lections of the restoration, which more than any thing else, prevents the return of public and private security. (Cheers from the left.) I owe you an apology, Gentlemen, at this late hour, and in so advanced a stage of the debate, for going over anew various parts of a discussion, which has been so fully and so ably maintained; the committee calls upon us for our opinions on the question of competency. I will give mine as a sworn witness might before a court of justice. But first of all, gentlemen, I am bound to reply to an attack which a very respectable speaker, whose voice we were all pleased again to hear from the tribune, has made against the dogma of national sovereignty, that imprescriptible right of people, that vital principle of our social existence; his lofty intellect preoccupies with English notions as to the omnipotence of Parliament. I will not say with him, could not, but would not comprehend the nature of the constituent power. (All eyes are directed to M. Royer Collard, who smiled, and adjusted his wig.) The long habit of half a century, has rendered this idea very familiar and very easily intelligible to me. I admit with our colleague, that there is nothing just but justice, and therefore it is, that in the school to which I belong, it has been thought essential to preface written constitutions with a simple declaration of the rights of man and of society, of those rights of which a whole nation is unable to deprive a single citizen. But at the same time, instead of trusting the application of these truths to constitutions, which are only secondary combinations—instead, I say, of trusting in this matter to a single individual, were it Plato himself, or even to a society of philosophers, it was thought best to trust to deputies expressly chosen to regulate what should afterwards become the fundamental law of the constituted authorities. I admit that our course has not been so regular, but I am far from saying, that what has occurred was *the result of force*. After our fruitful and glorious days of July, there remained nothing standing but the National Sovereignty and a victorious people; in their name the whole nation armed itself, named its officers, and signified to the royal family that they had ceased to reign, even before their fall was finally pronounced. In their name it was that the Deputies resident in Paris, in the exigency of the case, thought proper to possess themselves for the public good, of the constituent power, confirmed the overthrow of the royal family, erected a popular throne, and called to that throne, notwithstanding his relationship with the dethroned race, and from feelings of personal confidence and esteem, that one of our fellow citizens whom they had previously appointed Lieutenant General of the Kingdom. Perhaps, indeed, at that moment, gentlemen, a Constituent Assembly should have been convoked; I admit, indeed, that such was my first thought. But the necessity of coming to opinions—numerous circumstances which are always judged of most advantageously after the event, the assurances which a victorious nation had the right, and were bound, to demand, and which are frankly received—all these considerations rallied the whole of us around the order of things then adopted. I ought to add, that from all parts of France (and no one better than myself was in a condition to judge of this matter,) the most full and abundant manifestation reached us of complete adherence to what we had done, to the throne we had erected, and to the monarch we had chosen; this adherence was in truth the sanction of the opinions of almost the whole of France. At that time gentlemen the Chamber of Deputies had struck out a part of the House of Peers, reserving the decision as to the Peerage itself, to the ensuing Session; and whatever the Royal words or expressions, I declare it as my conviction that to the Chamber of Deputies alone was left that remnant of the constituent power relative to Art. 29 of the Charter; the creation of the throne, the establishment and foundation of that throne which is a thing completed, may establish relations between it and the Chamber even on the subject now before us, but it was not necessary for us to hear our honorable colleague (M. Berryer) yesterday, to be satisfied that it does not belong to the House of Peers to judge in its own cause: that would not benefit either them, or us, or the occurrences of the revolution.—Much has been said of commitments of which the nullity has been declared—of the commitments of each of us towards his constituents, and the example of 1789, has been quoted. Such example is badly chosen: the fact is that in 1789 when several members of the nobility found themselves committed in spite of themselves by instructions opposed to their own views, they abstained from voting, as one of our honorable colleagues may remember.

(*M. Lameth* claimed to speak.)

