serve the Lord. Some of them went so far as to maintain that all marriage bonds were dissolved. One very respectable lady, whose husband belonged to the association, and who had herself become partially infected by the mania, was restored to her right mind in a rather singular manner. Two or three of the unmarried sisterhood paid her a visit one day, and almost broke her heart by informing her that her husband was not her husband—at least, that he would not be her husband any longer. This bold invasion of her conjugal rights dissipated the delusion which had begun to steal over her.

It happened, however, in process of time, that two of their most zealous leaders, who inveighed the most strongly against matrimony, actually married members of the association. On one occasion one of them, after speaking very decidedly against marriage, although he himself had once been married, was seen to give his arm to a young lady, on leaving the meeting, and escort her home. A complaint was made against him at the next meeting, and he was brought to the confessional, and obtained forgiveness, if not absolution, by an apology. He, nevertheless, married the woman afterward.

They did not believe in a final day of judgment, but maintained that mankind were judged for their deeds every day. At one of these meetings when this tenet was the object of their devotional meditations, a lady orator became apparently almost frantic. She screamed wildly—for both sexes 'prophesied,' and their meetings were sometimes very noisy,—and danced back and forth across the room, declaring, 'This is the judgment seat of Christ—the Judge is now on the throne, and he is judging every one of you *now*.'

They were also Perfectionists. On one occasion, one of the perfect ladies proclaimed that she was even standing on the sea of glass, and holding converse with God. She declared that she held sweet communion with him daily; conversing with him 'face to face.' At another meeting one of the male members declared that he had not had a single temptation for ten years—dwelling much upon his own perfection, the strength of his faith, &c. At the next convocation, however, he was observed to sit silent and moody in the back part of the room. Toward the close of the evening he rose, and, with a heavy heart, announced that he had on that very evening been grievously tempted. From the moment he entered the apartment, he said, he had wished them all to fall down and worship him. It was indeed a sore temptation; he wept, confessed his fault, and obtained relief.

They also believed in their power, through the prayer of faith, to heal the sick, as by miracle; and, in several cases, one of their leaders, Mr.——, proceeded to anoint the bodies of the sick, in obedience, as they supposed, to the injunction of the Apostle James; forgetting, or not knowing, that that injunction was prescribed only for observance during the Apostolic age. The facts and circumstances attending one of these cases are well known to the writer, and are withal so peculiar that the particulars will be briefly stated; especially as they serve forcibly to illustrate the strength with which the delusion had already fastened upon the minds of the members. Among the number, a friend of the writer, and a very excellent man, who is no doubt, his error to the contrary notwithstanding, now rejoicing in the kingdom of heaven, was for a long time sick, and apparently nigh unto death. While thus prostrate upon his bed, receiving the affectionate attentions of his wife, Mr.——one day told the latter that the Lord had promised to raise her husband from his sickness, in answer to *his* prayers. He added, that if she would promise him to serve the Lord with her whole heart all the days of her life, and join with him in prayer, it should be done, and her husband should be restored to health. The lady replied that she would make no promises to man upon such a subject—that it was to her God she went with her cares, and to him alone—adding, in answer to his importunities, like a woman of good sense, as she is, the question, 'If, as you say, the Lord has *promised* this great work in answer to *your* prayers, what difference can it make whether I comply with you request or not?' Mr.——then left her, and informed the sick man that it was owing to his wife's obstinacy that he was not healed. The poor man, debilitated in body and mind by long and severe illness, believed the suggestion; and calling his wife to his bedside, with tears in his eyes, conjured her not to be so hard-hearted and cruel as thus to persist in preventing his recovery! At length, however, the difficulty was surmounted. By a small meeting of the leaders of the sect around his bed, he was anointed with oil, with solemn religious services. The disease soon afterward took a favourable turn, and the sick man was eventually restored to comfortable though never again to robust health. His recovery was proclaimed as a miracle, and for a long time, to the knowledge of the writer, believed to be one by the invalid himself. It happened, however, that immediately after the anointing, Mr.——declared that he alone must act as nurse and physician. The first medicine he administered was a quantity of eggs and cider, which operated as a powerful emetic, and doubtless gave a favourable turn to the disorder. Another case of miracle, performed in the same way, was also proclaimed some time afterwards; but this was only completed by the active treatment of a skilful physician, who informs the writer that he was called in just in season, through Providence, to rescue the patient from the grave. Still it is very possible that temporary relief was in both cases attributable to the influence of a strong imagination, impressed with the assurance of recovery. Such was, undoubtedly, the fact in regard to the pretended miracles, contended for by Mr. Hume, as having been performed at the tomb of Thomas a Becket, and elsewhere. Those said to have been performed in Europe some years since, when the French were running wild on the subject of animal magnetism, were occasioned by the operation of the same principle. So, also, in the case of the young lady, Miss Campbell, said to have been miraculously healed by Edward Irving; to which may be added, the pretended miracles of Prince Hohenlohe. Indeed, hundreds and thousands of instances might be cited in which diseases, probably in themselves if a great measure imaginary, have been alleviated or dispelled by working upon the imagination. But, at the same time, equally well attested cases might be cited in which diseases, and even death, have been superinduced by the same means.

