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Staunton Spectator.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES.
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SPECIAL NOTICES will be inserted at double the advertising rates.

☞ Address—"Staunton Spectator," Staunton, Augusta County, Va.

Professional Directory.

A. B. ARTHUR, D. D. S., (office one door from corner of Beverly and New streets, STAUNTON, VA.
Artificial Teeth mounted on Gold, Silver, Platina, and Vulcanite. The greatest improvement yet introduced into Dental Seience is conceded to be the Vulcanite process; it being four times lighter than gold, and much cheaper, embracing superior cleanliness, nicer adaptation, and many other advantages. All the various operations of Dental Surgery performed with strict reference to permanency. March 20—tf

JOHN ECHOLS, Monroe county. R. H. CATLETT, Lexington. H. M. BELL, Staunton.
ECHOLS, BELL & CATLETT, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, STAUNTON, VIRGINIA,
Will practice in the State and Federal Courts at Staunton, and in the Circuit and County Courts of Rockbridge, Rockingham and Alleghany.—They will also attend to special business in any part of Va. and West Virginia. [Sept 12—tf

THOS. J. MICHIE. J. W. G. SMITH.
MICHIE & SMITH, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, STAUNTON, VA.,
Practice in the Federal Court at Staunton; in all the Courts of Augusta county; in the Circuit and County Courts of Rockingham; and in the Circuit Courts of Rockbridge.
Collection of claims promptly attended to.
Nov. 14—tf

BOLIVAR CHRISTIAN, ATTORNEY AT LAW, STAUNTON, VA.,
Attends the Courts of Augusta and adjoining Counties.
Attention given to the interests of residents in this country in lands in Missouri, Iowa, and other Western States. Oct 24—tf.

ORLANDO SMITH, ATTORNEY AT LAW,
and Commissioner in Chancery, STAUNTON, Va., Practices in the Courts of Augusta and adjoining counties.
Will attend to the purchase and sale of Real Estate on Commission. Nov 14—1y.

GEO. BAYLOR. MARSHALL HANGER.
BAYLOR & HANGER, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, STAUNTON, VA.,
Practice in all the Courts of Augusta county, and attend promptly to the collection of claims in any of the adjoining counties. Nov 7—tf

GEORGE M. COCHRAN, Jr., ATTORNEY AT LAW, STAUNTON, VA.,
Office in rear of Court House, adjoining David Fultz. Aug 15—tf

DR. ARTHUR has returned and will be glad to see his old patrons.
Staunton, Oct 24—tf

Fire and Life Insurance.

VIRGINIA INSURANCE COMPANY.—The business of this company will be commenced on the 1st day of May, proximo.
Subscribers to its capital stock are hereby called upon to settle for their several subscriptions with the undersigned, on or before that day, to the extent of twenty per cent. of same in cash, or more if they desire it.
Books of subscription are opened for an addition of $50,000 to its capital stock upon the same terms as the original subscribers.
By order of the Board of Directors.
March 26—tM1. WM. H. TAMS, Secretary.

VIRGINIA INSURANCE COMPANY. Books and Subscriptions to the Capitol Stock of this Company are now open at the Banking House of W. H. Tams & Co., and at the offices of the two Banks in Staunton. The attention of Capitalists is called to the merits of this Stock, which is recommended to them as probably the *most remunerative investment* of money now offering. By Order of the
Jan 9—tf COMMISSIONERS.

FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE.—The undersigned, representing the "Maryland Life," and the "Merchants and Mechanics Fire" Insurance Companies, of Baltimore, Md., (two of the most reliable companies in the U. S.) is prepared to issue Policies, for any amount desired, against loss of life or property. O. SMITH.
☞ Office in rear of "Spectator" building,
Nov 14—tf Staunton, Va.

Photographs.

PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY! The subscribers have opened permanently a PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY in Staunton, over the store of Roane & Alby, opposite the Virginia Hotel where Pictures of every style can be had. Their rooms are newly and neatly fitted up for the accommodation of all who may favor them with a call. They are thankful for past patronage and hope, by close attention to business, to merit as much or more in future.
☞ One of Steif's celebrated Pianos will be found in the reception room for the amusement of friends and patrons.
Sept 12— J. H. BURDETT & CO.