General Lafayette—in continuation. The bailiwicks were assembled in order to remove our scruples. I nevertheless thought myself sufficiently a member of the assembly during the nights of 12th, 13th and 14th July. Such was the course of many deputies. I admit at the same time, that these imperative mandates, or instructions, were at that time annulled by a degree of the Constituent Assembly. But, gentlemen, what analogy is there between these mandates and the declarations which each of us has made to his constituents, as to our opinions and intention to vote on a question, which every one had more or less examined, and in regard to which opinions were already sufficiently made up. I ask you too, whether in the English House of Commons there is a single member who has not been required explicitly to state his opinions respecting the great question of Reform—or whether you think if any of them had hesitated about avowing his opinions on this point, his constituents would have been put off with a fine dissertation about the right of instruction. The great question about to be submitted to your deliberation (for by a strange combination of circumstances, it happens that the most sweeping amendment against the project of ministers, is that in favor of an hereditary peerage) the great question appears to me to tend higher than the mere organization of the legislative power. It tends, whatever may be said to the contrary, to re-establishing in France, and rooting in our soil an aristocracy. I proclaimed from this tribune in the early period of our revolution, that aristocracy is a bad ingredient in politics. We have heard much of the independence of the aristocracy, of the great service it has rendered, and can still render to the throne. I have seen nothing of all that. The Swedish aristocracy, overshadowed the throne, but it was not independent, for it was controlled by the different courts of Europe, who arranged it as it were under their respective banners. You are told that the prosperity of England is due to the English aristocracy—a sort of eulogium has over late been pronounced upon it for having retarded for fifty years Catholic emancipation and parliamentary reform. Gentlemen, ask the Irish who have endured such troubles, so many ills, so much misery, if they are well pleased with these services of the English aristocracy? Ask the British nation which has groaned so long beneath the weight of taxes, and of endless wars against our revolution; ask them whether they do not think a House of Commons, under better auspices would not have avoided all their evils, whether it would have prevented such an increase of dependents, who look on while the aristocracy possess itself of all power and place,—and to look at home,—was it not the aristocracy which struck the first blow against our national throne? I know it was for I was, of it; but I and my friends did what we did for the public good, others did it for their private interest; and when the third estate, for such was the language then, came to the States General full of love for the King and of wishes to overthrow an oppressive aristocracy, if the King, instead of hooking himself on, (pardon the expression) to that aristocracy, had united himself frankly with the true French nationality, there would have been no cause to fear that the interests of the Court would be identified with those of the emigrants. If, in short, he had placed himself in the position in which, happily, Louis Philip is, of having for enemies that aristocracy, and those emigrants, then the throne and the royal family would not have been swallowed up with the aristocracy. One word as to the comparison instituted by one of the previous speakers, as to the prosperity which the aristocracy of England has assured to that country, and which it is contended, democracy could not have done:—but the United States are democratic; that has been often enough thrown in my teeth. And is there less prosperity under the influence of American democracy than under that of English aristocracy? Is the industry of the United States less prosperous than that of England? On the contrary it is certain that comparatively speaking, commerce is more active and more beneficial in the first than in the last named country; and that relatively to population, the commercial tonnage is considerably greater there. Allusion has also been made to the valor in war of the English aristocracy. Certainly I am most willing to do justice to their courage, their talents and their glory; but is it forgotten that in the war, not of independence, but of that since, and which one of our honorable colleagues seemed not to recollect, there is not a single instance or only one at the utmost, where the flag of the United States did not in equal combat triumph over that of England? Is it forgotten that American democracy obtained from English aristocracy an honorable peace at a moment when all Europe being pacified, it remained to struggle alone with England; and that peace was crowned by the battle of New Orleans? Democracy there triumphed over aristocracy.

I return to the question of a legislative hereditary Peerage. I have always been in favor of two Chambers. I know there are weighty authorities on the other side; Turgot and Franklin are of the number, and I might name other celebrated publicists of the present day. It has been said that the U. States began, in imitation of England, with two Chambers, and had come to adopt a single one. The contrary is the fact: these States, which commenced with a single Chamber, have been taught by experience the advantages of a double representation; but not one was willing to adopt an hereditary chamber, nor can any combination drawn from different elements.

