

# Virginia Free Press.

CHARLESTOWN, JEFFERSON COUNTY, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY GALLAHER, NORTH &amp; GALLAHER.

VOL. 20.

THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 31, 1836.

NO. 9.

**Operations on the Teeth.**

**D.** — WARNER, M. H., informs the citizens of Charlestown and vicinity, that he has returned and taken, for a short time, a room at the Valley Hotel where he will perform all operations on the Teeth and Tums, or at their residence, as may be convenient to applicants.

He inserts the Silicate Metallic Porcelain, Human, and Animal Teeth; in the most delicate and beautiful taste.

Persons wishing his services are respectfully invited to call and examine his practice.

**N. S.** Having operated for several individuals in this place, he would refer to those persons as proof of his knowledge and practical skill.

March 24, 1836.

**Mrs. BUSKIRK.**

**W.**ILL resume her school on the first Tuesday in April. She will be glad to receive a few more pupils, and will give lessons in Music, Drawing and Painting. Mrs. Dixon can accommodate a few boarders.

March 24, 1836.

**BROWN'S BEST TOBACCO**—a very superior article—just received and for sale by O. W. HAMMOND.

**House for Rent.**  
FOR RENT, a comfortable two-story Dwelling House, with a good Garden, situated in Charlestown, near the Presbyterian Church. Possession given the 1st of April. JOHN REED.

March 17, 1836.

**For Sale.**

WIVO handsomely built CARRIAGES, one open carriage, and a standing top, suitable for one or two horses. The other is a moderately two-horse vehicle. The above two carriages are strong, elegant, and in every way first-rate articles, and have been but little used. Apply at

THIS OFFICE.

**Fresh Garden-Seed, &c.**

**J.**UST come to hand, (at the Charlestown Apothecary and Book Store,) of the last year's gathering, a supply of Garden Seed for early sowing, viz:

Early Turnip Seed, very small, but an earlier sort than the Early York.

Early (Skins short) Turnip Seed, a very early kind.

Early Sugar Beet, Early Harvest Turnip, Collington and Early Batteries Cabbage, all the different kinds of summer and Fall Cabbage Seed.

Early and Late Cabbage Seed.

Purple Egg Plant Seed.

A great variety of Lettuce Seed, viz:

Early (Superior) Lettuce, White Head Cabbage, and Brown Dutch Lettuce Seed, together with other sorts of Lettuce.

The earliest and best kinds of Bunch or Dwarf Kidney Beans, Lima Beans.

Crowell's early French Peas—grow two and a half feet high—earliest and best.

Bishop's early French Peas—grow one foot high—two or three weeks before summer.

Many other several other kinds for summer and Fall.

Summer and Fall Cucumber Seed.

Tart Rhubarb (for tart) Seed.

Flat Dutch Turnip Seed for spring sowing.

Spinach—New Zealand—and other kinds for early greens.

Red Turnip, Short Top Scallot, and many other kinds of Radish Seed for spring, summer, and fall sowing. Thyme, sweet Marjoram, Lavender, Sage, Parsley, Fennel, Carrot, Cinnamon, Cherry Pepper, Flower Seeds assorted.

The above list comprises a very small part of the assortment of Seeds which the subscriber has already received and on hand, and shortly he will receive the residue to complete his assortment for the present and approaching seasons. He has every confidence in the genuineness of the seeds which he offers for sale; the whole of which, with a very limited exception, having been procured from one of the best establishments in this country, and the same from which he has been supplied for many years back. The exception referred to consists of a few kinds, as well raised here as any where else, and which were raised chiefly by himself.

Do you or do you not believe that

any man has a right to interfere with or abolish slavery in the District of Columbia?

The conspicuous situation in which you are placed, and the importance of your views on this interesting topic, will we hope, be sufficient apology for the liberty we have taken.

