Staunton Spectator.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 1885.

OUR NORTHWESTERN INTERIOR.

No town or city can afford to be indifferent to the progress of the interior country with which it has trade relations. With better means of information, and in their daily pursuits better enabled to observe all questions affecting their own, as well as the interests of the people farther withdrawn from the active scenes of financial and trade intercourse, the business men of towns should ever be vigilant in looking for the line of progress which enlarges and develops the resources of their sustaining country. The starting point is mutual and co-operative interest; and in perfecting an onward course for both, towns always take the lead, and it is, for more reasons than are here recited, proper that they should do so. Some teach a divided interest. Such conclusions when indulged are fatal for all good and are hurtful in any view they may take. The effect of such a policy is well illustrated in the consequences which never fail to follow divided households, and in the estranged relations which too quickly fill the place in communities that should be cemented by fraternity and union and strength.

The young city of Staunton has reached a period in its history in which her thoughtful people see plainly that more advanced means of communication with its widest interior trading country is absolutely indispensable to its future prosperity, and in securing that, the interior is assured of enlarged importance, and rapid development of dormant resources. Coupled with the conclusion should be the resolve to lay out the plan for the inauguration of the proper movement to commence the work. In the outset investigation is necessary by inspection of the country in all its features, before grave responsibilities are assumed or engagements entered into.

The feasible scheme is a narrow-gauge railroad from Staunton through Augusta and Highland to the West Virginia line.—A charter for it, under which investigation can be made and satisfactory conclusions reached, is the first practical step to be taken. To secure the charter is the work now requiring the preliminary action of the city, and part of Augusta, and the county of Highland. All eyes are turned towards the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association to press the initiative already taken by the appointment of a committee to act in concert with the people of Highland and Augusta in preparing an application to the next Legislature for a charter. That accomplished, the border counties of West Virginia interested will take the matter up, and thus the whole scheme will move forward to practical results, either in building the road or abandoning the enterprise because of ascertained inability to meet its responsibilities.

Highland in Virginia, and Pendleton, Pocahontas, Randolph, and other counties in West Virginia, embrace the territory most directly interested. The pursuits of the people of that entire section are similar and their resources are alike. The topography of the country is generally much the same, and, by giving the resources of Highland, the value and resources of all that section can be well understood. However tempting the beautiful scenery of the picturesque highlands may be for a sketch, we must pass it by at present The backbone of the Alleghanies is her western border, from which, stretching eastward to the Augusta line, is a succession of smaller mountains and rich green valleys. Across and near the center of her territory lis the water-shed, and here are the sources of the James and South branch of the Potomac rivers. From the common center these valleys deepen and widen as they point a little east of north and west of south. Monterey, the county town, is on the shed and occupies a charming location. The area of the county is 240,641 acres. The population is about 5,500. There are about 8,000 acres in ccreal and grass rotations in cultivation, and in permanent meadows and grazing lands over 50,000 acres. There are about 2,500 milch cows, and 6,000 other cattle, 10,000 sheep, and 40,000 pounds of wool. Over 2,000 horses, and something like 4,000 hogs. These estimates are made upon the basis of the census reports of 1880, and are sufficiently accurate for the purposes in view.—In woodlands and forest there are 120,000 acres.

Highland is comparatively isolated and has no other than primitive means of transportation, but yet, in valuable industrial resources, she is ahead of counties of the same number of population and more richly blessed in means to render them productive. She has more milch cows and other cattle than Clarke county which has a greater population. She is almost the equal of the famed county of Smyth, of the great South-west, in all kinds of other live stock, and exceeds that county in the number of sheep and in wool product. Smyth more than doubles her in population and in assessed values. These statements are sufficient, for information, even if the business men of this city did not know, by daily intercourse with the people of Highland, the extent of the resources of that county.