A respectable colleague has said "you might as well merely separate the Chamber by a partition." By a partition not—but it would be gaining a good deal; to have two Chambers distinct from each other, discussing separately, and one after the other, the same laws, special provisions of easy adoption would soon impress upon each a distinct character—such provisions as, without going into detail, might relate to age, property, &c. But an hereditary Chamber, it is said, would be a prop to the throne. Many publicists, have been quoted on this point. Permit me to quote one who certainly will not be taxed with enmity to monarchs, nor be accused of democracy or republicanism, it is the philosophic historian Hume. Well then, when this publicist was endeavouring in his essays to shadow forth the outline of a perfect monarchy, he said, that if there was in England a sound representation of the Commons, the Hereditary House would not be strong enough, because it would not possess public confidence, and could neither support the throne, nor sustain itself; he therefore suggests means for securing confidence in his Senate or House of Peers. I may indeed differ with him as to as these men, but his opinion was, that an hereditary Chamber would be wanting in strength, and that some other combination was necessary. What is said in favor of the hereditary principle because of the education it insures to the sons of Peers, applies equally to notaries, to lawyers, to judges, for they too may bring up their children in the notion that they are to pursue the profession of their fathers; and yet if any one of us should declare in his will, that his children and descendants for ever, should be obliged to avail of the services of the children and descendants of his notary and lawyer, the will would be set aside on the score of mental derangement. This consideration therefore, is not happily chosen.

I will not enter into the detail of the various projects which have been, or may be, proposed. I will limit myself to a positive declaration against the hereditary principle. I will also vote against the King's having the sole right of creating Peers, because in such case this second Chamber would not be in fact a legislative power—it would represent no one—and would present no idea in common with a representative government. I will in the end sustain the opinion which shall approach nearest to mine, or rather, despairing of doing better, I shall probably vote for the proposition least in opposition to my own opinion, which may have the best chance of success.

Murder.—It is now long since the public papers announced that a female had been apprehended at Bremen on a charge of having committed murders of unparalleled atrocity. The slow progress made in criminal proceedings there, as is common through all Germany, has prevented her being brought to trial and sentenced until lately. Our last papers from Europe contain the following account of the proceedings in the case of this woman.

Marguerite Timm received a tolerable good education, her father, a tailor at Bremen, lived in easy circumstances. In 1808, at the age of 20 years, she married one Mettemburg a saddler, who also possessed some property. Seven children were the fruit of this marriage three of them survived their father, at whose decease the widow found herself in possession of an amiable fortune. In 1815, in the space of a few months after the decease of her husband, death also carried off her mother and her three remaining children. The following year her only brother also died, on his return home after a long absence, and when the property of the father was about to be divided.

In 1817 the widow entered into a second marriage, with a Mr. Gottfried, with whom she, by her own confession, had carried on an illicit intercourse during the life of her husband. Some days after the marriage, Gottfried died suddenly. Six years elapsed, and she was on the point of marrying a Mr. Zimmerman, when he was attacked by a severe illness and died.—In 1828, the widow Gottfried sold her house to a Mr. Rumpf, a cartwright, retaining, however one apartment in it for her own use.

Some months expired, and the wife of Rumpf died in childbed, when the widow Gottfried took charge of the household of Rumpf. He was attacked from time to time with violent vomitings. On the 6th March, 1828, he perceive that a peace of bacon which had been cooked by the widow Gottfried, was covered with some strange substance. He caused it to be examined by his physician, who immediately declared that there was a large quantity of arsenic on it. On information given by the physician, the widow Gottfried was apprehended.

The police then received considerable information from different persons in relation to the conduct of this woman. It was proved on trial, and she confessed, that she had given arsenic to a number of persons, fifteen of whom died in consequence, and seventeen others survived. On the trial, circumstances came out which justified a belief that she had given poison to other individuals, to whom it had not been fatal. In consequence of the number of murders proved against her, it was however thought unnecessary to go into an investigation of these cases.

The woman confessed that she was induced by motives of interest to commit some of these murders, but as to others she could only attribute her conduct to an irresistible desire to give poison and to see her victims perish. The council, in her defence endeavoured to avail himself of this latter declaration to show that she was labouring under monomania, and in consequence, that there was no criminal intention. Medical men who were examined on this point declared that they could discover in her no physical cause which would give rise to such a monomania, and this defence in consequence did not succeed. The following is the judgement given by the criminal court of Bremen on the 17th September, 1830.

