

From the *Charleston City Gazette*, Aug. 9.

**Gale.**—The wind blew yesterday from about 11 o'clock, a strong gale at South East; but not with such violence as to cause material damage. The steam boat *Charleston*, with a considerable number of passengers, started between one and two o'clock for Sullivan's Island, and after contending for about an hour and a half with the wind and a strong tide, came to anchor between Hog Island and Haddrell's Point, where she remained last evening, in apparent safety. The wind lulling at sun set, she probably got down in the course of the night.

**The Season.**—The present summer has been rainy beyond example. The month of June, usually a dry month, has been marked this year by twenty six days of rain. As we feared, the crops of cotton have been most seriously injured. In some places where the planters were induced, by the expectation of a dry season, to plant their low lands and inland swamps in cotton, the fields have been inundated, and the plants have blackened and perished; even the higher grounds have suffered from the grass, which, amidst incessant showers, it was found impossible to destroy by the hoe; and in some cases, a part of the crop has been saved, only by the abandonment of the rest.

Besides the general accounts which we have received of losses in the middle and upper country, we have precise information of injuries sustained in the Parishes of St. Thomas, St. Bartholomews, Prince William, St. Helena, St. Luke, and along the sea coast of Georgia, nearly as far south as the Atahama. From all the information we have been able to collect, we think it reduced almost to a certainty, that the present year will prove disastrous to the Cotton Planters.

#### STORM AT SAVANNAH.

By the schooner *Laura*, we learn that the storm was very severe at Savannah. It commenced on the 7th and lasted twenty-four hours. The crops had suffered greatly. The damage is represented to have been very great.

#### KIDNAPPING.

Thompson who was convicted at the last sessions of kidnapping several negroes, was brought up on Saturday last, to receive his sentence. In consequence of the negroes being set free by his conviction, which had cost him several thousand dollars, the court did not exercise the privilege which the law allows of exacting a fine, but committed him to the Penitentiary for three years, at hard labor. He is a native of Georgia, and has a large family.

N. Y. Gaz.

From the *Doston Centinel*, Aug. 20.

#### SEA SERPENT.

The appearance in Gloucester (Cape Ann) harbor of an uncommon *Sea Animal* has been the topic of conversation and wonderment for several days past. A number of gentlemen of information and veracity have asserted that they have seen such an animal off and in the harbor, reposing at times on a smooth sea; and had thereby an opportunity to see and judge of its form and dimension. Their accounts, though in some instances dissimilar, all agree, that this animal is of the species called the Sea Serpent. It is described as having its head (like those given to serpents in prints) at times, out of water; that to some it appeared as large as the head of a horse—to others, varying, perhaps, according to distance, as that of a large dog—that its body was round like a snake's, but connected by joints, which to some appeared like a row of ten gallon kegs, and to others like barrels; that its length was estimated by some to be 40 feet, by others 80, 100, and over,—that its motion was serpentine, erratic, and rapid for an animal of its bulk; that it had been seen lying on the surface of the water, with parts of its body from 6 to 18 inches out of the water, and its tail nearly on a line with its head;—that it frequently forms circles in its movements; and in its progress sometimes leaves a wake of half a mile in length.

Measures have been taken, and others are contemplated, for killing and exhibiting this animal. It is hoped they will succeed. The Encyclopedists have doubted the existence of such animals as Sea Serpents; which have been described by some navigators, particularly by Egede, as frequenting the Green-

land seas—some of whom have been described as extending its head as high as the main-top-mast of a ship, its skin variegated like a tortoise shell, and its excrement corrosive.

The *Salem Gazette* of yesterday says, "We are informed that on Sunday this creature was seen playing sometimes within fifteen or twenty feet of the shore, affording a better opportunity to observe him than had before occurred. Gentlemen from Gloucester state, that he appeared to them of even greater magnitude than had before been represented, and should judge from their own observation that he was as much as 150 feet in length, & as big round as a barrel. They saw him open an enormous mouth; and are of opinion that he is cased in shell. The chance for taking or killing this creature seems to be small; it requires not merely the club of a Hercules, but the cunning contrivance of a Vulcan. We understand, however, that it is proposed to make a number of strong nets, in the hope of entangling and embarrassing him, so as to be able to get him in a situation to kill him; in which we rather wish than expect they may prove successful."

