Staunton Spectator.

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1877.

THE RUSSIAN AND TURKISH WAR.—There has not been any battle between the Russians and Turks reported since our last issue. It is supposed that there will be some important engagements during this week. It is supposed that a battle will be fought between Kars and Erzeroum in Asia. In Europe the Russians are preparing to force a crossing of the Danube simultaneously at three different places, namely: at Kalafat, at Nicopalas and at a point between Reni and Golatz. The Turkish gun boats are actively bombarding all of these points, and the Russians are erecting batteries to defend themselves from the enemy's fire.

Organization of the "Workingmen's Practical Reform Society of Virginia."

The *Old Commonwealth* publishes an account of a meeting held at Linville in Rockingham on the 5th inst, for the purpose of organizing the "Workingmen's Practical Reform Society of Vrginia," the objects aimed to be attained by which are as follows:

"1—Advancement of the State's material interests; 2—Elevation of labor and the status of laborers; 3—Protection and encouragement of the industries; 4—Establishment of commerce within the State; 5—Establishment and encouragement of factories and manufacturing interests in the State; 6—Development of the mineral and other resources, and attraction of population to the State; 7—Restoration of the public and private credit of the State and the people; 8—Elevation of Virginia to the position her geographical and other natural advantages entitle her to."

The meeting was organized by electing Mr. T. Quinlan chairman, and Mr. J. K. Smith secretary.

The object of the meeting was explained by Col. E. Sipe, who also set forth at some length the nature of the Society they had met to organize.

At the conclusion of Col. Sipe's remarks, and the reading of the constitution for the government of the association, signatures were called for. To form an auxiliary asociation only twenty names are required, but much above that number responded to the call for names. The election of officers for the Linville primary association resulted as follows: D. C. Brenneman, President; C. T. Acker, Secretary.

The constitution provides for the building up of a commerce by Virginia Merchants and dealers with Virginia cities exclusively to commence at a future period, which blank was filled by the insertion of September 1st, 1878.

The formation of the Linville primary association being completed, by the terms of the Constitution just adopted, election of officers for the State association was announced as in order. The following were then elected officers of the "Workingmen's Practical Reform Society of Virginia:"

President, Col. E. Sipe, of Linville; Vice-President, R. J. Mason, of Cherry Grove; Corresponding Secretary, J. K. Smith, of Harrisonburg; Treasurer, C. G. Jennings, of Lacey Spring.

NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD.—On last Tuesday, a meeting was held in Lewisburg, W. Va., to consider the feasibility of constucting a Narrow Gauge Railroad from Lewisburg to some point on the C. & O. Railroad. The question was discussed by John W. Harris and Robt. F. Dennis in favor of the scheme. The chairman, Jno. W. Harris, appointed the following committee to report at an adjourned meeting to be held on the 25th inst., on the feasibility of the scheme: J. Alex. Montgomery, John Lipps, R. F. Dennis, A. C. Snyder, J. E. Bell, John W. Harris, and B. F. Harlow.

The thanks of the meeting were voted to the Lewisburg Cornet Band for the excellent music discoursed by that organization at the meeting, with the request that they would attend at the meeting on the 25th.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A PROMINENT LAWYER.—On last Thursday morning in Alexandria, Mr. Francis L. Smith, Sr., dropped dead at his residence. He had for many years enjoyed a substantial reputation in his profession and was a most estimable citizen. He has been charged with many important trusts during life, and among his other business latterly he had charge of the suit of Gen. Custis Lee for the recovery of the Arlington estate.

SOUTH CAROLINA.—The dead-lock in the South Carolina Legislature is broken, the Senate, which is republican, deciding to go into the election of Chief justice on the 15th—to-day. The House, which is democratic, will concur. The Senate has also passed a resolution requesting the Governor to invoke the clemency of the President in behalf of prisoners charged with riot and murder in the late political struggle.

BAPTIST CONVENTION.—The Southern Baptist Convention at New Orleans Thursday elected Rev. Drs. James P. Boyce, of Kentucky, president; James C. Furman, of South Carolina, T. G. Jones, of Tennessee, W. C. Crane, of Texas, and T. J. Evans, of Virginia, vice-presidents; W. E. Tanner, of Virginia, and O. F. Gregory, of Alabama, secretaries.

BURNED TO DEATH.—The Salem *Conservative* says that Mrs. Mary A. Starkey, of Botetourt, who was living with her son, Wm. A. Starkey, near Bonsacks, was burned to death on last Thursday night a week by her clothes catching fire. She lived but a few hours.

MONUMENT TO CONFEDERATE DEAD. The corner-stone of the monument at Chattanooga, Tenn., to the Confederate dead, was laid Thursday, a detachment of United States troops participating.—Persons from all parts of the country participated in decorating the Confederate graves.

