Staunton Spectator.

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1884.

National Democratic Platform.

The National Democratic platform should express in laconic terms the wishes and purposes of the great Democratic party.—We would suggest the adoption of the following platform:—

Resolved, 1st. The Republican party should be defeated.

Resolved, 2nd. We *will* defeat it.

Well Done.

The action of the Boards of the Western and Central Asylums in restoring to office the former able and efficient officials of those institutions will meet with the response "well done" from the Democratic party of the State. It is only to be regretted that the same wholesome action was not effected in the Eastern Asylum also.

No partizanism can be charged in restoring these officials to their former offices of trust and responsibility. It was simply a restoration, a return to the safe old plan, dear to the people of the State, putting in offices of trust, men of ability and experience in the duties and requirements demanded of them. It was, moreover, a deserved vote of confidence in the character, intelligence, ability, and experience of these officers, who had been removed by a corrupt party, at the instance of a corrupt leader, for no other reason than that they were democrats and would not bow to the will of Mahone. It was a glorious day for Virginia and she may well exclaim:—

"The dark shall be light,
And the wrong made right,
When Bertram's right and Bertram's might,
Shall meet on Ellangowan height."

We cannot express better the sentiments of the Democrats of the State on this subject, than in the words of Col. Samuel F. Coleman, of Cumberland county, before the Board of the Western Asylum at its recent meeting here, as reported in the *Vindicator*:—

"The removal of the men who had filled these places was a political crime, cruel in its nature and unpardonable in its characacter, and it was to put the brand of his unqualified condemnation on this act that he should vote to put back every man who had been ousted from his place for political reasons. He would put them back, if it were only for a week, and then, if inefficient, remove them at the end of the week; and he would do this to give expression to the voice of the people of Virginia in this matter. Having put these men back he should let there be an end of all politics in the State Charities forever. We do not turn men out to put others in; if we did, it would be as great a crime as the one committed two years ago; we simply say there shall be no politics in this matter and take up the men who were removed for politics and replace them. Our action is only of to-day; it rights the past as well as the present. In that past, Virginia has turned out none of her servants of this character on account of politics. In this building Whigs unmolested have for years held office when the State government was Democratic. The people of Virginia have said that that should ever be the case, and this Board by reinstating these men simply wipes out the only case in which that will was violated.—This Board was appointed to do this work. It restores to place men of acknowledged skill and long experience. There is no evidence before us that they are incapacitated by age; but if that should prove to be so, we will put other men in their places."

Republicans Give the South Up.

The Republicans seem to have abandoned all hope of carrying Virginia or any of the Southern States in the next Presidential election. The number of the electoral votes of the Southern States is 153, and, in its last issue, the *Valley Virginian* says that, "The Republican party will go into the contest with 153 electoral votes committed against it, in advance." Then why should the Republicans in the Southern States make any contest? Why be at the expense and worry of a contest which is known in advance to be hopeless? The Republican party, in the South at least, "lags superfluous on the stage." The fact that the Chairman of the National Committee of the Republican party recognizes Dezendorf as the chairman of the Republican State Central Committee of Virginia, shows that the vote of Virginia is not expected to be cast for the Republican Candidate, and that the purpose is to get a solid vote for Blaine from Virginia in the National Republican Convention, instead of a solid vote for Arthur or a divided vote between Arthur and Blaine. The Republicans of this State can aid in nominating a candidate, but cannot help to elect him, as they will have no votes in the electoral college. The recognition of Dezendorf as the rightful chairman seals the fate of Mahone's party.

"Another Trap."

This is what the *Valley Virginian*, with a provision characteristic of our cotemporary, called the "Mass Meeting" of Democrats, held on last Thursday night, and warned its friends (?), the Democrats, to stay away from it, if they did not want to be "in honor bound" to vote the Democratic ticket at the coming municipal election. But they wouldn't stay away; and they didn't nominate a "cut-and-dried ticket;" and they did decide to have a Primary Election; and they did "bind themselves, in honor" and in fact, to abide its result; and, in truth, they did pretty much every thing the *Virginian* didn't want them to do, and nothing that it wanted them to do.

If it was "a trap to catch the unwary," there are certainly more unwary citizens among the business men, merchants, mechanics, &c., of this wide-awake little city than we were aware of, and the "trap" certainly deserves to be patented, and the right sold to the *Virginian*, that it may be enabled to gather together the scattered forces of the Republican party in Virginia, and have at least one "Mass Meeting" of like concord and harmony, and free from the manipulation of "bosses" and United States officials.

The iron bridge across Greenbrier river at Fort Spring, Greenbrier county, W. Va., is about completed, and will be ready for travellers in a few days. It will be a great convenience to the people of that section.

Ex-Congressman Dezendorf in his evidence before the Danville Committee stated that no Northern State would submit for 24 hours to the outrages perpetrated by Mahone Coalition rule in Virginia.

