

THE TRI-WEEKLY COMMERCIAL.

PUBLISHED TRI-WEEKLY, BY THOMAS LORING.

VOL. 6--NO. 10.

WILMINGTON, N. C. TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 8, 1851.

WHOLE NO. 773.

THE TRI-WEEKLY COMMERCIAL.

is published every THURSDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY, at \$5 00 per annum, payable in all cases in advance.

BY THOMAS LORING, Editor and Proprietor.
BENJAMIN L. HOWZE, Associate Editor.
FOUNDER OF FRONT AND MARKET STREETS, WILMINGTON, N. C.

RATES OF ADVERTISING.
Sqr. 1 insertion, 50 cts. 2 months, \$4.00
1 " 2 " 75 " 3 " 5.00
1 " 3 " 1.00 " 4 " 6.00
1 " 1 month, 250 " 1 year, 12.00
Ten lines or less make a square. If an advertisement exceeds ten 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.

No transfer of contracts for yearly advertising will be permitted. Should circumstances render a change in business, or an unexpected removal necessary, a charge according to the published terms will be at the option of the contractor, for the time he has advertised.

The privilege of Annual Advertisers is strictly limited to their own immediate business, and all advertisements for the benefit of other persons, as well as all advertisements not immediately connected with their own business, and all excess of advertisements in length or otherwise, beyond the limits engaged, will be charged at the usual rates.

No advertisement is included in the contract for the sale or rent of houses or lands in town or country, or for the sale or hire of negroes, whether the property is owned by the advertiser or by other persons. These are excluded by the term "immediate business."

The announcement of marriages or deaths will be considered news, and inserted free of charge; but all additional matter, beyond the simple announcement of the death of the person, will be charged on the same terms as advertisements.

All advertisements inserted in the Tri-weekly Commercial, are entitled to one insertion in the Weekly free of charge.

JOB, GARD and FANCY PRINTING, executed in superior style.

AGENTS FOR THE COMMERCIAL.

NEW YORK: Messrs. Brown & DeRosset.
BOSTON: FREDERICK KIDDER, Esq.

BUSINESS CARDS.

WILLIAM A. GWYER,
GENERAL AGENT, FORWARDING
and Commission Merchant.
I TAKE pleasure in informing my friends, that I am prepared to give all business entrusted to me efficient and personal attention. I have a wharf for Coal, and Warehouses, with ample accommodations, Spirit House, and Warehouse. Consignments of Naval Stores for sale or shipment; and all kinds of country produce solicited. Cash advanced on consignments.
April 18, 1850. 15

ALEX. MACRAE, JR.,
IMPORTER OF
CHINA, GLASS, AND EARTHEN
WARE,
and wholesale and retail dealer in all kinds of
FARMING IMPLEMENTS,
South side of Market St.,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
November 9, 1850. 102.

J. M. ROBINSON,
IMPORTER AND DEALER IN
HARDWARE, IRON,
STOVES, NAILS, &c., &c.,
Front street, 3 doors South of
Market street,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Wilmington, May 4, 1850. 22

T. SOUTHWAY & CO.,
ENGINEERS, BLACKSMITHS, DRAGS AND IRON
FOUNDERS.
All orders in the line will be punctually attended to.
JOHN MULBERRY & North Water St.
WILMINGTON, NO. CA.
May 10, 1850. 27

WILLIAM M. HARRISS,
GENERAL
COMMISSION MERCHANT
WILMINGTON, N. C.
STRICT attention given to procuring Freight
and purchasing Cargoes for vessels.
References:
G. Parley, Esq. } Wilmington, N. C.
Col. John McKee, }
Messrs. Ballard & Huntington, }
Mill Pond, Esq., Raleigh, N. C.
Gosw. Hall, Esq., Fayetteville, N. C.
Joseph Wiley, Esq., }
Messrs. James Corner & Sons, Baltimore, }
R. A. Soudor & Co., Philadelphia, }
Thompson & Hunter, New York, }
Pillsbury & Sandford, }
Hunting & Turtel, }
J. & S. P. Fitts, Kennebec, Me., }
July 17th, 1850. 52-11

WILKINSON & ESLER,
GROCERIES, FRUIT, NUTS, TOYS, FANCY ARTICLES,
Wholesale and Retail,
MARKET STREET,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Nov. 30, 1850. 10-11

JOSEPH E. BLOSSOM,
General Commission and Forwarding Merchant
Prompt personal attention given to Consignments for sale or shipment.
And liberal cash advanced on Consignments to me or to my New York friends.
Wilmington, Jan. 30, 1851. 135-11

BUSINESS CARDS.