In the trial held on Marguarte Timm, widow of the late Michael Christopher Gottfried, accused of poisoning and of other crimes, the Court declares the widow Gottfried, (who has besides committed sundry thefts, acts of swindling and perjury, as well as attempted to cause abortion;) convicted and guilty—

1st. of having assassinated, by means of poison her father and mother, her three children, her first and second husband, her brother, her betrothed Paul Thomas Zimmerman, Mrs. Anne Louisa Meyerholz, Mrs. John Mosees, the wife of the cartwright John Christopher Rumpf, the wife of the cooper, Frederick Schmidt, and lastly, the wife of the locksmith Frederick Kleme, at Hanover; also of having caused the death by poison of Miss Eliza Schmidt, daughter of the said Frederick Schmidt, which last act however was not premeditated.

2d. Of having administered poison to the said John Christopher Rumpf several times, with the intention of killing him, after having by the same means destroyed his health.

3d. Of having administered poison to a great number of other individuals, with premeditation but without intention to kill them, though proved extremely pernicious to the health of those individuals.

In consequence, and conformably to the 13th article of the criminal code, the Court condemns the Widow Gottfried, for the crimes she had committed, "as a useful warning to those who might be tempted to imitate her, to have her head cut off with the sword, that the expenses of trial, judgment and execution shall be defrayed from the property of the condemned person."

The execution of the Widow Gottfried took place on the 21st April, 1831, on the Cathedral square, at Bremen. The Protestant clergyman who had attended her during imprisonment, only quitted her at the last moment. Her hair was cut off, and she was then clad in a white under dress, decorated with black ribbons, a white cap with the same coloured ribbons was placed on her head. She showed the utmost resignation, and entered the fatal cart, which passed through a number of streets with the greatest coolness; but when she reached the foot of the scaffold, she had hardly strength to descend from the cart.

An officer of justice here again read her sentence, and she was then placed in an arm chair and tied.—She begged the executioner to cause her as little suffering as possible. He performed his office, and at one single blow seperated her head from her body.

There were more than, 35,000 spectators to witness the execution.—*N. Y. Courier.*

Governor Barbour. This gentleman; better known perhaps, by the title of the "Earl of Empty Barrels," has been appointed by the little squad of National Republicans in his district to represent them in the great Convention at Baltimore. In his letter of acceptance the governor talks quite magnificently about our country's being degraded by the tyranny & misrule of the present administration, &c. &c. Now, if we mistake not the item of this degrading tyranny and misrule which was uppermost in his excellency's mind, was just that which reminded him that James Barbour, Minister to England, who could not induce the British Government to re open to us the West India trade, was recalled to make room for Louis McLane, who could; by which said act of tyranny and misrule, the country acquired a valuable trade and the said James lost a valuable office. '*Hinc illae lacrymae.*'—*Winchester Virginian.*

From the N. Y. Enquirer.

Negro Colleges.—A pamphlet has just been published and circulated under the following title:—

"Minutes and Proceedings of the First Annual Convention of the People of Color, held by adjournments in the City of Philadelphia, from the sixth to the eleventh of June, inclusive, 1831. Philadelphia: published by order of the Committee of Arrangements, 1831."