LARGE CAT-FISH.—On last Tuesday, Mr. E. G. Roberts of Summers Co., W. Va., caught, with a hook, in New River, above Hinton, a cat-fish that weighed 36 pounds.

Editorial Notes.

The Winchester *Times* comes out squarely for Mr. Tilden for the Presidency. It looks very much now as if he would be the man.

Mahone returned to Washington last week. His return was probably for the purpose of finding out what his "me-too" means by calling on Blaine.

Two appropriations amounting to $17,000 are lying unexpended in the U. S. Treasury, for the improvement of the Shenandoah river. Action is now being taken looking to the utilization of this money. So says the *Spirit of Jefferson*.

Col. Sims doesn't mind Senator Vance's denouncing him as a thief, and doesn't even demand him "to prove it." The proof seems to be the very thing he doesn't want, like the Irishman when the Judge told him he should have justice.

Col. Sims doesn't seem to fancy the idea of allowing Senator Vance to prove that he is a thief. Senator Vance asserts that he has the evidence to prove it, and Col. Sims, through Jno. S. Wise, objects. It looks very much as if he were anxious to enter a plea of confession and avoidance, rather than plead to the merits.

The Treasury department has issued, since March 19th, warrants for the payment of about 16,000 claims for rebate of tobacco tax, aggregating about $1,400,000. These claims are being passed at the rate of 800 a day, and it is expected to have them all disposed of in about 30 days. There were originally about 48,000 claims representing about $4,000,000.

There is only one instance on record where President Arthur has "gone back" on Mahone, and that was when he appointed Judge Perry, of New York, Chief Justice of Wyoming Territory *vice* Judge Sener, Mahone's friend. Now, that Judge Perry has suddenly died, it remains to be seen whether Arthur will repair the slight put upon his faithful Virginia follower, by reinstating Judge Sener.

The offices of County Court Clerk and Circuit Court Clerk of Shenandoah county have been condemned by the examining committee as unsafe and not large enough for the purpose of keeping secure the records of the Courts, and the Judge of the Circuit Court confirming the report of the Commissioners recommends the Board of Supervisors to make new and ample provision for the accommodation of both offices.

The *Valley Virginian* does not seem to be a success as a political adviser. For several months it has been endeavoring to bring about harmony between the different wings of the Republican party in Virginia, and recently it has been endeavoring to produce discord in the democratic party in Staunton, but in neither direction does it appear that it has accomplished much. The Republican party of the State is still divided, and the democrats of Staunton are still united.

NOT FAIR.—The Alexandria *Gazette* says;

"The negro vote is the only thing that for twelve years past has kept the Republicans in power. And yet Mr. Wise says he only receives negro legislators in his kitchen; General Mahone says only the 'best' men in his party must be sent to his State convention; General Longstreet says he is tired of negro leadership, and President Arthur invites every Republican member of Congress, except the two negro members, to dine with him. The colored member of the Virginia Legislature was right when he said 'Mr. Wise and his party had no use for niggers except for their votes.'"

The colored man, says the Lynchburg *Advance*, has never received justice at the hands of the Republican party, which they have continued to support with a kind of adoration for the last twenty years. In many States they are the whole strength of the party, but when offices of profit are to be filled, white men, often not as respectable or honest as many colored men to be found, are selected, and the "colored brother" is ordered to step aside. Mr. Sherman can investigate the affairs of his own party in the South, and he will see that the negro is merely a political hewer of wood and drawer of water—courted and complimented when votes are needed, and scorned when elections are past. This has been the State of affairs in the South and is to this day. The question naturally arises, will the colored race continue to be used as cats'-paws by unscrupulous white men? Will they, as they advance in education and in the accumulation of property, give an attentive ear to those who seek to prejudice them against the best class of citizens of their State—against those who by employment furnish a livelihood, without which there must of necessity be suffering.

COTTON FACTORIES IN THE SOUTH.—The Baltimore *Manufacturers' Record* says: The stoppage of one of the largest textile mills of Philadelphia, with promise that such stoppage is permanent, points an inevitable question at this time. For some time past the mill referred to has been slowing up, running on part time, etc., with the hope that some change might take place in the markets that would let its products out with a delicate thread of marginal profit; but this hope has been too long deferred.—The manufacture of cotton goods at the South has proved fatal to the success of this Northern competitor, and it is among the first to succumb. There is no insolvency, and the surplus capital of the concern would enable it to stand out for some time longer against the steadily accruing loss, but this loss will be certain and the managers are in no haste to waste what may prove good substance, should the motion partly made, —to move southward,—prevail. We welcome all such cases. The South is ready and willing to receive all who come in good faith. The land is broad enough, and the cotton field is at the doorway of the mill. Some day the world will consent to learn the easy lesson,—that finished goods are better to freight than raw materials.

