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William Lamb

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THE DIARY OF WILLIAM LAMB
August 18, 1859 - May 21, 1860

A Thesis
Presented to
the Faculty of the Department of History
The College of William and Mary

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts

by
Gertrude Elizabeth Baker

July 1960

APPROVAL SHEET

This thesis is submitted in partial fulfillment of
the requirements for the degree of
Master of Arts

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July 1960

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PREFACE

William Lamb, who lived in Norfolk, Virginia, for most of his life, from 1835 to 1909, was educated at the College of William and Mary, and after graduation edited the newspaper, Southern Argus. In the Civil War he served in the Confederate Army, reached the rank of colonel, and from 1862 to 1865 commanded Fort Fisher, North Carolina. After the war, he returned to Norfolk where he achieved business prominence as the pioneer of direct trade with Europe and later as a coal dealer.

In 1855 Lamb began to keep a diary which he continued throughout his life except 1856 to 1858 and 1862 to 1864. The two earliest volumes, covering the years 1855 to 1856 and 1859 to 1860, are in the form of a journal with extensive entries on personal philosophy, local, family, and political events. The 1861 volume is a small notebook in which he noted military affairs at Fort Fisher. From 1865 to the end of his life he used small commercial diaries of a uniform size in which he recorded events briefly with little comment. The entries include references to his business, political, and personal activities, and a record of expenses.

After Lamb's death in 1909, his diaries remained in the possession of his family. In 1936 his son, Henry Whiting Lamb, deposited the 1855-1856 and 1859-1860 volumes in the Library of the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. In 1939 members of his family, Mrs. A. A. Billisoly, Miss Ella W. Lamb, and Henry W. Lamb, presented the remainder of his diary to the College where it is now located.

The volume I chose to edit covers the period of August 18, 1859 to May 21, 1860. I felt this volume was important because it gives a good picture of the daily life of an upper-class Virginia gentleman just prior to the Civil War. During the eight and a half months covered by the diary, Lamb was a newspaper editor, almost fought a duel, went with his militia company to Charlestown after John Brown's raid, and was active in state and local politics.

I have reproduced the diary in full and made no changes in Lamb's style except to lower raised letters in abbreviations. Although his grammar and punctuation are occasionally inconsistent, I have left them as in the original.

I wish to thank Professor Ludwell H. Johnson for his assistance in directing my thesis.

Williamsburg, Virginia

July 25, 1960

G. E. B.

INTRODUCTION

William Lamb was born September 7, 1835,¹ the eldest son of a well-to-do Norfolk, Virginia, family. His early education was at the Rappahannock Military Academy and at a private school in Bridgeport, Connecticut. In 1851 he entered the College of William and Mary at Williamsburg, Virginia, where he studied the classics and law. A serious student, Lamb belonged to a literary society and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. In 1855 he graduated with highest honors and returned to Norfolk.

The summer after Lamb finished college, life in Norfolk was disrupted by the yellow fever epidemic known as the "great pestilence" of 1855. The fever first appeared in the poorer sections and then spread to the rest of the city. Many of Norfolk's citizens left to escape the epidemic, but of those who remained about two thousand died of the fever.² Lamb did not wish to leave Norfolk and seemed confident that because of his deep religious faith he would be spared. However, he and the rest of his family left in mid-August for New Jersey where they stayed until November when the

epidemic was over.

It was during this northern trip that Lamb met his future wife. In late October, while visiting Providence, Rhode Island, he called on the Chaffee family with a letter of introduction given him by a friend. Their daughter, Sarah, was "a charming girl who was very kind and attentive to me."³ The Chaffees and Lambs became friends, and two years later, in September 1857, Sarah (referred to in his diary as Daisy) and William were married. The marriage proved to be a happy one. A daughter, Maria, was born to them in July 1858, and a son, Richard, in September 1859.

When he returned to Norfolk in late 1855, Lamb was still unemployed because, although he had a law degree, he was too young to be admitted to the bar. In January 1856 Abram F. Leonard, editor of the Southern Argus, proposed that Lamb buy half the newspaper and become a co-editor,⁴ a position he accepted and held until 1861 when he joined the Confederate army. The Argus, a four-page paper primarily filled with advertisements, was published daily under the slogan, "Government without Oppression--Liberty without Anarchy." A weekly edition, appearing on Saturdays, reprinted all the news items and editorials from the past week's daily editions.

As an educated Southerner with an active interest in politics, Lamb had definite views on the issues of the day. The Argus, a strongly Democratic newspaper, gave him an ideal opportunity to express his opposition to the Know Nothing power in Virginia and the threat of "Black Republican" control over the national government. The aim of the Know Nothings, declared the Argus, was to wage "wild and savage warfare upon the Democracy," but the "real and true foe of the Democracy is the Black Republican host."⁵

Military affairs were another of Lamb's interests. In March 1858 he assisted in the organization of a new military company in Norfolk named the Woodis Riflemen in honor of Hunter Woodis, Norfolk's mayor in 1855 who had died in the yellow fever epidemic. Lamb was elected captain of the company and served in that capacity until after the outbreak of the war when he transferred to a North Carolina regiment.⁶

As a journalist Lamb was bound to be involved in differences of opinion, one of which almost resulted in a duel. In the fall of 1859 Lamb received a challenge from another editor who felt Lamb had insulted him. The two seconds met and arranged a peaceful settlement, but later a disagreement about the settlement almost

caused a duel between the seconds.

Family connections in local politics, as well as his editorial position, gave Lamb a direct interest in government. He served as delegate to the 1856 national Democratic convention, and the following year, as Democratic candidate for mayor of Norfolk, he was defeated by the Whig candidate.⁷ In February 1860 he attended the state Democratic convention and supported Henry A. Wise, Virginia's governor from 1856 to 1860, as the state's choice for the presidential nomination. In spite of his strong Southern sentiment,⁸ Lamb realized how disastrous the split in the May 1860 Charleston convention was to the party. Nevertheless, he later supported John C. Breckinridge, the nominee of the seceders from the national convention and was a presidential elector on the Breckinridge ticket.⁹ Prior to the Democratic convention the Argus urged Wise's nomination and ran the slogan, "For President, Henry A. Wise of Virginia," at its masthead from mid-February 1860, until Breckinridge was nominated. In April it stated its position as "an independent Democratic journal, and the organ of no man. . .but the exponent of correct political principles."¹⁰

The paper campaigned vigorously for Breckinridge, stating that his election was necessary to "preserve the Union and the Constitution."¹¹ It announced Lincoln's election as "Triumph of the Black Republicans," and began to hint that secession was the logical course "to preserve our liberty" from "what is fast growing to be an intolerable bondage."¹² A few days later the Argus announced that "sooner or later the ties which now link together the North and the South must be sundered," and on November 13, it advocated formation of a Southern confederacy.¹³

Immediately after Virginia seceded on April 17, 1861, the Federal troops at the Gosport Navy Yard at Norfolk set fire to and evacuated the Yard and Virginia troops rushed in to take over.¹⁴ Meanwhile, Lamb was serving with the Woodis Riflemen.¹⁵ On March 21, 1861, the company was sent to Ocean View where on May 18 and 19 they participated in an engagement between the USS Monticello and a Confederate battery at Sewall's Point on Hampton Roads. When the 6th Virginia Infantry regiment was formed, with Colonel William Mahone commanding, the Woodis Riflemen were attached to it as Company C.¹⁶

On August 5 Lamb noted in his diary that he had sent in his resignation as captain of the Woodis Riflemen, "as I am about to take command of a battalion." On August 18 he was promoted to the rank of major.¹⁷ Late in September he went to Goldsboro, North Carolina, where he was ordered to Wilmington as chief quartermaster for the District of Cape Fear.¹⁸

For some months he was stationed at Fort St. Philip on the Cape Fear River. In May 1862 he was promoted to the rank of colonel in the 36th North Carolina (artillery) regiment and on July 4, 1862, took command of Fort Fisher, North Carolina. Fort Fisher guarded the entrance to the Cape Fear River on which Wilmington, one of the chief ports for blockade-runners, was situated. At the time Lamb took command, the fort was composed only of detached earthworks and a casemated battery of sand and palmetto logs open on the sea front and mounting only four guns. Lamb, becoming interested in military engineering early in the war, had studied all the books he could find on the construction of fortifications. Under his direction, Fort Fisher became the largest fort in the South, extending from the Cape Fear River to the ocean. The two sides of the works were almost a mile and three quarters in length, and its earthworks were made "of heavy timbers covered by sand 15 to 20 feet

deep sodded with turf."¹⁹ Since the guns of the fort faced the sea, its only defense against an infantry attack was "a system of sub-terra torpedoes extending across the peninsula five to six hundred feet from the land face."²⁰ It would have been very difficult to defend if its guns were destroyed because it could not have long withstood a land attack.²¹

Fort Fisher kept the port of Wilmington open for blockade-runners until almost the end of the war. Although a large Union blockade fleet patrolled the coast, blockade-runners could depend on the protection of the fort's guns for their entrance into the inlet. The Union command apparently respected Fort Fisher's strength, for a Union reconnaissance report on the approaches to the Cape Fear River in November 1863 observed that "Fort Fisher seems very strong."²²

Major-General William H. C. Whiting, commanding the Confederate troops in the Cape Fear district, considered Lamb "a most excellent and vigilant officer, full of skill and courage," and added, "I have every confidence in him." In August 1863 Whiting wrote to Confederate Secretary of War James A. Seddon asking for more men and equipment because "the efforts of the enemy to stop our steamers are increasing."²³ However, no Union attack

on the fort was made until December 1864.²⁴ On December 20 a Federal fleet commanded by Admiral David D. Porter arrived and took up a position off the coast. The attack began on December 23 when a ship filled with 250 tons of powder was exploded near the fort in an attempt to demolish it. Neither this explosion nor a subsequent two-day bombardment inflicted any noticeable damage, so the fleet withdrew.²⁵

When Lamb asked for more ammunition and for "marine torpedoes" (sea mines) to place where the Union ironclads had anchored, General Braxton Bragg, commander of the Wilmington area, ignored his request. Although the fleet remained nearby and Lamb knew that Fort Fisher was still its objective, General Bragg withdrew the supporting army from Sugar Loaf, the army camp near Fort Fisher.²⁶

On the night of January 12 Lamb saw the "great armada" approaching and knew there would be another assault. General Whiting arrived with the news that Bragg was removing the stores and ammunition from Wilmington in preparation for a retreat.

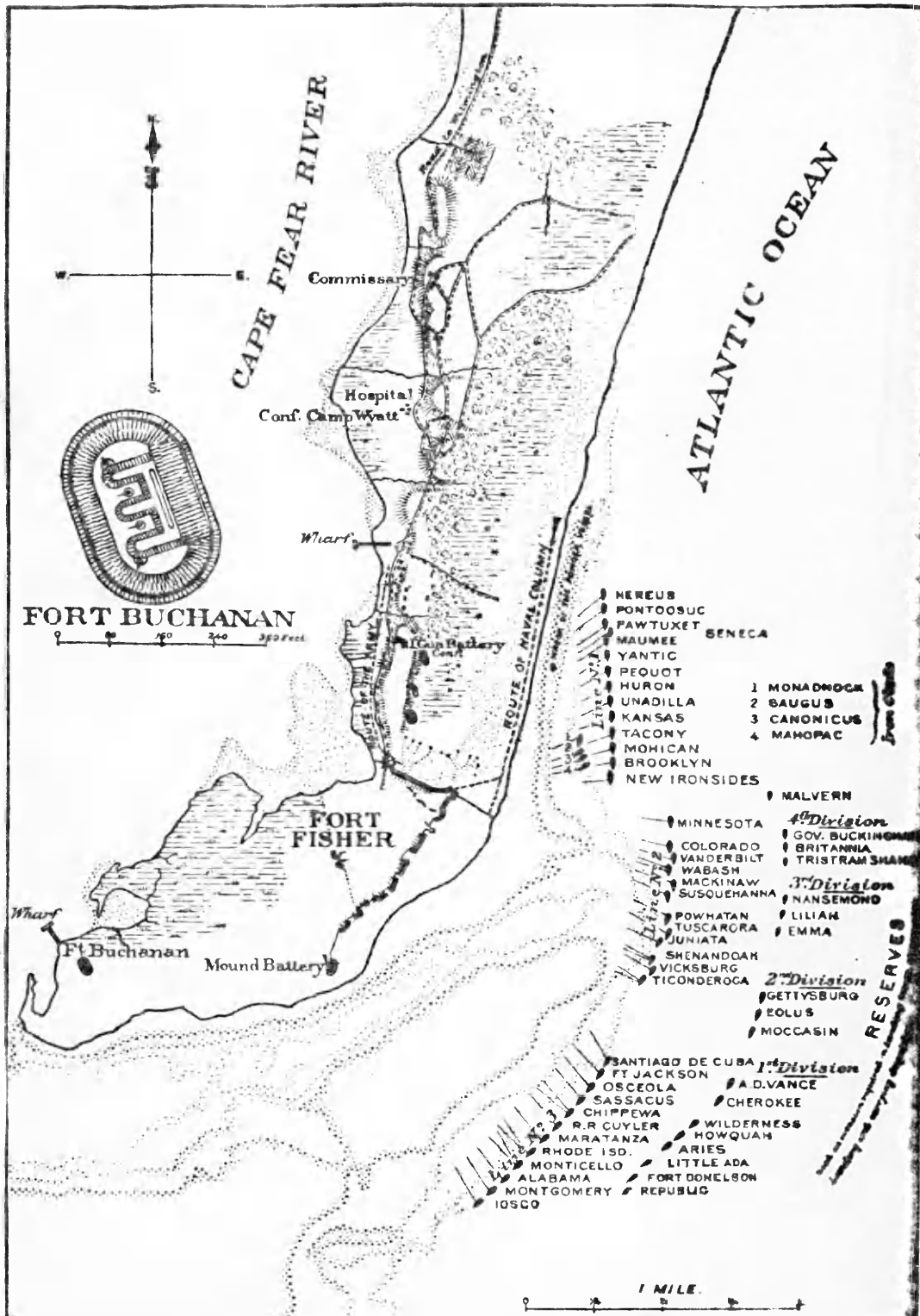
The bombardment began on the morning of January 13. It was a concentrated fire intended to destroy the fort's land defenses, and it continued constantly all day and night of the 13th and 14th. On the 14th the enemy began landing troops on shore. Heavy Confederate fire routed

these troops, but the fleet rescued them by changing the direction of its bombardment. A Federal force of 8500 men finally landed up the peninsula from the fort and constructed field works, thus effectively cutting off Lamb's communications with Bragg. A Union column entered the fort's interior but was stopped temporarily. By late afternoon of the 15th Union and Confederate soldiers were engaged in hand to hand combat. About five o'clock in the afternoon Lamb ordered a bayonet charge and then was struck in the hip by a rifle ball.²⁷

Lamb was taken to the fort's bomb-proof hospital where he found General Whiting who had been wounded earlier.²⁸ About eight o'clock that evening Lamb's aide told him that ammunition was giving out and, since the enemy had possession of most of the land-face, the defenders could not hold out much longer and it would be best to surrender. Still believing that Bragg would come to their rescue, Lamb replied that as long as he remained alive he would not surrender the fort.²⁹

By that time three Union brigades were inside the fort. Less than an hour after Lamb said he would not surrender, another Union brigade entered the fort and drove the defenders completely off the land-face. Whiting and Lamb were removed to Battery Buchanan, a small





MAP OF THE NAVAL AND MILITARY ATTACKS ON FORT FISHER, JANUARY 13, 1865, SHOWING DIRECTION OF FIRE OF UNION VESSELS.

fortification at the extreme end of the point a few hundred feet from the main fort. They hoped to rally the garrison and make a stand but found that Confederates retreating from Battery Buchanan had spiked the guns and taken all means of transportation. Therefore, about ten in the evening they surrendered.³⁰

The war was over for William Lamb. He was taken prisoner and sent to a hospital at Fort Monroe where he spent the remaining two months of the war in a semi-conscious state. On April 10 news of Lee's surrender arrived. In spite of the noise of drunken men, music, and beating drums Lamb received the news calmly. Shortly afterward he took the oath of allegiance to support the Federal Constitution and laws, "deeming further resistance useless & wrong, & believing a life in prison could do no one good & that it would result in my death." He realized that it was best to accept defeat with as little bitterness as possible and he sincerely deplored the "diabolical assassination" of President Lincoln.³¹

On the first of May Lamb left the hospital to go to his wife's home in Providence. The war years had been difficult for Mrs. Lamb, a Northerner, with her husband in the Confederate army. Their fourth child, Willie, was born a few days after Norfolk was evacuated by the

Confederates in 1862. She had then left for Providence to stay with her family where their third child, Sallie, died in late 1862. In 1863 Daisy Lamb had come back through the lines to join her husband at Fort Fisher, bringing her two oldest children with her. For two years she lived in a cottage near the fort, the only woman in the area, lonely and anxious about her husband. When the fort was captured, she did not know her husband's fate until she traced him to Fort Monroe.

By May 1865 the family was reunited in Providence. Lamb was still in serious condition and in September the surgeons removed from his leg "a large conical musket ball [which] had particles of red woolen fabric attached to it--from the red flannel lining of my overcoat."³² He would walk on crutches for the next seven years but was well enough to return to Norfolk in November.

Commercial activity in Norfolk had been completely disrupted by the war and by Federal occupation since 1862. Lamb decided to enter upon a new business venture, one he had long desired--direct trade between Norfolk and Europe. In the course of his duties at Fort Fisher he had become acquainted with many British merchants who now offered to help him in establishing Norfolk as a port in the European trade.³³ Lamb wrote to various

English companies requesting that he be made their agent in Norfolk, and in January 1866 the MacAndrews company of London agreed to put on a ship between Norfolk and London if he could supply a cargo. After leasing a city wharf and tobacco warehouse, Lamb told the MacAndrews company that shipments could begin in the spring. Despite unexpected difficulties in procuring a cargo, the first ship was loaded and sailed in July 1866.³⁴

Despite only moderate success Lamb continued buying goods and making occasional shipments. He was "convinced that an exclusive commission business is the best & that to speculate in commodities is sure to lead to loss. But by the end of the year his expenses had exceeded his income and he found it necessary to economize."³⁵

The direct trade Lamb sought to establish was slow to materialize. He served as president of the Norfolk Board of Trade and attended a convention in Louisville as chairman of a direct trade committee from Virginia. Lamb presided at a railroad and commercial convention held in Norfolk in 1868 "in the interests of direct trade with Europe, with Norfolk as the shipping port for the South and West."³⁶ One of the major difficulties in establishing trade was the lack of sufficient railroads connecting Norfolk with other points. In early 1872 Lamb wrote to the president of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad requesting

that Norfolk be made one of its eastern terminals³⁷ but the request was denied and it was not until the early 1880's that railroads adequately served Norfolk.

By 1871 Lamb's business expanded so that he was the agent for several shipping firms and a coal company.³⁸ Lamb was untrained as a businessman and the depressed economy of the post-war South compounded his troubles. He was unable to provide enough business to make an extensive Norfolk trade profitable for ship lines.³⁹

Lamb's business attempts had involved the expenditure of large sums of money, and lack of initial capital had forced him to borrow heavily. In 1866 and 1867 he was elected in succession director, vice-president, and president of the First National Bank of Norfolk. When he wished to give up the position as bank president in 1872, the board of directors said he must first settle his indebtedness.⁴⁰ By the following year his business had still failed to yield enough profit to ease the financial situation. Again offering his resignation, Lamb was informed that he must secure \$20,000 of his indebtedness to stabilize the bank. Partly because of his inability to raise the money the bank's directors ordered that it suspend business in May 1874.⁴¹ The bank failed on June 3, 1874, and its affairs were settled by a receiver. The

following January the United States sued Lamb for maladministration of the bank, but the case never came to trial.⁴² This illustrates Lamb's ineptitude in financial matters, a serious handicap in his business dealings.

In May 1875 Lamb entered a ship agency and ship brokerage business in partnership with Charles Schwarzkopf. The partnership met with immediate success, and business was good throughout the summer of 1875. In October Schwarzkopf died leaving Lamb to carry on the business alone.⁴³ This was an extreme setback for Lamb was never able to do as well when he worked by himself as when he worked for or in partnership with someone who was a more natural businessman than he.

Feeling that personal discussion with British merchants might increase their interest in trading through Norfolk, Lamb went to England in the summer of 1879. He talked with the owners of the steamship lines who had been his early supporters, and through them was introduced to other ship owners.⁴⁴ Back in Norfolk, Lamb recorded that many ships had been loaded with cotton throughout the fall of 1879. Nevertheless, even though an ample number of ships were available by early 1880, Lamb could not get enough goods to do a profitable business.⁴⁵

At this point in his career Lamb became interested in the coal business. He began an operation to refuel vessels with coal for their return trip to England. On March 17, 1883, the first carload of coal from the Pocahontas coal field in southwestern Virginia and West Virginia arrived in Norfolk over the Norfolk and Western Railroad, and the railroad soon established a coaling station at Lambert's Point on Hampton Roads.⁴⁶ At about the same time the Southwest Virginia Improvement Company made Lamb its selling agent in Norfolk for coal, and in June his first load arrived. In December 1884 the Gastner Company of Philadelphia made him its agent in Norfolk for the sale of coal to local trade and ocean steamers. It appeared that the coal business was the right choice for Lamb; in the spring of 1885 he made a successful two-month trip to Europe to solicit business, and by the end of the year he had the coal business well organized for the Gastner Company.⁴⁷

Since the coal business proved profitable, the next few years were prosperous. Lamb was recognized as one of Norfolk's prominent businessmen, and when a chamber of commerce was formed in 1888 he was chosen to serve as its president and was re-elected in 1890. There was a temporary difficulty in 1891 when the Philadelphia coal

company he represented, by that time known as Castner and Curran, decided to transfer the local business to the Pocahontas Coal Company which they also ran, and to reduce Lamb's commission on the steamship business. The company finally agreed to give Lamb what he considered a fair commission, but in early 1892 he stopped selling coal locally for them.⁴⁸

During these years of building up a business, Lamb had been active in his old interest, politics. Immediately after the war he had avoided any political alliances, wishing first to establish a business before embarking on the political career he had once desired. Yet he lost little time in joining the battle for the return of white supremacy. When the Conservative party, a coalition of former Democrats and Whigs, was formed in 1867 in opposition to carpetbag and Negro rule,⁴⁹ he joined its ranks. In national politics his sympathies were with the Democratic party, and in preparation for the 1872 presidential election he was active in the formation of an organization called the Chappaqua Club to support Greeley and Brown.⁵⁰ After their overwhelming defeat he dropped out of politics temporarily and in the next few years figured only slightly in state politics.

In 1875 he was considered as a candidate for mayor of Norfolk, but was not chosen although the Conservative Club in his ward elected him its president. In 1876 he attended the state Conservative convention and the same year was chosen as a delegate to the national Democratic convention in support of Tilden.⁵¹ The turning point in Lamb's political career came after his return from a business trip to Europe in 1879. Deciding that the economic policy of the Conservative party was a hindrance to Virginia's improvement, he joined the Readjusters. When the liberal wing of the Conservative party asked him to run for mayor in 1880, he did so as a reform candidate and was elected by a Democratic-Republican coalition. His sentiments were rapidly becoming those of a Readjuster, and in 1882 he joined the Republican party, making his first Republican speech advocating a protective tariff and federal aid for education.⁵²

Despite Republican defeat in state-wide politics, Lamb was re-elected mayor of Norfolk twice, the last time on the Republican ticket; he served from 1880 to 1886. In 1886 Lamb declined to accept a renomination for mayor, and a Democratic mayor was elected. Becoming increasingly more active in the Republican party, Lamb was a delegate to the 1888 state Republican convention and to the national

convention which nominated Benjamin Harrison for president. During the campaign he made speeches in favor of Harrison and protection of industry, saying that free trade was "heresy"; he felt the "need of the burial of dead issues and the necessity for progressive principles in Virginia."⁵³ He served as an elector on the Harrison ticket; although Norfolk went Republican, the state as a whole remained Democratic.

The year 1892 was the turning point in Lamb's personal life. He and Daisy had led a happy life in spite of many personal and business disappointments. When they settled in Norfolk after the war, their family had consisted of the three surviving children, Maria, Dick, and Willie. In the next four years three children were born to them, all of whom died in infancy. Margaret, always called Madge, was born in 1873 and survived, as did Harry who was born in 1876. Their last child, a daughter, was born in 1878 and died less than a year later. Lamb was devoted to his family and was greatly saddened by the loss of so many of his children.

Lamb wanted his children to receive an education and sent both of the older boys to college, although neither of them finished but got jobs in Norfolk before trying to start their own businesses. Dick went to New York where

he eventually made his home. Lamb tried to set Willie up with a grist mill to be shared with Maria,⁵⁴ but this venture failed and Willie went to North Carolina where he died of malaria in 1888. Maria suffered from poor health and never married. Madge went to New York to study art and eventually returned to Norfolk where she married and made her home in Portsmouth.

Through the years Mrs. Lamb had enjoyed good health and a pleasant home life. In January 1892 she was ill, and just when she seemed to have recovered she became ill again, this time with pneumonia. She died on March 30, leaving Lamb with a grief from which he never recovered. At first after her death he was stunned and uncertain of what to do: "The world is absolutely a different place, I seem to have no settled plans for the future; for everything I did or planned was for her pleasure or comfort, or with a view to contributing to it in the future."⁵⁵

To combat this deep personal sadness, Lamb plunged with increased activity into his work and other interests. Always active in community affairs, he kept occupied with meetings, and since the business was netting a comfortable income he was able to travel to attend other affairs. Early in the 1880's he had become a trustee of the Norfolk Academy, a post he held until 1903. As an active member

of the Norfolk Library Association, he served as its president from 1894 until 1902.⁵⁶ He was also active in the Episcopal church and in the affairs of the church-sponsored Jackson Orphan Asylum for which he was a trustee for some years.⁵⁷ The Norfolk Seamen's Friend Society, a benevolent association representing all the city's churches, elected him its president for thirty-three years; he served from 1869 to 1902.⁵⁸

In 1895 Lamb attended the Phi Beta Kappa national council at Saratoga, New York, and was elected as one of its senators to serve until 1901. He attended the council meetings again in 1898 and 1901 and in 1901 was re-elected as a senator for another six-year term.⁵⁹ The highest academic honor he received was an honorary Doctor of Laws from St. Lawrence University in 1899.⁶⁰ His interest in William and Mary, his alma mater, continued through the years; he was a member of its Board of Visitors from 1867 to 1906. In 1906 the number of Visitors was reduced from twenty to ten, and although Lamb was the oldest board member and rector of the board, he was greatly angered not to be placed on the new board.⁶¹

He had never actively kept up with military associations formed after the war, being listed as a member but never taking much part in Norfolk's Pickett-Buchanan Camp of

The United Confederate Veterans.⁶² In the course of his travels he occasionally met fellow ex-Confederates and sometimes ex-Union soldiers whom he found to be quite congenial. During a trip to Philadelphia in 1885 he was introduced to a businessman who casually remarked that he owned a prayer book belonging to Jefferson Davis which he had purchased at Fort Monroe during the war. When the man showed it to Lamb, it turned out to be the Lamb family's old prayer book that had been stolen during the Federal occupation of Norfolk, and it was graciously returned to its rightful owner.⁶³ While attending the Republican national convention at Chicago in 1888, Lamb met General M. N. Curtis of New York who had participated in the second assault on Fort Fisher. He noted that their meeting was pleasant.⁶⁴

In 1886 the editors of the Century Magazine asked him to write an article on the battle of Fort Fisher. In 1893 at a meeting in Wilmington, North Carolina, he read a paper on the fort's history. Trips to Fort Fisher began to seem more interesting, and he attended several reunions of the soldiers who had fought there. In 1906 he was elected president of the Fort Fisher Survivor's Association.⁶⁵

The presidential campaign of 1892 provided Lamb with an excellent opportunity to keep busy traveling about the

state making speeches for Harrison and working with the local Republican organization, but he was disheartened by fraud in local elections. In 1893 he mentioned "the impossibility of having fair elections in Virginia," and in 1895 the city Republican committee resolved not to nominate candidates for the state House of Delegates.⁶⁶

After the 1895 elections Lamb commented that "the Republicans swept the country yesterday. . .but Virginia is retained in the Democratic column by fraud." Later that month he was chosen to be chairman of the Republican state committee and a member of the national committee.⁶⁷ At the state Republican convention in 1896, Lamb was elected delegate to the national convention in June to support McKinley, who was nominated for president. In the campaign he took a more active part than ever before, making many speeches throughout the state. Virginia went Democratic in the election--again due to fraud, Lamb believed.⁶⁸

Then dissensions arose within the party. One faction in the state organization ignored Lamb as state chairman. Although he threatened to resign, the national party boss, Mark Hanna, persuaded him to remain in the post to preserve the party organization in Virginia.⁶⁹ By the next spring, however, it appeared that Hanna and the administration favored the local faction against Lamb. In August 1897

he decided to withdraw from politics—"there is such a corrupt element in the Republican party that there is no making it respectable."⁷⁰ He wanted to call a state convention to decide whether he should remain as chairman, but the state committee, with the endorsement of Hanna, resolved against a convention and deposed him as chairman.⁷¹ Lamb called a convention anyway, and at its meeting announced his resignation. The convention elected Lamb's choice as his successor and passed resolutions endorsing him, but his days as a political leader were over.⁷² He attended the national convention in 1900 as a spectator, but had no influence in state politics. His last political activity was in 1908 as a delegate to the state convention, and it chose him as chairman.⁷³

Business, in the meantime, had had its ups and downs. In the 1890's Lamb was still Castner and Curran's agent for selling coal to steamships, and in 1895 he took charge of their Pocahontas Coal Company selling coal locally. He worked on a commission basis until 1897 when the company informed him that since they lost money paying by commission, they were going to pay him a fixed salary. This was a financial blow to Lamb because commissions were a better source of income than a salary.⁷⁴

To meet the financial loss, he began to sell coal under his own name, William Lamb and Company, but this attempt at running his own business was not very successful.⁷⁵ Apparently he never mastered the technique of being a good businessman, although the coal business prospered during the Spanish-American War, and Lamb did especially well supplying the federal government with coal and vessels to transport it.⁷⁶

Business was profitable until mid-1902 when everything exploded. A subordinate in Lamb's office reported to Castner and Curran that he used their office to carry on his other affairs and did not give adequate attention to their business. The result was a reprimand, an argument, and then Lamb's resignation. At the time, he rejoiced over the severed relations.⁷⁷

At the end of the summer Lamb went to Europe to try to persuade shippers to trade through Norfolk and make him their agent, but as in previous years when he had tried the same approach, it was not successful. The financial situation caused great worry: his salary would continue until April 1903 but after that time there would be no income. He began to regret his hasty action in resigning but not until the end of the year did he admit all the mistakes he had made. An argument with the man

in his office who had said he had "made a convenience" of the office and an injudicious letter to the newspaper resulted in a costly and mortifying slander suit; loss of money in an unwise property investment wiped out his savings; and borrowing from his children reduced their property. He blamed it on temporary loss of his senses; "undertaking too much outside my business I bro't on a nervous prostration which affected my mind."⁷⁸

As the coal business was the only one with which Lamb was familiar, he embarked on various schemes to begin again. With other businessmen he discussed starting a new company to sell Pocahontas coal,⁷⁹ but it never materialized. He wrote to several coal companies asking to be made their agent in Norfolk, but was not able to reach a satisfactory arrangement.⁸⁰ During an illness in late 1903 he gave up a position as attorney for the Norfolk and Western Railroad. Later he concluded that the illness must have affected his mind to make him relinquish that small though certain source of income.⁸¹

Several other opportunities failed to materialize,⁸² and finally realizing it was impossible to build up a coal or shipping business, he decided to try some other endeavor. His son Dick wanted him to go into the brick manufacturing business but Lamb rejected the idea.⁸³

Failing health troubled him--he was over seventy years old--and he feared, perhaps partly from fear of failure, that undertaking any new business venture might break his health. All this discouragement embittered him against the world: "After all I have done in the last fifty years to build up Norfolk & its surroundings, it seems hard I have no opportunity to make a living for those dependent on me."⁸⁴

It became necessary to sell his house and in late 1906 he and his daughter Maria moved to an apartment.⁸⁵ The last hope for a start in business came in early 1907 with a plan to build a coke and gas plant. He was unable to borrow money to build the plant, but a man named Arthur Moore took the company's presidency and offered to finance the building for half interest in the company. The whole project ended, however, when Moore died in November 1907. Totally discouraged, Lamb remarked that, "all my business future depended on plans which he had promised to carry out. It looks now as if I were hopelessly ruined."⁸⁶

He did not again attempt to get into business but lived on the proceeds from the sale of the house. In November 1908 he was appointed auditor for the court in a railroad lawsuit at \$100 a month. This provided the hoped for financial relief and gave him something useful

to do.⁸⁷ In December he caught a severe cold but was able to keep working until February when a sprained ankle and aggravation of his other maladies forced him to stop work. Soon afterward he was bedridden, and on March 23, 1909, William Lamb died. A life bright with promise in the 1850's had ended in poverty and defeat. This was an ending all too common among Southerners of Lamb's generation.

INTRODUCTION TO
THE DIARY OF WILLIAM LAMB, 1859-1860

This volume of William Lamb's diary covers the period from August 1859 to May 1860, turbulent months in a nation perched on a powderkeg of sectional distrust, misunderstanding, and emotionalism. As editor of a newspaper dedicated to Southern rights, Lamb upheld the views of those Southerners who saw no compromise with the equally uncompromising Republicans of the North. The major issue was not slavery; it was political dominance. The states rights Democrats of the South were willing to sacrifice the Union rather than accept Republican rule which would be fatal to their economic and social systems. Years of abuse from Northern abolitionists had put the South on the defensive, made its men dream of independence and freedom from further attacks.

The crucial years were 1859 and 1860. One wrong step could plunge the nation into disunion and civil war. John Brown's raid might have been the fatal step. When Brown, with a small army of eighteen men, seized the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia, a wave of

indignation swept the South. Remembering slave insurrections in Santo Domingo, Southerners shivered with fear and bolted their doors at night. It did not matter that almost the whole country condemned Brown's actions; this was abolitionism coming too close to home. The first news of the raid to reach Lamb was that it was a Negro insurrection, and he was angered by the "audacity" of the rioters.¹ He suspected the "Black Republicans" of being involved, and concluded that the affair would strengthen the Democrats.²

Actually Brown's raid had little effect on a Democratic party already split over the slavery issue. Lamb, and many other responsible citizens, worried greatly about the coming presidential election. The Republican party, solidly united as a sectional party under the issue of slavery, had made vast gains in the 1858 congressional elections. A Republican victory in 1860 would very likely mean disunion, but a Democratic victory was almost impossible with any of the available candidates. Stephen A. Douglas had alienated both North and South by his stand on territorial slavery, and he was the only Democrat who had a chance of winning. No Southerner would be acceptable to the North. Lamb favored Virginia's Governor Henry A. Wise, a strong states rights man who

would not even have been able to obtain the nomination. When the Democratic convention in Charleston split, perhaps the last real chance for compromise was lost. William Lamb probably did not realize with what wisdom he spoke when, near the end of this volume, he wrote, "with the Democracy the Union will be rent apart."³ The old era had closed, a new one had begun, one which would sweep Lamb and his fellow Southerners into a maelstrom of civil war, defeat, and social turmoil.

NOTES TO INTRODUCTION

1. Entry, Sept. 7, 1859, in the Manuscript Diary of William Lamb, Archives, Library of the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. Hereafter cited as Diary entry.
2. Thomas J. Wertenbaker, Norfolk, Historic Southern Port (Durham, 1931), 209-215.
3. Diary entry, Oct. 28, 1855.
4. Ibid., Jan. 1, 1856. The Southern Argus was established January 1848 by S. T. Sawyer who edited it from 1848 to 1853. Abram F. Leonard became editor in 1853. Lester J. Cappon, Virginia Newspapers, 1821-1935 (New York, 1936), 141.
5. Southern Argus (Norfolk), Aug. 26, 1859. The Norfolk Public Library possesses a partial file of the Southern Argus for the years Lamb was co-editor; January-June 1856, July-December 1857, and complete files for 1858, 1859, and 1860.
6. John W. H. Porter, A Record of Events in Norfolk County, Virginia, from April 19th, 1861, to May 10th, 1862. . . (Portsmouth, 1892), 262-264.
7. The Laurentian (Canton, New York), XIV (May, 1901), 103.
8. Lamb justified slavery by saying; "God has endowed man with different faculties, different natures, mentally

moral & Physical. . . .Slavery some may think is an unnecessary abridgment of man's liberty, & therefore wrong because it diminishes the happiness of the slave. This is a false & untenable assertion. The institution of Slavery is of divine appointment." Diary entry, Apr. 19, 1855.

9. Southern Argus, Aug. 22, 1860.
10. Ibid., Apr. 12, 1860.
11. Ibid., Oct. 24, 1860.
12. Ibid., Nov. 8, 1860.
13. Ibid., Nov. 10, 13, 1860.
14. Vertenbaker, Norfolk, 228.
15. After helping create war sentiment, The Argus was forced to stop operations in 1861 because most of its personnel had gone to war. H. W. Burton, The History of Norfolk, Virginia (Norfolk, 1877), 60.
16. Ibid., 47-50; Porter, Record of Events, 263.
17. Burton, History, 60.
18. Diary entry, Oct. 1, 1861.
19. Battles and Leaders of the Civil War, eds. Robert U. Johnson and Clarence G. Buel, IV (New York, 1884), 643n; William H. Stewart, History of Norfolk County, Virginia, and Representative Citizens (Chicago, 1902), 518.

20. Battles and Leaders, IV, 643.
21. The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies (New York, 1860-1901), Ser. I, Vol. XVIII, 849.
22. Ibid., Ser. I, Vol. XXVIII, Part II, 119.
23. Ibid., Ser. I, Vol. XLII, Part II, 1241; Ibid., Ser. I, Vol. XXIX, Part II, 671.
24. The best description of the battle of Fort Fisher is an article, "The Defense of Fort Fisher," written by Lamb in 1868 for the Century Magazine which appears in Vol. IV of Battles and Leaders of the Civil War.
25. Battles and Leaders, IV, 655-657; Official Records, Ser. I, Vol. XLII, Part I, 1003-1007.
26. Battles and Leaders, IV, 646-647.
27. Ibid., 647-652; Clement G. Evans, ed, Confederate Military History, IV (Atlanta, 1899), 276.
28. Whiting died a prisoner at Fort Columbus, New York Harbor, March 10, 1865.
29. Battles and Leaders, IV, 653.
30. Ibid., 653-654.
31. Diary entry, Apr. 10, 22, 15, 1865.
32. Ibid., Sept. 25, 1865.
33. Wertebaker, Norfolk, 312.

34. Since the ship was late in arriving, Lamb had time to supply a sufficient cargo of cotton. The Ephesus sailed from Norfolk July 1, 1866, but ran aground on Sable Island off Nova Scotia. Although the cargo was lost, it was covered by insurance. Diary entry, May 29, July 7, 1866.
35. Diary entry, Aug. 14, Dec. 31, 1867.
36. Burton, History, 122-123, 126.
37. Diary entry, Jan. 18, 1872.
38. He was later forced to abandon the coal business as unsuccessful. Diary entry, March 8, 1871, March 6, 1872.
39. Diary entries, Nov. 12, 1872, Jan. 29, 1874.
40. Ibid., Oct. 23, Nov. 13, 1866, Jan. 4, 1867, June 21, 1872.
41. Ibid., Apr. 22, May 6, 8, 26, 1874.
42. Stewart, History, 410; Diary entry, Jan. 6, 1875.
43. Diary entries, Aug. 24, 1874, May 6, 1875, Oct. 10, 1875.
44. Ibid., July, August 1879, passim.
45. Ibid., Jan. 6, 1880.
46. Stewart, History, 345, 403-404.
47. Diary entry, Dec. 31, 1885.
48. Ibid., Feb. 17, 1891, Feb. 3, 1892.
49. Wertenbaker, Norfolk, 261.
50. Diary entry, July 20, 1872.

51. Diary entries, Aug. 11, 1875, Sept. 16, 1875, May 30, 1876, June 28, 1876.
52. The Laurentian, 105-106.
53. Diary entry, Aug. 26, 1868.
54. Ibid., May 1869, passim.
55. Ibid., May 27, 1892.
56. The Norfolk Library Association was formed in 1870 to build a public library as there had been none in the city since 1855. Stewart, History, 186-187; diary entry, Aug. 21, 1902.
57. Burton, History, 224-225.
58. Diary entries, Aug. 16, 1869, May 7, 1902. This organization, still in existence, is now known as the Union Mission.
59. Diary entries, Sept. 11, 1895, Sept. 7, 1898, Sept. 12, 1901.
60. Ibid., June 28, 1899.
61. The Laurentian, 107; Diary entries, June 1906, passim.
62. Stewart, History, 138, 144.
63. Diary entry, Feb. 25, 1885.
64. Ibid., June 24, 1886.
65. Ibid., Sept. 16, 1888, June 13, 14, 1893, Aug. 14, 1895, Aug. 12, 13, 1903, Sept. 2, 1906, Jan. 14, 15, 1907.

