THE CHESTERTOWN TRANSCRIPT.

VOL. 9. CHESTERTOWN, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 31, 1870. NO. 32.

Sheriff's Sale.

BY Virtue of four writs of Fieri Facias, one at the suit of Thomas J. Shallcross, use of Richard Hynson, against Samuel R. Jewell, James E. Jewell and Thomas A. Hudson; one at the suit of William M. A. S. Maxwell, against Samuel R. Jewell, James E. Jewell, Thomas A. Hudson and James W. Hurtt; one at the suit of John M. Hudson, against Samuel R. Jewell and R. J. Boulden; and one at the suit of Robert Comley against Samuel R. Jewell and Joseph C. Powell. Also, by virtue of two writs of Venditioni Exponas, one at the suit of Josiah C. Powell use of G. R. Vansant, against Samuel R. Jewell, Thomas J. Shallcross, James W. Hurtt, William Welch, James E. Jewell and Thomas A. Hudson, and one at the suit of William B. Miers, against Samuel R. Jewell, Thomas J. Shallcross, James E. Jewell and Thomas A. Hudson, issued out of the Circuit Court of Kent county, and to me directed, against the goods and chattles, lands and tenements of Samuel R. Jewell; I have seized and taken in execution all the right, title, claim and interest of the said Samuel R. Jewell, of, in and to, the following property:

FIVE HEAD OF HORSES,
THREE COWS,
one Carriage and Harness, two Wagons and Harness, lot of Plows, Harrows, Cultivators, &c., Plow Gears; one Dearborn;
Crop of Wheat seeded,
CORN AND OATS IN BARN,
HAY, CORN BLADES,
LOT OF SHOATS,
Household and Kitchen Furniture.

And I hereby give notice, that on WEDNESDAY, THE 4th OF JANUARY, 1871, at 11 o'clock, A. M., on the premises, near Locust Grove, I will sell at Public Sale, to the highest bidder, for cash, the property so seized and taken in execution, to pay said debts, interest and costs, due and to become due thereon.

R. W. CALDER,
Dec. 24, 1870—tds. (5.50) Sheriff.

CHAS. B. BAYLY,

DEALER IN
SHEET MUSIC, MUSIC BOOKS,
Musical Instruments
AND MUSICAL MERCHANDISE
Of Every Description.

Read the following:

GUITARS from $4 to $60.
VIOLINS from $2 to $60.
ACCORDEONS $3 to $25.
FLUTES $2 to $30.

Violoncellos, Drums, Fifes, Cornets, Concertinas, Flageolets, Mouth Organs, and all kinds of Musical Instruments.

INSTRUCTION BOOKS
For every Musical Instrument, at publishers prices—from thirty cents to six dollars.

CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL
Music Books,
Glee, Opera and Sacred Chorus Books,
IN ENDLESS VARIETY,
Sheet Music
FOR EVERY MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.

☞ Music, Music Books, and small articles, mailed to any address, free of postage.

Excellent assortment of Piano Stools covered with Hair Cloth, Red and Green Rep and Plush—from $5 to $12.

A choice lot of German, French and Italian
GUITAR, VIOLIN, BANJO AND VIOLONCELLO STRINGS,
fifteen cents each, and upwards.

TUNING FORKS, TUNING HAMMERS, PEGS, ROSIN, BRIDGES, REEDS, BOW HAIR, MUSIC PAPER, MUSIC FOLIOS, MUSIC WHAT-NOTS, VIOLIN AND GUITAR CASES: Agent for

TILTON'S PATENT GOLD MEDAL GUITAR
The most excellent and durable Guitar in the World; tone rich, full, brilliant,

HARMONICS,
Loud and clear. Price from $30 to $60, in in Case, with extra set of Strings.

ENCLOSE the price you wish to pay for anything in our line, and you will receive the article, by earliest conveyance, the same and as much to your advantage as if you made the selection in person.

CATALOGUES
and information sent free, on application.