Gen. Grant was present at the St. James Hotel, New York, Tuesday evening with the committee which is getting up a fund to build a Confederate soldiers' home at Richmond. He said that he was heartily in sympathy with the movement.

The *Greenbrier Independent* says that "Mrs. Elizabeth McClure, of Irish Corner in that county, is the owner of three ewes which gave birth this spring to eight lambs—two producing three each, and the other two."

MORE SHEEP KILLED BY DOGS.—The Page *News* says that on last Tuesday night, dogs attacked the sheepfold of B. F. Bradley, Esq., killing 13 and badly tearing others. Only one or two of the entire flock is left.

MR. TILDEN'S LETTER TO THE IROQUOIS CLUB.—A significant letter from Mr. Tilden was read last Tuesday night at the annual banquet of the Iroquois Club at Chicago. Taking for his text the sentiment, "The Federal Constitution," Mr. Tilden traces briefly, but in trenchant style, the gradual change which a false construction of the constitution has wrought in the political system of the government, and points out that no reform or administration is possible so long as the government is directed by a party which is under the dominion of false doctrines and animated by enormous pecuniary interests in the perpetuation of existing abuses." "The first effective step," he says "in reform of our government must be a fundamental change in the policy of its administration." He adds that while the work of reform will be difficult to accomplish, he does not despair of the ultimate deliverance of the country, and concludes by saying: "Though I can do longer aspire to be one of the leaders in this great work, I bid those of you on whom this august mission may fall, Godspeed."

ELECTIONS.—There is now, says the Lynchburg *Advance*, no longer any use talking about excluding politics from local elections, and what are called non-political offices. To attempt this would fill the offices with incompetent officers, if not worse. The only security for the people to insure efficient, honest officers, is to put all the responsibility on the political parties, so that they shall be necessitated to nominate their best men, and then hold the party responsible for the acts of the officers. If political parties find that the people will visit on the party punishment for the conduct of the officials selected by the party, conventions and primaries will be more particular about nominees. This is right; the Republican party has filled this State with worthless officials. Let it be held responsible, and the officials be held up as examples of the best the party can do, and so let the Democratic party be responsible for its candidates. A pretence of no party candidates will prove a delusion and a failure. Let the parties select, nominate and elect, and be responsible.

NEARLY TAKEN IN.—"Old Patch," a noted London burglar and counterfeiter of long ago, allowed himself to be captured once by an officer whom he knew to be approachable with money. The officer was greatly elated when the noted outlaw confessed that he was the man for whom the authorities had offered a reward of £300. He then intimated to the officer that he could make more than that by playing a fine game, finally agreeing to give him £500 for his liberty, which the officer promptly accepted. A £1,000 note was offered in payment, which the officer changed and bid the prisoner flee. When he went to get the note changed at the bank he found it to be one of "Old Patch's" latest counterfeits. It was estimated that over £300,000 of coin and notes of his manufacture was in circulation in Great Britain at one time. It took years to get rid of it, as the older and more worn it became the harder it was to detect.

ENROLLMENT OF CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS.—The Fincastle *Herald* says: Under an act of the late session of the General Assembly, it is made the duty of the Adjutant-General of the State to make up a roster of the Virginia troops engaged in the late war. This work will necessarily be difficult; and it can only be made complete and accurate by active co-operation with the Adjutant-General of citizens in each county of the State. We suggest that the officers of the various companies from this county take steps at once to make up rolls of their respective companies. Gen. McDonald will doubtless promptly furnish any information as to the law that may be needed.

DROPPING KEIFER.—The Cincinnati *Commercial-Gazette*, a leading Republican organ, says: "The Republicans of Ohio cannot afford to have anything more to do with the Hon. J. Warren Keifer. He has killed himself, and must lie on the bed of thorns which his bad conduct has constructed. His record is without a redeeming feature, and his associates at Washington who once respected him are now ashamed of him." This is is indeed rough on a man who once wielded the Speaker's gavel and was a power in the lower house of Congress.

QUESTIONS TO THE POINT.—The Richmond *State* pertinently asks: "Where will the delegates be at Chicago when the Convention is a Blaine Convention? And where will Mahone be should Blaine by any possibility be President?" These are questions, says the Norfolk *Landmark*, which the Captains and drill-masters of Mahone are asking themselves all through Virginia; and before they meet in their State Convention the handwriting will be blazing on the wall to proclaim the defeat of Mr. Arthur and the discomfiture of the General.

ANOTHER NAME ADDED TO THE LIST.—General Grant seems to be looming up as a possible, indeed, as a probable candidate at Chicago; but we doubt very much whether the talk will result in action. We fancy the Republicans themselves are afraid of the General, who, according to the late Mr. Frank Blair, is a man to stay in when he gets in. A "perpetual President" is not yet a necessity; and when Grant is seriously brought forward he will have very strong opposition in his own party.