It appears that the Convention was managed with much secrecy, that delegates from several states appeared, and that the visitors who participated in these proceedings were, Arthur Tappan of this city, the Rev. Mr. Jocylin of Connecticut, Mr. Lundy of Washington, W. L. Garrison of Boston, &c. &c. It was agreed upon that $20,000 should be raised ostensibly to aid the Canadian settlements, and that branches of a society should be established. An address was reported and recommendations passed to patronise the journals called "Genius of Universal Emancipation," "the Liberator," and the "African Sentinel." If this Convention in reality only contemplates aid to a Canadian settlement, there can be no objections to it, but from the characters of the persons assisting in its labours and the well known spirit of fanaticism which stalks abroad at noon-day, we apprehend much mischief from these Negro Colleges.—Humanity, justice, kindness, and good acts towards our colored population are always to be recommended, but what possible good can arise from giving them a collegiate education—the highest classical honors and attainments? Will it take from them the cause of distinction and separation which exists between them and the white population? Will it give to them that equality which exists among white men? Certainly not. The very leaders who open their purses for such objects will not allow a learned negro to sit at their table or marry their daughter. We are then only making them classical and literary to make them more unhappy. Of what benefit can it be to a waiter or coachman to read Horace, or be a profound mathematician. Our elementary schools are already open to them, and beyond this their wants cannot lead them. It is we apprehend, that unfortunate and morbid spirit of fanaticism which urges this measure; that which denounces men from the pulpit for a difference in religious opinion; that spirit which persecutes for opinion sake; that spirit which has none of the essence of christianity in it.—That our Southern citizens, who have this unfortunate curse entaded upon them, should feel uneasy at this reckless interference with their local concerns—at this cold blooded encouragement to their negroes to rebel—cannot be doubted; no honest or benevolent man east of the Potomac should encourage any measure which may have a tendency to lead to ma s cr and rebellion. We occasionally notice the excitement as to nullification and the threats of dividing the union; but we may rely upon it, that if bigots and zealots and concealed enemies do not let this negro question alone, do not stop in their mad career of folly and wickedness, this question alone will compel the slave states to separate—a blow which the east will feel sorely, if not every section of our country. To show how far this bigotry leads men, let the following be read from the Columbia (S. C.) Telescope;—

We have received an anonymous letter from Boston of an extremely inflammatory character—upon the subject of *slavery*. It is in the usual tone of the Liberator, perfectly insolent, reckless, and violent—If such productions were scattered amongst our slaves, they would produce an eternal insurrectionary spirit; and if they produced insurrectionary measures, it would be obviously gratifying to the benevolent authors. We do not mean to intimate that any considerable portion of the northern population is animated by the spirit of this incendiary benevolence, but we do say, that if such papers as those at Albany and Boston continue to be tolerated, without restraint upon their licence, or regard to the danger which they occasion us, that New York and Massachusetts become involved in the criminality. They permit a battery to be erected upon their territory, which fires in upon us, and we should be justified in invading that territory to silence the guns.—This is not an affair of politics, not a matter of property—it is an affair of life and death, of war at our hearths, massacre of women and children.

The circulation of these things amongst us is obviously more active since the murders of Southampton. About the same time that this letter came to us, a Liberator was sent to a gentleman of this town; and a kind of circular, (printed) directed to the Post Master, Countsville; it is dated Albany and signed, Sherlock S. Gregory—its object is to denounce slavery to declare its existence cause for Disunion, and to pledge the writer to exert himself for its abolition.

Mammoth Turtle.—During the late storm a Turtle of extraordinary dimensions drifted ashore on the Falls at West Flatts, and was taken on Friday on the salt meadows of Mr. Richard L. Hirst. This Turtle was immediately purchased by Mr. Scudder, proprietor of the American Museum, for the sum of $500 and brought to the city & safely placed in his establishment alive yesterday. Its weight is fourteen hundred and sixty two pounds, being some 400 to 500 pounds heavier than the celebrated Turtle taken several years ago in Sandy Hook Bay, which is still exhibited at the same museum. This is literally a great curiosity.—N. Y. Mercantile

---

Kentucky Convention.—The convention of the friends of Gen. Jackson in this state, for the nomination of a candidate for *Governor, Lieutenant Governor, &c.* is to be held on the 22d of December, and not on the 8th of January, as originally proposed. A meeting for the election of delegates to it was held in Franklin county on the 19th instant,

The Jackson party in Kentucky are determined not to be deceived again, by "*pale blues.*"

It is at last admitted that Mr. Clay will advocate the policy of the present administration, in relation to the tariff. He has ascertained that the high pressure doctrines avowed by him in his Cincinnati Collation speech will not go down, and he is therefore in favor of a modification? Who would have believed this four months ago.

[*Louisville Adv.*]

Augustin S. Clayton, Esq. has been nominated by a convention of the Legislature of Georgia as a candidate for Congress, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the election of Wilson Lumpkin as Governor

---

Indian Removal.—The Seneca tribe of Indians, about two hundred in number, have passed through Louisville, Ky. on their way to Arkansas. They are under the charge of Col. McElvaine. Their lands in Ohio which they have lately relinquished, consist of about 40,000 acres which are very valuable.