REMEMBER, it is no more trouble or expense to send Music one thousand miles than it is one mile: therefore, send directly to us, and save both trouble and expense.

CHAS. B. BAYLY,

No. 178 West Baltimore street,
BALTIMORE, MD.
May 14, 1870—y.

NOTICE
To the Tax Payers of the 4th District.

HAVING a large amount of money to raise by the 1st of January, 1871, you are earnestly requested to settle your taxes before that date, and save interest and costs.

WILLIAM A. THOMAS,
Dec. 17, 1870—3t. *Collector.*

CAUTION!

ALL persons indebted to me are hereby notified to call at my store and settle, by note or cash, on or before January 1st, 1871, otherwise they will find the claim in the hands of a Collector.

JOS. A. CATLIN.
Dec. 17, 1870—tf.

GROCERIES,
WINES AND IQUORS.

NOTICE.

TO ALL LOVERS OF GOOD BRANDIES, WINES, TEAS AND GROCERIES.

I AM PREPARED TO OFFER GREAT inducements to customers, wholesale and retail. Keep constantly on hand a large and well selected Stock of Goods, consisting in part of

Green and Black Teas, of choice chops; Coffees—Java, Laguyra, Rio, &c.

English and American Pickles, Capers and Condiments, Olives, Italian Maccaroni and Vermecilla. Fresh Canned Fruits of all kinds; Canned Meats and Fish; Foreign and Domestic Preserves and Jellies. I have on hand a fine stock of

Old Brandies, Wines, Whiskeys, Gin,

which I offer to Hotel keepers at the VERY LOWEST PRICES, and ask a call.

THOMAS M. GREEN.
88 W. *Baltimore Street, near Holiday.*
Sept. 25, 1869—y.

FEMALE SEMINARY,
GALENA, KENT CO., MD.

THIS INSTITUTION, lately established, will be re-opened for the next Scholastic year, SEPTEMBER 19th.

So soon as a suitable building can be secured, there will be a Boarding Department; until then, Parents and Guardians desiring to place their children or wards at the School, will be able to find accommodations for them in town, where they will be under the supervision of the Principal.

A thorough English Course, with the Languages, Music, Drawing, and Painting, according to well tested modes of instruction, may be relied upon.

The year will be divided into two Terms of Five Months each, second Term beginning February 19th.

Pupils can enter at any time, chargeable from date of entrance to end of year. Payment one half in advance.

No deduction made for absence or withdrawal except in case of protracted illness of the pupil.

For further particulars address

Principal of Female Seminary,
Galena, Kent Co., Md.
Sept. 3, 1870—tf.

Chester River Steamboat Company.



On and after THURSDAY, August 4th, 1870, the **STEAMER CHESTER** will leave Baltimore every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, at 7 A. M., for Crumpton, stopping at Kent Island, Queenstown, Gray's Inn Creek, Corsica, Spencer's Quaker Neck, Booker's, Rolph's and Chestertown.—*Returning*, leave Crumpton every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 6½ o'clock A. M., making the above stops.

A. T. JOYNES,
Sept. 17, 1870. Agent.

500 Cord of Wood for Sale.

THE subscribers have in their *WOOD YARD* on Cannon street, Chestertown,

WOOD OF ALL KINDS,

which will be sawed to any length desired, and delivered at short notice. Having a circular Saw in the Yard, they are prepared to fill all orders with punctuality and despatch.

Pine sawed and delivered at $6 *per cord*
Oak " " 7 " "
Hickory " " 8 " "

Orders respectfully solicited.

S. L. & S. W. RALEIGH.
October 22, 1870—4m.

LIGHT! LIGHT! LIGHT!
Combination Burning Fluid,

THE CHEAPEST, SAFEST, AND BEST article, for illuminating purposes, ever offered to this community.

Only 25 cents per Gallon, retail:
Wholesale, 20 cts. per gallon.