(*To be continued.*)

Maryland Gazette.

ANNAPOLIS:
Thursday, August 6, 1835.

COUNCIL CHAMBER,
ANNAPOLIS, July 27, 1835.

There will be a meeting of the Executive Council, on *Monday*, the 17th of August next.

THOS. CULBRETH, Clerk.

BARZILLAI MARRIOTT, Esq. is a Candidate to represent Anne-Arundel county in the next General Assembly, and will be warmly supported by *MANY VOTERS.*

The Reader is referred to the first page of this day's paper for the commencement of an interesting account of "Matthias and his Impostures," by Wm. L. Stone, Esq. of New York.

The celebrated WILLIAM CORBETT, departed this life at Clifford's Inn, London, on Friday morning June 19, in the 73d year of his age.

The following Gentlemen were, on Monday last, elected Directors for the Farmers' Bank of Maryland for the ensuing year:

For Annapolis and Anne-Arundel County.

Henry Maynadier, Somerville Pinkney, Alexander Randall, William S. Green, Thomas S. Alexander, Brice J. Worthington.

Joseph Harris, St. Mary's county.
Nicholas Stonestreet, Charles county.
Thomas H. Wilkinson, Calvert county.
Charles J. Kilgour, Montgomery county.
William S. McPherson, Frederick county.
Frisby Tilghman, Washington county.
William McMahon, Allegany county.
Samuel Moale, Baltimore county.
Henry Dorsey, Harford county.

Directors for the Branch Bank at Frederick-Town.

William Ross, John Tyler, George Baltzell, Richard Potts, Daniel Hughes, Lewis Medairy, Noah Philips, Caspar Mantz, and John J. Wilson.

Jackson Republican Congressional Convention.

Pursuant to appointment, the Delegates from the cities of Baltimore and Annapolis, and the county of Anne Arundel, met in the Room of the House of Delegates, on Saturday, the 1st inst., at 12 o'clock, when the Convention was organized by the choice of JOHN NELSON, Esq., of the city of Baltimore, as President, JOHN S. SELLMAN, Esq., of Anne Arundel county, as first Vice President, Dr. EDWARD SPARKS, of the city of Annapolis, as second Vice President, and *Jonathan Pinkney* and *J. J. Turner*, Secretaries. Upon the call of the roll, it appeared that of the ninety five members, nominated by the various Wards and Election Districts, of the above cities and county, eighty-seven were in attendance, whereupon, on motion, the Convention adjourned to meet again at 1 o'clock.

The Convention re-assembled at the hour above designated, when, after an interchange of opinion amongst the members present, *John S. Sellman*, Esq., offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this Convention recommend ISAAC McKIM and BENJAMIN C. HOWARD, to the consideration of the Democratic Voters of the Fourth Congressional District, as men of high and elevated characters, and uncompromising principles; and that we pledge ourselves individually and collectively, to use our zealous exertions to promote their election to the next Congress of the United States, as the best means of ensuring the success and triumph of the Democratic Republican measures.

