jr. and C. W. D. Hutchings, who will give them directions whereby they can be suitably accommodated.

Wm. DALLAS HAYWOOD.
Intendant and Chm'n.

Raleigh, Thursday Sept. 14th, 1854.

RIOT IN MOBILE.

The Mobile Register of the 5th instant, gives the following account of a riot which took place in that city on the previous day:

At an early hour, a difficulty occurred between the American and Irish population, in which the former, being greatly in the minority, were driven from the polls. Exasperated at the state of affairs, the Americans rallied in large numbers, and proceeded to the seat of war. After some skirmishing, an Irishman, who is a bar-keeper under the Amphitheatre, got into a fight with an American, and being pressed by numbers, fled into a house tenanted by a Spanish family, corner of Royal and Eslava streets. Under the impression that the house was a rendezvous of the Irish rioters, the vast crowd poured in, demolishing windows and banisters, in search of the fugitive, who as was afterwards ascertained, had taken refuge in the chimney. A shot was fired at the crowd by one of the inmates of the house but unfortunately the contents were received by a female, also an inmate, who endeavored to prevent this suicidal attempt on the part of her countrymen. Had it not been for the fleeing of the Irish and the expostulations of the Mayor, the mob, enraged as it was, might have proceeded to great extremities. As it was, it ended in far less bloodshed than was expected, considering the weapons and missiles of every description resorted to, though there was enough to satisfy the most exacting.

From the Plains—Highly Important.—We gave, on Tuesday, a brief account of the massacre of Lieutenant Gratton and his party, who went in pursuit of the Sioux Indians, near Fort Laramie. This account has been confirmed by official reports. It appeared to be a preconcerted plan on the part of the Indians to waylay and murder the whole party. The massacre was committed on the 18th of August. It was also stated when the express left Laramie, that the fort was surrounded by Indians, and there was reason to fear that it would be destroyed. The garrison numbered one commissioned officer and fifty men. It was further stated also that after the battle the Indians attacked the American Fur Company's station and destroyed it, carrying off goods worth from ten to fifteen thousand dollars.

Another account conflicts somewhat with the foregoing, relative to the disposition of the Indians towards the whites.

The Indian tribes were peacably disposed towards the whites, and no apprehensions were entertained of difficulty with them.

Some of the tribes were not on good terms with each other, and preparations were on foot for hostilities between the Sioux, Pawnees and Camanches, and serious trouble was anticipated.

F. X. Aubrey, a skimmer of the Plains, was killed in a row by Major Weightman at Santa Fe. Aubrey had just made the trip from San Francisco to Santa Fe in twenty-days. No particulars were given.

The Chinese Secret Order, called the "Triad," has been so frequently mentioned of late years in our accounts from California and the East, that no doubt many of our readers will be glad to know something of its character. From a recent essay published in a Paris paper, called "La Patrie," it seems that the Chinese name of this order is San-ho-hoei, and that the meaning of it is "the Society of the United Three, or of the Triad, that is to say, of heaven, earth and man." There is a distinctive badge to be worn by the members, when they dare do so. It is a blue silk scarf tipped with thread lace, but as they are always opposed to the Tartar government of China, it is rather a dangerous badge to wear. In some provinces, however, they are sufficiently numerous to brave the government and wear it publicly. The Triad, like all the other secret societies of China, constitutes a great political conspiracy against the Tartar dynasty, and they are now the active and vigorous propagators of the insurrection. The number three is the mystic one of the Triad. Their Supreme Directors are three chiefs, and a Triad member displays the number wherever he can in his actions. Thus he takes his cup of tea with three fingers, bows three times, requires three invitations to be seated, etc. The Triad dates from the usurpation of the foreign emperors, and the Tartar government is more severe towards its members than those of any other society, because of the wider ramifications of the order, and their avowed and unconcealed hatred of the Tartar race. They have their meetings in California, and wherever else Chinese may be found. Their statutes are written upon scrolls of linen, which at the least alarm of danger are sunk in the bottom of deep wells. The details of their organization and working are unknown, but the ceremonies of initiation have been ascertained.

