Staunton Spectator.

Tuesday, May 17, 1870.

Valley R. R.

At a meeting of the Directory of the Valley Railroad on yesterday, the President reported a subscription to the capital stock, by the President of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad of $700,000 thus making the stock already subscribed amount to $2,400,000. When the subscription expected from Augusta and Roanoke is made, the amount necessary to build the road will be complete, and the whole work put under contract.

Every member of permanent society is interested in the prosperity of the whole society, and the prosperity of the whole can be best served by making each member prosperous. A strife between races destroys the weaker, while it injures the stronger. Both sides are deeply interested in preserving friendly relations. But the colored race is infinitely more interested to do so than the race which is more numerous and more powerful.

The Southern Baptist Convention lately in session at Louisville, Ky., adjourned on Tuesday, to meet at St. Louis next year. The report of the committee adverse to co-operation with Northern Baptists was sustained by the unanimous vote of the Convention.

On the day following the receipt of the news of the Richmond disaster, a sharp thief at Lexington, Ky., while on his trial, gave word that the courthouse was falling, and during the confusion made good his escape.

One of the gentler sex says that the heaven of the strong-minded woman is "where buttons grow in their proper places, and men cease from bothering, and needles are at rest."

Hoops for the communion table, made so as to make the dress set gracefully on the kneeling figure, is the latest development of fashion.

Separate cars for colored people are now run on the Baltimore street railroads.

Fashion decrees that ladies' boots shall be laced hereafter—not buttoned.

Ticket For City Officers.

Mayor.
N. K. TROUT.
Clerk.
JAMES F. PATTERSON.
Commonwealth's Attorney.
BUMGARDNER.
Treasurer.
N. P. CATLETT.
Sergeant.
J. T. PARRENT.
Commissioner.
HUDSON.
Councilmen.
M. P. Funkhouser, Wm. Nelson, Wm. A. Burke, W. B. Kayser, J. S. Lipscomb, J. M. Hardy, W. H. Gorman, W. H. Lynn, I. Witz, H. H. Peck, J. H. Waters.

Town Officers.

Mayor.
WALDO M. ALLEN.
Clerk.
A. S. KINNEY.
Treasurer.
JOHN K. WOODS.
Commonwealth's Attorney.
S. T. PHILLIPS.
Sergeant.
J. T. PARRENT.
Assessor.
G. H. HUDSON.
Councilmen—Ward No. 1.
P B Hoge, Wm J Nelson, James F Blackley, G Baylor, Dr J M Hanger.
Ward No. 2.
R G Bickle, James H Waters, J B Evans, Jno M Hardy, James W Crawford.

Representation.

After mentioning the fact that, of all the great divisions of the country, New England alone will suffer loss by the re-apportionment of Representation in Congress, the Petersburg *Index* says:

"While all ideas of sectional legislation are to be deprecated, and while no one can with reason, expect, or, if he be wise, desire geographical lines again to define political action, yet this diminution of New England's power cannot fail to be cause of congratulation to every unprejudiced mind. For the character of the policy that has ruled her course becomes, as it is better known, always the less esteemed. The men of the present begin in many parts of America besides the Southern States to perceive what will be judicially recorded by the men of the future. It will then be plainly seen that her policy has been, however named, always the same, and whether in the disunion of the Hartford convention, or the Union cry of 1860; whether as following Webster into compromise, of Dow, Millroy or Butler to the plunder of households; whether canonizing John Brown, or murdering Mrs Surratt, she has been always herself, always envious and hating, always selfish and grasping.

In reference to an article in the Lexington *Gazette* respecting the conduct of Eastern Virginia towards the Valley, the Norfolk *Virginian* says:

"As we have before said, the impetuosity of our cotemporary has made it unjust. The men of the East look with pride and gratification on the growth and development of the Valley, which, beautiful as that painted by Samuel Johnson, is rich in the historic glories of the Commonwealth; and in the charms of its scenery, the splendor of its histories, and the promises of its future, we feel a pride and an interest as Virginians which make us indignantly repudiate the suggestion made by the *Gazette*."

The Disability Bill.

The following is a copy of the amnesty bill adopted by the Committee on Removal of Disabilities, which was introduced in the Senate:

"*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, two-thirds of both Houses concurring*, That all persons, except as hereinafter excepted, subject to any disability imposed by the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, are hereby relieved from such disability, *Provided, nevertheless*, that the following classes of persons are excepted from the provisions of this act—that is to say:

"First, All persons who being members of the Congress of the United States withdrew from their seats and aided the rebellion. Second, All persons who being officers of the army or navy and aided the rebellion. Third, All persons who were members of a State Convention which adopted a pretended ordinance of secession."

THE TERM "LOYAL."—In a recent debate in the United States Congress, the following point was made. It is well taken:

Mr. Eldridge declaimed against the word "loyal," as a word he despised and hated. It always reminded him of a definition of it given by a contractor during the war, when asked to explain what he meant by saying he felt loyal. He said he felt as if he wanted to steal something or somebody. For himself, he was patriotic, not loyal. The word did not belong to this country, it only belonged to Massachusetts.