E. F. PERKINS, Esq., has been using the above named oil for some months, and allows me to use his name as a reference.

Having purchased the exclusive right to manufacture and sell this oil in Kent county, parties may rely upon being always able to obtain it from me, either wholesale or retail.

Groceries, Meats, Lard, &c.

A good assortment of all kinds of Groceries, Meats, Lard, &c., of good quality, and for sale very low. Don't forget the place:

H. O. PAYNE'S OIL STORE,
Queen street, near the pump.

☞ *All kinds of COUNTRY PRODUCE wanted, either for Cash or Trade.*
Chestertown, March 19, 1870—y.

NEW WINTER GOODS!
AND
GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

OUR general Stock having just been largely added to will now be found fully adequate to meet the demands of the season. Families wanting Liquors for culinary purposes would do well to give us a call. Our stock of FOREIGN WINES and BRANDIES and Pure Domestic Liquors is now very superior, many of them having been in our own hands for a considerable length of time.

HEAVY GROCERIES of every description now in store.

We claim our present Stock of Goods as among the best to be found in the market and expect to keep it full during the entire season.

THOMAS S. WICKES.
Chestertown, December 17, 1870.

VENDUE NOTES can be obtained at this office.

BLACK LEAD and Blacking Brushes for sale by J. K. ALDRIDGE.

NOTICE.

Cut this out and keep it for Reference.

WHEN YOU VISIT THE CITY GO TO

W. H. RINGGOLD'S,
95 N. Charles Street,

AND BUY ALL YOUR
UNDER SHIRTS AND DRAWERS,
HOSIERY AND GLOVES,
NOTIONS AND FANCY GOODS.

He can sell them
Cheaper than any one!
And you can
Pay your expenses in your purchases!

☞ DON'T FAIL TO GO: HE HAS THE VERY ARTICLE YOU WANT.

Do not forget the Number!

W. H. RINGGOLD,
95 N. Charles st., 3 doors South of Mulberry.
Baltimore, Sept. 24, 1870.

J. Bell & Bro.,
BUCK NECK WHARF,

INVITE the attention of Farmers to their LARGE STOCK OF FERTILIZERS:

Soluble Pacific Guano: Terms, $56 per ton of 2000 pounds, cash.

Zell's Ammoniated Phosphate of Bones. $60 per ton of 2000 pounds; 90 days time.

Wilson's Super Phosphate of Lime. $56 per ton of 2000 pounds, on 90 days time.

Wattson & Clark's Crosdale. $54 cash or $56 on 12 months time, per ton of 2000 lbs.

Bower's Complete Manure. $52 cash or $56 on 4 months time, per ton of 2000 lbs.

Sphagnine, the Great Delaware Fertilizer. $40 cash, $42 on 6 months, or $44 on 10 months time, per ton of 2000 pounds.

Bone Flour, a pure article, $36 per ton.

Land Plaster; also,

FARMING IMPLEMENTS

At prices to suit the times, viz: Bickford & Huffman Grain Drills, with Guano and Seed Attachments; Tripple Screen Dixie Grain Fans, Fodder Cutters, Corn Shellers, &c.

J. BELL & BRO.,
Sept. 24—tf. Buck Neck Wharf.

NEW STORE
AND
New Goods
AT BUCK NECK WHARF.

J. BELL & BRO. invite the attention of the public to their well selected assortment of DRY GOODS and GROCERIES, BOOTS AND SHOES, HATS AND CAPS, HARDWARE, &c.

FLOUR by the barrel at city prices.

☞ ALL GOODS SOLD CHEAP FOR CASH.

J. BELL & BRO.
Sept. 24, 18[illegible]—tf.

BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURING.

The undersigned having removed to and opened a Boot and Shoe shop on High street, adjoining the Millinery Store of Mrs. C. R. Fiddis, is prepared to make, in the best workmanlike manner, Ladies and Gentlemen's

BOOTS AND SHOES, OF ALL STYLES.

My old customers and the public generally are invited to give me a call.

