WASHINGTON CONFERENCE OF THE M. E. CHURCH.

LARGE ATTENDANCE OF DELEGATES—A FINE-LOOKING BODY OF MEN—GOOD ORDER AND DECORUM DURING THE SESSION.

The fifteenth annual session of this Conference was begun on last Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock in the handsome new edifice of the M. E. Church (colored) on Augusta street. The attendance of delegates was unusually large, and constituted a remarkably fine-looking body of men. The utmost good order was observed throughout the session, and all discussions were characterized by great urbanity and politeness. All matters before the Conference were treated in a business-like way, showing the earnestness of purpose with which they had assumed the responsibilities of the high calling of ministers of the gospel, and a deep sense of the importance of the work upon which they had entered. Only one session of the Conference was held daily,—from 9 to 12 in the morning—the remainder of the day being devoted to committee work and devotional exercises.

The Conference was organized with Bishop E. G. Andrews, of Iowa, as Chairman; C. J. Key, Secretary; W. P. Ryley and A. P. Wilson, Assistants; and G. D. S. Hall, Recording Secretary.

In opening the Conference, Bishop Andrews delivered a brief and earnest address, after which the Communion was administered, and the body at once proceeded to business.

P. G. Walker, E. Hammond, W. W. Foreman, John A. Holmes and W. T. Harris, were appointed Conference stewards, and the standing committees were announced.

This day's session was occupied in hearing the reports of contributions of the various ministers in charge of stations, and the reports of the Presiding Elders on the general condition of the districts. In the main, the contributions had been liberal, notwithstanding the hard times, and the general welfare of the church was most encouraging. Large accessions had been made to the membership, new churches and parsonages had been built, debts had been paid, and the promise for the future was bright.

THURSDAY'S SESSION—

Opened with devotional services, conducted by Rev. J. B. Snowden.

The Bishop appointed M. Spriddle, W. H. Cook, W. W. Foreman, L. Martin, and E. Lawson, a committee to investigate the charges presented against Philip Brown.

The reports from the districts were continued and concluded.

The tenth and eighth questions of the general minutes, Who are Supernumeraries? and, Who are Superannuated? were taken up and disposed of.

The annual report of the Book Concerns was read and ordered to be filed.

A list of the contributions to the fund, to be distributed among preachers who have not received a comfortable support during the year, was read. The total amount contributed was $676.

A communication from Miss Hart, Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the M. E. Church, was read and referred.

The Bishop addressed the Conference on the subject of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, showing concisely and forcibly the great importance of the Society, and that thro' its aid the Christian world may hope to gain access to many heathen nations.

Adjourned with doxology and benediction.

FRIDAY'S SESSION.

The minutes of yesterday were read, corrected, and approved.

The Bishop introduced to the Conference Rev. J. E. Round, of the Centenary Biblical Institute of Baltimore, who delivered an address upon the general topic of the advantages of education, and spoke particularly of the advantages which the Institute offers to the young men of the Conference to acquire a good education. All of the present ministers of the Conference, he was assured, felt the disadvantages under which they labored from the want of early mental training. He urged them to increased activity in contributing to the Freedman's Aid cause, as well as to the general educational cause.

At the close of Mr. Round's remarks, the Bishop spoke earnestly and forcibly of the importance of education to the young men of the Conference, urging that they should be given the very best possible educational facilities. The education of the young men he regarded as even more important than church extension.

On motion, the money now on hand from the Freedman's Aid Fund was directed to be turned over to Rev. Mr. Round.

After considerable discussion, a resolution, offered by Rev. J. H. Riddick, was adopted, instructing the stewards to apply $300 of the funds in their possession to the relief of the widows and superannuated ministers of the Conference, and that the balance of the fund be applied to the relief of the most needy members of the Conference.

Considerable discussion was evoked by a resolution offered, requiring that candidates for the ministry shall be sufficiently educated to comply with the requirements of the Book of Discipline.

In answer to a question, the Bishop remarked that the resolution, if passed, would only amount to an expression that Conference would do its duty, for the requirements of the Book of Discipline cover the points made in the resolution.

After a number of earnest and sometimes eloquent speeches on the importance and necessity of an educated ministry, the resolution was passed by a large majority.

ADMISSIONS TO THE MINISTRY.

Under the third question of the general minutes, Who are admitted to full connection? the following persons, when called, took their stand in front of the Bishop and answered the questions prescribed by the Book of Discipline: John Jackson, John W. Waters, and Fred. F. Sawyer.

Before putting the questions, the Bishop earnestly and feelingly admonished them of the great responsibilities they were about to assume, and gave them much good advice, which was attentively and seriously listened to. After questions by members of Conference had been satisfactorily answered, and testimony borne as to the character of the applicants, they were admitted to full connection.