(Signed,) JUNIUS AMIS,

ISAAC HALL,

JOHN WALL,

C. YELLOWBY,

S. B. SPURRIER,

J. W. PUIZINN.

Jackson, Feb. 23, 1836.

**Martin Van Buren's REPLY.**

WASHINGTON, March 6th, 1836.

Gentlemen—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter apprising me of the deep anxiety

which is felt by a portion of your fel-

low-citizens, as to my views upon a topic vitally affecting their immediate welfare and happiness, and of the importance of their being possessed of a thorough knowledge of them; and asking me to say, whether I do or do not believe that Congress has the constitutional power to interfere with, or abolish slavery in the District of Columbia?

I am not only willing, but desirous,

gentlemen, that you should have the most thorough knowledge of my views and feelings upon the delicate and interesting subject with which your question is connected, and I shall endeavor to acquaint you with them in the fullest manner in my power.

Not having, heretofore, had the hon-  
or of being in political communica-

tion with you, I am not advised whether the sentiments relating to it, which have been avowed by myself,

and by my authority, within the last two years, have come to your knowl-

edge. I deem it therefore proper, to furnish you with the substance of my enquiry. The avowals to which I refer, were:

1st. An opinion that Congress has no right to interfere in any manner, or to any extent, with the subject of slavery in every State;

2d. Against the propriety of their doing so in the District of Columbia;

3d. That the statement of my full concurrence in the sentiments expressed by the citizens of Albany, in public meeting, the most important of which are as follows, viz: "That the Constitution of the United States carries with it an adjustment of all questions involved in the deliberations which led to its adoption, and that the compromise of interests in which it was founded, is binding in honor and good faith, independently of the force of agreement, on all who live under its protection, and participate in the benefits of which it is the source."

John T. COOKES.

March 10, 1836.

**Look at this! &c.**

**GARDEN SEEDS: GARDEN SEEDS!**

THE subscriber has just received a general assortment of Garden Seeds, suitable for the approaching season, consisting, in part, of the following articles, to wit:

Marrowfat Dwarf Beans

Red French—Casseroles do

Pole do Small Lima do

Beet Seed assorted

Delavee Kale, fine for greens

Carrot Seed, Early York, Drum Head

Carrot Seed assorted

7 group Seeds assorted

Radish Celery, Cucumbers Seed

Carrot Turnip, Green onions

Eating green beans

Carrot, Radish, fine for salads

Early Cucumbers, Lattice Seed

Nutting Cantelope, very fine

White and red Onion Seed

Parsnip Seeds, Crownhill's Peas

Hottopot's Fall Marrowfat do

Bishop's dwarf, 1 foot high, very fine

Tart Rhubarb, fine for tarts

Seeds Majorum, Thyme, Lavender,

Rosemary, &c. &c.

Persons wanting good and fresh Seeds will do well by calling early and supplying themselves. To be had at the Young Store, Harpers Ferry, Feb. 4, 1836.

JOHN G. HAYES.

Harpers Ferry, Feb. 4, 1836.

John G. Hayes.

## GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

INTERESTING FROM FLORIDA.  
The Southern Mail brings the following interesting news from the seat of war in Florida:

Charleston Courier Office, Mason 12-4, P. M.  
FROM FLORIDA.

The sctr. George & Mary arrived this morning from Jacksonville. The following is from the Courier of that place, dated 10th inst.

Late News from General Gaines.

The intelligence from the Withlacoochee continues to be of great interest and importance. Soon after our publication we learned that Gen. Gaines continued fighting the Indians. After the battle of the first day Gen. G. found 30 Indians killed. He had 2 of his men killed and several wounded. On the 3d day the Indians crossed the Withlacoochee to attack him. He having taken only 6 days' provisions, and being thus closely pressed, sent for reinforcements, provisions and ammunition. Gen. Clinch being under the orders of Gen. Scott, and having received no orders to send the provisions for the Army, sent corn from his own plantation, and Mr. E. M. Dell started with upwards of 80 head of cattle.