PARSON BROWNLOW'S ESTATE.—The house and grounds of the late Parson Brownlow are valued at $4,000. In addition to this he had a policy of $5,000 on his life, besides owning an interest in the *Whig and Chronicle* newspaper, which is in a prosperous condition.

NO LICENSES.—The County court of Fayette county, W. Va., has declined to grant license to any one in that county to sell spirituous liquors.

Last week, twenty bushels of corn were stolen from the granary of Mr. John Ryman, who lives about four miles west of Woodstock.

THE ARMY SCANDAL—MRS. BELL'S TESTIMONY.—It has been announced that the sentence of Major Reno, who was court-martialed a few months ago on charges of alleged improper and insulting advances to the wife of a brother officer of his regiment, Capt. James Bell, to dismissal from the service has been commuted by the President to suspension from rank and pay for two years. Mrs. Bell, according to the report of the testimony, swore that Major Reno called upon her shortly after arriving at Abercrombrie, and, on taking leave, he took hold of her hand and slipped his fingers towards her arm, telling her that was the Masonic grip.—His visits were frequent, and shortly after this, as she accompanied him to the door, he put his arms about her, which action she resented angrily. On Christmas, after this, Mrs. Bell gave an entertainment, to which she did not invite Major Reno. She was to play the organ at the religious exercises held by Rev. R. Wainwright, a missionary, but Major Reno sent an order that if she played the organ the exercises should be stopped.

Col. McClure writes from Washington concerning the President's policy: "He has staked everything on the pacification of the whole country. He is pledged to restore every State and every community in every section to law and peace, and to the substantial success of that great purpose he subordinates everything. If it shall breed factious dissensions in his party it must be because the party is unequal to the maintenance of its pledges to the nation, and he will not pause to heal partisan wounds at the cost of the tranquility of the country. I believe that the chief consideration that made him decide to delay the assembling of Congress was the possible renewal of sectional agitation by demagogues who call themselves statesmen, and that he is quite willing to accept political failure according to the judgment of partisans, if failure must come, if thereby he can give the country a faithful and peaceful administration of the laws in every part of the Union."

REVIVAL AT BLACKSBURG.—The meeting of two weeks held recently at Blacksburg, Montgomery county, by Rev. J. R. Harris, the Baptist Evangelist of Virginia, was richly blessed.—During this time, he preached 23 sermons, had 418 conversions, received 67 for baptism, and baptized 39. He has been laboring the past week at Fairview church in Summers county, W. Va., and expects to commence a meeting at Union, Monroe county, W. Va., next Thursday.

DIPHTHERIA.—The local reports of the ravages of diptheria in various Massachusetts localities render it difficult to decide whether it arises from filth or not. It is important to collect the experience of all American towns on this matter, so as to know how to deal with a disease which entails as much physical suffering as the plague. There seems to be little doubt that it presents in an eminent degree the characteristics of a contagious disease.

The policy of England on the Eastern question as defined by the British home secretary is thus epitomized: To preserve strict neutrality, but at the same time protect the Suez canal, guard Egypt, and not permit any power to interfere with the freedom of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus, and hence Constantinople must not become the prize of conquest.

Kars, in Asiatic Turkey, is a city of about 12,000 inhabitants situated 105 miles northeast of Erzeroum and about an equal distance, south by east, from Batoum, on the Black sea. Although insignificant as to size, it is a place of strategic importance with a view either to operations by land against Batoum, or an advance into Asia Minor.

Ex-Gov. Joseph E. Brown, of Georgia, has written a long letter, declaring that Senator Gordon was mainly responsible for the seating of President Hayes, and condemning him severely for his course in regard to the electoral commission.—The milk in the cocoanut is that ex-Gov. Brown aspires to Gen. Gordon's seat in the United States Senate.

It is stated that an effort is being made to convert the Manassas Branch of the Virginia Midland Road into a Narrow Gauge, complete the independent line from Alexandria to Gainesville, and extend the road from Strasburg via Capon Springs to the coal fields in West Virginia.

In accordance with the decision of the United States Supreme Court the centennial board of finance has just paid into the national treasury $1,000,000, half in Philadelphia and half in New York. The remaining $500,000 will be paid over next month.

CAPITATION TAX.—It is necessary that every voter satisfy the judges of election that he has paid his capitation tax ($1.00) before he be allowed to vote. A presentation of his tax receipt, or any evidence that will satisfy the judges will be sufficient.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A CHILD.—On Tuesday week, near Moorefield, Hardy county, W. Va., an interesting child, one year old, of Mr. Cal. Simmons, lost its life by getting a grain of coffee in its windpipe.

Mr. D. S. Gregory, who has been for several years Editor of the Petersburg *Index and Appeal* has retired from that position for the purpose of entering the Episcopal ministry.

Ex-Gov. Seymour says that there is more nutritious food in an acre of water well-stocked with fish than in the best wheat-growing farm in the State of New York.

Some of the inner walls of the new courthouse, at Rockford, Ills., fell in Friday, burying a number of workmen, several of whom are known to be killed and others injured.