**Corroboration.**—Capt. Obeur, who has arrived at Beverly, reports, that on Sunday last he put into Cape-Ann harbor, where he and his crew were astonished at the sight of a monstrous creature lying upon the water, which appeared to have the form of a serpent.

Whatever doubts may have existed on the subject, there are hundreds who can testify to the existence of some creature of a very uncommon bulk and form, and such as was never before seen upon our coast.

The bold adventurers (says the *Salem Gazette*) who are fishing for the Sea Monster at Cape-Ann, ought to be furnished with the implements mentioned in the following lines.

"THE GIANT ANGLING.  
His angle-rod made of a sturdy Oak,  
His line a Cable that in storms ne'er broke;  
His hook he baited with a Dragon's tail,  
And sat upon a rock and bobbed for whale."

By the following account, copied from a file of the *Salem Gazette*, printed in 1793, it appears that one at least of these extraordinary inhabitants of the deep, has before appeared on our own coast:

Portland, Aug. 3, 1793.  
**Sea Monster.**—Captain Crabtree, who lately arrived at Frenchman's bay, and now in this town, gives the following extraordinary account of a sea-serpent, the authenticity of which may be depended on:

"On the 20th of June last being on my passage from the West Indies, in the morning, having just made Mount Desert Island, distant nearly 10 leagues, I suddenly got sight of a serpent of an enormous size, swimming on the surface of the ocean, its head elevated about 6 or 8 feet out of water, rather prone forward. That part of the body which was out of the water, I judged to be about the size of a barrel in circumference, but the head larger, having some resemblance of a horse's. According to the most accurate computation which I made in my mind of his length, I think it could not be less than from 55 to 60 feet, and perhaps longer. That part of the body which was not elevated, but of which I had a distinct view several times, was larger than the part out of water. The body of a dark brown.

I was within two hundred yards of it for an hour; during which time it discovered no inclination to molest us, myself and the whole crew observed it with the minutest attention;—nor was its attention less fixed on us. The eyes were perfectly black, sharp and piercing. I was so near it as to observe clearly that there were no fins or external appendages to the body; but that its motion was by the writhing of the body, like other serpents. During the time it was with us, several flocks of birds flew near, which it eyed very narrowly. I observed in it the greatest agility and quickness of motion."

There is no doubt but this is one of two which have been seen in these parts. All accounts agree respecting their size and appearance. Two of them (perhaps the same) were once seen off the shore of the Cranberry Island, but immediately took to the water on being discovered.—These are the first ever seen in our seas, that we have any account of, though they have been seen on the coast of Norway.

From the *Delaware Gazette*, of 25th July.

**Affidavit of Stephen Dredden.**  
Be it remembered, that on this 18th of July, 1817, voluntarily appeared before Watson Pepper, one of the Justices of the peace, in and for Sussex county, in the state of Delaware, Stephen Dredden, a free Negro of Broad Creek Hundred, in said county, and being sworn, doth depose and declare, That on the 20th day of June last past, two of his children were stolen, kidnapped and taken from his house and carried into the state of Maryland, and that he doth believe from the information given to him, that they are concealed & held by one George Dashiell, a Negro trader, residing on Ycomico river, at the lower ferry, unless he has sent them to the southern market. That he has been informed, & doth believe, that William Regginson of Isaac, and William Banning, and some others not necessary to name, were concerned in the offence. That the circumstances are nearly as follows: William Reggin and William Banning, each obtained warrants from a justice of the peace against deponent on pretended claims, and on the 20th of June last, was the day for trial. That previous to said day Reggin and Banning did all in their power to impress upon deponent the absolute necessity of deponent's going to Laurel. That they would obtain judgment unless deponent went. That on Thursday before the day of trial, Sarah Moore, who lives about two hundred yards from deponent's house, came in and persuaded deponent to go to Laurel, and advised deponent's wife also to go, and said that unless she went the traders would attempt to steal deponent. The next morning (Friday) she came very early, and again pressed upon deponent's wife to go, and said she would take the children to her house & keep them.