SPLENDIDLY EXECUTED PHOTOGRAPHS, (large size), of Leading Southern Generals, &c., at less than the frames can be purchased at anywhere else. Only $1,75 each, frame and all. Also, Carte de visites of the same, at only 15 cents each, or eight for One Dollar.—Call at the Post Office.
Nov. 28—tf JEWELL.

Saddles & Harness.

SADDLES AND HARNESS.—The subscriber has on hand a good supply of Saddles and Harness of his own Manufacture, which he will sell very low for cash, or in exchange for produce. He returns his thanks to the public for their past generous patronage, and would respectfully ask a continuance of the same. His shop is on Beverly or Main street, Staunton, next door to Dr. Chapman's Office.
Jan 16, 1866—6m GEO. F. ELICK.

Livery Stables.

LIVERY STABLE.—The undersigned keep constantly for hire, at the American Hotel Stables, SADDLE HORSES, BUGGIES AND HACKS. Horses fed also, and well groomed.
Nov. 14—tf CRAWFORD & CO.

Alexandria Advertisements.

S. F. GREGORY. JOSEPH PAUL.
GREGORY & PAUL, WHOLESALE GROCERS, FLOUR, FISH, SALT and PLASTER DEALERS, Nos. 27 and 29, King Street,
March 27—6m ALEXANDRIA, VA.

W. KEITH ARMISTEAD. C. A. MOORE.
ARMISTEAD & MOORE, Dealers in Lump and Ground Plaster, No. 16 South Wharf,
March 27—6m Alexandria, Va.

J. P. BARTHOLOW & CO., No. 25 King st. bet'n Water & Union sts., ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA,
Manufacturers and wholesale and retail dealers in Agricultural Implements and Machinery, seeds and fertilizers, plows and plow castings of all kinds, harrows, cultivators, corn-shellers, hay, straw, and fodder cutters &c., and a full stock of all Agricultural Implements, clover and timothy seed, orchard and herd grass, osage, orange, millet, Hungarian grass, &c. Peruvian guano, Bartholow's prepared Peruvian guano, bone dust, Mexican guano, Coe's super-phosphate, ground plaster, &c. Garden Seeds, embracing the largest variety ever offered in this market. Our American seeds are selected and grown for our sales, and seeds which are better of foreign growth we import directly from Europe. We are just in receipt of a large and extensive variety of seeds grown in England and the south of France, imported by us this season, comprising the finest variety of each kind grown, *warranted fresh and genuine*: Peas, beans, onion sets, cabbage and seed corn.
☞ Agricultural Implements and Machinery repaired at short notice. ☜
Extras and Repairs furnished at short notice.
J. P. BARTHOLOW & CO., Alexandria, Va., and 558, 7th street, Washington, D. C.
Feb. 13, '65.—3m

JAMES F. CARLIN, wholesale and retail dealer in Hardware, Cutlery, Steel, Bar Iron, Ploughs, &c., No. 63, King Street,
Nov 28 Alexandria, Va. 6m

Baltimore Advertisements.

PIANOS, PIANOS.—JOEL ETTINGER, Staunton, Va., Sole Agent for Stieff's Premium Pianos, Factory 84 and 86 Camden street, near Howard, and 45 and 47 Perry st., Baltimore, Md. Warerooms No. 7, North Liberty street, near Baltimore.
These instruments have been before the public for the last thirty years in competition with the best makers of the country, and are now pronounced by all the leading professors and amateurs the best Pianos manufactured. These instruments have all the latest improvements and are warranted for five years, with the privilege of exchange within 12 months if not entirely satisfactory to the purchaser. Second hand Pianos always on hand from $50 to $300. Melodeons and Parlor Organs from the best makers.
REFERENCES.—Gen. R. E. Lee, Washington College, Lexington, Va.; Rev. R. H. Phillips, Va. Female Institute; Miss Mary Baldwin, Female Institute; J. C. Covell, Principal, and Professor Graham, of Virginia Institute, for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind; J. W. Alby and A. J. Turner, of Staunton. A call is solicited. Terms liberal. [Sept 19, 1865—1y Vin copy

RAWLINGS & WOODWARD, No. 96, S. Charles street, Baltimore, Md.
Tobacco and Produce Commission Merchants.
Special attention paid to selling Leaf and Manufactured Tobacco, Grain, Flour, Bacon, &c.
Orders for Groceries, Guanos, Agricultural Implements, Seeds, etc.
Consignments and Orders solicited,
September 12, 1865—1y

Medical.