On motion, it was ordered, That the presiding officers of this Convention communicate to Isaac McKim and Benjamin C. Howard, the nominations now made, and respectfully request their acceptance thereof.

Mr. Frick, of the city of Baltimore offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That a committee of three persons be appointed by the chair to report resolutions expressive of the views of this Convention, and an address to the voters of the fourth Congressional District.

Which being adopted, Messrs. Frick, Crabb and Franklin, were appointed the committee.

On motion, it was ordered, That the thanks of the members present be presented to the Mayor of the city of Annapolis, for his kind offer of the Assembly Rooms for the use of this Convention.

The committee to whom the subject was referred, reported the following resolutions and address, which having been read and considered were unanimously adopted.

WHEREAS, The term of service of our illustrious Chief Magistrate will soon expire, before which period it will become the duty of the people of the United States, to elect his successor; *And whereas*, in the opinion of this Convention, the administration of the present incumbent has been marked by a signal devotion to the great and cardinal principles of the constitution. Therefore, be it

Resolved, As the sense of this Convention, that the support of the American People should be given to no candidate for the Presidency or Vice Presidency of the United States, who is not pledged to carry out the principles which have characterized General Jackson's administration.

Resolved, That of these principles we hold the following to be leading, essential, and fundamental:

An uncompromising hostility to the renewal, *upon any terms*, of the charter of the present Bank of the United States; and an inflexible opposition to the creation by the Federal Government of any other great monied institution.

A determined resistance to all appropriations, by Congress, to objects of internal improvement, not decisively national in their character, within the states.

A moderate tariff, adequate to the purposes of revenue, and which shall leave equally free and unshackled, all branches of the national industry.

The controling influence of public opinion, to which, when deliberately formed and clearly ascertained, all measures of public policy should be subordinate and conformed.

Unconditional obedience of the Representative to the instructions of the constituent body, when fully and fairly indicative of the public will, of which the law should always be but the expressions.

An amendment of the Constitution of the United States, such as will secure to the people the power of electing their Chief Magistrate, without the intervention of agents of any kind, and which shall more especially dispense with the action of the House of Representatives, in *any event*, in every such election.

A jealous and sacred regard to the rights of the States, as reserved by the great charter of our Union, to them and to the people; and a cautious forbearance by the Government of the United States, in the exercise of all powers not clearly delegated to it by the Constitution.

Resolved, That of the foregoing principles, we believe Martin Van Buren, of New York, and Richard M. Johnson, of Kentucky, to be the decided advocates; and under this conviction we will give to them our cordial support, for the first and second offices within the gift of the American people.

Resolved, That in the issue of the approaching Presidential contest, we believe to be bound up our most cherished principles, to the vindication of which, all who profess to belong to the Republican party, should devote their best energies; and as the individual preferences of each cannot, in the nature of things, be gratified, that it is the duty of all, in the spirit of genuine Republicanism, to yield to the opinions of the majority, as expressed by the late National Convention, at Baltimore; and to unite upon the candidates recommended by that patriotic body of our fellow citizens.

Resolved, That we sincerely and deeply deplore the efforts now making by our political opponents, to distract and divide public opinion, with the undisguised and avowed purpose of defeating the choice of a President and Vice President of the United States, by the primary electors, and of devolving the ultimate election of those high functionaries upon the respective branches of Congress; an expedient, as past experience teaches us, dangerous to the public peace, and subversive of the just control designed to be secured by the Constitution to the people—and we earnestly and affectionately appeal to all who desire to perpetuate our institutions, animated by the spirit in which they were created, zealously to co-operate with us, in an endeavour to avert a result so much to be deprecated.