A letter from Washington, published in the Patriot yesterday and dated the same morning, says:—"No arrival from the South today, all the water in Potomac creek having been blown out by the high winds. The steam boat had to return to Washington with the Northern mail of yesterday, in consequence of not being able to reach the place of landing."—*Balt. Rep.*

William C. Bryant, Esq.—The accomplished editor of the New York Evening Post, is said to be engaged in collecting his poems together, and is about to publish them in a duodecimo of some 200 pages. The book is to be published in New York by Bliss, and may be expected in the course of three or four weeks, and will be welcomed by the reading public.

Pennsylvania Dams.—The system of canalling adopted in Pennsylvania, which renders necessary the erection of dams in the principal neighboring rivers, has attracted the attention of the Legislature of New Jersey, in reference to the Delaware, as it has those of New York and Maryland, concerning the Susquehanna. The committee appointed on the petition of the citizens of New Jersey, report on the obstructions in the river Delaware, caused by the erection of dams near Well's Falls, under the authority of the Canal Commissioners of the State of Pennsylvania, have introduced into the Legislature, a preamble and resolutions authorizing and requiring the Governor to demand of the Executive of Pennsylvania the immediate removal of these obstructions, and a restoration of the free navigation of the river.

Georgia.—A public dinner was given at Milledgeville (Geo.) on the 10th inst. to the late Governor Geo. R. Gilmer, of which two hundred persons partook. In reply to a toast complimentary to his personal and political merits Mr. Gilmer replied in a temperate and dignified speech vindicating the measures of his administration. In the course of his remarks, he took occasion to correct the misapprehensions which have prevailed among some of the northern presses in relation to two subjects connected with the Cherokee controversy—viz: the intercourse laws, and the Missionary cases. It has been stated in order to produce a political effect against General Jackson, that he has refused to enforce the non intercourse law—and thereby enabled the State of Georgia to take violent possession of the Cherokee lands. This, Governor Gilmer states to be "utterly false," and affirms that "at no time whatever, has the Cherokee territory been so perfectly secured from intrusion from the whites, as under the operation of the present laws."

In relation to his course towards the Missionaries, Governor Gilmer states that, by the law now in force in Georgia, no white person, however respectable, has the right to intrude upon the Cherokee territory. Those white persons of good character, who were residing among the indians, when that law was passed, had the special privilege granted them to continue their residence. In order, however, to prevent the abuse of the privilege, in enabling such persons to thwart the policy of the General Government, and to oppose the execution of the laws of the State, a condition was imposed upon them, that they should take an oath to support its Constitution and laws. This the Missionaries refused to obey. Whatever punishment they have suffered, has been sought for by themselves, by the open and direct violation of a law which was intended for their benefit. The Ex Governor affirms that under his administration not an act was done for the purpose of oppressing them. They were not asked to take an oath contrary to their conscientious opinions; nor were those who are now in the Penitentiary offered a pardon upon condition that they would take any oath whatever, but simply on the promise of removing from the territory.

The Courier and Enquirer of the 19th instant gives the following as the state of parties in the New York Legislature:—

"Of the Senate, 24 are republicans friendly to the state and national administrations, and 8 antimasons. There is not a senator friendly to Mr. Clay.

Of the House, 97 are republican friends of General Jackson, 26 anti masons. 3 friends of Mr Clay or "nationals," and 2 doubtful

Only eighteen members of the present house are returned to the next."

Last year the Anti-Masons had 31 members of the House; this year their number is reduced to 26.

From the U. States Gazette.

STAGE ACCIDENT.

The driver of the Kimberton stage, on the lower route, (Albadown Kneeland) was thrown from his seat on the morning of the 17th inst. between the Gulf Mills and the King of Prussia, nearly opposite the marble quarries, and instantly killed.