MAHONE'S PUNCH-AND-JUDY SHOW.—The State Convention of the Mahone wing of the Republican party will meet to-morrow in the theatre in Richmond on the boards of which their farce will be enacted. It will be not so much a drama as a Punch-and-Judy show. The puppets will dance and cavort on the stage as Mahone pulls the strings behind the curtain. He will keep himself out of view, but he will be there controlling the actions of the puppets at his will.

The rapid development of the Blaine boom everywhere will concentrate all the elements of opposition against the Maine statesman, and may result in the nomination of Lincoln for the first place on the ticket.

Then that party will have a candidate for his name alone, and thereby illustrate the fact that there is something in a name. In this case there would be much in the name, and little in the man.

VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION.—E. H. Barclay, acting President of the Virginia Press Association, has called a meeting of the Association to be held in Richmond on May 14th, to which he invites and urges every paper in the State to send a representative.

The Secretary of the Navy has offered a reward of $25,000 for the discovery or rescue, by private persons, of the lost Greeley party.

We are for party success. In this lies our best interest whether there preponderate in the administration Northern or Southern democracy. The general doctrines and policy of the democratic party will be best for the country as a whole, therefore we are for middle men—Conservatives, and for avoiding all extremists. Let us secure control of the Government and then amongst ourselves we can fix the details of legislation and administration.

The Third Regiment of Virginia Volunteers will hold their Summer encampment at the Fair Grounds at Lynchburg, beginning on Monday, August 4th, 1884.

Workingmen Opening Their Eyes.

Instead of going abroad to make converts there are strong indications that Pennsylvania protectionists will have this year as much as they can do to keep their home fences in good repair. The latest of these signs is a petition to Congress, now being circulated among the operatives and employes of Pittsburg and Alleghany county, in which the petitioners represent—

"That the present issue on the tariff question interests us more than any other bill now before Congress; that no matter whether there is a protective or a revenue tariff, it makes no difference to us, as we receive no proportionate benefit from it. We have already submitted to a horizontal reduction in our wages of from 10 to 20 per cent., forced upon us by our employers on the plea that they could not afford to pay us our previous wages, while no change had been made in the tariff that could affect them.—They receive all the benefits from the tariff, and we have to submit to all the reductions they impose upon us

Therefore, we are in favor of the 20 per cent. horizontal reduction in the present tariff.

We demand that our rights shall be acknowledged, and that we shall receive our portionate share of any tariff that may be levied for the protection of the American workingmen against competition with the pauper labor of Europe; that we are not to submit to any reduction in our wages below the amount guaranteed by our proportionate share of the tariff, and that the local competition between the manufacturers shall not be used by them to lower our wages at their pleasure unless the tariff has been reduced a corresponding amount."

The protected manufacturers of Pennsylvania had better look out. Their employes are rapidly arriving at the conclusion that the tariff protects the manufacturer, not the workingman, capital and not labor, and that while the employer derives all the benefit from it, the employes competing with the pauper labor of Europe right by their side are forced "to submit to all the reductions" imposed upon them.

New Jersey also needs to be looked after. Twelve hundred operatives in the Raritan and Somerset woolen mills at Raritan have struck on the ground that their wages have been declining for the last three years and they cannot longer stand it. "The whole town," says the *Newark Advertiser*, "is practically out of employment, and in many cases there will be great suffering if the strike continues long." Here is a promising field for tariff discussion. Let Kelley and Randall and McKinley and Converse, who would raise the price of every piece of woolen manufacture the poor man uses, get these idle men together and enlarge upon the ideal theory that the existing protective tariff stands between them and the pauper labor of Europe, and that their present exalted condition is entirely due to its wonderful benefits.

If the protectionists do not defend their position very carefully they will find themselves in full retreat before the campaign has fairly opened.—*Washington Post.*

The Charleston Convention.

The Democratic State Convention to select delegates to represent West Virginia in the National Convention, and for the transaction of other business, met in Charleston, Wednesday. The Convention was called to order by Hon. D. H. Leonard, Chairman of the State Executive Committee, and was temporarily organized by calling Judge Robert S. Brown to the Chair, and the appointment of the usual committees on Permanent Organization, Credentials, Resolutions, &c.

The Convention was permanently organized by the election of Hon. Frank Hereford as Chairman, who delivered an earnest and patriotic address to the Convention on assuming the duties of his position. Whilst the various committees were perfecting their reports, Hon. Henry S Walker addressed the Convention at length in one of his best and happiest efforts After adopting a series of resolutions and receiving the reports of the committees the Convention proceeded to elect four delegates-at-large to represent the State in the National Convention called to meet in Chicago on the 8th of July next, which resulted as follows:—

From the First Congressional District, Lewis Baker, Esq., of Wheeling; from the Second District, State Senator Joseph Van Meter, of Hardy county; from the Third District, B F. Harlow, of Greenbier county; and from the Fourth District, Hon. D. H. Leonard, of Wood county.

