

THE EXCHEQUER PLAN.

We furnished our readers, last week, in a condensed form, the substance of the President's Message, with copious extracts of the most important parts. The Exchequer Plan is the most prominent, and perhaps the only real interesting topic in the message. As we only had room to give our readers a portion of his views on this subject last week, we now lay before them all he says in relation to this important matter:

In view of the fact that, in 1830, the whole bank note circulation within the United States amounted to but \$61,243,998, according to the Treasury statement, and that an addition had been made thereto of the enormous sum of \$33,000,000 in seven years, (the circulation on the first January, 1837, being stated at \$149,155,800,) aided by the great facilities afforded in obtaining loans from European capitalists, who were seized with the same speculative mania which prevailed in the United States—and the large importations of funds from abroad, the result of stock sales and loans—no one can be surprised at the apparent, but unsubstantial state of prosperity which every where prevailed over the land; while as little cause of surprise should be felt at the present prostration of every thing, and the ruin which has befallen so many of our fellow citizens in the sudden withdrawal from circulation of so large an amount of bank issues, since 1837—exceeding, as is believed, the amount added to the paper currency for a similar period antecedent to 1837, it ceases to be a matter of astonishment that such extensive shipwreck should have been made of private fortunes, or that difficulties should exist in meeting their engagements on the part of the debtor States. A part from which, if there be taken into account the immense losses sustained in the dishonor of numerous banks, it is less a matter of surprise that insolvency should have visited many of our fellow citizens, than that so many should have escaped the blighting influence of the times.

In the solemn conviction of these truths, and with an ardent desire to meet the pressing necessities of the country, I felt it to be my duty to cause to be submitted to you at the commencement of your late session, the plan of an Exchequer, the whole power and duty of maintaining which, in purity and vigor, was to be exercised by the Representatives of the People and the States, and, therefore, virtually by the People themselves. It was proposed to place it under the control and direction of a Treasury Board, to consist of three Commissioners, whose duty it should be to see that the law of its creation was faithfully executed, and that the great end of supplying a paper medium of exchange, at all times convertible into gold and silver, should be attained.

The Board thus constituted, was given as much permanency as could be imparted to it, without endangering the proper share of responsibility which should attach to all public agents. In order to insure all the advantages of a well matured experience, the Commissioners were to hold their offices for the respective periods of two, four and six years, thereby securing at all times in the management of the Exchequer, the services of two men of experience, and to place them in a condition to exercise perfect independence of mind and action, it was provided that their removal should only take place for actual incapacity or infidelity to the trust, and to be followed by the President with an exposition of the causes of such removal should it occur. It was proposed to establish subordinate boards in each of the States, under the same restrictions and limitations of the power of removal, which, with the central board, should receive, safely keep, and disburse the public moneys; and in order to furnish a sound paper medium of exchange, the Exchequer should retain of the revenues of the Government a sum not to exceed \$5,000,000 in specie, to be set apart as required by its operations, and to pay the public credit at his own option, either in specie or Treasury notes, of denominations not less than five, not exceeding one hundred dollars, which notes should be redeemed at the several places of issue, and to be receivable at all times and every where in payment of Government dues; with a restraint upon such issue of bills that the same should not exceed the maximum of \$15,000,000. In order to guard against all the hazards incident to fluctuations in trade, the Secretary of the Treasury was invested with authority to issue \$5,000,000 of Government stock, should the same at any time be regarded as necessary, in order to place beyond hazard the prompt redemption of the bills which might be thrown into circulation. Thus in fact making the issue of \$15,000,000 of Exchequer bills, rest substantially on \$10,000,000 and keeping in circulation never more than one and one-half dollars for every dollar in specie.—When to this it is added that the bills are not only every where receivable in Government itself would be bound for their ultimate redemption, no rational doubt can exist that the paper with the Exchequer would readily enter into general circulation, and be maintained at all times at or above par with gold and silver; thereby realizing the great want of the age and fulfilling the wishes of the people.

In order to reimburse the Government, the expenses of the plan, it was proposed to invest the Exchequer with the limited authority to deal in bills of exchange, unless prohibited by the State in which an agency might be situated having only thirty days to run, and resting on a fair and bona fide basis.

The Legislative will on this point will be so plainly announced as to avoid all pretext for partiality or favoritism. It was furthermore

proposed to invest this Treasury agent with authority to receive on deposit a limited amount, the specie funds of individuals, and to grant certificates therefor, to be redeemed on presentation, under the idea, which is believed to be well founded, that such certificates would come in aid of the Exchequer bills in supplying a safe and ample paper circulation.