—After nine o'clock, deponent and wife started for Laurel, and left his five children in the care of Sarah Moore—and this deponent's daughter, about nine years old, has informed deponent, which he doth believe, that in about one hour after deponent and wife left his house, she, the said Sarah, went into the woods, and when she returned she ordered deponent's daughter to put down the child, 14 months old, and leave it in the care of the next oldest, about five years old, until she the said Sarah, deponent's daughter and two sons should go into the woods after fuel for the fire. The deponent's daughter refused, and then she took deponent's two sons into the woods and returned without them, and remained until deponent returned from Laurel, without giving herself any concern about the children, only stating to the deponent's daughter, that she had left them hunting after bird's nests. But deponent believes his children were delivered over to Reggin, Banning, and two others, by the said Sarah Moore; because they were seen to pass the mill-dam of Mr. Quillen about that time of the day, going towards deponent's house, and they are all known to be Negro traders. Deponent's children were taken to a woods where they were concealed until night, when they were seen about ten o'clock to pass towards Maryland in possession of the parties. William Banning arrived at Laurel after the Negroes were secured in the woods; and before they could be ready for trial, were seen privately talking with George Moore, a Negro trader, at which time deponent believes the bargain was made for the sale of his children. That after the trials were ended, which was about half an hour before sunset, (and which were intentionally delayed by Reggin & Banning,) deponent and his wife started for home, where they arrived about dark, expecting to find their children safe, and without any fears about them.—But with what sorrow and anguish of soul, we found our children gone, we leave to other parents to describe. All the consolation offered by Sarah Moore, was "don't grieve about your children, it is not worth while, for you will never see them any more." The lamentations and cries we made brought our neighbours from two miles to our house, & they were unable to resist the feelings which so much excited us.—They voluntarily burst forth into lamentation and shed tears of grief. They were parents and had children, and they saw that we though black, were parents too; and felt as such. Being such, the deponent & his wife appeal to all men, to inter-

rest themselves to aid in the discovery of his lost children. One of them is named SAMPSON, and is about eleven years old, very dark, and had when kidnapped, a bad curl on his fore finger, on his right hand, and lately had his hair cut close. The other is named JONATHAN, about seven years old, and has lost all his upper fore teeth, and is also very dark. They have been kidnapped, and are intended for the southern states, or New-Orleans. The deponent requests all newspaper editors in the south of Delaware, to publish this affidavit, and if it should be the means of giving information so that he can obtain his said children, he will remember them in his prayers to Almighty God, so long as he lives.

STEPHEN DREDDEN.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, the subscriber, this 18th day of July, 1817.  
WATSON PEPPER, J. P.

From the *North American Journal*.

Extract from the "Sketches of the Scenery on the Niagara River."  
It was near sunset when we first visited Table Rock. We lingered there, till not a purple tint remained on the column of mist, which rose on the still air. There is such a flood of light reflected from this mass of white foam, that the falls are distinct long after every other object is obscured. On returning, our path through the wood & marsh was hardly discernible; but when we reached the top of the hill, a warm flush still coloured the west, and the evening star shed on us its brightest beam. This scene of tranquil beauty formed a fine contrast with the tremendous one we had just quitted: a contrast peculiarly grateful to our tired minds which had expanded to their utmost limits of perception and emotion. Nearly a mile back of the Horse Shoe Fall, is Lundy's lake or heights, where the battle, commonly called the battle of Bridge water, was fought. It is an extensive elevated plain with some small eminences.

