

The Alexandria Gazette

SATURDAY EVENING, JUNE 4.

**FIRE**—This morning about 2 o'clock, three brick houses, on King street, between Payne and Fayette, streets, and extending through to Commerce, were destroyed by fire, which broke out in the centre house, belonging to the estate of the late John Snyder, but which was occupied by Wm. Stepney, a free negro, as a boarding house, negro school house, &c. The flames spread with great rapidity, and soon the adjoining houses on the east and west were on fire. The house on the east belonged to Messrs. Wilkins & Hendrickson, the first floor of which was used by them as a grocery and feed store, the upper part being occupied by several white families. The house on the west belonged to Mr. Jas. Roach, but was occupied by Jos. Styles as a residence. The Steam Fire Engines and city Fire Apparatus were soon at the scene of conflagration, but the fire burned with such intensity that despite the utmost efforts of the firemen, the three houses were destroyed. The adjoining buildings, however, were saved with but slight damage. The house at the corner of Payne and King streets, occupied by Theodore Teed, and the building in the rear were on fire several times, but the flames were soon extinguished. The roof of the dwelling of Mr. H. S. W. Barker, on the corner of King and Commerce streets, was also on fire once or twice, but through the exertions of the firemen, but little damage was done it. Messrs. Wilkins & Hendrickson lost a quantity of groceries, &c., but they were insured on their house and stock. The families in the upper part of the house lost a good deal of furniture, clothing, &c.

**THE MARKET**, this morning, was tolerably well supplied. Fresh meats as at our last quotations—20 to 30 cts. per lb. for beef, veal and lamb. Vegetables are coming in, in more abundance, but prices keep up. Green peas sell at 80 cents per peck. Strawberries from 20 to 30 cents per quart, according to quality. Fresh print butter is 50 cents per lb. Good lump butter 35 to 40 cts. Eggs 30 cts. per dozen.

In driving some cattle, at the upper end of King street, yesterday afternoon, one of them bolted from the drove and rushed into a shop, "knocking down and dragging out" every thing before him. It was with some difficulty, that the animal was turned out of doors—and the shop saved from destruction.

The late vacant lot, known as Larmour's lot, adjoining the "Village," recently purchased from the Exchange Bank, is now being covered with shanties. Some fifteen or twenty have already been put up, and others are to be built immediately. Being adjacent to a well known pump, the new village has already received the name of "Pump town."

Some light-footed and fingered thief entered Secretary Chase's house in Washington on Tuesday night and found his way to Mr. Chase's bed-chamber and took his gold watch and pocket book, containing about \$40, and made his escape without disturbing the Secretary, who was sound asleep.

A meeting of "loyal citizens" was held at the Court House, in this place last night, Calvin Pepper in the chair and Jeff. Tacey Secretary, for the purpose of electing Delegates to represent this District in the National Convention that is to meet in Baltimore, June 7th, to nominate candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency of the United States," when on motion of T. I. Edelin, the acts of the "State Central Committee" and the appointments by said committee to the Baltimore Convention, were ratified. Speeches, on the occasion, were made by L. Hill, W. D. Massey, J. B. Davis, Jno. Hodgkins, (who repudiated the acts of the "Central Committee" in toto,) C. Pepper, Jefferson Tacey, G. S. Minor, J. Millard, (who concurred with the appointments of the "Central Committee" except Tennis, and Mercier,) and —Baker of Norfolk. The proceedings are said to have been decidedly animated.

The Federal iron clads, on the Mississippi, lately, engaged the Confederate batteries near Gaines' Landing, and succeeded in driving them away." The iron-clads were struck—one of them thirty times, and injured to a considerable extent.

The Baltimore American says: "The last humbug of New York is "Miss Major Pauline Cushman," who pretends to have been "a Union scout," and is accordingly serenaded and makes a speech.

A Court Martial is now in session in this place, for the trial of deserters from the Army of the Potomac, and it is expected that it will be in session for a month or two, the numbers to be tried being some hundreds.