Or, if in place of the contemplated dealings in exchange, the Exchequer should be authorized not only to exchange its bills for actual deposits of specie, but for specie or its equivalent to sell drafts, charging therefor a small but reasonable premium, I cannot doubt but that the benefits of the law would be speedily manifested to the revival of the credit, trade and business of the whole country. Entertaining this opinion, it becomes my duty to urge its adoption upon Congress, by reference to the strongest considerations of the public interests, with such alterations in its details as Congress may in its wisdom see fit to make.

I am well aware that this proposed alteration and amendment of the laws establishing the Treasury Department has encountered various objections, and that among others it has been proclaimed a Government Bank of fearful and dangerous import. It is proposed to confer upon it no extraordinary powers. It purports to do no more than pay the debts of the Government, in which respect it accomplishes precisely what the Treasury does daily at this time, in issuing to the public creditors the Treasury notes which, under law, it is authorized to issue.

It has no resemblance to an ordinary Bank, as it furnishes no profits to private stockholders, and lends no capital to individuals. If it be objected to as a Government Bank, and the objection be available—then should all the laws in relation to the Treasury be repealed, and the capacity of the Government to collect what it due to it, or pay what it owes, be abrogated.

This is the chief purpose of the proposed Exchequer; and surely if, in the accomplishment of a purpose so essential, it affords a sound circulating medium to the country and facilities to trade, it should be regarded as no slight recommendation of it to the public consideration. Properly guarded by the provisions of law, it can run into no dangerous evil, nor can any abuse arise under it but such as the Legislature itself will be answerable for, if it be tolerated; since it is but the creature of the law, and is susceptible at all times of modification, amendment or repeal, at the pleasure of Congress.

I know that it has been objected that the system should be liable to be abused by the Legislature, by whom alone it could be abused, in the party conflicts of the day. That such abuse would manifest itself in a change of the law which would authorize an excessive issue of paper for the purpose of the inflating prices and winning popular favor. To that it may be answered, that the ascription of such a motive to Congress is altogether gratuitous and inadmissible. The theory of our institutions would lead us to a different conclusion. But a perfect security against a proceeding so reckless, would be found to exist in the very nature of things.

The political party which should be so blind to the true interests of the country as to the resort to such an experiment, would inevitably meet with final overthrow in the fact that, the moment the paper ceased to be convertible into specie, or otherwise promptly redeemed it would become worthless, and would, in the end, dishonor the Government, involve the people in ruin, and such political party in hopeless disgrace. At the same time, such a view involves the utter impossibility of furnishing any currency other than that of the precious metals, for if the government itself cannot forego the temptation of excessive paper issues, what reliance can be placed in corporations upon whom the temptation of individual aggrandizement would most strongly operate? The people would have to blame none but themselves for any injury that might arise from a course so reckless, since their agents would be the wrong-doers, and they the passive spectators.

There can be but three kinds of public currency. 1st. Gold and Silver—2d. The paper of State institutions—or, 3d. A representative of the precious metals, provided by the General Government, or under its authority. The Sub-Treasury System, rejected the last in an form; and, as it was believed that no reliance could be placed on the issues of local institutions, for the purposes of general circulation, it necessarily and unavoidably adopted specie as the exclusive currency for its own use. And this must ever be the case unless one of the other kinds be used. The choice, in the present state of public sentiment, lies between an exclusive specie currency on the one hand, and Government issues of some kind on the other. That these issues cannot be made by a chartered institution, is supposed to be conclusively settled.

They must be made, then, directly by Government agents. For several years past they have been thus made in the form of Treasury notes, and have answered a valuable purpose. Their usefulness has been limited by their being transient and temporary; their ceasing to bear interest at given periods, necessarily causing their speedy return, and thus restricting their range of circulation, and being used only in the disbursements of Government, they cannot reach those points where they are most required.

By rendering their use permanent, to the moderate extent already mentioned, by offering no inducement for their return, and by exchanging them for coin and other values, they will constitute, to a certain extent, the general currency so much needed to maintain the internal

trade of the country. And this is the Exchequer plan, so far as it may operate in furnishing a currency.

It has now become obvious to all men that the Government must look to its own means for supplying its wants, and it is consoling to know that these means are altogether adequate for the object. The Exchequer if adopted, will greatly aid in bringing about the result. Upon what I regard as a well-founded supposition that its bills would be readily sought for by the public creditors, and that the issue would, in a short time reach the maximum of \$15,000,000, it is obvious that \$10,000,000 would thereby be added to the available means of the Treasury without cost or charge. Nor can I fail to urge the great and beneficial effects which would be produced in aid of all the active pursuits of life.