They had not proceeded many miles, when an express arrived from Gen. Gaines, containing the intelligence, that he was entirely surrounded by the Indians, and unless he received provisions, he should be under the necessity of cutting his way through them leaving his wounded. He requested the assembling of the Alachua militia to guard the provisions sent to him. After receiving this unexpected intelligence, the provisions, which were on their way, were ordered back. The soldiers of Alachua, though so unmercifully discharged, and who had refused to be disbanded in the present defenceless state of the country, assembled to the number of about 300, to go to the assistance of Gen. Gaines.

The following extract of a letter received by Col. Dell from Capt. Priest, dated 4th inst. contains some further particulars:

You may not have heard of the recent occurrences here. Gen. Gaines was attacked last Saturday evening, on this side of the Withlacoochee, and has been fighting ever since. Sometimes he has three fights in the day and one in the night. At one of the fights there were found dead thirty Indians and one negro. The result of the others we have not heard. At the last advices, the loss of the army of 1200 men, was 5 killed and 30 wounded. But we have heard the cannon several times since, firing very heavily.

"Alachua companies left here about one o'clock this morning in a very hard rain, in order to assist in guarding provisions and ammunition to the Withlacoochee, both of which Gen. Gaines is much in want of. We understand, that two days since, Gen. Scott with his forces was at Picolata, and that two different expresses have been received from him.

By the arrival of Mr. Samuel Harrison from Alachua on Tuesday evening last, we are furnished with still later information.

Gen. Clinch with his forces in con-

tingency, had gone to aid Gen. Gaines. He reached the camp, Saturday last, and effected a junction with him. With their united forces, amounting to nearly two thousand men, Gen. Gaines intended crossing the Withlacoochee on Monday last. His boats, floating bridges, &c., were all prepared. He has four twelve pounders, with which to cover his landing on the opposite side of the Withlacoochee. The Indians will undoubtedly make a desperate struggle to prevent his crossing.

Mr. Harrison says that on Monday the cannon were distinctly heard. It is still over now, and we are anxious to know the result. He states that Gen. Gaines has never shown to the enemy more than about 200 men at one time. That in every instance of an attack, whether by night or day, he was prepared for them, having anticipated the movement of Osceola. In this way he made great havoc among the enemy, having killed several hundred of them. His loss, before Gen. Clinch joined him, was only eight killed, and about forty wounded. Mr. H. says, that in his express, Gen. Gaines said he had men enough and asked only for provisions and ammunition.

From some observations made by Gen. Gaines, the number of Indians is estimated between two and three thousand.

Some negroes who have escaped to the whites, it is stated, that the Indians have made a fortification on the other side of the Withlacoochee, only 4 miles distant. It is made of earth and fascines, and surrounded by a wide moat. This is at Osceola's town and is probably the strong hold of the enemy. It is impossible to say, how much credit is due to these reports of the negroes. But in most other instances since the commencement of hostilities, much has been lost by not crediting their statements.

Gen. Gaines intends marching for this place after crossing the river.—There he will learn whether Osceola yet knows how to make fortifications which can withstand our means of battering them down. Before that place is taken, the one in which the women and children probably are, the struggle will be severe. It will be the fight of death to many.

If Gen. Gaines succeed, as he probably has before this, he will have conquered the Indians, and they must either surrender, or be taken to the hammocks and swamps for the purpose of concealment and eluding the whites.

By all his movements, Gen. Gaines has evinced great skill, and has shown that he perfectly understands the enemy with whom he has to contend. The manner in which he cuts them off with so little loss to himself, shows that he has been no idle scholar in the art

of war. We now confidently expect a speedy close of this savage warfare, that Osceola's boat of five years will be a short five months.

