

# Virginia Free Press.

CHARLESTOWN, JEFFERSON COUNTY

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BY JOHN S. & H. N. GALLAHER.

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NO. 30.

## THE VIRGINIA FREE PRESS

It has a very general circulation, not only in Charlestown, Harpers-Ferry, Shepherdstown, Smithfield, and their respective neighborhoods, but in the Valley of Virginia, and in other portions of the country, far and wide. It is an old establishment, with the largest subscription of any weekly paper in Virginia. The advantages afforded by it, are now so well appreciated, that business men in all quarters avail themselves of its columns to make known to the public their wishes and their wants.

### GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

**From the Lexington (Va.) Gazette.**  
**SPRING WHEAT.**  
We ask the attention of the farmers of the county to the following valuable communication from one of our most intelligent and successful agriculturists. They will no doubt concur with us in the opinion, that he richly deserves the thanks of the community for his efforts to extend the cultivation of this valuable grain, (Spring Wheat), which will secure an almost certain crop of the great staple of the Valley. We expect further information upon the subject from other intelligent farmers of this vicinity. We hope some of them will grind a small parcel of the Wheat, so as to test the quality of the flour. The remainder they will no doubt distribute liberally among their brethren of the plough.

August 1st, 1837.  
**C. C. BALDWIN, Esq.**  
Dear Sir—Your note of the 27th ult. requesting information in relation to my success in the cultivation of the Spring Wheat, was not received for several days, and my engagements since have prevented an earlier answer to the several queries propounded. I will now endeavor to answer them, in the order of your note, as well as I can, from an experiment on three small lots, and for the benefit of my neighbors.

Bearded Family, with a beautiful clear yellow straw, the meshes, I think, placed closer on the head than is usual in that variety; consequently, it gives a better yield from the straw than a careless observer would suppose, from the length of the head. The grain may be called red, and of medium size, resembling very much the bearded Winter Wheat, common in our county.

In regard to soil, preparation, and time of sowing, I would remark, that in the experiments I have made, I sowed at three times, and on different soils, first, on the last week of February, on a clover fallow, ploughed in the same month; then on a stiff clay, (without cover) about the 15th of March;—ground ploughed near the time of the first lot;—and last a lot of corn land, of medium quality, ploughed the last week in March, and sowed as soon as ploughed. The corn lot gave much the best yield and best grain—standing well and free from injury of any kind until ripe.

The two first lots gave too luxuriant a growth—and the wheat fell before it was made—consequently, the grain was clean and free from rust. The quantity sown was about 12 bushels per acre, which I have no doubt is one-third too much, and the yield near 15 for one, on all the lots together, but considerably more on the corn land. I cut the Spring Wheat, the day I finished cutting the winter grain, and my belief is, that in ordinary seasons, it will ripen about the same time. As to its yield in flour, I cannot speak, not having had any ground, but judge from the appearance of the grain, that it will not make as fair flour as any of the white varieties of Wheat, but that it will yield flour, in quantity and quality, equal to the bearded winter wheat, or any of the red wheat common amongst us.

In answer to the query, "whether the grain can be advantageously substituted, in whole or in part, for the common winter wheat," I have no hesitation in saying, that it should not be substituted in whole, but that I am of opinion that it may be advantageously substituted in part. I think that corn land is the best preparation, and that all, or so much of it as cannot be well prepared, and sowed in good time with winter wheat, should be reserved for this crop. Every farmer will at once see how much such an arrangement would relieve him in his fall labours, and with what ease, and how handsomely he could prepare his corn land for a spring crop, by removing the stalks of the land at his leisure in the winter, to the barn yard.

Your last query is, whether I have need to dispose of, I have raised more than I wish to sow—but many persons have made application for seed, and until they call and receive what has been promised, I am unable to say how much I will have to spare.

It is my desire to dispose of it in small parcels, and to spread it as widely as possible, believing as I do, that it will be a valuable crop, particularly in situations, and on land subject to injury from the action of the frost. I believe I have answered all your queries, in a hasty and imperfect way to be sure; but I hope, that as other farmers in the neighborhood have tried the same crop, they will, through your paper, favor us with their experience and views, and thus any omission of mine will be supplied, or error into which I may have fallen, corrected.

