

THOMAS LORING, EDITOR.
W. STRINGER, ASSOCIATE EDITOR.
THE COMMERCIAL
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BY LORING & STRINGER,
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WILMINGTON, N. C.

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Twelve lines or less make a square. If an advertisement exceeds twelve lines, the price will be in proportion.
All advertisements are payable at the time of their insertion.
Contracts with yearly advertisers, will be made on the most liberal terms.

EDWARD CANTWELL,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
AND COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS FOR
SOUTH CAROLINA.
OVER DR. EVANS'—EXCHANGE BUILDINGS,
WILMINGTON, N. C.

GROCERIES, DRY GOODS, AND
HARDWARE,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, BY
C. W. BRADLEY.
April 4. 9

JOHN GAMMELL,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
July 10. 50

NAUTILUS
(MUTUAL LIFE) INSURANCE COMPANY
OF NEW YORK.
Will take Risk on the Lives of Slaves.
W. C. LORD, Agent.

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE
AND
TRUST COMPANY.
W. C. LORD, Agent.

E. J. LUTTERLOH,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
March 26. 5

THOMAS SANDFORD,
NOTARY PUBLIC,
WILMINGTON, N. C.

SAM'L P. GAUSE,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
April 21. 16

ROBT. G. RANKIN,
Auctioneer and Commission Merchant,
WILMINGTON, N. C.

LIBERAL ADVANCES MADE ON SHIPMENTS TO HIS FRIENDS
IN NEW YORK.
NEFF & WARNER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN
DRY GOODS, GROCERIES, SHIP CHAN-
DLERY, SHIP STORES, &c.
April 14. 13

G. W. DAVIS,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
March 17. 1

BARRY & BRYANT,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
March 16. 10

N. B. HUGHES,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
AND GENERAL AGENT
For the sale of all kinds of Goods, Country Produce
and Real Estate.
RALEIGH, N. C.
Business entrusted to him shall be promptly and
faithfully attended to.
June 18. 42

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GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
FOR THE SALE OF TIMBER, LUMBER, NA-
VAL STORES, AND ALL KINDS OF
COUNTRY PRODUCE.
Two doors North of R. W. Drown's,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
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DEALER IN
BOOKS, STATIONERY, &c.
MARKET STREET, WILMINGTON, N. C.
April 4. 9

BROWN & DEROSSET,
GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
WILMINGTON, N. C.

DEROSSET & BROWN,
GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
159 FRONT ST. NEW YORK.

THOMAS ALLIBONE & CO.,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
No. 8 SOUTH WHARVEH
PHILADELPHIA.
Advances made on consignment of COTTON, RICE,
NAVAL STORES, and produce generally.
Refer to Messrs Drown & DeLond,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Aug. 29. 71-6m.

ALEXANDER HERRON, Jr.,
GENERAL
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
Wilmington, (N. C.) Packet Office,
No. 35 1/2 NORTH WHARVES,
PHILADELPHIA.
Refer to—
C. D. ELLIS, Esq. Wilmington, N. C.
E. J. LUTTERLOH, Esq. Wilmington, N. C.
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J. & W. L. MCGARY,
GROCERS AND SHIP CHANDLERS,
WILMINGTON, N. C.

THE COMMERCIAL.

PUBLISHED TRI-WEEKLY, BY LORING & STRINGER.

VOL. 1. WILMINGTON, TUESDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 17, 1846. NO. 103.

D. J. GILBERT,
AGENT AND COMMISSION
MERCHANT,
FOR THE SALE OF ALL KINDS OF GOODS AND
COUNTRY PRODUCE.
Particular attention paid to receiving and forward-
ing of Goods. Orders fitted on the best terms, when
cash is enclosed, or produce in hand.
N. B. I may be found at the Store of E. Turlington
corner of Water and Princess streets, where may be
found a general assortment of groceries for both Town
and Country trade.
Nov. 10. 100-y

R. H. STANTON & CO.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
GROCERS,
And dealers in
DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, HATS, CAPS, BOOTS,
SHOES, FURNITURE, HARDWARE, CUTLERY,
TIN WARE, CROCKERY, &c.
R. H. Stanton, }
L. N. Barlow, } Wilmington, N. C.