The District delegates elected were—Ed. McDonald, Esq., of Wetzel, and Wm. E. Lively, Esq., of Lewis county, from the First District; Hon. Hon. T. G. Davis, of Mineral, and Charles E. Wells, Esq., of Marion, from the Second District; Hon. Frank Hereford, of Monroe, and Wesley Mollohon, Esq., of Kanawha, from the Third District; and Geo. W. Thompson, Esq., of Wood, and Col. Charles T. Beale, of Mason county, from the Fourth District.

The Convention declined to elect a new State Executive Committee, as proposed, but continued the old Committee in office until the next regular meeting of the State Convention, which will be held in Wheeling on the 23rd of July next, to nominate candidates for State officers.

Senators Comden and Kenna, Representatives Snyder, Wilson, and Gibson, and Hon. Charles J. Faulkner and Major John W. Harris were among some of the prominent personages in attendance during the Convention.—*Greenbrier (W. Va.) Independent.*

ONLY TEN YEARS FOR MURDER.—The circuit court, Judge Blair presiding, was engaged nearly all day Wednesday in the trial of Geo. Taylor, colored, for the murder of Mr. James Davidson, of Roanoke, in November last. The jury was composed of nine white and three colored men, and brought in a verdict of murder in the second degree, and fixed the sentence of the prisoner at ten years in the penitentiary. The verdict was a surprise to every one, and was regarded as a very light sentence. —*Times Register.*

Now here in Virginia, which the Senate is just now investigating for the persecution and murder of negroes, a negro murderer is tried in Roanoke county and a jury of nine white and three colored men find him guilty of murder in the second degree, and only give him ten years in the penitentiary, and yet there was no attempt at lynching—no mob, although a negro murders a white man. The jurors are not denounced by the people or the press, although three were negroes. How well does Virginia compare with Ohio, though slandered by John Sherman, or New York, though persecuted by her drivelling hypocrite Lapham. We are willing to compare records all the year round.—*Lynchburg Advance.*

"Let the farmers digest these questions. They are propounded by a Republican paper: If the Republican party is not ready twenty years after the war was over, to reduce the burden of war taxes, when will it be ready for a reduction? Now, if a party, after twenty years of peace, must levy a war tax upon the country, ought such a party be longer permited to live or to retain power? There will be a political earthquake if these taxes are not reduced." —*Galesburg (Ill.) Press and People.*

There seems to be hardly any distinctively Republican party in the North. There is a lively Blaine party there, though. The way the Maine man captures support right at Arthur's own home is surprising. It is also gratifying, for, whatever sort of man Blaine may be, he has had no hand in the political events which have given Virginia two senators at Washington who will not defend their own race in their own State.—*Petersburg Index-Appeal.*

Congressional Proceedings.

SENATE.—Monday, April 14th.

In the United States Senate the naval appropriation bill was amended in several particulars and passed. The Senate also considered a bill to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States.

HOUSE.—In the House bills were introduced to recognize the supreme Court and to equalize taxation. The remainder of the session was devoted to the consideration of District of Columbia business.

SENATE.—Tuesday, April 15th.

The United States Senate was occupied in considering the bankruptcy bill, on which much progress was made.

HOUSE.—House, by a vote of 140 to 138, decided to take up the tariff bill, and Mr. Morrison opened the debate in a carefully prepared speech in favor of the bill, whilst Judge Kelley, of Pennsylvania, made a vigorous attack on it, and Mr. Russell got the floor for the first speech on Wednesday.

SENATE.—Wednesday, April 16th.

In the United States Senate Mr. Morrill made a lengthy rejoinder to a recent criticism of his course on the tariff by Mr. Beck. The bankruptcy bill was substantially agreed to.

HOUSE.—In the House, debate on the tariff bill was resumed, Messrs. Blount and Jones, of Arkansas, favoring it, and Messrs. Russell and Chace opposing it.

SENATE.—Thursday, April 17th.

The United States Senate passed a bill authorizing the Secretary of War to adjust and settle the account of arms between the State of South Carolina and the United States. Mr. Slater addressed the Senate in favor of his bill to forfeit the unearned land grants on the Northern Pacific Railroad Company.

HOUSE.—By general consent the tariff bill was not taken up, and the House spent the session on the pension appropriation bill.

SENATE.—Friday, April 18th.

In the United States Senate, Mr. Sherman, from the library committee, made an adverse report on the newspaper copyright bill. The senate passed the postal appropriation bill, after adding $3,499,500 to the bill as it came from the House. The death of Congressman Herndon, of Alabama, was formally announced and eulogies delivered.

HOUSE.—In the House, Mr. White, of Ky., indulged in some personal remarks reflecting on Speaker Carlisle, but the latter expressed the desire that no notice be taken of them. A bill was considered and laid aside with a favorable report relieving certain soldiers of the late war from the charge of desertion. An evening session was held for the consideration of pension bills.