66. Diary entries, Nov. 7, 1893, Oct. 2, 1895.
67. Ibid., Nov. 6, 28, 1895.
68. Ibid., Nov. 4, 1896.
69. Ibid., Dec. 15, 1896.
70. Ibid., Aug. 6, 1897.
71. Ibid., Aug. 18, 1897.
72. Ibid., Oct. 5, 1897.
73. Ibid., June 21, 1900, Apr. 7, 6, 1908.
74. Ibid., Feb. 3, 1897.
75. Although this caused a slight disagreement with Castner and Curran who wanted him to be their exclusive agent, the company later withdrew their objections to his chartering vessels. Diary entries, Nov. 1898, passim.
76. Diary entry, Dec. 31, 1898.
77. Ibid., July 4, 1902.
78. Ibid., Nov. 19, 1902, Dec. 31, 1902.
79. Ibid., Feb. 3, 1903.
80. Ibid., Feb. 26, 1903, March 9, 1903. Agreements were made with several companies but they failed, either because they were not satisfactory to Lamb or because he could not place a sufficient number of orders. Diary entry, Apr. 14, 16, 27, 1903.
81. Diary entry, Jan. 2, 1905.

82. Lamb turned down one offer because the company requested a statement of William Lamb and Company's value which he refused to give. Diary entry, March 21, 1904.
83. Diary entry, Feb. 2, 3, 13, 1905.
84. Ibid., Apr. 23, 1906, May 2, 1906.
85. Ibid., Nov. 1, 1906.
86. Ibid., Oct. 2, 1907, Nov. 10, 1907.
87. Ibid., Nov. 21, 1908.

NOTES TO INTRODUCTION TO THE DIARY

1. See below, 96.
2. See below, 99.
3. See below, 218.

Diary

Thursday August 18th 1859. The perusal of Mr Grigsby's [illegible] address to the students of Wm & Mary College' on the last 4th of July has determined me to keep a diary. Frank Decordy² returned from Washington this morning, he was successful in his mission which was to obtain the place of Master Mason in the Gosport Navy Yard³ for Henry W. Herbert who was unjustly turned out in 1857. I gave Decordy a strong letter in favor of Herbert as well as endorsing himself. I commenced the publication in the Weekly Southern Argus to-day of a story by Dr Caruthers. The Knights of the Horse Shoe, a traditional tale of the Cocked Hat history of the Old Dominion which had got out of print.⁴ I had notices of its publication inserted in a number of Virginia and North Carolina papers & also had a thousand extra copies gratuitously distributed with the view to increasing the circulation of this edition which is now limited. Beverly K. Taylor a young mechanic in Norfolk has requested me to go security for him to the amount of three hundred dollars to purchase a lot on [illegible] from his mother-in-law Mrs Tebo. He is to give [illegible] on trust in the lot. I have consented [several lines illegible]

was the first in the State to announce Jackson's victory at New Orleans which occurred the 8th of January 1815.

I stopped smoking cigars to-day & took to the pipe; father received the present of some fine smoking tobacco. Norfolk is now very healthy. The weather was unseasonable cold this morning but it is warm to-night. In 1855 I kept a diary for a short time, at this date that year I was in the midst of the Pestilence.⁵ What changes have occurred since then? I have entered life, chosen a profession, married & am a father! This day two years ago (1857) I came down James river in the Curtis Peck from City Point, on my return from the Southern Commercial Convention⁶ at Knoxville. I played cards with Col: Myers & two other gentlemen for amusement on the boat.

Friday August 19th 1859. I was so very busy this morning getting my extra Weeklies off that I did not attend the Board of Directors at the Virginia Bank. Decordy informed me to-day that Herbert had received his appointment as Master Mason. He sent me his thanks. Decordy thinks that I have made a firm & fast political & personal friend in Herbert. Decordy informed me that I was the first Democrat he ever voted for, & that the first word he ever uttered in a Democratic meeting was when he made a motion for the meeting to accompany me home the night before I ran for Mayor in 1857. In taking Decordy from the Opposition ranks I have [illegible] the

severest blow possible upon their heads. [two lines illegible]
 American party⁷ gained much of its ascendancy in our city
 was the Magistrates preventing as many Democrats as they
 could from taking out licenses to keep drinking houses.
 This was done slyly & without arousing the suspicion of the
 Recorder. Dr Lamb wife & grand daughter left for Philadelphia
 to-day. I am at present deeply interested in Randall's Life
 of Thomas Jefferson.⁸ The author of the Declaration of
 Independence lacked but one thing--and that oratory--of being
 the greatest statesman who ever lived. Few have been his
 equals. To me the brightest feature in his character was
 his intense love of his wife & family. He who professes to
 love the people & neglects his family is a hypocrite. The
 love of the people is but an empty profession to gratify
 ambition. Henry S. Randall deserves the gratitude of Virginia
 for he is the first biographer who has done justice to the
 memory of one of her noblest & best sons. I wrote to
 Joseph Pierce Master Ship Carpenter at the Gosport Yard to
 request him to give employment to Dennard Travis, one of
 father's recent watchmen who was cut in the face by a Know
 Nothing rowdy while endeavoring to keep the peace at the
 polls during the last election. I took a pleasant ride with
 my dear wife this afternoon towards Fort Norfolk.
 This day one year ago (Aug 19th 1858) Miss Annie M. Andrews⁹

the heroine of the Pestilence of 1855 (who had been secretly married to Mr. B. Upsher of Norfolk which feat was not to be [line missing] presented to the Woodis Riflemen of which I was the commander a flag. It was presented in the Odd-Fellows Hall on Church St before a large audience by Thos: W. Upshur, & was received by myself. The flag has one side the bust of Hunter Woodis,¹⁰ on the other, the coat of arms of Virginia & the inscription "Pace Civis, Bello Milites." (In peace citizens, in war soldiers.) On Wednesday Aug 19. 1857. I wrote a letter to Senator Hunter.¹¹ At that time there was much excitement in the political circles of the State concerning the Senatorship. It was charged by the Richmond Enquirer¹² & the friends of Gov. Wise¹³ that Senator Hunter was hostile to President Buchanan. Senator Hunter's friends affirmed that Gov Wise desired his seat. As I had done my share as a public journalist in bringing about the nomination & election of Mr Buchanan I felt a deep interest in the success of his Administration & was jealous of his reputation; at the same time I was hostile to the system of rotation in office believing it to be destructive of public efficiency & virtue & therefore did not desire to see Mr Hunter set aside for even so great a favorite as Governor Wise. I consequently wrote the following to Senator Hunter,

Norfolk Aug 19th 1857.

Dear Sir. The report that you sympathize with the attacks upon

the Administration, made by certain journals in the South having been industriously disseminated throughout Virginia, thereby embarrassing the mutual friends of Mr Buchanan and yourself, you will oblige me if convenient & agreeable by stating your position towards the Administration which you contributed in a great degree to place in office. Yours Respectfully, William Lamb,- Editor Southern Argus.

The following answer was received August 29th 1857.

Loydis Essex Co. Aug. 23d 1857.

Dear Sir.

I recognize in your letter a friendly spirit and I answer you with the same feeling--But my answer is for yourself alone, not for publication or to become the subject of public allusion. I have never said or done any thing against the Administration nor have I any hostile feeling towards it, on the contrary I wish it success-- What possible interest could I have in breaking it down or dividing the party? Nor am I responsible for the course of any newspaper. I do not see their editorials until after they are published nor am I consulted in regard to them. No one speaks for me. I am responsible for my own sayings and doings and for nothing further. Nor do I feel called upon to criticise the course of newspapers. If I were to commence with this there would be no end to it during the residue of my public life. In

conclusion I must repeat the request that this letter is to be considered strictly private.

Very truly & respectfully

Mr William Lamb

Yours R. M. T. Hunter ¹⁴

This letter gave me no satisfaction I still had to appear a public journalist hostile to either Buchanan or Hunter, the people regarding the praise of one as a reflection upon the other, & this when as the above letter showed there was no reason for it. Now (Aug 19th 1859) I am in somewhat the same position although now there are reasons for it. Wise & Buchanan are opposed to each other & mutual friends of both who have the conduct of public journals are placed in an awkward position. The praise of one necessarily is a reflection in the eyes of the public on the other. I have determined however to sustain as far as I think right the Administration I helped to put in power even at the expense of my warm political & personal friend Governor Wise.

Norfolk Va August 20th 1859. It rained considerably last night & has continued to do so off & on during the day. It is warm and damp. Yesterday morning when going to my office rather late I witnessed most extraordinary phenomena in the heavens. I clip the following from the Herald written by old Mr. Broughton ¹⁵ which describes these phenomena as well as they could be: clipping is missing

Decordy informs me the appointment of Herbert has made a great stir among the officials in the Navy Yard. They do not know where the influence came from. I had a call from Dr Fitzgibbon's; he thanked me for the continued interest I manifested in his Emigrant Aid Society. The Dr informed me of the contemptible jealousy of Wilson Lovitt, a hatter who meddles a little in public affairs, of the Argus. He reprimanded the Dr for furnishing me with a copy of the resolutions of the Merchants & Merchant Exchange in favor of the scheme in advance of the Herald. Small minds hate that influence & prosperity in others which they cannot acquire for themselves. I neglected to mention in my diary of yesterday that Stephen J. Pendleton had shown me a feeling letter from Danl E. Sickles¹⁶ thanking him for an editorial which had appeared in the City Index, defending & applauding his action in taking back his dishonored wife to his bosom. He stated that he expected the abuse which was heaped upon him by the secular press but he did not anticipate the same scorn from the religious journals of the land. I was pleased with the reconciliation of Sickles & his wife & would have written to that effect but Leonard¹⁷ desired me to take the opposite ground & so I remained silent. Dr Simkins told me that he had heard Obadiah J. Wise¹⁸ of the Enquirer had gone from home to fight with Mr Old the editor of the Examiner.¹⁹ I expected as much from the editorials which appeared in the Enquirer of the 16th. Wise declares that

there is a conspiracy on the part of his father's opponents against his life, & he is determined to revenge himself upon them. It is a great pity he ever entered editorial life & we have reason to believe it was against his father's wishes. The very natural abuse of Gov Wise by partisan editors is necessarily falling to his son & consequently he is continually in a broil. The Richmond Enquirer should never have been placed under the control of a leading statesman with aspirations beyond the honorable post of editor of the organ of the Virginia Democracy. The organ of a party ceases to be such when it advocates the claim of any one to an office before a nomination by the party. It should open its columns to all prudent articles written by responsible democrats in favor of their favorites, but editorially, until the party has spoken through its convention, it should advocate principles only. In this way only can it preserve the confidence & command the support of the whole party.²⁰

I have been much interested by the comments of my exchanges on the refusal of the Republican party of Ohio to re-nominate Judge Scott²¹ for the bench because he made an unpopular decision in regard to the Fugitive Slave Law.²² This case had added to the strength of my opinion against an elective judiciary. If I am in public life at the next revision of our Virginia Constitution I shall advocate a return to the old system of election by the Legislature & tenure during good behavior.

And when the return shall be made as it doubtless will if apparent public opinion do not change, as the Legislature would probably elect all the Judges from the political party which had the ascendancy at the time in that body. I think it would be expedient to allow the two parties in each Judicial District to nominate a candidate & then let the choice be made between them by lot. This would give both parties a fair chance, & after that, at the death or impeachment of a Judge, the Legislature could elect a successor. Strong movements are now being made by the friends of John Minor Botts²³ of Virginia to secure his nomination for the Presidency. His chances are good. If he be run he would occupy about the same position that Fillmore did in 1856, & would perhaps carry one or two more states than Maryland. Botts when at Old Point recently told a friend of mine that the Argus had done him much good by abusing him during the Gubernatorial campaign for his free-soil proclivities, which abuse had been copied by Northern papers. I intend to commence next week with an effort to write more for my paper which I have neglected since the election. The fact is most of my time is engaged by visitors in my sanctum which leaves me only time in the day before dinner to select for my columns, after dinner & the night I have taken for the enjoyment of my wife's society & for reading.

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Sunday August 21st 1859. Rode to St Pauls this morning & found it closed. Went to the Freemason St Babtist [sic] church and heard the Revn'd Tiberius Gracchus Jones preach from John XVII ch 17 verse, "Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth." The sermon was extremely sectarian & ridiculed & denounced infant baptism. In my humble opinion the sermon was more calculated to make good baptists than good christians. I am reading Paley's Evidences of Christianity,²⁵ an old college text book which I read very superficially at William and Mary, & which I find deeply interesting now.

I rowed over to see Tom Colley this afternoon with brothers Wilson & Robert. Poor Tom I fear is being rapidly wasted away by consumption. He is naturally very smart but needs polish. His memory & reasoning powers would have gained for him a high position at the bar & in politics. His mother told me that during the fever in 1855, her son who died with the disease at that time called her attention to phenomena in the heavens very similar to that seen on friday. Tom said that he had seen similar phenonema before.

I have been thinking to-day a great deal about our public school system in Norfolk & I have determined to make another effort in the Common Council to get the Norfolk Academy²⁶ a central High School. The American or Know Nothing party have made the free schools their hobby & strange to say

have several times defeated the Democracy on that issue. I have always been a warm advocate of public education believing it to be the basis of public virtue, & I considered it a part of the Democratic need, but my party had the appearance of opposing it in this city & have consequently lost by it. If I can I shall relieve the Democracy from this odium. Thomas Jefferson the first American democrat was the first advocate of public education. Our state system of free education is very deficient, being burdensome on some counties without any corresponding benefit.

My sweet little daughter Maria is at a most interesting period in her life, she is just commencing to walk & talk. Her musical voice sounds like the echo of her precious mother's & my own combined.

Norfolk Monday August 22d 1859. Heard this morning that Wise and Old had exchanged two shots near Washington & that no injury had resulted to either. Bloodless duels bring discredit upon those concerned in them. This morning's Argus contained a letter from the New York Tribune reflecting upon a society called the K. G. C. (Knights of the Golden Circle)²⁷ Groner called on me and told me that it was a misrepresentation and that the society was not political. There is a lodge of the order in Norfolk. He is to let me into its secrets shortly.

I received a letter from Mr Grigsby to-day from Charlotte C. H. contradicting a statement recently published in the Argus from "Notes & Queries", which purported to give the reason why Virginia was called the Old Dominion. I shall publish the letter in the Argus & copy the principal part of it in my Index Rerum.

To day Mr Henry W. Herbert informed me that he had passed his examination as Master Mason, & he thanked me kindly for my aid in getting him the appointment. With father's assistance I have prepared a long article on the Atlantic Telegraph²⁸ for my paper. I consider the connection of the two hemispheres by electricity as the greatest achievement of the mind. Mrs Totten, Anna & the rest of the family passed through here to day on their way from Williamsburg to the North. They came up to our house & stopped for awhile. The Doctor²⁹ did not come up. They left in the Steamship Yorktown for New York. Mrs Alfred L. Seabury spent the evening with us. I got into a discussion with father to-night about the Catholics and the Jews. He thought it better to subscribe to build a synagogue than a Roman Catholic church. I thought otherwise, believing that many catholics are saved while a Jew, that is one unconverted to Christianity, cannot be. This day (22d August Sunday) last year I rode with Richard Taylor to a large Methodist Camp meeting at Great Bridge. There was not as much religious

excitement as usual upon such occasions, and it seemed to be more of a frolic to the majority than a religious gathering. The negro portion of the camp meeting was indescribable. Many of the negroes were wild with excitement & danced & shouted and embraced one another until their clothes were torn & unloosed so as to cause the females to be almost indecent. Those that were at the highest pitch of excitement were put in an enclosure where they mingled in a dance more wild and strange than any war dance of the aborigines. Some negroes appeared to become stupified under the religious excitement, & lay as if asleep for days, others were maniacal, & we saw a negro girl whose arms & feet were tied lying upon the ground & rolling over and over in the dirt. We cannot think such excitement calculated to promote either the spiritual or temporal welfare of the slave.

Norfolk Tuesday August 23d 1859. I wrote an editorial before breakfast thanking Secretary Toucey for the appointment of Herbert. Genl. Geo: Blow³⁰ paid me a visit in my sanctum, he³¹ thinks Wise's Donnelly letter has destroyed his chances for the Presidency. He came to speak of a local notice of the establishment of a line of steamers about to be established to trade to the different ports in North Carolina & to bring merchandize through the Albemarle & Chesapeake Canal to be shipped direct to Northern & Eastern ports. He thinks the

canal will be injurious to our North Carolina trade. I am of opinion that it will depend altogether on the enterprise of our merchants whether this improvement will be a benefit or an injury to our trade. I attended the board at the Virginia Bank, but the directors had finished their business. Saw Massenburg the Democratic elector for this District in 1856. He thinks there will be a compromise candidate nominated at Charleston, a man not now prominent. I think this will be the case if Douglas or Breckenridge ³² [sic] ³³ is not chosen. Neil an old college mate called on me this afternoon, he resides in Botetourt, & has twice run for the Legislature & been defeated. He says Letcher ³⁴ did not loose [sic] votes in that county on account of the Rufner pamphlet, ³⁵ but from the inaction on the part of the Democracy. I have read Genl Sam Houston's great speech at Nacogdoches while running for Governor of Texas, (N. Y. Herald Aug 20th). It is a better speech than I thought him capable of delivering. He declared himself "a National, Conservative, Union loving, discord hating, convention despising, Anti slave trade, anti abolition, anti Know Nothing, Pacific Railroad, Cuba acquisition, Mexico protectorate, Administration supporting, Woman adoring, old fogy democrat of the Old School" to use the words of Hennett. ³⁶ His strictures on Pierce ³⁷ were unjust & some of his views are contrary to the creed of Virginia Democracy, but his speech as a whole was very good. I received a letter to day

from my friend Hugh Blair Grigsby in answer to one I wrote last week. Having met in Randall vol 1st p 273 an extract from a letter written by Jefferson to Genl Gates Octo 15th 1780 as follows, "I enclose by this express a power to Mr Lambe, quartermaster, to impress for a month, ten wagons from each of the counties of Brunswick, Mecklenburg, Dunonburg, Charlotte and Halifax &c." (The same as a post script is in Randolph's Jefferson Vol 1st p. 190) & remembering to have heard my grandfather say that his father Richard Lamb was a quarter-master in the revolution & that he lived in Brunswick co Virginia, I inquired of Mr Grigsby if he did not agree with me that the Lambe spoken of by Jefferson was my ancestor, as it would be remarkable if there had been two quarter-masters with names so similar. He answers in his letter written from his plantation in Charlotte, "Edgehill" Aug 20th that "Certainly the Lambe of Randall is your ancestor. Up to the Revolution the final "e" was retained by many, and especially by the public in such words as Reade, Meade &c.* "My wife's ancestor is a Reade; the "e" having been long dropped by the family, but appearing in all the My great grand father did not spell his name with a final "e". I have in my possession an old red morocco pocket book with the following stamped on it in gilt letters: "Richard Lamb. 1769."

old records. You ought to endeavor to get the commutation of your ancestor. Maxwell got the pay of his grandfather who was a [blank] in the Navy for a short time. &c.

I wrote to Mr Grigsby that I had declined the invitation of the Phi Beta Kappa to deliver a poem on the 4th of July next at William & Mary College. He replies "Why not write the poem? We will discuss the rough outline of its argument and illustration, & the work will keep your muse in motion. Muses like women, cease to bear after a season, unless well. He also says in his letter "Do tell me whether you have a second heir or not? I am afraid that the young folks are coming in so fast you think it hardly worth while to count them" I am very busy, being engaged at the desk seven or eight hours every day; indeed so much so, that grudged the few moments necessary for refuting the monstrous errors of the "Notes and Queries."

Mr Oliver called on me tonight and brought a letter from James Pierce Master Ship Carpenter in the Gosport Navy Yard begging me to continue my efforts to get him appointed a Naval constructor. He said Pook wanted to leave for another Yard and was about to ask for an exchange & he wanted me to get Secretary Toucey to order his examination for Naval Constructor before Pook. He said his department was full & he could not possibly take Travis in. Decordy begged me to day not to get Pierce appointed, he said he was unpopular

among the men and that it would injure me. He is very anxious to see me in Congress & does not want me to do anything that will injure my popularity. He told me Herbert had passed and taken charge of his department. My dear wife & myself have spent most of this evening in drawing the plans of a house which I wish to erect next year on the lot between father's house, where we are now living, and Mr Hall's on Bute St.

Norfolk Wednesday August 24th 1859. A call appeared in the Norfolk Herald of this morning for an Opposition rally, exceedingly abusive of the Administration, & signed by J. J. Moore as President. In the same paper was the advertisement of the sale of the bark Julia Dean by the District Marshall of the U. S. with J. J. Moore as auctioneer. As this was a most profitable job given by an Administration office-holder to an abuser of that Administration, while we have honest and prompt Democratic auctioneers in our midst, at the request of some Democrats I sent the two advertisements to the Secretary of the Treasury with comments; I also sent them to Patrick Henry Aylett³⁹ of Richmond for him to show to the Democracy of that city, where we believe the U. S. Marshall resides.

Caleb Dudley Jr. called on me and told me my letter to Pierce had not got him in the Yard, that some while after he gave it to him he met him and inquired if "he had been taken in and

if he recollected his name &c", to which Pierce gruffly replied that "he did not know his name and did not want to know it." This is a quick confirmation of Decordy's opinion. I gave R. H. Stevens, hatter, a note for \$64.37¹/₂ at ninety days to pay for Pioneer accoutrements &c of the Woodis Riflemen. The company has cost me far more than I ever imagined it would. Mr Oliver called again to night to see about Pierce. In the course of his conversation he hinted that all was not right about the contracts for brick-work in the Navy Yard, & that the Civil Engineer & his assistant were interested. I shall try to ferret out the truth in the matter & if there be corruption expose it. I subscribed for \$20 for a share in Nowell's library in Lynchburg.

Norfolk Thursday Aug: 25th 1859. The City Index of to-day, had an article reflecting on the editorial concerning the Atlantic Telegraph which appeared in the Argus. It was uncalled for and I replied to it accordingly.³⁹ Through my negligence the article appeared rather imperfectly, but was not deserving of the criticism of the Index. My journal was the first in Norfolk to announce the successful laying of the cable, & one of the first in the United States. We received one despatch in ten hours from London. We stopped telegraphing for the Argus, because we found it did not pay. I took a delightful ride with my dear wife to Bowden's ferry

this afternoon. Attended drill at night, as I did not feel well I gave the command to Lieut: Hayman. A fifth sergeant was elected to fill a vacancy, many were nominated but refused to run, there appears to be no desire for office in the privates, a guarantee for the prosperity of the company. Alex: Denson was elected without opposition. There was a Botts' meeting at Ashland Hall to-night. We do not think the Opposition party of our city would unite on him as warmly as on some others.⁴⁰ I have been thinking a great deal of establishing a public library in Norfolk,⁴¹ it will be a difficult undertaking but I think we are in need of one. Ours is not a reading community but it might be made one. I feel unwell to-night & shall take medicine. Heard of the death of Mr Bowen a partner of Mr Chaffee.

Friday August 26th 1859. Norfolk. Father, mother & most of the family went on a fishing excursion to-day. Paid a note for \$50 at Exchange Bank which I had given to Salisbury for the funeral expenses of one of the Riflemen, Wheeler Minnis. I find the nomination of Botts by the Opposition has not created much stir in the city. I mean the recommendation of him for the Presidency by his party in this place. Warren Wing, a mechanic in Fleming's department called on me last night & begged me not to act against Fleming in the move being made to turn him out of his position as Master Machinist.

Herbert's appointment is very popular with the people. I find in my memorandum book of last year under the date of Aug 26th "that several persons had spoken to me about running for Congress." This year parties have spoken to me on the same subject although I avoid all mention of it myself. I understand I received some dozen votes for Congress in Portsmouth on last May election day. It is a desire of mine to enter public life and especially as a Congressman, but I am careful to keep my ambition to myself. Decordy told me that he kept Dr Francis Mallory⁴² out of the Know Nothing order, and it was thought by many that if he had become a member he would have been nominated for Governor in the place of Flournoy.⁴³ Frank Pumphrey requested me to-day to become his agent in Norfolk. I consented.

Saturday Aug: 27th 1859. Norfolk Va. The Know Nothing office holders in Norfolk have presented Mayor Ferguson with a⁴⁴ silver goblet. This farce was evidently done to hide the shame of a man who was forced upon the people by rowdyism & perjury. Father gave me \$100 to-day with which I paid a note at the Farmer's Bank. The resolutions of the Botts meeting appeared in the Herald of this morning. Took a ride with Daisy in the buggie this afternoon. Decordy brought me the good news of a triumph this evening. Fleming has at last yielded, & taken back an Irishman named McGiveny whom

he had discharged because he had brought a letter from me to keep him from being discharged, & had made it public. He has also made a requisition for Decordy's son. Cousin George Chamberlaine called on us this evening. Dear wife is quite unwell to-night. Read an amusing article in the Atlantic for September entitled "My Double & how he undid me." It is original!

Sunday Aug: 28th 1859. Norfolk Va. This morning a copy of the Elizabeth City, N. C. State was left at my door. I found in it a card from Wm H. Bagley one of its editors addressed to me. The card was marked with ink. I showed it to Leonard & had a talk over it. Leonard thinks I should not have written the editorial which brought it forth. ⁴⁵ I will copy it in my diary for to-morrow with my comments. It has been rainy since dinner. The weather is cool & just such weather as I imagine is productive of cholera. I failed last week in carrying out my plan of writing more for the Argus. I am interrupted all the morning with visitors in my sanctum notwithstanding I have put a notice up on my doors that I am invisible from 9 until 12 oclk.

N. P. Young clerk of the Isle of Wight court called on us yesterday at the Argus office. He says the total Opposition strength in his county is not over 175, & that Botts would not receive 150 votes. He is for intervention in the territories for slavery, but hopes the Democracy will not

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adopt a platform at Charleston. Dickinson of N. Y. is his choice for President. Alfred Seabury called to see Father about the new Episcopal church to be built at the corner of Freemason & Brush Streets. The plan adopted of a granite church with lecture room of same will cost \$33,000 only half has been subscribed. Father & Mr John Southgate are the only two so far who have subscribed \$1000. Drs Tunstall, Cook, & Messrs. W. H. Thompson & Alfred Seabury have each subscribed \$500. It is my intention to remain a member of Old St Paul's congregation. My great grandfather Richard Lamb, my grandfather Wm B. Lamb, & my father have attended Old St Paul's church. I am afraid the new church which is to be called Grace will not be commenced this year. Kosto our New Foundland dog which was presented to Father by Mr Simpson, was carelessly run over by the carriage as it started to leave for church yesterday. He seems much injured.

Norfolk Va. Monday August 29th 1859. I received Saturday a letter from W. W. Nowell of Lynchburg stating that he had placed my name on his subscription list for the Library. He has a very valuable library of 1,600 volumes which are mostly rare English works, which he desires to dispose of according to terms set forth in a circular. He wishes to sell to two hundred subscribers at \$20 each the library as a unit; after obtaining the names & subscription, the shareholders or subscribers will dispose of it as suits them best.

I have received a catalogue of the books from Mr Nowell. I endorsed a letter of recommendation of a young man named Brooks of Portsmouth for work, written by Dr Simkins to Jim Williams a master-workman in the Gosport Yard. Grover called on me & spoke of Bagley's card & said many of my warmest political opponents in Norfolk thought my endorsement of Foster right & proper. I have been at a loss to day to determine how to answer the very extraordinary card in the State, after writing several answers I at last adopted the one which I append with the card to this date. It will be satisfactory to all men of a proper sense of honor.

Wm Gleason a master workman in the Yard introduced me to day by letter to Mr Geo Collins, for a number of years a foreman in the painters Department who has recently been discharged & asks my assistance. I told him to call to-morrow. I am still deeply interested in Randall's Jefferson. Daisy & myself went to day to see the quarters Geo: Chamberlaine has provided for his wife over the Banking House & connected with the Atlantic Hotel by a private door. He is really⁴⁷ pleasantly situated.

Hon. Stephen A Douglas has written an article on "Popular Sovereignty" which appears in Harper's Magazine for September. It is a great political paper. I found it copied in the New York Times of Saturday, & have commenced re-publishing it in the Argus.⁴⁸ It will have a decided effect on the next

Presidential campaign. Leonidas W. Smith, an old college mate of mine called on me to-day & announced his intention to commence to write on political subjects as he found literature did not pay. He has yet to learn his A. B. C's in politics. It is a pity that our educated young men are not more encouraged in their pursuits of literature & that they all look to politics for distinction. We would philosophize on this subject but Randall tempts us from our diary to hear more of Jefferson. This card appears in the Daily Argus of August 30th.

(From the Southern Argus of Aug. 30.)

A CARD

To Wm. Lamb, Esq.

Editor "Southern Argus:"

Through the kindness of a friend I have been placed in possession of a copy of the "Southern Argus," (the editorial department of which, I believe, you control,) of the 20th instant, from which I clip the following paragraph: "Mr. C. H. Foster, the able Editor of the Murfreesboro' Citizen, in the last issue of that paper, defends himself in a dignified and forcible card from some contemptible charges of "lying, cowardice, &c.," brought against him by a Mr. Bagley of the "State," an individual who refuses to accept a challenge from Mr. Foster because he does not consider him a gentleman. Such a card from Mr. Foster would have

been superfluous in this community."

This is a meddling interference, on your part, in the personal affairs of others. I refused to place myself on a level with Foster by accepting his challenge, (which was sent by mail) because I knew him to be unprincipled, and believed him to be a coward, and because the better part of the community, in which I lived, so considered him. This was and is, satisfactory to myself--this was, and is, satisfactory to my friends. It seems not to be so to you, in that you parade my name before the public, and characterize my charges against Foster as "contemptible," and insinuate that the reasons given for declining to meet Foster were not the true ones.

Now, this card is to inform you that, notwithstanding you have espoused the cause of Foster, I still consider you above him, and, if you feel yourself aggrieved by the course which I have seen proper to pursue in the premises you have only to call upon me properly to be satisfied that I am quite as ready to award satisfaction to a gentleman, as I am to refuse to place myself on a level with a man that I know to be beneath me.

WM. H. BAGLEY.

I have received a copy of the Elizabeth City State, with the above card of Mr. W. H. Bagley, one of its editors, marked in it. The card having been marked is my only reason

for noticing it. I have no purpose of calling the writer to account; if, however, he feels aggrieved at my recent comments as a journalist on a controversy made public through the Carolina papers, the channel of redress is open to him.

WILLIAM LAMB

Norfolk Va. August 30th 1859. Those of my friends who have spoken to me on the subject say my comments on Bagley's card just the thing; except Genl Blow who says he would not have noticed it if he had been in my place.

Received a letter from Decordy asking me to write to the Secretary of the Navy in favor of retaining Fleming. Wrote a letter to James Williams, Master House Joiner for J. Grandison Baker. He is a young man who is sadly in want of work. Mr Collins called on me to day & gave me an account of how he had been treated by Mr Hobday, Master Painter. He affirms that Hobday has removed him without cause & has placed his son-in-law in his stead as Quaterman. He requests me to apply to the Secretary of the Navy for his appointment as Master Painter in Hobday's place. I have taken the matter under consideration, & am gathering all the facts in the case. Visited the premises which I have the care of for Pumphrey & engaged a man to white-wash them. Mr Fatherly who has rented them introduced himself to me to-day. Genl Blow showed me a letter from Adjutant Genl Richardson in which he complains of informality in the issuing of commissions

for the militia officers of the 54th Regiment. He desires to satisfy me that all things are not done according to his understanding of the militia law. I shall see Capt Robinson & have the whole matter explained. In his desire to secure for himself the place of Colonel he has been doing some underhanded work, which I was too indifferent to stop. Attended board at Virginia Bank, money market tight. Discounted only one piece of new paper.

Norfolk Va. Wednesday August 31st 1859. I find all my mornings taken up with visitors to my sanctum; it prevents me from writing editorials. Saml B. McKenny, an influential member of the Democratic party called on me to day & asked me as President of the party to give him a letter to Col Wiley, U. S. District Marshall requesting him to appoint McKenny his deputy to take the Census of Norfolk Co. including Portsmouth next year. Took a boxing lesson of Decordy to-night. This day last year I went fishing from Old Point with Gov Floyd ⁴⁹ & others.

Norfolk Thursday September 1st 1859. Went fishing to-day with father, brothers Robert & Wilson, & Joshua. We went below the quaranteen [sic] flag. We went ashore & took dinner on the sand, Joshua cooking the fish. I had a fine swim in the Elizabeth. We caught about twelve dozen fish. Father & myself had a trial of skill, he caught 51 & I caught

43. The next highest number 17 was caught by Rob. The wind was unfavorable for fishing. We had a delightful time. Yesterday a year ago, (Aug 31st 1858) I went fishing with a party of gentlemen from Old Point in a U. S. Surveying Schooner. Gov: Floyd, Francis B Dean Jr. ⁵⁰ & Joseph Segar ⁵¹ were in the party. I had a long talk with Gov: Floyd about our local politics & especially the disadvantages experienced by our party in having the Navy Yard under the control of luke-warm friends. He asked me to visit Washington & see the President with him, & he would do all he could to have things arranged properly. Circumstances prevented my going. We also had a general conversation concerning a member of the Board of Public Works. Gov: Floyd advocated Genl Clay ⁵² for that position, the same gentleman who has subsequently been nominated & elected. Mr Dean & Segar were opposed to him. Gov: Floyd thought the agitation of the question of Direct Trade between Virginia and Europe premature. He thought the best policy was to trade with New York for the present.

I have written to Col Wiley as requested by Mr McKenny. I felt too tired after my frolic to attend drill to-night. Cousin Geo: Chamberlaine was to have gone fishing to day but the state of the money market, & the absence of his father prevented his leaving his office.

This day two years ago I left home for Providence to get married. Brother Robert, Sister Maggie & Cousin Geo:

Chamberlaine accompanied me.

Norfolk Friday September 2d 1859. Attended board at the Virginia bank. The money affairs still continue stringent. Mr Doyle one of the directors informed me that the Secretary of the Treasury had written to inquire about Moore's being employed as auctioneer in a U. S. sale, & that Moore was greatly disturbed about it. Visited the new Opera house in Odd Fellows Hall with Drs Robinson & Simkins. It is very beautiful, & conveniently arranged. The Richmond Enquirer of this morning editorially notices our remarks accompanying Judge Douglas's essay in Harper, & agrees with us that there are but two sides to this territorial question & no compromise ground. Dickinson's chances for the Presidential nomination are brightening. The New York News & Richmond Examiner contain articles very complimentary to him. Commenced the 2d Vol of Randall to-day. Wrote to Mr Grigsby. I asked his opinion about the establishment of a quarterly review in Virginia. I have been thinking for several years that I would like to have a review under my charge. I think it would be a good idea to call it the William and Mary Review & have it issued at Williamsburg.

Norfolk Saturday September 3d 1859. We were serenaded last night by the Virginia Minstrels, a band of Ethiopian imitators from New York. Their music & singing was exquisite, & sounded

enchantingly in the still night. Dick Dudley brought them to serenade Father. I let them in & treated them to some brandy cigars &c. I commenced to-day the preparation of weekly articles on European affairs for the Argus. The Paris fetes, Louis Napoleon's growing popularity, & the union of the Italian States under Garibaldi are the most important trans-Atlantic topics. The late war in Italy did not enlist my feelings to any great extent. I could not side with Austria on account of her despotism towards Italy, and my sympathies were not with the allies because they were the stronger party, the two on one; & I did not really comprehend whether or no the allies were sincere in their ostensible desire for Italian independence. The political horizon in our country is lowering, & it is hard to understand the signs of the times. Gov: Seward⁵³ now in Europe stands a good chance of receiving the Black Republican nomination, & if he does he will make an excellent run. The hope of the National Democracy is that there will be three tickets in the field, two besides their own, in this event if the Democracy do not secure a majority of the electoral college the election will devolve upon the House and Senate & then they have it in their own hands. In my opinion the force of circumstances & not their popularity with the people will give the Democracy another victory. The war upon Douglass on the part of some democratic organs & leaders has

become very bitter, & we fear squally times at Charleston. N. Baum from whom I have been buying my clothes has failed. He gave employment to a large number of people principally widows, & his misfortunes will doubtless cause much distress. It seems as if no branch of manufacturing can succeed in our community. We cannot compete with the cheap labor of our Northern cities. I took a ride with wife & babe this afternoon. Some rogue stole the sails from neighbor Todd's yacht Etna last night. Father went fishing again to-day with Rob & others. I received a private letter from A. H. Jageneau to-day in reference to the sale of the Julia Dean. Moore says it is a sale for private benefit although in the name of the officers of the U. S. Court, & therefore not a matter in which politics should interfere; this he told Leonard.

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Sunday September 4th 1859. Norfolk. Heard Dr Okeson preach at St. Pauls from the text: Arise; let us go hence. John XIV. 31. v. He spoke particularly of the neglect of prayer, and especially in the morning. It rained off and on during to-day. Geo: Chamberlaine took tea with us. I visited Tom Colley, he complained of feeling sore all over. He told me he had read the essay of Judge Douglas in Harper & agreed with him. He said Wise was his choice for President. He is a great admirer of Jefferson, & I promised to send him Randall. Dear wife was very unwell to-night. This day two years ago

I reached Providence & found "Daisy lovelier than ever."

I put up at the City hotel with Geo: Chamberlaine.

Monday Sept 5th 1859, Norfolk. Read a circular from Hon. Thos: B. Florence⁵⁵ about the National Democratic Review, which he intends issuing in Washington the 17th of September. Received a call from Mr Crutchfield editor & proprietor of the Petersburg Express. He said I was much younger than he had thought. His paper is not surpassed in enterprise in the State. I have been thinking to-day of starting a weekly political & literary paper on the first of the year if I can get rid of the Argus. I think it would be more likely to succeed than a quarterly review or a monthly. A paper with continued stories & other interesting literary matter would certainly pay. I propose to call it the Atlantic Weekly, and to charge at first one dollar per annum. Five thousand dollars the amount I paid Leonard for half the Argus in 1856 would be capital enough to start upon. I find the drudgery of a daily paper consuming all my time & giving me little or no return.

This day two years ago I bought my wedding ring from Westminster St Providence for \$5, also paid him \$7 for engraving wedding cards.

Tuesday September 6th 1859. Norfolk. Attended board at Virginia bank. Affairs are easier. We refused to discount

a note of Bloodgood's endorsed by J. Parker Jordan of North Carolina. John James told me that the widow Wilder was not as rich as she was reputed to be & that her fortune was not more than a few thousand dollars. Three thousand at most. When Jordan married her she was thought to be worth \$20,000. Myer Myers President of our bank complained to me to-day that Marshall Parks the President of Seaboard Towing & Transportation company had failed to call the annual meeting, & asked me to call public attention to it. I went with young Dudley to day & bought for him a pair of oyster tongs from T. R. See. Rev Mr Sinding a Scandinavian called on me to-day & persuaded me to subscribe to a book he is publishing on Scandinavia. I invited him to call and see me. Joseph Foster who lives in the 2d Ward asked me to-day to try & get him in the Navy Yard. Attended meeting of the Common Council this afternoon. Voted for Ludlow's dog ordinance & for giving the Collector power to sell real estate to pay taxes. I voted & spoke in favor of an appropriation to the United Engine House. Voted for a small appropriation to the Union Engine Company. Favored the passage of a resolution appointing a committee to invite the Great Eastern ⁵⁶ to come to Norfolk. This was lost, Reynolds stating that there was not enough water in our harbor for her to come up to the City. Voted to direct the Collector to enforce the law requiring auctioneers to give bond & security. There were other resolutions concerning the building of a

market house &c for which I voted. The proceedings of our body are too hurried either for justice or economy. Captain Grover & Major Corprew spoke to me about the election of Robinson as Colonel, they are opposed to him. I must confess that he is not my choice but I would rather have him than Ferguson or Jim Moore.