**Major Dade's Detachment.**—The army under Gen. Gaines, on its march from Tampa, visited the scene of the massacre of the 26th of Dec. and buried the remains of Major Dade and his fallen companion. The appearance of the battle field is represented as being melancholy beyond description. The victims lay just as they fell in that bloody contest. The officers and many of the soldiers were recognized.—Major Dade lay between the head of the column and the advance guard.—Capt. Frazer was near him and was identified by the brevet rank in his bosom. Lieut. Mudgley by a tree, two soldiers near him. He had a ring on his finger, and four gold pieces in his pocket, and wore an officer's cap.—Capt. Gardner, Lt. Bassinger, Henderson, and Keiss lay inside the breast work of logs which was thrown up after the first attack. Dr. Cattin was outside, and was identified by his stock. The breast work appeared to have been erected in every direction. These bands of rifle balls were lodged in the insin of the breast work, and appeared to have been directed over the opposite side of the defences.

Major Dade's uniform coat was not found. With this exception, not one of these brave but unfortunate men, had been plundered. Silver, Gold, Jewelry and Watches, were untouched—nothing seems to have been taken but arms and ammunition. To what are we to ascribe conduct so singular? It was not the effect of hurry and fear of an attack by a stronger party, for they buried their own dead, as was ascertained, before leaving the field of battle. Was it forbearance, and magnanimity in the savages, or was it intended to show that it was blood alone they sought, and that in the game of life and death they were playing, they had no use for such baubles!—Osceola, a master spirit, must have acquired a wonderful influence over the minds of his followers, to induce them to forego the opportunity of gaining possession of articles of which they are notoriously fond. Our men were struck with awe and astonishment at the circumstance, and we fear that many a tragic event must be recorded, before the close of this war, with an enemy capable of such determination and such self-control. [Tallahassee Floridian.]

**An Important Arrest.**—For several months past, the Treasury Department has been in possession of information calculated to lead to the detection of the persons engaged in causing the destruction by fire of the Treasury Office at Washington, about three years past. On Wednesday last a person was arrested in the city of New York, charged with firing the building with his own hands, hired to commit the act, as we have heard, by some of those who had committed fraud upon the Pension Office, which they wished to have destroyed, to screen their guilt. Other persons, we hear, before this, will have been arrested in the Western part of New York, one in Vermont and another in Ohio. The person that was

yesterday in the steamboat line in charge of Mr. Blaney, the High Constable of Philadelphia, Mr. Kelley, Deputy Marshal of Ohio, and Mr. Merritt, of the New York Police. These officers left Baltimore this morning crossing the Withlacoochee on Monday last. Their boats, floating bridges, &c., were all prepared. He has four twelve pounders, with which to cover his landing on the opposite side of the Withlacoochee. The Indians will undoubtedly make a desperate struggle to prevent his crossing.

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**RAIL ROAD EXPERIMENT.**—An interesting experiment, the object of which was to test the power of the locomotive, when acting upon the inclined plane at Parr's Ridge, was made on the Rail-Road yesterday, 2d inst. The members of the City Council, with other gentlemen, were invited by the President and Directors of the Rail-Road Company to witness the experiments, and—accordingly, most of them took their seats in the cars yesterday morning, and proceeded to the Bridge with that object. We were unable to be present on the occasion of these experiments, which it will readily be perceived, are of a character to attract attention, as having a marked bearing upon the capability of our great Rail-Road, in answering the vast and increasing demand of trade and travel upon it, as its progress shall be extended towards the Western waters. We learn, however, and have great gratification in stating that these experiments were altogether successful. The practicability of dispensing, advantageously, with stationary power, and of using locomotives upon these inclined planes, and on the whole route to the Ohio river, was completely and satisfactorily demonstrated. The first of these inclined planes, upon which these tests were obtained, is 2100 feet in length, with an elevation of about 200 feet per mile. Up this plane the locomotive travelled without difficulty, with a train of passenger cars, the weight of which, including that of the engine and tender, is estimated at about twenty-six tons. The action of the locomotive upon the second inclined plane was, all circumstances considered, still more satisfactory, and decisive of the thorough competency of this best and cheapest species of motive power, for the purposes connected with this mighty work—designed now, soon to stretch across the Allegany, and to span its extended arms the commerce of the West. The style in which the engine ascended the last plane, and mounted its apex, is represented as having been to a high degree picturesque and gratifying.