Very respectfully,  
**A. T. BARCLAY.**  
P. S. I ought to have stated that the seed procured from the North, had in it a considerable quantity of oats, and

that I was not so particular as some others, who sowed less, in picking them out; consequently, there is still mixed with my wheat, some oats, but not so much as came in the seed.

**WINCHESTER, August 8.**  
**SPRING WHEAT.**—Our attention has been called to a very fine specimen of Spring wheat, raised in this neighborhood by Mr. William Jenkins. This wheat was obtained from seed procured in Connecticut, was put in the ground on the 7th of April last, and was reaped on Friday last. The average height of the straw is about 5 feet, and the heads are remarkably well filled. Mr. J. has obtained about 4 bushels from the sowing of one peck, upon the fourth of an acre of ground. This wheat is of a remarkable fine quality, and is estimated to weigh about 62 lbs. to the bushel.—We think the experiment made by Mr. Jenkins may be considered as entirely successful, and as establishing the adoption of this kind of wheat to the soil and climate of this section of country.—*Virginiaian.*

**Important improvement in Dentistry.**  
—Dr. Harris, Surgeon Dentist, of Baltimore, now in this city, has been entirely successful in applying a set of artificial teeth fixed on gold plate, on the principle of atmospheric pressure. This is a most important improvement in the dental art. There are frequent cases where it is impossible to insert sets of teeth with springs, from the absence of any thing to attach them to; the new mode of Dr. H.'s is invaluable in such cases. It is a better mode than that of the springs in any case; and teeth so applied will answer all the purposes of mastication, &c., as well as those with springs. He has once before applied teeth on this principle, but the suppurative tooth was used instead of the gold plate, and the porous nature, it did not adhere to the gum with the tenacity of the gold plate, the latter presenting so impervious a surface. The gold plate may be adapted to suit the gum precisely, and by applying it to the gum, and exhausting the air between them, it retains its position with surprising firmness. At first blush it seems a little singular, but the principle is a correct one, and we see practical illustrations almost every day, by the little school boys, who, with their string and piece of leather, raise immense stones, merely placing the leather upon them, and exhausting the air by blowing on it. We had the pleasure of examining the set above alluded to, and have never seen so accurate a counterfeiter of the natural teeth. The manufacture of the incorruptible teeth may be now regarded as being brought to perfection. Dr. Harris has done much for the dental art in this discovery of his.—*Richmond Compiler.*

**From the Bulletin Spa Gazette.**  
**EXTRAORDINARY SURGICAL OPERATION BY DR. SCUDDER.**—There was performed in our village, last week, a very curious operation on the Eye, being nothing more nor less than the instantaneous cure of Squinting, or "Strabismus," as it is properly called. The patient, a young lady from South Carolina, came from Saratoga to this place to meet Dr. Scudder; and so perfect was the operation, and so little the inconvenience, that she returned with her parents to Saratoga in the evening train of cars. The operation was performed by cutting some of the fibres of the muscle which held the eye obliquely; the consequence was, that the opposite muscle immediately brought the eye in its proper line of vision, and the unpleasant deformity of squinting was instantaneously removed. The instruments with which Dr. Scudder (whom every one must remember is the ingenious Oculist of New York) performed the operation, are made of ivory, containing an open knife, which is projected by means of a screw in the handle; they somewhat resemble a small paper folder, and (like many of the Doctor's instruments) of his own invention. Dr. S. is now in Albany, where we understand he will remain until September. In diseases of the Eye and Ear, and in insertion of Artificial Human Eyes, he is unrivalled.

**Yeast in Putrid Diseases.**—The Rev. Dr. Cartwright's first discovery and subsequent experience of the good effects of yeast in putrid sore throats, fever, &c. cannot be too generally known. Several years ago, the Rev. gentleman went to reside at Brampton, near Chesterfield. A few months after his arrival a putrid fever broke out, and many of the parishioners being too poor to obtain medical assistance, Mr. Cartwright prescribed for them from such sources of knowledge as he then possessed.