Wednesday September 7th 1859. Norfolk Va. To-day is my twenty-fourth birthday. I was born about mid-day on the 7th of September 1835 on Catherine St, in the brick house now occupied by Alexander Bell Esq. which is next door to the house in which my father was born in 1803. I was in hopes that my precious wife would be delivered of her second child to-day, which little stranger has been anxiously expected for several weeks. I have been married two years to day & can truly say that the two last years of my life have been my happiest. I have been blest with health & comfort, & the most devoted wife that ever a husband had. Never once have I had reason to regret the important step I took two years ago. To the kindness of the best of parent^s I am indebted for much of my temporal welfare, to my Heavenly Father I owe a debt of gratitude which a mortal cannot repay. There was a very destructive fire on Main St before day this morning which destroyed Mechanic's Hall & several adjoining buildings. The particulars will appear in the morning papers. Father lost as a stockholder in the American Insurance Co. I believe

I have lost a handsome mirror & a marble top table which Mr Chaffee gave Sarah, & for which we had no present use. It had been deposited in J. J. Tompkins, furniture store in the Hall. Jno. R. Ludlow an Opposition member of the Council asked me to day why I did not attack Ferguson & Belote auctioneers for not complying with the law in failing to give their bond. Ferguson being Mayor & Belote a member of the Council. I shall endeavor to get him to make an attack in an anonymous communication, as it would be regarded a party matter if I wrote about it. Played a rubber of whist to night, brother Robert was my partner & Father & Mrs Simpson played against us. We beat both games. Wrote in Sister Maggie's Album two short verses.

[The following entries, for September 7, 1855, 1857, and 1858 appear in Lamb's 1859 diary. They were partly copied from earlier diaries and partly incidents that he remembered.]

September 7th 1855. I was at Schoolie's Mountain at the Forest Grove House. Father & myself took a walk in the morning & looked at a farm that was offered for sale. Price \$27 per acre. We left in the afternoon for Orange N. J. I went at night to see the stained glass rooms of Doremus. In a journal of that date I wrote "No language can describe the woe, the suffering, the terror of God stricken Norfolk." and "I never was sadder in all my life than I have been to-day."

"There is a weight on my heart, so many of my most beloved friends are gone."

Monday September 7th 1857. Was married to Sarah Annie Chaffee in Grace Church Providence Rhode Island, at 8½ o'clock, by the Rt Rev. Thos M. Clark D. D. Episcopal Bishop. My cousin Geo: Chamberlaine, & Catharine Maria Chaffee waited on us. After the ceremony we rode back to the family residence & soon after had a reception. There were present Mr & Mrs Chaffee (Mrs C did not go to the church.) Mrs Simpson, (Sarah's aunt), brother Robert, sister Maggie, & cousin George who accompanied me from Norfolk. Col (never finished)

An amusing incident occurred on my wedding day which I shall not soon forget. I fancied in the morning that I would like to wear a ruffle in my shirt bosom when being married, a foolish fancy but nevertheless one I was bent on gratifying. After searching in vain in the furnishing stores & other establishments where I thought I would be likely to find a ruffle, as a dernier resort I went to the Employment Society room in the Arcade & told them to make me a ruffle forthwith to be ready before dinner. At the appointed time I called but it was not finished, after waiting what seemed to me on that day a terribly long time, I was presented with my ruffle, but shocking to relate it was a ruffle more suitable for a grandmothers night-cap, than a bridegrooms shirt bosom. I paid the extra price & hid from human ken the ruffle & my

bitter disappointment. Nothing daunted I made another attempt to find among the stores the thing so much desired. I entered a store on Main St, a gentlemen's furnishing store, I forget whose, & asked for a ruffle. While looking over some discolored ruffles of an antique pattern with colored borders, the very thing for the bosom of an Ethiopian minstrel on the stage, the shop keeper asked me if I had heard of the great wedding to come off to-night over the bridge between a southerner & a young lady of that place. I told him I had. As that answer brief as it was, was quite sufficient to make an inquisitive Yankee ask a score of questions he was not long in finding out that his customer in search of a ruffle was immediately concerned in the great wedding to come off on the other side of the bridge. This interested him in me & he informed me that I could not find any genteel ruffle in the city, but that he had one which was very beautiful which he had worn only once though he valued it, under the circumstances he would let me have it for a consideration. Being in a desperate fix I agreed. A further obstacle arose, he told me on second thought that the ruffle was soiled & would have to be done up & that there was but one washerwoman in all Providence who could crisp a ruffle. I instantly told him to have the ruffle done up & sent to the hotel. It was now some while after five o'clock & I was to be married at eight. He suggested that Monday was a busy day with the laundress,

that she was rather unobliging & that he feared she would not undertake the job, but suggested that I should accompany him to ask the favor. I lowered my dignity & followed him through streets & alleys until we arrived at the residence of a colored woman who was the only washerwoman in all Providence who could crimp a ruffle. We made the request for which we visited her. She couldn't think of it, she had more than she could do. We tried persuasion. It was no go. We offered liberal reward. She was obdurate. Our appeals, our proffers much to my chagrin were vain. "And this from a "nigger" said I to myself & not to my companion thinking he might not appreciate my feelings. We left, as we walked despondingly away he told me to leave him, that he would make another effort with her & if successful bring the object of my desires--that is the ruffle--to the hotel. I went to my room at the hotel "a sadder but wiser" man than when I sallied forth. Evening having arrived I commenced dressing for my wedding. Thoughts of union with the one I loved best on earth absorbed my mind and my toilet was complete & the ruffle not missed, when there was a vigorous knock at my door. Come in! cried I, & my friend the "haberdasher" entered, with a delighted countenance & bearing in his hand a small bundle. With joyful satisfaction did I behold him undo the bundle, & expose to view the neatest ruffle I had ever seen, one that my most aristocratic powdered wig, & gold knee buckle ancestor would have been proud to wear. I fastened

it in my bosom was pleased with it & cheerfully paid my "friend in need" \$1.50, the consideration he asked for the ruffle, crimping, trouble & all. My friends afterwards spoke of the beauty of my ruffle & I have never regretted my search for it under difficulties. It taught me that in small things as well as great never to say fail.

Tuesday September 7th 1858. My little daughter was baptised at home to day at noon by Rev Dr Okeson. We named her Maria Kerr after Aunt Maria Kerr who is sister to both my grandmothers. Aunt was present in our front parlor when the ceremony was being held with Father, Mother, Robert, Maggie, Wilson, Mary & Charley, my dear wife & myself. Mary Jane the colored nurse held the baby & her mother stood in the hall.

September 8th 1859. Norfolk Va. We hear of a favorable treaty having been made with Mexico by Minister Mc Lean, also of the seizure of the island of San Juan Oregon by Gen Harney.⁵⁷⁵⁸ This island is disputed ground with England, & it is possible hostilities may grow out of the action of Genl Harney. I wrote a short editorial on the subject to-day. It would not surprise me if this San Juan affair were to create political capital; Bennett will perhaps try to manufacture some out of it for Genl Scott.⁵⁹ Took a ride with Daisy. The weather is quite cool. Father went fishing to-day & gave us a fish dinner. Cheselin asks for \$20 for the Congressional edition

of Jefferson's works, 9 vols, which belonged to Mr Grigsby. Wrote a reply to an article which I expected to appear in the City Index.

September 9th Friday 1859. The article in the Index was suppressed. Stephen J. Pendleton sent me word that he did not write the articles which were to appear in the Index. Had a call from Mr Nicholson editor of the Union Democrat of Halifax. He likes Gov Wise, but dislikes the course of the Enquirer & thinks it will injure him. He is friendly to Douglas. Mr C. W. Grandy introduced me to-day to D. D. Ferebee Esq. of North Carolina. He handed me a sealed letter stating that he was ignorant of its contents. It was a letter from Wm H. Bagley editor of the Elizabeth City State. I told him he should hear from me; when leaving he said he hoped the matter would be satisfactorily adjusted. Mr Nicholson was present and embarrassed our interview. In the afternoon I wrote a reply & carried it to the National Hotel & showed it to Mr Leonard. Adopting some suggestions of his I rewrote the letter, & returned home with it. Cousin Geo: Chamberlaine met me there by appointment, & I got him to carry the letter to Mr Ferebee to-night. I did not show him its contents, & told him to tell Mr F. that in the absence of my friend I had requested him to hand the note to him, ignorant of its contents, & to tell him if he had a reply to communicate it to him, when he would indicate to him my friend. I have determined if

matters become serious to get my warm friend Lieut. J. F. Milligan ⁶⁰ to act for me. I append the letter of Bagley & my reply.

(Copy)

Eliz City, N. C. Sept 2nd 1859.

Wm Lamb Esq.

Sir.--In your reply to my card in the issue of "The State" of the 27th ultimo, touching a paragraph in your paper of the 20th, in reference to myself, you say, "if however, he (myself) feels aggrieved at my recent comments as a journalist on a controversy made public through the Carolina papers, the channel of redress is open to him (me)"

This devolves upon me the necessity of stating the grounds of my complaint, which are:-- 1st-- you characterize my charges against Foster as "contemptible"-- 2d-- The whole paragraph, I think, carries with it an intimation of cowardice on my part. The word "contemptible" is (as it must be apparent to you) personally offensive to me--and the intimation of cowardice more so, if such intimation was intended by you.

I am led to believe, that, upon deliberation, you will acknowledge the paragraph as calculated to be offensive and make the amende honorable.

This will be handed to you by my friend, D. D. Perebee, Esq.,

through whom any communication may reach me. Respectfully

(signed) Wm H. Bagley

(Copy)

Norfolk Virginia, September 9th 1859.

Sir,

Your letter has just been received from the hands of Mr D. D. Ferebee. In answering your two grounds of complaint I will be frank.

To your first I reply that my knowledge of the quarrel between Mr Foster & yourself was based entirely upon the statement which appeared in the Murfreesboro Citizen of the 10th ult. Having not the slightest doubt that Mr Foster (my former townsman) was a "gentleman", I could not but regard charges against him of "lying", "cowardice", & "lewdness", unsubstantiated by proof, in response to a challenge from him, as contemptible -- no matter by whom made.

To your second I reply that the obvious interpretation of my language is that no single individual can set up a standard of respectability against the common current of opinion:-- I did not undertake to investigate your motives. Certainly, I must do you the justice to suppose that you did not construe my remarks as a charge of cowardice, when you addressed me publicly (in a singular card concerning them) through your journal. I italicised the pronoun, "he", in my editorial, to show that you differed from all with whom I was acquainted

in your estimation of the character of Mr Foster.

Yr. obt: sevt.

(signed) William Lamb

To

William H. Bagley Esq.

Daisy moved back into her old room to-day. When I asked cousin George to carry a letter to Mr Ferebee, he hesitated; he told me that I knew he would do anything in the world for me, but his great friendship for me would prevent his being able to see me on the field engaged in a duel. I then told him I would not require such a trial of his feelings, & if the matter became serious I would get another friend. He consented to hand the letter to Mr F. as I have before stated. I feel quite certain the correspondence between Bagley & myself will lead to something serious. I have but one regret and that is that it should occur when my beloved wife is in her present condition. I have no fear of the result on the field if I am called there. The Virginia bank discounted to-day a note of Beverly K. Taylor's endorsed by me for \$300.

September Saturday 10th 1859. Norfolk. I read in the Baltimore papers a full account of the Reform meeting in that city to put down rowdyism on election days. I am in hopes the action of the law & order men of Baltimore will have its effect in Norfolk. George Chamberlaine told me that he had delivered my letter to Mr Ferebee as I had

directed. He told me also, that he informed Mr F. that he expected to be absent Monday & Tuesday, & that Mr F informed him it would make no difference as he did not expect to return from Carolina (where he went to day) until Thursday. Father & most of the family went on a fish fry to-day. I called on W H C Ellis, & suggested that the lawyers opposed to re-election of Judge Baker⁶¹ next May hold a caucus & adopt some mode of ascertaining his strength & weakness in the different counties of this Judicial District. He did not see the necessity of a caucus & was of the opinion that Judge Baker would not offer for re-election on account of his age. I shall not let the matter drop. Went this afternoon & obtained permission of Purser Deeree to practice with my State rifle on his farm. I find I have got a little out of practice. Took a short walk with Daisy in the evening. B. K. Taylor called & I gave him the money I loaned for him \$295.30 cts. He is to give me a deed in trust on the lot which he purchases from his mother-law with the money. He thanked me very kindly for my aid.

September Sunday 11th 1859. Attended service at St Pauls, was late, heard Dr Okeson preach from I Thessalonians chap. V. part of 14 v. "be patient toward all men." Went home with Lizzie Lightfoot & asked Milligan to call on me at night. Went over to see Tom Colley, had great difficulty in getting the boat off. Milligan called at night, He

consented to act as my second in case Bagley should send me a challenge. I determined to choose rifles, leaving the distance to my adversary.

September Monday 12th 1859. Went with B. K. Taylor & got a release deed on Mrs Tebo's land. I got Father to write the release deed & a deed from Mrs Tebo to Taylor, thereby saving him lawyer's fees. I told Taylor I would make out the deed in [illegible] leisure. I got my local editor to publish this morning the [illegible] that the "Great Eastern resolution" was defeated in the Council. It has created a stir. I shall do all I can to make the present Opposition council unpopular. Went to Debree's this afternoon & practised rifle shooting with Dr Debree. I fired with three rifles. I find the heavy State rifle the truest. John F. Thoroughgood who has been appointed the Capt of the 2d Ward Militia called on me to-night, & asked me whether he should qualify, & whom he should vote for as Colonel. I told him to qualify & to vote for Robinson.

Tuesday September 13th 1859. Chas: Armstead a Know Nothing member of the Council having very imprudently planted oysters on our water front as well as on the water front of Bute St. I published a query in this morning's Argus asking if the corporation had rented out its oyster fund^{um}. Yesterday I pulled up the stakes with which he has marked the oysters

thrown on our private water front. Several of the officers have waited on me about the Colonel's place. There seems to be a dislike for Robinson. I do not admire the man altogether, but he is my choice over all named, & as I hold with my friends the balance of power I shall elect him. I have never been able to get him to explain understandingly what use he made of my letter to Governor Wise. Capt Grover is my choice for Lieut. Colonel, & I shall nominate him. The place has been offered me but I do not want to go in the staff. If I am elected major I may accept but I will not uniform or give up my command of the Riflemen. To day Father, Mother & Maggie left for Staunton with my sweet little sister Mary who is deaf and dumb. She is to stay at the asylum for a session to see how she likes it, & to learn after the manner of mutes. She is most interesting & we will miss her merry laugh & bright face very much. I received the following from Governor wise, this morning:

Richmond Va. Septr 10th 1859.

My dear Sir. I have informed this person that I would refer his letter to you for fuller information than I could give him.

Yrs truly

Henry A Wise.

Wm Lamb Esq.

The foregoing was written on the back of the following letter.

New York Aug: 26th 1859.

His Excellency Henry A. Wise Governor

Respected Sir,

Several years ago a Company was formed by some German citizens of Philadelphia for the purpose of effecting a settlement in the State of Virginia. A Committee was appointed which proceeded to different localities and reported in favor of Norfolk as a nucleus and outlet and for a settlement in its vicinity. It is not necessary to advert to and relate the circumstances, which rendered the report negatory and dissolved the Company but it is my opinion that time has obliterated the evil effect caused by a malignant disease to the City of Norfolk and her citizens and it (is) also my belief, that immigrants again may be induced under the proper representatives to take up their residence in that pleasant place. Our Company may be reinstated with every hope of success and it is for the purpose of giving some assurances to my friends by receiving information from a reliable source, when I take the liberty of addressing your Excellency. The confidence they would have, in any statement of yourself would be unbounded. With this view I beg your Excellency to allow an inquiry.

1. As to the present situation of the City of Norfolk its numbers of inhabitants and its capabilities to increase

either by commerce or manufactures.

2. The present prices of Real Estate in its immediate vicinity. If your Excellency should be too much engaged please have the kindness to transmit the contents of these inquiries to a gentleman who by your Excellency's recommendation may be induced to answer. With assurances of high respect.

I remain Your Excellencys

Obt. sevt.

C. A. Pulte

New York, Shakespeare

House, corner Duane & William Streets.

Barney Hayton told Leonard & myself to-day that Bagley was very fond of drinking & had a very red nose. He told us he met him in Murfreesboro. Attended a monthly meeting of the Woodis Riflemen to-night; there was a very slim meeting.

Wednesday September 14th 1859. Acknowledged the receipt of Pulte's letter to Governor Wise. Leonard gave me \$100 from the Southern Argus. Called on Henry Holland a rifleman who has been very ill. Attended at Junior's Hall the election of the staff.

As soon as I entered Capt Grover said I must accept the post of Colonel. I positively refused as I was committed to Robinson. I went for him to defeat any outsider. As soon as the meeting was called to order I was nominated by

Lieut: Moore of the Greys for Colonel. I positively declined. Capt McCourt of the 1st Ward Militia then nominated Capt Robinson for Colonel. The vote being taken viva voce, Robinson received 12 votes & 8 were cast for [blank]. Had I not peremptorily declined I would have been elected by several majority. The votes were as follows:

Capt Robinson did not vote

" Grover of Greys for Lamb 1	Capt Thoroughgood for Robinson 4 (He told me before & after election that I was his choice.)
" Lamb for Robinson 1	Lieut Nimmo of Blues-Lamb 2
" Freeman Robinson 2	Lieut Branham " Lamb
Mc Court Robinson 3	Lieut Marrow of Juniors Robinson 2d Lieut S.P. Moore of Blues Lamb
Lieut Marrow of Juniors Robinson	Lieut Wilbern of Greys "
*Lieut Hayman of Rifles Robinson	Lieut Dilworth of Rifles "
Lieut Jos. Moore of Greys Lamb	Lieut Currier Robinson
Lieut H. C. Guy Robinson	Lieut Harrison "
Lieut Smith "	Lieut Denson Lamb
Lieut Ward "	
Lieut Lassiter "	*Requested him to go for Robinson

Capt. Grover, Lamb & Freeman superintended the election.

I nominated Grover for Lieut: Colonel. He declined the nomination, but as there was no opposition & he was elected, he accepted. I was elected 1st Major & W. C. Marrow 2d Major, a small vote being polled each time for Thos: Nash, Jr. I did not anticipate a nomination, & although I was pleased

at my being able to obtain the office, I did not think it honorable under the circumstances to take it, having promised Robinson he should be Colonel. Robinson's election as I expected is very unpopular with the Blues & Greys. I am satisfied in having kept Major Ferguson out of it.

The Argus has stirred the people up on the "Great Eastern question", & the Merchants & Mechanic's Exchange have moved in the matter & have called upon the Councils to act. *All present voted for me as 1st Major except Lieuts Nimmo, Branham, [illegible] of the Blues, Lieut Moore of the Greys & Lieut Guy of the Militia.

Thursday September 15th 1859. My dear wife awoke me this morning at 4 o'clk. She told me her pains had come on. I roused the house & sent Joshua for Doctor Tunstall & Aunt Rachel the colored nurse. After breakfast I stayed with Daisy until Doctor Tunstall's third visit when I went down stairs and read Judge Douglas' speech at Cincinnati. It was published in the N. Y. Times a copy of which I received this morning directed to "Hon Wm Lamb Jr" ? After finishing it I got very restless, & wrote an editorial in answer to the Herald's defence of the Council in regard to the Great Eastern.⁶² I then took up "St John, Gentleman" to read & after crawling through some few chapters, Aunt Annie interrupted me with the joyful intelligence that my wife had

been delivered of a fine boy. After some while I went in the room and saw my precious wife with her little infant lying by her side. It was a sweet sight. Richard was born at ten minutes to one oclock. I wrote a letter to Mrs Chaffee communicating the glad tidings. I telegraphed to her in Providence R. I. "Sarah has just had a fine boy. Both are well." and to dear Parents in Staunton Va. "Richard has just arrived. Sarah, babe, & all are well."

Wilson was absent fishing to-day, Rob was down town. Carried some "tapacca" to Holland this afternoon. Bought a chamber-lamp at W. D. Roberts & Co for the baby. Council met this afternoon, did not go. Kosto our New Foundland has recovered from his hurt.

Friday September 16th 1859. Dear wife is as well as could be expected. Leonard had two allusions to the baby in the local column of the Argus this morning. Signed the certificate of the election of Robinson & Grover. Francis B. Dixon kindly gave me some important statistical information concerning the trade of Norfolk to communicate to Pulte. Recd a letter from A. D. Banks editor of the Cincinnati Enquirer, requesting me to publish the speech of Senator Douglas at that place.⁶³ The Farmers Bank discounted a note of Dilworth's endorsed by me for \$200. yesterday. It is to meet notes given for the debt of the Rifle Company.

The weather is cool rainy & disagreeable.

The Councils last evening invited the Great Eastern to our port. They also declared Hendren elected City Attorney. This is a fraud and I shall expose it. Fleming, Master Machinist at the Gosport Yard wrote me a letter to-day. He says the Know Nothings are encompassing him, & begs that I will ask for the removal of Capt Henderson from the Yard. Collins called on me to-day & I gave him a letter to Secretary Toucey, requesting that he be restored as Quarterman in the Painters Department. Mayor Grice⁶⁴ called on me to-day & asked me to write a letter to Secretary Toucey requesting the transfer of his Uncle Mr Grice Naval Constructor now at Kittery Maine to the Gosport Yard. Attended the board at Virginia Bank to-day. Money very tight. We are now having the equinoxtial gale. Wind chiefly from the west.

Saturday September 17th 1859. The Norfolk Herald had the following in its local column this morning. "We congratulate the Junior Editor of the Argus on his promotion to the rank of Major of the Old 54th and the enlistment of a young recruit." Procured from the Register's Office a copy of the report in the Hendren case, & the opinion of Judge Baker in the case of Coke. Worked to-night on statistics for the reply to Pulte's letter. Read a very able article on the progress of English Agriculture in the London Quarterly No 204. Received a very sweet letter by Mrs Hall from

mother who is in Stanton congratulating me on the birth of Richard. They received the dispatch about 5 o'clock the afternoon it was sent. Gov: Floyd arrived and stopped at the Atlantic. I addressed the following letter to the Clerk of the Court in each county in this Congressional District:

_____ Dear Sir:-- Please send immediately a statement of the last real estate sales in your county. What is the average price of land? Your principal crops? Is hay raised? or can it be in your opinion? By answering you will greatly oblige. Yours truly.

Sunday September 18th 1859. Attended St Pauls, Heard Dr Okeson preach from 1. Kings XX Ch & part of the 40th verse. "And as thy servant was busy here and there, he was gone." A very fine but rather peculiar sermon.

After service called at the Atlantic to see Gov: Floyd, but he had left for Old Point. While there Mr Patton Civil Engineer of Dismal Swamp Canal asked me about my quarrel with Bagley. I gave him very evasive answers. He said he canvassed for three weeks for Mr Smith against Dr Shaw for Congress. He informed me that the quarrel between Bagley & myself was to be renewed. I suppose from this I am to receive a challenge this week. Mary Jane, little Ria's colored nurse was bapltised this afternoon. I ought to be the happiest individual in the world with my sweet wife & little ones. Milligan called to-night inquiring after Bagley.

Wrote to Secretary of the Navy asking the transfer of Naval Constructor Grice from Kittery to Gosport. Made a proposition to G. G. Evans, bookseller Phila: to give advertising in return for W. H. Prescott's works which I desire to present to William and Mary College.

Monday September 19th 1859. Received a letter from Mrs Chaffee who was delighted at the news of the arrival of my boy. She received the dispatch the afternoon it was sent. George Chamberlaine handed me the following note which Mr Ferebee had handed him. He said that Mr F would be pleased to have an interview with me, but this I declined.

(Copy)

Eliz: City, N C Sept 13th 1859

Sir

Your letter in reply to mine was received yesterday from the hands of D. D. Ferebee Esq.

It is not satisfactory. Either a retraction of the offensive portion of your editorial in reference to me, or a disclaimer of any intention to be personally offensive, is due from you to me.

This will be handed to you by my friend, D. D. Ferebee, Esq. who is still authorized to act for me in any amicable arrangement of the differences between us.

Respectfully

(signed) Wm H. Bagley

To

William Lamb Esq.

(Copy)

Norfolk Virginia September 19th 1859.

Sir,

I have just received your note of the 13th inst, in which you reply to mine that:

"It is not satisfactory. Either a retraction of the offensive portion of your editorial in reference to me, or a disclaimer of any intention to be personally offensive, is due from you to me."

I have only to inform you that under the relations existing between us, I am constrained to decline acceding to your demand.

Yr obt Servt

William Lamb

To

Wm H. Bagley Esq

Elizabeth City N. C.

Saw Lieut Milligan & showed him Bagley's letter and told him he must stop in Norfolk and hand my reply to Mr Ferebee. Saw Leonard & he told me Milligan need not wait. Sent word to M; he called afterwards & told me Capt Evans had refused him leave of absence from the cutter until evening, as she had only two Lieutenants on board & she had been placed under

Gov: Floyd's service by the Collector. He said he was writing his resignation when my letter came. After consulting with Leonard I sent the foregoing letter to Mr Ferebee for Bagley, by cousin George Chamberlaine. Went over to Tom Colley's in the afternoon to practice with my rifle but it was too foul & would not fire. Decordy called to see me and I had a long chat with him to night, planning for Father's election next June &c. ⁶⁵ Worked very late on statistics for the Pulte letter. Took up a company note at Farmer's Bank for \$125. Gave letters to Hodges, Enes, & Cashin, to get them employment in the Navy Yard & at the Hospital.

Tuesday September 20th 1859. Carried my rifle to Spratley's to have put in order. Went to the Petersburg cars to meet dear parents but they did not arrive. Decordy told me to day that Herbert & himself were doing all in their power to put me on the track for Congress. James Fleming called to see me this morning, & begged me to try and get Capt Henderson from the Navy Yard. He said all the engines, even those he built, were taken from his supervision. He said if I would oblige him he would never forget it. The card of Ellis reviewing the action of the Council in the Hendren-Ellis case, & the opinion of Judge Baker appeared in the Argus this morning. Ellis prepared the card at my request.

Recd a letter from Prof: Joynes requesting me to give old William and Mary a favorable notice.⁶⁶ I have an editorial on the subject to-morrow. Capt Young visited me and gave me some information concerning a line of steamers to run between Seaford and Norfolk. Went to Tom Colley's and practised with a State rifle at fifty yards. Dear parents & sister Maggie arrived unexpectedly to night from Richmond in the steamer Yorktown. They left little Mary contented.

Wednesday September 21st 1859. It has been a disagreeable day, rain & wind. Received an answer from Peter B. Prentis, Clerk of Court Nansemond. Last real estate sale 494 acres of Nansemond river land at \$11,000. Average price of land in Nansemond \$5. per acre. Principal crops, corn, peas, (cornfield) & oats. A quantity of sweet & Irish potatoes sold, besides a large quantity consumed at home. Hay is not raised. "I am decidedly of opinion that hay could be raised to much advantage. The only individual whom I at this moment recollect having made a quantity of hay for sale is David Jordan Esq--lately of Magnolia Springs. He had some years since all the appliances for pressing, baling &c. & I recollect that my father was in the habit of purchasing from him, preferring it to the Northern article."

Mr J. M. Forrest showed me a new kind of window sash fastener which he has invented, & he is desirous to give me a share

in it if I will get him a patent. It is noticed in to-day's local column. I wrote to-day to Mr Chaffee concerning it. Genl Millson⁶⁷ called at the office to day. He complains of the impolicy of our merchants in desiring an appropriation from Congress to deepen our harbor. He says he opposed an appropriation in Congress to remove Harrison's bar in James river which is in his District, because he was opposed to the principle of Internal Improvement, & objected to the deepening of the James to make trade from our harbor. All our merchants should do is to request the Secretary of the Navy to open the channel to the Navy Yard for the largest U. S. ships & then merchantsmen would always have free access. This is the true position.

Thursday September 22d 1859. Capt Philips called at my sanctum to-day and informed me that Mr Fowle who rented Father's house on Catharine St was at the North and had sent an order to have his furniture sold. I sent up word to Father, but he delayed sending to the house thinking brother Robert would call, and the furniture was all gone when the Sheriff went to attach it. This man Fowle bought the house but never paid a cent on it. He started here as agent for Norris Montgomery & Co and afterwards was of the firm of Fowle and Hewitt. Both houses were bogus concerns. I wrote an article to-day stating that I preferred Gov Wise's territorial doctrines, but would zealously support

Douglas if nominated by the National Convention. ⁶⁸ Mr
 Martin at the Custom House furnished me with the foreign
 exports, imports &c of this port for the last fiscal year.
 Capt Darius Hill sent me a present of some Sorer to day.
 Attended drill of the Riflemen.

Friday September 23d 1859. Attended board at Virginia Bank.
 Nothing was done, money market very tight. Let Decordy
 \$98.43 cts until he could get a note discounted. Spratt,
 a member of my company and clerk at the Herald office told
 me last night after drill that he heard Bisbie, the delegate
 elect & the man whom I have abused so much, declare that I
 was right in my editorial comments on the Bagley & Foster
 difficulty, and hoped if I had a duel with Bagley that I
 would shoot him. This is the strangest thing I have heard
 lately. Called to see Mahone ⁶⁹ and had a talk about the
 immediate organization of the North and South Railroad.
 He is in for it. Lassiter requested me to speak to Mahone
 about the mail agents on the Norfolk and Petersburg R. R.
 Dameron the present one is continually sick and a youth
 is at present his substitute. Mahone wants Lassiter to get
 Dameron's place, and will so advise the Department.
 Gave Josiah T. Pinner formerly of Suffolk a letter to
 Secretary Toucey recommending him for a Carpenter's place
 in the Navy. Went to Tom Colley's and practised with my
 rifle. Received the following answer from John D. Mathews

Clerk of the Court of Prince George: "Price of land in this county depends very much on the locality of the land as regards the price of it, sales are made from \$3 to \$30 per acre. Our principal crops are Wheat, Corn, Tobacco &c. Our farmers pay very little attention to the growing of grass, but our lands would produce fine hay, I would suppose.

Saturday September 24th 1859. Recd a polite answer from Mr Roane Master Laborer in the Navy Yard to the application for John Enes. He says the Commodore forbids his taking in any more men until an increase of work. Called on Mr Mahone again about the North and South Railroad. We determined to organize at once, and after getting the road under our control to apply for a subscription from the State. We want also charters for roads to form a direct line to New York. The former editor of the Troy Budget called on me to day. He says the New York delegation are for Douglas. He thinks no Southern man can carry a Northern State.

Sunday September 25th 1859. Heard Mr Okeson deliver a short lecture at St Pauls. It was communion sunday. Rode out on the Princess Anne Road to see Holland; found him much better. Peggio, our dining-room girl, had a boy born to-day. It was dead. It is Joshua's child. Dear wife and babe are coming on finely. Daisy sat up for the first time to-day. Decordy brought me some plans of houses which Herbert had drawn for parties, also an outside view and the

ground plan of my house. Wrote a letter to Secretary Toucy requesting him to supplant Capt Henderson now at the head of the Ordnance Department in the Gosport Navy Yard with another officer, and to restore to the supervision of James Fleming the Master Machinist the Yard engines which have been taken from his control and given to Naval Engineer Williamson.

Monday September 26th 1859. Left for Old Point early this morning in the Steamer J. E. Coffee. I carried Decordy with me, paying his expenses. Arrived at Old Point and visited Fortress Monroe, & witnessed morning parade. The band of musicians is one of the finest I ever heard. Called on Hon. Jno. B. Floyd, Secretary of War, who is staying at the Hygeia. Saw Dr Floyd (his brother), the Gov's estimable lady and himself. Mrs. Floyd was knitting a pair of blue yarn socks. We had a long conversation about different matters,--the prospects of Norfolk,--direct trade,--the State banks &c. The Secretary thought the movements for direct trade premature, thought we ought to increase the facilities of trade with New York and other Northern ports.⁷⁰ He said the banks were mere broker shops, and that they discriminated in favor of the North, by grasping at all Northern drafts, while refusing to discount paper for home business. Our conversation being interrupted by Dr Banks a visitor, we left the Secretary & I informed him that I

desired during the day to talk to him about politics in our Navy Yard, he told me to call & see him again. After witnessing the trial of Ordnance at the fort for some time Decordy & myself paid the Secretary another visit, this time finding him alone. I told him the state of affairs in Norfolk and Portsmouth. How the defamers of the Administration were the recipients of Government patronage &c, cited the case of Henderson & the removal of the Yard engines from the supervision of Fleming &c. I read him the letter I had written to Secretary Toucey. He said I was right, & that he would assist me in getting things straight, & that if the Secretary of the Navy would not act that he would appeal to President Buchanan. He then commenced a political discourse, making an eloquent defense of the Administration & of the Democratic party. He defended the foreign and domestic policy of Mr Buchanan, & berated the Richmond Enquirer & those professedly Democratic papers which were abusing the Administration. He said the objectionable specific duty doctrines of the President were individual opinions of Mr Buchanan,--that they had never been made a test, & that if they had his cabinet would have long ago been dissolved. He favored the nomination of Gen Joseph Lane of Oregon for the Presidency, said he was a sound practical Statesman, that he was of & from the people,

& raised himself by his own merits from a foot soldier to a Major General. I remarked that he was uneducated. He admitted it & said it was to be regretted but that he thought & acted correctly if he could not speak & write correctly. He spoke of Genl Jackson as deficient in education. Upon this question I could not agree with him. He spoke warmly of the wisdom & patriotism of National Democratic Convention said that the popular element ruled the political, or in other words the representatives of the people governed the representatives of the politicians. He thought there was no chance for either Douglas, Wise or Hunter obtaining the nomination. His conversation was interesting & entertaining, but we had to leave for Norfolk & we did so with regret. The Secretary is no friend of Genl Millson. He told Decordy he was in hopes I would have been run for Congress last May. I thanked him and told him I was not then old enough. He said if elected I could have given Randolph's answer &c. Decordy was delighted with Gov: Floyd. We were left by the Steamer Coffee. I returned & dined at the Hygeia & took the Seabird for Norfolk, where I arrived late in the afternoon. I received to day the following letters: Mr J. J. Burroughs clerk of the Court for Princess Anne county, written Sept 21st: "A tract of about 500 acres brought about \$10 per acre, & at August Court a

tract of wood land containing 300 acres (designed I am sure to be cleared for corn) brought \$4600, and by the Commissioners book of the county, the average price per acre is \$10 including swamps, marshes & sand banks.-- many tracts would bring \$25 or \$30 per acre."

"Our principal crops are corn & oats, peas & potatoes (sweet & Irish). Wheat is also raised to considerable extent, in some parts of our county. Hay is raised to a very limited extent, but with proper attention may be raised as abundantly, as in any part of Eastern Virginia, I mean clover hay. I think I cut once at least 3000 lbs per acre, perhaps more. Most of our soil is well adapted to its growth and white clover is indigenous & grows on most of our good land without having been sown. Sprinkle a few ashes in the woods and white clover springs up immediately. I think our lands need lime especially for wheat crops. Our farmers are clearing and draining the swamp or low lands and the health of our citizens has been greatly improved since I first came into the County in 1819, & I am sure the crops of corn have increased more than double in that time--principally owing to the great improvements in agriculture & the almost entire destruction of the timber of all sorts, which has driven the people to rely on the productions of the soil which other than their timber for

aliving. We shall also be materially benefitted by the Albemarle & Chesapeake Canal." (He must mean the Kempsville Canal.) Some attention is being given to the raising of choice fruit, particularly peaches, for which the land seems well adapted."

Wm P. Underwood Clerk of the Court for Surry County writes:

Sept 23d: "The last sale of land of which I am informed was a small tract of about 304 acres, situated on James river near Carter's wharf, about four miles distant from this place about one half of which is so broken and surrounded by marsh as to be almost useless and with but little timber, the improvements valued at last assessment at only \$500 was sold for \$5000 cash, being near \$17 per acre, this however I do not consider a fair average value of the lands in the County. I should say the average value of the lands would be about \$10 per acre. Our principal crops are corn, wheat, oats & potatoes. Tobacco is again beginning to be cultivated--a larger crop of which having been planted the past season on the Hog Island estate, is said to be very promising. Many of the lands in the County are heavily timbered, principally with pine wood, suitable for cord wood, & in many locations very contiguous to creeks and other landings--this wood as you are well aware is in constant request for the Northern markets at good price. The whole face of the country abounds with marl of the best quality and

generally convenient. I have no doubt that hay can be raised successfully on most of our lands, this would be manifest to the most ordinary observer at this time from its spontaneous growth on the lands in this immediate neighborhood, the lands in this county need but to be examined to be appreciated." The Hotel & farm &c attached at the C. H. are for sale. Other tracts of land can now be bought at fair prices ranging from \$5 to \$25 per acre."

Warren W. Wing who nominated Father for Mayor in the last Municipal Democratic Convention, has promised Decordy to meet at his house occasionally to concert plans for Father's election next year. The wards must be thoroughly canvassed several months before the next June election, & every doubtful voter looked after. I want only two active, influential and determined men in order to secure the election for Mayor and Councilmen next June. The first most important step is to destroy all Know Nothing or Opposition influence in the Navy Yard. Dear wife & babe are coming on finely.

Tuesday September 27th 1859. Lent J. M. Forrest a poor inventor \$30 to enable him to secure a patent for his window catch &c. Called an "Inspection of arms" for to-night, but the Orderly failed to give notice and few attended. I have asked the members to rule the bronze off their rifles, as it had come off of a large number.

Tried to get a Steamer to take Gov: Floyd to Cobb's Island, to-morrow, but failed. I wrote to him that I would have a steamer Thursday. A. B. Cook has promised to get up a party to carry the Governor. Robinson promised to appoint my first Lieutenant Hayman the Adjutant of the Regiment. I advised him to appoint Dr Galt, the surgeon. Father & nearly all the family went on a fishing frolic to-day. Recd a letter from Mr Chaffee stating that he saw nothing new in Forrest's patent &c. But I had promised F. the money & consequently felt it to be my duty to give it to him.

Wednesday Sept 28th 1859. Saw Cook & we determined to postpone the trip to Cobb's Island until Saturday. Wrote Gov Floyd to that effect. Recd the following answer from N. P. Young Esq Clerk of the Court of Isle of Wight.

Sept 24th. A tract of land of 230 acres on N & P Railroad sold for \$1505, A tract of 370 acres lying 5 miles from said R. R. for \$1,974--A tract of land 258 acres for \$3,085 on James river. A tract of 141 acres for \$150 very poor and lying very remote from railroad or water course. A tract of 100 acres for \$250 lying & in condition of last. A tract of 100 acres for \$900 in a few miles of a creek. The above lands are distributed through the county, and are something near an average. The true average as appears from the last assess book is \$7.27 per acre. Total number

of acres in the county 188,062. Total value of land excluding town lots \$1,266,271.99--No of town lots 72. Value of lots \$87,780.--" "Our principal crops, are, corn, wheat, potatoes, brandy, peas & oats. No hay is raised as a sale crop, and from my experience and observation I do not think it can be on a large majority of our lands. We have some lands lying upon our creeks & rivers upon which hay might be grown, but I doubt whether it could be done even on those lands to advantage."

Thursday September 29th 1859. Dr Simkins told me this morning that Gov: Floyd had to return to Washington & could not go to Cobb's on Saturday. Carried little Ria to have her daguerreotype taken but she was so restless that it could not be done. Dr McKenny plugged my right tooth with a new white preparation which has restored its color. Tom: Colley was well enough to come to town today; he called at my office. Geo: W. Steed, the commissioner of the Revenue furnished me with some statistics to day. Attended drill and inspection of arms to-night. There were about twenty four present.

Friday September 30th 1859. Wrote a letter recommending Thomas Finley for the place of Engineer on board the Steamer Raindeer of the Norfolk and Carrituck Steamboat Company. Wrote a letter to Wm F. Pumphrey Williamsburg

about his affairs. Deposited Decordy's check at Virginia bank paying the money I advanced him on his note endorsed by Father. To day just before dinner a gentleman called and handed me his card, with Jno. W. Poole on it. He handed me the following:

Eliz: City, N. C. Sept. 29th 1859.

Sir.

Your refusal to retract the exceptional part of your article in the "Argus", under date of the 20th ult., or to disclaim the intention of being personally offensive therein, leaves me no other alternative than to demand at your hands the satisfaction one gentleman has a right to expect from another.

My friend, Mr. Jno: W. Poole, by whom this will be handed you, has full authority to act for me in making the necessary arrangements, &c.

Respectfully,

(signed)

Wm. H. Bagley

Wm. Lamb, Esq.

Norfolk Va.

After reading it I asked Mr. Poole where he was stopping, he told me at the Atlantic Hotel. He asked me to be prompt as he desired to return to Elizabeth City in the morning on business. I had a strong inclination to tell him that after Mr Bagley's delay he should not request me to be

prompt, however I merely told him it would depend on my seeing my friend. I then bid him good morning and he left. After dinner I went on board the revenue cutter Duane and saw Milligan who was on duty. He told me to get Lieut: Usher to relieve him for a short while. I went ashore called at the "Exchange," but Lieut: Usher was out. I then visited Leonard and after a confab decided upon this answer:

Norfolk Virginia, Sept. 30th 1859.

