

# Virginia Free Press.

CHARLESTOWN, JEFFERSON COUNTY, VA.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

BY GALLAHER &amp; CO.

VOL. 54.

NO. 15.

**Virginia Free Press.**

OFFICE SECOND STORY MARKET HOUSE,

Charlestown, Va., published weekly at Five

Dollars and Fifty Cents per annum: paid in

advance, Two Dollars.

Whenever payment is deferred beyond the ex-

pected time, the amount will be charged

for subscriptions for six months. One Dollar and

Twenty-Five Cents, to be paid invariably in ad-

vance.

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The terms of advertising are for a square ten

inch page, One Dollar, for three insertions, less

one-half discount.

Advertisers to be considered by them with

the insertion of the advertisement.

Advertisers not marked on the copy for a

specification, are to be considered as

inserted, and are to pay the extra rates.

**NOTARIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.**

To avoid any mis-

understanding on the part of the parties

concerned, it is requested that their privilege only

extended to them.

Legal and all other advertisements by them to

be inserted, no variation.

All classified advertisements must be paid for.

GALLAHER &amp; CO.

PAID.

B. W. HERBERT

An Associate John P. Brown in a Partnership in

His Insurance Agency and Fife Insurance Compa-

ny, and in correspondence with its most re-

spectable clients, against loss or damage by fire, on

every species of property, at the lowest rates, com-

parable with the interests of the

Business.

B. W. HERBERT &amp; BROWN.

September 13, 1861.

Albemarle

LIFE FIRE

INSURANCE COMPANY,

Charlestown, Va.

W. T. FRY, Pres.; John Wood, Jr., Secy.

Cash Capital and Surplus, \$250,000.

TAKES LIVES OF SLAVES.

The business transactions are conducted upon the

most liberal principles, and are conducted upon

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# VIRGINIA FREE PRESS AND FAMILY JOURNAL.

## Virginia Free Press.

BY GALLAHER & CO.

CHARLESTOWN.

Thursday Morning, April 11, 1861.

DEPT. MCLELLAN & HAGUE, General Advertising Agency, Office No. 172 Baltimore Street, second door West of North, Baltimore, Md., are authorized to act as Agents for the Virginia Free Press.

INDEPENDENT UNION CANDIDATE

FOR CONGRESS

HON. A. R. BOTELER.

WOOD & CORN.

WE want WOOD and CORN, &c.

Our Patrons will please remember us in these particulars. Prompt action on the Wood and Corn question is desirable.

[March 28, 1861.]

### Sensation News.

The sensation newspapers have been hung for three or four days past in magnifying the purposes for which certain Navy and Army movements have been made. Complaint is made that a "bloody war is about to be inaugurated," and the gloomiest sort of pictures have been drawn to the consequences. For three months past troops have been raised by the "Confederate States," and all sorts of warlike preparations made to break up the Union, and yet nobody complains, but when the Government of the United States orders a canon to be removed from one spot to another or makes any army or navy movement, horrors upon horrors are foreshadowed, and the sensational vocabulary is exhausted to find words of indignation and reprobation.

The "Richmond Sun," which for two months has been recording all the great satisfaction the Southern Army movements, is now shocked at the "extensive exhibit of activity in army and navy affairs" by the Administration at Washington. It cannot "determine what amount of importance to attach to them" and declares that "the thing has all the appearance of making war, and requires more mode of action under an absolute despotism than such as we have been accustomed to on the United States."

It expresses its indignation further in the following despatch:

"No one can doubt that had any democratic or western President ever undertaken to adopt such a course of procedure, and to have totally ignored the people and the co-ordinate branches of the government, as the administration is doing, there would have been an outbreak of indignation from our extreme sections. But the other side seems an apparent lack of all sense of responsibility, seems to prevail at Washington, and to such an extent that we may be involved in a foreign or civil war without the slightest regard for the interests, will, or co-operation of the people."

Now would it not have been well for this impartial journalist to have informed his readers by what authority of Congress or people the Southern "despotism" has built up its army, and now menaces the peace of the country?