There is other, shall we not say greater, wealth awaiting only a railroad for development. After deducting for barren mountains, and leaving an abundance of forest for all purposes, Highland can add fifty thousand acres of finely wooded land for lumber development, and then the same land to crop cultivation and pasturage.—Just think of that! Here, in an average distance of forty-five miles of this city, languishing for the want of manufacturing industries, in which wood forms the chief element for their growth, stands that wonderful amount of raw material ready for immediate enterprise, whenever a little narrow-gauge railroad, costing about $8,000 per mile, will open a way to it. And then after the forest is cleared away, the products of which in the meantime will have added thousands upon thousands of dollars to the aggregated wealth of this city, will come the enlarged cereal and grazing fields more than doubling the grain product, and capable of exporting 20,000 head of cattle, and the like number of sheep, which, in the improvement that will go on, will yield 100,000 pounds of wool. We say, sincerely, this picture of the future is not overdrawn.

Our esteemed cotemporary, the *Vindicator*, is doing valiant service in the cause. When pointing Staunton to Lynchburg as an example to follow when that city was in a condition that this city is now, it refers to the liberality with which it stepped forward by subscribing $300,000 to build the railroad to Tennessee. It was, in truth, better than that. It gave $500,000 for that road. Coming on to later times, it gave $200,000 for the extension of the Midland line to Danville, having previously contributed largely for its construction from Charlottesville to that city. Lynchburg, also, gave without stint to the canal, and at the last election by a vote of 8 to 1 carried a proposition to subscribe $300,000 towards building a narrow-gauge road through Campbell, Bedford, Franklin, Floyd, Carroll, and Grayson counties, to the North Carolina line, and this last purpose was determined on when paying a local tax of $1.50 on the $100 value of property.

Summing up the whole matter, it would appear that the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association should now take another step forward by action which will make arrangements to secure a charter when, by a small contribution to meet the expenses to be obtained from the interests to be promoted, preliminary surveys and examinations can be made, and if the way is clear for continued effort, a new progress and a brighter destiny will come with all their pleasing realization.

P. S.—Since the foregoing article was put in type, the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association has, after careful examination, taken the step forward which it was solicited to do. At the regular monthly meeting last Monday night, that Association, representing a large share of the business interests and enterprises of this city, made the second advance forward, which we sincerely hope will direct the purposes of the united communities, of town and country, along the pathway to a bright future of glorious success. Hope, united with effort, and constant, untiring, thoughtful, and prudent work, will realize the rich fruits of a new and enduring prosperity. So mote it be.

THE RICHMOND CITY HALL.—Sunday's *Dispatch* gives an illustration of the new City Hall which Richmond is to have upon the square opposite the capitol grounds and bounded by Broad, Eleventh, Capitol and Tenth streets—and an exceedingly pretty square it is. The building will be 208 by 96 feet. On all four sides there will be about 20 feet of space between it and the sidewalks for a grass plat. From the ground to the base of the dome will be about 96 feet. From the ground to the apex of the dome about 154 feet, and from the ground to the apex of the towers fronting on Capitol street is 152 feet.

The plan adopted is by Messrs. Waite & Cutter, Architects of Boston, and known as the first premium plan. $333,000 will cover the cost of the buildings. The city provided the means some years since, and soon the beautiful edifice will commence to rise.

A building which shall indeed be a City Hall, is a large design. To give accomodation to all the departments of the City government, requires large space. In grandeur and convenience it will be worthy of Richmond and afford the citizens of the State the same degree of pleasure in viewing her progress as that indulged by her own people who have furnished this evidence of their taste and wise provision for the future.

HON. ROBERT A. COGHILL.—An Amherst correspondent of the Lynchburg *Advance* thus refers to Mr. Coghill in connection with his probable return to the Legislature:

"There is considerable talk in Amherst regarding our next representative in the legislature. The issues involved in the next election, the unsettled condition of our State finances, the desperation of the contest next fall, call loudly for R. A. Coghill, of Amherst, who will serve, I understand, if elected. He should be our candidate, in which event Amherst will have a representative the peer of any man in the State."