DYSPEPSIA.—What everybody says must be true. We have heard Dr. Strickland's Tonic spoken of so frequently by those who have been benefitted by it, that at last we are compelled to make it known to the public that we really believe it effects a cure in every case; therefore, we say to those, who are suffering with Dyspepsia or Nervous Debility, to go to their druggists and get a bottle of Dr. Strickland's Tonic.
For sale by Dr. H. S. Eichelberger, and P. H. Trout and by druggists everywhere.

TWO BAD CASES OF PILES CURED by Dr. Strickland's PILE Remedy.—Mr. Glass, of Janesville, Wisconsin, writes for the benefit of all who suffer with the Piles, that he has been troubled for eight years with an aggravated case of Piles, and his brother was discharged from the army as incurable [he being quite paralyzed with the Piles.] Both these distressing cases were cured with one bottle of Dr. Strickland's Pile Remedy. The recommendation of these gentlemen, beside the daily testimonials received by Dr. Strickland, ought to convince those suffering that the most aggravated chronic cases of Piles are cured by Dr. Strickland's Pile Remedy. For sale by Dr. H. S. Eichelberger and P. H. Trout, and by druggists everywhere.

A SUPERIOR REMEDY.—We can conscientiously recommend to those suffering from a distressing cough, Dr. Strickland's Mellifluous Cough Balsam is one of the best preparations in use, and is all that its proprietor claims for it. We have tried it during the past week, and found relief from a most distressing cough. It is prepared by Dr. Strickland, No. 139 Sycamore St, Cincinnati, Ohio, and for sale by Dr. H. S. Eichelberger, and P. H. Trout, and by druggists everywhere. March 13, '66—1y

B. T. 1865. S. C.
SMITH'S DRUID BITTERS,
GREAT SOUTHERN TONIC!
PURELY VEGETABLE!!
Very palatable, and highly beneficial to health! Will cure all diseases of the stomach, Liver and Kidneys, such as Dyspepsia, Weak-Stomach, Diarrhœa, Heartburn, Sick Headache, Loss of Sleep, Depression of Spirits, &c.
A SURE PREVENTATIVE AGAINST FEVER AND AGUE.
☞ If you wish health and vigor try it.
J. SMITH & SON, Proprietors, 35 Cheapside, Baltimore.

FOR SALE, wholesale and retail, by G. C. Yeakle, Druggist, Staunton, Va.
March 20—6m

Tin and Copper Ware.

AUGUST A. GRUBERT, Manufacturer of Stills and all kinds of Tin and Copper Ware, STAUNTON, VA., very respectfully informs his old customers and the public generally, that he has removed his ***Copper and Tin Shop*** from Greenville to Staunton, and occupies the room opposite the Bar-room of the Va. Hotel, known as the Stable office. Being determined to keep a constant supply of Copper, Tin and Sheet-iron on hand, he will, at all times, be prepared to do work with dispatch, and at prices to suit the times.
Roofing, Guttering and Spouting Houses, either in Copper or Tin, will be done in a substantial manner and at fair prices. [sep26—1y

Debtors and Creditors.

NOTICE.—The Bonds and Accounts of Dr. T. Rennolds, dec'd., are in my hands for settlement and collection. All persons knowing themselves to be indebted are requested to come forward at once, as longer indulgence cannot be given. WM. B. KAYSER,
Sept 26—tf Attorney for the Adm'r.

NOTICE.—Our books having been destroyed by fire, at Greenwood, during Gen. Sheridan's raid, we respectfully ask all persons knowing themselves indebted to us to come forward and report the amount as near as they can and close the same by Note. We may be found at the store of Hoge & Mason.
Sep. 19—tf. Vin copy. TAYLOR & HOGE.

Garden and Flower Seeds.

GARDEN SEEDS.—Landreth's celebrated Garden and Flower seeds just received and for sale at P. H. TROUT'S
Feb 20, 1866. Drug Store.

Poetry.

For the Spectator.

Lines Addressed to Miss H. L. Kerr.