Sir, Your note of yesterday is received. Under the laws of our State I cannot accept your challenge without perjury while holding my commission in the Virginia Line. I will therefore resign the commission as soon as practicable, and will duly notify you. This will be delivered by my friend Lieut. James F. Milligan, who has consented to be the bearer.

Your Ob't Serv't

William Lamb

To Wm. H. Bagley Esq Elizabeth City N. C.

After writing this I found Lieut: Usher & got him to relieve Lieut: Milligan, who came ashore and after reading it, carried it to Mr Poole at the Atlantic hotel. He said Poole tried to pump him about the weapons &c but he would not satisfy him, informing him that his authority ceased with the delivery of my note. Leonard told me that when Poole called at the Argus office he inquired for me, & as

he suspected he was the bearer of a message he told him I was at dinner & that I would be down town at five o'clock.

He was not satisfied however & sought me out.

As I was coming down town I saw Poole and Patton (who once spoke to me of this quarrel) in close confab in the Merchants & Mechanics Exchange. Poole's manner worried me and Leonard agreed with me that it was a little too cool. The challenge has not destroyed my appetite, I have been expecting all along until the two last days, yet I was not surprised or disconcerted by its arrival.

Saturday October 1st 1859. Norfolk. After consultation with Leonard I wrote the following. (Copy from memory.)

Governor Henry A. Wise

Dear Sir,

I hereby resign my commission as Captain of Riflemen in the 54th Regiment of the 9th Brigade & 4th Division of the Virginia Militia. I would send the commission but it is mislaid.

Very Respectfully,

(signed) William Lamb

Leonard read it & was about sending it to the Post Office by Mike when Milligan came in, & he gave it to him.

Went down to Pomphret with mother & Charly & met Father & the rest who had gone fishing: we had a fine fish & crab dinner at Denby's. I read a speech of Hon James Chesnut Jr

delivered at Camden S. C. Sept 28th. It is a most able production & worthy a South Carolina Senator. Recd an Abington Democrat which contained a duelling code by ex Gov [blank] of S. C. written in 1838.⁷³ It is rather antiquated but was of interest. Milligan called at night. We had a long chat. He does not think Bagley will agree to rifles. I will not concede the choice of weapons to him. Col: Robinson called on me this morning & asked me to carry my company to Yorktown. A. B. Cook called & said Gov Floyd would go with us to Back river Monday. I authorized Cook to get a steamer &c. Milligan is afraid the cutter will sail Thursday & interrupt our plans. I shall devise some plan to keep her until the morning after.

Sunday October 2d 1859. Recd a couple of letters from J. M. Forrest who is still in Washington about his patent. Recd a letter from President Ewell of Wm & Mary,⁷⁴ enclosing a letter to him from Prof: Wm. B. Rogers⁷⁵ about the new philosophical apparatus which he has procured for the college. I sincerely trust old William and Mary will now take a fresh start & gain a leading position. Attended morning service at St Pauls and heard the Rev: Dr Talbot of Indiana. He preached from: 1st Timothy 1st chap 15 verse. "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners;" It was a plain practical sermon.

Called on Leonard as I expected to leave early to-morrow. Had a talk with him & he gave me some papers he had prepared as guides for me. On my way home Kayton told me my friend Bagley was at the Atlantic & that he had spoken to him. I cannot account for this visit. (I have since found out that K. Was mistaken.) Called after dinner on Cook. On our way to see about a steam-tug he received a letter from Gov: Floyd stating that he was going fishing in a pilot boat on Tuesday, & not to get a steamer. This was a relief to me.

Monday October 3d 1859. Norfolk. Saw Milligan after consultation with Leonard, we determined to send off an acceptance this afternoon. I wrote the following.

(Copy)

Norfolk Virginia Monday afternoon Octo: 3d 1859.

Sir,

My resignation of office is now in the hands of the proper recipient, and I am free to accept your challenge. My friend Lieut: J. F. Milligan is authorized to make the needful arrangements on my part.

Yr. obt. Servt.

(signed) William Lamb

To

Wm H. Bagley Esq.

Elizabeth City N. C.

Milligan enclosed the foregoing to Jno. W. Poole Elizabeth City N. C. with the following

Norfolk 3d October 1859.

Dear Sir

On behalf of my principal Major Wm Lamb, I enclose you (according to our agreement) his acceptance of Mr. Bagley's challenge and request that you and your principal will be in Norfolk or Portsmouth on Thursday the 6th inst., or sooner if convenient, where I will co-operate with you in making arrangement for the proposed meeting.

I would respectfully suggest that in order to avoid notice you and your principal take lodgings at the Ocean House in Portsmouth under assumed names. I can be found on board my vessel, or at my residence near west end of Main Street, Norfolk Va; or a note addressed to me and left at the Southern Argus office, will reach me.

Yours most Respectfully

(signed) Jas. F. Milligan

John W. Poole Esq.

Elizabeth City

N. C.

Milligan and Leonard are naturally as my friends very desirous of having this difficulty adjusted; but it is now too late; had Bagley addressed me privately at first & not publicly through his paper, I might have given him a

satisfactory answer, but as a man of honor I could not have pursued a different course from the one I have taken. Mrs. Minnis the widow of one of my Riflemen called on me this morning and requested me to try to get her a sewing machine. I have started a subscription. Left my two rifles with Spratley to have them put in order. Bought from Garrison & Maign a box of superior chewing tobacco for Uncle Edward Simpson. Aunt Annie was much pleased with the present for her husband.

Milligan & myself went over to Tom Colley's to practice with rifles. Called on Bettie Chamberlaine to-day. Mrs. Maign on behalf of some of the ladies of St: Pauls requested me to have some printing done for the fair. I promised to comply with the request.

Tuesday October 4th 1859. Mrs Simpson left for New York this noon in the Steamer Yorktown. I met Wm. F. Ritchie⁷⁶ on the Yorktown to day, in our conversation he alluded to the first volume of Wm C. Rives' Life of Madison.⁷⁷ He remarked that Mr Rives had called the attention of Tyler of the Enquirer to the fact, that when in 183 [blank] he left the Democratic party, Old father Ritchie⁷⁸ of the Enquirer advised him to withdraw from public life to the shades of [blank] and write the life of Madison. Recd to day a commission of Major from Governor Wise. I cannot qualify having disqualified myself by accepting a challenge. Borrowed a rifle from

Veith, a member of my company & practised with it at Colley's this afternoon. Herbert brought me to day a beautiful plan for a house, after the design drawn by my dear wife and myself.

Attended meeting of the Common Council to night. I offered a resolution to reduce the tax on Express companies from \$300 to \$100. It was carried. I was embarrassed how to act in regard to the accounts of the Collector. I however kept silent as his accounts were endorsed by the Finance Committee. I think there is culpable negligence in collections if nothing more.

Recd a letter from my good friend Dr. Totten of William and Mary, he tells me his family will not return to Virginia and that he intends to resign as Professor.

Wednesday Octo: 5th 1859. Attended meeting of the Seaboard Transportation Company. It is in a blue way. There has been great mismanagement. Milligan got in a quarrel to day with Geo: Loyall Jr. It disturbed me as I feared it might create some disturbance which would prevent his acting as my friend. Brother Robert told me yesterday that it was rumored that Poole was Bagley's friend & had come in to make a demand on me. I fear the thing is known. Went with Milligan to Colley's & practised with rifle. Fired by the word & shot well. James Williams a man who recently threatened Decordy's life was stabbed by

Francis Collins last evening, & died to-day.

Thursday October 6th 1859. Received the following letter from Edmund Waddill Clerk of Charles City County. "A tract of one hundred and sixty acres of land on James river in this county without buildings of any [illegible] has been recently sold for \$50 per acre. A tract of 50 acres on the Chickahominy sold at auction for \$18 per acre. Another tract of 600 acres has been sold at private sale for \$10.50 per acre. The average price of land is about \$10 per acre. The principal crops raised are wheat corn and oats, some farmers are raising tobacco, and I hear of one gentleman on the Chickahominy Mr. I. W. Bradley who has quite a large and very fine crop. Hay is not raised but I have no doubt it can be and made a source of great profit, as we have considerable bottom or low land which might easily be brought into cultivation.

I expect Bagley & his friend this afternoon. I have prepared the following terms which Lieut: Milligan will give to Poole. I desire to fight to-morrow morning & feel prepared for the emergency.

Time of Meeting. Between 10 and 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clk. A. M. October. _____

Place of Meeting. Colley's field on Fort Norfolk road.

Terms of Meeting. Each principal may be attended by his second and another friend & by a surgeon.

The weapons to be rifles such as the Woodis Riflemen use.

The distance to be fifty yards.

The choice of position shall be determined by lot. The second of the party losing the choice of position shall have the privilege of giving the word.

The weapons to be loaded by the seconds in the presence of the parties.

The principals to be placed in position, at first without weapons, and the word to be recited precisely as intended to be given.

The principals are then to receive the weapons from their seconds & hold them at an "order" until the query "are you ready" when they shall come to a "ready" (the muzzles toward the zenith) until the word "fire."

The word is then to be distinctly given as follows:

"Are you ready?" When both principals have come to a "ready" and replied in the affirmative, the second giving the word shall then call out. "Fire--one--two--three--stop." Neither principal shall aim before the word, "Fire" or fire after the word "Stop."

Cooke went down to Old Point with the steam-tug Star to take Floyd fishing. I am to bear half the expenses, but for this Bagley quarrel I could have gone. Before three o'clock Lieut Milligan came to the Argus office with the following extraordinary letter from Mr Poole

(Taken from the Argus. I could not get the letter to copy

at that time.)

Elizabeth City, Oct. 4th, 1859.

DEAR SIR:--Yours of the 3d inst., is at hand containing Major Wm. Lamb's acceptance of a challenge from my principal Mr. Wm. H. Bagley; also a request that I bring him to Norfolk to co-operate with you in making arrangements for the proposed meeting. In answer to this proposition I will say that I shall not consent for my principal to move in this matter until he leaves this place for the one of meeting, with a full understanding as to the terms which shall govern the combat.

Your proposition for avoiding notice by coming to Norfolk under assumed names, I also reject, for two reasons: first, my acquaintance with my principal's high sense of honor, and my own idea of truth and integrity will prevent us from adopting it.

Secondly, Mr. Bagley is too well known in Norfolk and Portsmouth to adopt means that would of all others insure detection.

If, however, the preliminaries cannot be arranged by correspondence, I will meet you at any time or place you may designate.

Yours Most Respectfully

JNO. W. POOLE

To Lieut. Jas. F. Milligan

Norfolk, Va.

I could not have been more surprised than when I read this contemptible letter. I was at a loss to know exactly how to act. As Milligan had to leave soon I thought that I would get him to visit Elizabeth City & expedite matters. I persuaded Mr Leonard to meet Milligan & myself for consultation in my sanctum, when after deliberation I determined to get Milligan to go to Elizabeth City to morrow, and give Mr Poole my terms and inform him that as his (Milligan's) leave of absence expired Monday, & the cutter would probably sail, he must come right now with his principal, & we would fight Saturday afternoon or as soon thereafter as possible. To tell him I conceded him no right to alter terms but that all modifications should be made after he arrived. That I was tired of waiting, & that he must withdraw his challenge or fight forthwith. I wrote a letter to Lieut: Usher requesting him to relieve Lieut: Milligan. He kindly consented. I gave Milligan \$20. Attended drill of the Woodis Riflemen at the new place Junior's Hall. There was so small an attendance that I did not form the company. Lieut: Dilworth overtook me going to the drill. He had heard the rumor that Poole had called on me for Bagley, & he said my friends were watching me and would have had me arrested if I had left town. I disabused his mind of all impressions concerning a duel, & told him how unjust

it would be in my friends to have me arrested if I were going on the field as I would be accused of having made an arrangement with them. Wrote some on the Pulte letter which I have neglected to finish. The only change in terms was the time was set at between 4 and 5 o'clock P. M. October 8th.

Friday October 7th 1959. Saw Milligan off for Elizabeth City this morning. Cooke told me that he had a fine day fishing with Floyd. He gave Gov: Floyd the memoranda I sent about political affairs. Attended board at Virginia bank. We did not discount any paper which we could possibly avoid. Recd a letter from Thos. G. Clayton, a patent agent in Washington stating that Forrest would be able to get a patent for his window invention. Recd a letter from Forrest himself asking for \$50 additional to defray his expenses. Got my two rifles from Spratley's & carried them over to Colley's to use to-morrow if necessary. I have had a fly put in each lock to make them easier on trigger & prevent their catching at half cock. Fired once with both & made the best shot that I have yet made at fifty yards. Omitted to mention Wednesday that I gave my note for \$60 endorsed by Daniel S. Cherry, to S. P. Moore treasurer of the Blues for two yrs room sent for Riflemen. Received from Argus \$50. Mr. Leonard

wrote a deed & trust for Beverly K. Taylor to sign. I have made up my accounts to this date in case anything should befall me to-morrow. Dr. Totten arrived to-night.

Saturday October 8th 1859. Visited the new steamer Georgeanna, to run between here and Baltimore in opposition to the present line. She is a fine boat but does not equal the boats of the other line in passenger accomodation. Saw Mahone, who promised to fix the paper for the commissioners to sign to enable us to organize the North and South R. R. Brother Rob left for Richmond. Lieut Milligan came to the Argus office between two and three o'clock with his arm in a sling. He had just arrived from Elizabeth City. He had shot himself in the forefinger of the left hand by accident with my revolver. He informed me that Bagley had refused to meet me on my terms and that the affair had been amicably arranged after the withdrawal of the challenge.

On arriving at Elizabeth City Milligan met Mr Poole, who carried him to his apothecary store. After an interview Milligan gave him the following terms.

(Not being able to get this correspondence directly to copy in my journal I waited to get it in a printed form as Lieut M. informed me that he intended to publish it)

TIME of meeting.--Between 4 and 5 o'clock P. M. October 8th.

PLACE of meeting.--Colley's field on the Port Norfolk Road.

TERMS of meeting.--Each principal may be attended by his second and another friend & by a surgeon.

The weapons to be rifles such as the Woodis Riflemen use. The distance to be fifty yards.

The choice of position shall be determined by lot. The second of the party losing the choice of position shall have the privilege of giving the word.

The weapons to be loaded by the seconds in the presence of the parties.

The principals to be placed in position, at first without weapons, and the word to be recited precisely as intended to be given.

The principals are then to receive the weapons from their seconds & hold them at an "order" until the query "Are you ready" when they shall come to a "ready" (the muzzles toward the zenith) until the word "fire."

The word is then to be distinctly given as follows:

"Are you ready?" When both principals have come to a "ready" and replied in the affirmative, the second giving the word shall then call out. "Fire--one--two--three--stop." Neither principal shall aim before the word, "Fire" or fire after the word "Stop."

After consultation Poole bro't the following to Lieut: Milligan.

Eliz. City, N. C., Oct. 7th, 1859.

8 o'clock P. M.

Lieut. J. F. MILLIGAN--

SIR--The following is my reply to your schedule of arrangements for the proposed meeting between your principle, Mr. Wm. Lamb, and my principal, M. Wm. H. Bagley.

Time of meeting: objected to; as to the day, for the reason: 1st. The gentleman who is to accompany my principal as surgeon, is out of the place and will not return in time to reach the place of meeting at the time proposed. 2nd My principal would necessarily be worried by the long stage or coach ride between this and the place of meeting, while his antagonist would have the advantage of a day's rest.

If a suggestion would be received from the undersigned, I would propose next Tuesday the 11th inst.

Terms of meeting acceded to with the understanding that the principals fire from the hip, instead of from a shoulder, for the reason that the right eye of my principal is so obscured by a nebula as to prevent his shooting from the eye, or shoulder, with any accuracy.

Any omissions or discrepancies to be corrected and arranged by the seconds on the field.

Yours, most respectfully,

JNO. W. POOLE

Milligan immediately wrote the following answer:

LEIGH [HOUSE], Oct. 7th 1859.

9 $\frac{1}{2}$ P. M.

SIR--Yours of the inst: (8 o'clock P. M.) has been received, As the challenged, we reserve to ourselves the right to fire in strict accordance in such cases provided for by the code. We give you the privilege of firing from the "hip" governed by the "word". All other modifications must be settled upon the field, at the date you name; viz; the 11th inst. at 10 o'clock A. M., where we will be to receive you.

Yours most respectfully,

JAS. F. MILLIGAN

To Jno. W. Poole, Esq.

Mr. Poole then left to confer with Mr Bagley and returned. He asked Milligan if he insisted on his principal's firing from the shoulder, he replied that he did. Poole then handed him the following:

ELIZABETH CITY, OCT. 7th, 1859

9 3/4 o'clock P. M.

SIR:

If I understand from your note just received that while conceding to my principal the privilege of firing from the hip, you claim the privilege for your principal of firing from the shoulder, or eye, I reject it, as I

can never consent to place my principal in a position so unequal with yours. I believe the code claims equality above all things. You will admit such an arrangement would be greatly to the advantage of your principal, and to the disadvantage of mine, when it is impossible that he should shoot from the eye.

Yours most Respectfully,

JNO. W. POOLE

To Lieut. J. F. Milligan.

Milligan made no reply. Poole asked him if he had any objection to being introduced to Bagley. Milligan consented. He went to Mr. Poole's room in the Leigh House & met Mr Bagley & was introduced to him. Bagley talked a great deal about the difficulty. Mr Bagley invited Milligan to take an oyster supper & brandy. At about 11 oclk after a long conversation Mr. Poole handed Milligan the following.

ELIZABETH CITY, Oct. 8th, 1859.

In view of the above withdrawal of Mr. Bagley's challenge, I hereby, as the friend of Mr. Wm. Lamb, of the Southern Argus, disclaim any intention on the part of Mr. Wm. Lamb, in his editorial in the Argus of the 20th of August last, of applying the term "contemptible" to him as an individual--it being applied only to the charges alluded to in that editorial unsubstantiated by

the proof--and for him disclaim any intention of imputing cowardice to Mr. Bagley in the affair alluded to in that editorial.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C., Oct. 8th, 1859.

SIR-- For the sake of an amicable arrangement of the difficulty between Mr. Wm. Lamb, of the Southern Argus, and my principal, Mr. Wm. H. Bagley, of the Elizabeth City State, I hereby withdraw the challenge of the latter of the 29th ult.

Yours, most respectfully,

JNO. W. POOLE

To Lieut J. F. Milligan.

During the time Milligan was with Bagley & Poole, he thought he heard watchmen at the door. He went to draw his revolver to threaten them if they entered, when the trigger caught & the pistol went off shooting him through the left fore-finger. Bagley & Poole were very much startled, & Poole did all he could to relieve the finger. After the withdrawal Milligan dictated the following settlement for Poole to write which he said he would bring down to me, & if I were willing I could sign it & send it back.

[The letters have been transcribed in the order in which they appeared in Lamb's diary. The one which Lamb refers to as the "following settlement" is probably the above letter referring to the settlement signed by Poole.]

[The following is a clipping which was attached next in Lamb's diary.]

DIFFICULTY SETTLED.-- We are glad to learn that a difficulty pending between Maj. William Lamb, of the Norfolk Argus, and W. H. Bagley, Esq. of the E. City "State" has been honorably arranged. Mr. Bagley called on Mr. Lamb for satisfaction for offensive publications in the Argus, and after a challenge had been passed and accepted Mr. Lamb's second requested its withdrawal that the variance might be arranged, which was done, and then Lieut. Milligan, the friend of Mr. Lamb, did what Mr. L. ought to have done at the beginning--disclaimed any intention to insult or reflect upon Mr. Bagley personally, which, of course, was satisfactory to Mr. Bagley.

Dr. Totten suggested to me to announce in Monday's Argus that the capstone of Wm & Mary College would be laid on Tuesday with masonic ceremonies. Lt Col. Groner called to-night & let me into the mysteries of the K. G. C.

Sunday October 9th 1859. Went to Leonard's room and agreed to let Milligan sign the statement & send the following letter to Mr. Poole.

NORFOLK, VA., Oct. 8th 1859.

SIR:--Having returned to Norfolk, I have duly submitted to my principal Major Lamb the enclosed

disclaimer made by me on his behalf. I am authorized to say that it is in accordance with his views, and that he concurs therein.

I would state, at Maj. Lamb's instance, in order to avoid misconstruction, that in using the expression "the proof", there was no intention on my part to imply that Maj. Lamb had seen or examined into proof--as such an idea would not have been in accordance with fact.

Yours most respectfully,

JAS. P. MILLIGAN

Jno. W. Poole, Esq.

Elizabeth City, N. C.

I went to Leonard's room with the determination not to let Milligan sign the disclaimer because Bagley had caused me uneasiness on my dear wife's account, and had subjected me to inconvenient disqualifications incident to the acceptance of a challenge. But, Leonard & Milligan who desired all the time to effect an amicable arrangement told me that I had advantage enough of Bagley & any further demands on my part such as an unconditional withdrawal would look like taking advantage of a vanquished foe & would destroy the moral force of my position which was [illegible] to seek or avoid a meeting on the field. Went to St Pauls church and heard Mr Loury preach. Walked home from Christ church with Dr. Totten.

It is a rainy disagreeable day. Told father to night of my difficulty with Bagley & of its amicable adjustment.

A number of passengers from the Steamer Quaker City, which met with an accident in the Gulf stream arrived in Norfolk to-day.

Met Gus Cooke & agreed to go to Old Point to-morrow to see Floyd.

Monday October 10th 1869. Left early in the morning in the Steamer Coffee for Old Point. Dr. Totten left for Williamsburg. I asked the Dr to send his horse down to me & told him that if father liked him he would give \$150 for him & that if he did not suit I would sell him & send him the proceeds. There was quite a gale to day, the Coffee could not go to the Eastern Shore, & we met the Sea Bird returning from an unsuccessful attempt to go up York river.

Called on Gov: Floyd & had a long interview with him. Begged him to attend to the Navy Yard affairs. Had a long talk on politics. He said the "Constitution" had not the confidence of the Administration & that he did not think it as influential as the "Union".⁷⁹ Thought a weekly paper supporting democratic principals & not men would succeed in Washington. Thought the party ought to establish such a paper which would be independent of

Congress. My interview was very pleasant.

Visited Capt. Dyer in the Fort, & got acquainted with several army officers. Capt. Dyer treated us to a fine julep. Left Old Point at one o'clock in the Coffee for Norfolk. Capt. Hicks who was in command of the steamer treated me very politely. Fears are entertained for the safety of the Quaker City.

There was a parade of the fire companies to-day under the command of Major Corprew. Heard of the death of Senator Broderick⁸⁰ in a duel with Judge Terry⁸¹ in California, on my return to Norfolk. Was talking to day with Gov: Floyd about a report which I had heard of Judge Terry being shot in the neck by Broderick in a duel. Gov F. said he had given no credit to the rumor as "shot in the neck" was a western phrase for being drunk. Brother Robert sent some Sover down to Daisy to-day.

Tuesday October 11th 1859. Met Fred: Coleman⁸² Virginia Senator to-day, he said Norfolk was improving fast, he complimented the Atlantic hotel. Saw Mahone who left for Petersburg, he had not prepared the paper for the N. & S. Road but promised to see Mallory with me next week & fix things. Lieut: Milligan received the following from Mr Poole this afternoon.

ELIZABETH CITY, October 10th, 1859

SIR:

Your favor of the 8th inst., was duly received, and I am glad that the settlement of the difficulty meets Major Lamb's approval.

Yours most respectfully,

JOHN W. POOLE

LIEUT. J. F. MILLIGAN, Norfolk Va.

Mr. Foster local editor of the Day Book stopped me on the street to day & asked me to give him the correspondence between Bagley & myself. I of course refused, & referred him to my friend whom he informed me he knew.

Milligan called this afternoon, Dr Tunstal says his hand will soon be well. He told me that Foster had been after him for the correspondence but that he refused to furnish it. He said he intended to put it in the Argus first.

Dear wife had several calls this afternoon.

Wednesday October 12th 1859. Webber a livery stable keeper called for me this morning & took me riding with a fine pair of black horses from New York, which a Mr. White wished to sell. I liked them very much but did not think it best to persuade father to get another pair of horses. I have offered fathers horses & carriage for sale for \$600.

I sent J. M. Forrest a draft on Washington for \$50.

Thursday October 13th 1859. Recd a letter from Dr. Totten explaining why his horse did not come down the river Tuesday.

The Herald of this morning contained the correspondence between Bagley & myself & between Poole & Milligan. A good many congratulated me on my honorable settlement of the affair. The correspondence has excited my company considerably. There was a very large drill of the company at Juniors Hall to-night. I was requested to leave when certain resolutions were passed. The Quaker City came into the roads last evening. I saw the Captain & Purser at my office to-day. They had a perilous time. Finished my letter to Pulte written at the request of Gov: Wise.

Friday October 14th 1859. Did not attend the board at the Bank to day. Sent letter off to Pulte; it made quite a formidable letter, postage 21 cts.

Tried to sell father's horses & carriage to Webber but found he would only trade. Argus published "the" correspondence to-day. Major Corprew called & asked me to correct certain statements reflecting on him which I had made upon the authority of several marines who had been arrested as deserters. Brother arrived from Richmond, he was much pleased with what he saw of the Episcopal Convention of the whole church of the Union. Had great difficulty

procuring a nurse for little Richard. S. P. M. told me that he heard John Branham say that R. A. Worrell (collector) had signed his name as assessor without his knowledge or consent.

Saturday October 15th 1859. Recd a letter from Pumphrey about his affairs. Recd two letters from J. M. Forrest the inventor speaking of his patent, but particularly of my affair with Bagley. He hopes I will never be engaged in another affair of the kind. He also acknowledges the receipt of the \$50 I sent him. Paid note of \$75 at Farmer's bank given for encampment expenses. Dr. Totten's horse arrived this afternoon, he is a poor one.

Sunday October 16th 1859. Went to St Pauls Church and heard Rev [Blank] preach a fine sermon from Luke 13 c. 18 & 19th v. "Unto what is the kingdom of God? and whereunto shall I resemble it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and cast into his garden, and it grew, and waxed a great tree; and the fowls of the air lodged in the branches of it.

Visited Tom Colley in the afternoon.

Monday October 17th 1859. Tried Doctor Totten's horse in the buggy this morning, found him badly broke, he balked very often, & was by no means swift.

The Elizabeth City State arrived to day, the correspondence between Bagley & myself was published in it. Lieut Milligan's introductory card was omitted and the following extraordinary introduction was in its place.

Personal

MESSRS. EDITORS:--

The difficulty heretofore existing between MAJ. WM. LAMB, of the Southern Argus, and MR. WM. H. BAGLEY of the Elizabeth City State, having been amicably arranged, the following "Card" and correspondence are submitted, as explanatory, to the public.

And, in so doing, I think it but due the parties to state that the withdrawal of the challenge of Mr. Bagley by me, was made at the solicitation of Lieut. Milligan, with the distinct understanding, that, it was to be considered renewed upon failure of an amicable adjustment.

JOHN W. POOLE.

If this card of Poole's is correct Lieut Milligan deceived me, which I cannot believe. Milligan is now on a cruize when he returns he will doubtless publish a correction of Poole's statement that he "solicited" a withdrawal of the challenge. Dr. Simkins showed me a telegraphic dispatch from the Secretary of War, ordering three companies from Old Point to proceed at once to Baltimore for Harper's Ferry to quell a rebellion which had broken out there. He

stated that the Armory was in the hands of the rioters.

Tuesday October 18th 1859. The city is all excitement on account of the news of a negro insurrection at Harper's Ferry. The Argus issued two extras to-day. Nothing is talked of but the audacity of the insurrectionists in seizing the Armory & distributing the arms to slaves. ⁸³

Sent the following to Governor Wise, by telegraph.

Norfolk Oct. 18th

Governor Henry A. Wise

The Woodis Riflemen are ready for service and at your command.

William Lamb.

The following answer came by telegraph.

Richmond Oct. 18th.

The commander in chief is at Harper's Ferry. The rioters have been put down and captured and your patriotic tender of service is consequently declined as not now needed. Accept the thanks of the Governor for yourself & your command.

Wm. H. Richardson

Adj. Genl.

Capt. Wm. Lamb, Commander Woodis Rifles

[The following is a clipping that was attached in the diary under this date.]

DISPATCHES.

Norfolk Oct. 18th.

Governor Henry A. Wise:

The Woodis Riflemen are ready for service and at your command.

WM. LAMB.

Richmond, Oct. 18th.

The commander in chief is at Harper's Ferry. The rioters have been put down and captured and your patriotic tender of service is consequently declined as not now needed. Accept the thanks of the Governor for yourself and your command.

WM. H. RICHARDSON.

Adj. Genl.

CAPT. WM. LAMB, Commander Woodis Rifles.

THE WOODIS RIFLES--PRESENT TO THEIR CAPTAIN--Yesterday, while honoring the anniversary of the memorable event of the Surrender of Yorktown, the Woodis Rifles took occasion to honor their Commander, Capt. Lamb, by presenting him with a massive and splendid Silver Pitcher. The presentation was made by Private William T. Morris, who accompanied it by a chaste and appropriate address, and the present was gracefully received by Capt. Lamb, who responded in a speech full of eloquence and feeling. The Pennsylvania Band was present on the occasion and lent its

aid to the interesting ceremony. The following inscription was engraved on the Pitcher:

"CAPTAIN WILLIAM LAMB,
October 19, 1859,
WOODIS RIFLES."

Wednesday Octo: 19th 1859. The excitement about the insurrection still continues. Paraded to day over fifty Riflemen made a splendid display. All the volunteer companies paraded together.

Just before the hour of parade by request I attended the forming of the company when Lieut: Hayman presented me with the command. As I was about to give the order to proceed Private Morris stepped out of the ranks & approached me. He then with a really beautiful speech presented me with a silver pitcher & salva. It was a surprise present. I returned my thanks to the Riflemen. The following is engraved on the pitcher.

"Capt. William Lamb"

Octo: 19. 1859.

"Woodis Rifles"

My dear wife took her first walk after her confinement this afternoon.

Mr Reed called at night & promised to endeavor to get his brother put back into the Navy Yard.

I recd yesterday a letter from my good friend Dr. Totten about his horse. The following was in a post script.

"I was sorry to hear of your proposal to enter upon a new kind of target shooting. Was your antagonist rendered more reasonable by the idea of a rifle at forty paces? There is certainly some danger of accident with such weapons.

Thursday Octo: 20th 1859. The excitement produced throughout the country will doubtless have a tendency to strengthen the Democratic party. If Black Republican leaders were not directly engaged in the Harper's Ferry insurrection, their speeches were calculated to lead to such results. Dear wife took another walk this afternoon.

Wrote a long article implicating the Black Republicans in the Harper's Ferry affair. ⁸⁴

Friday Octo: 21st 1859. Gov: Wise's conduct in the recent immergency [sic] is highly extolled, it will increase his popularity. I have been worried by the comments made by parties on Poole's introduction to the correspondence as published in the State. The Edenton Express has a very unjust article on the settlement of the difficulty.

Lieut: Milligan called at the office to day. He was very much excited about Poole's statement.

I handed Milligan the following letter:

Norfolk Octo: 18th 1859.

Dear Milligan,

I have received a copy of the Elizabeth City State,

containing a card from Mr. Jno. W. Poole introducing the correspondence which you recently published in the Herald, in which I find it stated to my astonishment that the challenge of Mr. Bagley was withdrawn at your "solicitation".

As I requested you to go to Elizabeth City and arrange a hostile meeting and not an amicable adjustment, and as this is at variance with what you represented to me when you requested me to approve of the settlement, please inform me if this statement of Mr Poole be correct.

Yr friend

Lieut: Jas.F. Milligan

William Lamb

Milligan immediately gave me the following

Norfolk Va.

Oct. 21st /59

Dear Lamb,

I have just arrived from a cruize, and recd yours of the 18th inst. In reply I would state. If insisting upon "fighting or withdrawing the challenge" and "not listening to terms while trammled by a challenge" be a solicitation I must plead guilty. According to my Western ideas I am compelled emphatically to deny any solicitation whatever on my part.

On my first interview with Mr Poole at the Atlantic Hotel Norfolk Va, he spoke of this affair as an unfortunate one,

and proposed then to adjust it amicably.

Your friend.

Jas. F. Milligan

P. S. You will perceive by the enclosed copy that I have already written to John W. Poole Esq on this subject

Yours. J. F. M.

Milligan's letter to Poole is very severe. This is the reward I get for taking the advice of Milligan & Leonard & treating these contemptible fellows with magnanimity. There never was a cleaner back-out than Bagley's.

Edwin M. Chaffee & Maria Chaffee, dear Daisy's brother & sister arrived this afternoon in the Steamer Yorktown from the North.

I wrote the following letters:

Norfolk October 21st 1859.

Mr. Jno. W. Poole

Sir,

I send below a copy of a correspondence between my friend Lieut: Milligan & myself. It will be published. As I have called it forth, if there be anything in it at which you take offence please consider me as responsible. I have written this without the knowledge of Lieut: Milligan whom I am unwilling to see involved in any personal difficulty on my account.

Yr. Obt. Servt.

(sent to Elizabeth City NC)

William Lamb.

Argus Office Norfolk Octo: 21st 1859.

Dear Sir

You will oblige me by doing me the justice to publish the following correspondence in your next issue.

Yours truly

William Lamb

Editor Democratic Pioneer

(Sent to Eliz: City N. C.)

Private

Argus Office Octo: 21st 1859.

Dear Sir,

Enclosed I send a correspondence which you will oblige me by publishing with the other, if you intend to publish it. I have no idea of allowing anyone to misrepresent me. I approved of the adjustment made by Milligan because of Mr Bagley's refusing to meet me on the field upon the terms which I had a right to name.

Yrs friendly

Wm Lamb

The above was written to C. H. Foster Esq, editor of the Citizen Murfreesboro N. C.

So: Argus Office Norfolk Octo: 21st 1859.

Messrs Davenport & Davies editors Edenton Express.

Gentlemen,

In your issue of the 19th you have an article in reference to the recent difficulty

between Mr. Bagley & myself which is an entire misstatement. I hope it was the result of an ignorance of the facts. My second never requested the withdrawal of Mr Bagley's challenge.

You are entitled to your opinion as to what was my duty, and I am entitled to a correction of your misstatement. Please publish the following correspondence.

Yours truly

William Lamb.

I am determined I shall be set right in this matter if I have to call every Opposition editor in North Carolina to account. I am acting with the approval of my conscience and nothing shall deter me.

Recd a letter from Editor Banks requesting me to publish Senator Douglas' answer to Judge Black's review of his Harper article, which will appear shortly.

Saturday Octo: 22nd 1859. Wrote to Bishop Clark of Rhode Island who is attending the Convention in Richmond to come and visit me. The Bishop married me and I desire him to christen my boy. Father received an appointment from the Board of Public Works as a director in the Norfolk and Petersburg R. R. in the place of Jno. B. Whitehead resigned.

Sunday Octo: 23d 1859. Did not attend church as I felt rather unwell. Visited Tom Colley. His mother lost a

favorite cow while I was out there. Milligan called this evening and we had a long talk. To-night Ned Chaffee by accident mentioned my difficulty with Bagley before dear wife. I fear it has made her uneasy. I had kept it from her on account of her delicate situation.

Monday Octo: 24th 1859. Mahone told me to-day that Leonard got father appointed a director in the N & P. R. R. in cousin John Whitehead's place. A Mr Thomas applied to me to get in Herbert's Dept in the Yard. I referred him to Decordy. I requested Capt. Groner to qualify as Lieut: Colonel.

Geo: W. Caslon got me to give him a letter of recommendation to Capt. McIntosh to get him a place as a sailor in the Navy. There was no seaman wanted at this time & I gave him an order to get him passed to Edenton to get a place in the Express office. I told him to tell Davenport that he must correct his misstatements about my difficulty with Bagley.

Tuesday Octo: 25th 1859. Brother Wilson left for school. He is to board with Dr. Selden in Charles City Co & be instructed by the tutor of his children. Bro: Rob & Ned Chaffee visited Richmond to attend the fair. Recd a letter from C. H. Foster in answer to mine in which he says he will comply with my request, & asks me to publish

his card, concerning which my difficulty with Bagley arose. The Grand Jury found true bills against Lieut Milligan & myself to day for being concerned in a duel.⁸⁵ Dr. Thos Newton a very weak minded man was the cause of this action of the jury of which he was member. I do not think it will amount to much.

I received the following answer to my letter to Poole.

Eliz City Oct. 25th /59

Sir

Yours of the 21st inst inclosing the correspondence between yourself and Lieut: Milligan is before me, and also a letter of the same date from Lieut: Milligan to myself. I have written to him of this date.

I would suggest that you call on him, and see my letter before publishing the correspondence between you.

Respectfully

Jno. W. Poole.

To Maj. Wm Lamb

Norfolk Va.

I recd this morning the following characteristic letter from friend Milligan.

US Cutter Duane, Oct. 25th 1859.

Dear Will

Not hearing from John W. Poole Esq by yesterday afternoon's mail, I am led to believe he is not as

punctual in strict matters of business as his peculiar high "sense of truth and integrity" would ostensibly indicate.

In order to keep my wife from receiving my letters from that quarter during my absence I desire that you shall call at the office and receive all letters directly upon the arrival of the mail at 3 P. M. every afternoon until my return. You can of course use your own judgment upon the question in point except the meeting which I most heartily solicit.

Yours in the bond of friendship.

Jim.

With this authority I opened a letter from Poole to Milligan which I shall copy when Jim returns.

Warren W. Wing called on me to-day with a message from Mr. Fleming Master Machinist begging me to go to Washington with him to-day to see about his position. He feared a discharge or further curtailment of power. I could not go, so I wrote for him a strong letter to Secretary Floyd. I believe I have a friend in Fleming and I shall do all I can to retain him in the Yard.

Wednesday Octo: 26th 1859. Recd a letter from Forrest to day; he wants more money, & desires to sell me an interest in his carriage spring, but I cannot accomodate him at present. I have recd a communication from Southampton

which will appear to-morrow recommending E. W. Massenburg Esq for Judge in this District. I shall publish it with a short editorial. ⁸⁶ This will start the ball against Judge Baker which will lead to his being laid on the shelf. Went to the Navy Yard, Decordy accompanied me. I saw Jos Pierce, & Allen, master workmen, they are very desirous for me to aid them in their present difficulty. The Naval officers are binding the civil officers hand & foot. Allen is to prepare a paper to give me setting forth all the grievances of the Master Workmen. I find Allen is tired of Millson, he has always been a firm supporter of his, but he says he will never be re-nominated.

As I was returning from Portsmouth I met D. D. Simmons Esq who had just arrived from Elizabeth City, he showed me a Pioneer, containing the correspondence I recently sent to its editor. He said he had seen Bagley for the first time & did not think him much & could not discover that he had anything the matter with his right eye. Poole he believed was a Northern man.

Thursday Octo: 27th 1859. Left early in the morning in the special train on the Norfolk & Petersburg R. R. for Suffolk to attend the Agricultural fair. Dr. Mallory who was to have delived (sic) the annual address was absent, & I was requested by Nathaniel Reddick Esq the President to make a speech. I was suffering with a

severe sore-throat, & was so hoarse that I was compelled to decline. I regretted it exceedingly. I dined at Wm B Whitehead's, he was absent but his wife & son were at home. I became acquainted with Mr Wellons the editor of the Suffolk Sun. I returned in the afternoon to Norfolk. While at Suffolk I met Walter & Bruce Gwinn, two of my old college mates. Walter is practising law law at St Louis, and Bruce is farming in Nansemond. While in Suffolk I heard it rumored that an attempt might be made to rescue Brown & the other prisoners, & I wrote to Gov: Wise tendering the Woodis Riflemen if soldiers were needed. On my return I received a telegraphic dispatch from Petersburg stating that that city had given a large majority for Pryor for Congress and that he was certainly elected.⁸⁷

Friday Octo: 28th 1859. Recd a letter from Dr. Totten. Attended board at Virginia bank. Recd an Edenton Express, the editors complied with my request after a fashion. Went aboard the Cutter & saw Milligan. He answered Poole's letter to-day, he is very much exasperated at the conduct of Poole. The remains of Hon John Y. Mason late⁸⁸ minister to France arrived here to-day in the Steamer Yorktown enroute for Richmond. I detailed a guard of honor from my company but the Steamer arrived so much earlier than expected that they did not get on board.

Saturday Octo: 29th 1859. Recd a Murfreesborough N. C. Citizen, edited by Foster. It contains a very complimentary editorial about me introducing the correspondence between Bagley & myself &c. I showed this correspondence to dear wife. She takes my conduct very much to heart, but her love for me will soon cause her to look upon it as a necessity. I heard to day that Fleming had been discharged from the yard and Davids appointed Master Machinist in his place. I was very much worried until I sent over to Wing & heard that the report was untrue.