On Sunday of last week, nine persons were united to the Reformed church in Woodstock, of which Rev. G. H. Martin is the Pastor.

Rev. Dr. O. Ellyson of Richmond has accepted the call made upon him by the Baptist congregations of Berryville and Winchester.

Preston Crawford, of Botetourt county, whilst hunting, a few days since, accidentally shot himself and died in a few days.

EXPIRATION OF SEWING-MACHINE PATENTS—EXTENT OF THE BUSINESS. The two patents granted to J. Bachelder for sewing-machines on the 8th of May, 1849, for a term of fourteen years, and twice extended for successive periods of seven years each, expired at noon last Tuesday. One of them is for the "four-feed" invention. These are said to be the last of the important patents hitherto in force controlled by what is known as the sewing-machine combination. It appears from statistics in possession of the Patent Office that during one year (1874) there were over 410,000 sewing-machines manufactured and sold by the five principal companies engaged in the business in this country, besides about 120,000 more which were manufactured by ten other companies.

The expiration of the patent will cause a very great reduction in the price of sewing machines. As the *State* says, "the price of machines must henceforth fall, slowly for a time, but finally far. The best of them can be made, once the patent privilege is removed, for one-fourth or one-fifth of the price charged to the buyer at present, and, so soon as rivals enter the business, rates will, by competition, be brought down to the basis of reasonable profit on cost, that is to say, twenty or thirty per cent. in place of four hundred or five hundred.

The reduction will be welcome to thousands of people, and cannot come too soon."

As the Lynch. Virginian says, if Russia succeeds in driving the Turk out of Europe, and in extending her mighty Asiatic empire towards the Indus, England may well tremble for her long and lucrative supremacy in the East. Gladstone may expatiate upon the obligation of England to rescue the Christian from the cruelty of the Musselman; but none of these things will move the British Ministry. Their eager and anxious glance is over the mountains of the Himalayas and beside the waters of the Indian Ocean. The British lion has come to regard the jungles of India as his native home. He is aroused from his lair by the approach of the Russian bear. His angry growl is heard in the recent note of Lord Derby.

ADVERTISING.—There are almost as many different opinions as to the most effective mode of advertising as there are advertisers. All business men agree that it always is a profitable investment of money to advertise in some way.—Some think that weekly notices in the special local column of a good newspaper the best and most certain mode of reaching the reader's eye; but others and by far the greater majority say that an attractive standing card has always proven to be the most effective in the end. It acts like the continual blows of a sledge-hammer. The paper is never picked up but the advertiser's name and specialty stares the reader in the face."

ATTEMPT TO WRECK A TRAIN.—An attempt was made to wreck a passenger train on the Boston, Barre and Gardner railroad, near Winchendon, Mass., Friday. A stone weighing over three hundred pounds was placed on the track. The engine struck it while going twenty miles an hour, and the train passed over without going from the track. The passengers were considerably shaken up, but no one was injured. The running gear of locomotive and sars was some what injured.

SALES OF FARMS ON JAMES RIVER.—Major Robert Douthat has sold his fine estate, Weyanoke, on James River, containing 1,089 acres, to Robert Alvis, of Richmond, for $34,000. This estate was acquired by the ancestors of Major Robert Douthat, the late owner, by crown grant under Charles the Second, and is renowned for being one of the best landed properties in the State. Major A. H. Drewry has sold Westbury, on the James river, containing 654 acres, for $14,000.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A CHILD.—On the 9th inst., an interesting child, 8 years old, of Dr. E. A. McMann, of Gap Mills, Monroe co., W. Va., was drowned under the following circumstances as given by the *Border Watchman*. "The child fell from a fence into a small stream of water, with its face downward, a heavy rail at the same time falling upon the back of its neck, which it was unable to remove."

MR. JOHN T. COWAN, the leading throughbred cattle-raiser of Southwest Virginia, in a recently published letter states that an English company with large capital is now forming for the shipment of beef and mutton (both live and dead) to London directly from Norfolk, Va. In view of this fact Mr. Cowan urges the improvement of breeds of stock as promising early and rich rewards.

CONFLICT IN CLEVELAND, OHIO.—An encounter took place in Cleveland, Ohio, Thursday, between the police and four hundred striking coopers, who were reinforced by about two hundred women. The strikers were attempting to prevent non-union men from going to work. They were dispersed after a number were severely injured.

The conservatives of Lynchburg have nominated the following municipal ticket. For Mayor, Capt. Samuel A. Bailey, present chief of police; Clerk Hustings Court, S. D. Preston; Treasurer, V. G. Dunnington; Commissioner of Revenue, C. W. Price; City Sergeant, H. Hughes.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.—For the nine months ending March 31, the exports of the country amounted to $469,625,598, imports, $314,911,871—excess of exports over imports, $154,713,727. The imports of specie and bullion amounted to $36,749,290; exports, $31,486,350.