The Vicksburg *Times* declares that the Mississippi Capitol is in a dangerous condition, and that the roof is likely to fall in at any moment, owing to the spreading of the walls. It says $100,000, and perhaps $200,000, would be required to put it in a safe condition, and it calls upon the Legislature to move out at once.

For the Spectator.

To Major John B. Watts:—Will you consent to have your name used in connection with the office of Commonwealth's Attorney for the City of Staunton? STAUNTONIANS.

From the Lynchburg Republican.

THE FINCASTLE FIRE.

The Beautiful Mountain Town in Ashes.

The Loss $400,000—Suffering Among the Citizens.

AN APPEAL FOR RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE.

The full particulars of the disastrous conflagration which laid in ashes one-half the town of Fincastle on Friday night, May the 6th, of which a brief telegraphic report was published on Sunday morning—where received yesterday; and they confirm the worst statements before made of the extent of the devastation. Since the dreadful visitation of fire which reduced one-third of Richmond to ashes at the close of the war, no such destruction has been wrought in Virginia by the same consuming element; and so far as we remember, these two disasters, for the amount of the loss occasioned, and the want, embarrassment and exposure resulting, are without their parallels in the history of the State.

THE ORIGIN

of the fire was in the stable attached to the Western Hotel of Mr. John Luster, on Main street. It was first seen at 9½ o'clock, when the flames had just been ignited. The alarm was promptly sounded, and the citizens rallied to the scene, punctually, prepared to extinguish the incipient blaze. The new engine was also brought forward, and put into active play. But the fire had caught in a loft of hay, and as a high wind was prevailing, it spread with terrible rapidity, despite the utmost efforts that were made to arrest its course. The first house that caught was the hotel itself, and a number of wooden outbuildings adjoining, all of which were speedily consumed. By this time, the danger and terror of the conflagration began to be fully developed; for the flaming hay and heavy sparks and fragments of burning timbers were flying in every direction through the air, lighting on roofs two hundred yards distant, and multiplying the seeds of the destroying fire. Ladders were employed to scale the roofs of the houses, where water, wet blankets, and every appliance were used to quench the flames; but as fast as they were suppressed in one place, they burst out in another.

THE TRACK OF FIRE.

From the Western Hotel, the fire passed next to the jail; almost at the same time, the residence of Col. Wm. E. M. Word, a handsome frame building on the opposite side of the street, was caught and consumed. Other houses on the same side followed, and a vigorous stand was there made by the citizens to fight the fire, but without avail. The engine proved of but little service, owing to the number of houses simultaneously burning, and the scarcity of water, which had to be supplied from buckets. From Col. Word's, the fire moved up the street to the store of Mr. Switzer, at the corner; also, across to Dr. Carper's, involving that dwelling, and that of Mr. Carper, adjoining, in destruction. The fire then attacked the *Herald* Office. And then, bursting from all restraint, it swept down Main Street on both sides, leaving between Back Street and Roanoke Street, as far down as Water Street, a distance, perhaps, of 800 yards, not more than three or four tenements!

Between Back and Main Streets, was left the Court House—whose escape was almost miraculous; and between Main and Roanoke Streets, were left the house of Mr. McDowell, and the small tenement occupied by a widow lady at the corner of Water and Main Streets.

THE LOSS.

Between fifty and sixty stores and dwelling houses were burned, and a great many outhouses. There is not left in the town one store, or office, or business house of any kind; except that a mill, a tannery, and a blacksmith-shop on the suburbs remain; and in these is invested at present the business capital of Fincastle.

The loss in money is variously estimated.—The lowest calculation places it at $200,000, and one very competent authority believes it will approximate $400,000. On this the insurance was extremely small; not more than $15,000. Mr. Switzer had on his stock—very full and just insured—an insurance of $4,000; his loss will amount to $12,000. Mr. Green James had an insurance of about $1,500. Mr. Lewis Houseman insured, in amount not ascertained.

THE PREY OF THE FLAMES.

The fire spared almost literally nothing.—Supplies of goods, provisions, household articles of use and ornament, clothing, money, everything, were consumed. So sudden was the alarm, and so distressing the panic, that but little could be rescued from the flaming houses. And much of what were saved, we learned, was stolen and scattered through the country, after it was removed beyond the reach of the flames.

THE NIGHT OF TERROR.

The fire lasted from 9½ at night till 7 o'clock next morning. Then the path of the red Spollyon was arrested; but the whole day was spent in putting out fires yet burning, and preventing their spreading.

The ladies, we learn, many of whom had retired to rest, when the fire became general, exhibited the most distressing terror when summoned from the shelter of their homes, and turned out in their night robes on the streets. But after they realized the situation, many of them, the fairest and gentlest, worked to the full measure of their strength; passing along buckets of water in the line with hardy men and stalwart negroes.