Sunday Octo: 30th 1859. Called on Leonard. Mrs Leonard told me when she resided near Vicksburg she lived in an atmosphere of duelling. Her former husband, Mr Robbins was engaged in several. Several of my friends have told me that they considered the action of the Grand Jury in presenting me as very unjust.

Monday Octo: 31st 1859. Foole has not answered Milligan's letter. Wrote an article on Hansemond county. The Harper's Ferry Affair continues to excite the public. It is reported that leading Black Republicans will be implicated in the rebellion. H. Clay Pate wrote the first of a series of articles to day upon Brown & co for the Argus.

Fleming, Wing & Decordy called on me to-night & we had a long talk on Navy Yard affairs. Fleming told me of his interview with Secretary Toucey.

Tuesday Nov 1st. Went down town in the evening to attend Common Council met Milligan at the Argus Office, who showed me a letter he had received from Poole in answer to his last. It was a most extraordinary compound of lies. Poole as as [sic] contemptible, & I determined to put Bagley in the same light. We prepared cards & gave them to Leonard to have published for us. When I got to the Council chamber it was closed, the Council having failed to organize.

Wednesday Nov 2d. Ethan Allen Master Blacksmith in the Gosport Yard called to night & brought upon paper the grievances of the Civil officers as set forth by Fleming, Gleason & himself. I promised to communicate them to the Secretary of the Navy. Called at Decordy's and met Wing there by appointment. We had a long conversation on political affairs. I am leaving no stone unturned to elect Father Mayor next June. Our conversation was mostly confidential.

Thursday Nov 3d. The following appeared in the Norfolk Herald to-day.

[A blank page and a half follows in Lamb's diary. He apparently neglected to copy the material referred to.]

I practised firing my rifle from the left shoulder at Debre's this morning and found I fired nearly as well as from the right shoulder. Dear wife came to see me

practise. Attended drill to night. I had been invited to meet the Lexington Cadets Saturday, but as there was some misunderstanding about who should command & whether the companies had been properly invited I told the Riflemen I should not expect them out.

Friday Nov 4th 1859. The Argus copied the correspondence from the Herald. I practised from the left shoulder this morning. Ethan Allen & Gleason Masterworkmen called on me to-night about Navy Yard affairs. I was persuaded to parade to-morrow & called out the Riflemen. Capt Groner & Lieut Joseph Moore called on me to-night about to-morrow's parade. Groner has decided not to parade. In case I am challenged by Bagley & Poole I have determined to get John Mysick Esq to act as my second. I will meet both on the same field with rifles, & give Bagley a ball from the left shoulder & Poole one from the right.

Saturday Nov 5th 1859. Paraded only a small number to meet the V. M. I. Cadets this morning. My men marched admirably. The Cadets made an imposing appearance.

Dear Daisy is suffering with a severe sore throat. Nothing of importance editorially has transpired this week. Some of my friends desire me to be the Democratic elector in the next Presidential election. It would give me pleasure to obtain the post although I fear I cannot fill it to

suit myself. I feel sure the Democracy of the District will give me either this or the place of delegate to Charleston.⁷⁷

Sunday Nov 6th 1859. Attended St Pauls and heard Dr. Okeson preach from [blank]

After church Joshua told me Mr Leonard wished to see me. I went to his room. When I had entered he told me gravely he had messages for me from Bagley & Poole & went on with a well concocted story to make me think I had received a double challenge. He ended it by producing the Elizabeth City State, with two cards, one from Bagley & one from Poole. I cannot comment on them, but they prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that Bagley & Poole are both contemptible & cowardly.

A CARD.

James F. Milligan has published the part of a correspondence between myself and him--and in doing so, has suppressed a most important letter, in which I proved him to have been guilty of prevarication, duplicity and falsehood. I expected that he would have noticed that letter in the only way recognized among gentlemen. But he has shunned the emergency, and satisfied his wounded honor by meanly suppressing the letter, which public opinion would have required him to resent--and has thus enabled himself to continue his quibbling upon the word

"solicitation," and to call "ugly names" at me.

His friend, William Lamb, of the Argus, by appending his card to the garbled publication of the correspondence, has shown himself to have been privy to that disgraceful act--and has also satisfied himself with the childish but safe revenge of calling "ugly names."

The public will hardly expect me to compromise my character by noticing such men further.

JNO. W. POOLE.

Monday Nov 7th 1859. Dear Wife & her sister are both suffering with very severe sore throats. Dr Tunstall has been attending them several days. I saw Mr Myrick & several friends to-day & they pronounce Bagley & Poole's conduct most cowardly. Sent a letter to Secretary Floyd about Fleming and other political matters.

Tuesday Nov 8th 1859. The Herald of this morning published by request the scurrilous cards of Bagley & Poole. C. H. Foster called to-day & requested me to publish his card. I wrote an editorial about the Navy Yard, & the attempt of the Naval officers to abridge the liberty of the Civil officers. Visited the fair grounds & saw some fast trotting. Wrote to Secretary Toucey about Navy Yard affairs. Wrote to Dr. Totten about his horse.

Wednesday Nov 9th. Jno M. Forrest writes me that he has received a patent for his window fastener. He has sent me a telegraphic dispatch about a horse & buggy he desires to send to the fair, & asks me to accept a draft for \$125 in ten days. I declined. Went to the fair grounds to-day. It rained hard all the day & spoilt the display. Jno Myrick informed me that he had been told by several Carolina gentlemen that Bagley was not known to have had a nebula over his eye previous to my acceptance of his challenge.

Thursday Nov 10th. I published Foster's card this morning. I have determined not to again notice Bagley & Poole in my columns. Went to the fair, & saw the tournament, trotting, &c. I noticed that the best riders were not the most successful as they rode at a greater speed than the others. There were exceptions however.

Lucius Chandler who delivered the charge to the Knights was very eloquent but his speech was too long for the occasion. The grand ball in honor of the V. M. I. Cadets came off at Johnson's Hall to-night. Dear wife being sick I did not attend. I have become acquainted with a good many at the fair.

Friday Nov. 11th 1859. Attended the fair & saw the V. M. I. Cadets drill. It was truly a beautiful sight. Many of

the movements are executed at double quick time, i.e. on a trot. Decordy called & brought me letters from Fleming & Herbert on the Navy Yard affairs. The Herald published the rule lately enforced in the Gosport Yard against Master Workmen, yesterday, & I commented upon it briefly in the Argus to-day, promising an answer next week.

Attended board at Bank to-day.

Saturday Nov 12th. Decided to day to escort the Cadets to the cars on Monday. Very many of my friends blame me for choosing [sic] Milligan for my friend in the recent difficulty. Dr. Godwin of the Eliz: City Dem: Pioneer, called on me to day. He says that the Democrats in Elizabeth City have not a high opinion of C. H. Foster's courage. Many think he acted badly in his difficulty with Mr Smith, Opposition candidate for Congress. Had a drill of Riflemen to-night, & tried the double quick step. The members seemed pleased with the drill. My dear wife having been confined to her room by sickness, has destroyed much of my happiness during this gay fair week in Norfolk.

Sunday November 13th 1859. It has stormed violently all day. Called on several officers of the Riflemen & told them they must turn out strong to-morrow to escort the Cadets. Mr Robinson preached in St Pauls Church to-day, Dr Okeson being in Richmond. I am suffering with severe cold.

Monday November 14th 1859. Went over to the Navy Yard to employ the Pennsylvania's Band. Went aboard the U S Ship Penn: & was introduced to the officers by Lieut: Berryman. Capt Chatard let me have the band. Paraded the woodis Riflemen as an escort to the V. M. I. Cadets who left to-day for Lexington. Decordy & Wing called on me to-night. I wrote to Drinkard begging him to get Gov: Floyd to persuade Secretary Toucey to reinstate Fleming to his former control over the yard engines, &c. Recd a letter this morning from Col Drinkard, in reference to my letters to Floyd & Toucey.

Tuesday Nov 15th 1859. Attended board at Virginia Bank. Money is still scarce. Had an article this morning in defence of the election of John Letcher.²⁹ Sent Mr Letcher a copy. Ethan Allen & Jos: Pierce, Master workmen called this evening about Navy Yard affairs. They inform me that Commander Bell is hostile to the institution of slavery, & that John A. Higgins declares he kidnapped a slave some years since. They wish me to get the particulars inform Gov: Wise of the fact, & get him to request Mr Toucey to remove Comm: Bell from this Yard. If this can be done it will lead to a redress of all grievances in the Yard.

Wednesday Nov 16th 1859. Recd a letter from Thos: G. Clayton patent agent in Washington, enclosing a bill for \$30, services rendered to Jno. M. Forrest. Wrote a

letter to Forrest about his patent. Wrote an editorial defending Secretary Floyd from the charges against him in reference to the anonymous letter sent him warning him of the movement against Harper's Ferry & the South.⁹⁰ Called on John A. Higgins to-day & saw him in regard to the slave of Purser Debree, whom Capt. Bell carried off without his owner's consent. Higgins thinks Capt. Bell amenable to our laws for running a slave off, as he shipped the negro against the wishes of his owner, who has never been paid for him. The slave is now in Boston. I wrote to Gov: Wise upon the subject requesting him to get all the particulars & send them to Secretary Toucey with the request that he will send Capt. Bell to another station. Recd to day a pamphlet from France, on direct trade, prepared by M. Laconture.

Thursday Nov 17th 1859. Mr Higgins requested me this morning to keep quiet about the slave affair at least for the present, so I did not send the letter to Gov: Wise. I recd a letter from F. W. Walker a Washington correspondent of N. Y. papers, & leading member of the American party, now in Brooklyn N. Y. about the organization of Congress, he desires me to advocate the union of the Democrats & Americans upon Boteler⁹¹ of Va, for speaker. His letter contains important political information. I received the following letter from Washington.

Unofficial.

My dear Sir

I have recd yr letter of Nov 5th with inclosure. I have been engaged in preparing instructions for the Navy Yard in which I shall endeavor to protect the officers in their respective positions, & at the same time secure economy & efficiency. It is my intention to issue them in a few days. No doubt there will be found some irregularities in every Navy Yard, but I think they will be corrected under general instructions.

I am very truly

Yours

I. Toucey

Wash: Nov 15. 1859.

Wm Lamb Esq Norfolk.

To-day was my dear wife's 22d birthday. She looks as youthful and as lovely as when I first met her four years ago. Brother Robert gave her as a birthday present, Lamartine's history of the Girondists, which I commenced ⁹² reading aloud to her this evening. Yesterday I attended with Daisy, Anne Milhada's wedding. She was married to James Ricks Esq, a merchant of this city. Maria Chaffee was her first brides-maid.

Friday Nov: 18th 1859. To day the weather was remarkable. It was very warm and it rained & cleared up alternately

like an April day. Startling news arrived here from Richmond, to the effect that Brown has been rescued, & that 250 armed men were at Berryville Ford about to invade the State. The Governor recd a dispatch asking for aid & several companies were ordered out.

Went over to Portsmouth this afternoon & saw Pierce and Fleming. They both thanked me for the interest I had taken in their affairs & said it would redound to my political advancement. The Navy officers do not like my position in regard to Navy Yard affairs & Spottswood called to have a talk with me to-day. He could not convince me however that I was wrong. I have determined to endeavor to create an Administration feeling in this part of Virginia.

Saturday Nov 19th 1859. Received another letter from F W Walker about the organization of the House of Representatives. He is very desirous to have me advocate a coalition between the Democrats & Americans to elect Boteler as Speaker. I think the Americans should come over to the Democrats who are nearly five times as strong, instead of the Democrats conceding to the demands of a small minority without a National organization.

Sunday morning Nov 20th 1859. Walked to church with dear wife to-day. As I was going to Church the messenger of

the telegraph office informed me that important news had arrived from Charlestown. As soon as I reached St Pauls I put my wife in a pew & went to the telegraph office.

[The following is a clipping which appears below this entry in the diary.]

(Private for members of the Company.)

ATTENTION WOODS RIFLEMEN.

NORFOLK, Sunday morning. Nov. 20th, 1859.

Information has arrived by telegraph that the Petersburg volunteers have been ordered to Charlestown by Gov. Wise--47 of the Greys, 42 of the Artillery, and 33 of the Guards--in all 122 men--left this morning for that place. A letter to Brown (in cyphers) has been intercepted, informing him that he would certainly be rescued.

Intense excitement prevails at Charlestown.

Your services have been tendered to the Governor, and as you may be at any moment ordered to Charlestown, you will attend a meeting at Head Quarters TO-NIGHT, at 7½ o'clock, to make preparations.

By order of the

CAPTAIN.

Monday Nov: 21st 1859. The excitement of yesterday has died away. A number of Riflemen called at the office & got new accoutrements. Several private citizens called to offer their services, to go to Charlestown with the Riflemen if ordered there. Among those who called, was.

William Godfrey a farmer in Norfolk county. Wrote a letter for Lt. Col: Groner, to Governor Wise, begging him to order the Riflemen & Greys to Charlestown. Attended meeting of the Council, but did not arrive until just before adjournment. We had a talk on politics. Genl. Millson was in the Argus office to-day. He said he would not have stormed the engine house to arrest Brown & his followers, at the risk of the lives of the Virginians, but would have guarded the house until the insurgents were physically exhausted when they would have surrendered. He did not think the dignity of the State required their immediate capture. I think the U. S. Marines ought never to have been allowed to do any fighting. The Virginians should have done it all themselves. It is a great mistake to suppose that the excitement among the volunteers of the State, & their desire to go to Harper's Ferry proceeds from fear. It is far from it, if they feared anything they would not be so ready to leave their homes unprotected. They feel that the Commonwealth has been insulted & they desire to show to the North that every citizen soldier in Virginia is ready & willing to leave his business & the comforts of home to go to the borders of the State & suffer any privations to see the majesty of the law sustained. An excited populace at home is more to be

feared than any invaders from the North.

Tuesday Nov: 22d 1859. I sat up last night until 1½ ock writing & smoking the consequence is a miserable headache to-day. Recd a communication from F. W. Walker for the Southern Argus about the organization of the House of Representatives. Also one from A. D. Banks asking my influence for him as printer to the House. The Harper's Ferry excitement continues.

Wednesday Nov 23d 1859. To day a gentleman arrived from the Eastern Shore & stated that an anonymous letter had been received warning the people of an abolition invasion. He telegraphed the Governor for arms & ammunition. It created some excitement, & I thought for awhile that there might be an order for the Riflemen to go over to Eastville, but I believe now their services will not be asked. I believe the present excitement is more for something to talk about in the absence of politics than anything else. I received a letter from Stephen J. Pendleton to-day, he requested me to try & get him some situation in Norfolk. If I can buy Leonard's moiety of the Argus at a reasonable rate I think I will do it, & if I get it under my control I shall probably employ Pendleton as reporter instead of Forrest. Col: A. C. Ring, a leading citizen of our place who died Sunday, was buried to-day, as he was formerly

Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, the engine companies paraded. The volunteers paraded, with the exception of the Blues, which company were unwilling to allow Lieut: Groner to command them. The Riflemen turned out very well. Ethan Allen called to-night & showed me a letter from a Civil Officer in the New York Navy Yard, who stated that the officers in that Yard had sent Hon. Mr Maclay to Washington to see the Secretary about the same things of which the Civil officers in the Yard here, got me to write about. The writer said the Philadelphia Yard was free from the "tyranny" of Naval officers, because the civilians in it had a Florence to represent them.

Thursday Nov: 24th 1859. To day was kept as Thanksgiving day at the request of the Mayor. Some few of the cities in the state did the same. Thanksgiving day is the New England substitute for Christmas. It is an off-spring of that spirit which has created the Unitarian churches in New England. Thanksgiving day is a hypocritical farce. Long faces & psalm-singing in the morning, broad grins & gluttony in the afternoon.

Took dear wife to ride, with Maggie, Ria Chaffee & Miss McClean. We went to the meeting-house the other side of the Indiaⁿ Poll bridge. We took a lunch with us and had a pleasant time. The foolish excitement about Harper's Ferry continues; it is being run in the ground.

Friday Nov 25th 1859. Attended board at the Bank. Col: Myers president was absent & Wm Johnson Jr. presided. Recd a letter from O. W. [illeg] in Washington asking if he could write in favor of Joe Lane for president, in the Argus. I consented if he would correspond regularly from Washington. Wrote to T. G. Clayton, telling him I would not be responsible for any of J. M. Forrest's expenses in Washington. I recd a day or two since a large sash with Forrest's patent, he sent it to the Seaboard fair, but it arrived too late for exhibition. I have a plan in my mind for forming a rifle battalion in Norfolk. It is to get up a company with little or not cost to the members. The uniform is to be black cloth frock coat & pants such as men wear on Sunday's or when dressed, with the belts & other accoutrements furnished by the State. The hat to be like that worn by the Woodis Riflemen. The only expense to be the uniform hat. The corps to be called the People's Rifles, & to form a battalion with the Woodis Riflemen. I called the Riflemen together to-night to consult upon the subject. Col: Robinson called out the companies to-night to inform them to hold themselves in readiness for orders. I was invited to-night to a supper given by Capt. Joseph Moore to the Independent Greys, of which company he has been elected a Captain. The Riflemen were toasted & I responded with a speech. Got a note discounted at Virginia Bank.

Saturday Nov 26th 1859. Nothing of interest that I can recollect transpired in the morning. About 7½ or eight o'clock at night Genl. Blow sent for me to come to his residence, when I got there I found Col Robinson and himself with an order to detail a company from the 54th Regiment to proceed early to-morrow morning to Harper's Ferry.

Had the Court House bell rung as soon as convenient and assembled the Riflemen to prepare for the journey. Great enthusiasm prevailed. I allowed those members who could not go without serious inconvenience to obtain substitutes. Col Robinson addressed the crowd and read the order from Genl Blow to the Woodis Riflemen. When I communicated the news to my dear little wife she was at first troubled but soon consented cheerfully as she thought it my duty. (I left this journal at home and kept no memoranda while away, but I recollect pretty well all that occurred of interest and shall enter it under regular dates as if written at that time.)

Sunday November 27. 1859. Left Norfolk in the Steamer Louisiana Capt. Russell with the following officers and men:

Major William Lamb, commanding. Lieuts. John Hayman and Peter Dilworth. Surgeon, William Wilson. Orderly Serjeant. D. C. Watters. Sergeants. Jno. W. Elliott, J. M. F. Wyatt, Alex: J. Denson. Corporals. T. J. Henderson, John White,

W. R. Jarvis, and Chas: Daschield. Total. 12. Privates.
 A. W. Allen, G. W. Bunting, Jno. W. Burke, J. M. Coleman,
 Saml. Crane, Jno E. Capehart, James Dashield, James
 Eustis, Louis Fredericks, Henry Holland, Robert James,
 W. C. Land, Chas. H. Nelson, Sol: W. Spratt, Henry A.
 Terrell, Joseph Wilkinson, Junius C. Wright, J. H. White-
 head, Reuben Watson, W. B. Wellons. 20.

Volunteer Privates. Jno. W. Buchanan, W. W. Barnes, Wm.
 H. Burgess, Wm. M. Betts, Jos: Bonfanti, A. G. Gorran,
 A. M. Cunningham, Robert Decordy, A. Drewry, John Enes,
 John Fullerton, Jno P. Giles, Wm Hinchman, George Har-
 rison, J. Jacobs, Jesse Knight, Ed. L. Lightfoot, Edward
 Lakin, J. J. Morfett, Thos. J. Nottingham, Jno Peed,
 J. Ed: Stolt, Jesse D. Thomas, D. B. Taylor. 24.

Musicians. Barney Rayton and J Walker. Total officers
 and men. 58. During the passage, ball powder & caps were
 distributed. The Portsmouth National Greys Capt: Deans
 accompanied us to Charlestown. We arrived at Baltimore
 late in the evening. Cols: Robinson and Groner accompanied
 us, the first to Balt: the second to C. Town. Visited the
 Armory of the Balt: City Guards about 12 oclk, saw Major
 Warner and Capt. Parks. My company were without overcoats
 and were suffering from the cold, I asked the loan of the
 Guards overcoats and they were cheerfully tendered us by
 that noble battalion.

Monday Nov 28th. Left Baltimore for Charlestown, stopping on our way from the boat to the Cars at the City Guard's Armory for overcoats. On our way to Charlestown met several companies from the Valley of Virginia bound there. Stopped a short time only at Harper's Ferry, arrived at Charlestown about 2½ P. M. Reported to Genl. Taliaferro.⁹³ Col: J. Lucius Davis showed us our quarters, the first were too small to accomodate, so we were shown to the school-rooms of Miss Rooker. Here we quartered, being supplied with camp utensils &c by the Commisary and Quartermaster. Telegraphed home of the safe arrival. Some of my men were detailed at once for Guard duty. Retired late and slept in dining room of Miss Rooker's next to the Quarters. Soldiers slept on straw bed ticks laid upon straw strewn on the floors, each man had one blanket. They slept in their uniforms.

Tuesday, Nov 29th. Rose early, did not feel over-well from a severe cold but kept it to myself. Twenty odd were detailed from my command to be posted at Picket number 3. I brought to the attention of the General the kindness of the Baltimore City Guards, and the following order was made.

Head Quarters Charlestown Va

November 29. 1859.

General Order The Commanding General having been in-
 No 20 formed by the Commandant of the Woodis
 Rifles (Major Lamb) of the generous and fraternal conduct
 of the Baltimore City Second Battalion, in lending their
 overcoats to the members of the Rifles to be worn upon
 the expedition to Charlestown, takes this occasion to
 express his grateful acknowledgments for their kindness
 to thank them in the name of the State for the prompt
 and courteous aid afforded to their brother volunteers of
 Virginia.

By command of

Maj: Gen. Taliaferro

S. Bassett French, Mil. Secy.

To day by a General order the Woodis Rifles and National
 Greys were consolidated into a battalion under the command
 of Capt. Deans. Lieut: Hayman was appointed adjutant.
 At sun down I took Lieut Dilworth, Ley: Elliott, Corp:
 White and twenty one privates, and posted Picket No 3.
 Our Head Quarters was a small room in a house on the
 outskirts. The sentinels were posted on the hills, and
 it was quite novel and exciting to those who had never
 been on guard before. I remained up and about all night,
 going once or twice into town to the quarters. Telegraphed
 that all were well.

Wednesday Nov 30th. Tried to get new arms for my company but could not succeed. Last night I got six of Hall's carbines for the picket guard. Besides the picket guard the regular daily detail for post guard was made on a large number on night duty.

Paymaster Cherry arrived to-day from Norfolk with Privates Wm Snyder, Geo Stewart and Lewis Stewart, and Volunteer Privates, Oscar E Edwards and Jacob Hull, swelling my command to 64 rank and file. I have been too busy to write to my paper as I expected & desired to do. Received a kind letter from dear Mother to day. The first news since I left home. Detailed Lieut: Hayman, Ley Walters, Corp: Henderson and twenty one men for Picket No 3 to-night. I visited them several times during the night. Early in the night a gun was fired at Picket No 3 and the alarm given. I ran to quarters, called up Serg: Elliott and hastened down to the picket, when I reached there I found that Barney Kayton, a musician whom I had detailed as a private had discharged his piece into a stack of fodder. He did not give a very satisfactory account of himself. I was first told he saw the stack move and challenging and receiving no answer he fired. I was told afterwards that the discharge was accidental. His account was so confused that I attributed it to nervousness. While hastening down to the picket guardhouse, I dropped one of my pair of Colt's revolvers, the one I got from

Spratley the Sunday I left. By the aid of a candle I found it near the Railroad depot in the street. I did not sleep much to-night. I have made a number of most agreeable acquaintances.

Thursday December 1st. There was a general order issued to day for the arrangement of troops to-morrow. The 9th section read: "The Woodis Rifles Capt. Lamb will scout the woods on the rear of the field of execution."

An order was given that the men should sleep to-night on their arms.

John Brown's large swivel has been on exhibition at one of the hotels, & attracted a large crowd every day. I have been to see it several times, & have taken a deliberate aim with it, which was considered quite a feat of strength. I have met with Cassius Carter, Alex Payne, and several "old college & school mates." Capt. Lloyd B. Parks, Surgeon Scott, and Privates, Kielholtz, Nicely, and Rhea of the Balt: City Guards arrived to day, and insisted upon enlisting as privates under my command. The General gave them permission. They were the only soldiers not of the Virginia line which were on duty at Charlestown. They quartered with the Riflemen. I paraded this afternoon in battalion with Portsmouth Greys. My company attracted attention. I tried hard to get side army for my company to-morrow but without success, I succeeded

however in getting six of Colt's revolving Rifles for the officers. I regret that I did not go and see John Brown, now that it is too late, but I have felt as if I could not treat him politely, and therefore did not wish to visit him as an object of curiosity, to be gazed at as a wild beast. Mrs Brown visited her husband this afternoon. The interview was very calm, and she seemed thankful for being permitted to visit him at all. The band belonging to the Richmond Regiment discoursed some grand music to night. I took tea with Mr Hawks. The weather has moderated & it is exceedingly mild.

Friday December 2d. 1859. I give below a description of this day written by me for the Southern Argus, with corrections.

[The next two pages of Lamb's diary are blank. He never copied the description of Brown's hanging into his diary.]

Picket No 3 was again assigned me. I put Paymaster Cherry, (acting Lieutenant) with Corporal & men upon it. It became very cold and rainy towards night, and after dark it stormed with hail and snow. It was a terrible night for the guard, but all detailed did their duty well. Brown's body was sent from Charlestown to Harper's Ferry this evening, accompanied by a guard of citizens to deliver it safely to the agents of Mrs Brown. I got quite a good rest to night.

Saturday Dec 3d. 1859. A number of the troops left Charlestown to day. The Riflemen changed their quarters to where the Richmond Greys were quartered, in a large stone ware-house. My drummer Walker was arrested Thursday on a farm near here as a suspicious character, and was lodged in jail, until this morning when I released him. I took tea in company with Lieut: Dilworth, with Mayor Green. The Balt: soldiers left me to-day. Although the weather is very severe a number of my men volunteered to do picket duty to-night, but their offer was declined by the General as he determined to dispense with the picket guard altogether. My men have acted nobly, and Wilkinson in particular has been assiduous in his attentions to my personal comfort.

Sunday Dec 4th 1859. It is miserable weather. I have a very severe sore-throat, but Dr Hunter has given me a remedy and I shall probably soon cure it. I did not attend Church to-day as I felt unwell. I allowed Cherry who was very unwell from exposure Friday night, and Whitehead and Kayton to return home to day. I have received several letters from Leonard since my arrival. Henderson has been detailed from my company as Secretary to the Staff.

Monday Dec 5th 1859. The weather prevents the out-door parades & the place is rather dull. I have become acquainted with Col Page of Gloucester & several other Tide-Water officers; and find them pleasant companions. Except a letter from brother Robert, & that very short, I have not received any news direct from home since last Wednesday. I am very anxious to hear from dear wife.

Tuesday Dec 6th. (Acted as Judge Advocate of a Court Martial which assembled to-day at 11 oclk. The duties were novel to me, but the Court complimented me upon the discharge of them. Col Wiesieger⁹⁴ of Petersburg was President of the Court.) I have commenced writing letters to the Argus.⁹⁵ Took an oyster supper with Maj B. B. Washington of the Winchester Continentals, met a number of officers at the supper. Washington was at the Rappahannock Academy with me. I drill my men every day, morning and afternoon in the quarters. More than half of the troops have left for home.

Wednesday Dec 7th. The first paragraph referring to Court Martial under date of the 6th should be under date of the 7th. The Court adjourned late to night, and I sat up until 4 oclk writing out the proceedings. Genl. Taliaferro is very attentive to me and has made me feel at home at Head Quarters, where I now do all my writing.

I have allowed Allen to return home, on account of his business. Members of the Court Martial were Col: Wiesieger, Major Duffy, Major Macklin, Capt. Williams, Capt. Mallory, Lieut Wright, and Capt Lamb. Received a letter from Fleming, Master Machinist, about Navy Yard affairs.

Thursday Dec 8th. I am officer of the day. Genl. Taliaferro has very kindly regarded me as holding a commission as Captain, and to day I am next in Command to himself. I have learnt more of military duty since my arrival in Charlestown than I could ever have learned from books. Guard was mounted to-day at about 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ oclk. A. M. The Virginia Free Press published this morning contained a complimentary notice of the Baltimore City Guards and the Woodis Riflemen which the editor Mr Gallaher got me to prepare. I gave Lakin and Bonfanti permission to go home. Some few of the men petitioned to leave for home, but I dissuaded them from it. It worried me at first, but I could hardly have expected some to act otherwise, as the accomodations were uncomfortable and the duties severe. I posted guard after dark, and put on three additional sentinels, all of whom I posted around the jail, which has heretofore been unguarded [sic] by the military since Brown's execution. There was but one alarm during the night and that caused by the accidental discharge of the gun of the quarter guard in the Court

House. The sentinel was a member of the Washington Guard of Fredericksburg. I had an ambrotype taken during the day in a "wagon gallery" and sent it to dear wife. I was taken from my company as Secretary to the Staff in place of Henderson who requested to be relieved.

Friday Dec 9th 1859. The force has been reduced in Charlestown to a little less than 700. Andrew Hunter Esq,⁹⁶ the accomplished gentleman and profound lawyer whom Governor Wise chose to prosecute Brown and his confederates, has given me free access to all the papers and letters of Brown and Company, with the intercepted letters sent to Brown while in jail. I have got several of the Riflemen busily at work in Mr Hunter's office copying the most important documents. I find that my men seem devoted to me and do everything cheerfully that I ask of them. I received a darling letter from dear wife to-day. It has cheered me up and made me feel much more like sticking to my post of duty. It is the first I have received from her since I left home. I called at Mr Hunter's and found the family a charming one, a beautiful picture in his home of Virginia fire-side happiness. (I think it was Friday I made my first call but am not certain.)

Saturday Dec 10th. Acted as Judge Advocate to-day on another Court Martial. Col Wiesieger President, the other

members were Col: Gibson, Major Hooff, Capt. Scott (Cavalry) Capt May & Capt Rowan. Morfitt a member of my company was tried for drunkenness and disorderly conduct on post. He was acquitted.

I was very much shocked to day by the starting intelligence in the Baltimore Sun, of the murder of little Virginius Leonard, the only son of my partner. From the telegram it appears to be one of the most cold blooded assassinations I have ever heard of even in history. He was a fine loveable youth and could have had no enemy. I received another precious letter from my dear wife. I gave Sand permission to go home, his mother having written for him.

Sunday Dec 11th. During the week just passed my men have wanted shirts, &c and I have obtained them from Kearsley Sheerer & Co on my own account, making each man give me an order on the paymaster for the amount the goods were worth. Gen Taliaferro was very much pleased at my notice of him in my letter to the Argus. I think it probable as Leonard has lost his child and must be in deep distress that Genl Taliaferro may order me home, with my company. I shall not ask however to relieve me if he keeps me here until the 1st of next year. The roof of the Riflemen's quarters took fire to-day, but was soon extinguished.

Monday Dec 12th. The Court martial met again this morning but on account of informality in the charges dismissed the case and adjourned. I was exceedingly relieved to day, by a letter from Forrest & by articles in the papers stating that Leonard's little son had not been murdered but had accidentally shot himself. Mr Hunter showed me some letters to day which the prisoners had written away to their friends. He wisely suppressed them. Stevens ⁹⁷ writes in the most disgusting style, he speaks to his Uncle of being "hearty as a buck," and expecting to "dance on nothing." And he will "dance on nothing" before long. During the Court Martial to-day it was proposed to hold a meeting of the commissioned officers now in Charlestown to recommend a Military Convention to be held in Richmond during the meeting of the Legislature. I took dinner with Mr Hunter to-day. Snyder having received a message that his wife was ill was allowed to go home.

Tuesday Dec 13th. The Misses Rooker in whose school rooms my company was first quartered have been exceedingly kind to me, and have insisted upon my taking most of my meals with them. They are very hospitable and deserve credit for their patriotism in giving up their rooms to the soldiers. I have given up all idea of going home before the 16th, and am hard at work copying the

intercepted correspondence of John Brown. Gov: Williard of Indiana and his two sisters in law, Mrs Crowell of New York and Mrs Dr Staunton arrived to day. They were accompanied by Dr Staunton and Mr Voorhees, & the Doctor's little son.

They visited Cook ⁹² in jail; his sisters were deeply affected by the interview. I was introduced to Gov: Williard, he is young and intelligent looking. I was also introduced to Mr Voorhees. I liked him very much, he is a fine specimen of a National man. He declared if hostility broke out between the North and the South, the Abolitionists would have to subdue the National Men at the North before they could proceed South on their unholy mission. We found the party refined and high toned and they excited much sympathy.

Most of the Riflemen have provided themselves with red flannel shirts, which are most comfortable during this severe spell of weather. Wrote to Major Warner thanking him for the generous conduct of his command and asking permission to carry the overcoats to Norfolk.

Wednesday Dec 14th. Snyder and Lakin returned to their posts from Charlestown, they brought Keville with them. This action on the part of Lakin & Snyder speaks well for my company. The Riflemen rode them from the depot to the

barracks on a sleigh. The Rifles are having a merry time. The [sic] amuse themselves with Walker who enlisted as our drummer. They took him out to-day to the woods on a sleigh and hung him by the arms to a tree. He played his fiddle on his way out to his execution and was more composed than Ossawatamie, after whom he is now called. I met at my quarters to-day, Mr Harding the Commonwealth's Attorney for Jefferson County. I found the boys having a gay time over him. He was drunk which I understand is his usual state. He is undoubted a serious reflection upon his constituents who chose him for the responsible position which he disgraces. He was a hindrance instead of an assistance to Mr Hunter in the prosecution of the prisoners. I tore my pants almost in two to day, the green cloth I purchased of Berkeley and of which our uniforms are made has proved rotten and worthless. The damage to our uniforms is really distressing. Thos: Winn, John Butler, and John Stanly three Quakers, the first from Iowa and the two last from Ohio came to-day to see Coppoc,⁹⁹ usually mis-spelt Coppie or Coppic. They have just made an ineffectual attempt to get the Legislature to pardon this traitor. Butler said Coppoc was his apprentice and bore a good character. Was a very honest, obedient and truthful boy. He said an article in the Tribune of N. Y. had done Coppoc injustice and injury.

Sheriff Campbell told me the Quakers were very severe on Coppoc for his conduct, & desired him to profess repentance, but all to no avail. Three of the Mountain Rangers, (Ashby's cavalry)¹⁰⁰ brought a suspicious fellow into town to day. He could not give a good account of himself so he was caged. He is supposed to be an escaped murderer from Alleghany county named Haslett.¹⁰¹

Last night and to-night the General had a school of instruction at Head Quarters. After the school to-night, I addressed the officers and proposed that a meeting be organized to take into consideration the propriety of calling a Military Convention in Richmond, & nominated Genl. Taliaferro for the chair. He was chosen to preside and I was elected Secretary. After some remarks by Gen T. Col. Chambliss & Capt. Scott of Cavalry, on motion a committee of seven was appointed to draw up a call for a Convention in Richmond, & report at an adjourned meeting. Since my sojourn here I have met with many politicians with whom I have had interesting and important conversations of which I regret I have not been able to take a note. Col Banks of the 82d Reg: Cols Wiesieger, Gibson & Stewart, Maj: Hoof, & Capts Scott (of Cavalry) & Ashby I have found to be most intelligent and excellent associates. Captains May & Scott for social qualities are not surpassed. I cannot pretend to record all the pleasant and agreeable acquaintances I have made & friendships I have formed.

Thursday Dec: 15th. I am suffering with a severe cold which has gone to my bowels. It was brought on by exposure. I have received letters from Milligan and J. M. Forrest from Washington since my arrival here but have had no time to answer them. Milligan is badly in want of money and wants me to buy some Western land from him. I regret that it is out of my power to assist him. Among the letters I have received is a very unique one from Elizabeth City. It is certainly a ludicrous specimen of chirography. The unknown writer informs me that Bagley had had a fight with a Mr Lions about articles written by them in the State and Pioneer. He tells me he thinks Bagley "got lict." A Quaker named Coppoc an Uncle of Coppoc the prisoner visited him to-day.

General orders were issued this evening about the disposition of the troops to-morrow. Col Francis H. Smith had the arranging of the troops on the 2d, & Col Chambliss has it to do to-morrow. A part of the order reads. "Capt. Deans battalion composed of the National Greys Capt. Deans, and Woodis Riflemen Capt. Lamb, in rear of the gallows--flanked by two pieces of artillery, under command of Maj. Duffy and Lieut: Green. The men slept on their arms to-night. We were all startled to night about eight oclck by a report that Cook and Coppoc had broke jail, and had been stopped from escaping by a sentinel at the jail wall. They got out of the jail

through a hole which they cut under the window of their cell, & got on the jail wall by means of the gallows which had been brought in the jail yard after Brown's execution. Coppoc got on the wall & remained quiet. Cook peeped over and attracted the attention of a sentinel, who watched the wall, & when he peeped again fired at him. I wrote an account of the escape for the Argus to-night. If Cook & Coppoc had been ten minutes sooner they would have got out of the jail yard unobserved. I think the jailor greatly to blame, if he were not bribed he showed criminal carelessness. The Sheriff & jailor refused positively to let the General station sentinels inside the jail or its inclosure. But for the military these two traitors would have escaped.

Friday December 16th. This morning I visited the jail and saw exactly how Cook and Coppoc effected their escape, and revised my letter to the Argus, which gives the account as follows. "The hole through which they escaped was cut by Cook and Coppoc immediately under the window. The panel back of the window was composed of large joists extended perpendicularly from the sill to the floor. These pieces were not fastened except by a panel at the bottom, & they could not have been better constructed to allow the prisoners to cut away the wall behind them,-- as they slipped out and in with ease. Cook and Coppoc

took the pieces of timber out, and with a bed screw, & gun screw-driver, cut away the mortar & took out the bricks one by one and placed them in the drum of the stove with which the room was heated. The work was done at night, and Cook says he has been at work on it for some time. They took out the two outside courses of bricks last night and getting through the hole, by the aid of a gutter which passed near the window let themselves down to the ground. ***Cook said he would have escaped but when they were removing what they considered the outside course they found another and this delayed them."

Their chains were cut with a Carlow knife which they borrowed from one of the jail guard. Major Hooff who was the officer of the day, carried me in the jail, and as I was passing from the cell the escape was made from, out of the upper corridor, Cook and Coppoc were standing looking out of the grating of the other cell. Major Hooff introduced me to them. I merely bowed. They looked very earnestly at me, especially Coppoc, who had a fine eye. The negroes and the man supposed to be Hazlett was in the cell with them. Cook and Coppoc exonerated the jailor from all blame for their escape, and denied his complicity in the matter. To day is cold and clear, the ground is covered with snow. The troops took their positions on the field between nine

and ten oclk. The Riflemen were stationed near the gallows, we would call it in front although the order read in the rear. The culprits faced us when they were hung. The General and Staff were behind us. A little after eleven oclk, the negroes were brought to the gallows in a wagon, with a military guard, as they approached the field I noticed that the Shapardstown company had their American flag flying. I called the attention of the General to it, and he had it furled at once.

Saturday Dec 17th. Having been unable to get permission to leave before Monday I am hard at work copying the letters to Brown, taking down the marked localities of his maps &c. It is storming furiously to day. It seems as if Providence had smiled upon the execution of the law, as the 2 and 16th were clear days although followed by storms. I recd a kind and handsome letter from Maj: Jos. P. Warner, telling me that the Guards expected & wished us to return to Norfolk in their overcoats. He begged me to telegraph when I would leave for Norfolk. I telegraphed home to day that I would not leave till Monday. I recd a telegram from Maj Warner yesterday asking me when I would leave. Mr Hunter kindly insisted upon my going home with him to day and making his house my quarters until I left. I carried my little luggage and the papers I desired to copy up to his house. The storm was so

furious that we had a hard time of it getting out to his house. I was drenched, and had to wear a pair of Henry Hunter's pants during the afternoon and evening. I have become acquainted at Mr Hunter's with Mr Strother (Porte Crayon)¹⁰² and his father Col S. and Lieut: Green of the U. S. Army, the officer who led the Marines who stormed the Engine house. I find Mr Strother a most entertaining gentleman. He showed me a number of his sketches, among others a likeness of Brown, as he looked hanging on the gallows. He said he had an inclination to send it to Mrs Childs of Boston, Brown's nurse (that wanted to be.) I am desirous of Mr Strother's writing an account of the Harper's Ferry emeute for the Virginia Historical Society. I have read and heard so many conflicting statements about the affair, that it is almost impossible to get a correct idea of the affair. I have heard many accounts up here from eye witnesses but have not thought it worth while to take an account of them. I sat up late writing & retired to a delightful bed.