SENATE.—Saturday, April 19th.

The United States Senate was not in session Saturday.

HOUSE.—The House, by a vote of 182 to 19, passed a bill for establishing and maintaining a department of labor statistics.

Letter from Afton.

AFTON, VA., April 18th.

There has been no startling news from this side of the Blue Ridge since my last letter. The Winter has been long and hard, and still "fingers in the lap of Spring." Farmers are behind hand in their work; little ploughing done, and plant-beds backward The almost continual wet weather, however, has brought out the grass; the trees are in bloom, and "When the Spring-time comes, gentle Annie," in real earnest, she may stay long enough to get us a crop in for another year. Since the roads are better, considerable tobacco is being hauled, and prices are good; one of our enterprising farmers got $12 average for crop of twenty-five hogsheads. Pretty good for old Nelson.

There is a still hunt going on around here to get up the remnants of the Mahone band. By the time delegates for the Straightout Republican and Coalition conventions are chosen, there won't be many voters left for Blaine or Arthur.

The hotels at Afton and Mountain-Top are getting in order for Summer boarders, and many improvements have been made.

There is a boom going on in this section in Nurseries. Mr. Hildebrand, 2 miles from Afton, and Mr. Wright, further down the Valley, have seen the advantages of these mountain slopes for fruit-raising, and with much industry, have started this new enterprise. They have planted this Spring about 50,000 each of various fruits, and have already a nice stock to sell from.

The merchants are bringing on heavy stocks, and business promises to be good.

If in the meantime news looks up, I will try and give you the items. H.

THE DANVILLE INQUIRY.—A clear case of piling Pelion on Ossa is the continued introduction of testimony for the vindication of Danville in the inquiry now progressing before the Senate committee. In the first place the prosecution—Messrs. Sherman and Lapham, acting as agents of Mahone—made out no case at all. The country knew when the farce was begun that there was nothing in the charges of Mahone; and Mr. Sherman's friends were not only surprised, but mortified, when he consented to become the mouth-piece of the most thoroughly unscrupulous, selfish, and contemptible demagogue that the century has produced

In the second place, the array of witnesses who have already given the lie to Mahone's slanders would have been sufficient even if the prosecution had been measurably successful, instead of failing utterly

The best citizens of Danville and the leading men of all parties and all factions have sworn that the election in Virginia last fall was as free and fair an election as was ever held in that or any other State. Men whose testimony would hang a dozen Mahones have demolished the absurd theory of a conspiracy. It has shown that there was intimidation and ostracism and persecution, but not by the whites. It was the Republicans—the ignorant colored citizens, poor dupes of Mahone—who were guilty of persecuting men of their own color for daring to act and vote against the Boss.

The evidence given yesterday was in harmony with volumes previously submitted. It is now time to ring down the curtain.

Mr. Mahone is so dead that he is odorous. There is no possibility of fumigating the remains. The best thing to do is to bury them and forget the place of interment.—*Washington Post.*

MEXICO.—The Rev. R. N. Freeman, a missionary of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, recently died in the city of Mexico. His last thoughts turned to the great work to which he had consecrated his life, and almost his last words had to do with the Bible cause. He said, as reported by Rev. Joseph Norwood:—

"There is a tendency at home which I would gladly help to correct. Some persons, in their zeal for the missions of their own church, seem to forget the American Bible society and its glorious work of evangelization and true charity. After all, that Society is the chief corner-stone of the great missionary movement. What could we have done in Mexico without it? I wish you to carry my love and best wishes for success to Brother Hamilton, its representative in Mexico, and through him to the Society at home.

A PROSCRIBED COLORED MAN.—The Scottsville *Courier*, in giving an account of political meetings at Buckingham Courthouse on Monday of last week, says:—

"A conspicuous figure on the Court green was that of Spencer Watkins, a white-haired darkey who ever since he had a vote has invariably cast it for the Democratic candidates. He was at one time a member of the Ridgeway African Baptist church, but was expelled on account of his politics. Since then he has joined a white church. The old man will not be allowed to suffer in his declining years."

AN AUGUST CRITIC IN THE WRONG.—His Holiness the Pope has issued a letter in which he attacks Masonry as the "House of Satan" and the home of Socialism. His Holiness, with all possible respect, does not know what he is talking about. Masonry is, in one sense, the House of God and the House of the Good Samaritan, and if the Pope were made a Mason he would find this out for himself.—*Norfolk Landmark.*

Morrison on the Tariff.