The "Sun" may probably find some relief in the fact that the "activity in army and navy affairs" has for its object the relief of the frontiers and people of Texas from the horrors and desolation into which they have been plunged by the treason of Twigs and his confederates.

The Washington Star generally well posted,

says:

"Sam Houston, who still protests and proclaims his rightful authority as Governor of Texas, has doubtless demanded of the Government at this point the protection of the frontier communities from the depredations of the "Confederate" forces. He can lawfully recognize no other State authority in Texas than his; for that which sets up the pretense of having violently deposed him, is evidently the boldest usurpation of a miserable minority of the people of Texas, conceivable."

If the troops referred to have any other destination than Texas, military men may well wonder what use can be made of horses and flying artillery, either at Fort Sumter or Fort Pickens. That the Administration "keeps its own counsels" in matters of the sort is neither unwise nor improper. It would not be likely to please the bloody arbitrament.

**The Exigencies of War.**

One of our exchanges, supposed to be in the confidence of the Administration at Washington, says:

"If Fort Sumter is yielded, it will be from military necessity, arising from the conduct of the late administration, but the Florida forts, at Key West, Tortugas, and Pensacola, which were necessary to retain, have all received a."

It is for Congress, not for the President, to recognise the right of secession. The President can only recognise the laws, and enforce them to the extent of his power.

It must be known to the papers which now see so much to dread in the recent army and navy movements that the forces starting from New York cannot be used either at Fort Sumter or Fort Pickens, in much less than a week, and that, from the frequent threats of the Revolutionaries, big at Charleston and Pensacola, the probability is that they have already resolved to the bloody arbitrament.

It is thought at Washington that the Southern Commissioners are fully advised as to the policy of the Government, and are confident the war will not be commenced by the United States authorities.

**Judge of the Supreme Court.**—It is considered probable that Washington, that Secretary Chase will be appointed to the Supreme Court Bench to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of Judge McLean; that Secretary Cameron will be transferred to the Treasury Department; and that the Hon. John M. Holtz will be Secretary of War. The appointment of the latter would be gratifying to the Union men of Virginia and to the country at large.

**Martial District Columbia.**

Many of our readers will be gratified to learn that the lucrative and responsible position of Marshal of the District of Columbia has been conferred upon Col. Wm. H. Loxley, a native of Berkeley County, but for several years a resident of the State of Illinois.

As this office assumes relations with the Supreme Court and with the President, it will be acknowledged that Col. Loxley's popular manners and obliging disposition render his appointment very appropriate.

### Removal.

It will be seen from our advertising columns that Mr. Long, A. S. has removed his Book and Shoe Establishment to Rippon, in this county. Mr. A. S. is universally commended for the style and superiority of his work, and we hope in his new locality may be liberally patronized by his clients generally.

James H. Lane and S. C. Powers, by the way, have been elected U. S. Senator from Kansas. On taking their seats they will be in Washington.

Ex-Governor Smith, of Virginia, has announced himself a candidate for re-election to Congress.

### The Mission to Washington.

The excitement produced in the Virginia Convention on Saturday, by the active military and naval movements at New York, for service in the South, resulted in the adoption of a resolution, offered by Mr. Wm. Baldwin Preston, and modified at the instance of Mr. Baldwin, to send three Commissioners to Washington to ascertain the policy and purpose of the government.

An animated debate occurred on a motion to reconsider the resolution, between Mr. J. J. Jackson of West, and Mr. Montague of Middlesex, and the subject was postponed until Monday, when the following preamble and resolution were adopted by a vote of 73 to 68:

"Whereas, In the opinion of this Convention, the uncertainty which prevails in the public mind as to the policy the government intends to pursue with respect to the slaves, is highly injurious to the commercial and industrial interests of the country, tends to keep up an expectation which is unfavorable to an adjustment of the pending difficulties, and threatens a disturbance of the public peace; Therefore,

"Be it Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to go to Washington, to communicate to this convention what course he intends to pursue."