How strong the tie must be that binds
Your soul to yon bright home above,
Where mother, sister, brother, waits
To welcome you with love.

Your mother's kindly beaming eyes,
Your brother's welcome smile,
Your sister's open arms and kiss,
Here would your weary way beguile.

But the earthly chain, how many links,
The grim death angel broke?
The golden cord—affection's band,
'Scaped not the angel's stroke.

On Jordan's banks in robes so pure,
Your loved ones there arrayed,
In faith, and hope they've crossed the stream,
And rest where joys ne'er fade.

Besides a Father's smiling face
And joys he here bestows,
He has prepared a home above,
Where every blessing flows.

Thus when in thought you wander back,
And memory points beneath the sod,
Brush back the tear, and hush the sigh,
And humbly bear the afflicting rod.

March 26th, 1866. BLANCHE.

For the Spectator.

Lines in Memory of the Brave, Noble and Fallen Sons of Virginia.

TUNE—"ANNIE LAURIE.

Virginia's sons were valiant,
Their courage none denied,
And for their rights and freedom,
They laid them down and died,
They laid them down and died,
Yes, many a noble band,
To save from desecration
Their own dear Southern land.

They fought and fell so bravely,
They thought their cause was just,
But our rights and freedom perished,
With our dear ones in the dust,
With our dear ones in the dust.
All our brilliant hopes were crushed,
And now we mourn in sadness,
For the noble, true and just.

The spot was consecrated,
Where our loved Jackson died,
And many a heart was sad,
And there was many weeping eyes.
And many weeping eyes,
For the noble, pure and brave,
When our well beloved General,
Was laid in the silent grave.

How many tearful partings?
How many graves unknown?
Is there naught to give us comfort,
Nor cheer the hearts cast down?
Nor cheer the hearts cast down?
Yes, God's chast'ning hand we'll own,
We will bear it with submission,
And trust in Him alone.

SOLITUDE, Feb. 1866.

General Lee's Testimony Before the Reconstruction Committee.

In the House of Representatives, on Tuesday week, Mr. Conkling, from the Joint Committee of Fifteen, reported a large amount of evidence on the condition of the Southern States. The following is the testimony of General Robert E. Lee, who was sworn and examined on the 17th of February, 1866:

By Senator Howard.—Where is your present residence?

A. Lexington, Va.

Q. How long have you been in Lexington?

A. Since the 1st of October last—nearly five months.

Q. Are you acqainted with the state of feeling among what we call the secessionists at present in Virginia towards the Federal Government?

A. I do not know that I am. I have been living very retired, and have had but little communication with politicians. I know nothing more than from my observations and such facts as have come to my knowledge.

Q. What is your opinion, from observation among the secession people, of the state of the feeling towards this Government, at this time?

A. So far as comes to my knowledge, I do not know of a single person who either feels or contemplates any resistance to the Government of the United States, or indeed any opposition to it. No word has reached me to either purpose.

Q. From what you have observed is it your opinion that they are friendly towards the Government, and that they will co-operate to sustain and uphold it in future?

A. I believe they entirely acquiesce in the Government, and so far as I have heard any one express an opinion, they are for co-operating with President Johnson in his policy.

Q. In his policy in regard to what?

A. His policy in regard to the restoration of the whole country. I have heard persons with whom I have conversed, express great confidence in the wisdom of his policy of restoration, and they seem to look forward to it as a hope of restoration.

Q. How do they feel in regard to that portion of the people of the United States who have been forward and zealous in the prosecution of the war against rebellion?

A. Well, I do not know. I have heard nobody express any opinion in regard to it. As I said before, I have not had much connection with politicians in the country, if there are any. Every one seems to be engaged in his own affairs and in endeavoring to restore the civil government of the State. I have heard no expression of sentiment towards any particular portion of the country.

Q. How do the secessionists feel in regard to the payment of the Federal debt?

A. I have never heard any one speak on the subject. I suppose they must expect to pay the taxes levied by the Government. I have heard them speak in reference to the payment of taxes, and of their efforts to raise money therefor, which I suppose is for their share of the debt. I have never heard any one speak in opposition to the payment of taxes or of resistance to their payment. Their whole effort has been to try and raise money to pay the taxes.

