

**ALEXANDER'S MODERN ACTING DRAMA, NEW SERIES.**

*Embellished with Splendid Engravings.*  
The publisher has been informed from the extensive...  
The first number of the new series will appear about...  
The price of the new series is \$1.00 per volume...  
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**GENERAL OFFICE OF THE UNION AGENCY.**  
Washington, D. C., Feb. 15, 1856.  
**AGENTS AGENTS AGENTS!!!**  
Regular Salary and sure pay.  
No electioneering.  
SUB-AGENTS, locally, are wanted in every town, and city in the United States, which has a population of upwards of one thousand; and in every County Seat throughout the States and Territories adjacent, without regard to population. The Agents will have to make it appear that they have resided three years in the county from which they write, and that they are competent to perform, in case of the territory, the business of a General Agent; which business includes every thing that can be done by a man of common capacity and strict honesty.

**THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.**  
The National Intelligencer says:—It is with no ordinary regret that we perform the duty of announcing the destruction, by fire, of the building in the central part of this city, which has for many years been occupied by the General Post Office, the Patent Office, and the City Post Office, with an important part of the contents of these buildings, including the entire contents of the two latter.

**DISASTEROUS CONFLAGRATION.**  
**THE GENERAL POST OFFICE & PATENT OFFICE IN ASHES.**  
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**OFFICIAL.**  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE, Dec. 15, 1836.  
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Oct. 27, 1856.

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Neatly executed at this  
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**Maryland Gazette.**

**ANNAPOLIS: Thursday, December 22, 1836.**

The Managers of the Female Orphan Society of the City of Annapolis, hereby give notice that they contemplate holding their Annual Fair sometime in January next, and solicit the aid of all their friends and patrons in preparing articles for exhibition on that occasion. The managers flatter themselves that no diminution of interest will be felt in regard to this valuable Institution, and hope to receive from the public tangible proofs of their continued approbation.

The Executive Council will meet this day, Thursday, the 22d inst.

**COURT OF APPEALS, W. S. December Term, 1836.**

Thursday, Dec. 15th.—  
No. 31 J. L. Donaldson vs. The Patapsco Insurance Company. The argument in this case was commenced by R. Johnson for the Appellant, and by Mayer and Merdith for the Appellee.

Friday, Dec. 16th.—  
No. 31. The argument in this case was concluded by R. Johnson for the Appellant.

No. 32. Joseph Dilly and Aaron C. Heckrotte vs. Notley Barnard. The argument in this case was commenced by Johnson for the Appellant.

On motion of A. C. M. for the Appellant, C. Digges, of Annapolis, was admitted an Attorney at Law.

Saturday, Dec. 17th.—  
No. 29. Dilly and Heckrotte vs. Barnard. This case was further argued by R. Johnson for the Appellant, and Mayer for the Appellee, and concluded by R. Johnson for the Appellant.

No. 41. Gabriel Winter vs. Luke Terman. The argument in this case was commenced by McMahon for the Appellant.

Monday, Dec. 19th.—  
No. 33. Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland Steam Navigation Company vs. Dan George. The argument in this case was concluded by R. Johnson for the Appellant, and continued by McMahon for the Appellee.

A New Orleans paper estimates the sugar crop of Louisiana for the present year at 60,000 hhd., and the cotton crop at 500,000 bales.

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be commanded. As it was, the fire had its own way, and was at last seen in the vault or cellar immediately under the delivery window of the City Post Office; followed shortly afterwards by flames from the windows of the latter, and within five minutes afterwards, by flames from the roof, the fire having crept up along the staircases or partitions to the top of the building before it broke out below.

From the moment of the flames bursting out from the lower windows, it was obvious that all hope of saving the building was vain. In little more than an hour the whole interior of the building and its contents were destroyed.

The books of the General Post Office were all, or nearly all, saved, exertions having been made for their safety from nearly the first moment of the alarm; but a mass of papers, &c. belonging to the Office were destroyed. Not a thing was saved from the Patent Office, or the City Post Office, the volume of the smoke preventing any body from penetrating the latter, so as to save any thing.

As to the origin of the fire, it is impossible to say any thing for nothing seems to be known of it, except that it was in a cellar or vault, in which gun powder and coal were stored, and which were probably in a state of ignition before the fire disclosed itself to the eye.

Most fortunately, the night was calm and comparatively serene, or the destruction of property would have been inevitable and great. Had it occurred on the night previous, when the wind blew almost a hurricane, several squares of valuable buildings must have been destroyed.

On all the accounts of loss of papers and property sustained by the disaster, that which is most to be regretted (because irreparable) is that of the whole of the great repository of models of machines in the Patent Office. The moulds of printing presses now only remain of that collected evidence of the penetration, ingenuity, and enterprise which peculiarly distinguish the descendants of Europe in the Western World.

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**By the Southern Express Mail.**  
We have ships from Mobile and New Orleans since the memorable battle of San Jacinto, by order of the Mexican Government, and immediately set off for Washington via Nacogdoches. What disposition has been made of the rest of the force is not stated, and we are without the means of knowing that have led to the liberation of Santa Anna. Other circumstances by the same arrival encouraged the idea that the war is being rapidly finished. The Acting Secretary of War, under the direction of President Houston, issued a Circular dated the 30th of November, announcing certain intelligence that the Mexicans are engaged in active and formidable preparations for an immediate invasion of Texas, calling upon every man in Texas to hold himself ready to take the field at a moment's warning, and directing an immediate organization of militia.