Gen. Brown having been disappointed in the co-operation of the fleet which he had expected, changed his plan of operations and fell back from Queenstown to Chippewa. On the 25th July, 1814, the British collecting their forces, marched up the river and were met near Lundy's lane by a detachment under Gen. Scott—an engagement immediately commenced. As soon as intelligence of this reached the camp, Generals Porter and Ripley pressed forward to his support, but General Scott gallantly sustained the conflict an hour before their arrival.—The whole army was soon engaged; still the British force commanded by General Riell and Drummond, was superior. The battle began about sunset, and lasted till midnight, and is considered the most bloody which was fought during the war. Generals Brown and Scott were severely wounded, but did not quit the field.

The eager combatants were unmindful of the departure of the day. The half orb moon was high in the heavens at its close; and shed a pale and doubtful light on the scene. Her rays were brightly reflected from the polished arms of the ranks of the British while broad shadows concealed the mass behind. Reinforcements arrived to the British, but the Americans could not ascertain their numbers. They opposed and cut down fresh troops, which advanced on them, but saw not and considered not the force in reserve. The enemy's artillery possessed a height of great importance; col. Miller was ordered to dislodge them. The regiment which was to support him fell back. Still col. Miller advanced through the indistinctness of this light and shade. Bursts of fire flashed across the scene, from the mouths of those engines of destruction, and his mind collected at a glance, rapid and luminous as the lightning of the artillery, all the information requisite for decision and execution. The height and the cannon were no longer in the possession of the British.

During this night of horror and destruction the thunder of the cannon was lost in the roar of the torrent, and the earth was shaken by a mightier force than the discharge of artillery or the trampling of the war horse, and when the battle raged no more, and the moon on the verge of the sky ceased to throw her light on the dismal spectacle, the few who escaped unhurt listened in vain for the well known voice, which

should enable them to find the remains of their children. One of them is named SAMPSON, and is about eleven years old, very dark, and had when kidnapped, a bad curl on his fore finger, on his right hand, and lately had his hair cut close. The other is named JONATHAN, about seven years old, and has lost all his upper fore teeth, and is also very dark. They have been kidnapped, and are intended for the southern states, or New-Orleans. The deponent requests all newspaper editors in the south of Delaware, to publish this affidavit, and if it should be the means of giving information so that he can obtain his said children, he will remember them in his prayers to Almighty God, so long as he lives.

STEPHEN DREDDEN.  
Sworn to and subscribed before me, the subscriber, this 18th day of July, 1817.  
WATSON PEPPER, J. P.

The late Storm and Flood.

By the mails we continue to receive accounts of the ravages occasioned by the elements.  
At Wallingford, in Connecticut a dreadful tornado commenced on the forenoon of the 18th inst. blowing a southwesterly course, & falling down every thing before it. Twenty-three buildings were laid in ruins.

At Albany, the Hudson rushing over than has been known for the last 20 years, and inundated a great portion of the lower part of the city. It is feared that immense quantities of wheat and hay on the flatly Mohawk, are washed away, carried by the freshet.

At New-Brunswick, N. J. on the 11th and 12th inst. fell the most tremendous rain, accompanied by the rising of the waters, ever known to the oldest inhabitants. In the lower part of the city, contiguous to the river, was under water. The damage done in the city, is said to be very small. In the surrounding country, a number of saw and grist mills and bridges have been injured and destroyed.

In Virginia, the rich low grounds on both branches of the Pamunkey river, which exhibited the most astonishing growth of corn, have been considerably overflowed, and it is apprehended the crop has sustained much damage.

So powerful was the rain in the County of Powhatan, that a mill dam, built in 1704, which has braved the storms of more than one hundred years, was swept off with oak trees which had grown upon it.

At Petersburg, Va. considerable damage has been done to sugar and other goods stored in cellars, Bank and Old-streets. The unexpected swell of the Appomattox subjected the inhabitants of the portion of the town called the Back to much inconvenience and distress. The bridge at Blandford, however has been destroyed.

Balt. Advertiser.