At 11 o'clock, a missionary sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Cooper, of Baltimore, taking his text, Mathew, 24:14. The church was crowded with spectators, and the earnest appeal of the preacher in behalf of those who are deprived of the word of God was attentively listened to. After the sermon, Conference adjourned.

SATURDAY'S SESSION—

opened with devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. Mr. Spriddle.

Rev. Benj. Roberts, of the Staunton District, was, on motion, discontinued. London Briggs, of Alexandria, was continued, and Wm. P. Ryder continued on trial.

Under the fifth question, Who are deacons of the second class? the following persons reported their collections for the ministerial, church extension and episcopal funds, were represented by their presiding elders, and were passed: John W. Dailey, Sam'l Brown, Geo. T. Wright, Rob't O. Hilliard, John E. Williams, Joshua Barnes, Benj. H. Nugent, Chas. W. Foreman, Perry McPherson, Winstead Calloway, and John A. Reid.

When the name of Benj. W. Brown was proposed, his advancement was opposed by Rev. J. A. Scott, who, in the course of his remarks, said he had good cause to believe him guilty of immorality, but he was stopped by the point of order that such remarks should not be made before the convention. An animated discussion arose, during which the character of B. W. Brown was warmly defended by a number of neighboring ministers and his presiding elder, which was put a stop to by the Bishop. He considered such remarks improper before the Conference, and if Mr. Scott knew anything against the character of Mr. Brown, he ought to bring charges against him. He, therefore, suggested that a committee should be appointed, to whom Mr. Scott could tell what he had to say against Mr. Brown. This was accordingly done, the committee appointed, and, pending their report, the examination of B. W. Brown was suspended.

Under the seventh question, Who have been elected and ordained elders during the past year? the following reported their collections and were elected: Albert C. Steptoe, L. J. Valentine, Wm. Davis, Francis Bell, John A. Holmes, Geo. W. Jenkins.

Under the twenty-first question, Have any local preachers been ordained? the following from Chesapeake district:—W. H. Butler, Francis Thomas, Elizabeth Booth, and Geo. H. Johnson—were recommended for deacon's orders, but for various reasons were withdrawn, as was also the names of Geo. W. Carter, of Potomac district, and Patrick H. Howard, of the Staunton district.

Richard H. Adams and Benj. Myers, of the Chesapeake district, were not elected.

Leroy Diggs, of the Lynchburg district, and Solomon Hammond, of the Chesapeake district, were elected.

Thos. P. Snowden, of Chesapeake district, and Henry Brooks, of Potomac district, were elected to Elder's orders.

The case of G. W. Carter was, on motion, again taken up, but was postponed indefinitely.

NEXT SESSION.

Considerable interest was manifested in the selection of the place for the next session of Conference. The places put in nomination and warmly advocated were the Centennial church at Baltimore, Asbury church at Washington and the church at Alexandria. The Centennial church at Baltimore was selected on the first vote.

The petition of the trustees of the church at Waynesboro' for permission to sell their old lot, to aid in paying for their new one, was read and permission granted as asked for.

John Trigg and J. M. Gross had their relations as Elders changed from effective to supernumerary.

The constitution upon which it is proposed to found a Preachers' Aid Society was read, and the objects of the Society commended by Conference.

The committee appointed on Thursday to investigate the charges against Philip Brown reported that after a careful examination of all the facts and evidence before them they found nothing in the charges. The report was adopted.

MONDAY'S SESSION.

Conference opened with devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. T. Jackson. The minutes were read and approved.

Rev. J. D. S. Hall, chairman of the committee on statistics, made his report, of which the following is a summary:

MEMBERSHIP.

Probationers, 3,206; Full membership, 25,599; Local Preachers, 240; Deaths, 571.

BAPTISMS.

Children, 2,573; Adults, 846.

CHURCH PROPERTY.

Churches, 95—probable value, $529,920; Parsonages, 27—probable value, $21,870.

SABBATH SCHOOL.

Schools, 284; Officers and teachers, 2,057; Scholars of all ages, 14,855.

BENEVOLENT COLLECTIONS.

Conference claimants, $318.61.

For Missions.—Churches, $1,297.41; Sabbath schools, $324.15; Total $1,622.56; Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, $65.44; Board of extension, $980.69; Tract Society, $58.64; Sunday School Union, $55.04; Freedmen's Aid Society, $155.33; Education, $68.27; American Bible Society, $28.25.

COLLECTIONS, &c.

Support of Bishops, $286.56; Building and improving churches and parsonages, $177.05; Indebtedness on churches and parsonages, $33.388; claims for ministerial support, $329.59; Receipts for ministerial support, $237.09.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Number of Sunday schools, 290; Officers and teachers, 2,110; Scholars of all ages, 16,074; scholars 15 years old and over, 4,724; Scholars under 15 years, except infant class, 4,724; Infant class, 2,497; Average attendance of teachers and scholars, 8,538: Officers and teachers who are church members or probationers, 2,157; Conversions, 1,573; Library Books, 19,388; Total expenses of school this year, $25.80; Sunday school classmates taken, 28; Sunday school advocates taken, 738; Sunday school journals taken, 1,162; special collections, $164.98.