VAIN EFFORTS.

Several efforts were made to blow up and pull down houses in the march of the flames; but these efforts were unavailing, owing to the high wind which swept the great sparks and burning fragments far and wide, through the air.

THE CASUALTIES.

Fortunately, though the loss of property was heavy, no serious bodily injury was sustained by any person. Judge T. D. Houston fell down a pair of steps, and was badly hurt.—Mr. Thomas Lackland was struck by a falling window, and knocked senseless. He subsequently rallied. No other accidents are reported.

THE SITUATION.

When our informants left, the available provisions in the place, amounting to 15 barrels of flour and a small amount of meat, were being issued by the pound to the destitute citizens. Every house remaining was crowded to its utmost capacity by the homeless victims of the conflagration. Fortunately, none of the Churches were destroyed, and these are now occupied by the refugees; as also, the Academy. The people of the neighborhood were doing all that they could to relieve the sufferers.

PARLIAMENT OF PETTICOAT—WOMEN'S RIGHTS.—Underwood gave the United States court-room for a meeting on Friday night to organize a "Women's Suffrage Association." He said Governor Wise approved of giving women all her rights, except the ballot. (Wise speaks for Underwood, and he speaks for Wise!) Underwood presided. A constitution was adopted, officers elected, and Miss Sue L F. Smith, of Richmond, daughter of the late Dr. W. A. Smith, was appointed delegate to the National Association to meet in New York on the 13th. Resolutions were passed that woman is a human being (we always considered her an angel) capable of self-government. (God said she would "serve" her husband,) and had all the rights and responsibilities of human beings (for "responsibilities" read "children")—that marriage does not take from her responsibilities, (Oh! no, it is the only means of getting them, legitimately,) and that she has as much right to vote as man, (what does the Apostle say about women learning in silence in all subjection, &c.?) and that we demand of Congress the Sixteenth Amendment granting the ballot to women.

These "silly women" like the abolitionists, are more pious than St. Paul, and wiser than the word of God. A husband and a few babies would cure most of them of their "vain imagination."—*Fredericksburg News.*

It is said that B. F. Whittemore, lately expelled from Congress, or what was equivalent—forced to resign under the threat of expulsion, for selling West Point cadetships, will be relected by the constituents. These constituents are colored people. They thus manifest their respect for Congress and their regard for public virtue. If they were white people and Conservatives they would be called rebels against United States authority.

TERRIFIC STORM.

A Crash of Hailstones as Large as Hen's Eggs—A General Smash of Hot-houses and Windows.

At half-past 2 o'clock the drops commenced to fall. This shower did not last five minutes before the hail succeeded. Fine at first, the hailstones came down larger with every moment, and within a quarter of an hour of the storm's commencement they fell with terrific force, and so thickly that the atmosphere presented an ashen hue. It was as though canister and grape-shot were being fired from the battlements of heaven; indeed, had the hail been of lead and iron it could not have produced a more deafening clatter upon the roofs of the houses and the stone pavements.

A TERRIFIC FUSILLADE.

For twenty minutes this terrific fusillade continued, the hailstones during the greater part of it varying from the size of a peachstone to a hen's egg. They tore through the shrubery, breaking off branches, covering the ground with leaves and buds. They crashed through the windows, no glass apparently being too thick to resist them. From the roofs of houses they scraped both shingles and gravel; awnings were as thoroughly ventilated as though buckshot had been fired through them. In a twinkling the streets were cleared of all pedestrians, who made for the friendly shelter wherever they could find it.

DISASTER TO THE HOT-HOUSES.

The buildings and the people suffering the greatest damage were hot-houses and their owners. Not one of these escaped, being as thoroughly riddled as though some malcontent had fired buckshot at them through an old-fashioned Spanish scattering blunderbus. The plants were all cut to pieces, and thus both property and profits were swept out of existence. Algiers' hot-houses, at Broad Street and Passyunk road, suffered to the extent of four thousand panes of smashed glass. Property of a similar character belonging to the estate of the late Mr. Bissot, located at Fourth and Tasker streets, suffered as greatly. McKensie's extensive green-house at Broad street and Columbia avenue lost almost every light of glass it contained. It is impossible to particularize the damage done to properties of this character. Between the broken glass and the icy canister, the plants, for the year at least, have been incurably afflicted.

DESTRUCTION TO THE CHURCHES.

The churches, with their large, unguarded windows, were the next objective points on which the storm vented its spleen. The South Presbyterian Church lost three hundred and fifty panes of glass. The First Reformed church was riddled. St. Teresa's Catholic church came out in no better condition, while the windows of the school house adjoining it were knocked to "smithereens." The large and exceeding beautiful stained window over the pulpit of the new Beth Eden Baptist church was broken.

RATTLE AND CRASH OF GLASS.