CONSTANTLY on hand, a general assortment of
CORDAGE and PROVISIONS. Also, Foreign
Fruit, Wines, Liquors, Teas, Porter, Ale, &c.
Ship Stores put up with despatch.
Oct. 3, 1846. 96

J. HATHAWAY & SON,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
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WILMINGTON, N. C.
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COMMISSION MERCHANT,
(Senior partner of the late firm of Dickinson & Morris.)
WILMINGTON, N. C.
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E. D. Peters & Co., Boston.
Means & Clark, Philadelphia.
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Oct. 3, 1846. 84

A. MARTIN,
GENERAL AGENT
AND
Commission Merchant,
North Water, 2 Doors above Princess Street,
(Murphy's Building.)
WILMINGTON, N. C.
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GENERAL
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
NORTH CAROLINA PACKET OFFICE,
43 1-2 NORTH WHARVES,
PHILADELPHIA.
June 9, 1846. 1y*37

JOHN HALL,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
Two doors So. of the Custom House,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
March 17. 1

H. S. KELLY,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
MARKET STREET,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
March 17. 1

GILLESPIE & ROBESON,
AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF
TIMBER, LUMBER, NAVAL STORES, &c.
Will make liberal cash advances on all consignments
of produce.
March 17. 1

CHARLES BLAKESLEE,
(Successor to James Punderford)
MANUFACTURER AND DEALER IN
Boots and Shoes,
MARKET ST., WILMINGTON, N. C.

BLANKS
PRINTED TO ORDER, AT THE
COMMERCIAL OFFICE.

CHAS. D. ELLIS,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
March 17. 1

SAM'L P. GAUSE,
AGENT FOR THE SALE OF LUMBER,
TIMBER, TURPENTINE, &c.
WILMINGTON, N. C.
April 21. 16

SANDFORD & SMITH,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
THOS. SANDFORD, WM. L. SMITH,
March 23. 4

SADDLE, HARNESS, AND TRUNK
MANUFACTORY,
Front Street, Wilmington, N. C.
THE subscriber takes this method
of informing his friends and the public generally,
that he has taken the store formerly occupied
by Power and Blakeslee, and immediately opposite
the Chronicle Office, where he is now opening a complete
assortment of
Saddles, Bridles, Harness, Trunks, Martingales,
Valises, Carpet and Saddle Bags, Collars,
Whips, Spurs, Bits, &c. &c. &c.
All of which will be warranted of good manufacture
and materials, and will be sold for CASH.
Having long experience in the above business, he
flatters himself that he will be able to render full sat-
isfaction to those who may be disposed to patronize
him.
It is his intention to keep no Books, but to adopt
the CASH SYSTEM, by which means he will be
able to furnish articles much cheaper than they have
heretofore been bought in this market.
REPAIRING of all kinds done at the shortest
notice.
JOHN J. CONOLEY,
Aug. 6, 1846. 1y61

FLOUR.
BEST Canal Flour. For sale, by
Sept. 26. E. PETERSON.

SHEETING.—Four-Fourths, from the ROCKWELL
FACTORY, for sale by BROWN & DEROSSET,
July 7. 48

TO RENT.
SEVERAL well finished offices, in the fire proof
building on Water Street, over the stores of Smith,
Mitchell & Guide, &c.
That large and convenient Wharf on Eagle's Island,
opposite Town and known as the site of the Phoenix
Distillery, 220 feet front, and running back 1600 feet
with convenient dock, Warehouse 40 by 80 feet, negro
quarters, &c. all in good repair. Apply to H. Nutt,
Sept. 25, 1846. 81 if