Sunday Dec: 18th 1859. The troops at Charlestown paraded to day to bury Mr. Turner, a graduate of West Point who was murdered at Charlestown by the insurgents. He had gone there to look after his friend Washington whom he had heard was a prisoner. The Woodis Riflemen were left in front. Turner was buried in the Episcopal church yard,

his remains had been reposing in a vault. The streets were very muddy, & the marching was exceedingly disagreeable. I telegraphed to Maj Warner that we would leave to-morrow, & to Col: Falls to keep the Bay boat waiting for us, & to the Superintendent of the Balt & Ohio R. R. at Harper's Ferry that we were coming away to-morrow. As it was my last night at Charlestown, I employed myself copying until a late hour. I took tea with Mr Brown the clerk of the Court.

Monday Dec 19th. To day I bid good bye to all friends in Charlestown. I left Mr Hunter's about nine after taking leave of the family. Before the companies started for the cars they were drawn up in front of the Head Quarters. Genl. Taliaferro addressed the Rifles and Greys, and complimented them very highly. Deans responded, and then I was called for and made a short speech. We left Charlestown after 11 A. M. The Alexandria Artillery fired a salute when we left. We arrived at Harper's Ferry afternoon. The company marched to the Armory and strolled through the works. I saw the Engine House, and Col: Washington¹⁰³ showed me the position of himself and the other prisoners, and also of Brown and his men. Col Washington gave me two of Brown's pikes for the company. I found Col: Lewis Washington a most estimable gentleman.

We arrived in Baltimore after dark and were met by a detachment of the Baltimore City Guards, and escorted to their Armory, where we were handsomely entertained. The Louisiana was detained for us, we got on board about six or after, and bidding our Balt: friends adieu started for sweet home. Some of the men were rather boisterous in the early part of the evening, but they quieted before late, and we had a pleasant and quick passage down the Chesapeake.

Tuesday Dec 20th 1859. We arrived at an early hour in Portsmouth where the military were in waiting for the Greys. The Portsmouth Artillery fired a salute. We were not expected until to-morrow, and the Military were not ready to receive us. Some of the Riflemen however came down to greet us, having heard the salute. It is rainy and damp. We marched in the Hall without music, and a few words from me dismissed. I went home and found my darling wife and children and all the home folks well. Dear Father had been acting editor since Leonard's affliction. I saw Leonard to-day, he could not speak to me when I first saw him. Very many friends congratulated me to day on my safe return with my men and my good health. Took a walk with dear wife and bought a present for little Mary.

Wednesday Dec: 21st 1859. Commenced my editorial duties again, found it hard to settle down to work. There is a great difference between a camp and a sanctum. My sanctum has been enlarged during my absence, and is greatly improved. Found several letters awaiting my arrival. One from Doctor Totten, and one from T. G. Clayton of Washington with a receipt for \$30.

The Riflemen were treated to a fine supper to-night at "Junior's Hall" in honor of their services &c. It was a handsome affair. Dr. Simkins delivered the welcome speech and I responded. A number of speeches were made.

Thursday Dec 22d. I prepared a notice of the meeting of commissioned officers in Charlestown, calling a Military Convention in Richmond. Recd a letter from Mr Hunter containing letters to Leeman which his daughter Mrs Kent copied for me. Attended meeting of the Common Council, nothing of importance was done except agreeing to a loan made to the City by the Virginia Bank of \$10,000, which I would have opposed if I had been present at the board. Renewed a note at Farmers bank for \$200. Ethan Allen has shown me a letter he wrote to Millson about the new Navy Yard regulations. They have disappointed the Master Workmen. It was rumored in town to-day that Genl Millson was elected speaker. All parties were disappointed at its contradiction.

Friday Dec 23d. Attended a meeting of the board at the Virginia bank. A number of the members of the Legislature came down on a visit to Norfolk to night. Took a walk downtown this afternoon with dear wife and bought some Christmas presents. Brother Wilson arrived this evening from school in Charles City. Sent the overcoats back to the Baltimore City Guards.

Had an article to day in the Argus reflecting severely on the employer of Frederick, one of my soldiers, who was discharged from his situation while he was in Charlestown.

Daisy and Maggie were busy to-night making wreaths.

Gov: Wise arrived in Norfolk this evening from Richmond, he intends residing on a farm in Princess Anne.

Saturday Dec 24th. Got a note discounted for Father at Virginia bank to take up Decordy's note. The arrival of a number of Southern medical students in Richmond from Philadelphia has created quite an excitement. Several Riflemen have called on me for pecuniary aid, but I have been unable to grant it, except to Stoit who I loaned \$5. Fixed up the evergreens in the parlor for Daisy and Maggie. The room looks beautiful in its Christmas dress. The Christmas eve market was large but not as good as usual. I had a piece in the Argus asking a suspension of judgment on Frederick's employer.

Sunday December 25th 1859. To day was a lovely winter day. Attended St Pauls church in the morning and heard Mr Okeson preach from the following text. [blank]

Attended St Mary's Catholic church in the afternoon with Miss Margaret Reardon, my dear wife accompanied me. We heard some truly grand music, and some charming singing. Madam Bonavita in her solos equalled any prima donna, I have ever heard. The day passed off most happily. Santa Claus deferred his visit until to-morrow. Wrote a letter to the Balt: City Guards, Maj: Warner thanking his command and enclosing resolutions of thanks by the Riflemen.

Monday Dec: 26th 1859. Went down with Maggie, and bought some presents. The folding doors of the parlor were thrown open about noon to-day and all the family black and white were gathered together, to receive the presents which were arranged on a table. It was an interesting and beautiful sight. All of us were happy and joyous, and in merriment of Christmas forgot all troubles and vexations real or imaginary. There were present: Aunt Maria Kerr, Father, Mother, Daisy, Rob, Mag, Wilson, Charles, little Ria and Dick, and myself. Miss Maggie Reardon was the only visitor. The servants were, Joshua, Isaac, Betty, Mary, Maria, Lydia, Peggie, Mary Jane, Frances, Henry, Isaac (the baby), Virginia and Daniel. Uncle Richard

Chamberlaine, George, Dick & Henry called and took dessert with us. Christmas night wound up with fire-works. May our dear family have many a merry Christmas.

Tuesday Dec: 27th. Prepared a long article for the Argus showing the localities marked on John Brown's maps. ¹⁰⁴ Col: Robinson called to see me about the State directors in the banks. Dr. Simkins asked me to publish Wise's last speech. I have been trying to make arrangements to telegraph for the Argus.

Wednesday Dec 28th. Sent copies of the Argus, to a number of the members of Congress, especially to those in whose States localities had been marked by Brown, viz: in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and South Carolina. The President's message arrived to-day. I was disappointed in it. It is a tame re-hash of his last message. Mr. Grigsby desires me to publish Oconner's speech at the New York Union meeting.

Thursday Dec 29th. Col Robinson again called about the banks, he is very desirous to get in one as a director. Jno B. Whitehead & Stephen Bonsal a committee from Merchants and Mechanics Exchange called to-day to ask us to join with the other papers in supporting a clerk for the Exchange. We respectfully declined. Hired Hester from Mr. Tazewell Taylor to-day for next year at \$65

and clothing.

There was a meeting of the Rifles called to-night but so few were present that I adjourned. Wrote to Gov: Wise asking him to thank the Baltimore City Guards in behalf of the Commonwealth of Virginia for their generosity towards the Woodis Riflemen.

Friday Dec 30th. Got up very early this morning and went down to the Steamer Coffee to send the letter to Gov: Wise. Saw Dr. Simkins who promised to forward it to him. Mr Grigsby having at my request obtained a copy of Rives' Madison for me asked me to give it at once a good review. I have received a letter from O. W. Edwards in Washington in reply to one I wrote on eve of leaving for Charlestown. He encloses a biography of Joe. Lane which he desires me to publish. Dr. Edwards, his brother, and a warm political friend of mine who resided in Surry, lost his life by accident recently. Mr Mahone told me while at Richmond recently he had drawn up an amendment to the charter for the North and South Railroad. Mahone is anxious to see Shands or Kindred of Southampton sent as delegate to the Charleston Convention.

Frank Decordy returned from his trip into North Carolina to-day, he gives an entertaining account of his journey. He said, all through Smith's Districts he was asked about me, on account of my affair with Bagley. He said he

convinced all of my acting right, and he found nearly all very hard on Bagley. He is a true friend & has doubtless done more than any other man could have done for my reputation in North Carolina. He returned to Norfolk through Millson's District, and spoke to many about me as the proper successor to Millson in Congress. He has enlisted several enthusiastic friends in my favor. Ethan Allen called on me about Navy affairs. He wants me to advocate regular salaries for the Master Workmen.

Saturday Dec: 31st 1859. Wrote to Gov: Letcher congratulating him on his inauguration, and asking him to give me his views on State affairs. Wrote to O. Jennings Wise for copies of Grigsby's review of Rives' Madison, which appeared in the Enquirer, & asked him to speak editorially of the Military Convention. I recd by Petersburg cars to day, the Enquirers I wrote for. Col: Robinson again called about the banks. I told him I wanted Dunbar turned out, and gave him hope that I would have him put in his place. My journal since I left for Charlestown is necessarily imperfect as I have just finished writing it up this evening. Recd letters from Milligan & Forrest who are in Washington. Milligan complains that I have not written to him, and Forrest sends me a note on him for \$110 which I loaned him to enable him to get out his patent. He appears grateful for what I have done. Got

from Mr Leonard the copy of Helper's "Impending Crisis."¹⁰⁵
 Which Milligan sent the Argus. This is a book which has
 created such excitement in Congress. Cousin George
 Chamberlaine and wife took dinner with us to-day. It is
 sister Maggie's fifteenth birthday; she is growing up a
 beautiful girl. It has been snowing incessantly since
 one or two oclk and to-night there is a very violent snow
 storm. I found it bitter cold in coming up from my office.
 I sat up to-night to see the old year out and the new year
 in. The last act of this year was to read the 31st Psalm.
 (I read this evening the speech of Roger A Pryon in Cong-
 ress, a copy of which he sent me. It is an admirable
 defence of the South, & reflects great praise on its
 gifted author.)

Sunday January 1st 1860. I commenced this year by reading
 the 1st chapter of [blank]. I retired to rest after taking
 a look out upon the beautiful Elizabeth with its snow clad
 banks. Yesterday's snow was the first we have had for
 more than a year. The snow is some six inches deep and
 is freezing hard, it stopped snowing before the new year
 came. I did not venture out to-day as I was suffering
 considerably from rheumatism in my right shoulder. I
 commenced reading the life and Times of James Madison by
 Wm C. Rives. I find it deeply interesting. Mother gave
 me a book to read on the Lord's Supper, which I read, I

hope with profit. I commenced reading the Old and New testaments to-day. Father received a letter from Dr. Totten who is in Iowa City. It contains some noble Union sentiments.

Monday January 2d 1860. Joshua constructed a sleigh out of the wagon body and some planks, we hitched "Dick" and the horse Father got from Dr Totten in the place of "Charles" and carried the washing to the washerwoman, intending to come back for Daisy and Mag. After leaving the washing we started to come home and having to go over an unpaved street which was full of holes our runners got broken and in turning a corner they came to pieces completely which frightened the horses. They ran off at full speed with the pole and swingle-tree leaving Joshua and myself behind. We were not hurt by the fall. The horses ran across the vacant lot at the corner of Union and Nicholson streets and were stopped by a fence. Joshua brought them home and I went down to the Argus office. I called on Dr. Wilson and borrowed his sleigh for to-morrow. (The ferry boat Norfolk running between here and Portsmouth was sunk this evening by being run into by a large lighter in tow of the Str Young America. No lives were lost.)

I find Rives' Life of Madison most interesting, he takes issue with Dr Grigsby upon the part the Cavaliers of Virginia took in the commencement of the American

Revolution. With the lights now before me I incline to Rives' opinion that the Cavaliers were the leaders in the great movements which led to our Independence. I called on Mrs Hunter Woodis this afternoon but she was out. John Doyle took me in his sleigh from my house to Mrs Woodis' residence. I received a letter from Milligan this afternoon. The N. Y. Herald of Friday copies from the Argus, Brown's contemplated field of operation in the South. Joshua fitted up another sleigh this afternoon, and put "Dick" to it. Rob, Daisy, Mag, Wilson and myself had a glorious ride by moon-light. Hester the new nurse for little Ria came to-day.

Tuesday January 3d 1860. Got a note for \$200 discounted at Virginia bank, Leonard endorser, time 90. days. Did not attend the board. Got Dr. Wilson's sleigh and carried dear wife on a charming sleigh ride. We went as far as James' corner. I took M_other and Wilson a ride also. Leonard gave me the following statement concerning the affairs of the Argus for 1859.

Balance on hand 1st Jan 59.	\$198.50
Borrowed from Mrs Cooke.	4,000.--
Receipts proper. (about.)	<u>11,341.50</u>
	<u>\$15,540.00</u>

Rects proper 1858.	\$11,425.38.
Do. 1859.	11,341.50.

Great reduction of expenses in 1859.

Estimate of payments 1859.

Final payment on Argus Buildings	\$3,715.25
Expenses proper, (about)	8,568.64
Curtails in banks	720
Drawn out by W Lamb	1,115.
Drawn out by A Leonard	1,115.
Ballance in hand 1st Jan. 60.	2,950.--
Repaid Wm Lamb money advanced to	
Weekly outfit (in part)	<u>150.</u>
	\$15,540.00

Leonard does not think we have made by the Weekly edition. Attended a meeting of the Common Council at 8 oclk P. M., a regular monthly meeting. A resolution was passed thanking the Baltimore City Guards for loaning their overcoats to the Woodis Riflemen. Mr Saunders offered a set of resolutions instructing the School Commissioners not to employ Northern teachers in the Public Schools & to discharge all now employed who were not born and reared in the South. I seconded the motion. After some debate, all speaking against the resolutions except Mr. Saunders, I made a speech against them, in which all my feelings were enlisted and withdrew my second, when the resolutions fell

through. Many of the members begged Saunders to withdraw his resolutions but he was unwilling to do it. Among the incidents of the meeting was the reading of a bill against the City of Norfolk, brought by the City of Norfolk, approved by Seth March as Chairman of the Alms House Committee and by the chairman in the other Council. On being asked how the City could bring a bill against itself, Mr March confessed that he had signed the approval of the bill without seeing that it was not made out properly. Certainly this is a loose way to attend to Public business. Voted for granting the petition of Chamberlaine and Grandy to erect sheds on their wharf. After the Council adjourned I went with the majority of the members to the supper given by the United Engine Company upon the occasion of their opening their new hall. It was a handsome entertainment. Speeches were made, and songs were sung. I was called out and made a speech. I was enthusiastically received and when I finished was greeted with three cheers. This Engine house was rapidly completed by my action while Chairman of the Fire Committee and the Company seem grateful for it. Besides Capt Kevill and some of the members served with me at Charlestown, and became warmly attached to me. I did not get home until one oclock. It was freezing to-night.

Wednesday January 4th 1860. No boat has arrived from Baltimore for two days, and the Richmond boat is unable to get up James river on account of the ice. There is a film of ice extending from both shores to the channel of the Elizabeth, and near the shore the ice is thick enough for skating. The weather has moderated. Published Wise's speech to the Medical students at Richmond to-day, and endorsed his Union sentiments. There are some things in the speech which we think are objectionable but we did not care to point them out. Walked this afternoon with dear wife to the Argus Office, corrected proofs and returned by moon-light. The view from Stone bridge on either side was romantic. Paid Mary Hunter for Mary Jane's services in full up to the time she left 1st January. Dear little Ria moved in her new room in the wing to-day, she is the sweetest little one of her age in the World. She is beginning to love her Mother with all the tenderness of a daughter. What happiness I hope to have from my children.

Wrote to Thos Grier Stone-mason in Raleigh N. C. to see if I could not obtain employment for Albert Adam a member of my company. Wrote to Genl. Taliaferro about the Military Convention; and to the Librarian at Princeton for an address of the Hon W. C. Alexander, referred to by Mr Rives in his Madison, as having been delivered at that college in 1857, "On the Influence of Princeton

College on the Liberty, Independence and Greatness of the United States. I am delighted with Mr Rives' work. Prepared some of the intercepted "Brown letters" for publication. ¹⁰⁷

Thursday January 5th 1860. This morning at about half past four o'clk. Sister Maggie woke me and told me to run out where I have the horses as there was a fire near our stable. I jumped up and dressed as quick as possible and ran out and found the north end of the double tenement on Botetourt St next to Mr Halls stable on fire, the wind was blowing a perfect hurricane from the North, and as our stable was near these buildings I thought it would be burnt. I got the horses out very quick. Although I found some difficulty in getting Silas loose, as in his fright he had got one leg over his halter, I put his leg back regardless of his plunging, but finally was forced to slip the halter over his head and lead him out by his mane. I ran the carriages out and with the assistance of the female servants took the harness and all moveable articles out. I sent brother Robert down town to give the alarm, as no watchman seemed to notice the fire. The flames spread with great rapidity and soon Mr Halls stable and kitchen were on fire, and the store and residence on the North of the building which first caught. The buildings

all being of wood the heat was intense and the red hot cinders and sparks showered upon Mr Hall's residence. The fire companies after great delay arrived, but owing to the intense cold, the frozen state of the Engines, &c were useless. The Hope and Aid came first and the United followed some time after. Mr Hall would not move at first and when he was obliged to do it was too late to save all the furniture. The corner store & residence owned by Michael Dennis was insured for \$1200, two hundred more than he paid for house and lot. The double tenement was insured in the Mutual for far more than its value. The kitchen and stable to Mr. Hall's residence owned by Father were uninsured. They were worth about \$800. The large residence of Mr. Hall owned by Father was insured in the Mutual. It is the building which stood where this (Father's) house stands. Father was too unwell to get up. Mary Frances who was sleeping with little Ria for the first time in the wing room saw the fire and reported it to Father. Joshua our driver who has lately married sleeps away from the house and did not get here until late. I treated the firemen to liquor. But for the snow the Warren shanties on Free Mason St would have been destroyed with Dr. Selden's new house. Received a letter from Governor Wise enclosing my letter with a communication to Governor Letcher on the back of it.

The following is a copy of the correspondence.

Norfolk Va December 29th 1859.

Dear Governor

I regret exceedingly that pressing engagements prevented me from seeing you when in Norfolk. I am very desirous to have you return thanks to the Baltimore City Guards, before you cease to be Governor of our Commonwealth, for their kindness in loaning to a company of Virginia Volunteers their handsome and comfortable overcoats for service at Charlestown. When the Woodis Riflemen passed through Baltimore on their route to Charlestown, they were without overcoats, as I was unable to obtain them in Norfolk for love or money. The Balt: City Guards Maj: Warner, upon being informed of our condition tendered us the coats of their battalion which we gladly accepted. These coats were worn by my company during the three weeks it was on duty at Charlestown, and we returned in them to our homes. I need not tell you of the great service they were to my men in discharging their duty. Besides this act, on the 1st of December Capt Parks of the Guards and four others of his company came to Charlestown and with the permission of Genl. Taliaferro enlisted as privates under my command and did duty on the day of execution with my men. The Guards were among the Maryland soldiers who rushed to Harper's Ferry at the first

alarm. I think a letter from you to this battalion would be gratefully received. If it is not asking too much, will you not in the name of dear Old Virginia thank these soldiers for their conduct towards a part of your Army?

With great respect

Your friend

To Hon. Henry A. Wise

William Lamb

(On the back of this was written.)

Accomack C. H.

Jany 2d 1860

To His Exlcy

Jno Letcher

Gowr &c.

Sir. I beg leave to endorse and inclose to you the within letter from Capt. Lamb & a copy of my reply, and I request that you will officially make the tender of acknowledgement which I now cannot make, thanking Capt. Parks and the Balt: City guards in the name of the Comth of Virginia.

Very respectfully

Your obdt servt.

Henry A Wise

Accomack C. H. Va

Jany. 2nd. 1860.

To Capt. Wm Lamb.

Dear Sir. Yours of the 29th reached me the 31st. the last day of my official term when it was too late to comply with your request. I had been waiting for an official report to me, in order formally to thank the Baltimore city Guards for their brotherly kindness and attention to your men. They had gallantly gone to our defence at Harper's Ferry, and their courtesy to the corps from Norfolk under your command was no less knightly and deserving of gratitude as well as admiration. Please now present my private acknowledgements to Capt. Parks and his guards, and say that they are no less cordial than if they were official. But I endeavor to have them official also by endorsing and inclosing your letter to His Exly. Govr Letcher with the request that he will tender them for me in the name of the Comth of Virginia. You will please, therefore, send him the inclosed with a copy of this note to you. Will you please also, through its commanding officer, tender to the battalion to which you were attached my thanks, for the promptness with which they obeyed the call which demanded their services. They waited not for preparation and went in winter to the Mountains without overcoats. That is enough to say to show their spirit and sense of duty. I have the honor still to be.

Your friend & servant

Henry A. Wise.

The Richmond Enquirer of to-day under the heading. "State Military Convention" pays my company and myself a very high compliment, for our services at Charlestown. It was written doubtless by my friend O. Jennings Wise. Wrote a letter to Dr Sinkins to get work for Wesley Barnes at Marine Hospital. Wrote to Pierce to get employment in his department in the Navy Yard for a number of Father's old watchmen.

Friday January 6th 1860. Wrote an editorial for the Weekly announcing the commencement of the second volume, in which I took the ground that a dissolution of the Union should follow the election of a Black Republican to the Presidency. ¹⁰⁹ Received a letter from O. Jennings Wise dated Richmond Jan 3d. accompanied by two more copies of the Enquirer with Grigsby's Review of Rives' Madison. I had not acknowledged the receipt of the last & having sent a letter for this Enquirer the very day they arrived he thought they had miscarried.

Wise is anxious to know what we are doing in this section about the delegates to the State Convention, & gives me some important political information. He knows all is right in Norfolk, but is anxious about Princess Anne.

I shall fix things in this city all right for Henry A. Wise, and I think I can get the surrounding counties to declare a preference for him for the Presidency. I shall

see to Nansemond on Monday, and on my return from Richmond shall visit Princess Anne. I have become thoroughly enlisted in favor of Wise. A line of steamers has been established between this port and Providence R. I. and Boston. The steamers are first class side wheel boats. I saw the pioneer of the line the Steamer Spaulding going out of the harbor this afternoon. The Coroners jury decided this afternoon that the recent fire was the work of an incendiary. The ruins look desolate enough. Marshall Parks told me to day of the consummate rascality of D. T. Bisbie our mis-representative in the House of Delegates. He imposed upon some Carolina gentlemen and got them to elect him President of the Currituck Steamship Company. The company gave him \$50 & told him he must quit. He made many voters believe during the election that he held a position in the Albemarle & Chesapeake Canal company and would wield great influence in dispensing patronage for that and the James River & Kanawha Canal & thereby got many voters. He stooped to the lowest and most contemptible demagoguesm. I was in hopes the Legislature would repeal the anti-duelling laws, in order to let B. B. Douglas take his seat in the Senate but the prospect of a repeal is gloomy.¹⁰⁹

Saturday January 7th. 1860. The weather has moderated and the ice & snow are beginning to disappear. The James

river boat has not been able to go to Richmond this week, & the Carolina canals have been frozen up. Gave Kempe a note at 90 days for \$106 $\frac{1}{2}$, for money loaned to pay a debt for cloth &c of the Rifle Company. Went to see Tree to make arrangements about telegraphing for the Argus, but he was not in. Had a talk with Mahone about delegates to Charleston. I desire to have them both from the upper part of the District. Col: Robinson said to me to day that he wanted Millson sent on a mission so that I could be sent to Congress at once. He is fishing for a place in the banks. Mr. Jos: T. Allyn gave me some old documents to day, relating to Southern Independence and direct trade. He is very desirous for me to advocate some system of legislation which will encourage a home trade. I have determined hereafter to make my paper more of a paragraph paper, I find that long articles however important and useful they may be are not read in a City. People have not the time to read. There was a meeting of the Commissioned officers called to-night by Company F. I did not attend, but called on Mr Grigsby who was out. I paid to-day a note of \$60. at Norfolk Savings Bank given for room sent for the Rifles.

Sunday January 8th 1860. Called on Mr Grigsby to-day. Had a most interesting visit. He showed me his private journal. He advised me to buy Leonard's half of the

Argus and introduce a system of economy. He had made a fortune of \$30,000 by the Beacon for which he gave \$12,000. Advised me not to enter public life until I had made or laid the foundation of a fortune. This must be done before a man is five and thirty or in all probability it never will be done. Politics will keep any man poor. It never yields a support. I think this advice most excellent and shall try to effect an arrangement with Leonard. It is very hard for me to give any of my political schemes but when I reflect I have a family growing up around me I must do something for their comfort and happiness in the future. Went to see Tom: Colley this afternoon. Found him in bed. He still lingers poor fellow with one foot in the grave. His mind is as bright as ever. Jack Elliott was out to see Tom. Came home and found the family group around the dining room fireside. Dear wife and little Ria were among the family and it was to me a scene of happiness & love. Wrote to Ned Chaffee enclosing \$10 and directing pipes and tobacco to be sent to E. C. Potter Providence.

Monday January 9th. Wrote an article calling upon the Virginia Historical Society to get Mr Strother of Martinsburg, (Porte Crayon) to write a history of the Harper's Ferry foray. Left in the noon train for Richmond. Mahone, Irwin, Bill Parker, Col: Robinson & others went up with me.

Mr. Grigsby was down at the depot to see me off. On my way to Petersburg heard of Governor Letcher's first message to the Legislature. Saw it in the Petersburg Express, it is the true doctrine. He desires a Convention of the States to be held to remedy the existing state of affairs which threaten a dissolution, and takes the ground Seward should not be allowed to take the Presidential chair. Met at Petersburg, Cols. Chambliss, Wiesieger & Brockett and Capt. May, old Charlestown friends, bound to Richmond to the Military Convention. Arrived in Petersburg about 4, left for Richmond at 5 and got there after 7 oclk. Found that no place had been obtained for the Military Convention. Met Col Taliaferro at the Exchange. Got room No 8, Ballard house with Col Chambliss, Col: Alexander and Mr. Crocker of Portsmouth. Went with Chambliss & others to the Whig office to see Capt. Elliott. He was not there. Got introduced to Mr Ridgway and Mr. Graham. Ridgway advised us to call the meeting at Ball room in the Ballard house. Obtained the room & put the notice in the morning papers. The Dispatch charged for the insertion. Genl. Taliaferro is not in the city. Called on Gov: Letcher. He told me he had written to me to-night. When I left he gave me the following letter.

Richmond Virginia. January 9th /60.

My dear Sir,

From some unknown cause, I did not receive your congratulatory letter of the 31st ultimo, until Friday last, when I was about finishing my message which was sent in on Saturday. I hope the views which it presents and the recommendations I have made will meet with the approval of yourself and other discreet friends in your locality. I am assured by many friends here, that they are approved by the Democrats, and the States Rights portion of the Opposition.

If I had received your letter in time, it would have afforded me pleasure, to have replied, and furnished the information desired. Under the circumstances I am sure you will take the will for the deed.

My duties here are quite laborious, and I have very little time even for necessary recreation. After I get accustomed to the harness I hope my labors will become lighter. With kind regards to your father and other friends.

I am truly your friend,

John Letcher.

Dr Tebault late delegate from Princess Anne came to Richmond with me. He says Princess Anne is unanimously for Wise, and will so instruct her delegates. In November Court resolutions were passed endorsing Wise's prompt and patriotic action. He said he would not vote for Genl. Millson for Congress again. He regarded him as

a submissionist. He was opposed to Judge Baker and said his county was. Irwin told me that Duncan Robertson President of Farmer's bank had recommended to Gov: Letcher as the new State director either Saml. Hodges or C. W. Grandy. I shall oppose both. Have met with a number of old acquaintances. Met with James Skinner of Staunton to night. He said he had left dear little Mary well and happy. She had brought the Christmas presents sent to her from home around to Comm: Skinners to show them.

Tuesday January 10th 1859. Saw Lieut Gov Montague ¹¹⁰ and he invited me to his room. Met Andrew Hunter Esq at the breakfast table. Was introduced to Col: Wilcox of Charles City by Mr Douglas. The Military Convention met in the ball room of the Ballard house at 11 oclk. I was appointed one of the temporary Secretaries. Maj Genl. Wm B. Taliaferro was chosen President. Met in the afternoon at the Blues Armory. I was appointed one of the business committee. Saw Montague about getting Father appointed a State director in the Farmers bank of Virginia. He said he would do so with the greatest pleasure.

This evening carried Gov: Letcher, Gov: Wise's letter asking him to thank the Baltimore City Guard. Letcher promised to do it. Introduced the subject of banks directors. The Governor showed me those presented by the

Virginia bank, they were John James, myself & James E. Barry in the place of Chas. A. Santos. I told him I had heard the names of Hodges & Grandy suggested for the place of Dr. Mallory in the Farmer's bank and asked him to put J. J. Bloodgood. He said he would do so. He asked me to telegraph to Dr. A. R. Smith and ask him if he would like to go in the Va bank in Portsmouth, & to let me know a good State ticket. Wrote home to night to my dear wife. The Military Convention is well attended but does not seem to be disposed to go to work in earnest. Was appointed this morning one of a committee to wait on the Military Committees of the Legislature and invite them to attend our Convention. The Senate had adjourned when we got to the Capitol, but the House was in session. Heard Genl Kemper ^{///} making a speech on an appropriation for arms. Did not like him as a speaker. Heard him use the expression, "Damned* hypocritical psalm singing Yankees." Sounded contemptible. Did not retire until very late. Went with Capt. Mitchell this afternoon to his store to assist in writing out the proceedings of the Convention. I told the Committee not to nominate me as a regular Secretary for the Convention. Was introduced by Dr. Tebault to Col. Graham, a fine gentleman who said he would like to see the disability I labored under on account of being engaged in a duel removed.

*A friend has since said that Kemper did not use the word "damned" but it sounded so to me.

Wednesday January 11th 1859. Telegraphed to Dr. Arthur R. Smith, if he would like to be a director in the Virginia bank, & to name a State ticket. Met Henry Irwin and told him of my interview with Gov Letcher, about the banks. He suggested that John James was the oldest director, and I then recollected for the first time he had opposed Letcher. He also told me of Bloodgood having been under protest. I carried him to see the Governor and introduced him. I got Gov: Letcher to put W H C. Ellis as State director in Dr. Mallory's place, and to put James E. Barry in John James' place instead of in the place of Santos who had only been director for two years. Got James L. Wilson of Isle of Wight to get me a copy of the Militia laws. I told Montague last night not to say anything to Letcher about Father, as he had asked me to name a director and I had given a name. Attended the business committee to day. We worked until the Convention met at 3 oclk. We had hard work to prepare business. Called at Enquirer Office and got the article about Strether copied. The Convention does not seem disposed to do much work. Received a letter from O W Edwards who is in Washington relative to an article in favor of Genl. Lane which he had sent for publication. I received the following dispatch from Dr. Smith. "I will. For Stockholders, Sam. M. Wilson. O H. Peters John Cocks, Arthur R. Smith. For

Executive, Gerard Henderson, Robt. Dickson, John Linn." Carried the dispatch to Gov: Letcher, and told him Dr. Smith evidently thought I had asked him to be a stockholder's director, and advised the Governor to put him on the State ticket. Col: Robinson is worried because I did not recommend him for a bank director.

The committee worked until a late hour last night, after mid-night, when by invitation we went to Capt Mitchells store, where we were treated to wine and cigars.

Thursday January 12th. 1860. Met Saml Wilcox this morning. Attended the Convention and the Committee. Called at the 2d Auditor's Office and got \$50, the interest on State Stock held by Hatton's estate. Went to a fine collation prepared by the resident officers at Mechanic's Institute. I brought before the committee last night a recommendation for encampments of the Volunteers. It was agreed to by the committee this afternoon with some slight alterations. I made a speech in the Committee in defence of my plan. Wrote to dear wife. Wrote a letter in answer to one received from O. W. Edwards. The Convention met at eight oclock and got through its business and adjourned sine die at 2½ oclk A. M. I made two speeches to night, one in favor of the election of Generals by the field officers instead of the Legislature, and one in favor of encampments. The first proposition

that I advocated was sustained the second was defeated, but afterwards I had it reconsidered and it was passed.

Friday January 13th. 1860. Did not retire until about 4 o'clock consequently was late in getting up. Saw Senator McKenny about getting a charter for a gas company, and about the amendment for voting in municipal elections. The amendment proposed to restrict the franchise in municipal elections to those who have paid their taxes the year preceding the election day. Saw Mr G. H. Penfield & he introduced me to Mr. Palmer president of the Sharpe's patent arms Manufacturing company of Hartford. Penfield desired me to aid him in getting a contract from the State for 100,000 arms. He submitted a proposition concerning it. I intended leaving for home to-morrow but consented to wait until Monday for him. He made me large promises if I could succeed with the members. I called on Senator McKenny of Norfolk told the proposition to him, & he was pleased with it, he wrote a note to F W Thomas of Alexandria inclosing the proposition & asking him to support it. Saw an abstract of a speech in Congress by Shelton F. Leake, in which he makes some very unnecessary strictures on the course of Governor Wise. It will recoil on Leake's head & strengthen Wise in his State. Called on Irwin & Mahone at their room in the Exchange, met several gentlemen & was introduced to them, among

others Caperton of Monroe. Wrote to Daisy to night & enclosed \$5.

Saturday January 14th. 1860. Saw Penfield & he begged me to get to work. Spoke to several members about his plan. The proposition which he submitted & which I carried with McKenny's letter to Thomas was as follows: Exchange Hotel Richmond Janry 13. 1860

Sir, I propose to manufacture Sharpe patent rifles & carbines in Virginia for the State of Virginia and deliver them subject to the inspection of State inspectors, at the same prices at which I furnish the same kind of the arms to the War department of the United States Govt. provided I have a contract for 100,000 stand of said arms. In payment for the above named arms, I will if desired by the State receive the Armory of the State at its value, & the balance in the 6 pr cent, bonds of the State of Virginia at par, payable at a distant day.

In case the above proposition is accepted by the State & a contract made, I hereby agree to commence the manufacture within four months after the necessary buildings are constructed & ready to receive the machinery.

In addition to the above mentioned arms, I will also if desired by the State, manufacture any kind of arms required by the State of Virginia which are not patented,

at prices to be agreed upon hereafter.

Very respectfully &c. G. H. Penfield

Agt Sharps Rifle Manufacturing company

At my request Penfield reduced the number to 50,000 arms. Called on Letcher and spoke to him about Penfield's proposition. He said it would never do for the Legislature to pass an act looking to any one individual. I agreed with him and then advocated a general proposition to appropriate so much for 50,000 of the most approved arms. I know Sharps arms will be chosen for their merit. Saw Senator Thomas, Ro: L. Montague introduced him, & I gave him McKenny's letter. He said he would oppose the House bill. Saw Col Smith & carried him to see Sharps gun. Crocker returned & roomed with me again. Was introduced to Pretlow of Southampton & Sundy of Greenville members of the House, found them very pleasant gentlemen. Was asked up into Judge Robertson's room to a supper & met a very large number of members, was introduced to Barbour of Culpepper. Wilson of Isle of Wight is opposed to the bill giving \$300,000 to the Norfolk & Petersburg R. R.
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 (Called upon Col Memminger Commissioner from South Carolina. He asked me if I were a member of the House. He said I looked very young to be in political life. In my conversation I learned that he was related to Commodore Wilkinson family in this city.)

(Dined at a table with Penfield & his wife & Gov Letcher & son. P. treated to Champagne.)

Sunday January 15th 1860. Saw Penfield about his proposition & got him to withdraw it. He agreed with me it was better to have a general bill. Promised to get Lt. Green of Marines on the commission to choose arms. Called on Thomas & withdrew the proposition. Conversated with a number of members & persuaded some to oppose the House bill & vote for a large appropriation to arms. Had a talk with Dr Thompson a member of the Senate Committee on Military affairs but could not convert him altogether to my proposition. Pumphrey & Lyrich called on me. I omitted to give Friday a laughable occurrence. I pointed out to James S. Garrison Sr of Princess Anne, Caldwell the Black Republican Senator who was standing in the rotunda, he immediately walked up to him & stooping down looked right in his face. Caldwell with a smirk on his countenance, skulked away as quick as possible. He is a very insignificant looking fellow. Told Penfield to get Barbour Supt at Harper's Ferry to help him &c.

Monday January 16th 1860. Left Richmond at 4 A.M for Norfolk. Took breakfast at Bolingbrook Hotel Petersburg. Crocker came with me. Arrived in Norfolk before noon, found dear little wife & the children well. Wrote a

strong article against the House bill for Armory, & advocating my scheme & had an hundred extra papers printed. Recd several letters from Milligan, & one from Grier in Raleigh. Recd letter from A. D. Banks in Washington, begging me to visit Washington & see Judge Douglas at once. Decordy called on me. My friends are fixing every thing to make me Democratic elector. It does seem delightful to get to sweet home & its comforts. Recd this morning the following dispatch from G H Penfield Richmond.

"Barbour will join our scheme, doubts success only because of the amount. You must come back."

I am afraid I cannot make it convenient to return to Richmond.

Tuesday January 17th 1860. Attended meeting of board of Directors. Discussed Kerr's debt &c. Told Santos of the attempt to remove him. Sent the papers to Senators & Delegates in Richmond by Mahone. Genl Blow went to Richmond. E. C. Robinson called on me & introduced Murdock the tragedian. Telegraphed to Ballard to know whether Penfield had left for Washington. Charly Santos made me a present of some delicious smoking tobacco. Wrote resolutions for Democratic meeting to night, got W H C. Ellis to offer them. Substituted his resolution in favor of Wise for President in place

¹¹⁴
of mine. Told Danl. S. Cherry about attempt to remove him & told Ellis I had got Letcher to appoint him Director. The meeting to night was very well attended. I resigned my post as President of the Democratic Association.

Wednesday January 18th. 60. I desired to go to Richmond to day but could not make it convenient to leave. The Richmond papers contained the list of bank directors, the Norfolk banks were precisely as I requested Gov. Letcher to make them. Wrote to Milligan, sending letters for him to Gov Floyd & Col Drinkard. Appointed the committee to select officers for the Democratic Association, it will appear in to-morrow's Argus. Wrote an article about a meeting in Isle of Wight in favor of the bill for the relief of the Norfolk & Petersburg R. R. I called upon the Senator & Delegate of that county to support the bill. Recd a telegram from Ballard stating that Penfield had left this morning for Washington. Paid Bloodgoods bill of \$157.95 by giving note at 4 months. Called on Mr Grigsby & lady with dear wife to-night.

Thursday Jan 19th 1860. Recd a note from Mr Bagnall informing me that I was appointed a director in the Virginia bank. Called on Gov Wise, who was on his way to Richmond. Decordy accompanied me. The Governor again advocated an

armed flotilla of boats to be manned by an Artillery company. The boats to carry a small Howitzer & eighteen men. The Governor spoke with Decordy about the Woodward trial. Wise gave Wm Woodward, whom he defended when tried for forgery, a horrible character; he said he was a toad in Eden, a betrayer of his Lord &c. Recd a letter from Penfield, he says the Armory bill will pass the Senate, & wants me to get Gov Letcher to appoint certain gentlemen commissioners under the bill to select arms for purchase. I have given up all idea of going to Richmond until February. Have gone hard to work writing & selecting for my paper which I have rather neglected of late.

Friday January 20th. Paid Umstader. Paid Caleb Nelson the residue of Mrs Minnis' rent for last year. This morning I replied in the Argus to a criticism in the Providence Journal on the word "endorstation" used by me in a recent editorial. I also gave Mr. Grigsby the credit of giving to the World, the first memoir of Geo: Mason, ^{1/5} the distinguished Virginia statesman, whose statue has recently been placed on the Washington Monument in Richmond.

Attended meeting of the new board of directors at the Virginia bank to-day. James E. Barry has taken the place of John James for the State, & George Reid the place of Wm. Johnson Jr, for the stockholders. All the old officers

were re-elected without opposition. John Thoroughgood bro't me a letter from Jim Williams in answer to the one asking him to retain Thoroughgood; he said he would attend to it. Took up Madison again to-night.

Saturday January 21st. Wrote article in favor of fixed salaries for Master Workmen in the Navy Yards. Pd note & gave note on account of Woodis Riflemen. Attended meeting of the Democracy of Norfolk Co. held at Gibbons tavern, Washington Point. The Norfolk City resolutions as drawn by me, were passed with suitable additions for the County. Was called upon and made a speech. Although resolutions expressing preference for Wise were passed, there was a strong Douglas feeling. Decordy accompanied me. My friend W. W. Herbert took an active part in the meeting. I have not been home in time for dinner since my return from Richmond. Read Memminger's speech before the Legislature of Virginia. It is able & has impressed me favorably. ¹¹⁶ Drew from Argus \$10. Pd Seabury's bill. Called the District Convention to appoint delegates to Charleston, to meet in this city, on 4th of March next. Published this morning a communication from Genl Shands of Southampton in favor of Henry A. Wise.

