Staunton Spectator.

Tuesday, April 23, 1867.

☞ The circulation of the *Spectator* is about as great as the combined circulation of both the other papers published in this place, and has as many subscribers in this county alone as are contained in the whole subscription list of either of the other papers.

☞ The *Spectator* having about as many subscribers as both of the other papers published in this place, it is to the interest of persons to advertise in the *Spectator*, and it is the *duty* of those who advertise for others to advertise in that paper which has the largest circulation. It becomes the *duty* of agents, commissioners, administrators, executors, and all who are entrusted with the interests of others to advertise in the *SPECTATOR*, as it has a *much larger* circulation than any other paper published here.

A Word to Freedmen.

If the resolutions adopted by the Freedmen in the meeting held in this place on Monday night, the 15th inst., express the views and purposes of that class in our midst—which we very much doubt—the adoption of them, if they adopted them understandingly, indicates that they will draw the line of demarkation distinctly between themselves and the great mass of the whites in the elections. This course, on their part, would be folly approximating madness. They should have sense enough to know that if they assume a position of antagonism to the whites, that they, the colored people, will be the sufferers. The whites have the advantages of numbers, of capital and property, of intelligence and education. The whites constitute the employing, and the blacks the employed class. The whites now are disposed to affiliate politically in a friendly spirit with the blacks, and the blacks should meet them in the same spirit. If the blacks should, however, organize for the purpose of acting in solid phalanx against the whites, as their action in that meeting would seem to indicate, they must know that the inevitable consequence will be that the whites will unite against them. Then the weaker party would be pushed to the wall, and the blacks would repent of their mad folly when too late to repair it. Their true course is to rely upon and to act with those whom they have known for years to be their friends, and to avoid taking counsel from strangers, however plausible, and however loud in their professions of friendship. They should be careful not to make enemies of the persons among whom they live, and upon whom they must remain dependent. If they throw down the gauntlet of defiant opposition, they may rest assured that it will be taken up by the whites.

Meeting at the Richmond Theatre.

Some of the more intelligent and respectable colored men of Richmond, disgusted with the efforts of Hunnicutt, and others like him, to poison the minds of the colored people against their best friends—the people of the South—invited Messrs. R. T. Daniel, Wm. H. McFarland and Marmaduke Johnson to address the colored population at the Theatre on Monday night, the 15th inst. The invitation was accepted, and the Theatre was crowded from parquette to gallery. In addition to the gentlemen above named, the vast audience was addressed by Mr. Sturdivant and Rev. Dr. Burrows. All the speeches were good, and if the colored people are wise they will act in accordance with the wholesome counsel given them. They should have sense enough to know that their interests and those of the great mass of the people among whom they live are mutually dependent, and that Northern emissaries and Southern loyalists are trying to use them for their own benefit. They will use them, if they can—and they are laboring hard to do so—as the monkey did the cat, when he used the cat's paw to rake the roasted chestnuts from the hot ashes. If the colored people act wisely they will carefully avoid arraying themselves in opposition to the masses of the white people among whom they live, and upon whose friendship their interests are dependent.

Hunnicutt.

The *Enquirer* says that "whether or not Hunnicutt has any *personal* claims on the confidence of those whom he seeks to mislead, will be inferred from the accusations freely made against him in the public press. He is charged with having been an inhuman master;—with having been a treacherous ecclesiastic, using the ordination of one church and the baptism of another, to undermine both;—with having been a false politician,—warlike secesh, in the beginning, and a red-string afterwards, and an incendiary now. He treated the colored people brutally when he was their master. Horace Greeley who was never anything but an abolitionist, says he is leading them to their ruin now. From North and from South, from white and from black, from church and from State, he has earned a verdict of unanimous condemnation and repudiation."

Radicals Losing Ground.

The Chambersburg, Pa., *Valley Spirit* says that in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas, and all through the Western and Middle States, the town and municipal elections have as clearly shown a decline in Radical influence as did the State elections in New England. There is abundant evidence that the people are beginning to reflect seriously upon the condition of the country. Reason is resuming her sway, and the future gives promise of a great and lasting change. That it will come, and, come speedily, we conscientiously believe. All the signs of the times indicate the approach of a new political era.

The Lynchburg *Republican* says that good men who once supported the measures of the Radical party are becoming alarmed and disgusted at its vehement and implacable intolerance. The wild torrent of hate and fanaticism appears to have reached its high water mark. We think we can see distinctly the swell of the "refluent wave."

In speaking of the action of the Radical Convention in the African Church in Richmond, the *Examiner* says: "The most significant fact in the whole proceedings is the absolute dominion of the whites. They allow the negroes to rant as they please, but make them vote as *they* desire—and the colored brethren obediently cry out 'aye.'"

A Washington correspondent of the Richmond *Examiner* says that "a Radical Senator said to me to-day that Southern loyalty, as represented by the samples which appear at Washington, is the meanest form of the American character."