NEFF & WARNER
HAVE just received per Schrs. E. S. Powell and
R. W. Brown,
At their General Ship Chandlery and
Family Grocery Store,
The following supply of GOODS, which they offer
for sale on most accommodating terms, viz:
20 BBLs. Mess Beef, 20 Rio do.
20 " Family do. 20 St. Domingo do.
20 " Packet do. 6 chests Yg. Hyson Tea,
1000 lbs. Smoked Beef, 10 " Black do.
20 " Mess Pork, 6 " Lemons
20 " Prime do. 10 boxes Sperm Candles
20 boxes Tobacco; 1000 Spanish Segars, assorted
40 bbls. Canal Flour, 20 " Tallow
20 " Pilot Bread, 30 kgs Cut Nails, as sizes.
20 " Navy " 100 lbs. cop. Sheath Nails,
20 " Soda Biscuit, 60 kgs No. 1 White Lead,
3 bbls. Porto Rico Sugar, 40 " Extra
6 bbls. Crushed Sugar, 20 " Black Paint,
10 " Powdered " 50 Cans Imperial Green,
1000 lbs. Loaf " 30 " Paris "
10 bags Laguira Coffee.

A general assortment of Summer Clothing. A
general assortment of Wood and Willow Ware.
Also, per Schr. Wilmington, and Brig Duffell:
30 boxes Tobacco; 1000 Spanish Segars, assorted
Brands; 30,000 American do.
3 casks first rate French Brandy, with Custom House
Certificates, and 5 casks London and Philadelphia
Porter.
All of which we offer for sale on accommodating
terms. N. & W.
Aug. 13, 1846. 64

MESS AND PRIME PORK For Sale by
GILLESPIE & ROBESON.
Sept. 15. 78

FIRST RATE northern built Bugiey. For sale
by BROWN & DEROSSET.
Sept. 24. 80

FOR RENT.
ADWELLING on Second between Market and
Dock Street, at present occupied by Mr. August-
ine, well adapted for the accommodation of a small
family. Apply to
J. MULLOCK,
Sept. 12. 77

SADDLES, BRIDLES,
HARNESS, TRUNKS, &c. &c. &c.
THE Subscriber has on hand a general as-
sortment of Saddles, Bridles, Harness, Trunks,
Martingales, Valises, Carpet and Saddle Bags,
Collars, Whips, Spurs, Bits, &c. &c. &c. Purchasers
are respectfully invited to call at the Old Stand, North
Side of Market Street.
GUY C. HOTCHKISS,
Wilmington, Sept. 26. 81.

THE Cape Fear Steam Boat Company,
Agency of CAPE FEAR STEAM BOAT COMPANY,
March 11, 1846. 1

THE Cape Fear Steam Boat Company, having thoroughly placed in
order the favorite Steamer, Cotton
Plant, and are building Lighters of the most approved
style, and peculiarly adapted to the low stages of the
River, are prepared to give despatch to Goods for Fayetteville,
and the interior, on the most favorable terms.
The keel of a new Steamer has been laid, which will
soon be completed, of such light draft of water, as to
suit all stages of the River; and which, in lightness of
draft, will never be surpassed.
Goods will be received and forwarded promptly thro'
Wilmington, free of all charges for Storage, Drayage,
Wharfage, and Commissions; and will be attended to
at Fayetteville, free of Commissions. Goods can be
stored there, up town or at the river, as shippers may
desire.
The Cape Fear Steam Boat Company are deter-
mined to carry Goods on as favorable terms as any other
Company; and from the long experience of their agents
at Wilmington and Fayetteville, have no doubt
of giving their friends entire satisfaction.
E. W. WILKINGS,
Agent at Fayetteville.
ROBT. G. RANKIN,
Agent at Wilmington.
March 17. 1

EMPTY SPIRITS TURPENTINE BBLs.
A CONSTANT supply of the above barrels for
sale by
SANDFORD & SMITH.
Aug. 4, 1846. 60

5,000 BUSHELS TURKS ISLAND SALT
for Sale by
O. G. PARSLEY.
Wilmington, March 19. 2 if