The horses kept the road nearly two miles to the King of Prussia tavern, where the only passenger in the stage (G. T.) first ascertained the certainty that the driver was not on the box, though he had feared it was the case from the speed of the horses. John Elliot, Jr. with the said passenger, and several other men, went immediately in search, and found him lifeless. He was taken into the nearest house, a coroner's inquest held, a coffin prepared, and the corps conveyed to the house of his sorrowful parents who reside at Phœnixville.

From a careful investigation of the cause, it appears to have been occasioned by one of the many brakes that supervisors throw obliquely across public roads. But nothing that can be said will remove them, or prevent others being erected, while the people in districts where they are placed, are so blameably negligent to the *manner* supervisors *mend the roads*. There are many townships the *worse for all the money expended upon them.* If brakes are at all admissible, they ought to be raised upon a base of ten or twelve feet, and laid *straight* across. But an excavation of like width is, in most cases, much better than these mounds

The young man was a kind and dutiful son to his parents; he was not intemperate; he was never known by his employer to be intoxicated, otherwise we should have supposed he was in liquor—but it is more likely that he must have been asleep, and so came upon the first brake unawares. The sudden shock broke a part of the harness of the leading horses, and they, taking fright, it is believed, he was thrown out upon the second or third brake, and became entangled by his clothes with the wheels, as it appeared his body had been dragged a considerable distance before the wheels passed over it.

Attempt to rob the Mail.—We learn says the Newburyport Advertiser of Wednesday, that a gun was fired at the Southern and Eastern Mail Stage, at a place called Long Lane about three miles this side of Portsmouth, about three o'clock yesterday morning. It is reported that one of the leaders was hit, and that both were turned from their course but again set right and driven on by the presence of mind and skilful management of Mr. Annable, the driver. There were eleven passengers and two coaches, which would have rendered any attack not sustained by a considerable armed band, highly dangerous to the robbers.

From the American Farmer.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHEEP.

Lucky Hit Farm, Frederick co. Va. Oct. 17. 1831.

Mr. Smith: If yourself and readers are not already fatigued with continued efforts to impress on the minds of farmers the importance of improving their breeds of sheep, of whatever kind or denomination, one more will be made, with the view of laying a foundation for future usefulness, even to those who are considered more of planters than farmers, who indirectly, if not always immediately, partake of the benefit of improvement, through an operation on their patriotism in a convenient and beneficial exchange of their natural productions, for those of their nearest neighbors; for, although the sentiment, "my home, my country, and my brother man," cannot be too liberally inculcated, still our nearest neighbors should have the preference in friendly and commercial exchanges, independent of the interesting circumstances which peculiarly bind us together as a band of brothers. Be assured, sir, that no observations of this kind are intended to have a political bearing, further than to express a hearty co-operation in the promotion of every object essentially relieving us of a dependence on foreign nations, especially where nature and experience has suggested a plain and prosperous course, neither interfering with the rights of these abroad, nor oppressing any of the congregated nations at home. But they are necessarily connected with the design of the writer to discover, by all the means in his power, the kind of wool-bearing animal best adapted to the soils and climates of our wide spread and variegated country; and to recommend their nation of wool is one of our prime interests, and will lead, through its improvement, to superior comforts, and more general independence. A society was formed, some years since, having a national aspect, headed as it was by some great names, for the improvement of wool—it is doubtful whether any serious measures were ever taken by any of them to promote a better; and more general knowledge of it—it is rather presumable that the exciting subjects of the day, having a transitory interest, have put in the back ground one having a permanency of interest not less important in its way than others, which greatly sustain the general fabric of our independence. If, in the various countries of Europe, it is thought expedient and necessary in their national institutions, to collect, and then to diffuse facts, in relation to the history of sheep and wool; why should it be so lightly thought of with us, where the demand for wool in its varieties is daily increasing, for the use of our ingenious and enterprising manufacturers, who are not confined to any section of the country, but who are, as they should be, planting their machinery wherever nature and art invites, and interest stimulates; and will it not be well to consider and comprehend the fact, that its price will be enhanced and regulated by the improving state of our manufactures? If in the island of Great Britain their long experience leads them to discriminate between some twenty different breeds of sheep, as adapted to their varying soils, situations, and interests, surely, in our immense territory the same reasons must operate with increased force and propriety.