The Governor of S. C. estimates that 100,000 people in South Carolina have not tasted meat for thirty days. The destitution is very great. Several cases of starvation are reported.

The election to the Constitutional Convention in Michigan shows a gain of ten Democrats, in a body of one hundred, over last year. The ice is breaking up.

[From the Richmond Whig.]

A Disgusted Delegate.

We have been called on by Mr. E. L. Houff, a delegate from Augusta to the African Church pow-wow, at whose request we publish the subjoined preamble and resolutions which were offered by him in that body and were unanimously and contemptuously voted "under the table." Mr. H., who seems to be a sensible and well-meaning person, is satisfied that he was entirely out of place in any such body, and that the convention was got up and controlled by corrupt and designing (white) men for their own selfish ends. He will take care, in the future, not to be caught in any such company. The following is the paper which was submitted by Mr. H., and which expresses his own sentiments and, as he assures us, those of the "Union" men of Augusta:

"Whereas, The State of Virginia, as well as the whole of the Southern States, saw fit to secede from the General Government of the United States; and as the result of the secession involved the country in four years' war, the most terrible that has ever been waged on this Continent; and as the States thus seceded are at this time held by the United States Government as conquered provinces; therefore be it

"1. *Resolved*, That we, a portion of the citizens of Virginia in convention assembled, for the purpose of bringing back our State to the faith of our fathers, while differing with the advocates of secession from the commencement of the political strife to the present time, yet we recognize them as friends and fellow-citizens of a common country; and as all classes should work harmoniously together for the purpose of building up our dilapidated country and perpetuating the interests of our beloved State, we do hereby ask the Congress of the United States, in the name of the loyal citizens of Virginia, and in behalf of our misguided friends, that no portion of their property be confiscated on account of the part taken by them in the late rebellion.

"2. *Resolved*, That, as Union men, we are desirous of fostering harmony in our beloved land, and intend to uphold the Union party and perpetuate its success by all legitimate means.

"3. *Resolved*, That we abide by the laws made by Congress to govern the State of Virginia, and we deem it our duty to uphold the Union now and forever one and inseparable.

"4. *Resolved*, That we, the Union men of Virginia, throw to the breeze our banner with the inscription: '*The Union, the Constitution, and the Enforcement of the Laws.*'"

Dignity of Labor.

We have received, in pamphlet form, the address delivered, last month, before the Mechanics' Association of Danville, Va., by Maj. W. T. Sutherlin—and have read it with much interest, as another effort in the cause of useful and honorable *labor* in the State of Virginia.

We concur in the opinion expressed by the Alexandria *Gazette*, that such appeals cannot fail of having their effect upon the minds and hearts of our people. Labor in mechanics, in commerce, and in agriculture, is what is again to restore our prosperity, and substitute, in one sense, a triumphant policy, as far as material matters are concerned, for a "lost cause." Labor is to be encouraged and honored—and Labor is to be ennobled by Education.

The Appeal to the Supreme Court.

The *National Intelligencer*, referring to the rejection by the Supreme Court of the application to file the petition of Mississippi, and the granting of the permission in the case of Georgia, says, in respect to the latter: "On this the subpœnas will issue, but one of the rules of court declares that process issued out of this court in any suit in equity shall be served on the defendant sixty days before the return of said process.

This postpones further consideration of this question until December, as the court will adjourn in May until that month."

THE NATIONAL FINANCES.—The receipts of the Government of the United States for the year 1866, apart from money borrowed, were nearly fifty millions of dollars larger than the receipts of any previous year. Of the $520,000,000 received, $180,000,000 were paid as duties on articles imported from abroad, and nearly $300,000,000 from Internal Revenue taxes. The total expenditures in the year were $323,068,215, and while part of the balance has been used in payment of the debt, much is reserved as a basis of specie payment.

A call for a public meeting is published in the Petersburg papers, and signed by many of the most prominent citizens of the town, for the purpose of adopting a "plat-form upon which the Conservative people of whatever party or color, may unite for the reconstruction of Virginia under the terms prescribed by law, and upon the basis or perfect equality to all men in politics and before the law."

Maryland has decided, by over ten thousand majority, in favor of a Convention to revise her Constitution. That the Legislature spoke the popular voice, is now ascertained beyond dispute. Yet the Radicals in the State are invoking an early meeting of Congress to set aside the act of the people!

The Lynchburg *Virginian* says that when the Radicals in the North vote in favor of negro suffrage, they mean always,—in the South. The recent action of the Radical Legislature of New York is a case in point. Let the colored folks make a note of this.

Gen. Sickles has taken the legislative power over North and South Carolina in his own hands, and has "passed" a stay law staying executions in civil suits for twelve months, and making other provisions for the protection of debtors.

Letters from New Orleans says that while the people in Louisiana submit patiently to General Sheridan's military rule, in that State, he is daily becoming more unpopular. Some of his late appointments are much complained of.