Its effects upon the solvent State banks, while it would force into liquidation those of an opposite character through its weekly settlements, would be highly beneficial; and with the advantages of a sound currency, the restoration of confidence and credit would follow, with a numerous train of blessings. My convictions are most strong that these benefits would flow from the adoption of this measure; but if the result should be adverse, there is this security in connection with it, that the law creating it may be repealed at the pleasure of the Legislature, without the slightest implication of its good faith.

Gen. Cass has returned to this country before leaving Paris, a number of American citizens gave him a public dinner. The following eloquent remarks are an extract of his speech on the occasion, in answer to a complimentary toast:

"We, who have put the ocean between ourselves and our native land, can in my opinion best appreciate the blessings, which Providence has conferred upon our beloved country. Without seeking to deny the institutions of the old world, or to describe its condition as worse than it is, no American can fail to be struck by the immense superiority in all elements of human happiness, which our confederated Republic presents over the Eastern Hemisphere. He who leaves our shores for a residence abroad, and does not return a wiser and a better citizen, will have looked upon life with as little wisdom as profit. The questions, social and political, which agitate these large and densely settled regions, are questions of life and death. Antagonist principles are in contact with each other at every moment to break into fierce action, and which in their operation may and probably will affect the whole frame of society. Changes may come, which can only be produced by desperate struggles between those who hold and those who seek the power; between those who have much and those who have nothing; between want and misery striving for existence, and wealth and power striving for defence. Happily for us, this state of things is unknown in our country. We are indeed divided into parties, and this, perhaps, is one of the conditions of the preservation of freedom. But we have no organic distinctions by which classes are created and maintained; we have no physical misery nor political oppression to array one portion of the community against another, and to teach it to seek relief in the destruction of existing institutions. Our questions indeed are debated with a zeal which proves that all are in earnest and that they result from honest differences of opinion, respecting persons and principles, and some times, unfortunately, with a bitterness which calm patriotism may deplore. But after all, they pass away, leaving unharmed the institutions of the country, and exhibiting but in bolder relief, the strength of our political system, and the wisdom and energy of public opinion. And it is good while we are here together in these old regions of rank and distinction, to recall one of the most beautiful traits in our whole system of Government, of which I am myself a practical illustration, and that is the perfect equality which is the very foundation of our Constitution—an equality, which opens all the avenues of advancement to the whole community, and leaves success or failure to the exertions of each."

"That this principle should be dear to me you will at once believe, when I tell you, that it is now between forty and fifty years since I crossed the mountains on foot, without patronage and without powerful family connexion, a young adventurer in that region, then so wild and solitary, now teeming with life and liberty. And whatever services I have been able to render and with whatever rewards these have been greatly overpaid, I owe all to this life-giving principle; to this great test and preservation of republican institutions. Still my friends, there is obviously one want in our country; one lesson to be learned, which would do more to unite and to render us happy, than any measure proposed by any party as a remedy for evils felt or anticipated; and that is a just appreciation of our own condition. A deep felt realization of the great blessings we enjoy! A conviction that the sun never shone upon a land more favored by Providence, and that all those subjects of discussion, which divide us, important as they are, never can justify the fierce animosity to which they often give birth, but that they sink into insignificance when placed in the balance against all that God has done for us to make us a happy people. This lesson is well learned abroad, by comparing what we have left, with what we see around us, and I trust we shall carry it back, with us as a precious acquisition, influencing our conduct and opinions for life."

"Permit me to conclude by offering you a sentiment in which I am sure you will all cordially join.

"Our Native Country—Still nearer the Father we are separated from."

WROTHEN COLE.—A teaspoonful of castor oil to a spoonful of molasses; a teaspoonful of the mixture given whenever the cough is troublesome, will afford relief at once, it is said, and in a few days effect a cure. The same remedy, it is also affirmed, relieves the cough, however violent the attack.



We have just received sixty reams of printing paper, similar in size and quality to the sheet upon which this is printed. Also 36 reams of super Royal 21 by 28 inches, which will be sold at cost and carriage, for cash.

We are indebted to the Hon. James Buchanan of the Senate, and the Hon. John Snyder of the House of Representatives, and others, for early copies of the President's Message.

We had another fall of snow on Tuesday last. The sleighing is now exceedingly fine.