Horticultural Hall, the Natatorium, Episcopal Academy, Spring Garden Institute, High School, Baldwin's Locomotive Works, Bingham House, Continental Hotel, the dome of the Cathedral, and hundreds of other buildings we have not space to mention, were ventilated with a rapidity startling in its effects.—There was a rattling and crash of glass on all sides, so that the deafening noise was a medley of falling gravel, crashing windows, and exploding hail-stones.

SPRUCE STREET WORSTED.

Spruce street from Seventh to beyond Broad street was a favorite of the storm king. Not a house upon the south side escaped. Here the storm was terrific, and one may better judge of its nature when we announce that one hour after its conclusion the accumulation of hail upon the street and pavement in this thoroughfare, between Tenth and Eleventh streets was *five inches!* Upon this street the cars were stopped and the horses led under awnings, while the passengers huddled together to escape the pieces of glass which were scattered about them.

THE STAMPEDE ON BROAD STREET.

There were many persons injured. This could not be otherwise where so many were caught so suddenly and received the full force of the storm. The stampede on Broad street was marvelous to behold. People rushed to places of shelter, and crowded, like so many frightened cattle, in doorways and under awnings. Fashionable women, regardless of the time or place, threw the skirts of their dresses over their heads, and made first-class time in getting to a safe spot. Horses were frightened by the terrific crash, and went at break-neck speed. Others, terrified by the noise, refused to move, and received the full violence of the storm. At Broad street and Girard avenue a carriage, drawn at a frightened rate by a pair of frightened horses, was overturned, and its occupants were sprawled out upon the Nicholson. Their injuries were mainly abrasions of the skin.

A SCENE OF TERROR.

A funeral procession under the supervision of Simon Gartland was at Seventeenth and Spruce when the storm began. The horses all ran away, and a scene of the wildest confusion and terror ensued. Mr. Gartland sprang from his carriage, and running to the hearse, succeeded in stopping the horses and getting the coffin out uninjured, but the hearse was broken to pieces. Many of the carriages were broken and overturned, and several of the occupants severely injured. Four of the drivers were hurt, one of them, Patrick Dugan, fatally.—After the storm subsided the funeral proceeded to the cemetery.—*Philadelphia Age.*

Startling.

America is sometimes oddly reminded that England moves more rapidly in some cases than we do. Whilst we are hesitating over woman's rights, laughing at Miss Anthony & Co., behold the English House of Commons advances at a single step to the consideration of the most extreme demand that has been or can be made in behalf of the female sex, that of the right to vote. On the evening of the 4th instant a petition for female suffrage, with 100,000 signatures, was presented in the House, and it was then moved that the bill removing the disabilities of women in regard to voting should be read the second time. In debate the stock arguments pro and con were delivered, and the bill passed its second reading by a vote of 124 to 92.

It is difficult to see how, after making male suffrage universal, valid objections can be made to the exercise of the right by those at least of the female population whose circumstances place them in the direct management and control of large interests of property and of business.

Much has been said and will long continue to be said as to the debasement of the female mind by mixing in politics. This is an evil, problematic at most, and one whose effects cannot be justly estimated by conjecture. Of the positive good that would arise, men must doubt, so long as they doubt the expediency of universal male suffrage, but, if they are logical, they can not question the one, an instant after they have decided on the other.

The practical question, after all, depends on the will of the women. If indeed they desire an extension of the suffrage, they can obtain it. But, in this part, at least, of the United States, the wish hardly exists in such strength as to show itself.—*Petersburg Index.*

The Demon of Reconstruction.

In commenting upon the Apportionment bill, which recently passed the House, the Norwich, Connecticut *Advertiser* says: "This is one of the warnings that the Western and Southern members have given New England that the power has departed and that she must hereafter take a back seat in the national councils. After the next Congress this apportionment will give Connecticut but three members, and the other New England States a proportionate number.—The next attack will be upon that portion of the Constitution fixing an equality in the Senate, and that will be so changed that the small New England States will be obliged to give up their power in that body to the larger States. The blind and brainless persistency with which New England has encouraged a vengeful policy towards the South, and clamored for changes in the Constitution, will react fearfully upon her when the South is again its own master, and has the great West, with its identity of interests for an ally."

For the Spectator.

Citizens of Staunton respectfully call upon Maj J. W. Newton to announce himself a candidate for Treasurer. Having lost a limb in the late war and being a gentleman of exemplary character, we feel assured that he will receive the cordial support of MANY VOTERS.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

FORTY-FIRST CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION.

SENATE—Monday, May 9.—The bill to reduce taxation was taken up, and Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, made a long speech in favor of reducing internal taxation, and also gave his views upon the tariff question. The consideration of the Legislative Appropriation bill was resumed, and it was discussed until 4:30 P. M., when a recess was taken until 7:30 P. M.

Evening Session.—At the hour of meeting no quorum was present and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—The House met at 12 M., and immediately after the reading of the journal adjourned.