He had fruitlessly tried all the remedies in the case of a poor boy who was attacked, and was on the point of declaring his death inevitable, when observing a tub of wort in a corner of the room, and calling to mind the fact that a piece of putrid meat would become sweet by exposure to its chemical action, the idea instantly suggested itself, that the yeast might correct the putrid nature of the disease. The experiment was immediately tried, and the patient, by the continued use of it, rapidly recovered. Mr. C. subsequently administered the yeast with the most decided success in numerous other cases.

**From the Doylestown (Penn.) Democrat.**  
**SLAVE CASE.**—Negro Ephraim was claimed by Thomas E. Sellers, of Frederick county, Maryland, as his slave. He was taken on a warrant, and brought before Judge Fox on the 10th of July. His counsel stated that he was willing to go on so far as to hear the proof on the part of the claimant, but said he had witnesses that he wished an opportunity to bring forward. The Judge then, upon the affidavit of Ephraim that he had an absent witness, adjourned the hearing to the first day of August, with the express declaration, that when the case commenced, he would give no further adjournment to either party. On the first of August, the parties appeared again before the Judge, and declared their readiness to proceed. Mr. Griffiths, for the claimant, opened the case. He stated that he was ready to show that this man was born a slave, and that Mr. Sellers became possessed of him by the law of Maryland. The Judge here told Mr. Griffiths that his first step would be to show the law of Maryland, under which Ephraim was sold to the claimant; that the words of the law were, that it must be proved to the satisfaction of the Judge that the person arrested, under the laws of the State from which he fled, owed service or labor to the person claiming him.—Mr. Griffiths then offered in evidence, a volume purporting to be the laws of Maryland. It was objected to by the counsel for Ephraim, because it did not appear to have any mark of having been printed or published by public authority; and after argument the Judge sustained the objection. They said that the book offered, upon its face, as far as they had examined it, appeared to be the work of a private hand, and had no mark of being sanctioned by public authority. Mr. Griffiths then asked, for further time. This was objected to by the counsel for Ephraim.

**From the Columbus (Ohio) Journal.**  
**THE PRESIDENCY.**  
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**6. The difficulty, charge, and expense of transportation.**—If this system shall be adopted, it will devolve as a duty on the Government to make its payments in specie. The difficulty and danger of transporting specie from one part of this extensive empire to the other, will be of a serious and imposing character, and will involve such expense. Why run these risks, when a system can be adopted which will avoid both, as well as the expense? I cannot perceive any sound reason for it.

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I have merely sketched my objections to this gilded scheme. I will hereafter enlarge upon them and present others. I am aware that our banking system is unsound and defective, and needs great reformation, but I go for reform, not destruction. I am a decided advocate for a great enlargement of the specie basis—such an enlargement as will infuse it into all the business transactions of the farmers and mechanics, leaving bank notes almost entirely for extended commercial operations. I see no way to effect this but by a gradual exclusion of small notes. Experience has amply tested that notes and specie of the same denomination will not circulate together. The notes banish the metal. Hence, to introduce a more extended metallic circulation, the exclusion of small notes by law is indispensably necessary. I am willing to go on ultimately, but gradually, to fifty or one hundred dollar notes, if found necessary and expedient. I need not decidedly advocate that policy which will make notes what they profess to be—promises to pay specie, and that on demand. I am willing to restrict their circulation, that there will be no danger of their immediate convertibility into specie, if desired, and secure the country against the distress-

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I have merely sketched my objections to this gilded scheme. I will hereafter enlarge upon them and present others. I am aware that our banking system is unsound and defective, and needs great reformation, but I go for reform, not destruction. I am a decided advocate for a great enlargement of the specie basis—such an enlargement as will infuse it into all the business transactions of the farmers and mechanics, leaving bank notes almost entirely for extended commercial operations. I see no way to effect this but by a gradual exclusion of small notes. Experience has amply tested that notes and specie of the same denomination will not circulate together. The notes banish the metal. Hence, to introduce a more extended metallic circulation, the exclusion of small notes by law is indispensably necessary. I am willing to go on ultimately, but gradually, to fifty or one hundred dollar notes, if found necessary and expedient. I need not decidedly advocate that policy which will make notes what they profess to be—promises to pay specie, and that on demand. I am willing to restrict their circulation, that there will be no danger of their immediate convertibility into specie, if desired, and secure the country against the distress-

**From the Providence Morning Courier.**  
**THE TEST OF BENEVOLENCE.**  
A SHORT AND TRUE STORY.  
The hand that wiped away the tear of woe,  
The heart that melted at another's woe,  
Were his, and blessings followed him.