GEO. HARRISS,
General Commission Merchant,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
STRICT attention given to procuring Freight
and purchasing Cargoes for vessels.
References:
G. Parley, Esq. } Wilmington.
J. D. Bellamy, Esq., }
Messrs. Ballard & Huntington, }
Messrs. Tooker, Smith & Co., } New York.
Wm. S. Neilson, Esq., }
Messrs. Heron, Jr., Philadelphia, }
Messrs. Withams & Button, } Charleston, S. C.
H. F. Baker, Esq., }
Jan. 2, 1851. 123-11

HERON & MARTIN
General Commission Merchants,
37 1-2 North Wharves,
PHILADELPHIA.
References:
Messrs. Froh, Watson & Sons, } Phila.
Jno. C. Dacosta, Esq., }
Wm. S. Neilson, Esq., }
ROBERT NEILSON, Esq., }
Messrs. Morse, Taylor & Co., } New York.
J. H. Brown, & Co., }
J. D. McKee, } Wilmington.
April 5, 1850. 9-11c.

MARTIN & CRONLY,
AUCTIONEERS,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
AND
GENERAL AGENTS.
Wilmington, N. C., Oct. 3, 1850. 86-11.

JOSEPH H. FLANNER,
General Commission Merchant,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Oct. 9th, 1850. 87-11-c.

WILLIAM NEFF,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN
SHIP CHANDLERY, SHIP STORES
AND GROCERIES,
CORNER OF DIXIE & WATER STREETS
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Dec. 7th, 1850.

DEROSSET & BROWN,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
BROWN & DEROSSET,
NEW YORK.
GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
March 17, 1850. 1-11.

GEO. H. KELLY,
COMMISSION MERCHANT.
Next door to A. A. Wannet's, on North Water St.
will attend to the sale of all kinds of Country Produce, such as Corn, Peas, Meal, Bacon, Lard, &c., and will constantly on hand a full supply of Groceries, &c.
References.
Wm. Hall of Wayne, John McKee, Wilmington, W. Caraway, Gen. Alex. McKee, " " R. P. Hill, Wilmington, Wiley A. Walker, " " Dec. 13, 1850. 115-11.

SAVAGE & MEARES,
GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS
AND
AUCTIONEERS,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
EDWARD SAVAGE, }
May 2, 1850. } GASTON MEARES 1-11.

LEIGHTON, CHADBOURN & CO.,
General Commission Merchants,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Dec. 11, 1850. 11-11c.

CORNELIUS DuPRE,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN
Drugs, Medicines, Chemicals, Paints, Oil,
Dye Stuffs, Glass, Perfumery, Cigars,
Old Liquors, Fancy Articles, &c., &c.,
MARKET STREET,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Prescriptions carefully compounded by experienced persons.
March 25, 1850. 6

MARINE INSURANCE.
THE undersigned having received the Agency of
the
AUGUSTA INSURANCE AND BANKING
COMPANY OF AUGUSTA GA.
Will issue Policies on Vessels, Cargoes, Freight &c. at as reasonable rates of Premium as any other Institution of the kind in the Country. The Capital of this Company is \$375,000.
H. NUTT,
Wilmington, Aug. 18, 1850. 65-11.

J. C. LATTA,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
AND GENERAL AGENT,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Oct. 1, 1850. 87

HALL & LONEY,
General Commission Merchants,
BALTIMORE.
Will receive and advance on Consignments, and pay particular attention to filling orders for produce, &c. Refer to Messrs. DeRosset & Brown.
March 13. 163-3m-p.

WEST & HEWLETT,
Auctioneers, Commission Merchants
AND
GENERAL AGENTS,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
References:
Potter & Kidder, } John Dawson,
G. W. Davis, } O. G. Parley,
Barry, Bryant & Adams, } E. P. Hall,
George Harris } Edmund Cantwell,
Oct. 25, 1850. 96-11

BUSINESS CARDS.

ADAMS, BROTHER & Co.
(Late Barry, Bryant & Adams)
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Jan. 1, 1851. 123

ANDERSON & LATIMER,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
SOUTH WATER STREET,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Sep. 27, 1850. 69-11-c.

LIFE INSURANCE.
THE MUTUAL BENEFIT LIFE INSURANCE, continues to take Risks on Lives of all ages.
SURPLUSES OVER 1,000,000.
JOSEPH R. BLOSSOM, Agent.
Dec. 12, 1850. 93-11.