SENATE—Tuesday, May 10.—The majority of the Committee on Finance reported a bill to refund all duties hitherto paid on Russia hemp in excess of $25 per ton. The minority of the committee reported a bill reducing the duty to $25 per ton, but not allowing any repayment of duties. The bill to reduce the number of officers in the army, and for other purposes, was taken up, a substitute for the entire bill having been reported by the Committee on Military Affairs. The bill was read through by sections and explained by Mr. Wilson. It was then declared open to amendment, and several amendments were proposed. Pending discussion, the regular order was demanded, and the consideration of the Legislative Appropriation bill was resumed and continued until 4:30 P. M., when the Senate went into executive session, and at its close adjourned.

Evening Session.—The Senate met at 7:30 P. M., and resumed the consideration of the Legislative Appropriation bill. Several amendments were discussed, but were not finally disposed of. Pending debate, at 11 P. M., the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—The House refused to concur in the Senate amendments to the Pension bill, and ordered a committee of conference. A number of bills of no general interest was introduced and referred to committees. Mr. Joseph H. Lewis was sworn in as Representative from the Third Kentucky District, in place of J. S. Goladay, resigned. The bill authorizing the Northern Pacific Railroad Company to issue bonds to aid in the construction and equipment of its road, and to secure the same by mortgage, was taken up, and Mr. Wheeler demanded the previous question on the bill, refusing to allow any amendment to be offered. The opponents of the bill at once commenced offering dilatory motions, and continued to do so until 4:35 P. M., when a motion to adjourn was carried, and the House adjourned.

SENATE—Wednesday, May 11.—Several new bills were introduced, and bills were passed to furnish artificial limbs to disabled soldiers, and to pay O. B. Hart, of Florida, claimant of the seat of Mr. Gilbert, the usual mileage and compensation in such cases. The consideration of the Legislative Appropriation bill was resumed in Committee of the Whole, and a number of amendments were adopted. Pending discussion the Senate, at 5 o'clock P. M., adjourned.

HOUSE.—The Committee on Appropriations reported a bill appropriating $500,000 to supply a deficiency in the appropriation for compensation and mileage of members and delegates for the year ending June 30, 1870, which was read three times and passed. Mr. Lynch made an elaborate speech in favor of his bill for the revival of American commerce. The consideration of the Tariff bill was resumed in Committee of the Whole, and several amendments were made in the sections relating to duties on steel.

SENATE—Thursday, May 12.—The Senate concurred in a report from the committee of conference on the bill relating to the Hot Springs reservation in Arkansas. Several District bills were introduced and referred. The Army bill was taken up in Committee of the Whole and a number of amendments were made in it. The committee then rose and reported the bill to the Senate. After a brief debate the bill was passed, and the Senate, at 6:10 P. M., adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Hays, of Alabama, made a personal explanation, and Mr. Wells of Missouri, delivered an address upon the bill to remedy the decline of American commerce. The discussion of the Tariff bill was resumed and several additional amendments were adopted. Pending discussion, the House took a recess until 7.30 P. M.

Evening Session.—The Committee on Invalid Pensions reported a bill, to define the duties of pension agents, and a number of members offered amendments in the nature of substitutes for the bill.

SENATE—Friday, May 13.—A memorial was presented, signed by certain property-holders of the city of Washington, asking Congress to prohibit the city in its corporate character from endorsing the bonds of any railroad, or becoming guarantee for any railroads. A resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on the District of Columbia, in view of the applications to the city of Washington for aid to railroads, to inquire and report upon the amount of indebtedness of the operation of Washington, the market value of its stocks, bonds, &c. Mr. Sumner introduced bill supplementary to the act to protect all citizens of the United States in their civil rights, and to furnish the means for the vindication. The bill is designed to force upon the white citizens the association of negroes, under the pretence of equal rights, in all public enterprises, of any kind whatever, including even the cont o' of cemeteries. A bill was passed appropriating $225,000 to aid the Junction and Breakwater Railroad Company to construct a pier in the Delaware Bay, at or near Lewis, in Sussex county, Delaware. The discussion on the Legislative Appropriation bill was continued, and a number of amendments were adopted. Pending debate the Senate, at 5 o'clock P. M., adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.—After disposing of some unimportant business, the House proceeded to the consideration of bills of a private nature, and the following were passed: Senate bill for the relief of the widows and orphans of the officers, sailors and marines of the United States steamer Oneida; bill to restore Charles H. Pendleton and Richard D. Leary to active duty in the navy, and bill appropriating $325,000 in gold coin, to be paid to Great Britain and Ireland on account of the Hudson's Company and Puget's Sound Agricultural Company, in Oregon. The Tariff bill was then resumed, and several amendments were made in the sections imposing duties on grain. Pending discussion the House, at 4:30 P. M., took a recess until 7:30 P. M.

Evening Session.—The discussion of the Tariff bill was resumed, and various amendments were made in the sections relating to duties on fruits. The House at 10 o'clock P. M., adjourned until Monday.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.