Several recent cases of the murder of children and extreme cruelty to children, are reported in the Northern papers. This seems to be a new phase of crime in this country. Formerly, such instances were very rare.

The Conservative Union members of the Tennessee Legislature call a State Convention on the 16th of April, of all who oppose the "ruinous policy and practices of the dominant party," to nominate a candidate for Governor.

At a late Conservative meeting in Nashville, Joseph Williams, a colored man, made a strong speech against Brownlow and the Radicals, and avowed himself a genuine Conservative man.

The Republican Senators and Representatives have subscribed over nine thousand dollars to the fund for sending Radical speakers and documents into the South.

The London Times remarks that the recent treaty for the relinquishment of Russian America to the United States, "is the first time that Russia has ever receded from a territory which it has once acquired."

Emerson Etheridge has been nominated for Governor of Tennessee, by the "Union Conservative Convention" of that State. Brownlow is the Radical candidate.

The Grand Division of the sons of temperance will meet in Salem on to-morow, Wednesday, the 24th.

Conservatism vs. Radicalism.

The *Valley Virginian*, in its notice of the proceedings of the meeting of freedmen, which was held in this place on Monday night, the 15th inst., stated that "*conservative* resolutions were adopted unanimously," and, in commendation, said: "The colored people have done well, as we expected—white men, do your part." We were pleased to see it stated that the freedmen had unanimously adopted "*conservative* resolutions," and were consequently surprised to find, when the preamble and resolutions appeared in the *Vindicator*, that they were so different from what we had expected. We expected "*conservative*" resolutions, and lo! they were *radical*. We suppose that the editor of the *Valley Virginian* had neither seen the resolutions, nor heard them read, and that he had been misinformed as to their character.

We will not comment upon the character of these resolutions at this time, but merely publish them as we find them in the last *Vindicator*. The preamble and resolutions are as follows:

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS.

We, the freedmen of Augusta county, in mass meeting assembled, do recognize in the events of the late war the judgment and mercies of Divine Providence in sweeping, as with the besom of destruction, the foul wrong of human bondage from the face of our country, and trusting to Him for guidance, we will strive to use our personal and political freedom for the glory of His name, and the advancement of the moral and material interests of all. And, whereas, we are called upon to exercise the great privilege of the franchise, it is due to our friends in other States, as well as to our fellow-citizens in Virginia, that we define our political belief on the great questions of the day, and seek such national political association as will add strength to freedom, and, also, see to it that in the Constitution about to be framed for the government of ourselves and posterity, we ask no more than justice, nor accept less than safety.

Therefore, be it

Resolved, That our grateful thanks are due to the gallant armies of the United States who, under Providence, followed the flag of Liberty and Union until victory crowned their efforts.

Resolved, That we hold in reverent remembrance the memories of those who fell in the cause of freedom, and, especially, of Abraham Lincoln, "the good," the signer of our deed of emancipation, and the last martyr.

Resolved, That our profound gratitude is due to those friends in the 39th Congress who, step by step, have perfected for our security the legitimate fruits of successful contest.

Resolved, That, as our late masters were not themselves legally responsible for withholding from us our natural rights, so we enter upon the exercise of them "with malice towards none, with charity towards all."

Resolved, That, as we believe the principles dominant in the 39th Congress to be just, as well as necessary for our future security, we identify ourselves, and seek affiliation with the National Union Republican Association at Washington, and elsewhere.

Resolved, That, believing in principles before men, we will not support, by our votes, at the coming elections, any candidates, who will not pledge themselves faithfully to advocate our wants, and insist upon what we believe to be our wants, and shall enforce strict responsibility to such pledges.

Resolved, That we demand,

1st. That all elections, National, State and Local, shall be by secret ballot.

2nd. That no man shall be ineligible to office by reason of sect or color.

3rd. That trial by Jury of peers is a right not to be withheld from any man, and we demand admission to the Jury list as well as the Poll list.

4th. That thanking Major-General Schofield for his General Order, No. 2, March 15th, 1867, we demand that the "prohibition of whipping or maiming as a punishment of any crime, misdemeanor, or offence," be made part of the organic law of the State.

5th. That, while we are willing, to the utmost of our ability, to bear our share of the necessary burden of taxation, we demand equal distribution between person and property, and that careful provision be made in the State Constitution, and Legislatures hereafter assembled under its provisions, to prevent absolutely, and forever, the payment, by taxation, directly or indirectly, of any debt contracted by any State, or Corporation, for the support of the late Confederacy, or the armies thereof.

6th. That, believing ignorance to be the fruitful parent of crime, wrong and discord, we demand extraordinary State provision for the free education of the young of all classes.

7th. That we deprecate the attempt, where ever or however made, to deter us from the free and untrammeled exercise of the franchise, and look with contempt upon any who are willing to sell this dear bought right for "a mess of pottage."