Q. From your opinion and knowledge of the people of Virginia, would they, if the question was left to them, repudiate and reject that debt?

A. I never heard any one speak on that subject, but from my knowledge of the people, I believe that they would be in favor of payment of all just debts.

Q. Do they, in your opinion, regard that as a just debt?

A. I do not know what their opinion is on the subject. I have never heard any opinion expressed, but I have never heard any opinion expressed contrary to it. Indeed, as I said in the beginning, I have had very little discussion or intercourse with the people. I believe the people would pay the debts they are called on to pay. I say that from my knowledge of the people generally.

Q. Would they pay that debt, or their portion of it, with as much alacrity as people ordinarily pay their taxes to their Government?

A. I do not know that they would make any distinction between the two. The taxes levied by the Government, so far as I know, they are prepared to pay to the best of their ability. I never heard them make any distinction.

Q. What is the feeling of the people of Virginia towards the payment of the so-called Confederate debt?

A. I believe, so far as my opinions go—and I have no facts to go upon—they would be willing to pay the Confederate debt, too.

Q. You think they would?

A. I think they would, if they had the power and ability to do so. I have never heard any one in the State with whom I have conversed speak of repudiating any debt.

Q. I suppose the Confederate debt is valueless, even in the market in Virginia.

A. Entirely; so far as I know, I believe the people look upon it as lost entirely. I never heard any question on the subject.

Q. Do you recollect when the Confederate bonds were made payable?

A. I have a general recollection that they were made payable six months after a declaration of peace.

Q. Six months after a ratification of peace between the United States and the Confederate Government.

A. I think they read that way.

Q. So that the bonds are not due yet by their terms?

A. I suppose, unless it is considered that there is peace now, they are not due.

Q. How do the people of Virginia, the secessionists particularly, feel towards the freedmen?

A. Every one with whom I have associated expresses kind feelings towards the freedmen. They wish to see them get on in the world, and particularly to take up some occupation for a living, and to turn their hands to some work.—I know that efforts have been made among the farmers near where I live to induce them to engage for the year at regular wages.

Q. Do you think there is a willingness on the part of their old masters to give them fair wages for their labor?

A. I believe it is so. The farmers generally prefer those servants who have been living with them before. I have heard them express their preference for the men whom they know who had lived with them before, and their wish to get them to return to work. I am not aware of any combination among the whites to keep down the wages of the blacks. I have heard that in several counties land-owners have met in order to establish a uniform rate of wages, but I never heard of any combination to keep down wages, or establish a rate which they did not think fair. The means of paying wages in Virginia are very limited now, and there is a difference of opinion as to how much each person is able to pay.

Q. How do they feel in regard to the education of the blacks? Is there a general willingness or unwillingness to have them educated?

A. Where I have been the people exhibit a willingness that the blacks should be educated, and they express an opinion that that would be better for the blacks and better for the whites.

Q. General, you are very competent to judge of the capacity of black men to acquire knowledge. I want your opinion on that capacity as compared with the capacity of white men.

A. I do not know that I am particularly qualified to speak on that subject as you seem to intimate; but I do not think he is as capable of acquiring knowledge as the white man is.—There are some more apt than others. I have known some to gain knowledge and skill in their trade or profession. I have had servants of my own who learned to read and write very well.

Q. Do they show a capacity to obtain a knowledge of mathematics and exact sciences?

A. I have no knowledge on that subject. I am merely acquainted with those who have learned the common rudiments of education.

Q. General, are you aware of any combination existing among the blacks of Virginia, anywhere in the State, having in view the disturbance of the peace, or any improper or unlawful acts?

A. I am not; I have seen no evidence of it, and have heard of none; wherever I have been they have been quiet and orderly, not disposed to work, or rather not disposed to any continuous engagement to work, but just very short jobs to provide them with the immediate means of subsistence.

Q. Has the colored race generally as much love for money and property as the white race?

A. I do not think it has; the blacks whom I know look more to the present than to the future.

Q. Does that absence of a lust of money arise more from the nature of the negro than from his former servile condition?

A. Well, it may be in some measure attributed to his former condition; they are an amiable, social race; they like their ease and comfort, and I think look more to their present than their future condition.