**THE FREE PRESS.**—CHARLESTOWN, THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1836.

The justices of the new county of Clarke assembled in Berryville, according to law, on Monday last. George H. Norton, Esq., being the oldest in commission, assumed the duties of the Sheriff, John Gray, Esq., was chosen Clerk of the County Court, and John E. Page, Esq., Commonwealth's Attorney.

The Legislature of Virginia adjourned on Thursday last. It may be doubted whether

they would look back upon so unprofitable a session

as that which has just closed. What act have

they performed of any important benefit to

the State? What have they done that will

keep up their slang about a failure to

raise the flag on the Capitol on the 4th.

It was charitable in Mr. Leigh

to furnish the demagogues with something as a foil. But let the people be

deceived. The expugners them-

selves never had any hope of succeeding

in the Senate, in the work of ex-

pugnation. McKenney and Buchanan

of Pennsylvania will not vote for

the measure in the Senate, or do

anything to help upon,

they would have been compelled to

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## DINTMENTS

FOR THE CONFERENCE.

MARCH 25, 1836.

TRICHT—JOHN DAVIS, P. E.

—Alfred Griffith, Thomas

—John H. Samuel Ellis,

—Philip Reser,

—S. G. Rosset, Robert S.

—James H. Ross,

—Samuel M. Scott,

—W. S. Somers, W. Edwards,

—E. E. Allen,

—John A. Gere, Joseph Plotner,

—William R. Evans, R. J. Mc-

—John H. Baker,

—J. Larkin, W. T. Storck,

—H. H. Miller, A. H. Morris,

—John Smith,

—College Agent,

TRICHT—JOHN HAN; P. E.

—Edwin Dorsey, L. F. Morgan,

—Hamilton, C. B. Tippett,

—John White,

—Nelson Head,

—Veitch, D. Thomas,

—A. Heese,

—Ward Morgan, S. D. Rice,

—John Smith,

—John C. Thompson,

—McCartney, A. G. Chenowith,

—T. Wheeler, A. Compton,

—Agent for Bank Concern.)

DISTRICT—N. Wilson,

—W. H. Coffin, W. H. Houston,

—W. Brown, S. D. Hopkins, esp.

—John Smith, T. O. Sumers,

—W. Humphries, John S. Mar-

—Lanier, G. L. Brown,

—J. W. Osborn, Wm. McR.

—Callum

—W. Richardson W. B. F. Lie-

—William Wickes

—J. C. Lyon, L. Monroe

—Christopher Hartman

—Miller, John L. Lyon

—John T. H. Davis

—DISTRICT—D. Gratz P. E.

—John Guat

—James W. Hollis, H. Hollis

—Howell, Wm. Evans

—C. H. W. Monroe

—T. Berkeley, G. W. Deems

—W. Monroe, R. W. Latham

—D. Chenowith

—Davis Kenison, J. M. Green

—Higdon, J. Stone

—Gibbons, M. J. Hamilton

—John H. Smith

—ID. DISTRICT—H. Gaddes,

—P. E.

—George Hildt

—J. M. Linscomb

—Wm. H. Elmer

—H. H. Miller, G. Hartnett,

—John, Jr., H. Morris

—Emily, H. Nixon

—William B. Edwards

—John L. Gibbons

—Fitzgerald, S. V. Blake

—John Anderson

—John Bowen, James House-

—Johns, James McNauly

—WHITE—A. Wm. H. Hawkes,

—P. E.

—G. G. Cokman

—W. O. Lumsden, E. Miller

—John G. Parker

—John G. Parker&lt;/div