8th. That, believing we ask no more than justice and safety demand, we pledge ourselves to support, by our votes, men committed to the principles set forth herein, and no others—and firmly realizing that union is strength, we will lay aside all private dissensions, and unite as one man in support of those candidates whose nominations are ratified at mass meetings, to be held at the call of the Executive Committee.

On motion, an Executive Committee was appointed, with power to fill vacancies, and it was made part of the duties to wait upon General Echols, and other prominent citizens, and request them to address the freedmen at such time and places as may be convenient. Delegates were also appointed to the Convention to meet at Richmond, April 17th. Rev. N. C. Brackett, Superintendent of the Freedmen's Schools, and Philip Roselle, (colored), were chosen delegates to said Convention.

Brazil.

The letters we have published of Mr. Isaac N. Young, late of Missouri, have caused a feeling of anxiety on the part of many in this county, and elsewhere, to know more of this interesting country. In this connection, we publish the following letter from a prominent clergyman of the Presbyterian Church in a Southern State to a gentleman of this county:

S————g, S. C.
April 8, 1867.

DEAR SIR:—Your favor of the 28th ult., forwarded by Dr. Adger, came to hand by the last mail. I was making my preparations to embark for Brazil in January last, when the derangement of my wife's health, and a disappointment in getting some money, which I expected, compelled me to give up the project for the present. Failing in that, I was obliged to take employment in this country, and am now in charge of the Presbyterian Congregation in this place. But I still cherish the plan of going to Brazil, *just as soon as Providence may open the way for me.* A considerable number have gone already from the South, and more are intending to go. A large colony went from Texas in January, one from Mississippi in February, and one will sail from New Orleans this Spring, while frequent parties sail from New York by the regular steamship line.

Dr. J. McF. Gaston, of Fort Gaines, Georgia, visited Brazil, and spent several months in the Empire. He was delighted with the country; and has published a report of his operations there, in a volume, which he will send you by mail, for $1.50, currency. He is a judicious and intelligent man, and an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

The Rev. Ballard S. Dunn, box 2062, New Orleans, heads the emigration from that quarter. He is an Episcopalian clergyman, spent some time in Brazil, and will send you his book for $2.30.

These works will give you very full and satisfactory, and reliable information. I am quite unwell, or I would write you more on this interesting subject. I am deeply interested in it, and think it is the best thing for all who can go. I will be glad to hear from you further.

Very truly yours."

"Let us manfully submit to the demands of Congress," is one of the current appeals of the day, in certain quarters. It *does* require a good deal of courage to perform any *voluntary* part in the dishonor prepared for us. One has to brave the loss of present respect and the abiding frown of history. The manliness seems, otherwise, of the sort of the "manful" bridegroom, who was frightened by the loud peals of a thunder-storm: "Hug up, Liz, and let's die like men."—*Richmond Enquirer.*

Radical Convention in Richmond.

In obedience to the published call of the State Central Committee of the Republican party of this State, "a mass Convention of the loyal people of the State, without distinction of color, assembled in the African Church at Richmond, on Wednesday, the 17th day of April at 12 o'clock, M."

Jno. Hawxhurst called the meeting to order. Geo. Rye of Woodstock was elected temporary chairman.

After much confusion and many nominations the following persons were elected Secretaries: Charles Whittlesea, white, of Alexandria; Jno. A. Fitchett, of Richmond city, and George Ferryman, colored, of Petersburg.

On motion, George Williams, colored, of Norfolk, was elected Chaplain of the convention.

On motion of Bentley, colored, of Alexandria, a recess of an hour was taken to allow the Secretaries to make out a roll of the delegates and to allow the audience to go to dinner.

At the expiration of the recess the convention re-assembled, George Rye in the Chair.—The delegates were then requested to take front seats, which was done. The Secretary called the roll of the delegates and a large number answered to their names.

A number of names were objected to as not being lawfully on the roll, and were stricken out.

A resolution which required one delegate from each county represented to constitute a Committee on Organization, was then almost unanimously adopted.

The Committee, being appointed, retired, when loud calls were made for Hunnicutt, who took the stand amid loud and prolonged applause, and spoke the same old speech.

He was followed by Dr. Conway, of New York, formerly in charge of the Freedmen's Bureau in Louisiana.

The Committee on permanent organization returned and through their chairman, Dr. Butts, reported the following names of officers selected for the permanent organization, which were received and adopted:

President—John Hawxhurst, white.

Vice Presidents—William Davis, John Marsh, R. D. Bickley, Lewis McKenzie, Ellis Williams, J. W. Hunnicutt, Willis A. Hodges, Dr. Bayne, Rev. N. C. Brackett.

Secretaries—J. W. Jenkins, James M. Hoag, and George Ferryman, colored.

Sergeant-at-Arms—Cornelius Harris.

Assistant Sergeant—Peter Couch.

Chaplain—Rev. George Henson.