JOHN A. FIDDIS
Chestertown, Jan. 8, 1870—y.

LOOK! LOOK!! LOOK!!!

NO longer any need of the perplexity of having Clothes half washed, worn, torn, and buttonless, soap wasted, and one or two days consumed in washing, by the old washboard system when you can buy

DOTY'S WASHER
LATELY MUCH IMPROVED,
and the new
UNIVERSAL CLOTHES WRINGER.

Hear what leading Journals say:

"It is worth one dollar per week in any family."—*New York Tribune.*

"We do not hesitate to give it the preference."—*American Agriculturist.*

"It really merits all the good that can be said of it."—*Rural New Yorker.*

A host of other papers say just as much in favor of the *WASHER AND WRINGER.* You have only to use them to appreciate them, as they are REAL GEMS in the way of getting washing done *expeditiously* and *satisfactorily.*

☞ The best of testimonials could be given from many to whom I have sold the Washer and Wringer, I however deem it unnecessary.

I have the SOLE AGENCY for Kent County.

All orders will receive prompt attention.

Machines delivered in any part of the county.

For Circular, containing full particulars, address

G. W. COVINGTON,
STILL POND,
Kent County, Md.
August 20, 1870—3m.

FLOUR AND MEAL STORE,
ON THE CORNER
OPPOSITE T. B. HYNSON'S.

FLOUR 7, 8, 8.50, and $9 per barrel—from 5 to 2 cents per pound retail. Buckwheat by the bag or pound.

CORN MEAL,
CHOPPED CORN,
BRAN, SHORTS,
And other CHOPS.

Dyspepsia Flour made to order.

☞ *Buy where you can get the Cheapest.*

Call at BACCHUS'.
Dec. 10, 1870.

Selected Poetry.

Midnight Mass for the Dying Year.

Yes, the year is growing old,
And his eye is pale and bleared!
Death, with his frosty hand and cold,
Plucks the old man by the beard,
Sorely—sorely!

The leaves are falling, falling,
Solemnly and slow!
Caw! caw! the rooks are calling,
It is a sound of woe,
A sound of woe!

Through woods and mountain passes
The winds, like anthems, roll;
They are chanting solemn masses,
Singing: "Pray for this poor soul,
Pray—pray!"

And the hooded clouds, like friars,
Tell their beads in drops of rain,
And patter their doleful prayers!—
But their prayers are all in vain,
All in vain!

There he stands in the foul weather,
The foolish, fond Old Year,
Crowned with wild flowers and with heather,
Like weak, despised Lear,
A king—a king!

Then comes the summer-like day,
Bids the old man rejoice;
His joy, his last! O, the old man gray,
Laveth that ever soft voice
Gentle and low.

To the crimson woods he saith—
To the voice gentle and low
Of the soft air, like a daughter's breath—
"Pray do not mock me so!
Do not laugh at me!"

And now the sweet day is dead;
Cold in his arms it lies:
No stain from its breath is spread
Over the glassy skies,
No mist or stain!

Then, too, the Old Year dieth,
And the forests utter a moan,
Like the voice of one who crieth
In the wilderness alone,
"Vex not his ghost!"

Then comes, with awful roar,
Gathering and sounding on,
The storm-wind from Labrador,
The wind Euroclydon,
The storm-wind!

Howl! howl! and from the forest
Sweep the red leaves away!
Would the sins that thou abhorest,
O Soul! could thus decay,
And be swept away!

For there shall come a mightier blast,
There shall be a darker day;
And the stars, from heaven down cast,
Like red leaves be swept away!
Kyrie, eleyson!
Christe, eleyson!

Dueled to Death.

HISTORY OF THE FAMOUS MAN TO MAN FIGHTS IN THE SOUTH.

[From the Boston Commercial Bulletin.]