One of Moody's converts in Boston has made secret restitution of $13,000. Now the quickest way to raise funds to pay off the national debt would be to have Moody preach to the federal officials of the past eight years.

Major W. S. Downer, editor of the Huntington (W. Va.) Advertiser, died last Wednesday of heart disease. He was formerly a prominent lawyer in East Virginia.

William W. James, of Washington, D. C., has now in successful operation a sassafras oil factory on the Blue Ridge, about seven miles southeast of Front Royal.

The graves in Stonewall Cemetery at Winchester will be strewn with flowers at 10 o'clock, A. M., on the 6th of June.

A DECREE TO SELL THE WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS.—We learn from the Greenbrier *Independent* that the late term of the United States District Court, held at Charleston, in the case of C. S. Gay and others against the Greenbrier White Sulphur Springs Company, a decree was entered ordering a sale of the Springs property in August, 1878.—The following gentlemen were appointed Commissioners to sell the property, viz: H. M. Mathews, Jasper Y. Moore, Wm. A. Quarrier, John Echols, W. W. Gordon and A. C. Snyder.

SUICIDE OF A SOLDIER.—A special to the *Dispatch* from Norfolk states that William Kirnan, an inmate of the Soldiers' Home at Hampton, committed suicide Thursday morning by hanging himself to a beam in the stables. Supposed to be temporary insanity. He was a New York volunteer, and fifty years of age.

Bishop Payne, of the Southern Methodist Church, is 77 years old; Bishop Kavanah 75; Bishop Wightman, 69; Bishop Doggett, 67; Bishop Pierce, 66; Bishop Keener, 56; Bishop Marvin, 54, and Bishop McTyeire, 53.

L. M. Shumaker having resigned the position of register in bankruptcy at Danville, Va., John T. Watson has been appointed to succeed him.

President Hayes is the owner of several thousand acres of mineral land in Virginia.

The Uses of Paper.

It will surprise many readers to know the multitude of uses to which paper is put. Many Japanese and Chinese domestic utensils are made of paper, as well as much of their finest lacquered ware. Even the cheaper kinds of clothing in Japan are of paper. What is known as papier mache is simply paper pulp, or else sheets of spongy paper pasted together and pressed into such forms as the manufacturer requires the mass to take. Many of the English tea trays, cadies, snuff and work boxes of a century ago were of papier mache, and even, though more rarely, mantel pieces, card tables, and other light and elegant pieces of furniture. Sheets of writing paper passed through a diluted solution of sulphuric acid are converted into a substance very similar and having pretty much the tenacity of parchment. For some years past paper has been coming into use in some parts of the western country in the construction of cheap houses. Where wood is scarce, as on the prairies, paper offers an acceptable substitute. Paper for sheathing and roofing has often been employed. Now it is expressly manufactured for outside and inside walls and ceilings of houses, and is said to possess many advantages over wood. One mill in Wisconsin, which is engaged exclusively in the manufacture of building paper, is turning out at this time sixteen tons a day, and the demand has increased so much of late that it is far in excess of the supply.

This building paper is a thick and indurated pasteboard, turned out in sheets thirty-two inches wide, and is divided for transportation into rolls of varying sizes, weighing from twenty-five to one hundred pounds. While running through the machines whereon it is made it is subjected to a pressure of several hundreds of tons to the square foot. This process welds the fibres into a homogeneous mass, perfectly air-proof. When dry and ready for use this paper is superior to wood for building purposes, being one of the worst conductors of heat and cold extant. A house constructed of this material is cool in summer and readily heated in winter; neither does it shrink or warp as wood does, and requires no seasoning save the drying it gets at the mill; neither does it burn as readily as lumber does, and is quite as impervious to water.

Papier mache is in steady use abroad for anatomical and many other figures and fancy articles and also for decorating the interior of public buildings and the houses of the wealthy. The panels of railway carriages are sometimes made of it; also, strange to say, railway car wheels, composed of successive thicknesses of mill board, molded into the proper from under enormous pressure.—These paper car wheels, with iron tires, have been highly commended in some scientific journals for their lightness, tenacity, power of resistance and absolute freedom from fracture. What the objections to them are we do not know, but they would seem to be serious, as in spite of the valuable qualities ascribed to them they have not been brought into active use. The Western houses built so largely of paper, the frame work alone being of wood, are said by those who have occupied them to be very comfortable, and as they have the further merit to persons of limited means of being very cheap, it is not surprising to learn that stock companies are forming to manufacture building paper in large quantities, and also to ultimately extend the uses of paper to many household articles.—*Balt. Sun.*