B. T. ELDER & CO.
Commission Merchants,
CORNER OF PRATT AND COMMERCIAL STS., BALTIMORE.
Agents for the sale of Provisions, and American Produce generally.
Also, for purchasing Coffee, Sugar, Grain &c. to order.
References:
Messrs. J. & D. McKee & Co., } Wilmington.
DeRosset & Brown, }
Savage & Meares, } 136-3m-p.
Feb. 1, 1851.

COACH MAKING.
COACH-MAKING, JOBBING AND REPAIRING
Horse-shoeing, &c. done with neatness and dispatch.
Corner of Third and Princess Street: opposite Nixson's Livery Stable.
N. S. NEALE.
Wilmington, N. C., April 1, 1851. 145-11.

J. & D. McRAE & Co.
General Commission Merchants,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Particular attention paid to procuring freights and purchasing cargoes for vessels.
JOHN MACRAE, DONALD MACRAE, JOHN W. K. DIX.
August 1, 1850. 59.

MILES COSTIN,
COMMISSION MERCHANT,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
References:
E. P. Hall, Esq., Pres't Branch State Bank,
Thos. H. Wright, Esq., Pres't Bank Cape Fear,
O. G. Parley, Esq., Pres't Commercial Bank,
Dec. 29, 1850. 118-11.

T. C. WORTH;
Commission and Forwarding
MERCHANT,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Feb. 19, 1851. 143-12 m.

WM. ALLSTON GOURDIN,
FACTOR,
No. 4 East-Bay Charleston, South Carolina,
IS PREPARED TO MAKE LIBERAL ADVANCES ON
CONSIGNMENTS OF
RICE, COTTON, CORN, SUGAR, FLOUR,
GRAIN, HAY, &c.
References:
GOURDIN, MATTHEW & Co. } Charleston S. C.
GEORGE A. HOPLEY, }
ALONZO J. WHITE, } Greenville S. C.
TANBY WALKER, Esq., }
May 21, 1850. } 29-11-c.

J. HATHAWAY & SON,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
J. HATHAWAY. } J. L. HATHAWAY. 91
Oct. 15.

GEO. MYERS,
Wholesale and Retail Grocer,
KEEPS CONSTANTLY ON HAND
Wines, Teas, Liquors, Provisions, Wood and Willow Ware, Fruit, Confectionaries, &c., &c.,
SOUTH FRONT STREET,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Nov. 28. 109.

CAUSE & BOWDEN,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
AND
GENERAL AGENTS.
THOS. F. CAUSE. } JOHN C. BOWDEN.
References:
Alexander McKee, President } W. & R. R.
E. P. Hall, } State Bank.
O. G. Parley, } Commercial Bank.
John Dawson, Merchant.
J. & D. McKee & Co., }
P. K. Dickinson & CO., }
Dec. 7, 1850. } 112.

ELLIS, RUSSELL & Co.
GENERAL COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
CHAS. P. ELLIS, HENRY P. RUSSELL, JOS. B. RUSSELL.
Jan. 25. 133.

THOS. D. BARRY,
Commission Merchant and Ship
Broker,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
Jan. 21, 1850. 131-11.

D. STUART & SON,
WHOLESALE GROCERS,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
AND
IMPORTERS OF RIO COFFEE, &c.
EXCHANGE PLACE,
Opposite the Exchange Hotel,
BALTIMORE.
References:
Messrs. DeRosset & Brown, } Wilmington.
Mr. J. M. Robinson, }
Jan. 16. 130-3m-p.

BUSINESS CARDS.

DR. JAMES E. KEA,
Surgical and Mechanical Dentist.
Office over Mr. Agostino's Store, Market St.,
WILMINGTON, N. C.
18, 1850. J. & N. C. T. Copy 2m. 135-11.

FOR RENT.
A comfortable dwelling house near the corner of Market and Boundary Streets, can be rented on accommodating terms till the 1st of October next. Apply at this office, or 30-11.

RECEIVED PER A. J. DEROSSET.
10 Bags prime Green Coffee
10 Bags Rio Coffee.
Sugar in Hds, and barrels, for sale by
March 1. HATHAWAY & SON. 143.