A description of a duel is always fascinating to most readers; to those where they prevail, because the duel is the sensational fact among their local customs; to those where they do not prevail, because of the wonder and dramatic character of such a custom; and to all, because a duel supposes peculiar personal courage, and is sensational in the highest degree. It requires resolution and animal pluck to stand up to be shot at; but it by no means follows that a man who fights a duel possesses any unusual amount of personal courage, and, after all, fighting a duel is not so risky as most people think. Either those who fight are wretched shots, or else their nerves are by no means steady; for the firing is notably uncertain, and few are fatally hit. A shot in the leg is far more common than a shot in the head.

CULTIVATED DUELISTS.

Among those who look upon the duel as one of the reasonable possibilities of their lives, practicing with the pistol is a regular study, and is reduced to system. "Taking aim," in the usual manner, by a deliberate sighting of an object, is not the mode accepted. The whole thing is made a mechanical method, looking to the habit of bringing the weapon to a certain line and level by long practice, and pulling the trigger with little regard to the "sights." Some men fire after bringing the arm and pistol *down* to a level with the antagonist; others by *raising* the arm and pistol; and some by resting the elbow on the hip, and firing without sight, relying upon long practice to hit an object. The author once knew a gentleman who could cut a twine line at ten paces, without sighting, and by "firing from the hip." The object of firing from a downward arm is mainly to protect the body.

In Henry A. Wise's duel with Colton, he fired from a raised weapon; Colton's arm was broken by the shot, but it saved his life.

THE POPULAR HAIR-TRIGGER.

Regular duelists always use the "hair-trigger." It is just possible that Broderick lost his life in his duel with Judge Terry, in California, from this cause and carelessness. He had a glove on his hand, and before he could raise his weapon it exploded. This left Terry an undisturbed shot, and his terrible accuracy and coolness were shown by his remark when he fired and Broderick dropped—"I struck him a little too much to the left!" His shot, in his opinion, though fatal, was not exactly artistic.

DEAD SHOTS.

Dueling in this country prevails as a custom only in the Southern States, and is manifestly, though slowly, dying out. There were men, however, formerly who were known as professed duelists—that is, you were constantly in danger of being challenged by them, for good cause or none at all; and to go out with them was simply to arrange your mortal affairs and speak to the sexton, for they were "dead shots"—they could put a dozen balls in the same hole successively. Such men were haughty and insolent, of course; and, of course, were treated with distinguished consideration. Of this class was one Gholson, of Mississippi, and of one of whose duels we now propose to speak.

THE GHOLSON AND PRENTISS DUEL.

It was somewhere about 1840, that an "unpleasantness" of a political origin, occurred between Gholson and a gentleman who had never fought a duel, named Prentiss. Gholson had filled half a dozen graves with his victims. He was a Democrat, and Prentiss was a Whig. A very large and highly respectable audience attended the fight, and betting was lively—Gholson having great odds in the "pools." Some bets were made that both would fall, as Prentiss had a high reputation for coolness; and exhibited the utmost calmness and self-possession, especially in "stripping" for the work in hand; while Gholson seemed less cool, and was airy. At the first fire Prentiss fell, shot through the hams; while Gholson leaped three feet into the air and came down dead, shot through the heart. Prentiss possessed the great quality, aimed at by all duellists; that is, he fired quicker than Gholson—say about the twenty millionth part of a half second ahead.

AN EDITORIAL DUEL.

The recent death of Mrs. Anna Cora Mowatt Ritchie recalls the facts of a duel which her husband almost fought, but which finally added, and which not only created a great sensation in Virginia at the time, but because interwoven with subsequent events, which terminated in a bloody encounter and the death of one of the principals in the affair at the hand of Ritchie's brother. The facts never got more than a casual notice in the papers, and are here detailed for the first time.—To understand the whole case it is necessary to say that Thomas Ritchie—or Father Ritchie, as he was generally called—was the editor of the Richmond *Enquirer*, and wielded about the whole powea of the Democratic party of Virginia. John Hampden Pleasants was the editor of the Richmond *Whig*, and the representative editor and writer of his party in that State. He was the son of Governor Pleasants, and a bold, chivalrous, and generous-hearted man who held to the "code of honor." Ritchie was not a fighting man.