BILLS OF EXCHANGE—Price \$1 per quire, for
sale at the
COMMERCIAL OFFICE.
March 21. 3

Linseed Oil.
5 BARRELS Linseed Oil, in Store, for Sale low, by
J. & W. L. MCGARY.
Oct. 1. 97

Copartnership.
THE subscribers have entered into a copartnership,
under the name and firm of HOWARD & PEDEN,
W. C. HOWARD,
W. N. PEDEN.
Oct. 9, 1846. 86

WHO WISH THEIR BOOKS
BOUND?
FEELING the inconvenience of the closing of
the Book Bindery in Wilmington, we have
made arrangements with a CHARLOTTE BINDER
to execute work from this place at Charlotte prices!
Those having Books to bind, in fact, any work that
is executed at a Bindery, can have it done well and ex-
pediently, and at 25 per cent lower than they have
been in the habit of paying, by leaving it at the Of-
fice of the COMMISSIONER OF DEEDS,
June 6, 1846. LORING & STRINGER.

SADDLES AND BRIDLES.
THE above articles are sold at the lowest prices, by
Sept. 26. E. PETERSON.

HAY of good quality, for sale in lots to suit, by
Oct. 8, 1846. BROWN & DEROSSET. 86

PROVISIONS.
50 BBLs. Baltimore and N. Y. Inspection
Mess Beef, 60 " " Prime Pork,
50 " & half do. Superior Flour, New Wheat,
5 Pbls. Sounds and Tongues, 5 Bbls. No. 1
Mackerel,
3 Bbls. New Salmon, 10 Qlts. Codfish,
20 Half Bbls. F. M. Beef, and Beef Tongues,
25 Boxes Cheese, 25 Boxes Smoked Herring,
15 Pickins Orange County Butter,
5 Tierces White Beans, 10 Bbls. Kill Dri-
ed Meat,
25 Kegs Lard, 60 Bbls. Salina Salt, &c. &c.
For sale, very low, by
NEFF & WARNER.
Oct. 3. 81

Mess Pork.
25 BARRELS Mess Pork. For sale, by
Sept. 22. JOHN GAMMELL. 79

50 BARRELS N. O. Whiskey,
30 do. Apple Brandy,
30 do. Spanish Brandy,
10 do. Malaga Wine,
3 Hds. Sugar,
2,000 lbs. N. C. Bacon,
for sale by
A. MARTIN.
Oct. 3, 1846. 84.

APPLICATION will be made at your next Session,
for a Charter of Incorporation for a MUTUAL
MARINE and FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, to be located
in the town of Wilmington.
Aug. 24. 69-3m

NOTICE.
APPLICATION will be made to the ensuing Leg-
islature for the passage of an act authorizing the
proper authorities to re-organize the Fire Department,
and requiring all Free persons of color in the town of
Wilmington, to enroll themselves for Fire Duty.
Oct. 20, 1846. 91.

COAL AND HAY.
40 TONS Coal, 25 Bales Hay. Daily expected
per Schr. Joseph Lybram, from Philadelphia,
for sale by
J. MULLOCK.
Sept. 9. 75

REMOVAL.
THE subscriber has removed to the new Store in
North Water Street, two doors above Princess
Street, where he offers for sale, in addition to Goods
before advertised,
150 Bbls. prime Eastern Hay,
5,000 lbs. Superior North Carolina Bacon,
300 Bushels in Cow Peas.
Oct. 22. [92] A. MARTIN

COPARTNERSHIP.
THE subscribers have formed a Copartnership
under the firm of McMillan & Co., for the transac-
tion of a general retail business at White Hall, Wil-
son County.
DUGALD McMILLAN,
THOS. H. LANE,
WM. B. ROBESON, Jr.
Aug. 25, 1846. 7

SHAD.
20 BARRELS of Ocean Shad, a superior ar-
ticle for family use, for sale by
J. MULLOCK.
Aug. 26, 1846. 62