John Hawxhurst, the President elect, on taking the chair, thanked the audience for the honor they had conferred upon him; that it was an honor to preside over the first convention of the loyal people of Virginia; and, with the usual tirade of abuse against the whites, took his seat.

On motion, a committee on "resolutions," and one on an "address" were ordered to be appointed.

A recess of thirty minutes was then taken to allow the President time to select the members for the committees.

When the members of these committees were announced, the Convention adjourned to 10 o'clock the next day.

Pursuant to adjournment of the day before, the Convention met on Thursday at 10 o'clock, A. M. Prayer by Rev. Geo. Henson, colored, Chaplain of the Convention.

J. P. Baldwin, white, of Wythe, offered resolutions denouncing Andrew Johnson as "the *fallen lucifer* of the ninetieth century," and favoring confiscation. They were laid on the table.

Jno. Clement, white, of Portsmouth, offered resolutions denouncing the Northern Democracy. They were received with acclamation but no action was taken on them.

Captain J. H. Platt, white, of Petersburg, chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, read the following

RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE.

"Whereas, having for the first time in the history of Virginia assembled at her State capital at the call of a Union Republican State Committee as a Convention of Union men, for the purpose of ratifying the acts of the Thirty-ninth and Fortieth Congress, and adopting measures to unite all parties who earnestly and honestly desire that this legislation should be perfected in accordance with the expressed desire of Congress, and carried out in good faith by the people of this State, we therefore, in Convention assembled, do

"1st. *Resolve*, That we return our sincere and hearty thanks to the Thirty-ninth Congress for their recent legislation, resulting in the passage of the Sherman-Shellabarger bill and its supplement, and certify with gratitude that the beneficial effects of such legislation are already visible in the increased security of loyal men, and in inducing immediate efforts towards reconstruction on the part of all classes, and that we do hereby pledge our earnest and persistent effort to carry out, in good faith, without evasion, with honesty of purpose, unflinching courage, and never-tiring energy, all its provisions—believing that by this course alone can permanent peace and prosperity be restored to the State, and an early admission to the Union secured.

"2d. *Resolved*, That in the principles of the National Republican party of the United States we recognize all we can desire as a guide in our political future; that we adopt them as our platform, and pledge ourselves to their support, and cordially invite the co-operation of all classes of our fellow-citizens, without distinction of race or color. Without regard to former political opinions or action induced by such convictions, we invite them to join us, and pledge them a warm welcome to our ranks, and a full and free participation in all the advantages of our organization; and firmly believing that in the present condition of public affairs, the Republican party offers the most available means through its organization for the speedy attainment of permanent reconstruction, we do hereby adopt its principles and platform as the basis and platform of the Union Republican party of Virginia.

"3d. *Resolved*, That we adopt as part of our platform and as cardinal points in the policy of the Union Republican party of Virginia the following propositions:

"1st. Equal protection to all men before the courts and equal political rights in all respects, including the right to hold office.

"2d. A system of common school education which shall give to all classes free schools, and a free and equal participation in all its benefits.

"3d. A more just and equitable system of taxation, which shall apportion taxes to property, and require all to pay in proportion to their ability.

"4th. A modification of the usury laws sufficient to induce foreign capital to seek investment in the State.

"5th. Encouragement to internal improvements, and every possible inducement to immigration.

"4. *Resolved*, That in the noble utterances of the founders of our Constitution we recognize a true appreciation of the great fact that parties or governments to be prosperous and successful, must be founded and administered on the basis of exact and equal justice to all men, and that we accept as our guides the great principles enunciated by them, first and most important of which is the great and glorious truth that *all* men are created free and equal, are endowed with certain inalienable rights, and that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; and we solemnly pledge, on the part of this convention and the party it represents, a strict adhesion to these sentiments, which for the first time in the history of Virginia a political organization is in a position to adopt in spirit and action as in name.

"6. *Resolved*, That believing the principles enunciated in the foregoing resolutions can be objectionable to no man who really loves the Union, and that they are the only true principles which can give to Virginia an early restoration to the Union, and enduring peace and prosperity, we solemnly pledge ourselves to support no man for an elective office who fails to join us in their adoption and enforcement, who fails to identify himself with the Union Republican party in spirit and action, or hesitates to connect himself openly and publicly with its platform as adopted here to-day.

"6. *Resolved*, That we recognize the great fact that the interests of the laboring classes of the State are identical, and that, without regard to color, we desire to elevate them to their true position. That the exaltation of the poor and humble, the restraint of the rapacious and the arrogant, the lifting up of the poor and degraded, without humiliation or degradation to any; that the attainment of the greatest amount of happiness and prosperity to the greatest number is our warmest desire, and shall have our earnest and persistent efforts in their accomplishment. That while we desire to see all men protected in full and equal proportion, and every political right secured to the colored man that is enjoyed by any other class of citizens, we do not desire to deprive the laboring white man of any rights or privileges which they now enjoy, but do propose to extend those rights and privileges by the organization of the Republican party in this State."