SABBATH OBSERVANCES.

The committee reported through its chairman, recommending a protest against the desecration of the Sabbath day, such as buying or selling, or taking such pleasures as will not tend to the glory of God, and recommended the ministers to bring the subject to the attention of their congregations from the pulpits.

This report caused considerable discussion, and the custom of Sunday excursions was severely reprehended.

BISHOP'S CERTIFICATE.

The Bishop's certificates to the ordination on yesterday (Sunday) of the following Deacons and Elders was presented to Conference and put on file, viz:

Deacons.—John W. Waters, Frederick F. Sawyer, Leroy Diggs, Solomon Hammond.

Elders.—Albert C. Steptoe, Lawrence J. Valentine, Wm. Davis, Francis Bell, John A. Holmes, Geo. W. Jenkins, Thos. B. Snowden, and Henry Brooks.

TEMPERANCE.

The committee on Temperance reported against the use of intoxicating drinks by ministers, and recommended that they should be used only in cases of extreme necessity; and offered a resolution that, as citizens, they should not vote for any man as a candidate for the Legislature of the States where they reside, to whatever political party he may belong, who is not known to be in favor of Prohibition, or at least of Local Option, and that they would use their influence with their people to induce them to pursue the same course.

STATE OF THE CHURCH.

From the report on this subject we give the following facts:

The Washington Conference was organized in October, 1864, by the venerable Bishop Levi Scott, of Delaware. The Conference was begun with 5,000 members and sixteen preachers; since that date the church has rapidly increased and now numbers over 23,850 and 120 ministers. The property of the church has greatly increased in value, including 95 churches and 27 parsonages, many of fine architectural design, valued at $500,000. The progress of the church in Virginia is greatly facilitated by the M. E. Church South. Their fraternal relations have been kept sacred and inviolable since the adjustment made at Cape May, and they rejoiced that such friendly relations exisi, and will hail the glorious period to come, when there shall be but one M. E. Church all over this great Republic. There have been many revivals among the churches during the past year.

The great need of the church is the improvement of the morals of the people. The committee, therefore, recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, Therefore, that the ministers in their several charges and circuits instruct the people in the path of morality and virtue, especially in regard to marriage vows and to guard against marriages of consanguinity, which are baneful and injurious to society.

EDUCATION.

The report was read and adopted, and, on motion, a resolution was passed, pledging the Conference to raise $800, to be divided between the Freedman's Aid Society and the cause of education.

The various other standing committees made their reports, the summaries of which will be found in the statistical reports above given.

The Rev. W. E. Baker, of the First Presbyterian church of Staunton, was introduced to the Conference.

The committee appointed to investigate the charges against Benj. W. Brown reported the charges unfounded and required the Rev. J. A. Scott to make a public apology. The report was adopted, and Rev. J. A. Scott, in obedience thereto, said that he had been influenced in what he had said by pure motives, and for the purpose of maintaining the purity of the church. He had learned afterwards that he had been led into error with regard to the character of Benj. W. Brown, and made apology for the remarks he had made.

The case of B. W. Brown was then taken up, and he was passed to a deacon of the second class.

After considerable discussion, the Conference agreed to take up a collection to defray the funeral expenses of the late Rev. W. W. Leewood stationed at Harrisonburg.

From the separate reports, it was found that the contribution to the missionary fund was considerably larger than the amount given in statistical report, and that to the Freedman's Aid Society somewhat less.

Recess was taken till 6, P. M.

EVENING SESSION—

opened with an earnest prayer by Rev. James Thomas, Presiding Elder of the Lynchburg District.

The amount of collection for burial of Rev. W. W. Leewood, $12.01.

MISSIONS.

Committee on missions reported the following appropriations: Salem district, $700; Wheeling district, $700; Lynchburg district, $570: Staunton district, $570—distributed as follows: White Hall, $32; Jefferson, $32; New Market, $32; Rockingham, $20; Mt. Vernon, $28; Highland, $32; Broadway, $40; Summers, $56; Union, $34; Spring creek, $30.

The following is the organization of the Church Extension Board: President, James Thomas; Vice President, M. Spriddle; Recording Secretary, N. M. Carroll; Corresponding Secretary, C. G. Key; Treasurer, Alfred Young.

The amount received from last year's minutes, $203.96. It was resolved that all minutes not sold should be returned. A deficiency existing in the minutes' fund, it was resolved to distribute this amount among the districts, to be raised during the next year, and the Elders are to be held responsible for the amounts allotted to their districts. It was ordered that 2,000 copies of the minutes of the present Conference be printed.