On Tuesday last the Morrison bill was taken up in the House of Representatives by a vote of 140 to 138, and in introducing it Mr. Morrison made a carefully prepared speech, in the course of which he said:

"In 1860 the laborer for wages was at least as well and the grower of grain better paid than they are in this year, (1884,) and in that year (1860) of bounteous plenty our importations of foreign goods were less to the person, or in proportion to population, than in the year 1880–'82. Census statistics show that of the 18,000,000 of our population engaged in some form of labor the average earnings of 16,000,000 do not much exceed $300 per annum. It is upon these 16,000,000 that the burden of tariff taxation rests, and it is from his percentage in the selling price of the articles he buys that the "protected" manufacturer gains his wealth. The fact that the average earnings of $300 a year are consumed under the present tax laws in obtaining the necessaries of life, rendering saving impossible, explains why it is that the poor are getting poorer in this country, and the fact that each of these $16,000,000 wage-earners is compelled to pay tribute for the tariff lords in every article he buys, explains how it is that a high tariff creates monopolies, which grow richer and richer year by year. Those who profit by the tariff are few in number and reside in a few favored localities, but those who suffer are the great mass of the workers scattered over the entire country. The repeal of the internal revenue taxes, which is urged by protectionists as a means of preserving the high tariff, means free whisky and free tobacco, but at the same time means higher taxes on sugar and other household articles whose price is governed by the tariff rates. The internal revenue system has its defects and irritating features, but these admit of remedy. The Ohio platform, Mr. Morrison shows, admits the necessity for a limitation and new adjustment of tariff rates. It calls for "a tariff for revenue limited to the necessities of government." Mr. Morrison asks: "Is the tariff now so limited?" The revenue limit has yet to be reached. The Ohio tariff must be "so adjusted in its application as to prevent unequal burdens, but not to create or foster monopolies." A horizontal reduction of 20 per cent., Mr. Morrison tartly points out, does not alter the present adjustment of the tariff, and diminishes by 20 per cent. the tendency of the present law to "create or foster monopolies." Every argument in support of the present high tariff is based on the assumption that any considerable tariff reduction will destroy manufacturing industries. Mr. Morrison is able to adduce in disposing of that argument the fact that the large reduction of duty on quinine secured by him a few years ago did not by any means result in the ruin of the great quinine manufacturing establishment in Philadelphia. But the inutility of a high tariff to prevent the decline of manufacturing establishments, after a certain interval, is abundantly shown by the fact that to-day all over the country, mills, shops, and furnaces are closed and their operatives thrown out of employment. Wages are low, and when the American workmen are indisposed to take them foreign labor is imported by the protected manufacturer to take the native workman's place. These evils the present high tariff does not remedy, though it has for years been promising to do so. Its burdens, therefore, are without compensation.

But Two Insult the Negroes.

The only men connected with the Danville investigation who have made remarks of an insulting nature about the negroes are the two who attitudinize before the country as the friends of the black race. These two men are Mr. John S. Wise and Mr. John Sherman. Mr. Wise took occasion to let it be known that he invited negro members of the Legislature to his kitchen. Mr. Sherman made an insulting remark about Cornelius Warrock, a colored witness from Lynchburg. Warrock testified that he had become a Democrat because his race insisted on nominating men who were not competent to lead them. He went on to say further: "I have had my nose pulled, sir, for voting the Democratic ticket." Witness had a very long nose. Senator Sherman remarked *sotto voce*, "There is a great temptation."

If this negro man was so unfortunate as to be disfigured by a very long nose, was it kind in Senator Sherman to ridicule it? Was it polite in him to make fun of a poor negro? Would Senator Sherman have made this contemptious remark if the witness had not been a negro? He has shown exactly the depth of his friendship for the negroes as well as given an exhibition of indecent and undignified manners, bad enough in any man, but especially bad in a United States Senator. Here in the South the negro is treated with politeness and consideration by those who were formerly his masters, and we know of hundreds of black men in Virginia who can give Mr. Sherman lessons in good manners which he could follow to advantage. They will tell him that the negro has sensibilities which can be wounded, and that the negro has pride which can be offended.

Unhappily many colored men in Virginia cannot read, else they would be enlightened by the publication of this Danville investigation. They only learn of it through the perverted statements of the Mahone strikers and spies. This insult and the insult offered them by Mr. John S. Wise have been kept as much as possible from them. But the truth is slowly making its way into their ranks. They are beginning to realize that the white people of respectability are their best friends. Many of them cannot read books, but they can read the events of the past few months, and they are finding therein a volume significant and interesting to themselves. Nothing is more significant to them than the friendship to their race of these two men.

Of Mr. John S. Wise, who invites them into his kitchen when they want to see him.