Cholera at Knoxville, Tennessee.—An extra from the Knoxville (Tennessee) Whig announces that the cholera is raging in that place, and a letter says six or eight deaths occur daily. The Whig says:

"The picture here is one of gloom; the greatest consternation prevails. The city is abandoned. Night and day they are flying in every direction. The hotels are closed. The stage comes in with the mails, and returns to the country immediately. We have scarcely help enough to lay out the dead and bury them. All business has nearly ceased. Our publishers have left town, and no other paper can be got out. If we are able, or have hands, we will hereafter issue an extra."

☞ *Important to the Heirs of those who Fell at the Alamo, Texas.*—It is stated that there is due the heirs of those men who fell with Travis, at the "Alamo," and with Fannin at the massacre of Goliad, the following quantity of land, viz: To married men, 4,605 acres as a headright, 1,000 acres bounty; 640 acres as donation—total, 7,105 acres. Unmarried men, 1,476 acres headright, 1,020 bounty, and 640 donation—total, 4,136.

FOREIGN NEWS.

NEW YORK, Sept. 12. The (new) United States mail steamship St. Louis A. G. Ellridge, commander, from Havre and Southampton, was telegraphed below this morning, she reached her wharf at six o'clock this afternoon. She brings four days later intelligence from England and all parts of Europe.

The dates from Liverpool are to the 25th ult. inclusive. The political intelligence is not of an important character.

From the seat of war we have nothing new,—the old story about marching, counter marching, occupation, and expeditionary forces.

The commercial advices possess considerable importance. Flour had declined one shilling and sixpence to two shillings. Wheat had declined eight pence. Corn had advanced one shilling. Cotton had advanced one-eighth of a penny on the lower grades. In the other leading articles of the market no material change.

The London money market was easier.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

The occupation of Wallachia by the Austrian army had been fully effected.

Omer Pasha, at the head of a division of 25,000 men, with 30 guns, had entered Bucharest.

The expedition against Crimea was positively to have sailed on the 25th of August. The expedition consists of 70,000 men, of whom 20,000 are Turks.

From the army in Asia we have no further intelligence.

At the great fire in Varna, 400 shops and private houses were destroyed. Several of the Greeks who were concerned in firing the town were dealt with in the most summary manner. Some were burnt to death and others shot.

The cholera was raging violently at Bomarsund among the French troops.

The most tempting offers had been made to the King of Sweden for the purpose of inducing him to take an active part with the western powers.

The French ambassador had offered his Majesty a subsidy of fourteen millions of francs for the first month, and seven millions for each succeeding month of active hostilities.

The British envoy had also several interviews with the King, with the view of inducing his Majesty to take immediate offensive steps against Russia.

A large portion of the French fleet had left Bomarsund to make a diversion on West Helsingfort.

SPAIN.

Our advices from Madrid are to the 24th ultimo.

Private letters received in Paris and London state that a royal decree had appeared suppressing the so-called juntas of safety and armament which had formed in the provinces.

The government proposes to close all the political clubs.

General O'Donnel had decided to suppress the Queen's Guards and the organization of the Halberdiers.

The Queen Mother had not yet effected her escape from Spain.

Remarkable Spring.—Mr. S. N. Carvalho, the artist, publishes in the San Francisco *Herald* some extracts from his journal of his recent trip from Great Salt Lake to Los Angelos, through Capon Pass, by which it appears that, on the 30th of May, after getting some twenty-three miles beyond the dreadful Jornada and Muddy river, he discovered a large spring, thirty-five feet wide and forty long, surrounded by acacias in full bloom, containing clear and delicious water, over fifteen feet in depth, and so peculiarly buoyant, that when he and his companion, Percly Pratt, went into bathe, they found it impossible to sink. It was not salt, but perfectly sweet.

The Fever in Charleston and Savannah.—There were 27 deaths from yellow fever in Charleston during the 48 hours ending at 10 o'clock on Sunday night. The Courier notices the sickness of several of its compositors.

In Savannah on Thursday there were 29 interments—26 from yellow fever, and on Friday 20—13 from yellow fever. We regret to learn that