The Legislature will meet on Tuesday the 31 day of January next. The Tuesday following the 10th of January is fixed for the election of a U. S. Senator. The Hon. James Buchanan will no doubt be re-elected to the station, which he now so ably fills. The State Treasurer will be elected on the third Monday in January, the 16th day of the month.

The Muncy Luminary announces the important fact, that the local legislature of that place assembled a short time since. We hope our friends there will take the currency matter into hand, and mend that, so far as Lycoming county is concerned. Don't let your modesty prevent you anticipating our Solons at Harrisburg upon this subject.

Wm. A. Porter, Esq., has been appointed Sheriff in Philadelphia county. Mr. Porter, who is a son of the Gov., is a young man of excellent character.

The Hon. George McDuffie has been elected U. S. Senator in South Carolina, in place of the Hon. Wm. C. Preston.

Mr. Calhoun has resigned his seat in the U. S. Senate, to take place on the 4th of March next.

The Postmaster General in his report, recommends the reduction of postage on letters, and an abridgement of the franking privilege.

The total amount of coal shipped from the Schuylkill coal region this season, is 543,830 tons. Last year the amount was 585,692 tons. Deficiency this year, 40,862 tons.

The New Orleans Tropic says, that in the late treaty with Mexico, the district of California was ceded to the United States.

At a large Johnson meeting, held at Towanda, Pa., on the 6th inst., Col. Johnson was nominated for President, and Hon. Levi Woodbury for Vice President. The meeting passed a resolution adopting the one term principle, a principle which we think should be universally adopted by the democratic party.

The "Easton Sentinel" has passed into the hands of Jas. A. Dunlap, Esq. In his introductory article, a sensible and well written production, he warmly advocates a discriminating tariff.

A letter writer from Washington says that Webb and Marshall will not escape punishment. The authorities of Delaware will make a demand for the persons of both these gentlemen, to be tried for the offence of fighting a duel in that state. This is perfectly right. Let no pardon or the cry of persecution arrest the progress of the law in this case, and the barbarous and cowardly practice of duelling will soon be banished from the land.

The Jury in the case of Milton J. Alexander, who was tried for the murder of Noah Lougee, a broker in Philadelphia, brought in a verdict of voluntary manslaughter. The Ledger says this verdict has virtually abolished capital punishment in Philadelphia.

Nicholas Biddle has recently published a number of letters on the finances of the state. He proposes the reduction of the pay of members to \$1 per day, the suspension of the school fund, and retirement in many other matters, amounting in all to \$520,000. Although many think he ought to pay his own debts before he attempts to lecture others, yet that does not prevent him from making some very good suggestions. We do not, however, approve of suspending the school appropriations; but we do think the state ought not to be saddled with the expenses of military encampments, and other amusements of the kind, in such times as these. His objections to pensions and gratuities to old soldiers, and aid to charitable institutions, come, however, with a bad grace from one, who, with one dash of his pen, gave away \$20,000 of the money of widows and orphans, to the city of Charleston, and appropriated to himself a donation from the same source, of equal amount, in silver plate.

The editor of the N. Y. Tribune inclines to think that Spencer is fast supplanting Webster in the affections of the President. If he must be a perfect Spaniel in disposition. In relation to the message the Tribune says:

"The Message, in the main, is fairly written, though we think it not difficult to draw the line between the smooth and specious argument of Spencer, and the weak, conceited floundering of Mr. Tyler himself. The Secretary of War is evidently Prime Minister to all intents and purposes."

Dr. Smith, in his lectures at New York, speaking of the different races of mankind, places the negro as the lowest in the scale of intelligence. In regard to the senses however, he remarks:

"The senses vary in the opposite direction. They are more developed in the African than in the Caucasian race. The negroes' taste is better and far more uniform—all negroes disliking mutton for instance; their smell is better, and so of their other senses."

The Present Tariff.

The Secretary of the Treasury, in his report, announces the fact that the present tariff does not afford sufficient revenue to defray the expenses of the government. A duty on tea, coffee, and other articles, will therefore be recommended. This affords a pretty commentary on the free trade doctrine, whose advocates denounce the present tariff as a high tariff, because it was made to afford incidental protection to our manufacturers and mechanics. The free trade advocates ask the imposition of equal or ad valorem duties—taxing the poor man's coffee and tea as much as the rich man's wines and silks. Now, those in favor of a protective tariff ask no higher duties than will be necessary for the expenses of government, but they ask that these duties be so adjusted, that our mechanics and manufacturers are saved from the competition of foreign pauper labor, while they are willing that necessities, such as tea, coffee, &c., things that we cannot produce, should pay but a low duty, or come in entirely free. We ask what democrat in Pennsylvania would not approve this doctrine? It is the doctrine advocated by Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Gen. Jackson and other distinguished democrats. A doctrine sustained by every free and unprejudiced mind, capable of understanding the subject.