Q. In the event of a war between the United States and any foreign power, such as England or France, if there should be held out to the secession portion of the people of Virginia or the other recently rebel States, a fair prospect of gaining their independence and shaking off the Government of the United States, is it, or is it not your opinion that they would avail themselves of that opportunity?

A. I cannot speak with any certainty on that point; I do not know how far they might be actuated by their feelings; I have nothing whatever to base an opinion upon; so far as I know, they contemplate nothing of the kind now; what may happen in the future I cannot say.

Q. Do you not frequently hear, in your intercourse with secessionists in Virginia, expressions of a hope that such a war may break out?

A. I cannot say that I have heard it; on the contrary, I have heard persons (I do not know whether you could call them secessionists or not—I mean those people in Virginia with whom I associate) express a hope that the country may not be led into a war.

Q. In such an event do you think that that class of people whom I call secessionists would join the common enemy?

A. It is possible—it depends upon the feeling of the individual.

Q. If it is a fair question (you may answer it or not as you choose) what, in such an event, might be your own choice?

A. I have no disposition now to do it, and never have had.

Q. And you cannot foresee that such would be your inclination in such an event?

A. No; I can only judge from the past; I do not know what circumstances may produce; I cannot pretend to foresee events. So far as I know, the wish of the people of Virginia is for peace.

Q. During the war was it not contemplated by the Government of the Confederate States to form an alliance with some foreign nation if possible?

A. I believe it was their wish to do so; it was their wish to have the Confederate Government recognized as an independent Government. I have no doubt if it could have made favorable treaties it would have done so; but I know nothing of the policy of the Government; I had no hand or part in it; I merely express my own opinion.

Q. The question I am about to put to you, you may answer or not, as you choose—"Did you take an oath of fidelity or allegiance to the Confederate Government?"

A. I do not recollect having done so, but it is possible when I was commissioned I did. I do not recollect whether it was required. If it was required I took it; or if it had been required I would have taken it—but I do not recollect whether it was or not.

By Mr. Blow—Q. In reference to the effect of President Johnson's policy, if it were adopted, would there be anything like a return of the old feeling. I ask that because you used the expression "acquiescing in the result?"

A. I believe it would take time for the feelings of the people to be of that cordial nature to the Government that they were formerly.

Q. Do you think that their preference for that policy arises from a desire to have good feeling and peace in the country, or from the probability of their regaining political power?

A. So far as I know the desire of the people of the South, it is for the restoration of their civil government, and they look upon the policy of President Johnson as the one which would most clearly and most surely re-establish it.

Q. Do you see any change in reference to the poorer people of Virginia as regards industry? Are they as much, or more interested, in developing their material interests than they were?

A. I have not observed any change. Every one now has to attend to his business for his support.

Q. The poorer classes are generally hard at work, are they?

A. So far as I know they are. I know nothing to the contrary. I have noticed no change in their relations to the colored people. So far as I know, the feelings of all of the people of Virginia are kind to the colored people. I have never heard any blame attributed to them as to the present condition of things, or any responsibility.

Q. Can capitalists and working men from the North go into Virginia and go to work among the people?

A. I do not know anything to prevent them. Their peace and pleasure there would depend very much on their conduct. If they confined themselves to their own business and did not interfere to provoke controversies with their neighbors, I do not believe they would be molested. There is no desire to keep out labor or capital. On the contrary, they are very anxious to get labor and capital into the State. The manner in which they would be received (as I said before) would depend entirely on the individual. They might make themselves obnoxious, as you can understand.

By Mr. Howard—Is there not a general dislike of Northern men among secessionists?

A. I suppose they would prefer not to associate with them; I do not know that they would select them as associates.

Q. Do they avoid and ostracise them socially?

A. They might avoid them. They would not select them as associates unless there was some reason. I do not know that they would associate until they became acquainted. I think it probable that they would not admit them into their social circles.

By Mr. Blow—Do you think the colored persons would rather work for a Northern man than a Southern man?

A. I think it very probable that they would prefer the Northern man, although I have no facts. I know of numbers of the blacks engaging with their own masters, and I know of a good many who prefer to go off and look for new homes. Whether it is from any dislike to their former masters or from a desire to change, or that they feel more free and independent, I do not know.

Q. What is your opinion in regard to the material interests of Virginia—do you think they will be equal to what they were before the rebellion, under the changed aspect of affairs?