The designation, 'Sherman-Shellabarger,' bill was changed to "Stevens-Shellabarger reconstruction act." The object was to give Stevens, who seemed to be the great favorite of the Convention, the credit for that bill.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted. A resolution in honor of Abraham Lincoln was adopted. The address adopted by the Committee on address was read and unanimously adopted by the Convention. It is too long for insertion here.

P. Wilson, colored, of Norfolk offered resolutions in favor of confiscation and the impeachment of the President. No action was taken on them.

The Convention adjourned till 3 o'clock. On meeting at that hour, Wilson's confiscation and impeachment resolutions were offered and discussed, after which they were unanimously referred to the committee on resolutions, and the greatest enthusiasm prevailed.

A set of more Conservative resolutions were submitted by E. L. Houff of Augusta county, and, with frequent interruptions, read, but were unanimously laid *under* the table. Houff should withdraw from that party. He must be disgusted with it.

One delegate from each city and county was appointed as a State Central Committee, which could appoint a sub committee of nine to attend to the business.

"A vote of thanks was tendered to Almighty God and to Congress."

In the collection taken up to defray expenses they received $11.97, and in that amount was $1 in *counterfeit* money.

After prayer by Rev. Geo. Henson, colored, the Doxology was sung, and the Convention adjourned *sine die.*

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

EXTRA SESSION.

SENATE.—*Wednesday*, April 17th.—Senator Trout, by leave, presented a Senate bill No. 57, incorporating the Augusta Benevolent Association of Colored Persons, which, on his motion, was taken up, read the first time and ordered to a second reading; and then, on his further motion, referred to the Committee on General Laws.

Senator Keen, by leave, presented a Senate bill No. 58, authorizing cities, towns and counties to borrow money at a rate of interest not exceeding ten per cent. per annum, for the purpose of paying subscriptions of stock to internal improvement companies, which, on his motion, was taken up, and on his several further motions, the rules being suspended, the bill was passed, and he was requested to inform the House of Delegates thereof.

The special order of the day was taken up, being House bill No. 63, amending an act entitled "an act amending the 38th chapter of the Code (edition of 1860) in relation to assessment of taxes on licenses, passed February 13th, 1866," and,

On motion of Senator Gray, the vote by which it was ordered to its third reading was reconsidered, and,

On motion of Senator Bolling, the bill was amended so as to provide that merchants and ordinary licenses may be paid semi-annually, and that all collections from such licenses shall be paid into the Treasury within one month from the date of their collection; and, as amended, the bill was read the third time and passed—ayes, 24; noes, 0.

The second order of the day was taken up, being House bill No. 13, disposing of the State's interest in the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad on certain conditions, and read the third time and passed.

On motion of Senator Mercier, the same was forthwith communicated to the House of Delegates by him.

On motion of Senator Dulany, the Senate took up House bill No. 14, relating to the Alexandria canal and railroad, and the bill was read the third time and passed.

On motion of Senator Dulany, the same was forthwith communicated to the house of Delegates by him.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

The House resumed the consideration of the consolidation bill.

On motion of Mr. Crump the bill was amended so as to limit the time for the exchange of the States Railroad stock to 1st of May 1868.

The question being upon the engrossment of the bill, was carried in the affirmative—ayes, 15; noes, 35.

SENATE. *Thursday*, April 18th.—Senate bill to regulate express charges in certain cases after being amended, was passed.

The Atlantic, Ohio and Mississippi railroad bill having been returned to the Senate from the House, through Mr. Goode, of Norfolk, with amendments, it was, on motion of Mr. Robinson, of Norfolk, taken up.

Passed by a vote of 18 to 9.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Senate bill to provide for the completion of a line of railway from the Virginia seaboard to the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, by facilitating the construction of the Cumberland Gap railroad, (known as the consolidation bill,) which was amended on the previous day, came up, and was passed by a vote of 53 to 38.

The Senate bill to amend section 4, chapter 141 of the Code, in relation to interest came up. It retains six per cent. as the legal rate of interest, but legalizes contracts in writing for interest not exceeding eight per cent. The bill was passed some days since, but the vote was reconsidered. The question was on the passage of the bill.

Rejected by the following vote: Ayes 35, nays 50.

SENATE. *Friday*, April 19th.—Senator Belew, by leave, presented Senate bill No. 67, to incorporate the Winchester and Strasburg railroad, which, on his several motions, under a suspension of the rules, was passed, and forthwith communicated to the House of Delegates.

Senate bill No. 51, to amend the act passed January 25th, in relation to salaries of certain officers of the government, was taken up, and after a lengthy debate, it was passed.

[The bill fixes the salary of the Second Auditor at $2,000, and that of his second clerk at $1,000. The salaries of the other officers remain as provided in the Code of 1860.]

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

The following bills were passed:

Senate bill to authorize the Virginia Central Railroad Company to use, temporarily, that part of the Covington and Ohio Railroad east of the Alleghany Tunnel.