THE DEADLY INSULT.

For years a hot antagonism progressed between these two editors, engendering an intense bitterness at last, as might have been expected. About the year 1841, something unusually heated arose in these papers; and in an editorial Pleasants said, submissively, the following:

"We have been engaged in controversy with the editor of the *Enquirer* for twenty years, and it shames manhood to know that we have never used any weapon sharper than a pen."

According to "the code," this sarcasm was a deadly insult, which nothing but pistols, ten paces, and blood, could wipe out.

THE INSULT RESENTED.

Ritchie had two sons—William E., the elder, who married Mrs. Mowatt, and Thomas, jr., the younger—who killed Pleasants in a fight, about four years afterwards. The mortal offence was taken up by William; and a challenge sent to Pleasants being promptly accepted and the terms settled, everything was lovely, between the two gentlemen. Perhaps it would be as well here to speculate on what the result of the duel would have been, provided it had been fought, so as to decide how we would have bet on the issue, if we had bet upon it at all. The terms were—shot guns, loaded with twelve buck-shot; laid uncocked at the combatants' feet, muzzle outward; the parties to stand back to back, and at the word, wheel, to seize their weapons, and fire—distance, twelve paces This was sure death to somebody. Who would it have been? We put the interesting problem and solution, thus: Ritchie was unused to the weapon selected. Pleasants was short of staturo, one of the very best shots in Virginia, and perfectly familiar with the weapon to be used; so much so, that with a double-barreled gun, he was sure of a front or rear partridge, on a fair "rising." Hence it would have taken Ritchie longer to stoop; longer to get his gun in position; and he would have been slower to fire, and uncertain in aim.—Ergo Pleasants would have killed Ritchie stone dead before Ritchie could have fired at all; and on this we are ready to bet, two to one. But happily—or unhappily, perhaps—luckily, for Anna Cora Mowatt, at all events—the duel never was fought.

END OF THE EDITORIAL DUEL.

The sore between Pleasants and the Ritchies was far from healed by the settlement of the affair with William. On the contrary, a duel once admitted, and the sons thus coming into the arena of controversy, blood was sure to flow sooner or later. An affair between Pleasants and John Tyler, jr., son of President Tyler, and which had its origin in the *Enquirer*, only fed the eager flame.—About four or five years after the difficulty with William, John H. Pleasants became involved in a difficulty Thomas Ritchie, jr., which culminated in a bloody and fatal fight. In an intemperate article, Pleasants was grossly insulted by the young Ritchie, who called him an Abolitionist and a coward, with a sneer at his course in the affair with his brother Wm. Such an outrage could have but one result—blood. For several days an encounter in the street was imminent, for Pleasants would not admit the duel to wipe out such an insult. A street fight was his settled purpose; but friends came forward, and a fight in form was agreed upon. The encounter took place in Manchester, across the James River from Richmond. At 6 o'clock, on a calm, soft sweet, and sunny morning, the combatants, seconds, surgeons, and a few friends of each were assembled in a secluded spot, for one or two to be murdered.—Pleasants was placed sixty paces distant from Ritchie, armed with a sword cane, two duelling pistols, a revolver in his pocket and a bowie-knife. Ritchie was armed with several dueling pistols in a belt, and a short, strong, sharp Roman sword. He also held a light cane, using it as "a rest" for his pistol when firing. Pleasants made no use of his bowie nor of his revolver in the fight. He had also drawn the ball from one of his dueling pistols the night before, as he declared afterward. The combatants were placed in position—terms being that Pleasants should advance upon Ritchie and make the assault—and some negotiations were in progress; but Washington Greenhow was there, as Ritchie's "friend," and no peaceable settlement could of course be made. The signal was given—Pleasants advanced—Ritchie commenced and continued firing until his seven pistols were emptied. Pleasants fired but once while advancing, was wheeled nearly around by one shot which struck him—pushed on under the murderous fire until he came face to face with Ritchie—fired his still loaded dueling pistol directly at Ritchie—made a lunge with his cane sword, which was parried—and then fell to the ground with five pistol wounds, one fatal in the groin. He died within three days. Young Ritchie took to violent drinking and died in about two years, leaving his property, of some twenty-five thousand dollars, to Pleasants' daughter, who refused to accept it. A pistol ball had killed one; but remorse and whiskey were no less fatal to the other. Both were estimable, amiable and generous men, and had been cordial friends.