An important Convention is to be held in the city of New York, to advance the manufacturing interest. Can they not, in the course of their deliberations, suggest some general plan for the improvement of wool in every section of our country, as a part of that American system which it is expected they will promote through a special attention to the interests of woollen manufactures, having at the same time a kindred regard in all their deliberations to the differing interests of those who think themselves aggrieved by too rigid an application of regulations. I will now, sir, plainly state, that the object of this brief appeal, principally to sheep breeders, is for the purpose of acquiring every information connected with the subject, which can possess an humble essayist with the materials for embodying a mass of facts, from which an attempt will be made to recommend plans of intermixture for the improvement of our American flocks, and thereby to approximate as nearly as possible, to that perfection which science may afford to nature, in adapting the animal to the soil and climate, instead of forcing the one or the other to the certain deterioration of one, without any probability of benefit to the other. Out of the numberless facts which are either hidden or revealed by the philosophy of this subject, this broad one may perhaps be more generally known, that the finest wooled sheep, close, and best calculated to protect them against the rigors of the climate, are best adapted to our northern country, while a larger animal, with wool coarser, longer, less fine, and a carcase affording better nutrition, will, on all tolerable grass soils, be better adapted to the southern. A medium between the two, in farmer's style, across, would best suit the middle part of the United States, where time will probably prove, when sufficient interest is exerted to make experiments and comparisons, that the race of sheep in that region of country will be superior to those raised either to the north or south of them. If it is a fact, which is believed to be undoubted, that even the locality of some farms in the same general and particular climate, agree much better with the health and constitution of sheep than others; how reasonable, and indeed important, it will be, to ascertain what kind of the wool bearing animal will be best adapted to the great divisions of our much greater country. In order, then, to obtain the information necessary to carry into effect the preceding suggestions, viz. the theory of adapting sheep in the length, quality, and closeness of their wool, their size and capacity to enlargement for mutton purposes, to the varying soils and climate of our land, the writer must be under obligations to intelligent gentlemen in each of our States; and he would earnestly solicit information pertinent to the subject: and further, not that the means to dictate the manner of communicating to any one who will have the goodness to consider the great value of it, particularly in relation to the farming interest, but merely to suggest some essential points in describing the kind and quality of animals in connection with the soil and culture, viz. their probable origin, progress, and change, if any; their numbers and general purpose; at what age they are generally slaughtered, and what proportion are marketed as lamb; the price and weight of mutton; quantity and quality of wool shorn; price, and to what adapted; length of staple and general character; what varieties of sheep, &c. &c. A multitude of circumstances might be arrayed to prove the importance of some one undertaking a labor of this kind, which would never have been proposed by the incompetent, though zealous individual, who now presents himself, if to him there had been a probability of some one coming forward well qualified to do justice to the subject. In the meantime (should he ever be so fortunate as to receive the aid of intelligent friends) if any favorable impressions have been made by the testimony exhibited from time to time in the American Farmer, in relation to the Frederick sheep, bred with the view of improving all but the finest wool races of the Saxon or other fine woollen Merino sheep, kept exclusively for wool, or the thorough-bred Bakewell or South-down, kept principally for mutton from the scantiness or coarseness of their fleece—a ram of the Frederick breed would be offered to every State agricultural Society, or such other authority, in its absence, as would take sufficient interest in its introduction with no other hope of recompense than the proud satisfaction the honor of acceptance would bestow, and the gratifying anticipation that a breed of sheep which has cost the labor and observation of near 30 years will be spread over the United States. Already have two of the States manifested their zeal. Every Agricultural Society in his native State, giving the promise of usefulness will confer a favor in sending for a ram. With the most cordial wishes, sir, that the Farmer may be patronised in proportion to its usefulness.

I am, yours, RICHARD K. MEADE.

We are informed by a gentleman who arrived in the Steam boat last night, from Annapolis, that Mr. Wm. Newman, was on Wednesday last, appointed by the Executive, Inspector for this Shore, vice Captain Thomas, deceased.—*Gazette*

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc4925_scm13073-0287.jpg