The Russian Admiral is understood to have received orders to leave Boston with those vessels now there, and to proceed to the Baltic. The two vessels now at New York will soon leave for the Mediterranean.

At the recent election held in this county, Geo. W. Donaldson, was elected Constable in the fifth district (county), and H. S. Wunder, John Slater, S. B. Corbett and Marcus Pearl, magistrates.

The Secretary of the Treasury of the U. S. has advertised for sealed proposals for a loan of seventy five millions of dollars, until the 16th of June, bearing an annual interest of six per cent.

A large side wheeled steamer ran the blockade into Wilmington, N. C., on the 28th ult. She was fired at by the U. S. steamer Victoria but was uninjured.

The Presbyterian General Assembly, by a majority of seventy, have refused to sanction the course pursued by Dr. McPheeters in his difficulty with the Presbytery in St. Louis.

The story that Captain David H. Todd, brother of Mrs. President Lincoln, has deserted to the Federals, is fully contradicted. He is a Captain in the 21st Louisiana artillery.

Gen. Carl Schurz has been placed in command of the Federal convalescent barracks at Nashville.

The Montreal Herald of Wednesday last announces the arrival of Belle Boyd in that city.

The Paris correspondent of the London Star says that the Emperor Napoleon seems bent on adding to his glories that of having connected Europe with America. For some time the Imperial Government have been examining the project submitted to them by some American engineers of laying down a cable between France and America. This scheme, it seems, has received their approval and a convention has been signed relative to it between France, Portugal, Italy, Brazil and Hayti.

The report of the assessors for Washington county, D. C., outside of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, shows the appraised amount of real and personal property on which there is assessed a tax of thirty five cents on the hundred dollars for the current year in the county, to be \$4,189,752. This is an increase of nearly fifty per cent. over last year, the total amount being then \$2,214,000.

Many of the criticisms and reviews of military operations, and army movements, which the public read in the New York and other papers, are written by men, "who never saw a squadron in the field, nor the division of a battle know, more "than a spinster." And yet these lucubrations are read with avidity, as models of wisdom!!

Mayor Addison, of Georgetown, has vetoed the act of council for the erection of a new market house. He states that a new market-house would cost, interest included, at least \$70,000. He recommends the expenditure of \$1,000 to repair the old market house.

**DIED.**

In Baltimore, on the 3d inst., after a long and painful illness, HENRIETTA JOHNSON, in the 63d year of her age.

MR. HARRISON S. W. BARKER, tender his thanks to the firemen and citizens, who exerted themselves so nobly, at the fire last night, thereby saving his property from destruction.

**NOTICE.**

THERE will be a meeting of all the householders of the District of Columbia at BONTZ & GRIFFITH'S HOUSE FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT, 369, 7th street, bet. I and K. sts., to examine their immense stock of FURNITURE.

CARPETS, OIL CLOTHS, MATTINGS,

And HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS in general, which they are selling at less prices than they can be bought for at the manufactories.

They also make a discount of 10 per cent. on all bills of \$50 and upwards.

SIGN OF THE HIGH AWNING, BONTZ & GRIFFITH, 369, Seventh st., bet. I, and K sts. Washington May 23—61.

**PROCLAMATION.**

MAYOR'S OFFICE, }  
JULY 30, 1851. }

ALL DOGS found going at large through the city, from the first day of June to the first day of October, without being muzzled will be killed and their owners fined.

All police of the city, civil and military, are hereby ordered to see this order executed.  
my 30—1w C. A. WARE, Mayor.

**NOTICE.**

MAYOR'S OFFICE, }  
MAY 30, 1851. }

ALL persons doing business are hereby notified that their city license will expire the first day of July, and that they will renew the same at this office.  
my 30—1w C. A. WARE, Mayor.

5000 PALM LEAF FANS for six cents a piece; just received at  
J. B. SCHWARZES.