Under the second question, the following persons were admitted on trial: Chesapeake District—Solomon Hammond, Thomas B. Snowden, Chas. T. Ward; Potomac District—John H. Maryland, Benj. Stepney; Staunton District—Patrick H. Howard, of Union circuit; Rob't S. Smith, Winchester circuit; Alfred W. Brown, Staunton station; Lynchburg District, Leroy Diggs, Charlottesville circuit.

The Bishop announced that Rev. H. W. S. Peck had been transferred from the New York Conference to the Washington Conference.

The appropriation of $800, to be raised for educational purposes, was distributed among the districts and about equally divided between the Freedman's Aid Society and the Educational fund.

A resolution was adopted petitioning the General Conference to increase the missionary appropriation to Washington Conference to $3,000.

Resolutions of thanks were unanimously tendered Bishop E. G. Andrews for the ability and impartial manner with which he had presided over the deliberations of the Conference; to the B. & O., Valley, C. & O., W. C. M. & G. R. R. Companies for reduction in fare; to the citizens of Staunton for their hearty and hospitable treatment and to the trustees of the church; to the Secretaries of the Conference and the reporters of the Staunton papers and of Conference, for the accuracy with which they reported the daily proceedings.

The chairman of the committee read memoirs upon the deaths of Rev. John Brown and Rev. James Ockmy, of Maryland, and Rev. Solomon Wilson, of Fairfax, Va., and who served as Pastor in Strunton for three years, beginning in 1871; Mrs. Carrie Brown, wife of Benj.. Brown Jr., and Annie Maria Hall, wife of Rev. J. D. S. Hall.

The collection for sexton was $12.16.

The Bishop made a few remarks congratulating the Conference upon the pleasantness and usefulness of this session and the evident spirituality which animated its proceedings and actions. He was gratified to find the Conference in such a prosperous condition, and hoped it would continue to grow in strength and usefulness in its work in the vineyard of the Lord. He gave them much good advice as to their duties when they have gone home to their charges. He urged brotherly love and christian kindness among the brethren in the Church. He insisted upon the importance of daily and hourly study. They should administer discipline firmly yet carefully, but in gross cases do not hesitate to administer it. Be honest in all your dealings with men, study to be honest in everything. Be truthful in all your statements and having promised, keep your promise if it is at all possible.

The Bishop then announced the following—

APPOINTMENTS.

Baltimore District—N. M. Carroll, Presiding Elder.—Sharpe Street, C. G. Key, T. G. Snowden; Orchard Street, James Thomas; Asbury, N. M. Carroll; John Wesley, Robert Steele; Centennial, Martin Spriddle; Western Chapel and Lutherville, J. L. Evans; Baltimore Circuit, John Loggins; Frederick City, Tilghman Jackson; Monocacy, B. H. Nugent; Middletown, Henry Williams; Linganore, J. H. Riddick; Westminster, Alfred D. Valentine; Govanstown, London W. Briggs; Harford, Sam'l Brown; Bellaire, W. R. J. Williams; Hagerstown, J. W. Waters; Williamsport, Ephraim Lawson; Gettysburg, Solomon Hammond; Gunpowder, G. W. Jenkins.

Washington District—W. C. Cooper, Presiding Elder.—Washington Asbury, E. W. S. Peck; Washington Ebenezer, C. W. Walker; Georgetown, Mt. Zion, J. W. Dansbury; Bladensburg, Nathaniel Jackson; Sandy Springs, Daniel Aquilla; Rockville, N. C. Brown; Silver Springs, W. H. Coook; Patapsco, Alexander Dennis; Poolsville, Stephen Tasco; Poplar Springs, W. H. Cook; Severn, Sam'l Aquilla; Davisonville, Joseph Henry; Annapolis, J. D. S. Hall; West River, Daniel Wheeler; Calvert, T. H. Adams; Huntington, Daniel Collins; White Plains, R. O. Hilliard; Great Mills, J. A. Randall; Oakville, P. H. Ryan; Marlboroough, Osborne Carroll; Howard, Robt. Wheeler; Woodville, Noble Watkins; Pisgah, A. J. Weems; Prince George, Joshua Barnes.

Lynchburg District—P. G. Walker, Presiding Elder.—Alexander, G. T. Pinckney; Fairfax, David Jones; Langley, Winstead Calloway; Leesburg and Mountain Gap, J. B. Snowden; Waterford and Hamilton, B. W. Brown; Middleburg, P. H. Matthews; Northern Neck, R. E. J. Warner; Charlettesville, Leroy Diggs; Waynesboro', J. A. Reid; Rockbridge, Wm. Sidney; Lexington, A. B. Wilson; Collierstown and Kerr's Creek, Charles Price; Richmond, J. H. Valentine; Norfolk and Princess Anne. Washington Lankford; Bethany, J. E. Williams; Lynchburg, W. W. Foreman; Lynchburg Circuit, J. H. Bailey; Liberty, Robert Hawkins; New Hope, Abraham Tittle; Franklin, Perry McPherson; Woodlawn, Andrew Edmondson.