David Wentworth had the kindest of hearts. There was neither meanness nor bound to his benevolence; except inability. And happy was any man who had a tittle of the prayers that were offered up for the welfare of my friend, by the unfortunate and wretched whom his hand had relieved.

I speak of prayers—for it was the only reward he sought, and of course the only reward he obtained; I mean here—but I forget.

David was paying attention to an excellent young lady of his native city. She was wealthy, beautiful, accomplished, and consequently had many suitors. Among them were richer and nobler (in extraction I mean) and handsomer than David, but I importune straight forwardness about my friend; that could not fail to carry him somewhere near the heart of his discerning mistress, even if an emperor had been his rival.

The young lady in question, hit upon a project to put the characters of her lovers to a test. She had come across a poor widow with a family in distress in one of her benevolent excursions, and the idea occurred to her, that it would be a good opportunity to ascertain the stuff her lovers' hearts were made of. Letters were forthwith indited, setting forth the good woman's tale, and forwarded to the different gentlemen, in the widow's name, requesting an answer and assistance.

The first reply was a lecture on idleness and begging, and concluded with the information that the writer was not accustomed to give those he did not know. This was from \$10,000 a year! The second advised her to apply to some of the benevolent societies whose duty it was to relieve those who were truly in want. This was from one who had a great reputation for benevolence—who had taken a leading part in several charitable associations, and whose physical liberality had been blazoned in the Gazette. The lady thought that, interested as he was, in the success of these institutions, he

displayed a very commendable reluctance about taking the business out of their hands. A third, from a good hearted and generous kind of a fellow—enclosed her a \$5 bill with his compliments. Several took no notice of the good woman's petition. But there was another answer which the lady read with far different feelings. It was from David—from \$800 a year—and I need not say, like himself, kind and consoling. It spoke of the writer's narrow means, and also of the principles he has adopted, of never giving, unless persuaded of the worthiness of the object, and concluded by requesting an interview. "If," said he, "I find myself otherwise unable to afford the assistance you require, I trust I may be of service in interesting others in your behalf."

Nor was this profession. For it was but a few weeks before the widow found herself comfortably located and engaged in a thriving little business, commenced by the recommendation, and carried on by the aid of a friend. And all this was done in genuine scripture style. There was no sounding of trumpets, and the right hand knew not the doing of the left. But his lady-love, was a silent observer of his conduct, and he received many a kind glance from that quarter, of which he little suspected the cause. She began to think that a homage of a spirit like his was a thing not to be despised; and she felt something very much like palpitation of the heart, as she questioned herself respecting his intention.

"She was in a train of thought which was one evening, as is often the case, interrupted by a call from the very person who had been its cause. Hour after hour passed by that night, and still David lingered. He could not tear himself away. "She is a most fascinating creature," thought he, "and good as she is beautiful. Can she ever be false and he set for a moment in suspense. "This suspense must be ended," he at length thought. He started as the clock ticked eleven.

"You will certainly think me insufferably tedious, said he, with a faint smile, "but I have been so pleasantly engaged as to take no note of time. And the sin of this trespass upon the rules of good breeding must lie at your door. Besides, I have lengthened this xixi," he continued after a pause, "under the apprehension that as it has been the happiest, it might also be the last, it shall ever be my good fortune to enjoy with Miss H."

The lady looked at him, with some surprise.

"Nay," said he, "the matter rests with yourself. Will you forgive my presumption? I know that others, perhaps more worthy of you, at least nobler and wealthier and higher in the world's esteem, are striving for the honor of your hand. And yet I cannot restrain myself from making an avowal, which, though it may be futile, it is yet but a deserved tribute to your worth." And he popped the question.

The lady did not swoon nor turn pale. But a flash of gratification passed over her face, and lighted her eyes for a moment.