A PLEASANT ENTERTAINMENT.—On Tuesday evening last, Rockingham Union Lodge, No. 27, F. A. M., held a reception in honor of Judge Richard Parker, Grand Master of Masons of Virginia. He was escorted to the Lodge room, where a welcoming address was delivered by J. N. Liggett, Esq., which was responded to by Grand Master Parker, in a brief, pointed and earnest manner. After an exchange of social and fraternal greetings, upon part of members of the lodge and visiting brothers present, the assembly moved in a body to the "Pollock House," where an elegant and bountiful repast had been spread by order of Rockingham Union Lodge, in the superb style of our celebrated caterer, S. W. Pollock, Esq. Several hours were spent at table, and the feast of good things was greatly enjoyed by all present. After the supper the Masonic brotherhood returned to the Lodge room, where another feast, of reason and wit, was indulged in, which broke up at a late hour, all being delighted with the evenings entertainment.—*Old Commonwealth.*

N. H. MASSIE, ESQ.—We are pleased to learn that the presentment against this gentleman, which originated out of the failure of the Charlottesville National Bank, of which he was President, has been settled by directions for its dismissal.

The circumstances which have caused this determination are alike honorable to Mr. Massie and to the District Attorney. After "thorough investigation of the facts and examination of the evidence," made by the District Attorney and his assistant, according to the request of Mr. Massie, and under instructions from the Attorney-General of the United States, the conclusion was clearly reached that the further continuance of the case would be unjust to Mr. Massie, and not required by the public interest. This conclusion of the District Attorney has been submitted to, and fully ratified by, the Attorney-General.

We can but express our sincere gratification at this honorable adjustment of the case.—*Charlottesville Chronicle.*

HARD HIT.—*London*, May 10.—It was thought that Turkey would not reply to Derby's note, but the Russian Telegraph Agency foreshadows a reply, which concludes; "The English Cabinet cannot extract itself from this dilemma except by proclaiming that England is the first Musulman Power in the world, and that she consequently wishes for the maintenance of the Turkish dominion over Christians even at the cost of their extermination. We hold the English nation in too great esteem to believe it would sanction such a policy."

Wonderful Tricks of the Magician Heller.

One of the tricks of the Magician Heller, in this city, is described as follows: In the centre of the stage stood a cabinet composed of four iron rods, having a platform about four feet above the stage and a closely covered top, from which on all sides hung heavy cloth curtains, red outside and black inside, so arranged that when they were raised the spectators could see through the cabinet on all sides. A lighted candle was placed directly under the platform mentioned, so as to show there were no plates of glass or mirrors used, and Mr. Heller walked around the cabinet and his figure could be seen at all times distinctly. Another lighted candle was placed upon the floor, midway between the cabinet and the drapery and, the back of the stage, to show that there was no connection with the space back of it and the cabinet. Miss Heller clad in a blouse and trousers of blue flannel, walked up the stage, and placing her hands behind her, Mr. Heller tied them together at the wrists with a piece of red tape, making five hard knots. She was then assisted into the cabinet, and the curtains were allowed to fall on all sides. The instant they had done so numerous hands and arms protruded through various apertures in the curtains. At one time four hands were seen in an opening on the left, one immediately above at the top, another at the right, and three, including one black and one red one, in an aperture lower down. Upon the curtains being raised Miss Heller was seen standing alone in the cabinet, and with her hands apparently as securely tied as when she entered it. Mr. Heller next produced a large sack of white cloth, which he allowed some of the spectators to examine, and then one of them tied the sack securely at its mouth with a piece of white tape. The curtains of the cabinet having been lowered, the sack was placed under them in the cabinet and instantly Miss Heller's voice was heard saying that she was inside the sack. The drapery being raised, a sack containing a human figure was the only thing visible. The curtain fell again, and Mr Heller commanded the goblins to remove Miss Heller from the sack. Her voice was at once heard saying: "They are taking my clothes off," and out dropped from the cabinet a blouse, belt, and trousers of blue flannel like those worn by Miss Heller. First inquiring if that lady was in a presentible condition, and having been informed that she was still inside of the sack the curtains were raised, and the tie sack containing a human being was the only thing visible. Mr. Heller helped the lady, still tied in sack, to descend; and leading her off the stage passed the clothes which had fallen from the cabinet and requested her to retire to her dressing room and apparel herself. Mr. Heller then, pulling the curtains partially aside, seated himself upon the front portion of the platform of the cabinet, and instantly a long red hand reached forth, and with its fingers toyed with his hair. The curtains having been readjusted after showing that the cabinet was empty, Mr. Heller commanded the spirits to convey Miss Heller from the dressing room to the cabinet. Upon that lady being questioned if she was dressed, her reply that she was seemed to come from the left of the stage, and almost instantly thereafter her voice was heard in the cabinet saying, "Here I am," and the curtain being raised, Miss Heller, attired as at first, was seen standing in the centre of the cabinet. After she had descended, the curtain was again closed, and when opened a quantity of red fire burning on a white plate was seen, and at the discharge of a pistol in Mr. Heller's hands the drapery was apparently torn violently from the cabinet and thrown upon the floor of the stage, which closed the entertainment."—*N. Y. Clipper.*

The Policy of England Defined.