Yes, and the people who are striving to take the State safely through all her troubles, knowing his ability and long experience in public affairs, will gladly welcome him back to the arena of his distinguished usefulness. It was only because of his feeble health, that Amherst consented two years since to allow him to retire from her service in the Legislature, where, with the exception of 1866-67 he was a member and a leader in the Senate and House of Delegates from 1857 to 1883, having about an equal member of years occupied seats in both bodies.

KILLED BY HIS OWN PISTOL.—At Pocahontas, Tazewell county, Va., last Saturday, a stranger, giving his name as H. H Reynolds, and claiming to be a government detective, became intoxicated and committed a breach of the peace. Soon afterward he was approached by the town sergeant, T. B. Brewer, who attempted to arrest him. Reynolds resisted violently and drew a revolver, which Sergeant Brewer succeeded in taking from him. Reynolds then made a desperate attempt to regain the weapon from the officer. A struggle took place, during which the pistol was discharged, the contents lodging in Reynolds and killing him almost instantly. A coroner's jury returned a verdict of accidental shooting, exonerating the sergeant.

DEATH OF DR. URIEL TERRELL.—This venerable patriot died at his late residence in Orange county, on the 3rd instant, in the 94th year of his age. He was a warm personal and political friend of Mr. Clay and the only survivor of the last class taught by Dr. Benjamin Rush. He was a member of the National Whig Convention which nominated Mr. Clay for the Presidency in 1844. He attended all the recent State conventions of the Democratic party in Virginia, making an address to the one held last year. He was frequently a member of the Legislature from Orange county, and during his last service in that body a few years since procured an appropriation for repairs to the statue erected to the great statesman which stands in the capital grounds.

A NEW RAILROAD PROJECT.—The Pittsburg *Dispatch* outlines a new railroad project in which it is claimed the Pennsylvania is interested. It is to be called the West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee Railway, and is to start at Washington, Pa., with Nashville as the objective point. Southwest Kentucky, West Virginia and Tennessee are to be penetrated. This is to be a strategic move to head off the Chesapeake and Ohio Road, and will be a rival of the Louisville and Nashville and the Cincinnati Southern. It is a big scheme, especially at this time, when the railroad companies are not supposed to be specially anxious to engage in new and costly enterprises.

The cattle ranch area embraces 365,000 square miles, or nearly forty-four per cent. of the total area of the United States. The value of cattle that graze east of the Rocky Mountains, as expressed in dollars and cents, reaches $200,000,000, the number of animals being 7,500,000. 21,000,000 acres of this grazing land, with the herds belonging thereon, are the property of English syndicates and wealthy Englishmen.

FIRE IN CHRISTIANSBURG, VA.—The large brick residence of D. W. Frizzel, near the court-house, was burned last Friday night about midnight. Loss, $3,500; insurance, $2,000 in the Hamburg-Bremen Company. The court-house took fire, but was saved without serious damage.

AN EXCURSION TO THE NATURAL BRIDGE.

THE PLEASANT PARTY—THE BEAUTY OF THE SCENERY.

THE TRIP A POEM IN ITSELF.

The Great Wonder---Nature's Puzzle Picture.

HOW IT IMPRESSES DIFFERENT PERSONS.

THE COMFORTABLE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS.

Return to the Depot and Arrival at Staunton.