Sunday January 22d. 1860. Attended St Pauls Church and heard a most excellent sermon from Mr Ambler. Dear wife accompanied me to church, the weather was so warm that I

left my over coat & her furs at Mr Wilkinson's on Free Mason St. I went with Father to see Tom Colley. I found him much better but still weak. I read to day an infamous letter (especially at this time) from John Minor Botts to some Opposition members of the Legislature. I could have been better employed.

Monday January 23d 1860. The Armory bill passed the Senate Saturday, I was opposed to many of its features, but it was infinitely better than no appropriation at all. Drew \$30 from Argus & paid sundry bills. Recd a letter from Hugh H Kelly of Suffolk informing me that the Suffolk meeting had called the District Convention for the 14th of March & not the 4th as that was Sunday. I have advised that the time & place for the D. C. be left with the delegates from this District who attend the State Convention. W H Morris requested me to employ his son in my office. Recd a letter from Milligan. Attended drill of Woodis Rifles, quite a large number were present.

Monday January 24th 1860. Mr Hughes, one of Father's old watchmen called on me & told me that some forty or fifty negroes were employed in the Navy Yard, as laborers while a number of white men with families were without employment, & begged me to try to get the negroes discharged & the white men taken in. I told him to get me a list of the

slaves, their employment & of their masters. In his simplicity he does not know what a noise & commotion the total discharge of slaves from the Yard would create. I desire however to know all the particulars about their employment. A. P. Young Esq. Clerk of Isle of Wight called on me to-day, & invited me to attend Court next month, where they expect to have a Democratic meeting. He said an advocate of the Norfolk & Petersburg R. R. might do some good. My friend Col: David Godwin called on me to-day, & asked me if I would like to be the elector for this District. I told him it wld please me to be if the party desired it, & he promised to use his influence for me. The committee on organization chose me for President of the Association & request me to accept a re-election. I am very undecided what to do. Wrote an article to night about Botts' letter. ¹¹⁷

Wednesday Jan 25th 1860. Bennett of the N. Y. Herald & Roger A. Pryor are blackguarding each other. I sincerely regret it for Pryor's sake. Bennett is abusing him shamefully but it was provoked by Pryor's reflection on his wife. Lassiter told me Fort had been chosen one of the Vice Presidents of the Dem: Association. I told him I regretted it, as he had failed to vote for Father for Mayor. Decordy introduced me to two gentlemen from North Carolina, Mr Atkinson & Dr. Gerham. I told Mr. A.

I would call and escort him & his wife to see the launching to morrow. I took Wm T. Morris' son in the Argus office. I went to see Mr. Broughton about it, as he had discharged the boy. I told him I had promised Morris to take his son in the office before I knew the circumstances under which he left the Herald office. Mr Leonard made great opposition to his coming in & for awhile I was very much worried with him.

Received the following letter from Governor Floyd.

Washington January 24. 1860.

Dear Sir,

I have received your letter of the 17th instant, in relation to Lieut. James F. Milligan. Previously to its receipt, I had a conversation with the President on the same subject, and had repeated the substance of that conversation to Lieut: Milligan himself. There is every disposition on the part of both the President and myself to promote, as far as practicable and proper, the wishes of Lieut. Milligan and his friends but up to this moment, no opportunity to afford any practical illustration of our kind disposition has been presented. The fact is, the law authorized the appointment, by the President of a certain fixed number of military storekeepers, all of whom have been appointed and are now in office. Therefore, until by some casualty a vacancy occurs, no new appointment

and be made.

This explanation has already been given to Lieut: Milligan, who has, also, been informed that his papers have been carefully filed and will be promptly submitted to the President when the occasion for their consideration is presented. I need not assure you that it will always afford me sincere pleasure, as far as I consistently can, to meet your wishes in this or any other matter in which you may feel a personal interest.

William Lamb Esq
Norfolk Virginia

I remain Dear Sir

Very truly Yours

John B. Floyd

Thursday Jan 26th. 1860. Rose early & went with Sarah to see the launch of the Steamer Richmond from the Gosport Navy Yard. Called for Mr Atkinson & wife but they had left. Met them on ferry boat with Decordy & his daughters. Rode to Yard with them. Parked there, Sarah & myself going over to St Helena to await the launch. The launch was very beautiful. We walked home by way of drawer bridge. Recd a letter from W. R. Drinkard about Lieut Milligan, he says he is disposed to aid him but he must exercise patience. Finished to night the 1st volume of Rives admirable work "The Life & Times of James Madison." There was a drill of my company & a meeting of the Democratic party to night. I did not attend either as I

caught cold to-day waiting on the wharf at St H. for two hours to see the launch. Brother Robert attended the meeting, I was re-elected without opposition President of the Democratic Association.

Friday January 27th 1860. Wrote to Milligan & sent him copies of Floyd & Drinkard's letters. Col E. C. Robinson tried to make trouble last night because he was not named as a delegate to Richmond. Decordy put him down. Attended the board at the Bank to day. Dear wife received from Providence by steamer a box of presents from her parents to herself and children. Her father wrote a very kind & tender letter to Daisy accompanying the presents of silver to the children. Read to Daisy Mr Grigsby splendid review of Mr Rives' Madison. Called this afternoon on Betty Chamberlaine. Yesterday at the request of Wm Glegg, I wrote a card stating that he & Corbell had been unjustly discharged from watch &c. I wrote it for him, & used as near as possible his language, & did not write very correctly, as I did not wish to be the author.

Saturday Jan: 28th. 1860. Wm W. Mann, Sheriff of Pasquotank called on me to-day and requested me to sign a petition to the Legislature to have North Carolina vessels put on the same footing with Virginia vessels in the inspection law, and also asked me to advocate it in my paper. I gave him a letter of introduction to Governor

Letcher. James Gordon Esq called on me to day & gave me some interesting facts about the new trade with North Carolina which will be opened up by the Albemarle & Chesapeake Canal. Mr Grigsby paid a visit to my library this afternoon, he was delighted with my collection. I have some works of which there are few copies in this country. Good news came from Washington to-day. W H N Smith of N. C. has received 112 votes for Speaker within two of election. This is the first time Sherman has been beaten. Decordy came to see me to-night to give the points about his trip into North Carolina so that I may prepare an article. Feel unwell to-night.

Sunday Jan 29th 1860. Took some medicine last night and consequently did not leave the house this morning. Spent most of the day reading in my library. Went to St Pauls with dear wife to night & heard Bishop Payne of Africa preach a missionary sermon. Wrote to Lieut Milligan, about Forrests patent.

Monday January 30th 1860. Left my bank book with Walter Taylor & had it written up, found I had overchecked a hundred dollars without being aware of it. Must be more careful in future. Sent to Petersburg for the news from Washington, heard that Pennington came within one of being elected Speaker. Smith had lost all chance. Attended meeting & drill of Riflemen.

Tuesday January 31st 1860. One month of the New Year has gone, & I have hardly got use to the date. Time flies too rapidly, the days are not half long enough for me. Mr Kitchen of Isle of Wight called on me to-day & asked me to attend Court next Monday & speak in favor of the Norfolk & Petersburg R. R. I regretted that I had to decline as I intend going to Princess Anne that day. Recd a letter from Penfield in Washington, he desires me to aid him in getting Commissioners appointed under the Armory bill. He wants to meet me in Richmond. Attended board at bank to-day. Doyle got worried because I opposed a note of E. C. Robinson. Recd a letter from Dr. Tebault, he requests me to call a Democratic meeting in Princess Anne next Monday. He desires to purchase Father's carriage. Father has sold his horses. Silas would not pull gently with Dick, & Joshua managed them so badly that Father disposed of them. Father made an ineffectual effort last week to sell some of his lots on the Point, among them the lot on which Hall's house stood. Revised a petition of the Master Workmen to Congress asking to be made salaried officers.

Wednesday February 1st 1860. There was a very severe snow storm last night, & it is intensely cold to-day. Had an article this morning about North Carolina trade. ¹²²
Kader Biggs & Doty called on me to make some corrections

in it. Biggs who is one of the largest merchants gave me some information about the trade of Carolina. No Speaker elected yet. Smith has withdrawn from the contest, & Pennington of N. J. came very near an election. I fear the Republicans will succeed although I still hope for Millson. Pd note at Virginia bank & made a deposit to cover over draft. Commenced writing a review of Rives' Madison. Received a letter from Mrs Beers in Hartford inquiring after little Mary, she writes that Mr Palmer (Pres Sharp's Arms Co) whom I met in Richmond has told her that Mary was at the insane asylum. I answered her letter contradictory the silly report.

Thursday February 2d 1860. The Argus of this morning contained a telegram announcing the election of Pennington as Speaker. ¹²³ Unfortunate as the election of a Black Republican is to the welfare of our Union yet it is a consolation to know that Pennington of New Jersey is not of the John Sherman stamp. He did not endorse the Helper compend. Fred: Wilson of Norfolk County told me to-day he intended to support me for elector, and that he desired Dr. Smith to be a delegate to Charleston. Spent the latter part of this evening at Mr. Ricks. Continued the review of Rives' Madison.

Friday February 3d. 1860. Attended board at bank, got

note discounted. Mr Richings the actor called on me to-day with Col: Robinson. Attended Opera to-night with dear wife & saw Ritchings & his daughter. Was very much pleased. Sent petition of Master workmen to be saleried officers, & a letter from Allen to Senator Mallory to that gentleman through Genl. Millson. Continued review of Madison this afternoon.

Saturday February 4th. 1860. Called to see Dr. West about some books he bought that were S. T. Sawyers, & asked him to sell me some of the political ones. I picked out half a dozen or more, among them Henry Lee's Campaigns in the Carolinas & he gave them to me. The Steamer Merrimac¹²⁴ arrived in Hampton Roads from the Pacific to-day. Made arrangements to go to Princess Anne C. H. Monday, & make a speech in favor of Wise for President.

Sunday February 5th 1860. Went to St Pauls this morning & heard Mr Okeson. Went to see Tom Colley in the afternoon. Tom still lingers, with his intellect as bright as ever. I never expected to see him alive in 1860. It commenced raining this afternoon. The weather had been extremely cold all week until to-day. It is becoming very warm. The Merrimac came up to the naval anchorage this morning. Wm. Sharp returned in her after an absence of 30 months.

Monday Feb: 6th. 60. The weather was so very bad to-day that I could not go to Princess Anne. The first part of my review of Rives' Madison appeared in to-day's Argus. Received a letter from Milligan, he informs me J. M. Forrest has conveyed to me in payment of \$110, the right to his sash fastener for the States of Virginia and North Carolina.

Tuesday Febry 7th. 1860. Attended board at bank this morning. Wrote to Governor Letcher suggesting to him the appointment of Lieut: Green of the U. S. Marines, who stormed the Engine House at Harper's Ferry as one of the Commissioners under the Armory bill. Wrote to Geo. H. Penfield of Washington. Attended meeting of the Common Council. Voted against appropriating two assistant assessors, & against the sale of City property. I offered several motions which were carried. I was elected proxy for the Council in the meeting of the Seaboard & Roanoke R. R. Company. Father had Judge Williams of Kansas & several other gentlemen to spend the evening with him. Dear wife walked down town with me this morning. The Council also put me on a committee to prepare a memorial to Congress, asking an appropriation for a post house & wharves at Quaranteen.

Wednesday Febry 8th. It is very stormy, rode down town to-day with Father in a hack. Father brought Judge Williams to see me. I gave him a letter to Gov: Floyd. Dr. Mallory by letter informed me he had been appointed a commissioner under the Armory bill. Read to night Demosthenes Philippics. Wrote several letters to book publishers. Continued my review of Madison, & wrote other editorials.

Thursday Feb 9th. Received a letter from G H Penfield, he informs me that Col Smith, Genl Cocks & Dr. Mallory are appointed Commissioners under the Armory bill. So my letter about Green is too late. I wrote to Dr. Mallory to-day that if he did not accept the place to resign in favor of Green. I sent the Doctor some speeches &c, & asked him to state his views on the subject of a conference with South Carolina & other Southern States. I have been intending for some time past to make a speech in the State Convention in favor of Revolution in case a Black Republican is elected President, but Leonard & Father think such a position not advisable so long before the nomination of that party. Attended drill of the Riflemen.

Friday February 10th 1860. Attended board at the bank. The money market is still tight. Carried little Ria's carriage to be mended, & purchased several articles for dear wife. The second part of my review of Rives'

Madison appears to-morrow. Received this evening the following telegram. Richmond Feb. 10th 4/40 P. M.

"I telegraphed to Mr. Francis Mallory to know whether he would accept the office of Commissioner to purchase & manufacture arms, which had been conferred upon him by the Governor. Not hearing from him fear he is not in Norfolk. Please inform him if possible as it is necessary a reply should be received speedily.

Geo. W. Munford

Secty of the Commonwealth

Wrote an article to night of some length upon the position of W W Carroway Jr. Senator from Princess Anne &c. in voting against the Armory bill, and endorsing the letter of John Minor Botts.

Saturday Febry 11th. 1860. Got up early this morning, and got Joshua to get a buggy & horse from Webber and drive me down to Dr. Mallory's farm on Little Creek. It is about eight miles from Norfolk in Princess Anne. The roads were frozen & travelling pretty fair. Found the Dr. quite ill. Too unwell to see me. Sent up the dispatch to him. He answered, that, he had received no such message, & that several days ago, he wrote to the Governor declining &c. I got a fine breakfast & after some little rest I rode home & reached the Argus not long after eleven oclk. I telegraphed to Secretary Munford the Dr's answer.

I had called a meeting of the Soldiers who were at Charlestown with me for to-night, to get them to sign a power of attorney to authorize me to collect their pay in Richmond. I did not attend but got my Lieutenants to be present. I went to a meeting of the Oystermen held to-night at Tunis' Mill to take action against the present oyster fundum bill, now before the Legislature. ^{/25} I made a speech at the meeting, & offered my services to oppose the bill in Richmond free of charge. Capt. Robt. P. Russell presided at the meeting, he is a good honest man, but made a poor chairman. He seconded all the motions put, & waited until some one else put the motion to the house. I made a great number of friends among the oystermen, & they seemed pleased with my speech.

Sunday Febry 12th 1860. Francis one of our nurses being sick, I staid home this morning with dear Daisy who could not go to church. This afternoon we both walked over to see Tom Colley. Poor fellow he was in good spirits but he is but a living skeleton. I had a delightful walk with dear wife.

Monday Febry 13th. 1860. My article against Carraway caused considerable talk among the Princess Anne people to-day. One man took the Tri Weekly on the strength of it. I sent the window frame showing Forrests patent to E P Tabb to day. Received the following letter.

Richmond Va Feb: 11th 1860.

My dear Sir,

I have received your letter of the 7th inst, and, would have replied to it immediately, but for my absence at Charlestown, and pressing engagements since my return. The law of Virginia prohibits me from appointing a man in the service of the United States to any office. But for this law I would have selected either Lieutenant Green or Col Lee, for the Commission authorized by the Armory Bill. If you will refer to the Virginia Code you will find the law to which I refer. An absence or furlough would not have relieved the difficulty.

I expect to send in a message on Monday reviewing the conduct of the Governor of Iowa, in refusing a requisition for Coppoc.

I am truly

Yr friend John Letcher

Nearly all the soldiers signed the order for pay on Saturday night. I learned this afternoon from Wm H. Turner that he had never promised Jas W. Tabb, to go his security for house rent. Frederick Wilson Esq of Norfolk co, told me he intended to go to Richmond next Wednesday & would work for me as elector. Decordy will go for that purpose & I expect my election to that post is sure.

Tuesday Febry 14th. 60. Left Norfolk in the 12 oclck train for Richmond to attend the Democratic State Convention. Several friends accompanied me. I feel quite sure of being chosen elector. Stopped at the Exchange hotel, although I thought I would go to the American. Met with Lamb Wilcox at Petersburg and he begged me to pay him a visit on my return home. I have found out that the ryder now on the Norfolk & Petersburg R. R. bill, will meet with opposition from the Know Nothings in the Legislature. It will take the control of the Railroad out of the Know Nothing councils of Norfolk & give it to the State. I shall see it through. Called on Mahone & had a long talk about the railroad &c. Had a talk with Watson about the North & South road. I have been put in room No 8 again in the Ballard house.

Wednesday Febr 15th. 1860. Attended the sessions of the House and Senate. I advocated the passage of the ryder to the Norfolk and Petersburg R. R. and told my friends by all means to pass it. Attended a caucus to night in Corinthian Hall of the friends of Gov Wise for the Presidency. I pledged Norfolk City and Norfolk county to vote for the resolution of preference for Wise. When the question came up who should present the resolution to the Convention, Col Claybrook of Northumberland was nominated but declined. Col C. then nominated me but I also declined,

and Genl. Chapman of Monroe was chosen. It was best to get some Western man to do it. Brother Robert came up to-night & brot a letter from dear Daisy. Decordy came up and told me he was working hard to get me chosen elector. I learned to night that the candidates against me were, Massenburg of Portsmouth the old elector, Mr Kindred of Southampton, & James L. Wilson of Isle of Wight. Attended a sub-caucus at the Enquirer office, where we determined to make Col Payne of Fauquier temporary chairman, & Genl. Banks of Madison permanent President. I was placed at the head of the committee on organization. We determined to let the resolution for a Southern Conference be brought in voluntarily. Miers W. Fisher presided at this caucus. Senator Isbell of Jefferson was President of the large caucus.

Thursday Febr'y 16th. 1860. Called on Mr Jackson in the Auditor's office to see about my pay as witness before the Oyster Fundum Committee in 1858. Could not arrange the matter as the clerk of the Committee Mr Chamberlaine was not to be found. Attended the Convention, our party succeeded in securing the organization agreed upon. Was appointed Chairman of the Committee on organization. Attended the meeting of the committee. Gen. Banks was chosen president, & I named N. P. Young Esq as the Vice President from my District. Made the report to the

Convention which was adopted. The committee among other things recommended that not less than thirty members would call for a scale vote. I understood that Massenburg and Wilson had retired from the contest in favor of Kindred. My friend Mr Mahone has been working for me. Many friends among them Frederick Wilson of Norfolk County are up and working. Decordy is working like a beaver for me, but I think the chances for electer rather slim. The upper part of the District says that Norfolk asks for everything.

The Convention has commenced to be stormy. I neglected to state that I was appointed one of a committee of two to escort Genl. Banks to the chair. This afternoon it was agreed that the delegates from the different electoral Districts meet & nominate electors & sub-electors. At a caucus of the delegates from my district, which I did not attend it was agreed they should meet to morrow at the St Charles at 9 oclk.

Evening. The delegates from the 1st District met to night at the St Charles, between the afternoon and night sessions as many delegates wanted to return to-morrow. I did not attend. Kindred was withdrawn from the contest & Massenburg nominated. I was elected by nearly if not fully two votes to his one. The vote as near as I could get it was for Lamb Norfolk City 644. Norfolk county and Portsmouth

1230. Princess Anne [blank] Isle of Wight [blank] For
Massenburg Nansemond [blank] Southampton [blank]
Massenburg k of Surry moved to make the election unanimous
 and it was carried. Other electors were chosen. Norfolk
 was chosen as the place, and the 15th of March as the day
 for our District Convention. Mallory Dickson of Isle of
 Wight nominated me, and M. P. Young, seconded the nomina-
 tion. Decordy communicated the good news of my election.
 A committee was sent to bring me to make a speech before
 the delegates, but could not get to me on the platform on
 account of the great crowd. My election was all the more
 pleasant as I had almost at one time given up hope. I
 thought a combination would defeat me.

Friday February 17th. 1860. Genl. Chapman this morning
 introduced the Wise resolution in the Convention. Douglas
 offered a substitute. An exciting debate arose. John
 Goode Jr of Bedford made a telling speech in favor of the
 Wise resolution. Have made a number of acquaintances. A
 scale vote was taken on the substitute. When the roll of
 the delegates were called the first time, it was proposed
 to re-call the roll, riotous objection was made, & the
 Convention adjourned in great disorder. The Hunter men
 declared the meeting tyrannically adjourned, & held an
 informal meeting calling Col: Garnett to the chair. It
 amounted to nothing.

Saturday February 18th 1860. The Convention was stormy and riotous & the Hunter men refused to let the roll call proceed. There was intense excitement all day. Attended meeting of the Wise caucus at Exchange. We determined to persist in our resolution for Wise. At the afternoon session was terrible & disgraceful disorder, the Electors recommended were confirmed. Genl. Kemper took the authority as a friend of Mr Wise to withdraw the resolution of preference, and abide by the vote of the substitute, (declaring a resolution of preference as unadvisable) as it stood at adjournment last night. I objected to it but was advised not to speak. Attended Wise caucus at the Exchange. Col Payne in the chair. Genl. Kemper defended his course. Several speeches were made against it. I spoke warmly in favor of standing by the resolution of preference. A majority were with me, but before the adjournment of the caucus fearing our friends might give in, after we had had such bad leadership, we consented to agree to the compromise. When the vote was reported to the House the substitute was announced as defeated a shout long and loud went up from the friends of Wise. After refusing to act as a Democratic Convention on the subject of a Southern Conference, the President announced the Convention adjourned sine die, whereupon it became a mass meeting, the galleries coming down to take part, & Col Payne being called to the chair.

Resolutions were passed favoring a Southern Conference. I attended a Wise caucus after the adjournment of the Convention, & we organized for future action. Visited Capt. Ashby and arranged the pay roll of my company.

Sunday 19th. 1860. Left all the necessary papers in the hands of Capt. Ashby to draw my company's and my own pay. Neglected to state under yesterday's date that I received a letter from Father, & Uncle Richard Chamberlaine concerning the violation of the inspection law by the Providence Steamer Spaulding. They desired me to request the Governor to remit the fine of \$500. Called on Gov Letcher and gave him letters from Father & Mr Chamberlaine. The Governor told me he had not the constitutional power to remit the fine. Bill at hotel \$14.

Monday Febry 20th 1860. Left at 4 A M for Norfolk, stopping at Petersburg to get my breakfast. Arrived in Norfolk at noon. Found all well except my precious boy Richard who had been unwell. At night attended a large party at Bloodgoods with dear wife.

A committee from the Riflemen waited on me to-night & presented me with a set of resolutions from the company, which I may notice hereafter. See 22d about oystermen.

Tuesday February 21st 1860. Had the name of Henry A. Wise for President, flying at the mast-head of the Argus to-day.

I have become thoroughly enlisted in Wise's cause and intend to labor for his nomination. ¹²⁶ I promised G. Jennings Wise to send two delegates to Charleston for his father, and I will do it. Received the following dispatch from Richmond to-day.

Capt. Wm Lamb Norfolk Argus

Deposited 21st inst to your credit in bank of Virginia, three thousand six hundred and six (3606) dollars & fifty five (55) cents. Pay for services as Judge Advocate not allowed.

Richard Ashby.

Deposited this sum at R H Chamberlaine & Sons, & have prepared to night a pay roll.

Wednesday Febr'y 22d 1860. Wm H. Brown of Portsmouth requested me to get him in the Coopers' Department in the Navy Yard. The Riflemen expected to parade to-day, but the weather was so bad that they did not turn out. I neglected to state on the 20th that a number of oyster-men waited on me at night & gave me materials for drawing up a report, to present at a meeting next Saturday night. Paid note of \$100 at Virginia bank.

Thursday Feb 23d 1860. Received pay roll from Capt Richard Ashby. MrsForrest wife of the local editor of the Argus died last night. She was a mills Martin & his second wife.

Received a summons to appear before the Corporation Court next Monday to answer an indictment for receiving a challenge. I do not suppose the consequences will be even troublesome. The amnesty granted by the Legislature will relieve me in my opinion. This is my first summons before a court. I will not moralize upon the necessity of any law against duelling.

Paid the Riflemen & volunteers to-night. The men were rejoiced to get their money.

Dr Simkins called on me to-day, & told me that Tom Kemp had been abusing him, & asked me as a mutual friend to advise him to stop. I cautioned Drummond to day about distributing Botts' letter on the cars. He is acting mail agent on the N & P. R. R. Beverly K. Taylor renewed his note for \$240, paying a curtail of \$30.

Friday Febry 24th. 1860. Wrote to Capt. Ashby to send me a copy of the pay roll audited by the Military board, as the pay roll sent me did not require the amount put to my credit by nearly a thousand dollars. Wrote to Nat Tyler of the Enquirer. Wrote to Adj Genl. Richardson about my commission. Wrote to Genl Kemper asking to have the bill concerning non tax payers in Municipal elections, referred to the people at the polls on the 24th of June next. Continued paying off my men. Burgess money was stopped to day in my hands by the Sheriff. The V M I Cadets had a flag

presented to them this afternoon. The Blues & Juniors paraded. Forrest's wife was buried this afternoon. I started to go to the funeral but was too late. L. H. Chandler has been appointed elector for the Opposition. Recd a letter from Henry Irwin who is still in Richmond. Recd a confidential letter from A. D. Banks in Washington about the delegates to Charleston. Sent Kearsley Sheever & Co. \$213.50 Amount of their bill.

Saturday Feb 25th. Milligan returned from Washington today. Recd letter from Irwin. Wrote a report for the Oyster Committee. Attended the meeting of the Virginia Oystermen to-night.

Sunday Feb 26th. Attended St. Pauls with dear wife this morning & heard Mr Okeson. Visited Tom Colley this afternoon, found Tom rather low spirited.

Monday Feb 27th. This was the day I was summoned before the Court, but I did not attend. Recd a letter from Adjutant Genl. Richardson which was very unsatisfactory. Attended Council meeting to-night, to consider the Market Ordinance. Pd note at Virginia bank of \$180. Some of the Riflemen called on me before noon to-day & requested me to parade in the afternoon, I consented & at 4 oclk I turned out forty. They paraded well. I brought them down to the house & treated them.

Tuesday Febry 28th. Wrote to Nat Tyler a plan for securing the different Districts in the State for Henry A. Wise. Took a walk this afternoon with dear wife.

Wednesday Feb 29th. Attended the Hebrew wedding of S. W. Seldrier & Miss Umstadter at the Opera House, also went to the feast given in celebration of the nuptials. Was called upon & made a short speech. Dear Daisy went to the Opera House with me & I got a private box & had a most excellent view. Felt too tired to attend the ball at night. Recd a telegram from Capt. Ashby stating the State had paid me \$1000 too much to pay my soldiers with. Settled my account with Ghiselin by taking books.

Thursday March 1st 1860. Wrote to Gov: Floyd asking him to order Capt. Elzey to Old Point. Wrote to Capt. Ashby & Mr. Irwin in Richmond. Wrote a political letter to Fernando Wood. ¹²⁷ The books I received from I D Ghiselin Jr. in payment of the remainder he owed me were. Jefferson's Complete Works 9 vols edited by H A Washington. They had belonged to Mr Grigsby & he exchanged them for a set with handsomer binding. Everett's Works 3 vols, & an English print of Rome in two volumes profusely illustrated with steel engravings. The Riflemen had a meeting and drill to night. I made a speech in reply to the resolutions of the Committee and begged the company to re-organize elect a treasurer & Secretary & be more prompt

& attentive at drills &c.

Friday March 2d. 1860. Recd the following letter from Richmond dated March 1st. "By examination the Board of Commissioners to audit and pay the expenses of the State have discovered that a warrant was issued on the 20th ult, on account of the pay of your company for three thousand six hundred and six $55/100$ dollars which was precisely one thousand dollars too much, and I am directed to call your attention to this fact & to request that you will cause that amount to be repaid at once into the Treasury, to the credit of the Harpers Ferry Fund and furnish the evidence thereof to this Board." "The Board are satisfied that you will give your instant attention to this matter." I am respectfully

Yr obdt servt S. Bassett French Clerk to Board
Thos T Kempe procured me some dark homespun & I got Carey, a member of the Riflemen to make it up for me, it was sent home to day. It cost in all \$9.38 cts for material & \$10 for making s \$19.38. I am receiving daily a great many political documents from M C

Saturday March 3d 1860. Went down town to day with my Virginia cloth suit, it was very much admired. I got Dr Simkins the Collector to appoint Knox, a good democrat, to the place of coxswaine of the Custom House boat vice

Spady resigned. Wrote to Bassett French, telling him I was surprised the Board had not been informed of the overpayment to me, when I had written directly about it. I sent Capt. Ashby a check for \$1,000 payable to the order of the H. F. B. After sending it off, I recd the following from French dated March 2d. Mr Irwin of your city called this morning to enquire of the precise amt over drawn by your company, & after a personal examination of the pay roll I am enable to state that the amt drawn was 3,606.55

The true amt of pay due yr company	<u>2,618.05</u>
	988.50

The Board thank you for having called the attention of the Paymaster to this error &c. Attended & presided at the Democratic meeting to-night called to appoint delegates to the District Convention &c.

Sunday March 4th. Went to St Pauls church in the morning with dear wife & heard Dr Okeson. Went over to see Tom Colley in the afternoon. He was better. Dick Parker called last night & told me I had neglected to attend to Taylor's note.

Monday March 5th 1860. Pd a curtail on B. K. Taylor's note in the Virginia bank of \$30, & renewed it for 90 days for \$240.

Last Saturday I got Kempe to write the following letter to Samuel McDowell Moore of Lexington, the first signer

of the call for the Ruffner pamphlet & the elector first chosen by the Opposition for the 11th District:

Norfolk March 3d. 1860.

Dear Sir,

Enclosed I send an article from the Intelligencer. I take the ground that it does not state the facts correctly & that you were accepted as an elector by the Convention before you resigned. Am I not right?

Yours truly Thos T. Kempe.

Tuesday March 6th. 1860. Received a letter from Thos G. Broughton Esq Secretary of the Board of Health, enclosing the following:

Office of the Board of Health, Norfolk March 2d 1860.
At a meeting held this evening, the following entry was directed to be made in the journal of proceedings:
The City Councils having concurred in the recommendation of the Board, and granted them authority to depute a suitable person to visit Washington and represent to the authorities there the urgent necessity of making provisions for the accomodation and relief of seamen suffering from malignant and contagious diseases, and also for storing the cargoes of infected vessels at quarantine ground,-- the Board after due deliberation do hereby appoint Major William Lamb as their agent for the accomplishment of the object herein specified. And the Board would thankfully

receive the valuable services of Dr. J. J. Simkins, the respected Collector of this port, which he is understood to have volunteered in forwarding the efforts of their authorized agent.

Thos G. Broughton, Secy B. H.

Received a letter from S. Bassett French about the overpayment. It is very satisfactory. Got a note at Virginia bank for \$100 90 days. Attended Common Council meeting to night. Session lasted until 12 oclock. I made several speeches, & obtained permission for the Norfolk & Petersburg R R to run its rails from Wide Water St to Main St, across the property of John Tabb & others, &c.

Wednesday March 7th. Saw Fred: Wilson, Mahone & others about the delegates to Charleston. I am desirous to have Dr. Smith of Ports: & Mr Kindred of Southampton sent, but fear Kindred cannot be elected as Shands from his county went last time. Recd a letter from Fernando Wood, in relation to the N. Y. District delegates to Charleston.

Thursday March 8th. Wm. M. Pendleton asked me to-day to vote for him as Mayor, & to nominate him for the position as I have declined to qualify. Attended drill of Riflemen to-night. Received letter from French enclosing auditors receipt for \$988.50, & the remainder \$11.50, & also an extract from the minutes of the Board, which Leonard intends to publish. Drew a plan of a house with dear wife.

Friday March 9th. Wrote to French, C. H. Foster, & to O. J. Wise.

Saturday March 10th. Received a letter from Adjutant Richardson about State over coats & returned answer that I had obtained none from the Commonwealth for my soldiers.

Sunday March 11th. Attended St Pauls in the morning with dear wife, & visited Tom Colley in the afternoon.

Monday March 12th. I am so much engaged with my paper that I find I have little or no time to keep my journal. I neglected to state last week that I recd a letter from Genl. Kemper informing me that he would watch the bill to amend the City charter in regard to suffrage when it came up he would put the desired ryder upon it. Kempe gave me an answer he received to his letter from McDowell Moore. It is evasive. I went with Decordy & called on [blank] Lee who keeps a livery stable near the corner of Church & Wide Water Sts. He has come over to the Democracy. Dr. Simkins told me Wise was in town. I felt so unwell to night I did not go to drill. A storm came on late. (To day I heard that Dameron the mail agent on the N & P. R. R. was dead & I told Lassiter to go at once to Washington. I gave him a letter to Millson.)

Tuesday March 13th 1860. We are having a severe snow storm. It is very cold. I staid at home all day to-day as I felt unwell. It is something unusual for me to quit my post.

Wednesday March 14th. 1860. I went down to the Office to day. I got from Greenwood a beautiful Geneva gold watch for Daisy. I gave her old watch & chain & \$30 for it. The delegates are coming in for the Convention to-morrow.

Thursday March 15th. 1860. To day at noon I called the Democratic Convention to order & called Col H. H. Kelly to the chair. I nominated Wm G. Dunbar for Secretary. I participated in the proceedings generally. J. J. Kindred of Southampton and Dr. Arthur R. Smith of Portsmouth were my choice for delegates to Charleston. I did not vote however. They were elected on the first ballot. I offered a resolution of preference for Henry A. Wise for President, & advocated it in a speech. It was carried unanimously. I had a supper party in the evening and invited a number of friends but only a few came, among them Lucius H. Chandler the Opposition elector. Uncle Joseph B. Whitehead of Smithfield was stopping with us. I was pleased to hear from friends that my speech had made a favorable impression upon the delegates.

Friday March 16th. 1860. Felt rather tired after yesterday's work. The harmony and unity of the Democratic Convention has had a good effect on the party in this City. I was sorry to learn that the Kanawha District had sent Hunter delegates to Charleston, as I expected Wise would have that District. I fear the politicians will defeat the wishes of the people of Virginia.

Saturday March 17th. 1860. Drew \$100 from the Argus. Paid sundry bills. Ordered a ϕ B K key from Greenwood. Attended a meeting of Merchants, opposed to the proposed tar bills.

Thursday April 19th. 1860. For a month past I have neglected to write in my journal. On Monday March 19th I left for Washington as the agent of the Board of Health of Norfolk. Went up the bay with Henry A. Wise Jr. ¹²⁸ in the steamer Georgeanna. Arrived in Washington, met with Roger A. Pryor, who introduced me to Keilt. Called on Genl Millson and got him to give me a letter of introduction to Secretary Cobb, ¹²⁹ with whom I had several interviews about my mission. Called at Pryor's house one evening and became acquainted with his wife. Called on Saml. T. Sawyer, and he introduced me to Senator Douglas. Had a number of interviews with Geo: H. Penfield agent for Sharpe's rifles, and also Mr Stewart of Kentucky who

seemed to be a very influential claim agent in Washington. He desired my influence in several cases. I introduced Mr Sawyer to him. I got acquainted with a number of M C's & politicians, but have forgotten their names. Had a delightful interview with Gov: Floyd. Returned to Norfolk by way of Richmond & Petersburg. Made my report to the Board of Health & handed in a bill of \$30. Received thanks & payment of expenses. Attended monthly meeting of Councils in April. Nominated proxies for Norfolk & Petersburg R. R. Chamberlaine for the people & Reynolds for Council. They were elected. Went on a tour of examination on the N & P. R R & had a pleasant trip wrote an account of it for the Argus. Went to Petersburg on the trip. Attended annual meeting of N & P. R. R. Moved to accept the State subscription upon the terms fixed by the Legislature. Disapproved of the action of the State proxies in amalgamating the offices of President and Superintendent, & turning Irwin out of the Presidency. Paraded the Riflemen Monday 9th of April & on Thursday the 19th. The last a State parade. Both small parades. There was an indignation meeting of the people last night (Thursday 19th) about the action of the State proxies. Chandler spoke, I was called for but did not speak. The last month has been an important one with me and I regret I did not keep this journal. To night (Friday 20th)

nominated Wm M. Pendleton for 2d Major, at the meeting of the Commissioned officers & he was elected. Took a ride with dear wife friday afternoon to Oakfield.

Sunday 22d of April. Attended St Pauls in the morning, and visited Tom Colley in the afternoon with Father.

Monday April 23d. The Charleston Convention assembled to-day. There is great doubt about the nominee.

Tuesday April 24th. Drew \$100 from Argus. Heard from Dem. Convention, Caleb Cushing is permanent President. ¹³⁰
Took a ride this afternoon with Daisy.

Wednesday April 25th. Sent pay to the Baltimore Soldiers who served at Charlestown with me.

Thursday April 26th Pd note of \$150 at Virginia bank.

Saturday 28th. The Charleston Convention has created great excitement all this week. It is predicted it will break up in a row.

Sunday 29th. Heard from the great battle between Heenan & Sayers. The details are bloody and disgusting, it was a drawn fight. Attended St Pauls & heard Mr Okeson preach, it was a stormy day and few were at church.

Monday 30th. 1860. Heard bad news from Charleston, prospects of a bolt. Recd a letter from Maj: Warner acknowledging receipt of \$55.

Tuesday May 1st. 60. News from Charleston confirmed; the Convention divided by a bolt of eight States. ¹³¹ If a union is not brought about the country is lost.

Wednesday May 2d. 60. There has been no reconciliation at Charleston, and the regular convention has commenced balloting. Douglas is ahead but will not be nominated.

Thursday May 3d. The Democratic Convention being unable to make a nomination has adjourned to meet in Baltimore the 18th of June. The Riflemen had a meeting and adopted a new hat.

Friday May 4th. I am suffering with a severe cold. Went down to Hampton Roads in the little steamer [illeg.] to meet the U. S. Roanoke with the Japanese on board who are visiting this country. The Steamer had not arrived. Was sorry to learn that Gov: Letcher had dropped Genl. Wm B. Taliaferro as Major General, and had appointed Genl. Odin G. Clay in his place. ¹³²

Saturday May 5th. The State militia parade came off to day, but feeling unwell I did not turn out, and as my company are changing their hats, I did not order

them out. The Bolting Convention has adjourned to meet in Richmond June 2d. Pd note of \$100 at Virginia bank.

Sunday May 6th. 1860. Felt unwell and did not go to church but walked to Tom. Colleys. Ex Governor Littleton Waller Tazewell our most distinguished citizen died to day. ^{/33} Dr. Wm Selden at Father's request called to see me this afternoon & prescribed for me.

Monday May 7th 60. Attended an interesting meeting of the bar called to pass resolutions of respect to the memory of Tazewell. Attended Mr Tazewell's funeral at 1 oclk and accompanied his remains to the Eastern Shore boat. Attended meeting of the Council offered resolutions concerning death of Mr Tazewell. Attended meeting of Riflemen at night.

Tuesday May 8th 60. Heard that Geo Bramble had been appointed director in the N & P. R R in the place of Wm W. Lamb, and R. R. Collier in the place of A. F. Leonard. Attended board at bank.

Wednesday May 9th. 1860. The political heavens are lowering and it is difficult to know what course to take to save the Democracy from rain. We trust however soon to see our way clear. The Enquirer evidently sympathizes

with the bolters, while the Examiner is silent. There never was a more trying time for the patriot, for with the Democracy the Union will be rent apart. It was the last link.

Thursday May 10th. The Baltimore boat did not arrive this morning. Attended drill. Daisy spent the evening with Betty Chamberlaine, a storm came up and I had to get a carriage to bring her home.

Friday May 11th 1860. Received from A. B. McLean my life insurance policy for \$5,000 paid him \$100. Borrowed from Virginia bank \$126.50. Heard to day that the Opposition party had nominated John Bell of Tennessee for President and Edward Everett for Vice President. ¹³⁴

Saturday May 12th. 1860. The nominations do not seem to create any enthusiasm throughout the country. In seeking to please the Whig portion of the party, the Opposition have thrown away their chance to throw the election in the House and thus defeat the Black Republicans before the people.

Sunday May 13th. 1860. Attended church in the morning & heard Dr Okeson preach a very fine sermon on recognition in Heaven. Went to see Tom Colley in the afternoon, going over in the boat with brother Rob. I omitted to mention

that I called a Democratic meeting at Ashland Hall Saturday night, at which time I resigned my post as President of the Democratic Association.

Monday May 14th. 1860. The Japanese embassy arrived in Hampton Roads late Saturday night, their arrival has created an interest throughout the country. They proceeded immediately to Washington. A Mr White from Massachusetts called on me this evening in regard to establishing an agency to prevent Southern dealers from purchasing goods through mistake from Northern abolitionists.

Tuesday May 15th. 1860. Received an invitation to go on a pleasant excursion with Capt McCarrick in the Steamer Northampton to-morrow. She is to go to Northampton county, and the Captain is to be presented with a silver service, and the steamer with flags. I will not be able to go.

Wednesday May 16th. 1860. Heard of the large defaultation of Isaac V. Fowler, postmaster of New York City.