STOVES AND GRATES.
JUST RECEIVED
Large Supply
OF
SHIP PARLOR,
CHURCH,
AND OFFICE
STOVES!
of the BEST and
most approved
PATTERNS.
Wholesale & retail.
ALSO,
an assortment of
GRATES & FURNACES,
Solar, Campfire, Kiosk,
and Oil Lamps, plain and
Japanized Ware, Steam
Dishes, Coffee Urns, Big
Tea Trays, Waiters,
Platform and other Scales
and a variety of other articles
too numerous to mention.
Oct. 10. POLLEY & HART. 89

DEEDS FOR SALE.
Warrant Deeds, and Deeds for Mortgage and
just printed, in correct form and for sale at the
Commercial Office.

SPORTSMEN, ATTENTION!
JUST received, a large assortment of Single and
J Double Barrel, Bird, Duck and Deer Guns of the
best quality and latest style, made by those celebrated
makers CHAZER & SONS, and others of known
celebrity. Guns of all weights and calibre, also,
Powder Flasks, Shot Pouches, Game Bags, percussion
Caps, and in fact the best collection of sportsmen's
goods ever offered in this market. Gentlemen
please call and examine.
Oct 2 POLLEY & HART. 86

BILLS OF EXCHANGE.
A FRESH supply of Bills of Exchange, an elegant
impression, which will be sold in sheets
or bound in Books to order, just received
and for sale at THE COMMERCIAL OFFICE.
Jan. 28. 133.

BILLS OF LADING, &c.
FOLIO POST BILLS OF LADING bound
in Books, and sheets, also Letter Sheets—with
a variety of mercantile blanks, for sale at THE
Commercial Office.
Oct 2 POLLEY & HART. 86

LIME! LIME! LIME!!!
600 BBLs. Lincolnville White Lump; Also
calced Plaster, Planestring Hair, and
Fire Brick, Hydraulic Cement; 1000 bbls. Lime
&c.; for sale by
J. C. & R. B. WOOD,
Contractors and Builders.
Dec. 22, 1849. 119.

MILLENARY.
MRS SARAH H. KELLEY has just re-
turned from the North, with a fine and well
selected stock of Bonnets of the latest style, and all
that is required in such a line and will be sold on
the most favorable terms.
Bonnets cleaned and trimmed as usual. 1-m.
March 18. (Journal copy 1m.)

CORN, CORN, CORN.
3,000 BUSHELS prime, momentarily expected
per echr. Courier, from Baltimore, for
sale by
J. & D. McRAE & CO. 133
Jan 25, 1851.

FOR SALE.
A Good family Carriage, suitable for
a Hack, of good and substantial
material, will be sold or exchanged for
a light Stage. Apply at the Commercial office.
July 9. 48.

NEW SPRING & SUMMER GOODS.
WE have just received the handsomest and most
beautiful assortment of fancy Dry Goods that
ever was brought to this or any other market—
Ladies and Gentlemen are invited to call and ex-
amine.
Country merchants are particularly invited. Or-
ders will be promptly attended to.
We also have on hand a splendid assortment of
Spring and Summer Clothing, which we keep en-
tirely up stairs. We have them made up ourselves,
and do not want to pay profit to others. We are
able to sell them cheaper than any House.
S. & D. TELLER.
March 13. 153.

VACCINE! VACCINE!!
A FEW Scabs of fresh Vaccine Virus, to be found
at
C. DUPRES,
Drug and Chemical Store,
Market St.,
Feb. 18. 112.

NORTHERN ADVERTISEMENTS.

Account Books.
PAPER & STATIONERY ARTICLES.
FRANCIS & LOUREL,
77 Maiden Lane, New York.

INVITE Merchants, Dealers and all who require
articles in their line, to call at 77 Maiden Lane,
New York. We offer every variety of Blank Book,
Paper and Stationery, at very low prices. As we
both manufacture and import all goods in our line,
we are enabled to sell cheap and offer inducements
to buyers. Orders receive prompt attention.
BLANK BOOKS,
County clerks, sets of books with printed heading
for Lodges, Divisions and others. Howl Registers,
Time Books, Notes, Drafts, Copy Pass and Memo-
randum Books.

COPY YOUR LETTERS.
By the use of Francis' Manifold Letter writer,
Letters and copies are written at the same time; the
ink is contained in sheets, the pen never wears out;
both rapid and economical; price \$1, 2, 2.50
and 5.00.

CROTON INK.
If you want good black writing Ink use the Cro-
ton; flows freely from the pen and retains its color;
also Indelible, Carmine and copying Inks.
PAPER & STATIONERY.
All sizes and styles of Writing Paper at Milliprice;
Tissues, Colored, Drawing and Perfumery Paper, En-
velopes, Gold Pens, Note Papers, Wrap Books,
Portfolios, Cards, Quills, Wax, Water, Steel Pens,
Cheeseman, Waiters, Writing Desks and every variety
of Fancy Stationery.