Of Mr. John Sherman, who can scarcely resist the temptation of pulling a negro's nose.—*Rich. State.*

The *Commercial-Gazette* squirms at every comparison that is made between Cincinnati and Danville. At Danville four people were killed in a street fight on the 3d day of November In Cincinnati over fifty people were killed in a riot on the 29th of March. Now, no fair-minded man will charge the Ohio riot to the representative element there, but we would have just as much right to say that because a riot occurred in Cincinnati that Cincinnati is a dangerous city in which to live or invest money as the Cincinnati *Commercial-Gazette* has to distort facts about the South, slander the Southern people, and sneer at Southern civilization because bloodshed sometimes occurs in the South. The *Commercial-Gazette* is beginning to learn how it feels to have the metropolis of Ohio advertised by a riot.—*Richmond State.*

INDICTED FOR ATTEMPTING TO DEFRAUD VOTERS.—The Fincastle *Herald* of the 17th inst., says:—

"Just as we go to press we learn that the grand jury, now in session here, have found true bills of indictment against three prominent members of the Coalition party of this county for attempting to cheat and defraud the voters of Botetourt at the election last November by means of the Madison W. Camper tickets. The grand jury is composed of both Coalitionists and Democrats, but we understand the conclusion of the body is unanimous."

The Chicago *Times*, an independent political paper, says:

"John Sherman's machine for the manufacture of Southern outrages for political purposes will probably close down before long. The Danville affair, upon which it has been laboring so long and arduously, has brought out the fact that the negroes of Virginia threaten and kill the men of their own race that vote the Democratic ticket, and that the worst bulldozing is practiced by the Mahone Republicans John should have let the bloody shirt alone, and not tried to have painted his boom red."

"Now, then, we say, put the question squarely to the Democracy of Indiana, 'Are you in favor of reducing the tariff taxation to a point where no more money is taken from your pockets than is required for an honest and economical administration of the Government?' and our word for it, every Democrat and thousands of Republicans in Indiana will respond—'Yes!'—*Indianapolis Sentinel.*

The *American Register* says:

"Ex-Senator McDonald was here last week shaking hands with his friends in the Senate, and renewing old friendship and associations. He looks bright, strong and happy; and it is stated that he gave the Democratic leaders here good advice touching the tariff question. Although a tariff reformer, he did not see any practical object to be gained by agitating the tariff at this time, seeing that nothing could be accomplished. He believes that the whole question will settle itself within ten years, because manufacturers are gradually passing into the South, and he thinks that ultimately all the heavy manufacturing interests of the country will be in that section, where labor is cheaper. Pig iron is now carried from Alabama to Cleveland. New England will have to give up her manufactures within a short time and go back to ship-building, and become the carriers of the Southern section. It is the cheap Southern competition which is at present embarrassing the manufacturers of the North. This fact, and the absolute necessity of a foreign market for American manufactures would force a revision of the tariff anyway, and there would not be much object in attempting to anticipate too much that which will be brought about easily within a short time.

TWO SUCCESSFUL LADY ARTISTS.—Those two energetic lady artists, Miss Becket and Miss Von Hillern, have met with universal success this season in the exhibition of their pictures in Boston, Philadelphia and Washington. "The Medley of a Dream After Reading Ovid," by Miss Becket, and "Woods at Harper's Ferry," by Miss Von Hillern, attracted considerable attention and were highly praised by the press of those cities. These two paintings have been sold to a distinguished collector of California. These ladies go direct to nature for inspiration and paint the woods, fields and streams of Maryland and Virginia with a telling effect. They leave in a few days for their summer studio in Virginia to make studies of spring scenery, and will doubtless bring back in their portfolios some delicious little impressions of Mother Nature's airy moods.—*Balt. Daily News.*

High Authority.

Dr. W. E. Scott, President of the College of Physicians, Montreal, writes: "I have recommended **Colden's Liquid Beef Tonic** as the *best preparation for debility, indigestion, dyspepsia, fever, ague, and loss of appetite.*" *Take no other.*)

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French, or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 149 *Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.* septl1-1y

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SALE.—Dwelling House on Church street—8 rooms and kitchen. J. E. GUY.
apr22-tf

FOR RENT.—John Martin's elegant property on Augusta Street, with good garden and first-class stable. Possession given the 1st of May. For further information, apply to—
apr22-1t SPECTATOR OFFICE.

STEER LOST.—Out of our drove, on March 29th, on the road from Greenville to Jude's, David Foltz's, a Red Roan Steer, with drooped horns, about 2 years old. A liberal reward will be paid for any information leading to his recovery. BELL & BLAIR, Mt. Solon, Augusta Co., Va.
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PRIVATE SALE OF REAL ESTATE.—As agent for the heirs of Wm. Clark, dec'd, I offer, at private sale,

THE HOME TRACT,

containing at least 30 acres of good land, with good Dwelling, stable, and outbuildings; also a splendid orchard, and a never failing spring of good water, near the dwelling. This property lies on the back road, from Staunton to New Hope, near Laurel Hill Post-office, and convenient to churches, mills, schools, shops, &c., and in a good neighborhood. For terms, &c., apply to—
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J. W. Haughawout et als.....Defendants,
and
Mary A. Bear's heirs.....Plaintiff