SENATE—Monday, May 9.—The House passed a number of bills mostly of a private or local character. There was considerable debate on a resolution relating to the bill to prevent the sacrifice of property and on a proposition to meet hereafter at Sycamore church, just acquired for the use of the House at a cost of $15,000.

HOUSE.—In the Senate, there was no definite action on any subject of general interest.—The bill prescribing the duties of county officers was discussed for nearly two hours, and was pending at adjournment.

SENATE—Tuesday, May 10.—After a long debate the Senate refused to postpone the consideration of a pending bill to take up the consolidation question. The bill prescribing the duties and compensation of county officers was then passed.

HOUSE.—In the House the bill for the government of cities and towns, and the bill providing for a State Librarian, were both discussed without definite action on either. The purchase of Sycamore church for $15,000 was ratified, and by a resolution adopted.

SENATE—Wednesday, May 11.—The Senate considered and passed the House "Homestead bill," with various amendments. The House bill amending the 26th section of the general election bill was also passed. Nothing else of general interest was done.

The House of Delegates met pursuant to adjournment at Sycamore church. A resolution was offered by Mr. Lowenstein, of this city, favoring a subsidy to a line of steamers between Norfolk and Europe. The resolution was adopted. The bill to create the office of Librarian was rejected.

SENATE—Thursday, May 12.—The roll of the State judiciary was completed by the election of J. L. Dillard, Esq., as county judge of Henry county. The vacancy in the judgeship of Pittsylvania county, caused by the declension of Judge John Gilmer, was filled by the election of J. D. Coles, Esq.

In the Senate the House joint resolution relating to a subsidy to a line of steamships between Norfolk and European ports was concurred in. The Senate receded from its amendments to the House bill relating to appeals, writs of error, etc. A bill providing a charter for the city of Richmond was under consideration when the Senate adjourned.

The House passed the bill for the government of cities and towns. The Senate's amendments to the homestead bill were referred to the Judiciary Committee.

For the Spectator.

At a meeting held at Moscow, on Saturday, the 14th inst., for the purpose of making nominations of Conservative Township Officers for North River Township, on motion Chesley Kinney, Esq., was called to the Chair and Capt. Jno. N. Clarke appointed Secretary.

The following persons were nominated by an election of all the voters present:

Supervisor.—Jno. G. Fulton.
Township Clerk.—A. J. Deakins.
Assessor.—Jno. H. Stover.
Collector.—Elisha J. Bell.
Commissioner of Roads.—J. Hendren Ervin.
Overseer of Poor.—Jno. C. Rusmisel.
Justices of Peace.—Jno. W. Crist, Thos. S. Hogshead, Robt. A. Curry.
Constables.—Jonathan M. Shipman, Jonas Lowman, Wm. Hizer.

CHESLY KINNEY, Chairman.
JNO. N. CLARKE, Secretary.

Will *Vindicator and Virginian* please publish.

*Sam'l Paul, Esq., would have received the nomination for Collector, but for the belief of his friends he would prefer being a candidate for County Treasurer. Robt. M. Byers, for reasons satisfactory to himself, determines to run independently for Collector in this district.

For the Spectator.

At a meeting of the Citizens of New Hope, for the purpose of calling a meeting of the Voters of Middle River Township, at New Hope, on Wednesday, the 18th, at 2 o'clock to select suitable persons to fill the Offices of Magistrate, Supervisor, and Commissioner of Roads.

On motion of Capt Finley, Thornton Berry was called to the Chair, and W C McClung appointed Secretary.

Resolved, That the Chairman of this meeting appoint a Committee of three to designate the No. of Delegates to be invited from each voting precinct to the general meeting.

Committee Report—that six Delegates be sent from Mt. Sidney, six from New Hope, and three from each other voting Precinct.

Resolved, That any Precinct failing to hold a meeting can be represented by any persons from that Precinct, not exceeding the No. of Delegates designated.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be sent to the town papers for publication.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

THORNTON BERRY, Chairman.
W. C McCLUNG, Secretary.

For the Spectator.

At a meeting of the delegates sent from the various precincts in River heads Township, at Broad-head School House, on Saturday the 14th inst., the following candidates were nominated to fill the offices of the Township:

Supervisor—M W D Hogshead;
Clerk—John McCorkle;
Assessor—Thos M Donoho;
Collector—Jno J Larew;
Commissioner of Roads—Col Jno D Lilley;
Overseer of Poor—James E Beard;
Justices of Peace—Wm F Smith, Wm T Rush, A A Sproul;
Constables—Jno B Smith, Wm H Cale, Wm Black.

FINLEY HUMPHREYS, Chairman.
R A McCHESNEY, Secretary.

For the Spectator.

WAYNESBORO, Va., May 17, 1870.