NOTICE.
FLOORING and Weather boards well dressed, also
sheathing, and laths, can be at all times had at the
Central Planing Mill, which will be delivered to the
purchasers on any wharf designated in town, without
charge for transportation.
Persons wishing to have lumber planned at said Mill
are furnished with a flat of convenient size free from
charge. Apply to the subscriber two doors north of
the Custom House.
Oct. 10. E. J. LUTTERLOH. 97

PAINTS, OILS, &c. FOR SALE.
390 KEGS No. 1 Extra and Pure White Lead,
20 Kegs Black do. 10 Kegs Yellow Ochre,
600 lbs. Paris Chrome, and Imperial Green Paint,
Kegs Red Lead, Spanish Brown, &c.,
Bores Chrome Yellow & Red Vermillion, dry.
10 Bbls. boiled and raw Linseed Oil.
by NEFF & WARNER.
Oct. 3. 84

MONUMENTS, TOMB TABLES, HEAD AND
FOOT STONES, &c.—The Subscriber has taken
the Agency of an extensive MARBLE MANU-
FACTORY at the North and will receive orders for
the above named articles on as favorable terms as can
be procured from any other establishment.
GUY C. HOTCHKISS,
Sept. 22. 79

Notice.
THE subscriber having qualified at the September
Term, 1846, of the Court of Pleas and Quarter
Sessions of New Hanover County, as Administrator
Pendulicid of Solomon W. NARR, deceased, hereby
gives public notice to all persons indebted to said
estate to make immediate payment, and to all persons
having claims against the same to present them within
the time prescribed by Law, or this notice will be
plead in bar of their recovery.
P. W. FANNING, Adm. 79
Sept. 22.

FAMILY MILL.
THE subscriber respectfully informs the citizens
of Wilmington, that he keeps constantly on hand
fresh ground Meal, which he sells at Store prices. He
is prepared at all times to grind Corn at the shortest
notice for families. Call and try the Steam Mill be-
tween the Messrs. GRANTS and FRANKLIN HOTEL.
JONATHAN LEE,
Sept. 1, 1846. 77

APPLYING THE PRINCIPLE.
BY THE YOUNG 'UN.

A brace of legs, thrust considerably too far
through a pair of mottled pants and attached to
a couple of the largest sized feet, which
were encased in twin cowhide brogans, formed
the undermining to a long, slab-sided body,
of otherwise generous proportions, the whole
being surmounted by a head, which was cov-
ered with a gray 'five year old' (at least)
seal skin cap. This sum total—legs, pants,
feet, shoes, body, and chapeau—was the prop-
erty, by possession, of Mr. ZENAS HUMPHREY.
ZENAS had been off 'a bat' during the
night previous, and had squandered full half
a dollar on himself, in white-eye and sweet-
ening. But his returning senses made him
feel philosophical and on the morning we
speak of him, he stood at an early hour, in
Street gazing mechanically at the tele-
graphic wires—soliloquizing, thus wise:
'ic! ic!—That's the telergruff—W—
c—well, I don't possessive nuthin' per—ic
—culier 'bout them strings, on'y one's big-
ger 'on t'other—ic'
'That's the lightnin' line, big 'un,' said an
urchin in the doorway near by.
'When does she—ic start?'
'You'd better ax in thar.'
'Whar?'
'In the office, up thar.'

The loafer was shown to the door of the
building, and 'by hook or crook' found his
way up three flights of stairs, into the Tele-
graphic office. The attendants inquired
'what the gentleman had to forward?'
'For 'ud'—ic—'who's she?'
'Send whar?'
'This is the Telegraphic office, Sir.'
'Well—c—'who'n thunder said it wasn't?'
'I supposed you had business, Sir.'
'Nuthin' of the sort—ic, quite the re-
ic—verse of the contrary.'
'What will you have?'
'I want to make some 'ic—quiries.'