LONDON, May 9.—The *Times*, in a leading article, speaking of the remarks of Mr. Cross, home secretary, in the House of Commons on Monday night, on Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, says:

"Mr. Cross emphatically condemned the misrule in Turkey, and unequivocally declared that the government would do nothing to protect the Porte. Thus an end is put to the reports that the government is inclined to let itself be made an instrument of clamors for war. Mr. Cross, of course, added that the government would defend the interests of England, and, what is more important, he defined those interests. We should protect the Suez canal, guard Egypt, and not permit any power to interfere with the freedom of the Dardanelles and the Bosphorus. Hence we should protect Constantinople from becoming the prize of conquest. This is the essential part of our policy, and is also the policy of all Europe. None of the powers could permit the freedom of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea to be hampered, but to suppose that Russia would defy the united policy of all the powers by seizing Egypt and Constantinople is to suppose that her statesmen are, in a medical sense, unfit to be at large.

"Mr. Cross, at the conclusion of his speech, gave the following as a clear statement of the government's policy: Not to sanction oppression or tyranny in any part of the world; to preserve treaty engagements and set an example, which, followed by the other nations, would materially add to the happiness of the world; deeply as we regret the war, to maintain the strictest neutrality between the contending nations outside the necessities of this actual war, and to maintain as they ought to maintain, and as any British government would maintain, those interests of England which ought to be maintained. We have no thought of fear or gain. Before the face of the House of Commons he declared—of England, of Europe, of the world—that the government is conscious of the honesty of their own purpose; they are conscious of their own earnest desire for peace; they are conscious, if need be, of their strength. Wherever the opportunity may offer to stop this war, to heal these wretched divisions, to improve the condition of these Christian populations in a way which will really improve them, (and that way, in Mr. Cross's opinion, is not by war,) to localize, minimize or wipe away the effects of war, then the government will give their services."

THE PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA AND THE HOLY WAR.—*Vienna*, May 9.—In a few days the annual holy pilgrim caravan will leave Constantinople for Mecca, laden with costly presents for the Mohamedan shrines. The Sheik Ul Islam gave to the leader, who has been this time appointed by the Sultan himself, instructions to proclaim in all the cities he passed through that Russia, who persecutes the Christians herself for not conforming to the orthodox faith, was now intent upon driving all believers in Islamism from Europe. The Sultan has therefore resolved to call all the faithful to a holy war against infidel Russia, and promises to go on a pilgrimage himself if the war proves successful to his arms.

THE CAPITATION TAX.—The State Constitution, as amended, excludes from the privileges of voting the following classes of persons:

I. Federal soldiers, marines, &c.
II. Idiots and lunatics.
III. Persons convicted of bribery in any election, embezzlement of the public funds, treason, felony, or petty larceny.
IV. Duelists and their aiders, &c., unless their disabilities have been removed.
V. Persons otherwise qualified who have not paid their capitation tax for the year preceding the ope during which they offer to vote. This includes all paupers, who have heretofore voted ever since the ratification of the Underwood Constitution.—*Dispatch.*

"What everybody says must be true."

The incontrovertible testimony offered by those who have used Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription induced the doctor to sell it under a positive guarantee. Many ladies have refrained from using it on account of a general feeling of prejudice against advertised medicines. Let me ask a question. Are you prejudiced against sewing machines because you have seen them advertised? or can you doubt the ingenuity and skill required in their invention? Again, would you refuse to insure your house because the company advertised that it had paid millions in losses, and yet had a capital of several millions? Do such advertisements shake your confidence, and create prejudices? Then why refuse to credit the testimony of those who have found the Favorite Prescription to be all that is claimed for it in overcoming those ailments peculiar to your sex?—Why submit to the use of harsh, and perhaps caustic treatment, thus aggravating your malady, when relief is guaranteed, and a positive, perfect, and permanent cure has been effected in thousands of cases?

WABASH STATION, Ill., Oct. 24, 1876. R. V. PIERCE, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y.: *Dear Sir*—Allow me to extend my most sincere thanks to you for the great benefit my wife has received from the use of your Favorite Prescription. She suffered almost intolerably before using your medicine, and I had tried the skill of several physicians but to no purpose. Finally, I thought I would give the Favorite Prescription a trial, and she is now sound and well.

Very gratefully yours,
D. A. HUNTER.

The Alexandria *Gazette* says:

It is rumored that Mr. W. W. Corcoran has made Col. Donn Piatt a present of all the stock, printing apparatus, &c., of the late *Patriot* newspaper.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

PERRY.

THE ONLY IMPORTER OF

RELIABLE & FASHIONABLE STYLES

—IN—

GOODS FOR GENTS' WEAR,

asks the attention of the young bloods of the town to his line of

FINE FURNISHING GOODS,

DRESS SHIRTS,
UNDERWEAR, &c., &c.,

selected with an eye to solid excellence and durability with a reasonable deference to the prevailing styles actually in use.