A large meeting of the voters of South River Township met in this place on Saturday last, for the purpose of recommending suitable persons to be voted for on May the 26th to fill the various township officers. All seemed harmonious and passed off without dessention. It was thought proper by the meeting to combine the offices of Collector and Constable in order to secure a good and efficient man for the latter office, consequently Mr. C. R. Haines was recommended for Collector; also will be voted for for Constable.

The meeting was well represented from all portions of the Township, and every part of the township has its proportion of candidates recommended by this meeting.

VOTERS.

For the Spectator.

To the Voters of the South River Township:

Many citizens of this Township desire to call the attention of the Voters to the claims of W. W. Clinedist for the Office of Magistrate. Mr. C. has been acting magistrate, by appointment, and has discharged the duties of the office with rare intelligence and fidelity. His services, both as Magistrate, and Registrar, at a time when such services were sorely needed, ought now to be felt and appreciate by the people whose rights he protected. We call upon Mr. C. to announce himself as a candidate for the office, and assure him that the services he rendered us in our time of need will be duly appreciated by a large majority of the Voters of this Township. MANY VOTERS.

For the Spectator.

MR. EDITOR:—Many citizens of the Township desire to have the services of J. A. PATTERSON, of Waynesboro', as Collector for the South River Township. He is thoroughly competent to discharge the duties of the office, and has, we think, the strongest claims on our people for their suffrage. He served thro' the war, and lost an arm in defence of that cause dear to the hearts of all true Southern men, and ought, and will receive the vote of every true man against the nominee of a few persons styling themselves a Nominating Convention. We call upon him to announce himself a candidate, and assure him a hearty support.

May 16, 1870. CITIZENS.

For the Spectator.

We call upon Mr. JOSEPH PELTER, of the South River Township, to announce himself a candidate for the office of Commissioner of Roads. He is the man for the office, and if he will announce himself, will receive the votes of all who know him. MANY VOTERS.

May 16, 1870.

To the Voters of Beverly Manor Township:

For reasons satisfactory to ourselves we decline to support the nominee of the Staunton meeting, for Collector of this Township. We therefore announce Lieut. JAMES N. MCFARLAND as our candidate for that office assuring him that he will be unanimously supported by

HIS COMRADES.

New Advertisements.

VALUABLE LANDS AT AUCTION.—With a view to pay off the debts of Arch. D. & Jas. I. A. Trotter, the undersigned agents and trustees will offer for sale at public auction, on the premises, on Thursday, the 23d day of June, 1870, the valuable tract of land, bought by the Trotters of Myers' heirs, on both sides of Christian's Creek, almost six miles N. E. of Staunton. This tract contains about 350 acres, and is in fine condition and well improved; about two-thirds of the tract is cleared, and about eighty acres is bottom land of the best quality. It adjoins the land of Wm. Lessly, Hunter, Berry, Deafenbaugh and others and lies about a mile below the fording of Christian's creek on the New Hope road, and is on the road leading from Kerr's mill to Staunton.

A further description of the land is deemed unnecessary, as persons disposed to buy, will doubtless examine for themselves. There is a small balance of purchase money, due on this tract, which will be satisfied out of the first payment.

We will, also, on Saturday, the 25th of June, 1870, in front of the Court-House in Staunton, at 12 o'clock M., offer, at public auction, the following other parcels of land, belonging to A. D. & Jas. I. A. Trotter, viz: one tract of 50 acres, near Hebron church, adjoining the Francis Bell mill-tract, Greaver, Dull, and others. About 45 acres of this land is cleared, and the residue in timber. There is a good spring, and an orchard of excellent fruit, on the tract, but no buildings.

2nd. A tract of 325 acres of land in the great Calf-pastures, about one or two miles N. E. of the Lebanon White Sulphur Springs. This tract is unimproved, but heavily timbered, with pine and white oak, suited for lumber and cooper stuff.

3d. One undivided sixth part of a tract of 193 acres of land, half a mile west of Craigsville, on which there is a valuable Sulphur spring.

TERMS.—Costs of sales in hand, and residue in three equal installments, at 4, 12 and 24 months, with interest from day of sale. Bonds and security required and title retained as ultimate security. Just Debts of the Trotters, will be credited on the bonds for purchase money.

JOHN B. BALDWIN,
ALEX. H. H. STUART,
JOHN ECHOLS,
may17-tds ROBT. G. BICKLE.

NOTICE to Tax-Payers in Alleghany County.

U. S. INTERNAL REVENUE,
Collector's Office, 6th Dist. of Va.,
Harrisonburg, May 16th, 1870.

You are hereby notified that I have received from the assessor of the 6th District, the annual list of taxes for the year 1870, that the same have become due and payable, and that I have fixed upon Saturday & Monday, the 4th and 6th days of June, 1870, in the town of Covington, to collect the same. All persons assessed with taxes on Income, Gold Watches, Silver Plate, Carriages, &c., and on License and Special Tax, are required to pay the same within the time above prescribed, and those who fail to do so for any cause whatsoever, will incur the penalties prescribed by the Internal Revenue Laws, which, in every case, will be charged and enforced, as I have no discretion.