Resolved, That as American citizens, we are proud of the high eminence to which, as a nation, our destiny has conducted us: to a condition of unequalled prosperity at home, and of unsurpassed respectability and consideration abroad. More especially have we reason of congratulation in the present auspicious state of our relations with France, mainly attributable as we believe it to be, to the characteristic firmness manifested by the President of the United States, who, acting upon the high principle, early avowed by him of "asking from foreign nations nothing that is not right, and of submitting to nothing that is wrong," has in the course of his brilliant administration, directed his energies to few if to any objects of foreign policy, which he has not successfully achieved.

Resolved, That to give permanence to the blessings enjoyed by us, as a nation, a constant recurrence should be had by our political agents, to public opinion, the power of the people being the great conservative principle of our institutions, whilst the people, the secure depositories of that power, should on their part remember that eternal vigilance is the price of public liberty."

The representatives of the friends of the Administration of the General Government from the District composed of Baltimore and Annapolis cities, and the county of Anne-Arundel, in Convention assembled at Annapolis to select and nominate suitable candidates for their support, as members of the next Congress, having with harmony and unanimity accomplished the purpose of their convention, and having in the foregoing resolutions expressed the opinions and principles under which they profess to act, with a confidence in the propriety of their selection, and a just reliance on the stability and consistency of the people of their district in sustaining them, they confidently submit their nomination.

Looking to these principles, for which the party throughout the union, with whom they claim alliance, have maintained a long and arduous, if not a doubtful struggle, as essentially interwoven with the best interests of the people, and involving in their success, the perpetuity of our institutions, they have discarded all personal considerations and claims, in agreeing upon the two candidates, upon whom they expect to unite and concentrate the support of their party, now emphatically and earnestly call upon all their friends to sustain them in their nomination.

The past political history of our party, and the present array throughout the country against it, must have taught us, that, though the victory has been won, the enemy is still in the field, debating every inch of the ground we occupy.—Even the signal success of all the leading measures of the present administration has not relaxed the desperate exertions of its opponents. The panic makers and their political fanatics are still abroad; and in these halcyon times of tranquility and prosperity, those who are stirring the elements of political strife, necessarily participate, while they prepare, the coming storm, which is to blighten the hopes of self-government in the people, and restore the reign of aristocracy and monopoly.

Change and revolution is *their* unchangeable motto; and all the medley of clans and parties, and opposing factions, are gathering for the avowed purpose of a final effort to subvert the present policy, or embarrass the future administration of the government by the chosen agents of the people.

The public prints which sustain this opposition, teem with speculations upon the various divisions of the electoral vote, without regard to the principles involved in the contest; pointing to sectional candidates, whose support may effect a breach in the great mass that has so triumphantly sustained and vindicated the cardinal principles of our free government. Old animosities and jealousies are still to be revived and nourished—every topic that can appeal to the cupidity of individuals, and may excite sectional and local divisions, is to be pressed into the service of an opposition who have always supported combinations and monopolies of every sort, against the greater public good of the mass; and by the avowed design, to take the election of Chief Magistrate from the people, invert the principles of our government, and sustain the selfish and factious purpose of making its administration subservient to private ends and personal advancement.

In a fair and open contest, it is well known that the candidates of the great national convention will be supported in their principles, and the measures they are pledged to pursue, by a decided majority of the country. They have been selected for their distinguished preeminence, talent, and patriotism—more especially by their acquiescence in the land marks established by the people and sustained by their uncompromising advocate, the present illustrious head of the government. Distraction and division are the weapon and means to which our adversaries look for our defeat—and if the memorable scenes and intrigues of 1824 can but be revived in the coming contest, in that revival and the chance of a bargain, our opponents place their surest and only hope of success. It is upon apostacy in the people from the great principles of government which they have with so much difficulty established; upon a fickle abandonment by them of friends who have stood by their cause in the hour of need and trial, that these malcontents openly calculate to subvert the existing policy of Government. This attempt "to divide and conquer" must be met with firmness and unanimity on the part of the friends of the existing administration; by a concert of action on their part, and a sacrifice of all personal preferences and prejudices to the common cause of our party.—The Democracy of the country is bound together by one common affection and interest, and by an unity of opinion and principle throughout the union. The peace and tranquility of our common country, the stability and perpetuity of our institutions, rest upon their vigilant and undivided efforts to uphold and sustain them. Our friends are every where awake to these insidious designs of scheming politicians to sever this bond of union, re-established after years of struggle; devotion and sacrifice on the part of the people; as a portion of this great link of union, let us not be wanting in the exertions we owe to our country, ourselves and our posterity, in this final struggle to preserve it;—but, looking to the great end of all government, the public good, the greatest good of all, by an active and honest zeal in the cause we support, by concert of movement, unanimity of sentiment, and a sacrifice of all personal preference, let us sustain the present ascendency, which proclaims, the "safety and happiness of the people, is the supreme law."