A. It will take a long time for them to reach their former standard. I think that after some years they will reach it. I hope they will exceed it—but it can't be immediately, in my opinion. It will take a number of years.

Q. On the whole, the condition of things in Virginia is hopeful, both in regard to its material interests and the future peace of the country?

A. I have heard great hope expressed, and great cheerfulness and willingness to labor.

Q. Suppose that this policy of President Johnson should be all you anticipate, and that you should also realize all that you expect in the improvement of your material interests, do you think that the result of that would be the gradual restoration of the old feeling?

A. That would be the natural result, I think, and I see no other way in which that result can be brought about.

Q. There is a fear in the public mind that the friends of the policy in the South adopt it, because they see in it the means of regaining the political position which they lost in the recent contest—do you think that this is the main idea with them, or that they merely look to it, as you say, as the best means of restoring the civil government and the peace and prosperity of their respective States?

A. As to the first point you make, I do not think that I ever heard any person speak upon it. I never heard the points separated. I have heard them speak generally as to the effect of the policy of President Johnson. The feeling, so far as I know now, is that there is not that equality extended to the Southern States as is enjoyed by the North.

Q. You do not feel down there that while you accept the result, that we are as generous as we ought to be under the circumstances?

A. They think that the North can afford to be generous.

Q. That is the feeling down there?

A. Yes, and they think it is the best policy—those who reflect upon the subject and are able to judge.

Q. I understand it to be your opinion that generosity and liberality towards the entire South would be the surest means of regaining their good opinion?

A. Yes, and the speediest.

Q. I understood you to say generally that you had no apprehension of any combination among the leading secessionists to renew the war, or anything of the kind?

A. I have no reason in the world to think so.

Q. Have you heard that subject talked over among the politicians?

A. No, sir; I have not. I have not heard that matter suggested.

Q. Let me put another hypothetical case—suppose the Executive of the United States should be filled by a President, who, like Buchanan, rejected the right of coercion, so called, and suppose a Congress should exist here, entertaining the same political opinions, thus presenting to the once rebel States the opportunity to again secede from the Union, would they or not, in your opinion, avail themselves of that opportunity, or some of them?

A. I suppose it would depend upon the circumstances existing at the time. If their feelings should remain embittered, and their affections alienated from the rest of the States, I think it very probable they might do so; provided they thought it was to their interest. I do not know there is a deep-seated feeling of dislike towards the Government. I think it probable some animosity may exist among the people. I think at the time that they were disappointed as to the result of the war. I know of no condition of discontent against the Government among the secessionists. I believe that the people will perform towards the Government all of the duties they are required to perform. I think that is the general feeling.

Q. Do you think it would be practicable to convict a man in Virginia of treason for having taken part in this rebellion against the Government by a Virginia jury, without packing it with direct reference to a verdict of guilty?

A. On that point I have no knowledge, and I do not know what they would consider treason against the Government—if you mean past acts.

Mr. Howard—Yes, sir.

General Lee—I have no knowledge as to what their views on that subject in the past are.

Q. You understand my question. Suppose a jury was empanelled in your own neighborhood, taken by lot, would it be practicable to convict, for instance, Jefferson Davis, for having levied war on the United States, and thus having committed the crime of treason?

A. I think it would be very probable they would not consider he had committed treason. I do not know whether a jury would heed the instructions of the court to convict the offender.

Q. They do not generally suppose that it was treason against the Government, do they?

A. I do not think that they do so consider it. So far as I know, they look upon the action of a State in withdrawing from the Government as carrying the individuals in it along with it, that the State was responsible for the act, and not the individual. I am now referring to the past.

Q. State, if you please, (and if you are disinclined you need not answer the question,) what your own personal views on that question were?

A. That was my view—that the act of Virginia in withdrawing herself from the Union carried me along as a citizen of Virginia, and that her laws and her acts were binding on me.

O. And that you feel to be your justification in taking the course you did?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. I have been told, General, that you have remarked to some of your friends in conversation, that you were rather wheedled or cheated into that course by politicians?