ROBERT COCHRAN,
Deputy for B. B. Botts, Collector 6th Dist., Va.

I will be in W. Springs, Bath county, on Wednesday and Thursday, 8th and 9th of June; in Monterey, Saturday, 11th of June.
may17-3t

PUBLIC SALE OF CHURCH PROPERTY.—In pursuance of a trust deed, executed to me on the 1st day of January, 1862, by the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church at Staunton, to secure debts contracted by them for the building of said church, I will, on Saturday, the 11th day of June, 1870, at 11 o'clock, at the front door of the Court-house in the town of Staunton, proceed to sell said CHURCH PROPERTY, at public auction, to the highest bidder. Said Church is situated on Lewis street, in said town and is a large and commodious edifice, with sufficient grounds attached. As the deed is silent as to terms, the law therefore providing that the sale shall be for cash, yet there may be some modification of the terms to suit purchasers of which due notice will be given.

Any and all persons holding debts, who have not yet furnished me with the evidence, will please do so upon the day of sale.

may17-tds D. S. YOUNG, Trustee.

JAMES GORDON. J. W. CRINGAN.
GORDON & CRINGAN, successors to John N. Gordon & Son, WHOLESALE GROCERS and dealers in Metals, Nova Scotia Grindstones, &c., Pearl Block, Fourteenth street, between Main & Cary street, Richmond, Va., offer for sale
Sugars, all grades, raw and refined; Coffees—Rio, Laguayra and old Java; Molasses and Syrups, all grades; Teas, gunpowder and black; Candles, Soda, Starch, Soaps, Herrings—cut, gross and family roe—Powder, Shot, Bar Lead, Bar Tin, Cut Nails, Horse Nails, Horse Shoes, Iron Axles, all sizes, sheet Zinc, Iron, refined, swedes, country hammered; Steel, cast, shear, octagon, and blistered, Tin Plate, Roofing Tin, &c. may17—3m

THE "CHAMPION" REAPER AND MOWER.—The attention of the farming community is called to an examination of the above named Reaper and Mower now on exhibition at our store and warehouse.

We can furnish them with a SELF-RAKE, DROPPER, HAND RAKE, or SINGLE MOWER, or all combined in one machine

"They are acknowledged to be the best made machine in the world. In workmanship and material, they are far in advance."

We expect to have the "Champion" on the street, on Monday next, (court day) and would be pleased to have farmers examine it, before giving their orders.

may17 WOODS & GILKESON.

BONDS LOST.—Lost on Saturday, May 7th, 1870, in the town of Staunton, TWO BONDS for one hundred and twenty-five dollars each—one payable twelve months after date the other twenty-four months after date—with interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, dated the —— day of April, 1870, drawn by William Reed and payable to me. The public are hereby warned not to trade for said bonds as payment has been stopped. The finder will confer a favor by leaving them with E. M. Cushing.

may10-2t* HOWARD GROVE.

AT Mt. CRAWFORD WORKS

IRELAND DUEY & CO.,
are furnishing
LAND DRAIN TILES

from 2½ cents per foot run and *Water Tight Glazed Pipes with bell*, from 12½ cents up. All sizes to 5 in. at short notice. Samples may be seen and orders taken at my office.

WM. A. PRATT,
may17-5t Architect and Engineer.

UNITED STATES INTERNAL REVENUE,
Collector's Office, 6th Dist., Va.,
HARRISONBURG, May 10, 1870.

NOTICE TO TAX-PAYERS and others.—All persons making remittances to the Collector of Internal Revenue, 6th District, Va., must do so by Checks or Drafts on *Lynchburg* or *Baltimore*, or send currency at their own risk. All other checks will be returned to the Drawer.

B. B. BOTTS,
may17—3t Collector 6th District, Va.

H. M MATHEWS. ALEX. F. MATHEWS.
MATHEWS & MATHEWS,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,
LEWISBURG, WEST VA.,
Practice regularly in the Courts of Greenbrier, Monroe, Pocahontas and Nicholas counties, W. Va, the Court of Appeals, and the Federal Courts for the District of W. Va.

☞ Particular attention paid to Collections and to special cases anywhere in this State.
may17—1y

F. M. YOUNG'S CASH STORE has just received a nice lot of LACE MANTLES, another supply of those cheap BLACK SILKS and LACE CURTAINS, handsome new style HOOPS, Parasols, Ladies' Shoes, &c.

A fresh, choice stock of white PIQUE with a great variety of Fringes and Trimmings.
may17—2t

STILL THEY COME.—Davis A. Kayser is receiving daily by express, large additions to his stock of first class goods, and will, in a few days, have a full line of new style dress goods.

He pledges himself to furnish as good goods on as good terms as they can be had in this or any other market. Call and see. may17

WM. H. T