Thursday May 17th 1860. The Convention of Democratic delegates from the different wards met to night at Institute Hall. The delegates determined not to make any nominations, and organization was postponed until after the Democratic nomination for President. White

addressed the Merchants Exchange to-day, his proposition was rejected.

Friday May 18th. Attended board at bank to-day. Visited the bark Lone Star, the pioneer of Direct Trade between Virginia and France.

Saturday May 19th. Heard to-day that the Black Republican Convention at Chicago had nominated Abraham Lincoln of Illinois for President and Hannibal Hamlin of Maine for Vice President. ¹³⁵ Went over to Tom Colley's this afternoon with dear wife to get some cherries. Tom is fading away.

Sunday May 20th. Attended the Cumberland St Methodist Church in the morning, and heard a Mr. Williams preach a very plain sermon.

Monday May 21st. Attended a call meeting of the Councils but there was no quorum. Geo: Chamberlaine & wife, & Robert Bell & wife called on Daisy this afternoon.

NOTES

1. Hugh Blair Grigsby was a lawyer, historian, editor of the Norfolk American Beacon, and served on the Board of Visitors of the College of William and Mary. Dictionary of American Biography (New York 1928-1937), III, 628-629. Hereafter cited as DAB. The speech to which Lamb refers was a commencement address delivered to the students of the College of William and Mary on July 4, 1859. Grigsby discussed the February 1859 fire that had destroyed the college's main building, and went on, in the form typical of a commencement address, to implore the graduates to live by the Federal Constitution. The speech was reprinted in the Southern Literary Messenger XXIX (August 1859), 81-96.
2. Francis DeCordy, Norfolk resident and lifetime friend of Lamb, was appointed mayor of the city by the military authorities and served from 1868 to 1870. He was a merchant until his death in 1892. Thomas J. Wertenbaker, Norfolk, Historic Southern Port (Durham, 1931), 261-269; H. W. Burton, The History of Norfolk, Virginia (Norfolk, 1877), 234.
3. The Gosport Navy Yard was located at the site of the present United States Navy Yard at Norfolk. It was abandoned by the United States forces in 1861, and

captured in 1862 when the Confederates evacuated Norfolk. For further information, see William H. Stewart, History of Norfolk County, Virginia, and Representative Citizens (Chicago, 1902), 418-487.

4. William A. Caruthers, The Knights of the Horse Shoe, a Traditionary Tale of the Cocked Hat Century of the Old Dominion was originally published in 1845. It ran in the Weekly Southern Argus as a continued story.
5. Pestilence: the 1855 yellow fever epidemic, described above, p. vi.
6. Commercial conventions were held annually in the South during the 1850's. They seldom accomplished much, but their aim was to work toward establishing direct trade with Europe. Their chief proponents were men who feared economic disaster from high tariffs. They helped increase the spirit of Southern nationalism. Avery Craven, The Growth of Southern Nationalism, 1848-1861 (Baton Rouge, 1953), 278.
7. The American or Know Nothing party was founded in 1849 as a secret society, the Order of the Star Spangled Banner, and by 1852 was a national political party. In the early 1850's it was strong in Virginia, and for a time controlled the city government of Norfolk. After the election of Henry A. Wise as governor of

- Virginia its power declined, coinciding with its decline nationally. Dictionary of American History, eds. James Truslow Adams and R. V. Coleman (New York, 1940), I, 64; Wertebaker, Norfolk, 219-220.
8. Henry Stephens Randall, The Life of Thomas Jefferson, 3 vols., New York, 1858. Randall, a native of New York, was interested in political and constitutional history and wrote articles for Democratic newspapers. He is best known for his Life of Thomas Jefferson, a detailed study. DAB, XV, 186-187.
9. Annie M. Andrews was the first of a group of northern nurses and humanitarians who came to Norfolk to aid in fighting the yellow fever epidemic in 1855. She came from Syracuse, New York, and offered her services as a nurse. Wertebaker, Norfolk, 212.
10. Hunter Woodis, mayor of Norfolk in 1855, died in the yellow fever epidemic. Burton, History, 233.
11. Robert Mercer Taliaferro Hunter served in the United States Senate from Virginia 1847-1861. He was mentioned as a presidential candidate in 1860 and received Virginia's vote in the Charleston convention. He served as Confederate Secretary of State July 1861 to February 1862, and later in the Confederate Senate. DAB, IX, 403-405.

12. The Richmond Enquirer was established in 1798 and was edited from 1804 to 1845 by Thomas Ritchie. In 1860 its proprietors were William F. Ritchie, W. W. Dunnavant, O. Jennings Wise, and Nathaniel Tyler. Lester J. Cappon, Virginia Newspapers, 1821-1935 (New York, 1936), 171-172.
13. Henry Alexander Wise served in the U.S. House of Representatives 1833-1844, was minister to Brazil 1844-1847, Democratic Governor of Virginia 1856-1860, and served in the Confederate army. In 1859, during his term as governor, he was praised for his handling of the Harpers Ferry affair, sending troops quickly to stop the raid. Wise was an unsuccessful candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1860. In the secession crisis, he attended the Virginia state convention in 1860 and urged secession. DAB, XX, 423-425.
14. Printed in American Historical Association, Annual Report for 1916 (Washington, 1918), II, 219-220.
15. The Norfolk and Portsmouth Herald, edited by Thomas Broughton, was the political opposite of the Southern Argus, supported the Whigs, and was pro-Unionist as late as January 1861. It supported Bell in the 1860 campaign while the Argus supported Breckinridge. Cappon, Virginia Newspapers, 136.

16. Daniel E. Sickles served as a Democrat from New York in the U.S. House of Representatives. Lamb refers to Sickles's shooting of Philip B. Key because of attentions to Mrs. Sickles. In the murder trial Sickles pleaded "temporary aberration of the mind" and was acquitted. He forgave his wife who died a few years later. Sickles served in the Union army, reaching the rank of major-general and was military governor of South Carolina 1865-1867, minister to Spain 1869-1873, and served again in the House 1893-1895. DAB, XVII, 150-151.
17. Abram F. Leonard became editor of the Southern Argus in 1853 and was co-editor with Lamb until 1861. He served in the Virginia House of Delegates 1866-1867. Earl G. Swem and John W. Williams, A Register of the General Assembly of Virginia, 1776-1918 (Richmond, 1918), 398.
18. O. Jennings Wise, a son of Henry A. Wise, was editor of the Richmond Enquirer. In the Civil War he served as a captain in the 46th Virginia Volunteers, was mortally wounded on Roanoke Island, and died in February 1862. The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies (New York, 1880-1901), Ser. I, Vol. IX, 98, 173.

19. The Richmond Examiner was begun in 1847 as a semi-weekly newspaper and became a daily in April 1859. In 1865 it was destroyed in the burning of Richmond. Rives Pollard revived the paper in December 1865. It stopped publication in 1867 when it combined with the Enquirer. William Old was its editor 1859-1861. Cappon, Virginia Newspapers, 173-174.
20. The Southern Argus later stated, under the title, "Our Position," that it was "an independent Democratic journal, and it is the organ of no man or no set of men, but the exponent of correct political principles." Southern Argus (Norfolk), Apr. 12, 1860.
21. William Scott served on the Missouri State Supreme Court 1841-1859. In the Dred Scott case he ruled that a slave taken to free territory could not sue for his freedom when returned to Missouri, and charged that when free states obstructed the return of fugitive slaves they were refusing to observe the laws of slave states. DAB, XVI, 503.
22. The Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, part of the Compromise of 1850, was the South's effort to assure federal authority to return runaway slaves. It provided that U.S. commissioners could issue warrants for the arrest of runaway slaves and certificates for their return to

their owners. Anyone concealing or assisting a fugitive was liable to fine and imprisonment.

Dictionary of American History, II, 354.

23. John Minor Botts served as a Whig in the Virginia House of Delegates 1833-1839, in the U.S. House of Representatives 1839-1843, and was an unsuccessful Know Nothing candidate for Congress in 1854. He tried to prevent Virginia's secession and after secession proposed a constitutional amendment for peaceable secession. He retired from public life and did not again hold public office. DAB, II, 472-473. The Southern Argus continually attacked Botts. An example: "It appears that John Minor Botts is not only willing to accept a nomination for President, but is not particular about the name of the party which runs him. How condescending!" Southern Argus, Sept. 6, 1859.
24. St. Paul's Church (Episcopal) is Norfolk's oldest church, built in 1739 and still in use.
25. William Paley, A View of the Evidences of Christianity (Cambridge, 1850).
26. The Norfolk Academy was incorporated in 1804 and served as an excellent private school until 1861.

In the Civil War instruction was suspended and federal authorities took the building over for use as a hospital. The school reopened in late 1865 and has been in operation ever since. Stewart, History, 185-186.

27. The Knights of the Golden Circle was founded by George Bickley in 1859 as a secret military organization to Americanize and annex Mexico and settle the slavery controversy in favor of the South. Its objectives were to cultivate martial spirit in the South and give the South a military organization to defend its rights. It was actually the last of the filibustering movements of the 1850's. Ollinger Crenshaw, "The Knights of the Golden Circle," American Historical Review, XLVII (October 1941), 23-50. See Southern Argus, Aug. 2, 1859, for the letter and an editorial defense of the Knights of the Golden Circle.
28. The trans-Atlantic cable was successfully laid August 5, 1858, stopped functioning September 1, and was not completely relaid until 1866. Dictionary of American History, I, 135. See Southern Argus, Aug. 23, 1859, for a lengthy description of the laying of the cable and an editorial plea that it be relaid.

29. Silas Totten was professor of mathematics at Washington (now Trinity) College 1833-1837, president 1837-1848, professor of belles-lettres at the College of William and Mary 1848-1859, chancellor at the University of Iowa 1859-1864, and taught school in Lexington, Kentucky, 1866-1875. Manuscript "Honorary Degrees Awarded by the College of William and Mary, 1755-1955" (1957), 55.
30. Isaac Toucey served in the U.S. House of Representatives from Connecticut 1835-1839, was an unsuccessful candidate for governor in 1845, and was elected governor in 1846. He served as Attorney-General under Polk, 1848-1849, was in the Connecticut state Senate 1850, and elected as a Democrat to the U.S. Senate where he served 1851-1857. During the time of Lamb's diary he was Secretary of the Navy, which office he held 1857-1861. DAB, XVIII, 600-601. For the editorial which praises Toucey, see, Southern Argus, Aug. 24, 1859.
31. George Blow, a prominent Norfolk lawyer, was a member of the Sovereign Convention of Virginia in 1860. He served as a lieutenant-colonel in the 14th Virginia Infantry but resigned in 1861. In 1870 he was elected judge of the first judicial court and served until 1886. A. R. Spofford, Eminent and Representative Men of Virginia and the District of Columbia of the Nineteenth Century (Madison, Wisc., 1893), 400-401.

32. Stephen A. Douglas served in the U.S. House of Representatives 1843-1847 and in the U.S. Senate 1847-1861. He was the Democratic presidential candidate in 1860. DAB, V, 397-403.
33. John C. Breckinridge was a Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives 1851-1856 and Vice-President under Buchanan 1856-1860. He was the unsuccessful presidential candidate of the Southern Democrats, was elected to the Senate in 1861 and expelled. In the Confederacy he served as major-general until 1865 when he became Secretary of War. DAB, III, 7-10. Breckinridge was Lamb's and the Argus's favorite for the presidency.
34. John Letcher was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Virginia, 1851-1859, and was Virginia's governor 1860-1864. He supported Douglas for the presidency and opposed secession, then became a supporter of the Confederacy. After the war he practiced law and served in the state House of Delegates 1875-1877. DAB, XI, 192.
35. Probably Lamb refers to the Ruffner Pamphlet of 1847: An Antislavery Aspect of Virginia Sectionalism, an Address to the People of West Virginia, by Henry Ruffner. It is reprinted in the Virginia Magazine of

History and Biography, LXI (1953), 260-282.

36. James Gordon Bennett was a leading Democratic newspaper editor. In 1829 he became associate editor of the New York Courier and Enquirer from which he resigned in 1832. In 1835 he began the New York Herald which reflected his Democratic sympathies. DAB, II, 195-199.
37. Franklin Pierce, fourteenth President of the United States, served 1853-1857. DAB, XIV, 576-580.
38. Patrick Henry Aylett, a Richmond lawyer, was an editorial contributor to the Richmond Enquirer. He served in the capacity of U.S. district attorney for the eastern district of Virginia and was Confederate district attorney. Lyon G. Tyler, Encyclopedia of Virginia Biography (New York, 1915), III, 154.
39. Southern Argus, Aug. 26, 1859. Lamb's editorial remarks on the criticism by the Index of his editorial on the telegraph, and attacks the Index for its own inaccuracies.
40. Southern Argus, Aug. 27, 1859, commented on the Know Nothing meeting that recommended John Minor Botts for the presidential nomination that, "it was such a small affair that it is hardly worth noticing."

41. A public library was finally established in Norfolk in 1870. Lamb served as a director and in 1894 was elected president of the Norfolk Library Association. Stewart, History, 186-187.
42. Francis Mallory, a citizen of Norfolk, was elected as a Whig to the U.S. House of Representatives and served 1837-1839. He was the Navy Agent of Norfolk 1850-1853, and president of the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad 1853-1859. In the Civil War he served as a colonel in the 56th Virginia Infantry and was killed near the end of the war. Tyler, Encyclopedia, II, 118; Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1949 (Washington, 1950), 1496.
43. Thomas S. Flournoy served as a Whig from Virginia in the U.S. House of Representatives 1847-1849 and was an unsuccessful candidate in the congressional campaigns of 1855 and 1863. He tried to prevent Virginia's secession but served as a private until he was appointed colonel and served in the Army of Northern Virginia throughout the war. Directory of Congress, 1167.
44. Finley F. Ferguson was the Whig candidate for mayor of Norfolk who had defeated Lamb in 1856. Burton, History, 234.

45. Lamb's editorial that brought his difficulty with Bagley appeared in the Southern Argus, Aug. 20, 1859: "Mr. C. H. Foster, the able editor of the Murfreesboro Citizen, in the last issue of that paper, defends himself in a dignified and forcible card from some contemptible charges of 'lying, cowardice, &c.,' brought against him by a Mr. Bagley of the 'State,' an individual who refuses to accept a challenge from Mr. Foster because he does not consider him a gentleman. Such a card from Mr. Foster would have been superfluous in this community."
46. Daniel S. Dickinson served in the U.S. Senate as a Democrat from New York, 1844-1851. He was an unsuccessful candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1860. In 1861 he was attorney general of New York and 1865-1866 served as U.S. Attorney for the southern district of New York. DAB, V, 294-295.
47. William H. Russell in his trip through the South in 1859-1860 described Norfolk's Atlantic Hotel as "a dilapidated, uncleanly place, with tobacco-stained floor, full of flies and strong odours." William H. Russell, My Diary North and South (London, 1863), I, 121.

48. Stephen A. Douglas's article, "The Dividing Line between Federal and Local Authority," which appeared in Harpers Magazine, September 1859, was an attempt to reconcile popular sovereignty with the Dred Scott decision. DAB, V, 402. The Southern Argus called the article "a most valuable political paper," and reprinted it Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1, 1859.
49. John B. Floyd, a states rights Democrat, served in the Virginia House of Delegates 1847-1849 and 1855-1856, and was elected governor of Virginia to serve 1849-1852. He served as Secretary of War under Buchanan and resigned in 1860. Although he originally opposed secession, Floyd served in the Confederate army. DAB, VI, 482-483.
50. Francis B. Deane was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates 1853-1858 and 1863-1865. Swem, Register of the General Assembly, 367.
51. Joseph Segar was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates 1836-1838, 1848-1852, and 1855-1861. He presented credentials as a Unionist member-elect to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1861 but was not allowed to sit, was elected, and served 1862-1863. Segar again presented credentials in 1865 but was not seated, and was an unsuccessful Republican candidate for election to the House in 1876. Directory of Congress, 1793.

52. Oden G. Clay served in the Virginia House of Delegates 1829-1831, 1835-1836, and 1847-1848. In 1861 he was appointed major-general for the first Virginia division. Swem, Register of the General Assembly, 360; Official Records, Ser. I, Vol. LI, 10.
53. William H. Seward, New York lawyer, served in the New York state Senate 1830-1834, was Whig governor of New York 1838-1842, and elected to the Senate as a Whig in 1849. He was re-elected to the Senate in 1855 and served until 1861. Seward was an unsuccessful candidate for the Republican presidential nomination in 1860 and served as Secretary of State under Lincoln and Johnson 1861-1869. DAB, XVI, 615-620. Beyond condemning him for being a Republican, the Southern Argus seldom mentioned Seward.
54. Nicholas A. Okeson was the rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in City Point, Virginia, 1847-1851, Westover Parish, Charles City Court House, Virginia, 1853-1856, and rector of St. Pauls Church in Norfolk, Lamb's church, 1856-1882. "Honorary Degrees," 40.
55. Thomas B. Florence served as a Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives 1851-1861. He was primarily a Democratic newspaper publisher; he published the Daily Keystone and People's Journal in Philadelphia,

- 1844-1847, the National Argus, a Democratic paper, 1853-1861, and the Constitutional Union, a Democratic paper, 1863-1868, the latter two published in Washington. Directory of Congress, 1167. Apparently the National Democratic Review failed to materialize; it is not listed in Gregory, American Newspapers or in any sources for Florence.
56. The Great Eastern was the world's largest steamer, built 1854-1858. In 1866 it laid the Atlantic cable and it was used to lay other cables. Dictionary of American History, II, 414.
57. San Juan Oregon is one of the San Juan Islands between the Strait of Georgia and Puget Sound. It was claimed by the British. Clarence L. Barnhart, ed., The New Century Cyclopedia of Names, III (New York, 1954), 3478. See Southern Argus, Sept. 8, 1859.
58. William S. Harney, a professional soldier, fought in Indian wars and was a colonel in the Mexican War. In 1858 he was a brigadier-general and in command of the Department of Oregon. His anti-British and expansionist ideas, especially his seizure of the island of San Juan, claimed by Britian, caused his recall. He did not serve in the Civil War and was retired in 1863. DAB, VIII, 280-281.

59. Winfield Scott served in the War of 1812, and in the Mexican War led the successful expedition that took Vera Cruz and finally Mexico City. He was the unsuccessful Whig candidate for president in 1852. In 1859 Scott served as the peacemaker between the United States and Britain, averting trouble over San Juan Island. He was commander of the U.S. Army at the beginning of the Civil War and retired in November 1861. DAB, XVI, 505-511.
60. James F. Milligan, a Norfolk resident and friend of Lamb's, was a first lieutenant in the U.S. Revenue Service until he resigned in April 1861, to join the Virginia navy in which he commanded the steamer Empire. In 1877 he became local editor of the newspaper, the Norfolk Day Book. Burton, History, 44, 47; Stewart, History, 293.
61. Richard H. Baker, resident of Norfolk, was a prominent lawyer. He was judge of the circuit court for thirty-five years until his death in 1871. Spofford, Eminent Men, 392-393.
62. The ship, Great Eastern, was to visit Norfolk, but the Common Council "with a strange perversity" resolved not to invite it to come. The Herald defended the Council's position while the Argus attacked it. See Southern

Argus, Sept. 14, 16, 1859.

63. Stephen A. Douglas's speech, "Congressional Intervention and Popular Sovereignty," given at Cincinnati, Ohio, September 9, 1859, was published in the Southern Argus, Sept. 21, 1859.
64. George W. Grice was mayor of Portsmouth immediately prior to the Civil War. He served as major and quartermaster in the Confederate army. In 1867 Grice founded the Bank of Portsmouth and was its first president. Spofford, Eminent Men, 453-457.
65. Lamb's father, William W. Lamb, was elected mayor of Norfolk in June 1858 and again in 1860 and 1862. He surrendered the city to the United States forces in 1862, was removed from office, and briefly imprisoned in Fort Monroe. The military authorities appointed a new mayor and Lamb did not serve out his term. Burton, History, 234.
66. Edward S. Joynes was professor of Greek and German at the College of William and Mary, 1858-1861. In the Civil War he served as chief clerk in the Confederate bureau of war. In 1866 he became professor of modern languages at Washington College. DAB, X, 226-227. A short editorial appeared in the Southern Argus, Sept. 21, 1859, stating that the College building

which was rebuilt after a fire in 1859 would be ready for entering students that fall.

67. John S. Millson, Norfolk lawyer, was a Democratic presidential elector in 1844 and 1848, and was elected to serve as a Democrat from Virginia in the U.S. House of Representatives, 1849-1861. Directory of Congress, 1569.
68. An editorial in the Southern Argus, Sept. 23, 1859, stated that the editor did "not endorse" Douglas, "regarding the positions of Gov. Wise as the correct ones," but if Douglas was nominated would "labor zealously for his election."
69. William Mahone began his career as a railroad engineer, and by 1861 was president, chief engineer, and superintendent of the Norfolk and Western Railroad. He served in the 6th Virginia Infantry, becoming a major-general by the end of the war. From 1867-1870 he created the Atlantic, Mississippi, and Ohio Railroad and rebuilt the Norfolk and Western. Entering politics in 1897, he organized the Readjusters, in 1880 was elected to the U.S. Senate, and then served as chairman of the Republican party in Virginia. DAB, XII, 211-212.
70. Lamb believed that Norfolk should become a principal port in direct trade between the South and Europe. The Southern Argus, Sept. 19, 1859, published a long

editorial to this effect, giving many reasons why Norfolk should become a more important port.

71. Joseph Lane was governor of Oregon 1848-1850, Oregon's delegate to Congress 1850-1859, and Senator 1859-1861. Lane was the vice-presidential candidate on the Breckinridge ticket in 1860 and then retired. DAB, X, 579-580.
72. James Chesnut, Jr., lawyer, served in the South Carolina House of Delegates and Senate 1840-1846 and 1850-1858, and was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1858, which he resigned from in 1860. He served as a staff officer in the Confederate army and from 1864-1865 was a brigadier-general in command of reserve forces. DAB, IV, 57-58.
73. In 1838 John Lyde Wilson of Charleston published a pamphlet, "Code of Honor, or Rules for the Government of Principles and Seconds in Duelling," giving an elaborate set of rules to govern duels. A. W. Patterson, The Code Duello (Richmond, 1927), 64.
74. Benjamin S. Ewell was a professor of mathematics and natural philosophy at Hampden-Sidney College 1839-1846, a professor at Washington College 1846-1848, and professor and acting president of the College of William and Mary 1848-1854. In 1854 he became

president of the College. He served as colonel in the Confederate army and later as adjutant-general under Joseph E. Johnston. In 1865 he returned to William and Mary where he was prominent in rebuilding the College and served as its president until 1888.

DAB, VI, 228-229.

75. William Barton Rogers was professor of natural philosophy and chemistry at the College of William and Mary 1828-1835, professor at the University of Virginia 1835-1842, and founder and first president of Massachusetts Institute of Technology which he served as president 1861-1870 and 1878-1881.
- "Honorary Degrees," 47.
76. William F. Ritchie, a son of the famous editor, Thomas Ritchie, edited the Richmond Enquirer after his father's death, following the "conservative and conciliatory" policy of his father. Charles N. Ambler, Thomas Ritchie (Richmond, 1913), 297.
77. William C. Rives served as a Democrat in the Virginia House of Delegates 1817-1823, and 1826-1832. He served as a Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives 1823-1829, was minister to France 1829-1832, served as a Democrat in the U.S. Senate 1832-1834 and 1836-1839

then as a Whig 1841-1845. He was a member of the House of Representatives in the Second Confederate Congress, 1864-1865. The Life and Times of James Madison, 3 vols., was published 1859-1868. DAB, XV, 635-637.

78. Thomas Ritchie, journalist and politician, began the Richmond Enquirer in 1804 and continued it until his death in 1854. The paper reflected his Democratic sentiments. DAB, XV, 628-629; see also, Ambler, Ritchie.
79. The Washington Union was begun in 1845 as the official organ of the Democratic party. It lasted until April 1859 when its name was changed to the Constitution after President Buchanan put it under new managership and made it the spokesman of his administration. In late 1860 the Constitution's editor, William Browne, wrote supporting secession and, as the paper was supposed to express administration views, Buchanan was alarmed. When Brown refused to yield, Buchanan stopped government advertising in the paper and forced it to suspend, thus terminating the official Democratic paper in Washington. Its last issue came out in January 1861. Winifred Gregory, American Newspapers, 1821-1936 (New York, 1937), 92; Roy F. Nichols, The Disruption of American Democracy (New York, 1948), 42, 151, ~~26~~ 246-248, 426-427.

80. David C. Broderick served in the California Senate 1849-1857. In 1857 he was elected as a Democrat to the U.S. Senate where he attacked slavery and the administration. He was killed by Chief Justice David S. Terry, a pro-slavery leader, in a duel September 1859. DAB, III, 61-62.
81. David S. Terry went to California in 1849 to practice law. In 1855 he was elected by the Know Nothing party as associate chief justice of the California Supreme Court where he served until 1857. In 1859 he became affiliated with the Democratic party. He attacked Senator Broderick in a speech, Broderick denounced Terry, Terry challenged Broderick to a duel, and Terry killed Broderick. After that, he resigned as chief justice and served in the Confederate army. DAB, XVIII, 379-380. A long description of the duel appeared in the Southern Argus, Oct. 13, 1859, copied from the San Francisco Times.
82. Frederick W. Coleman served in the Virginia Senate 1855-1861. He founded Concord Academy in Caroline County, Virginia, which he built up to become one of the best of Virginia's private schools. When he retired as principal of the school, it was renamed

- Hanover Academy. Tyler, Encyclopedia, II, 232.
83. The extra issues are not in the files of the Southern Argus in the Norfolk Public Library. The regular edition for Oct. 17, 1859, headlined Brown's raid as "Riot at Harper's Ferry" and went on to say that troops had been ordered from Fort Monroe because the United States armory had been taken possession of by a mob. On Oct. 19, the headline was: "The Irrepressible Conflict! Begun! Bloody Scenes at Harper's Ferry. A Servile Insurrection and Civil Rebellion!" The entire news space for the day was filled with a chronological account of the news from Harper's Ferry.
84. The Southern Argus, Oct. 20, 1859 said: "Commencement of the 'irrepressible conflict' of Seward and Co. at Harper's Ferry, under the auspices of its proto-martyr John Brown." The implication that the Republicans were involved is in an article, appearing the same day, copied from the Washington State. A few days later, The Argus urged Southern men to "arouse from apathy and take heed. . . . We are thoroughly Union men in our sentiments, . . . but after the terrible warning at Harper's Ferry we can never consent peaceably to the elevation of a Black Republican to the Presidency." Southern Argus, Oct. 24, 1859.

85. The first state law against duelling was passed in 1810. It declared that anyone who killed a person in a duel would be considered guilty of murder and would suffer death by hanging. It denounced challenging or accepting a challenge, and stated that such persons were "incapable of holding or being elected to any post." The law required that an antiduelling oath be taken by all persons before assuming office. The law was strengthened from time to time, but the legislature frequently made exceptions and allowed duellers to take their seats in the Assembly.

Patterson, Code Duello, 75-79.

86. A mild editorial recommending Massenburg for district judge appeared in the Southern Argus, Oct. 27, 1859.

87. Roger A. Pryor was on the editorial staff of the Richmond Enquirer from 1854. He was special minister to Greece 1854-1857, and served as a Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives 1859-1861. Pryor joined the Confederate army as a colonel, became a brigadier-general in 1863, resigned and re-enlisted as a private. After the war he moved to New York where he practiced law 1866-1890, became a judge on the court of common pleas where he served 1890-1894, and from 1894-1899

was a justice on the New York Supreme Court. DAB, XV, 255-256. The Southern Argus, Oct. 28, 1859, announced that Pryor's election to Congress was considered certain.

88. John Y. Mason served in the Virginia House of Delegates 1823-1827 and the state Senate 1827-1831. From 1831-1837 he was a Democrat in the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1837 he was appointed U.S. district judge for the eastern district of Virginia, where he served until appointed Secretary of the Navy in 1844, a post he held until 1849. In 1854 he was appointed minister plenipotentiary to France where he served until his death in 1859. DAB, XII, 369-370.
89. Southern Argus, Nov. 15, 1859, stated editorially that its editor did not believe Letcher's election as governor of Virginia was in any way connected with John Brown's raid. An unnamed opponent of Letcher had charged that his election was part of a plot connected with Brown's plans to incite a servile insurrection.
90. Floyd had been charged with ignoring an anonymous letter warning of Brown's raid. The Southern Argus, Nov. 16, 1859, said Floyd should not be blamed for ignoring the anonymous letter and that the charge that he "remained inactive and allowed this calamity to

occur for political capital, is infamous."

91. Alexander R. Boteler was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1859 as a Whig from Virginia. He was an unsuccessful candidate for Speaker. He opposed disunion, but when Virginia seceded, resigned from Congress, was elected as a delegate to the Confederate Provincial Congress, and was a member of the first Confederate Congress. He served as an aide to Jackson and then to Stuart. In 1881 Boteler was a member of a tariff commission, in 1882 became an assistant attorney in the U.S. Justice Department, and in 1884 clerk of pardons in the Justice Department. DAB, II, 467-468.

92. Alphonse Marie Louise de Lamartine, History of the Girondists or Personal Memoirs of the Patriots of the French Revolution, 3 vols. (New York, 1848).

93. William B. Taliaferro served in the Mexican War and was discharged in 1848 as a major. He served in the Virginia House of Delegates 1850-1852 and 1874-1878. After the capture of John Brown, Taliaferro took command of the militia at Harper's Ferry. He was a colonel in the Confederate army and became a major-general by 1865. DAB, XVIII, 283-284.

94. Daniel A. Weisiger served in a Virginia regiment in the Mexican War. In 1853 he became a colonel of Virginia militia which he commanded until 1860. In the Civil War he became a colonel in the 12th Virginia Infantry and was promoted to brigadier-general. Tyler, Encyclopedia, III, 93.
95. A long account of the affairs at Harper's Ferry to date, probably written by Lamb, appeared in the Southern Argus, Dec. 7, 1859, under the title, "A Woodis Southern Argus Account of Brown's Execution."
96. Andrew Hunter served in the Virginia House of Delegates 1846-1847 and 1861-1862 and in the Senate 1863-1865. During John Brown's trial he served as special prosecutor for the state. Swem, Register of the General Assembly, 390; Oswald G. Villard, John Brown, 1800-1859 (Boston and New York, 1910), 422.
97. Aaron D. Stevens, one of the last of Brown's men to be executed, was hanged March 15, 1860. Villard, Brown, 580.
98. John E. Cook, a member of Brown's gang, attempted unsuccessfully to escape December 15, 1859. He was executed December 16, 1859. Villard, Brown, 570-572.
99. Edwin Coppoc, a member of Brown's gang, attempted with Cook to escape December 15, 1859. He was executed

- December 16, 1859. Villard, Brown, 570-572.
100. Turner Ashby gathered a group of men to form a cavalry band and went to Charlestown after Brown's raid. Though he did not believe in secession, when Virginia seceded, he again raised his cavalry and in June 1861, joined the 7th Virginia Cavalry in defense of the northern Virginia border. He was promoted to the rank of colonel in 1862, and took part in Jackson's Valley Campaign where he was promoted to brigadier-general. In June 1862 he was killed near Harrisonburg, Virginia. DAB, I, 384-385.
101. Albert Hazlett, a member of Brown's gang, was one of the last to be executed, March 15, 1860. Villard, Brown, 580.
102. David H. Strother, an artist, painted under the name Porte Crayon. He is best known for his drawings of life in the South which appeared in Harper's under his pseudonym, Porte Crayon. In 1857 he published Virginia Illustrated, containing 138 pen drawings. In the war he offered his services to the North and served in the topographical corps. After the war, he turned to writing and contributed to Harper's a series, "Personal Recollections of the War, by a Virginian," with pen drawings. DAB, XVIII, 156-157.

103. Lewis Washington, a colonel in the Virginia militia, was with the first state troops at Harper's Ferry, and was captured and held as a hostage for a time by Brown. Douglas Southall Freeman, R.E. Lee, I (New York, 1934), 399-401.
104. The Southern Argus, Dec. 27, 1859, contained a long piece titled, "The Contemplated Field of John Brown's Operations," which Lamb had taken from maps found among Brown's papers.
105. Hinton R. Helper, a North Carolinian, wrote Impending Crisis in which he contrasted the economic condition of slave and free states and attributed the South's backwardness to the impoverishment of free labor by slavery. The book was attacked in the South and created a great sensation. DAB, VIII, 517-518.
106. Wise's speech, "We Must have our Rights in the Union," appeared in the Southern Argus, Jan. 4, 1860, with the comment: "As Wise in all probability will be our next President, whatever he says on public affairs is a matter of great interest."
107. Brown's letters appeared intermittently in the Southern Argus. They began Jan. 6, 1860, with the comment: "we are of the opinion that their publication may

show to the South the temper and feeling of a portion of the people of the North. . . . /They are published/ to exhibit the necessity of preparation and vigilance on the part of the Southern States to be ready at a moment's notice to defend the lives and property of their citizens from the attacks of those who carry out the 'irrepressible conflict' doctrines of Wm. H. Seward and his party."

108. See Weekly Southern Argus, Jan. 7, 1860. This editorial was the most inflammatory to appear in the Argus until after Lincoln's election.
109. Beverley B. Douglas served in the Virginia Senate 1852-1865. During the Civil War he achieved the rank of major in the 5th Virginia Cavalry and resigned in 1863. A Democrat, he was a Breckinridge elector in 1860. Tyler, Encyclopedia, III, 114-115. On Feb. 4, 1860, the Southern Argus announced the passage of a new duelling law by the state legislature which relieved "all who were engaged in duels previous to January 10. Beverley B. Douglas, the Senator from King William, will now take his seat."
110. Robert L. Montague was Virginia's lieutenant-governor under Letcher, president of the Virginia Convention of 1861, and a member of the second Confederate Congress.

He served in the state House of Delegates 1850-1851 and 1874-1875. In 1875 he was elected judge of the eighth judicial district and served until his death in 1880. Tyler, Encyclopedia, III, 42.

111. James L. Kemper, a Virginia lawyer, served in the state House of Delegates 1853-1863. In the Civil War he was a colonel in the 7th Virginia Infantry, in 1861 became a brigadier-general, and served throughout the war. After the war he advocated a conciliatory course and supported the Conservative party. He was Virginia's governor 1874-1877.

DAB, X, 322-323.

112. Shelton F. Leake served in the Virginia House of Delegates 1842-1843 and in the U.S. House of Representatives 1845-1847. He became lieutenant-governor of Virginia in 1851 and was an unsuccessful candidate for the gubernatorial nomination in 1854. Leake served in the House of Representatives 1859-1861, served in the Confederate army, and practiced law after the war.

Directory of Congress, 1446.

113. Christopher G. Memminger, a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, was sent after John Brown's raid to address the Virginia legislature

on the need for joint defensive measures. Active in South Carolina's secession, he served as Confederate Secretary of the Treasury until his resignation in 1864. DAB, XII, 527-528.

114. The Southern Argus, Jan. 19, 1860, stated editorially: "The Democracy of our City in Convention assembled on Tuesday last, unanimously recommended the brilliant Virginia statesman, for the highest office in the gift of the people. There can be no doubt that Henry A. Wise is the first choice of the people of Virginia for the Presidency."
115. George Mason, Revolutionary era statesman, framed the Declaration of Rights in 1776 and attended the 1787 Federal Constitutional Convention. Grigsby applauded Mason in his The Virginia Convention of 1776, published in 1855, in which he gave a short biography of Mason. DAB, XII, 361-364.
116. The Southern Argus, Jan. 21, 1860, copied an article from the Richmond Enquirer advocating a Southern convention. The article said that the people of Virginia had expressed their "determination not to submit to the election of a Black Republican."

117. Botts's letter had appeared in the Richmond Whig. Lamb's editorial called him "misguided," continued in a sarcastic tone, and ended, "North Carolina has her Helper, and Virginia has her John Minor Botts." Southern Argus, Jan. 24, 1860.
118. William N. H. Smith was a member of the North Carolina House of Commons 1840, 1858, 1865-1866, and of the state Senate in 1848. He served in the U.S. House of Representatives 1859-1861 where he was an unsuccessful candidate for Speaker, lacking one vote of election. Smith was a member of the Confederate Congress 1862-1865 and Chief Justice of the North Carolina Supreme Court 1878-1889. DAB, XVII, 366.
119. John Sherman served in the U.S. House of Representatives from Ohio 1855-1861 and in the Senate 1861-1877. He was Secretary of the Treasury under Hayes 1877-1881 and again served in the Senate 1881-1897. He was McKinley's Secretary of State 1897-1898. DAB, XVII, 84-88.
120. John Payne was bishop of Cape Palmas, West Africa, an Episcopal mission, from 1836-1841 and 1851-1871. James G. Wilson and John Fiske, eds., Appletons Cyclopedia of American Biography (New York, 1888-1892), IV, 685.

121. William Pennington, New Jersey's governor 1837-1843, served as a Whig and then Republican in the U.S. House of Representatives 1859-1861 where he was elected as Speaker. He was an unsuccessful candidate for re-election on the Republican ticket in 1860. Directory of Congress, 1667.
122. The Southern Argus, Feb. 1, 1860, stated that the editor believed Norfolk would soon be "one of the largest cotton marts in the United States" because of the newly opened Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal which opened trade between Norfolk and North Carolina.
123. The Southern Argus, Feb. 2, 1860, announced Pennington's election as "Black Republicanism in the Ascendant-- Pennington Elected Speaker by South American (Know Nothing) Support." It went on to say: "He got what he needed--Southern support. This accords with the foreboding we have had, since we found that a Southern member (Davis, of Baltimore) could join hands with the foes of his soil, and the worshippers of the nigger god-- We now more than ever hate Know Nothingism."
124. The Confederate ironclad, Virginia, was built from this steam frigate, Merrimac. Dictionary of American History, IV, 678.

125. In the Southern Argus, Feb. 7, 1860, an editorial appeared in reference to the oyster fundum bill, which said that a bill should be passed that would "protect the Virginia beds from the rapacious Yankees, and secure the profits of the oyster trade to our own people."
126. On Feb. 21, 1860, the Southern Argus began to carry at its masthead the slogan, "For President, Henry A. Wise of Virginia." The editorial comment was: "We feel it a pleasure as well as a duty to raise his name to our mast-head, and advocate his nomination by the Charleston Convention. The voice of the people was partially stifled by the politicians in the Richmond Convention . . . but that voice pronounced for Henry A. Wise."
127. Fernando Wood was elected as a Democrat to the House of Representatives from New York and served 1841-1843. He was mayor of New York 1855-1858, and in 1860 headed the pro-Southern delegation to the Democratic national convention. Wood was elected as a Democrat to the House of Representatives 1863-1865 and 1867-1881.
- DAB, IX, 456-457.

128. Henry A. Wise, Jr., son of Governor Wise, was an Episcopal clergyman. Barton H. Wise, The Life of Henry A. Wise (New York, 1899), 371.
129. Howell Cobb was a Representative to Congress from Georgia 1843-1851 and served as Georgia's governor 1851-1853. He was Secretary of the Treasury under Buchanan 1857-1860. A secessionist, Cobb was by 1863 a major-general in command of the district of Georgia. After the war he resumed his law practice. DAB, IV, 241-243.
130. Caleb Cushing served as a Whig from Massachusetts in the U.S. House of Representatives 1834-1843. In 1843 he was appointed a commissioner to China. In the Mexican War he served as a brigadier-general and in 1852 was appointed an associate justice in the supreme judiciary court of Massachusetts. He was Attorney General under Pierce 1852-1857. In 1860 Cushing was permanent chairman of the Democratic convention, tried unsuccessfully to compromise, and was chairman of the Baltimore convention. He was Lincoln's legal advisor, and in 1873 became minister to Spain. DAB, IV, 623-629.

131. The Southern Argus, May 2, 1860, noted that "eight states have seceded from the convention," but did not editorialize.
132. The Southern Argus, May 4, 1860, still carried Wise's name at the masthead but commented: "Our favorite having withdrawn his name, we were silently awaiting the nomination of some good Democrat." It was not disturbed by the events at Charleston but offered its solution: "Let the regular Convention nominate HENRY A. WISE on the platform they now have . . . and the bolters will return to ratify it."
133. Littleton Waller Tazewell, a Norfolk lawyer, was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates 1796-1800 and 1816, and a member of the U.S. House of Representatives 1800-1801. He was a Senator from Virginia 1824-1833 and governor of Virginia 1834-1836. DAB, XVIII, 355-357.
134. Lamb's opinion of the Constitutional Union party was that it "desires to ignore slavery and let Black Republican aggression have full sway." Southern Argus, Feb. 27, 1860.
135. The Southern Argus did not comment on Lincoln's nomination but calmly announced it under the title, "'Abe Lincoln,' the Black Republican nominee," followed by a brief sketch of Lincoln's life.

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