The angle of the face of the different races of mankind, called the facial angle, is thus described by Dr. Smith:

Caucasian race is	85 degrees.
Asiatic	74 "
American Indian	74 "
Ethiopian	70 "
Orange Outrag	67 "

The dimensions of the Caucasian head are:

Of the Asiatic	87 cubic inches.
The Mongolian and Malay	82 "
The American Indian	81 "
And the Ethiopian.	78 "

MISCELLANY.

Editorial, Condensed and Selected.

The average annual amount of coinage in the world amounts to \$78,818,000.

Time says, the only discovery for which we are indebted to the blacks, is the *denim*.

Mr. T. S. Smith, Collector of Philadelphia, is to make way for the Hon. George M. Keim.

The New Orleans Courier states that the amount of specie in the vaults of ten of the Banks of that city on the 26th ult. was \$3,800,027.

Sweet potatoes are selling at 64 cents per peck in Charleston.

A rooster was recently flogged in Connecticut, for crowing on Sunday.

Mr. McDuffie, it is thought, will be elected U. S. Senator from South Carolina.

There is a man in Buckingham county Va., who has a wife who weighs 379 pounds!—[Oh! Thunder.]

Ninety-four tons of poultry were taken to the Boston Market from Rhode Island about Thanksgiving time.

A man named Daniel Smith, a native of Scotland, died in New York on Sunday aged 103 years.

The Rev. Theodore Parker says, "we are a grave and very sober people; we have no national amusement, except banking and the credit system."

Evidence Positive.—As an evidence of Alexander's insanity, it is said he paid a man he was indebted to, whilst on board the steamboat, one hundred and seventy-five dollars. The New York Aurora now considers his insanity unquestionable.

The Steamship Columbia, at Boston, brought \$372,000 in specie!

Farms in New Jersey.—The Trenton Gazette says: Land commands at this time in this vicinity a fair price, notwithstanding the times. Farms have been sold lately a few miles from Trenton for sums which, judges say, are about equal to their value.

Manificent Subscriptions.—Fifty thousand dollars have been subscribed for the use of Amherst College. Mr. John Tappan of Boston gave \$1000, and others very considerable sums.

A Fire put out by Ladies.—The house of James Kellogg, at Cleveland, Ohio, caught fire lately, and the flames were subdued by a number of ladies, who exerted themselves in throwing water upon them, while the men stood idly gazing on.

In Peace prepare for War.—Mr. R. L. Stevens is experimenting at Burlington on the means of constructing and propelling floating batteries for harbor defences.

The Cincinnati Outrage has undergone investigation by an ecclesiastical tribunal. The ill treatment of the old lady at the hands of her children has been proven. A report is soon to be published.

A Great Shot.—A Cook, Esq., of Williamsburg, L. I., while on a gunning excursion one day last week, shot an eagle as it was flying over, with a single ball, at the enormous distance of 280 yards.

There were 188,052 lbs., or about 94 tons of turkeys, chickens, &c. brought from Rhode Island to Boston, on the Boston and Providence Railroad, about Thanksgiving time. This poultry sold for 12 1/2 cts. per pound, or \$23,596.37.

SECULAR PHENOMENON.—The Indianapolis Sentinel of the 29th ult. announces the following occurrence which Parson Miller may very possibly consider the beginning of the end:

We are informed by a gentleman who has recently visited the place, that a subterranean fire has been raging in Putnam County for several weeks. It has extended under a space of some acres of ground, about one and a half or two miles south of Manhattan; and the timber had commenced falling in every direction on the infected district.—Where the earth has fallen in, it has left openings through which smoke issues constantly. Various causes for the phenomenon are given; but the most reasonable seems to be that a vein of coal, with which the country abounds, has become ignited from some cause, perhaps lightning.

POST MORTEM EXAMINATION OF JOHN C. COLE.