THE DRUMGOOLE AND DUGGER DUEL.

General Drumgoole, once Speaker of the House of Congress, was a North Carolina militia general, and one Dugger, an esteemed and wealthy merchant of Petersburg, was Dromgoole's dearest friend. Dugger was a Whig and the General a Democrat. Of course they failed to harmonize politically; and both being essentially "tight" (the papers say they had taken too much wine, but it was whisky,) on one occasion, and getting into a noisy political wrangle, Dugger gave Drumgoole a blow. The next morning, being cooled off and sobered, a mutual explanation and apology occurred. Both knew the whole thing arose from their being tipsy, and there was no offence intended, felt, nor harbored; but the militia officers of his North Carolina command got wind of the affair; their honor (?) required that the blow should be requitted by cold lead. Drumgoole yielded, went out with his friend Dugger in the most honorable manner, and shot him, mortally, and in a style highly creditable to his skill. Dugger was buried within the week, and Drumgoole became a total abstinence man; but remorse ate out his peace and life in about two years—according to my present impression.

BOWIE'S KNIFE DUEL WITH A SPANIARD.

James Bowie, the inventor, or discoverer, of the terrible weapon which has immortalized his name, was as utterly a fearless man as ever was born. He was full of enthusiasm over the fatal superiority of his knife, and discussed the matter with all the zeal of an inventor and the erudition of an expert. A huge Spaniard once argued the case with Bowie, claiming that the good old "Spanish knife" was not only the equal of the new weapon, but its superior. Finally, as wordy and windy arguments only hardened the opinions and confidence of each, it was proposed and agreed to settle the doubt in a practical way, by a knife fight. There was no enmity between the two worthies; they differed, and they wanted each to prove himself right in a fair and unanswerable way. The left arms of these philosophers were tied together from the wrists to the elbows—there was a moment's pause, each nerving himself for the horrid work; the word was given—an instant and sudden "jerk" by Bowie gave him the chance to drive his knife into the body of the Spaniard, sinking it to the very hilt. The Spaniard dropped, Bowie catching the body on his knee. Then, to make sure work, he gave his knife a scientific turn in the Spaniard's body; drew it out followed by the spouting blood; cut the cord that bound their arms, and allowed the dead Spaniard to fall to the earth as indifferently as though it had been the dead carcass of a hog. Thus was the superiority of Jim's knife fairly, fearfully, and triumphantly vindicated—and it remains unchallenged by a rival unto this very day.

☞ To the invitation to be present at the late Boston press dinner, Mark Twain begged to be excused on account of an engagement to perform to the tune of "Rock Me to Sleep."

☞ Whence does a cock learn the time to sound "his shrill clarion?" From his crow-nometer.

☞ As we often hear of flying bricks, we ought not to be astonished at hearing a chimney flue.

Senator Schurz.

On the 16th instant, Senator Schurz, of Missouri, addressed the Senate on the question of enfranchising those who are disfranchised by the reconstruction acts. The following extract from his speech shows the beauties of Radical registration. We presume this authority will not be denied.