We understand says the *N. Y. Mercantile Advertiser*, that a brave, accomplished, but unfortun-ate General Count Lavellotti, arrived at this port yesterday from Europe. Our readers will recollect, that this gentleman was rescued from prison in Paris, by the ingenuity of his wife, aided by the noble generosity of three English gentlemen, viz: Bruce, Hutton, and Wilson.

RICHMOND, Aug. 18.  
CLIMATE.

The rain began to fall on the day night and continued with various intervals of light showers till 9 o'clock on Friday night. At that time, it began to pour in heavy torrents with few intervals, until 1 o'clock on Saturday morning. It was the heaviest rain, that we have witnessed since the present rainy year, most deluging the earth, and making the old saying, "good as it never rains but it pours."

We are informed by a gentleman from this City, who returned from it since the great flood of the 18th inst. that extensive damage sustained beyond the Potomac, by Farmers, Millers and others, in the Mill of Mr. Ford, at the confluence of Occoquan River and Wolf Run was entirely swept off. The dam at Occoquan remains standing. James Denial, Esq. who has been in the mills, lost all three of his Dray-trailers, and other damage to the extent of a wagon and two horses were in attempting to ford the river a branch of the Occoquan

MARYLAND GAZETTE

Annapolis, Thursday, August 17, 1817.

General Election Ticket.

#### HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

FOR DOMESTIC COUNTY.  
Benjamin W. Lecompte,  
Edward Griffith,  
Thomas Pitt,  
Henry Keene.

At a meeting of the federal Republicans of Frederick county, held in Frederick town on the 16th inst. the following gentlemen were nominated as proper persons to represent that county in the next General Assembly:

Alexander Warfield,  
Baker Johnson,  
Frederick A. Schley,  
Jacob Baumgardner.

#### AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Farmers and Planters of Anne Arundel county, and of all others who may feel an interest in the subject, is requested to meet at Brewer's Tavern, in the City of Annapolis, on Wednesday the 17th of September next, for the purpose of forming an association to promote the improvement of agriculture.

A pamphlet, bearing the signature of "Decius," advocating the removal of the seat of government to Baltimore, is circulating in a secret manner in various parts of the State. Extracts from it have reached us through the medium of the Georgetown paper. We will thank any friend who may have one in his possession to transmit it to the Editor. We should be glad also to procure a copy of "Vox" in opposition to a removal.

#### COMMUNICATED.

The most dangerous state into which a party can fall is that of unsecured security; for then it is unguarded and always liable to be surprised by those who may seek its overthrow. To say that the federalists of Maryland have fallen into a gross error, would be doing justice to the sedulous and meritorious portion of them, and particularly that part confined to the eastern shore, as it would be implying them with those whose apathy and inertness make it necessary that they should be reminded of the character of their old opposition, who, no man, conversant with their subtle, indefatigable and recovering spirit, and their deadly hatred to federalism, can be so decided as for a moment to imagine all passively yield at the approach of election what they so stubbornly contended for at the last. Opposition must be expected from them; and as no ostentatious display of it, similar to that made by them when their intentions have been avowed, unfolds itself, it is reasonable to make the deduction that they will exert themselves to obtain, by underhand means, which unparalleled and unprincipled have failed to accomplish. To prevent this, and avoid disgrace, mortification and remorse, which would follow a surprise, every man who calls himself a federalist, be on the alert to discover and counteract the many falsehoods and misrepresentation which will be secretly and cunningly propagated to deride the honor of the state, who have so nobly performed their duty, who will this year react to the party they then did, if the federalists, faithful to their sacred duty, boldly unveil to them their treacherous and unprincipled designs, whose hypocrisy, like the even foot of the Arch Enemy, cannot always be concealed. It will some times obtude its view, as it did with the democratic tyrants, in attempting for their defeats at the fall's elections, asserted that poor men of Maryland had been induced to vote the federal ticket, "who thinks himself secure, is undone."

From the *Cleaner* Aug. 15.

#### THE FRESHET.

The Susquehanna and its tributary streams, have been so swelled by late rains, that property to the amount of \$500,000 has been destroyed within 100 miles of this place. The extent of the injury, we have not yet ascertained; we have