House bill to place negroes on an equality with white witnesses in the courts.

House bill authorizing fiduciaries to compound and compromise liabilities.

House bill authorizing Washington Lodge, No. 78, of Free and Accepted Masons, to occupy a portion of Jett street in the town of Washington, Rappahannock county, for the purpose of building a Lodge.

On Friday last, in Richmond, whilst a United States soldier and a darkey were trying the settlement of a difficulty by a fisticuff, Rev. Mr. Hand - round - the - hat - Hunnicutt interfered, when the soldier turned upon him and gave him several severe blows in the face. As the individual who struck the "delectable cuss," as some of the papers call him, was a U. S. soldier and not a "rebel," we suppose that the Northern Press will not make much fuss about it.

MILITARY COMMISSIONERS.—The Philadelphia *Ledger* says: The people of the United States have generally supposed that the day of military commissions for trials of civilians had passed by. This is not the case, however, for it is announced that a military commission, trying citizens, is now being held at Fortress Monroe, though how it can be legally held, after the Supreme Court decision to the contrary, is not explained.

The Fredericksburg *News* says, very truly, that all experience proves that the *necessity* of advertising to business is like the necessity of air to breathing. Business cannot live without advertising any more than a man could live in an exhausted receiver.

Three negroes were hanged in Kansas the other day by a mob. Had this outrage occurred in the South, the whole pack of Radical blood-hounds at the North would have opened upon it as another evidence of "disloyalty."

Auction Sales.

COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF LAND.—By virtue of a decree of the Circuit Court of Augusta county, rendered at the November term, 1866, in the case of Thomas Walker's widow, &c., *vs.* Thomas Walker's infants, the undersigned having been appointed a commissioner for that purpose, will offer at public auction, on

Saturday, the 1st day of June, 1867,

on the premises, a tract of land containing

EIGHTY-FOUR ACRES,

and known as the Givens' Tract. The said land lies on Middle River, in Augusta county, about two miles North of New Hope, and is of the very best quality and in a high state of cultivation.

The improvements consist of an excellent brick dwelling, and a good house separate from the dwelling, a good stable and all other necessary buildings.

TERMS:—So much of the purchase money as will pay the costs of sale, in hand; the residue on a credit of one, two and three years, with interest from day of sale, the purchaser to give bond with approved personal security, and the title to be retained as ultimate security.

GEORGE S. WALKER,
ap 23 td Commissioner.

GOOD PROPERTY FOR SALE.—The undersigned will sell, at public sale, on

Friday, the 24th day of May,

at his residence near Newport, in Augusta county, the following valuable property:

1st. The farm on which he resides, containing 227 acres more or less, of which about 150 acres are cleared and the balance well timbered. There are about 25 acres in wheat and about the same quantity in oats. There is water in nearly every field. It contains a good meadow. It has on it a good brick dwelling house, with a good spring near the house, blacksmith shop, and house for blacksmith, double stable, good granary, new dairy and loom house, smoke house, and other necessary buildings.

2nd. A lot in the village of Newport, containing a dwelling and store house. A good stand for a store. The lot contains about ½ acre.

3rd. A lot in the same village about ¾ acre, containing a dwelling with water right.

4th. A lot in the same place, near ¼ acre, containing a dwelling house with water right.

At the same time and place, he will sell all of his PERSONAL PROPERTY, consisting in part as follows:

Six head of horses, ten cows, four calves, ten hogs, several hundred bushels of corn and oats, several thousand pounds of bacon, five or six cans of lard, loom, wagon, rockaway, ploughs, harrows, gear, and such other farming implements as are usually kept on a farm.

Also all his *household and kitchen furniture*—most of which is good.

The Terms will be made known on the day of sale. JOHN HUTCHENS.

april16—tds—Rockingham Register copy and send bill to this office.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE.—I will sell to the highest bidder, at the residence of Joseph Brown, deceased, at Waynesborough, the

25TH OF THIS MONTH,

the following property, to wit: consisting of Household and Kitch n Furniture, one wagon, one cart, &c.

Terms made known on day of sale.

Sale to commence at 10 o'clock.

SAM'L PAUL, Sheriff,
and as such administrator.

PECK & CUSHING, Auctioneers.

All persons having claims against the estate of Joseph Brown, dec'd, will have them legally qualified to and present them to me on the day of sale. Those who know themselves indebted to the said estate, will also let me know.

ap9—3t S. PAUL, Sheriff.

LAND FOR SALE.—Will be sold at public auction, on the premises, near Mingo Flats, in Randolph county, West Virginia, on

Tuesday, the 30th day of April,

a tract of 3800 acres of valuable grass land.

About 1000 acres are hacked and deadened; the soil is admirably adapted to grass. The timber is sugar maple, wild cherry, beech, some oak and chestnut. It is situated on the valley fork of Elk river. The portion now hacked grazed 180 head of cattle previous to the war. It can be divided into 3 or 4 grazing farms. If this land was cleared smooth, it would fatten 1000 head of cattle.