Messrs. W. H. Preston, (conservative) A. H. Stewart, (unionist) and Geo. W. Randolph, (secessionist), were appointed to visit Washington, and they arrived there on Tuesday afternoon.

The result is not known, but it was stated with some degree of confidence that the President would receive them kindly, and answer them respectfully nearly as follows:

"That portions of the troops are sent to Texas on an armistice of mercy, at the call of Gov. Houston, to relieve the suffering inhabitants, etc., etc., while the remainder of the troops are sent to the Confederacy, and that whilst his purposes in other respects are foreshadowed, and the consular vocabulary is exhausted to find words of indignation and reprobation.

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### The Position of Virginia.

The following brief extracts from the able and eloquent speech delivered in Richmond, within the last two months, on the different propositions of the report of the majority of the Committee on Federal Relations. Ex-Gov. Wise made an effort to extend the time for debate, but it was ineffectual. The first and second resolutions had been previously adopted. The third resolution was slightly amended and adopted. An effort to amend the fourth resolution so as to strike out a clause which accepted of a "fair partition of the Territories" if the equal admission of slave and free labor into any Territory excited an unfriendly contest, was rejected by the very decisive vote of 91 to 38. The resolution was then adopted. The fifth was slightly amended and adopted. The sixth resolution being under consideration Mr. Harvie moved to strike out and insert a resolution declaring that an Ordinance of Secession should be adopted by the Convention, and submitted to the people for ratification or rejection at the Congressional election in May. The resolution was rejected, Ayes forty five, Nays nine, a majority of nearly two to one.

"Now that Virginia has been so cruelly, not to say wantonly, abandoned by the Cotton States in this common cause, her first duty is to look with interest and alarm to her own destiny, and that she is destined to be dragged into dissension by precipitation and force, to her own destruction.

"The Virginian Convention continued Friday the consideration of the report of the Committee on Federal Relations, the sixth, resolution being up. Governor Wise made various motions to amend, all of which were rejected. He then proposed a substitute, which was also rejected, Ayes 57, Nays 83. The resolution was then adopted. The seventh resolution was amended and passed. The eighth, which affirms the right of secession "for just cause" and provides for the appointment of commissioners to negotiate with the other states, was rejected, Ayes 57, Nays 83. The ninth was amended so as to speak of the secession of the Confederate States as a withdrawal from the Federal Government, "independent of the exercise of a right."

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## POETRY.

### Bonnets.

All the charms dear woman wears,  
Dust her ma by traps and snare,  
For real love! Let's might compare  
With other women's faces,  
For when or whenever you chance to meet  
Our own is perfectly modest at best,  
Till then let me more in than on it,  
Till then let me more in than on it,  
To make whether she's pretty or not,  
How much or how little money she's got,  
Whether she lives a mansion or cot,  
The woman to make a man happy thy life,  
To make a model mother a wife,  
Weas a plain and tasteful bonnet.

Now, a bonnet of pure beauty and grace,  
Worn in the east in its proper place,  
Such a fine and graceful wearer's face,  
As I have seen in all the world's a secret,  
But a lot of lace and ruddy things,  
Are up of ribbons and buttery wings,  
A good deal of lace and string,  
Is indeed, depend upon it,

A valiant pair of "fins and feathers,"  
A bit of everything thrown together,  
As fit for a lady's head as another,  
A valiant pair of lace and buttery wings,  
A good deal of lace and string,  
Is indeed, depend upon it,

It makes a woman look bold and bold,  
As bold as her, catching nothing but cold,  
It had on the day, as far as the old,  
As bold as her, as far as the old,  
For at her face, no bonnet is there,  
She's in it, as bold as her, as far as the old,  
Vain, the creature has broken her neck!

No matter if you may chance to be,  
No matter if you may chance to see,  
A round and round on a certain she,  
A round and round on a certain she,  
The round and round of the very first kind,  
A valiant pair of lace and buttery wings,  
As bold as her, as far as the old,

It makes a woman look bold and bold,  
As bold as her, catching nothing but cold,  
It had on the day, as far as the old,  
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## VARIETY.