As heretofore announced, the Staunton Artillery Company resolved to celebrate this year our national anniversary—the 4th of July—by getting up an excursion to the Natural Bridge. They chartered a train and had all in readiness to leave the depot in this city at six o'clock in the morning.—At a little after that hour the cars were filled, with the members of that company, the Stonewall Brigade Band, students of Dunsmore's Commercial College, and ladies and gentlemen, and boys and girls, and other citizens, old and young, of this city and vicinity, making a joyous and happy party of about two hundred in number. Too much cannot be said in commendation of the committee of arrangements, consisting of Lt. Jas. A. Shewey, Lt. Jas. W. Blackburn, and Quarter-Master G. A. Newham. The party went on the C. & O. Railroad to Waynesboro', and from there to the Natural Bridge depot, on the Shenandoah Valley Railroad. The scenery along the route is beautiful, and was much enjoyed. Points of special interest were pointed out, among them the cozy home and handsome farm of Col. J. C. Shields, at Riverside. We have not the space to specify the points of interest and beauty on this route, and to give a description of them, and must allude to them merely as a whole and in general terms.

The pleasant and joyous company, the beautiful and picturesque scenery on the way—the azure mountains, the emerald hills and dales, the silver streams, the beautiful cascades, the fields of harvested golden wheat, and growing, luxuriant corn, the pleasant temperature, the sky flecked with clouds—made the trip a poem in itself, which reached its climax in the grandeur and sublimity of the Natural Bridge,—one of the most wonderful works of the Great Architect—making its concluding stanza dwarf the greatest ever written by inspired poet from the blind bard of Scio's Isle to the present poet-laureate of England. This was a poem that not only pleased the fancy, but entranced the imagination and thrilled the soul with emotions of inexpressible wonder and delight.

On arriving at the grounds, after a ride of several miles from the railroad depot, in omnibuses, hacks, carriages, and vehicles of every imaginable character, our party of excursionists were delighted to find that they had been so much improved, and that such fine buildings had been erected, and that such ample provision had been made for their comfortable accommodation. The fact that the popular and genial gentleman, J. Bernard Peyton, Esq., is the Superintendent, with the experienced Capt. Williamson as clerk, insures to visitors the best possible attention and accommodation.

As soon as the members of our party—about 200 in number—had registered their names at the Hotel, and had the dust of travel brushed from their clothes, they wended their way to witness the great wonder that had been the chief object of their visit. It was viewed from all points, from above and below, and from both sides, and it was very interesting from every position. Many went up Cedar Creek, that runs beneath the bridge, to see the Saltpeter Cave, the Lost River, and the Lace Falls, and other objects of interest in that wonderful gorge. The bridge is 215 high, and 100 feet wide, with a span of 90 feet.

The most frequent, and among the first questions asked by visitors on reaching positions beneath the bridge, are:—

"Where did Washington inscribe his name, which it is reported he did higher than any one else? At what part was it that Jas. H. Piper, in 1818, climbed the bridge to a great height? Where on the arch is the eagle, and where the lion?"

We did not see where Washington carved his name, and we are disposed to believe that he never performed the feat of putting it on that wall of perpendicular stone higher than any one else, for we think he was too sensible to be guilty of such a rash act. That Piper peformed the feat of climbing the wall to a great height seems to be very well authenticated, strange as it may seem. He did not climb under the arch, however. As we entered from the East, we, like most others, were anxious to see the American Eagle and the British Lion. We looked for them, but could not see them. We inquired if any one present could see them, when a colored man said, "Yes, I can show them to you." Then he commenced by pointing out dark and light places, and said, "Don't you see the eagle with his head looking this way, with his wings outspread, and the lion just under his left wing?" No, we couldn't see them. He described them again and again. We looked and looked, until our neck felt like it would break, but we could not see them. Others present said they could see them. We wondered why we could not. Finally, by intense looking, aided by the imagination, we saw what they called the eagle and the lion, but we were not satisfied with them, because we thought it was doing the American eagle great injustice to call such a figure as that a representation of our national emblem.—But believing then that we had seen what was understood to represent the eagle and the lion, we took pleasure in pointing them out to others, who, like ourself, had been unable to see them. Now the fact is, that we were right at first in declining to accept the figure viewed from that position as the eagle, for we found afterwards, when looking at the arch from the West, that the eagle was the most conspicuous figure on it from that position. The body and wings and tail were well defined, but no head.—The wings are not as long and pointed as they should be, (looking more like a mammoth hawk), but the figure looked much more like an eagle than the nondescript figure pointed out as the eagle from a position on the East. From the East a lion's head is seen—being dark, with the face rather light-colored, as if faded by time. From the West, what looks more like a panther, but may be called a lion, may be seen in front of the eagle, lying down, with the body, neck, head, (directed from you), and tail plainly visible, in light color. This white spot, from the East, looks like a white space between the head of the lion, as seen from the East, and the left wing of the eagle, so-called, as seen from that position.