TERMS accommodating.

If not sold it will be rented on the day of sale. Apply to Bell, Echols & Catlett, Staunton, Va., or to the undersigned, at Goshen Bridge.

jan 15—tds JOHN D. STERRETT,
Ex'or of James R. Sterrett, dec'd.

Groceries.

BAKER BROS. are constantly receiving additions to their large stock of Groceries and Staple Dry Goods, and are thus prepared to furnish goods in the best condition, and of best quality, at the very lowest prices, besides giving the additional inducement of a *guarantee* to purchasers. We believe we can give satisfaction to a generous public.

Staunton, April 23, 1867. Val Vir copy

NEW GOODS!! NEW GOODS!!! Such as Brown and Bleached Cottons, Calicoes, Ginghams, Plain Cottons, Striped Shirtings, Tickings, and Cotton Yarns, are being sold at very low prices, by

ap23—tf BAKER BROS.

SOAP, SOAP, Of various kinds, to which we call the attention of merchants, as we will sell at unusually low rates. Consumers can be supplied on very moderate terms.

ap23—tf BAKER BROS.

TEAS! TEAS!—Gunpowder, Imperial, and English Breakfast Teas, of superior quality, for sale, very cheap, by

ap 23—tf BAKER BROS.

LEATHER.—HARNESS, SKIRTING, Spanish Sole, Hemlock Sole, Upper Leather, Philadelphia Calf Skins and Linings, just received and for sale by

ap23—tf A. M. BRUCE.

CEMENT.—Fifty Barrels Fresh Ground James River Hydraulic CEMENT, just received and for sale by

ap23— A. M. BRUCE.

Dry Goods.

LARGE AND BEAUTIFUL STOCK OF SPRING AND SUMMER DRY GOODS!!

We adopt this method of informing our customers and friends generally, that we have now in store and for sale, an extensive and well selected stock of English and American Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, which we propose to sell at a very small advance on prime cost for cash. Our stock has been purchased very judiciously and with great care, for cash, which enables us to offer great inducements to persons in want of anything in our line of business. Our stock is complete, embracing every article usually found in a well supplied dry goods house.

We can sell the best prints at from 12½ to 20 cents.

Bleached Cotton from 12½ to 30 cents.

All wool Cassimere from $1. to $1.50, and everything else in proportion. We deem it useless to enumerate.

All we ask is an examination of our stock. We take great pleasure in showing our goods, and we respectfully invite all to give us a call.

ap23—tf I. WITZ & BRO.

Clothing.

CLOTHING, CLOTHING.—Hats, Boots, Shoes and Gent's Furnishing Goods for SPRING AND SUMMER WEAR.

ROANE & ALBY, Staunton.
ROANE, ALBY & CO., Lexington.

We have just received a very large stock of Goods for Gentlemen's Wear, comprising all prices and colors. Also a large assortment of Hats, together with a general assortment of Gents' Furnishing Goods.

Our Stock is now Complete.

Call and examine!

Goods ordered at short notice. We will continue to receive goods every few days. All goods guaranteed as represented.

april 23—3ts—V & V copy.

Sorghum Evaporators.

SORGHUM EVAPORATORS.—We desire to call the attention of the growers and manufacturers of Sorghum Syrup to the F. D. Evaporator, which exceeds all others in all the principles needful for successful Syrup making. For circulars, with full information, address

JAMES CLOUD,
Cochranville, Chester county, Pa.,
General Agent for the Southern States,
Or DANIEL HISERMAN,
Sherando, Augusta county, Va.,
agent for Augusta and adjacent counties.

ap 23—7t*

Life of Gen. Lee.

LIFE OF GEN. R. E. LEE.—The undersigned would announce to the citizens of Augusta county that he is the agent for the sale of the life of General R. E. LEE, by Jas. D. McCabe, Jr., in that part of the county North of the Va. Central Railroad. He will visit every family in that portion of the county as soon as practicable, and hopes they will be ready to subscribe for this book. Price $4 bound in cloth, and $6 bound in calf.

W. T. YARBROUGH,
ap 23—6ts New Hope.

Lost.

LOST---$10 REWARD!—Lost, between the Cemetery and the Blacksmith Shop, at the forks of the old Buffalo Gap road and the Parkersburg Turnpike, on last Friday evening, a pair of Saddle-Pockets, containing a ticket pocket with my name on it. I will give the above reward for their return to me, or by leaving them at the County Court Clerk's Office, or at the Spectator Office.

ap23—2t THOMAS MARSHALL.

Lands for Sale.

☞ Persons desiring to purchase either of the *valuable tracts of land* advertised below will communicate with the

EDITOR OF THE STAUNTON SPECTATOR.

Albemarle County, Va.

BLAIR PARK.

This well known and splendid Estate, containing 1780 acres, lies in the