On motion, it was ordered, That the proceedings of this Convention, be signed by the President, Vice Presidents and Secretaries, and published in the Jackson Republican papers printed in this congressional district.

When, after a vote of thanks to the officers for the manner in which they had discharged their duties, the convention adjourned.

JOHN NELSON, President.

JOHN S. SELLMAN, EDWARD SPARKS, } Vice Presidents.

Jonathan Pinkney, J. J. Turner, } Secretaries.

JACKSON REPUBLICAN CONVENTION, Prince-George's County, Md.

On Saturday the 1st of August inst. the day appointed for the meeting of the Convention, the Delegates from the several Election Districts of the county assembled at the Court-House in Upper Marlboro', when the Convention was organised by the appointment of GEO. CALVERT, Jr. Esq. as Chairman, and JUDSON W. McKNEW, as Secretary.

After a brief address from Jno. B. Brooke, Esq. the following resolutions were submitted by him, and unanimously adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That Dr. Benjamin Day, Thomas B. Gwynn, Cæsar A. Gantt, and Walter W. W. Bowie, Esqrs. be and they are hereby nominated and recommended to the Republican and Independent Voters of Prince-George's county, as suitable persons to represent said county in the next General Assembly of Maryland—and the members of this Convention do hereby pledge themselves to use all fair and honourable means in their power to effect the election of the same.

2. *Resolved*, That the members of this Convention will most cordially unite with the Independent and Republican Voters throughout this Congressional District, to promote and secure the re-election of our late worthy and efficient representative, the Hon'ble. John T. Stoddert, of whose steady adherence to the cause of the Constitution and popular rights, this Convention take this occasion to express their most hearty and decided approbation.

3. *Resolved*, That the efforts which are now manifestly in progress on the part of the leading opponents of the present Administration of the General Government to prevent the election by the people of their next Chief Magistrate, deserve, and should receive from every true republican, the most unqualified condemnation; and that it becomes all who are for preserving and maintaining our Constitution and our Republican institutions in their purity, simplicity, and true spirit, to unite in resisting and crushing an attempt so anti-republican and aristocratic, and fraught of dangerous consequences.

4. *Resolved*, That the measures of the existing Administration of the General Government have been wise and patriotic, and calculated to promote the best interests of the country at home, and to establish and perpetuate its character for respectability abroad, and it is a source of the most heartfelt pleasure to this Convention to perceive that the American people are becoming so generally impressed with the truth of these matters.

5. *Resolved*, That the Secretary of this Convention shall immediately notify the gentlemen hereinbefore nominated as Candidates for the General Assembly, of their appointment, and if either or any of them shall decline to serve, the Chairman of this Convention is hereby required and empowered, forthwith to call a meeting of the members to supply such vacancy or vacancies.

6. *Resolved*, That the proceedings of this Convention be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and published in the Globe, Maryland Gazette, Baltimore Republican, and Marlboro' Bulletin.

On motion of Zadok W. McKnew, Esq. it was *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to the Chairman and Secretary for the satisfactory manner in which they have discharged their respective duties.

And on motion of T. Clements, Esq. the Convention adjourned.

GEO. CALVERT, Jr. Chairman.
JUDSON W. McKNEW, Sec'y.