The face of the arch, by virtue of the elevation and the light and dark figures upon it, constitutes a grand puzzle picture in which can be discerned from different standpoints, by good eyes aided by an active imagination, nearly enough animals of various kinds to supply a menagerie, aquarium, and aviary. This may be seen to be true from the following observations, made from a single standpoint.

As several gentlemen were returning to the bridge, after a trip up Cedar-creek, they stopped a short distance West of the bridge to look at the arch from that point, when something like the following occurred: One looked up and exclaimed: "O look! there is the eagle as plain as can be. That was not the eagle on the other side. This is the eagle, and it is the most conspicuous figure on the arch,—look, don't you see it." "Yes," says another, "I see it plainly; but it looks more like a hawk nailed to a barn-door than an eagle." There was not much poetry in that remark, but there was much truth in it, and showed that the author of it was a man of good vision and correct observation. In a short time, he remarked: "Oh, there is the lion." "Where? where?" the others asked.

"There, just in front of the eagle—lying down—looking from us." But the others could not see it. Then he described it again, and then one of them said: "Oh yes, there it is plainly defined—anybody can see that." Then all got to see the lion (which looks more like a panther) and wondered that they had not seen it before, and felt sorry for those who had amagined that they had seen it on the other side. Then our lynx-eyed friend again looked up and exclaimed: "O, I see a turkey—don't you all see a turkey, just back of the eagle?" After looking awhile, one said, "O yes, I see it now—it looks more like a seal." "Yes," says the other, "the head and body are more like a seal's." With another look, our keen observer, said, "I see a hog—don't you see a hog in the white in front of the seal?" No; no one could see it yet. Then he said, "Look, I can see it; it has a white body, black head, with its mouth open, and a stick in its mouth." That portends a storm said one—but he could not see that hog. But after looking intently he said, "Yes, I see a hog—a black hog." The other said, "Which way is your hog looking?" "It is looking West," was the reply. "O no," said the other, "that ain't my hog—my hog is white, and is looking to the East, and your hog is black and looking to the West" The owner of the black hog took another look for the white hog with a stick in its mouth, but could not find it; but his search was rewarded by finding a white-faced cow instead.

If this party had remained there long, there is no telling how many beasts of the field, birds of the air, and fishes of the sea they would have discovered in that great puzzle-picture of Nature painted on her magnificent canvas of stone; but the sounding of that "tocsin of the soul, the dinner bell," caused these discoverers to abandon their search for animals in the picture, and to seek for something to satisfy the cravings of the inner man at the hotel, where their search was also successful, and they satisfied themselves that for practical purposes Parsons's table-chickens were preferable fowls to his Bridge-eagles or hawks.

From time to time, at long intervals, great pieces of stone fall from the sides of the arch of the bridge, gradually making it more narrow, and within the past year large boulders have dropped off, so that we would advise those who wish to see this great wonder not to delay it too long, for we are very sure that there will be no bridge there to see—a million of years from this time.

We will not attempt to describe the emotions excited by this natural wonder, for they are as different as are the constitutions of the different beholders.

"Some there may be with hearts as cold
As the rocks on Torneo's hoary brow,"

who can witness it unmoved, and see nothing in it but a mass of stone, as of him of whom Wordsworth wrote—

"A primrose by the river's brim,
A simple primrose was to him,
And nothing more."