The brig *Daniel H. Miller*, also at New Orleans, ten days from Tampico, brings corroborating intelligence. The expedition against Texas is said, in letters from the city of Mexico, of the date of November 24, to be ready to start on the 27th inst. mentions the receipt of the St. Augustine Herald of the 10th, from which the following intelligence is derived: FROM THE ARMY.

By an arrival from Volusia, we learn that Gen. Jessup with a force of about 400 men composed of regular troops and Alabama volunteers, had arrived at Volusia, direct from Tampa Bay. On arriving at the Oklawaha, he surprised a large number of negroes, 43 in number, and took the whole of them prisoners. These negroes are a part of those belonging to Col. O. S. Reed, and were captured by the Indians in December last. They are mostly women and children. An Indian was also taken by his advance guard. We understand that this Indian on finding that he could not elude pursuit, and not being able to pass himself off as a friendly Creeks who had strayed from the main body and was lost; he was very glad to see his friends and shook hands with all around him. The cheat was soon discovered and he was secured.

From these negroes and the Indian much valuable information has been obtained as regards the position, movements and future operations of the Indians, and also their service as guides. The negroes state that the day previous to their being taken, an express had been sent to Tampa, with orders for all the warriors to concentrate in the Wahoo Swamp, and that they were on the way there. A negro belonging to Francis Gue, Esq. of this city, who ran away last spring, carried the express, and appears to be high in the confidence of the Indians.

The negroes have been brought to town, and will be delivered to their owners as soon as they can demand them. The Wahoo Swamp, where, if what the negroes state be true, the Indians are concentrating, is their strongest hold, and where they will make their boldest stand as yet, their most desperate struggle, and are preparing for a struggle still more desperate and deadly: may it be their last!

The army marches again in a few days for the Wahoo Swamp, under command of General Jessup. The Tennessee brigade, whose term of service is nearly expired, will return home by the way of the mouth of the Witalacochee.

**From the Boston Morning Post.**  
**HIGHLY IMPORTANT INVENTION.**  
TEN LIVES SAVED.—Shortly after the destruction of the Royal Tar, we alluded to the manifest importance of every vessel's being abundantly provided with life preservers, adding, that no traveller should venture upon our seas or rivers, either in sail or steam boats, without being furnished with one of these sure aids in time of danger. We now publish, with great pleasure, a new invention of greater magnitude, viz:—The Life Saver. In consequence of the numerous accidents which are daily occurring upon our waters, the inventor S. T. Armstrong, agent of the Roxbury India Rubber Company, was induced to offer this article to the public. One of these will support and save twenty-four persons. It can be inflated with very little effort and transported with the greatest ease. When a boat is leaky, two of these spars, attached to either side of the boat, will enable it to buffet the most severe storm, after the vessel itself can afford no chance of safety. The spar is twenty feet long and thirty-six inches in circumference, of a cylindrical form, composed of the strongest twine duck, and covered between its lining and exterior with India Rubber. It may now be seen at the Company's store in Washington st., Boston, and Peck Street, New York; and it will amount to culpable negligence in captains, and other persons, who are subject to risks at sea, either of life or property, not to give it a fair trial. We repeat that in our estimation, it is an invention of the highest importance, and we believe that in a short time owners would as soon think of sending vessels to sea without chart and compass as without these life spars and life preservers.

**TEXAS.**  
A letter from Nacogdoches, under date of November 18, published in the New Orleans Bee, says:—  
"Good news arrived here yesterday, stating that a Mexican Minister from Mexico, had arrived in Columbia, (Texas); his object had not been made known, but it is generally presumed that his business is to treat with the Texans. General Houston, in his letter, states that it is the acknowledged of a treaty with Texas."

**IMPORTANT FROM TEXAS.—RELEASE OF SANTA ANNA.**  
The schr *Tezsa*, Captain *Parker*, arrived at New Orleans on the 11th inst. in five days from the mouth of the Brassy, bringing the intelligence of the release of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, who had been a prisoner of war for the last.

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**CHRISTMAS.**  
The following rich will be drawn in the Christmas Eve, at 4 o'clock, of Whole Tickets cost \$10, shares in from the country (postage attended to with special).

**MAGNIFICENT MARYLAND STATE CLASS No. To be drawn at Baltimore AT FOUR o'clock Approved by Wm. Hughes & J. S. Williams D. S. GREGORY Dates and M...**

**SPLendid**  
1 prize of  
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1 prize of  
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1 prize of  
2 prizes of  
2 prizes of  
10 prizes of  
20 prizes of  
20 prizes of  
30 prizes of  
30 prizes of  
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65 prizes of  
130 prizes of  
130 prizes of  
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2145 prizes of  
23,800 prizes of  
43,600 prizes of

**NOTICE.**  
That on the first Monday (2d) in January next, at 8 o'clock A. M. will be offered for RENT, all the STALLS AND BENCHES in the Market House for one year, ending the first Monday in January 1838. Terms Cash.  
A COWAN, Tr. Corp.  
Dec. 22.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE Conventions of the Province of Maryland, Held at the City of Annapolis, in 1774, 75, and 1776.**  
Just received and for Sale by D RIDGELY, Agent for the Publishers.  
Subscribers copies are ready for delivery, Nov. 24, 1836.

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