No imitation or spurious articles glossed up for sale to what is known as the "country trade," nor cheap junk by the load from city auction rooms that can find a market nowhere.

ECONOMY IS WEALTH!

but it is *NOT ECONOMY* to buy cheap stuff that vanishes under the test of usage like the mists before the summer sun.

LINEN COLLARS,
From 2 to 6 Ply.

These goods, especially in fine grades are to be found only at PERRY'S. His styles are known by their elegance of cut and ease to the wearer, and are only bought by the regular city custom trade.

CUFFS In All Styles AND PRICES.

GOOD LINEN COLLARS at $1.50 per dozen.

SHIRTS!

PERRY'S SHIRTS are too well known to need comment, and he refers to his customers, who are made on scientific principles peculiarly his own, which are patented and which guarantee a perfect fit. The great experience and care necessary to arrive at this result are supplied to the Cheap John garment—anybody can make a "thing," and dignify it with the name of shirt, sell it for 50 cents, and retire in a few years to bloated seclusion. But the fit! ah!

THERE'S THE RUB!

PERRY'S WAMSUTTA and HEAVY LINEN SHIRT at $1.50, fits well and wears well, while his $2.50 SHIRT to order, he contends that under no circumstances can money buy anything better than this.

PERRY challenges the world to produce any better made garments than his.

NIGHT SHIRTS, DRAWERS, &c., made to measure.

NAINSOOK UNDERSHIRTS, the only comfortable durable Summer Undershirt—can wear them through several seasons.

GENTS' HOSIERY,

in Lisle Thread, Fancy Striped, Silk Clocked, Embroidered, and English Cotton—every grade.

Gents' Linen Handkerchiefs,

Plain, Bordered, and Hemstitched, &c.

GENTS' SUSPENDERS!

The only first-class stock in the place. The

Netted Suspender,

the most comfortable article known; after wearing them you will never use any other.

GENTS' NECKWEAR.

No gaudy nor fluffy old styles dating back from the time of the first Napoleon. PURE SILK GOODS in the styles and best material warranted to wear and look well, and when you go to the city you needn't be ashamed of your outfit if you have gotten it at

—PERRY'S.—

All his Goods are of the prevailing fashions and afford comfort, satisfaction, and pleasure, as well to the wearer as the observer.

PERRY,
may15 Main Street, next to Grange Hall.

COMMISSIONERS' SALE OF LAND IN AUGUSTA COUNTY.—In pursuance of a decree of the circuit court of Augusta in the pending chancery cause of Mills' creditors vs. John A. Mills and others, the undersigned Commissioners will sell at the front door of the Court-house, in Staunton, on

Friday, June 15th, 1877,

three parcels of land in the county of Augusta, on Middle River, about eight miles from Staunton, being the lands of which the late William Mills died seized and possessed, and subsequently divided amongst his heirs, as follows:

1st. A tract containing 199¾ acres, conveyed to John A. Mills by Catharine Mills, widow of said William Mills, dec'd, by virtue of authority derived from the will of said decedent.

2ndly. A tract containing 35 acres, assigned to said John A. Mills by James M. Lilley, A. Anderson, and William A. Bell, Commissioners of partition under a decree in the above cause. This last named parcel is numbered on the plat accompanying the report of said last named Commissioners on file in said cause as No. 1.

3rdly. A tract containing 101 acres assigned to Frances C. Fishburn, and designated on said plat as No. 2.

These lands are more fully described in the above mentioned report of partition and in the other papers of the suit hereinbefore mentioned.

These several parcels of land will be sold separately, unless the Commissioners of sale shall determine to sell the parcels of 199¾ acres and 35 acres, both which belong to John A. Mills, together; in which event only the parcels of 101 acres will be sold as a separate parcel.

TERMS OF SALE.—Enough cash in hand for costs and full sale; residue in three equal annual instalments from day of sale, with interest from that day, for which bonds with approved personal security and containing a waiver of Homestead will be required. Title to be withheld till all the purchase money is paid.

THOMAS C. ELDER,
GEO. M. COCHRAN, JR.,
A. H. FULTZ,
may 15-tds. Commissioners.

COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF A VERY VALUABLE FARM.—By virtue of a decree of the circuit court of Augusta county, rendered in the case of Hunter's Adm'r vs. Rolers, I will proceed on the premises, on

Saturday, the 9th day of June, 1877,

to sell that very desirable Farm, situated immediately on the east of Mt. Sidney, adjoining the lands of Frederick Cline, Shumate, Johnstons and others, containing **189 acres** upon the following terms to wit: so much in hand as will pay the costs of sale and the costs of the suit in the cause, and the remainder in three equal payments in six, eighteen, and thirty months from the day of sale, with interest from the day of sale, the purchaser giving bond with approved personal security, and the title retained as ultimate security.