DIARIES FOR 1851.
From the full size to the smallest pocket size
containing Almanac Time and Interest Tables,
a space for memoranda for every day in the year,
&c., suitable for business, Professional or Private
use. Price 50c 75c, and \$1. Sent by Mail free.
Book Binding executed in any style.

FRANCIS & LOUREL,
Manufacturers and Stationers,
77 Maiden Lane, N. Y.

RUBBER GOODS
UNION INDIA RUBBER COMPANY,
19 Nassau St., New York.
Manufacture and have for sale on favorable terms
the largest stock of

"Goppy's" Patent Metallic Rubber Goods—
in America: "Warranted to stand all climates"—con-
sisting of Coats, Cloaks, Ponchos, Leggins, Pants,
Caps, Suits, Blankets, Blankets, Blankets, Blankets,
Crumb, Carriage and Horse Cloths, Sailors' and
Travelling Bags, Gold Diggers' Exploring, and Mil-
itary Goods, Diving Dresses, Breast Pumps, Syringes
and articles for Druggists and Surgeons, Engine
and Factory Hose, Gas Tubing, Horse Fenders,
Knapp's Patent Premium Cow-milker, Machine
Belting, Dolls, Toys, Life Preservers, Cushions, Pil-
lows, Beds, Whips, Bridles, Wagon and Boat Floats,
Boats, Knapsacks, Canteens, Water tanks, Pails,
Fire Buckets, &c. Articles for the trade made to
order.
Jan. 16. 129-3m

**SASH, BLIND
AND DOOR AGENCY.**
Formerly conducted by Guy C. Hotchkiss.
THE public are hereby informed that I have been
appointed agent for the sale of Window Sashes,
Blinds and Doors, manufactured by the New Haven
Co., and am prepared to fill all orders in the above
line. The quality of the work of the New Haven
Co. is well known in this market. Builders and all
other parties want of the above articles, are requested
to send in their orders, and they will be promptly
filled. Terms invariably cash on delivery.
WM. A. GWYER,
General Agent Commission and Forwarding Mer-
chant.
April 18. 15

PINE OIL! PINE OIL!
Reduced in Price and improved in Quality.
PINE OIL of my manufacture can be obtained at
the store of Messrs. POLLEY & HART, and will
be furnished to customers by my Wagon every Tues-
day, Thursday, and Saturday, at the reduced price
of Forty Cents per gallon. Warranted superior to
any other for sale in this place.
Oct. 17, 1850. A. H. VANROCKELEN.

**CAPE FEAR
MARINE RAILWAY
AND
SHIP CARPENTERING.**

THE subscribers having now completed their Ma-
rine Railway, are prepared to take up Vessels
of any size. They pledge themselves that all work
done by them shall give satisfaction, both as to
charges and workmanship. They have a large force
employed, which will enable them to perform all
work with dispatch.
They are also prepared to build any size Vessel,
from a PILOT BOAT up to a SHIP, and will
warrant that their work will compare favorably with
any done here or elsewhere, and upon as reasonable
terms.
Always on hand a large stock of Timber, &c.
SAMUEL BEERY & SON.
References:
F. K. Dickinson, } Wilmington, N. C.
DeRosset & Brown, }
Barry, Bryant & Adams, }
Geo. W. Davis, }
J. & D. McKee & Co., }
June 27, 1850. 48-12m-2.

JEWELRY! JEWELRY!!
JUST received, from the North, an elegant and
extensive assortment of fine Jewelry: Gold and Silver
Watches, Clocks, Plated Ware and Musical Boxes,
to which we would call the attention of Ladies and
citizens of Wilmington and surrounding Country.
We will continue to sell goods in the above line at
prices that will not fail to merit the continuance of
the patronage we have received since our com-
mencement in business, and having now procured
a competent assistant, we will in future be able to
dispatch, at the shortest notice, every description of
repairing requisite to adjust and accurately time—
Chronometer, Horizontal, Duplex, Lever, Repeat-
ing, and Vertical Watches.
N. B. Clocks, Jewelry, Plated Ware, and Musi-
cal Boxes, promptly and in a workmanlike manner
repaired, and warranted to please by
A. G. BOWERS & BROTHER
(Sign of the Big Watch) St. St., Wilmington, N.
Nov. 5. 120-11

A RAT AMONG RATTLESNAKES.