She frankly gave him her hand and looked up archly in his face. "The friend of the fatherless and widow," said she, (David blushed) "cannot fail to make a constant lover and a worthy husband."

**A VOICE FROM THE WEST.**  
The Journal of Commerce publishes the following letter, the original having been submitted to the inspection of the editors. It is brief, but significant, and full of interest.  
LOANSBORO, June 11th.

Dear Brother—I want you to come on here as soon as you can, for times is good here. Laboring men has from \$24 to \$26 per month, and found; and I cannot get men enough, and dear brother, I want you to come to Philadelphia and take your passage on the canal to Pittsburg, from there by steamboat to Madison. From there you will have to walk 130 miles to Loansport. You will go through Indian-apolis and a beautiful country.

Flour here is \$8 25 per barrel, potatoes fifty cents a bushel, good beef six cents per pound, and dear brother get yourself a wife before you come, and bring me one, for girls is scarce here, and too proud.

**A LONG NOSE.**—Napoleon used to say: "Strange as it may appear, when

THE FREE PRESS.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 1837.

THE TREASURY SCHEMES.

We give this week several articles of interest on the great subject which is likely to engross the attention of Congress and the people. Two of them have been ascribed to the pen of Mr. Rives, but the Equivocal does not admit that "R." is "Mr. Rives himself."

MR. LEIGH.

The sagacious and discriminating mind of this gentleman clearly foresaw the course of the "alternative" which might be presented to them, if the U. S. Bank were put down.

THE "SHIN PLASTERS."

The grand jury of this County, in session on Monday last, and composed of gentlemen of both parties, declined action upon the subject of the issue and circulation of small bills, or "shin plasters" as they are familiarly called.

SHANNONDALE.

The public, we are sure, will be gratified to learn, that this delightful and we hope may in a few years be able to add, unutilized watering place has been purchased by a company of gentlemen, residents of this county.

ELECTIONS.

The details of the elections just held in the Western States, are too numerous and vague for insertion in our columns. We have therefore extracted a table from the National Intelligencer, showing actual results, as far as received.

THE FALL TERM OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF LAW AND CHANCERY FOR CLARK COUNTY COMMENCES THIS DAY.

If the people expect speedy relief from Congress, they will be disappointed. Let them not forget the issue—Treasury Bank or no Treasury Bank? Will they surrender their last bulwark?

THE ELECTIONS FOR CONGRESS.

We omit the returns of votes in the Congressional Districts as they successively reach us, because they come irregularly, and are, at best, frequently imperfect, though we cannot err in stating that they indicate, almost invariably, a great increase of Whig strength since the voting for President of the United States last autumn.

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE ELECTED TO LAST CONGRESS.

- NORTH CAROLINA. 1. Wm. H. Shepard M. T. Sawyer. 2. Eben T. Clegg. 3. John Sprague. 4. James McKee. 5. J. T. Hovekin. 6. J. M. Deberry. 7. Wm. Montgomery. 8. A. H. Sheppard. 9. Abraham Kencher. 10. J. H. Connor. 11. Wm. Graham. 12. Lewis Williams. 13. Wm. B. Carter. 14. Samuel Bunch. 15. Luke Lea. 16. James Standifer. 17. John B. Forrester. 18. Balis Peyton. 19. John Bell. 20. A. F. Maury. 21. John K. Polk. 22. Eben Shields. 23. Eben Johnson. 24. Adam Huntsman. 25. Wm. C. Dunlap. 26. C. H. Williams. 27. Wm. B. Carter. 28. Samuel Bunch. 29. Luke Lea. 30. James Standifer. 31. John B. Forrester. 32. Balis Peyton. 33. John Bell. 34. A. F. Maury. 35. John K. Polk. 36. Eben Shields. 37. Eben Johnson. 38. Adam Huntsman. 39. Wm. C. Dunlap. 40. C. H. Williams. 41. Wm. B. Carter. 42. Samuel Bunch. 43. Luke Lea. 44. James Standifer. 45. John B. Forrester. 46. Balis Peyton. 47. John Bell. 48. A. F. Maury. 49. John K. Polk. 50. Eben Shields. 51. Eben Johnson. 52. Adam Huntsman. 53. Wm. C. 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