The hour being early, and little doing, the
clerk's very charitably determined upon some
fun with the fellow, with a view to sobering
him. The opportunity for any thing gratui-
tous escaped them, however—for as they com-
menced a consultation upon the best means
to benefit the intruder, he stepped up to one
of the batteries, which happened, fortunately,
to be but lightly charged, and, concluding
that the nob's were portable, he pulled his cap
over his forehead and attempted to remove
one of the balls; the next moment Zenas lay
stretched upon the floor!

He arose as best he could, and turning to
the clerk, with
'Look yere, Mister—ic—'vet's yure name?'
I kin lick as you sich like skunks
as you, as could be driv into a forty aiker
lot! 'Wot in—did yer—ic—nock an in-
nercent man down that wer?—Eh?'
'Nobody touched you,' said the clerk.
'The—they—ic—didn't!'
'No, Sir. You took the—'
'Took wot? Yere's yure cornstemple
copper—'and, proceeding to dash a loose
penny towards the attendant, which lay upon
the machine—his fingers came in contact
with the battery, and away he went again,
heels over head, across the floor!

'Look yere!' continued the sufferer, who,
by this time, was well nigh sobered—'od
blast yer infernal pictur, wot in thunder are
you 'bout?'
'You musn't handle the tools—observed
the clerk, nearly bursting with laughter.
'Look you! Mr. Wot's your name—ain't
to be fooled this yer way, fer nuthin'—I arn't.
By thunder! I'm an independent individ-
ual—I am and this yer nockin' people
down, without notice of no kin, arn't the
thing, by—! Ef you'll open that yere
door, I'll go out o' this, and no questions ax-
ed.'

'That's the door, sir—'
'That brass handle?'
'Yes.'
'I'm blowed ef you do, though!' This
child don't meddle with no more hand ware
in this trap, no how!

The door was opened by the clerk, and the
fellow sidled out. A suppressed laugh
permeated the countenance of the attendant,
as Zenas departed, which, as the door closed,
vented itself in a broad haw-haw.

'You're a smart young gentleman—you
are!' bawled the loafer, through the keyhole,
as he held the door fast with both hands—
'you're a very smart young man may be!
You'd like to get out o' that, and go to yur
breakfast, bimby, may be! An' ef yer do git
any grub afore noon, jes let a feller 'bout my
size know it—will yer? I'll teach yer to knock
people down, simultaneously for nothin'—
I will—and, from the preparations making
on the outside, the prospect was that the in-
siders were to be made prisoners.

A thought struck the attendant. He dis-
connected the wire, and placing it in contact
with the nob of the door upon the inside, his
companion let on the battery!

The door flew open instantaneously, and
our valiant stranger, with the seal skin cap,
was discovered in an anti-angular descent
down stairs, the side of his head scraping
the paint from the edges of the steps, and his
legs, mean time, performing an involuntary

procure, which would have done infinite
credit to a French dancing master!

It so chanced that Zenas had purchased a
bunch of lucifer matches the night before,
which had been deposited in his coat pocket.
In his progress down, the matches had be-
come ignited, and by the time he had reach-
ed the first flight he had partially recovered
from his first effects of the shock—but the
fluid tingled through his veins, his coat tails
were on fire, and he was not 'set forward' in
his imagination any, by his last effort of his
tormentors. He discovered the fire, and pre-
suming it was part and parcel of the 'cussid
invitation' he sprang to his feet, and with
both hands briskly at work behind him for
the purpose of smothering the flame, which
was roasting the seat of his inexpressibles—
he 'put for the street door at full gallop!

'Fire! Fire! Help! yere! O—
murd—fire! help!' shouted the victim, as
he darted into the street.

Away he dashed towards Baltimore, at a
speed which the 'lightnin' line' itself might
have been proud of. Luckily, a square off,
he discovered a servant with his hose at-
tached to one of the hydrants, busily engaged
in washing off the pavement. He rushed to the
spot, and turning short before him—a poste-
rior—he begged him, at the top of his voice,
'for God's sake 't put him out!'