"And these were no isolated cases. Their number is legion. The fact is, that in a great many counties in Missouri the registering officers acted under the influence of the Radical candidates for office, and the question governing their action in a multitude of cases was simply how many Opposition votes had to be thrown out in order to insure the success of those candidates. And this cutting-off process was not confined to Democrats; Republicans of old standing were disqualified because they were suspected of an intention to vote against certain men running for office. The consequence was that now and then the Democrats attempted and succeeded in buying up a supervisor of registration, who, for value received, appointed registrars favorable to them. These registrars then usually registered with an excessive liberality, in violation of the law justly construed, and the successful candidates were then kept out of office on account of the fraudulent registration.

What I say here is not a mere surmise based upon vague rumor. It is a matter of general notoriety in Missouri, scarcely contradicted, and in many cases proven by official investigation. To show the atrocity of the abuses which had developed themselves under the system of disfranchisement, you will permit me to give the details of one case.

In 1868 there was appointed as supervisor of registration for the ninth senatorial district of Missouri, composed of the counties of Audrain, Boone, and Calloway, an individual by the name of Conklin. This Conklin had at the same time secured for himself the Radical nomination for the State senate. The district was strongly Democratic, but Conklin was determined to be elected, or rather to elect himself, and he went about it in a business-like way. As supervisor of registration he had the power to appoint the registering officers for the three counties. He appointed a set of men upon whom he believed he could rely to do his bidding, and having the power to keep or remove them, as he pleased, he cracked his whip over them to his heart's content. His plan of operations was very simple. He followed his registrars as they were making the list of voters from place to place, attended nearly all their meetings, and controlled them in all their actions. In this way he had, in the first place, all the Democrats rejected against whom, by any possibilty, the disfranchising provisions of the constitution could be construed. Heavy work was done, but his mind was not relieved of doubt. He was so thoroughly despised by a great many Republicans that he thought it best to have a good many of them cut off by the board of review. Thus a number of Union officers and soldiers, and other citizens of high respectability, who would have voted for Grant and Colfax but not for Conklin, were disfranchised for disloyalty.

But even this did not relieve him of doubt. He hit upon a most ingenious expedient, and that was simply to disqualify his competitors. Shortly before the day of election he had the candidate who was nominated against him struck off, late enough, as he thought, to render another nomination impossible. The name of this decapitated opponent was David H. Hickman, a gentleman of great moral worth, an unflinching Union man during the war, and formerly a member of the Legislature. But Conklin did not feel quite safe yet; and so he had also the only man cut off who, as he suspected, as likely, if there was still time, to be nominated in Hickman's place—a Dr. Hunter, also a Union man.

But, wonderful as it may seem, fortune did not smile upon the intrepid Conklin. The Democratic committee nominated at the eleventh hour Hon. James S. Rollins. My colleague knows him well; he is the same who in 1857 was a candidate for Governor in Missouri, when my colleague refused to vote for him on the ground that his election would be dangerous to the institution of slavery in Missouri; he is the same who as a member of Congress voted for the constitutional amendment abolishing slavery. Well, Mr. Rollins was put in nomination, while he was absent from home, without his knowledge and consent. And Mr. Rollins assures me that to certain knowledge Conklin would have disqualified him, too, had he not relied upon his previous declaration that he would not be a candidate. But Mr. Rollins, returning home on the day before election, reconsidered that declaration, and Conklin, who in the mean time had thoroughly disgusted every decent man, was defeated by a respectable majority. Still he had the impudence to contest Mr. Rollins' seat, but was sent home by a unanimous vote of the Senate. The record of that contest, containing the sworn testimony, which proves the facts I have stated, I have in my possession.

But there the story does not end yet. You will admit that in this transaction Conklin had proved himself a thorough villian. His first appointment as supervisor of registration by Governor Fletcher may be excused on the ground that the Governor did not know him. But now Conklin had made a public record of irrepressible rascality, and yet in spite of the remonstrances of several Republican members of the Legislature, Governor McClurg, the same gentleman whom we defeated at the late State election, reappointed him to the same place, possibly to do the same sort of work. But this time Conklin acted under the impulse of different motives. When he was a can-

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