For the convenience of purchasers, the land will be sold in two parcels, one parcel of 125 acres, and the other of 64 acres. The land will be flour or thirty acres, heavily timbered, and will start his sons in business as the Mill has a fine reputation—cuts 10,000 feet of lumber per day.

Address R. E. POGUE,
Quincy,
Lewis Co., Ky.

VALUABLE MILL PROPERTY FOR SALE.—I offer for sale my very valuable MILL PROPERTY, known as

CENTENNIAL MILLS,"

located on Middle River, near Spring Hill, Augusta county. There are 68¼ acres of good land attached.

H. A. PALMER.
feb20-3m

A SMALL FARM FOR SALE.—Four miles Southwest of Staunton on the Middlebrook road. Apply to JOSEPH HAMMERS,
may23-tf at the place or at Staunton, Va.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

MR. LEO. P. WHEAT

Has the pleasure to announce to the citizens of Staunton that he will give

TWO GRAND CONCERTS,

ASSISTED BY

THE MONUMENTAL CHURCH CHOIR

OF RICHMOND, VA.,

MONDAY and TUESDAY EVENINGS,

MAY 28th and 29th, at 8 o'clock.

ADMISSION.....50 cents.
RESERVED SEATS.....75 cents.

Box Office now open at Olivier's Book Store, where seats can be secured.

Programmes next week. may15-3t

PARLOR ORGANS!

Every family in ordinary circumstances can have a PARLOR ORGAN, and to secure the cheapest and most approved instrument select a

NEW ENGLAND CABINET ORGAN.

We claim that, in beauty of design, purity and sweetness of tone, power and volume of sound, these Organs are unsurpassed.

All instruments perfect, and warranted for five years. We invite a critical examination. Prices from $50 to $500. For sale by

HUNTER & CO., Booksellers,
may15 Staunton, Va.

LAND SALES

COMMISSIONERS' SALE OF Valuable Grazing and Farming Lands IN *GREENBRIER COUNTY, W. VA.*

Pursuant to a decree of the circuit court of Greenbrier county, rendered at the October term, 1876, in a suit in chancery therein pending between H. R. Beard, plaintiff, and Matthew Arbuckle and others, defendants, the undersigned Commissioners, appointed for the purpose, will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, in front of the Hotel of W. W. Moore, in the town of Lewisburg, on

MONDAY, the 21st day of May, 1877,

the following valuable tracts of land, as the property of said Arbuckle, viz:

1st. A tract of **348¼ acres**, more or less, known as the Dotson place.

2nd. Two tracts, adjacent to each other, and the first joining the said Dotson place, said to contain **500 acres**, but which will be sold by the acre and the exact quantity ascertained by survey.

3rd. A tract of **73¼ acres**, more or less, known as the Price land, and joining the second of the two tracts last above named.

4th. A tract of **277 acres**, more or less, known as that part of the Byrd place not sold to C. H. Hares and wife; the said 277 acres consists of seven small tracts of 20, 12¾, 72, 16¾, 6, 14 and 30 acres, respectively, all of which, however, except the said 20 acres, lie together and will all be sold as one tract.

5th. A tract of **279¼ acres**, more or less, known as the Dunn land, consisting of six small tracts of 43, 47, 9, 14½, 86, and 80 acres, respectively—the 86 and 80 acres being bound for unpaid purchase money, will be sold separately.

These lands have long been known as among the best, if not the very best, in this county, and offer a fine opportunity either for investment or speculation. A plat and survey of said lands will be exhibited at the sale.

TERMS OF SALE:

The said lands will be sold for enough cash in hand to pay the proportionate part of the costs of suit and expenses of sale; balance upon a credit of 6, 12, and 18 months from day of sale, with interest thereon from said date; bonds with approved personal security will be required for the deferred payments, and the title will be retained as further security until all the purchase money is paid.

ALEX. F. MATHEWS,
JOHN W. HARRIS,
apr24-tds Pr's fee $20. Commissioners.

LAND SALE.—By virtue of a decree of the circuit court of Augusta county, rendered at the June term, 1876, in the suit of Sterrett's Adm'r, &c., vs. Sterrett's infants, &c., we will sell, at public auction, in front of the Courthouse, in Staunton, on

Friday, the 1st day of June, 1877,

a tract of about **164 acres** of valuable land on Middle River in Augusta county, known as the Samuel Sterrett farm. This is a first-rate little farm, in good order, and has upon it unusually good improvements. The attention of land buyers is especially invited to this land.

TERMS OF SALE.—Enough in cash to pay the costs of sale and 10 per cent of the purchase money in four months, and the residue in three equal annual payments, bearing interest from the day of sale—for the deferred payments the purchaser will execute bonds with undoubted security, and the title retained as ultimate security.

WM. A. ANDERSON,
G. M. COCHRAN, JR.,
may1-tds Commissioners.

A FINE FARM FOR SALE.—I will, on

Thursday, the 31st day of May, 1877,

offer for s