Staunton District—T. W. Boothe, Presiding Elder.—Staunton, Benj. Brown, jr.; Augusta, W. H. Dunson; Highland, A. F. Bell; Lewisburg, R. H. Robinson; Spring Creek, E. F. Sawyer; Summers, W. A. Claxtor; Union, Patrick Howard; Mt. Vernon, A. W. Brown; Rockingham, R. S. Smith; Harrisonburg, A. N. Kennedy; Broadway, J. A. Maryland; New Market, Philip Brown; Strasburg, Jared Bowman; Winchester, J. H. Butler; White Hall, John Jenkins; Charlestown, H. R. Elbert; Jefferson, Wm. Davis; Berkeley, J. A. Holmes; Shepherdstown and Kearnsville, G. T. Wright.

Wheeling District—R. P. Bell, Presiding Elder, —Wheeling, R. P. Lawson; Fairmont, George Jackson; Grafton, C. W. Foreman; Cumberland, Henry Cillers; Keyser City, Jacob Owens; Romney, J. W. Dailey; Moorefield, Lemuel Maston, Clarksburg, G. R. Williams; Weston, John Hughes; Parkersburg, W. T. Harris; Charleston, W. H. Draper; Point Pleasant, A. J. Wheeler; Huntington, A. C. Steptoe.

Salem District—Eden Hammond, Presiding Elder.—Salem, L. J. Valentine; Christiansburg, Solomon Wing; Newbern, J. H. Burley; Wytheville, Richard Lane; Grayson, Jno. S. M. Atkins; Marion, C. T. Ward; Abingdon, W. P. Ryder; Washington County, J. A. Scott; Russell, Benj. Stepney; Tazewell and Ward's Cove, Charles Lewis; Mercer, S. L. Mann; Giles, J. H. Jackson; Fincastle, Matharine Callender.

R. A. Reed transferred to the New York Conference.

The Conference closed with the usual devotional exercises. Our reporter desires to acknowledge the general courteous manner in which he was treated by all members of conference with whom he came in contact and especially to Rev. W. P. Ryder, of Bristol, Tenn., for his courteous kindness and polite attentiveness which greatly facilitated him in getting a full and accurate report of the proceedings of the conference.

LECTURES BY MAJ. HOTCHKISS.—On last Thursday night, in the Y. M. C. A. Hall, Maj. Jed Hotchkiss delivered the third in the series of five lectures on the geography and geology of Virginia, which he had announced he would deliver in that place. These lectures are not only interesting, but quite instructive, and give the audience the benefit of the result of much study, close observation, and labored research, enabling them to acquire easily and readily knowledge which it would require many years of reading and study to accomplish.

The lecture of last Thursday night was particularly interesting, giving as it did the theory of the formation of the mountains and valleys; the formation of coal; the character of the huge monsters which existed, and the vegetable growths in that remote era when the land was just emerging above the waters of the paleozoic ocean which extended from the Blue Ridge to West of the Mississippi River.

The blackboard contained excellent representations, artistically drawn by the skillful hand of Mr. Frith, of the ichthyosaurus, the plesiosaurus, and sections of coal mines; which, together with the excellent geological map of Virginia and several sections prepared by himself, the lecturer forcibly illustrated his subject.

The fourth lecture will be delivered next Thursday, and will embrace the following subjects:

1. The geography of Virginia as it was found by the man of history—its condition, vegetable and animal life—its aboriginal inhabitants—notions concerning—limits, &c.

2. The geography of our Virginia—the Virginia that civilized man has occupied and changed during some nine generations of his race.

Its positions and general relations in reference to the land and water masses of the globe, and the influence of its position.

The extent and character of its surface. Its outline, or relation to the oceanic waters, the laws controlling it and the influence it exerts. Its relief, or relations to the aerial ocean, plains, escarpments, watersheds, mountains, plateaus, valleys. Natural grand divisions. Laws of relief.

3. Its waters, tidal and fluvial, and their distribution, whence they come and the laws controlling them.

4. The nature of its climate, the laws regulating the distribution of heat, moisture and other climatic agencies. The Signal Service.

Water rents are payable semi-annually in advance on the 1st of January and the 1st of July.

TWO YOUNG PHYSICIANS.—When young men of good talents and character devote sufficient time and study to their professions, they secure honorable and profitable positions.

This is illustrated by the fortunes of two young physicians of this city—Dr. J. Newton McChesney, son of Dr. Wm. S. McChesney, who is now physician in charge of Staten Island Hospital, N. Y.; and Dr. Wm. A. Frazier, son of Wm. Frazier, Esq., who is now assistant surgeon in the Missouri Eye and Ear Infirmary in St. Louis, Mo.