From the Clinton (Mississippi) Gazette.

HORRIBLE CONSPIRACY.

Since the commencement of our editorial labours we have not been thrust upon the performance of a duty so melancholy, as that to which we are called at the present time.

A few days anterior to the 4th of July, various circumstances excited some suspicion in the minds of a few respectable citizens of Madison county, in the neighbourhood of Beattie's Bluff, of an insurrection among the slaves of that settlement being about to occur. Several slaves were at different times overheard, whilst engaged in secret conversation relative to the proposed plot. A scrutiny, such as the crisis seemed to demand, was forthwith instituted, which led to the developement of facts of the most startling and extraordinary character. It was very soon ascertained, in the progress of examination which ensued, that two individuals by name Cotton and Saunders, both of the steam doctors by profession, were prominently concerned in this nefarious scheme. Both these individuals were immediately apprehended. A large meeting of the citizens of Madison county was held, to deliberate upon the momentous crisis which had arisen, at which it was unanimously resolved that a committee of investigation should be immediately organised in the name and upon the responsibility of the whole body of the citizens, to use all necessary means for ferreting out this nefarious plot, and bringing the offenders to speedy justice. This committee, thus organized, composed of thirty of the most respectable citizens of the county, men of elevated standing in the community of moral worth, integrity, and discretion, proceeded, as soon as possible, to the task assigned them, and discovering that the evidences of a conspiracy having been formed were perfectly conclusive, and that the guilt of Cotton and Saunders was placed beyond doubt, with but little delay ordered them to a public execution, by hanging, which took place in the town of Livingston on Saturday the fourth day of July.

Before Cotton was hung, he made repeated confessions of his guilt, both privately and publicly, in presence of an immense multitude, and furnished a detail of the plan of operations of the greed on, and a list of the prominent conspirators. It seems from Cotton's confession, which was, as to the most essential particulars, reduced to writing previous to his death, and subscribed by him in presence of numerous witnesses, that he was an accomplice of the celebrated MURRELL; and he in fact acknowledged that he had been a member of two grand councils in association with Murrell himself. The project embraced the whole slave region from Maryland to Louisiana, and contemplated the destruction of the white population of all the Slave States, and the absolute conquest and dominion of the country. A large number of bold, enterprising and unprincipled white men are concerned in the scheme, scattered over the country, along the whole line of contemplated operations, who have succeeded in engaging the aid of such among the negro population as, from their peculiar characteristics, were regarded as best suited to such an enterprise—*the bold, the sagacious, the desperate.* Arms and ammunition have been procured, and deposited in various secret places, and all other arrangements effected which were deemed essential to the adoption of incipient operations.

The publication of the Murrell pamphlet is understood to have precipitated the attempted execution of the plot, and to have induced earlier hostile movements, by several months, than was originally contemplated. So far as we have been informed, the scheme of operations upon which it was to be carried into effect was as follows: On the night of the fourth of July, an attack was to be made upon the town of Vernon in Madison county, at a time when most of its white population would be absent. The whites, thus taken by surprise, were to be indiscriminately butchered. All the ammunition and arms of the town were to be seized, and the whole force of the insurgents, as rapidly as possible, was to be directed against the town of Livingston, where similar proceedings were to be had. By the time this could be accomplished, it was expected the whole body of the white population would be overcome with panic, and be constrained to fly from the scene of terror; and every black in the county, able to wield the weapons of warfare, would be found rallied around the insurgent standard. This army of incendiaries was then to march upon the town of Clinton, burning, sacking, and laying waste the whole country as they advanced. By the time the destruction of Clinton could have been accomplished, it was expected that the insurgent army would be greatly strengthened, and amount perhaps to several thousand. A precipitous march was then to be made to the county of Claiborne along the skirts of Warren, and the whole country upon the river bank was to be ravaged and inundated with the blood of men, women, and children.

Such are the outlines of this plan of conspiracy, related by those who have witnessed much of the investigation which has taken place upon the subject in Madison county.