Perhaps his sable friend's eye didn't glis-
ten, and may be his 'ivory' didn't shine, as
he charitably turned 'the currant of that
stream' upon the unmentionable portion of
the poor devil's netherments! 'The fire
was extinguished without serious damage,'
as the papers say—the loafer was thoroughly
saturated and having exchanged his 'heavy
independent wot' for a skin-drenching, he departed,
perfectly sober, amidst the jeers of the crowd
who had witnessed the finale—most vocifer-
ously cursing all improvements, in magni-
tism and combustibles!

Philadelphia, Oct. 5, 1846. G. P. B.

IMPORTANT FROM THE SQUADRON.
SECOND ATTEMPT UPON ALVARADO.
Expedition against ALVARADO.

Gentlemen.—We are on the eve of another
attack on Alvarado. At 5 o'clock this after-
noon Com. Conner issued orders for the sail-
ing of the squadron, (frigates Comberland and
Raritan excepted) for the mouth of the Alvar-
ado river. The Commodore takes command
of the expedition in person, making use of the
steamer Vixen as his flag ship for the occasion.
One o'clock to-morrow morning is the hour
fixed for getting under weigh, and already
the steamers Mississippi, Vixen and McLane
are firing up. Besides these vessels the force
consists of the revenue cutter Forward, schoon-
ers Reeler, Petrel, and Bonita, and prize
schooner Nonata. This latter vessel was re-
cently captured from the Mexicans, and was
formerly the American schooner Belle, out
of your port. She now mounts four 42-pound
cannonades. For the past month we have
been drilling our men as infantry upon a
small island here, and Jack is so anxious for
a fight that he marks time with a good grace,
and every one appears pleased that at last we
are to have a chance at the enemy.

At the mouth of the river the Mexicans
have a ten gun battery, and wolkow of a brig
of war and two gun boats being anchored in-
side. A number of their small merchant-
men have taken refuge in the harbor, and
there must be a smart sprinkling of prize
money in store for us.

October 16—Our sailing orders for the
morning of the 14th were countermanded, in
consequence of its blowing too fresh for op-
erations—occasioning a delay of the expedi-
tion for twenty-four hours. We sailed how-
ever at 1 o'clock A. M., yesterday, but I re-
gret to say that we are still at anchor again
to-day and Alvarado is yet in possession of
the Mexicans.

You were pleased to call the former at-
tack on Alvarado an abortion, and I suppose
you will not be sparing of hard names for
the present failure, but I trust that when you
examine the facts of the case you will under-
stand that it is owing to the deficiency of the
means at the disposal of Com. Conner, and
to the natural defenses of the place itself, that
we have not been successful, rather than to any
want of skill or courage on his part, or lack
of spirit and support by the officers and men
under his command.

We were within ten miles of the mouth of
the river at daylight and stood slowly into
shore, it being dead calm—the Vixen and
McLane towing the schooners—the Missis-
sippi anchored at long-shot distance and com-
menced her fire. Up to this time everything
appeared highly favorable for the success of
the expedition. There being a heavy swell
on the bar the pilots declared taking the ves-
sels over. The Commodore leading in the
Vixen, with the rest of the force following,
passed by the fort, each vessel firing her
broadside as she ranged ahead, with but lit-
tle effect, however, owing to the distance. A
long eighteen in the Forward sent a shot di-
rectly into the fort—this movement was re-
peated with better success, the distance being
lessened and again the Forward made a most
beautiful shot. In the meanwhile the Missis-
sippi had closed up, and was exploding her
Paixbans about the heads of the Mexicans
in a way that the Lord ever made. One shot
from her dismounted a heavy gun of theirs
from a stockade, this they soon remedied, but
thus far all their shot had fallen short. Dur-
ing the morning several of our boats sound-
ed within half a mile of the fort, receiving
the fire of the enemy with as much impu-
nity as indifference. The swell on the bar
having somewhat subsided at one, and the
line of attack was formed as follows: steam-
er Vixen, flag ship, towing gunboats Reeler
and