GENTLEMEN—Having been one of the witnesses examined before the coroner's inquest in the case of John C. Cole, I have frequently been appealed to, and by some of the most respectable of our fellow citizens, to inform them, if there was any doubt as to his death; and as rumors are in circulation throughout the country as well as the city, as to his actual demise, I feel myself called upon to furnish such facts as come within my own knowledge, which, I trust, will be quite sufficient to banish all doubt upon the subject. In the first place I will state that I personally knew the said John C. Cole, and visited him in his cell in the city prison, upon three several occasions, and conversed with him, alone, for half an hour at a time, both before and after he was sentenced.

In one of these conversations, he told me that he never would be hanged, from which I inferred that sooner than submit to the ignominy of the gallows, he intended, if possible, to die by his own hand. Being invited by the Sheriff to be present at the execution, I visited the prison early on the morning of the 18th, when I learned that the hour had been postponed until 4 o'clock, P. M. Having professional engagements, I left the prison and returned at half past one. I was then induced by circumstances to remain within the hall of the prison, where my position afforded me the opportunity of seeing every person who might either go in or come out of the cell where Cole was confined.

At half past two o'clock, it being intimated to the sheriff that the prisoner might possibly disappoint him, he directed the deputy sheriff to enter his cell and see if all was right.—The order was immediately obeyed, and on returning he reported that he saw nothing to awaken the least suspicion. The prisoner was walking up and down his cell, and was perfectly calm and collected. The door was not again opened until about ten minutes before 4 o'clock, when the Rev. Dr. Anthon entered, followed by the Sheriff. Observing the reverend gentleman to return almost immediately from the cell, apparently quite overcome. I immediately conjectured that an important event had taken place. I ran up the stairs and entered the cell, when I beheld John C. Cole, previously known to me, upon his bed, lying at full length upon his back.

He was dressed as he had been during the day, in his dressing gown, pantaloons, &c., but was perfectly lifeless. He had destroyed himself with a dagger which he had himself thrust into his heart. His head was inclined to the left side, with the mouth open; his countenance was natural but very pale; the left arm touched the bed at the elbow, with the hand resting on the body. The right arm lay on the bed, with the hand resting on the body a little above the right hip; his legs were extended. So perfectly easy was his attitude, and so calm his expression of countenance, that at the first glance one might readily imagine he had forgotten the awful fate awaiting him; and had fallen into a sweet sleep; but the stain of blood upon the hands, and the handle of the fatal dagger protruding from his breast, too plainly told that it was the sleep of death.

After feeling for the pulse at the wrist and finding none, I took hold of the handle of the instrument, which had entered the breast between the fourth and fifth ribs, and found that it was fastened to a firm substance which could be nothing but the heart itself. I did not disturb it, as the jury was so soon to be convened to make such examination as the case required. That the act had been one of calm deliberation may be inferred from the fact that he had, with some sharp instrument, removed a circular portion, about two inches in diameter, of his waistcoat and under garments, leaving the breast immediately beneath perfectly exposed. Not more than a table spoonful of blood had escaped externally, as the dagger occupied the entire wound, having penetrated to the widest part of the blade, which was between four and five inches in length; both hands were marked with several spots of blood sprinkled upon them, as if from the first jet of a small artery (probably the intercostal)—the smaller spots were quite dry, the larger were dry at the margin only; the hands and body were warm, but not as warm as in life.

Taking into consideration the circumstances of the reduced warmth of the body, of the dried spots of blood upon the hands, as well as the fact of the handle of the instrument vibrating in consequence of the spring being broken, I arrived at the following conclusions: First, that the deed must have been committed at three o'clock, or immediately after. Secondly, that the instrument was thrust in or pushed by both hands, and not by a stab. I am sustained in the belief that both hands were used, by the fact that no spots of blood were discoverable upon the dress in the direction in which the hands were found; besides, the vibrating handle of the instrument would require both hands to steady it and direct it according to the intention of the individual. As no other facts could be observed, all further investigation was deferred by the coroner, who, causing all to retire, locked the body up in the cell until a jury could be convened, which was done at 7 o'clock that evening, when Doctor McComb, physician to the city prison and myself, made a post-mortem examination in the hall of the prison, and in the presence of Drs. Wilkes, Rogers, Vache, and others, and at least a hundred citizens.—We laid open the cavities of the chest and abdomen, and removed the heart with the dagger.

It had entered the cavity of the chest on the left side as before stated, between the fourth and fifth ribs, and penetrated the heart in the centre, transfixing the left ventricle. The heart was firmly contracted upon the instrument, and probably never again dilated after it had been pierced, when death must have immediately followed. The pericardium or envelopment of the heart was filled with clotted blood, perhaps to the amount of a pint and a half, which must have escaped by the side of the blade.