It affords us pleasure to note the success of these young friends, and hope that their professional careers will become distinguished, and that others will follow their example and prepare themselves well by close application, and thereby become ornaments of their profession, and benefactors of the human family.

THE HIGHLAND RECORDER.—E. V. Blakemore, Esq., of the law firm of Blakemore & Blakemore, has become one of the Editors and Proprietors of the *Highland Recorder*, having purchased the interest in that journal of Mr. Geo. M. Jordan. The last issue of the *Recorder* contains the graceful salutatory of Mr. Blakemore and the valedictory of Mr. Jordan. The new editor is a native of this county, and we extend to him the ☞ of friendship, and hope he will find more primroses than thorns in the path of his journalistic journey, and that his pockets may jingle with the bright "dollars of our daddies."

The Supervisors had a meeting on last Saturday, at which they allowed a large number of accounts for various services rendered the county.

Old Staunton Artillery of 1814.

The appended roll of John C. Sowers's Company of Artillery has been handed to us for publication. This was a finely uniformed company, and regarded with so much pride by the people of Staunton, that just before they "marched to the war" in 1814, they were presented with a splendid stand of colors, by the wives, sisters, mothers and sweethearts they left behind. After a tour of service, they returned to their homes, but since then death has made sad havoc in their ranks. Nearly all of these brave and gallant men have heard the last reveille, and gone to "that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns." A few of the survivors are still with us, and may well look back with pride and satisfaction to the period, when they obeyed their country's call and marched from their homes to the tented field, with flying colors, and hearts beating in unison with the thrilling fife-note and rattling drum. All honor to the brave old soldiers.

MUSTER ROLL OF CAPT. JOHN C. SOWERS'S COMPANY OF ARTILLERY.

John C. Sowers, Capt.	Wm. Flannagan,
Wm. Young, 1st Lt.	Caleb Fitzpatrick,
Benj. H. Brady, 2d Lt.	Enoch Fenton,
Alex. Shields, 1st Ser.	Wm. Henderson,
Thos. Sperry, 2d Ser.	Isaiah Jones,
Jas. Coalter, 3rd Ser.	Daniel Knowls,
John Temple, 4th Ser.	Peter Kurtz,
Hugh Paul, 1st Cor.	Wm. Lecost,
Robt. Roberts, 2d Cor.	Abraham Leyvell,
John Fisher, 3d Cor.	John Merritt,
J. L. Cowardin, 4th Cor.	Frederick Moomaugh,
Sam'l Cups, Fifer,	Wm. McMorrow,
David Hillis, Fifer,	David Markwood,
Wm. Miller, drum'r,	John A North,
Henry Snider, drum'r,	Robert Orr,
Daniel Keith,	Joseph Points,
Wm. Anderson,	Eli Parrent,
John Beaton,	Alex. Parris,
Adam Bickle,	Joseph Payne,
James Brown,	David Rough,
Wm. Berry,	David Rush,
James Bickle,	Wm. Robertson,
James S. Conevy,	John Riece,
John L. Cowardin,	John Smith,
Wm. Catlett,	Daniel Turnipseed,
Nath. Callahan,	Daniel Trayer,
Robt. W. Caro,	Joseph Trout,
Henry Decker,	Austin Wright,
James Dicky,	Samuel H. Woodward,
Samuel Earnest,	Samuel Wood,
Royal Freeman,	Anthony Weifford,
John G. Flack,	Joseph Vanmeter,
	Wm. Fancelor.—65.

Pause, Smoker! and study Economy.—Go to FIFER & CO.'S, and test the matter to your own satisfaction. THEY DEFY COMPETITION. feb26-1m

THE CHURCHES SUNDAY.—In the First Presbyterian Church, the sermon in the morning was preached by Rev. Mr. Burr of Connecticut, and in the evening by the Pastor, Rev. Wm E. Baker.

In the Baptist Church, the sermon in the morning was preached by Rev. Wm. E. Baker, of the First Presbyterian Church—the Pastor, Dr. Manly, being unwell—and that in the evening by Rev. Mr. Burr of Connecticut.

In the Second Presbyterian Church, the antecommunion sermon on Saturday morning was preached by Rev. Mr. Strickler, Pastor of Tinkling Spring Church, and on Sunday morning the communion services were administered by Rev. W. T. Richardson.

In the M. E. Church South, the sermon in the morning was preached by the Pastor, Rev. Dr. John S. Martin, and that in the evening by Bishop Andrews, of the M. E. Church, who delivered to a very large audience an able and impressive sermon on the text:—I Timothy Chap. I: 5—"Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned."

The subject was love, and he demonstrated that the essence of true christianity was pure, unselfish love to God and man. We regret that want of space prevents us from giving a more extended notice of this able discourse.

The services, morning and evening, in the Episcopal and Lutheran Churches, were performed by the respective Pastors thereof.