We are assured by a gentleman who was in Livingston on Monday last, that the utmost order seems to pervade the community there. An intense excitement certainly exists among the whole white population; but the excitement is of that awful and profound character which disdains not itself in noise and uproar. The committees of investigation occupy a room withdrawn from the multitude, and the utmost calmness and dignity have marked their whole proceedings.

The investigations which take place, as the various cases are brought before them for consideration, are conducted in a manner that would do discredit to the most dignified judicial tribunal of the country. Every opportunity is afforded to the persons inculpated of cross-examining witnesses, introducing testimony in their defence, and explaining all doubtful points by their own voluntary statements, which the most humane could desire; and, what is truly laudable, not a word of unkindness is permitted to be addressed to the culprit on trial, and no question propounded to any of the witnesses calculated to produce a statement of the case not entirely in accordance with truth and justice. We are told that five white men, altogether, have been hung in Livingston. Ruel Blake, one of the prime movers of the conspiracy, and who, it was said, was the individual designated to lead on the army of incendiaries against this county had fled in dismay, but was apprehended in Vicksburg, carried back to Livingston and tried and executed on yesterday, between three and four o'clock. The number of negroes executed we have not heard precisely enumerated, but suppose it to amount to some 8 or 15.

We were just informed that Hunter, one of the chiefs of the conspiracy, has been apprehended near Benton, in Yazoo county, and that he has made some material disclosures in addition to those already made.

A committee, similar to the one in Madison, have been in session for several days in Clinton. Various suspected white men, from different parts of the county, have been arrested, brought before them and discharged. Several negroes have also been hauled up, but, nothing having been elicited which authorized punishment, they were set at liberty.

We sincerely trust that our countrymen will be on the alert throughout the State; for indeed we do feel that there is danger abroad. Timely precautions will insure our perfect safety, and utterly defeat this abominable project; but inaction and apathy may be productive of consequences which we do not dare to name.

EXPLOSION OF A COAL MINE.

One Hundred Lives Lost.

In announcing the dreadful catastrophe in the Nun's Field in the last Courant it was not expected that a still more awful occurrence in this neighbourhood and one which it is feared has been tenfold more destructive to human life, would have to be recorded this week. Yesterday (Thursday) about ½ past 2 o'clock in the afternoon, one of those dreadful explosions which have been so lamentably frequent in mining districts took place at one of Mr. Russel's collieries, at Wallsend, known by the name of the Church Pitt or Russel's old Wallsend, by which it is feared 25 men and 75 boys have lost their lives.

The number of workpeople employed in this colliery is about 220. The hewers commence working early in the morning, and having finished getting the coal, it is left to be brought to the bottom of the shaft by the younger men and boys during the day, which is the reason why so great a proportion of boys were in the pit when the accident took place. As every individual who was down the shaft at the time of the explosion remains there still, it is not known, nor can it till have probably perished, is it likely to be ascertained, by what means it was occasioned; similar accidents have generally been produced by incautiously removing the gauze from the safety lamps, and it is supposed in this instance to have originated in the same way, though every precaution was taken to prevent its removal. The colliery was viewed in the morning by Mr. Atkinson and his son, under-viewers, and it was by them considered perfectly safe and secure in every respect, there not being the least indication of any escape of gas, and at the time of the explosion there were four overmen and deputies down who had been accustomed to work in the pits for upwards of 30 years. These are among the sufferers.

The catastrophe was made known to the inhabitants by a considerable report, which they speak of as being like an earthquake, accompanied by a rushing of choke damp to the mouth of the shaft, bringing up with it some of the miners's clothes, and other light articles from the bottom. There are two other shafts connected with this colliery, in one of which two men were at work; who say they felt a slight shock at the time, and soon after a quantity of choke damp. They happily escaped by being drawn up immediately. In the third shaft no one was at work. On the alarm being given, eight men volunteered to go down, in the hope of being able to save and bring up some of their companions. After descending to the bottom, however, in attempting to get into the works, they instantly found themselves being suffocated by the foul air; they had the greatest difficulty