We visited on Monday afternoon three o'clock, the State Geological Hall to witness an interesting and gratuitous exhibition, got up by the competent and gentlemanly Mr. John Gebard, Jr., so deservedly a favorite with the crowds of ladies and gentlemen, to whom he shows such a polite and generous hospitality on visiting that establishment. In a strong glass wire cage in which there are four large rattlesnakes, two of them six feet long, and fourteen small ones of various sizes, a large rat was placed. As soon as it entered their den, the larger snakes raised themselves and with their cold black eyes looking on the intruder dropped their heads, denoting him an unworthy antagonist. Not so, however, with the smaller reptiles, for two or three of them instantly charged on the rat, and snuggled their forked tongues, quickly inserted their fangs into his plump body. One of the rat grabbed one about halfway up its long with its teeth, and biting it through, and through the head shook it with mad fury and dropped the little monster dead at his feet—the little ones recoiled, and the larger ones raised themselves and shook their fearful rattles, then slowly the most poisonous of all the molly crowd, a yellow rattlesnake four feet long poised himself, every muscle of his body working in dreadful contortion, then darting forward it struck a dreadful blow with its poisonous fangs into the rat, the venom followed the wound. Encouraged by this effort, the large black rattlers several times struck it, and the rat went round and round the cage, only fighting the smaller ones, who kept continually biting his legs. The noise made by their rattles and hissing was terrible, and the crowd of beholders stood awe-struck witnessing the fearful contest. Slowly the rat's legs began to swell as the poison took effect, and they soon became of such an enormous size as to be powerless when he dragged himself around, still showing determined bravery as the enormous bites he gave the smaller stinging monsters proved. At last exhausted nature began to give way slowly, as his body became benumbed, his eyes grew glassy, he ceased to walk over and over the reptiles, and the little wretches continued to give him unheeded, for he stretched himself out and died after a forty minutes fight. None of them ate of his body, for their make-up will not partake of food again till the next spring.

"SOMEBODY IN MY BED."
A NEW STORY WITH AN OLD NAME.

It was the evening of the day previous to that allotted for the annual commencement at one of our New England colleges, and the small town in which the institution was situated was thronged with strangers from neighboring towns and distant cities. It was near nine o'clock that a dashing tandem train drove up to the door of the principal hotel. The turn-out consisted of two handsome boys and a bright red buggy; the latter was occupied by a couple of wild youngsters from the town of C—, some twenty-five miles distant. The polite landlady was immediately on hand, but only to inform them that his beds were all engaged, with the exception of one of the two in the room occupied by Professor T—, and as the professor was rather fastidious, he feared that they could not be accommodated. "Well, they could sleep on the floor," they said, "if they could do so better," and accordingly conveyed their animals to the stable, and entering the house, asked to see Professor T—. They were told that he was up at the college, where the faculty were engaged in preparing for the exercises of the ensuing day. As he was not expected to come in till a late hour, a boy was dispatched to him with a note stating two gentlemen from C— had arrived, and wished to occupy one of the beds in his room, if agreeable to him. A short answer was returned that he wished his room to himself, but if the gentlemen would remove the bed to the hall, they could occupy it there. Of course it was too late to think of any such proceeding, so the young gentlemen bestowed themselves as best they could on a buffalo "shake-down" in the bar-room.

While lying thus, grumbling at the unavailing professor, they began to revolve in their minds various plans of revenge. They finally hit upon one which they thought would work, and hastened to put it in operation. The professor not having yet returned from the college, and the other inmates of the hotel being all at rest, they had a fine opportunity to carry out their roguish design. Removing their boots, they crept softly up stairs to the room of Prof. T—, and entering, proceeded silently to the execution of their plan. The bed of the professor was opened and one of the pillows placed in it in such a manner as to resemble a human form, the towel was taken from the stand, twisted into the semblance of a lady's night cap, and stuck nicely on the remaining pillow. Next the copperplate curtain of one window was taken down and thrown carelessly on a chair near the bed, where it looked marvellously like some articles of female apparel. Finally a night-lamp was burning dimly—just sufficient to render "darkness visible," and the youngsters returned to their hard couch, leaving their plan to work for itself. Of course there was no sleep for them now till the professor returned; which he did at a quarter past eleven, and only stopping below to procure a light, hastened up stairs, anticipating the pleasure of a hot bed after a day of mental toil. What was his surprise on throwing open the door of his chamber to find it thus occupied. The professor was a confirmed bachelor, and not doubting the reality of what he thought to be a female occupant of his bed, he beat a hasty retreat into the passage, to consider what he should do.