Sad Occurrence.

SUICIDE IN THIS COUNTY.

Early on Monday morning of last week, Mr. James Rader, aged 23 years, son of Mr. Henry Rader, a respectable citizen, living near Hermitage in this county, committed suicide by hanging in his father's barn. He was first discovered by his sister who went to the barn to milk the cows. He attached the rope to a pole above and after putting the noose around his neck, whilst standing on a barrel, he leaped from the barrel and hanged himself, and was dead when discovered by his sister. He was a young man of good character, and of industrious habits. His mind was affected by disease contracted in Illinois to which State he removed near a year ago, and from which he returned to his father's home about a month ago, suffering with ague, and his health much impaired.

His father was not at home at the time, having left early that morning to go to Sherrando. The son opened the gate for him, and, when he he had passed through, said, "good-bye."

Little did the father think that he would never see his son alive again, and that he was saying "good-bye" to him for the last time; but alas, such was the case. He went to the barn soon after, and put an end to his earthly existence. The bereaved family have the sincere sympathy of the whole community.

On the next day, the remains of the son were buried in the grave-yard at Mt. Zion Church.—A large number of friends and neighbors attended. The funeral sermon was preached by Rev. C. Beard of the Lutheran Church.

CHANGE OF DIVISIONS OF THE CHES. AND O. RAILROAD.—The three divisions of the Ches. & O. Railroad as they existed heretofore have been reduced to two—the eastern extending from Richmond to Covington, and the Western from Covington to Huntington. The three original divisions were as follows

The Eastern from Richmond to Staunton; the middle from Staunton to Hinton; and the Western from Hinton to Huntington. This change will discommode those running on the passenger trains, who live in this city, and if this arrangement shall continue for any great length of time, may cause their removal, which would be greatly regretted by our citizens generally.

Fresh Vegetables—to-day—at Grange Hall—For sale Low for cash C. C. WHEAT.

LAND SALES.—E. M. Cushing & Son, Auctioneers. On Saturday last the following pieces of property were sold.

By Grattan & Ranson, comm'rs, a lot fronting 45 feet on Frederick St., bought by B. T. Bagby at $660.

Lot fronting 37 feet on New St., bought by B. T. Bagby at $1,570.

Lot on corner of Fredrick and New St., bought by R. M. Ayres at $1,950.

R. Craig, com'r, sold the lot on the corner of Points and Market St., to Henry Hyer at $645.

Messrs. Fultz and Nelson, com'rs, sold a tract of 21 acres, 1½ miles S. of Staunton on the Greenville road, to Wm. Jordan at the price of $1,100.

Y. M. C. A.—Mr. A. M. Simpson, leader of the Y. M. C. A. meeting Sunday evening, read the last chapter of Romans, and made appropriate remarks. After which the Rev. Messrs. Baker and Burr, and J. E. Guy addressed the Association.

Prof. L. Poyntz will conduct the exercises next Sunday. Subject: the 1st Chap. of Corinthians.

Hour 4½ P. M.

Mr. Salomonsky, of the Norfolk and Richmond houses of Salomonsky & Co., merchant tailors, is still at the Virginia Hotel, and has received a new line of samples of Gent's dress goods, which he is prepared to make to order in the latest styles and best manner, at low prices. He will remain in Staunton until tomorrow (Wednesday) night. Give him a call.

NEW VEGETABLE STORE.—Mr. C. C. Wheat has opened a Vegetable supply store in the storeroom under Grange Hall where he will receive fresh vegetables every day, and will supply families with the best and freshest vegetables at low prices. Call and examine his stock and give him your orders.

You will find Fresh Lettuce, Onions, Kale, Radishes, &c., &c., at Grange Hall. For sale low for cash. C. C. WHEAT.

SALE OF BLOODED STOCK.—Mr. A. M. Bowman, who pays particular attention to the raising of blooded stock, recently sold eighteen short-horn cattle and one blooded colt to Mr. J. S. Latimer, of Abingdon, Illinois, and shipped them for their destination on last Tuesday from the Waynesboro' depot.

There will be a meeting of the "Dime Sociable" of the First Presbyterian Church at Haldrama to-night.

The Communication concerning the Presbyterian church of Waynesboro' will appear in the next issue.

BAKER BROS. have just received a lot of those **Nice Lake Herring.**

The sale of the Hoge property was postponed to next Saturday.

Fresh fish and Vegetables received every day by M. D. COFFMAN at Glenn's old stand.

Buy your fresh Shad from COFFMAN at Glenn's old Stand.