### Bankruptcy Illustrated.

Two merchants were standing in Wall street, discussing on bankruptcy, when one of them said to the other: "Tankard, halting down the street with a knife and a stick in his hands."

"Now for some spot," said one of the merchants. "We'll talk of bankruptcy, or maybe his wives." He lauded the Yankee with a smile.

"Well, friend, can you tell us the meaning of bankruptcy?"

"Well, I reckon I kin—and skin me if I don't."

"Please explain."

"Well, you just lend me a five for about five minutes."

"Here it is now, proceed."

"Well, now, like Zeke's, with five cents, Sam Brown, the under-five dollars for his coat, and you live."

"Well," said the merchant, "now give me five."

"All right! I am bankrupt, and you come's for a slave while I rest, and he left the astounish'd merchant to whittle for his five."

## Wid, but Good.

A good decent, easy up in Maine, recently in addressing a Sabbath school, made a point by the following anecdote:

"Children, when the deacon, 'you all know,' was before the Legislature last year, well, the first day I got to Augusta, I took dinner at the tavern. Right beside me, at the table, was a man from one of the back towns, who had never taken dinner at a tavern before."

The waiter, who was a dash of peppers; and he kept his eyes half closed, slow in bringing off the dishes, he up with his fork, and in less than no time sowed down one. The tears came into his eyes and he seemed hardly to know what to do.

At last, spitting the pepper out of his hands, he laid it down by the side of his plate, and with a voice that set the whole table in a roar, exclaimed: "Just to thar and cool!"

## Dexterous Punning.

The following lines were sent by a young lady to her lover, whose name was Nott, a few weeks before their marriage. The nuptial knot was tied soon after the discerning lover despatched his import:

"My dear, dear sir, a bashful maid  
To whom her slight is not denied,  
With all I love you, Not,  
For your sake, I'd not dare,  
To give you all my heart, declare,  
I could, Not, be your wife."

Tom Kirkwood used to tell of a friend of his, dropping in about dinner time on an old lady, who invited him to draw up to the table.

There was a huge pie of the pot order for dinner. The old lady helped him毫不费力地, and being hungry was doing justice to it. "Stranger," said the lady, "you will find almost every kind of meat in that pie." "Yes, madam," said he, "and fish, too," he drew from between his lips what he imagined was the backbone of a red horse sucker. "Lord have mercy!" exclaimed the old woman. "That's aint our first comb that Billy lost two weeks ago!"

An "impudent" traveler, overtaking a Presbyterian minister, whose wag was very much fatigued, quizzed the old gentleman upon his "turn-out."

"A nice young doctor! very—valuable best that—but what makes him wag tail so?"

"Why, as you have asked me, I'll tell you. It is for the same reason that your tongue waggs—a sort of a natural weakness."

"An old toper in the last stage of the dropsy was told by his physician that nothing would save him but letting 'tapp'd'. His son a witty little slave, recited to this operation, saying, 'Daddy, daddy, don't submit to it, for you know there was never anything tapped in our house that lasted so long a week.'

"A little boy, the other day, who was hopping, skipping, and twisting and wriggling and jiggling, it was in every imaginable shape without any exact object, was asked what in the world he was doing. 'Oh!' said he, 'I'm so chum & tuff of titter!'

"An editor acknowledges the receipt of a batch of brandy, forty-eight years old; and says:

"This brandy is so old that we very much fear it cannot live much longer."

"Miss Smith asked 'the pleasure of Captain Jones company to tea.' At the time appointed the Captain, being in command of the rifle corps, made his appearance with the rifle company in parade dress."

"A little boy seeing a drunken man prostrate before the door of a grocery, opened the door, and putting in his head, said to the proprietor: 'Sir, here, air, your sign has fallen down.'

"'Twas a very sickly hen," said a son of the Emerald Isle, the other day, to another. "Yes," replied his companion, "a great many have died since who never died before."

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