A. I do not recollect ever making that remark; I do not think I ever made it.

Q. If there be any other matter about which you wish to speak, do so freely.

A. Only in reference to that last question you put to me; I may have said, and may have believed, that the position of the two sections which they held to each other were brought about by the politicians of the country; that the great masses of the people, if they understood the real question, would have avoided it; but not that I had been individually wheedled by the politicians. But I did believe at the time that it was an unnecessary condition of affairs, and might have been avoided if forbearance and wisdom had been practiced on both sides.

General Lee then closed his evidence in stating (in reply to questions) that the people of the South would not like the proposed constitutional amendment; that he was not aware of any cruelties to Federal prisoners at Belle Isle, tho' aware that they suffered many privations. He had no control or command whatever over the prisoners' depots, and did not know who commanded at Andersonville until he saw it in the papers.

[For the Spectator.]

Churchville Meeting.

Pursuant to adjournment, a large meeting of farmers assembled in Churchville on the 29th ultimo. The Chairman of the former meeting being absent, Jacob Baylor, Esq., was chosen to preside. Upon taking the chair, Mr. B. said "he had the pleasure of informing the meeting that since its adjournment on the 15th February, a club had been organized in his neighborhood with the style of the 'North Mountain Agricultural Club,' and that two or three others were in the process of formation in the same section of the county. That the N. M. being the first born of the Churchville Club would expect to receive from its venerable parent much counsel and encouragement, together with all that tender solicitude which falls, by the right of primogeniture, to the lot of the eldest born."

Thereupon the Rev. Professor Davis offered the following resolutions:

1st. That the information just communicated by the Chairman, relative to the formation of Agricultural Clubs, is received with lively satisfaction by this meeting, and is hailed as the harbinger of an epoch of progress about to dawn upon the agriculture of the county.

2d. That we reiterate with renewed hope and deepened emphasis the recommendation, formerly made to the farmers of the county, to organize Agricultural Clubs in every neighborhood, as the best and readiest means of inspiring them with such zeal and energy as will ensure "two blades of grass or two ears of corn to grow where but one grew before."

3d. That each member of this meeting pledges himself to exert whatever of influence he may possess in behalf of the formation of such clubs throughout the county.

These resolutions Mr. Davis advocated in appropriate remarks, pointing out with much force and clearness the many advantages accruing to the farmer from these unpretending organizations.

Mr. E. Geeding, also, supported the resolutions, and recommended in earnest terms the formation of agricultural libraries by the clubs.

The resolutions were then unanimously adopted.

An informal but interesting discussion, then, took place on the culture of Sorghum, and the manufacture of syrup, participated in by Dr. Wilson, Mr. Walters, Mr. Baylor, and Mr. Davis.

The following resolutions were then offered by Mr. Tate, which, after remarks in their support by the mover, and Messrs. Davis, Baylor, Geeding and others, were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That this meeting recognizes in the act passed by the last Legislature amending the law of enclosures a measure, which if adopted and faithfully executed, will relieve the agricultural interests of onerous burdens, it is, therefore, cordially approved.

2d. That the sudden and total overthrow of our system of labour, and its scarcity consequent thereon, together with the general dilapidation and destruction of farm buildings and enclosures, caused by a war of four years' duration, render the adoption of said law, if not absolutely necessary, at least highly important, greatly beneficial, and eminently just to the farmer, relieving him as it will do of a large amount of labour, and expense unnecessarily imposed by the present fence law. This meeting, therefore, respectfully, but earnestly, urge its adoption upon the County Court of Augusta.

On motion, the Secretary was directed to communicate the foregoing resolves to the County Court at their April session.

On motion, it was resolved that when this meeting adjourns, it will be to convene again on the fourth Saturday of May.

Mr. George Geeding submitted a resolution providing for the appointment of a committee to report at the next meeting on the best method of collecting, preserving and applying manures. This resolution, Mr. G. supported in a brief, but forcible and appropriate speech. The resolution was then unanimously adopted.

The Chairman appointed the following committee: George Geeding, Prof. Davis, James Wilson and Wm. M. Tate. On motion, the Chairman was added to the committee.

JACOB BAYLOR, Chairman.

WM. M. TATE, Secretary.

MILK is kept good longer, if it is boiled, evaporated, condensed, or kept still at a temperature of about forty degrees. If heated three days in succession in summer, and two in winter, (as per Guy Lussac's experiment,) up to the boiling point, it will keep two months without souring.