JNO. TRIMBLE, ESQ., OF HIGHLAND, ASSAULTED BY HENRY MAHANEY, OF AUGUSTA.—For some time an unpleasant, not to say hostile, feeling has existed between John Trimble, Esq., of Highland, the present Superintendent of the Staunton and Parkersburg Turnpike, and Mr. Henry Mahaney of this County, former Superintendent of that road. About a week since, these parties met at Buffalo Gap in this co., where Mr. Trimble was superintending a force engaged in reparing the road, when Mahany struck Trimble a severe blow which, the *Highland Recorder* says, broke his nose and fractured his cheek bone.

NEW HARDWARE FIRM.—Mr. Frank Alexander, lately with Mr. H. M. McIlhany, and Mr. H. H. Myers, of Lexington, Va., have purchased the stock and trade of Mr. A. T. Gilkeson in the hardware business and will continue the business at the old stand of Messrs. Woods & Gilkeson under the town hall, under the firm name of Frank Alexander & Co. Mr. Alexander has had considerable experience in the business, and we bespeak for the new concern a liberal share of public patronage.

What is home without a baby? Many children have coughs and cold just now, and should have the greatest care, and a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup.

"German Syrup."

No other medicine in the world was ever given such a test of its curative qualities as Boschee's German Syrup. In three years two million four hundred thousand small bottles of this medicine were distributed *free of charge* by Druggists in this country to those afflicted with Consumption, Asthma, Croup, severe Coughs, Pneumonia and other diseases of the Throat and Lungs, giving the American people undeniable proof that German Syrup will cure them. The result has been that Druggists in every town and village in the United States are recommending it to their customers. Go to your Druggist, and ask what they know about it.—Sample Bottles 10 cents. Regular size. Three doses will relieve any case. For sale by Dr. N. WAYT & BRO. and G. W. GRAY & Co. dec18-eow

LEGISLATIVE RETRENCHMENT.—We think that the Legislature at its late session acted most inconsistently in passing the retrenchment act and failing to pass the bill to enforce the collection of the Moffett register tax. Inconsistency is not the most grievous of legislative sins; but in this instance the Legislature inflicts serious injury upon the State.—The retrenchment act does not save a third as much money as might have been collected from the register with the help of the enforcement bill. There was something in the undercurrents of legislative scheming that was adverse to the collection of a very large revenue from the Moffett register. Even the inventor of that instrument was not distinguished for his wonted perseverance and parliamentary activity in support of the "enforcement" bill.—*Rich. Dispatch.*

TEXAS BANDITTI—A RAILROAD TRAIN ROBBED BY MASKED MEN—THE EXPRESS AGENT SHOT.—*Hutchins, Texas*, March 19.—Train No. 4, on Houston and Texas Central railroad, due here at 10:05 last night was robbed by four masked men. The express car was taken possession of, mail plundered, and the express messenger (Thomas) murdered. About fifteen or twenty shots were exchanged. The leader of the gang was about twenty-six or twenty-seven years old. They all appeared to be young men. They made the engineer, fireman, agent, and a negro who was on the platform, stand in front of the express-car door so the messenger could not fire.—When leaving they took a northeasterly direction, going towards Trinity Bottom.

STRUCK BY A LOCOMOTIVE.—On Saturday night last, Robert Meeks, while walking up the railroad track under the influence of liquor, met an engine coming down. The engineer blew his whistle, but Meeks refused to leave the track, and was struck by the locomotive, thrown from the track, and his skull badly fractured. Dr. Gooch was called, and dressed his wounds, and he seems to be getting along very well. It is marvellous that he was not killed.—*Mountain Herald, (Hinton, W. Va.)*

PROLIFIC FAMILY.—Mr. John Williams, aged 77, and his wife Susan, aged 73, are the father and mother of 17 children. Their grand-children number 119, and great-grand-children 96. Mrs. Williams was Susan Stover, before her marriage, and one of her daughters is the mother of 23 children, having given birth to twins three times. Mr. Williams, and most of his decendants live in Raleigh county.—*Mountain Herald, (Hinton, W. Va.)*

THE MARKETS.

Corrected weekly by C. A. RICHARDSON.
STAUNTON, MARCH 26, 1878.

Flour—Family	$5 75@5 75
" Extra	500@5 00
" Superfine	4 25@4 25
Wheat—Red—per bushel	1 05@1 10
" White	1 10@1 15
Corn—White	55@ 60
" Yellow	55@ 55
Rye	60@ 65
Oats	30@ 30
Buckwheat—per lb	2@ 3
Butter	22@ 25
Eggs—per dozen	10@ 10
Lard	8@ 9
Bacon—City Hams	10@ 10
Country Hams	8@ 8
" Shoulders	7@ 7
" Sides	7@ 7
Bacon—Hog round	7@ 7
Pork	4½@5
Coffee—Rio	20@ 25
" Laguyra	25@ 28
" Java	30@ 35
Sugar—Brown	10@ 11
" White	11@ 12
" Cut-loaf	13@ 14
" Granulated	13@ 13
" Pulverized	13@ 14
Tea—Black	90@1 00
" Breakfast	1 00@1