Such prosaic temperaments may be unmoved, but those who have souls more susceptible to the poetic beauty and grandeur of nature will enjoy it with zest. Nor will we attempt to give what Science would say as to the manner in which nature, with the simple agency of water, sculptured that grand work, for—

"When Science, from Creation's face,
Enchantment's veil withdraws,
What lovely visions yield their place,
To cold material laws."

Such as by culture or constitutional temperament can duly appreciate the most interesting chapters in the book of nature, will reckon their visit to the Natural Bridge as an epoch in their lives. None should fail to go to see it who can spare the time and has the means to do so. We are sure that none will regret the time and money spent to accomplish that object.

Besides our party of excusionists from this city, there were visitors there on the 4th from Lexington and Lynchburg, and from the vicinity of the Bridge, making in all about 400 persons, more than three hundred of whom dined at the Hotel.

In the afternoon, there was a tournament about half a mile from the Hotel. We did not witness it, as we preferred to make another visit with a friend to the Bridge, and hence can give no further notice of it.

Before 5 o'clock our party commenced leaving the grounds to return to the depot, but as there was not a sufficiency of vehicles, and some had to wait till the vehicles could go to the depot and return, it was half after six o'clock before all got back to the depot. Though the schedule time for the train to leave was six o'clock, it was kept in waiting till all the party got to the depot—those who got there early becoming quite impatient to be off, and chided the late arrivals for their delay, though it was impossible for them to get there earlier. When all had arrived, the signal was given, and the train moved off, and the party, delighted, but fatigued, was rejoiced that they were homeward bound. There was perfect order throughout, with nothing to mar the pleasure of the trip, and they reached Staunton about ten o'clock that night. Again we say, the committee of arrangements deserve special commendation.

Mr. Dezendorf says, "I am against Mahone first, last and all the time," and Lt. Gov. Lewis says, "between boss Barbour and boss Mahone I am for the former every time." These gentleman were republicans when Mahone was an ultra and proscriptive democrat. Next November will show whether or not their actions conform to their present words.—*Alex. Gazette.*

Hobbies of the Hygienists.

There were several dozen of the hygienists in council, each with his individual hobby. Each thought all the others were wrong. Each was sure that his own hobby was the only correct one. A gentleman present said he had taken Brown's Iron Bitters for debility and dyspepsia, and, though he didn't want to make a fuss about it, he knew the use of this great tonic to be better than all the notions he had heard advanced in the council. One practical cure is worth thousands of guesses and notions. Thousands of happy convalescents speak gratefully of Brown's Iron Bitters.

A Sermon on the Times.

THE COUNTRY'S RESOURCES—THE LIQUOR TRAFFIC.

The Rev. S. W. Beach, Pastor of the Twelfth Presbyterian church, Franklin Street, Baltimore, in his sermon on last Sunday, in speaking of the greatness of the resources of this country, said that we have an area of 2,970,000 square miles. Of this more than 536,000,000 acres are under cultivation, divided into more than 4,000,000 farms. These represent an assessed value of more than $10,000,000,000, or over five times the whole debt of the United States. In a single year these farms produce an average of nearly 2,000,000,000 bushels of corn and over 459,000,000 bushels of wheat. Eight million persons, or nearly one-sixth of the whole population of the country, are employed upon the farms. There are 254,000 manufacturing establishments, representing a capital of $3,000,000,000. These employ nearly 3,000,000 hands and pay in wages every year $1,000,000,000. From mines last year $21,000,000 worth of gold was dug, and $41,000,000 of silver; 71,000,000 tons of coal were also dug. There are 88,000 miles of railroad in the United States, or enough to reach three times and a half round the world. Upon these are employed 500,000 men, who receive $196,000,000 per annum. Out of a population of 51,000,000, 18,000,000 are producers, or have employment, divided as follows: In agriculture 8,000,000; in professional services 4,000,000; in trade and transportation 2,000,000; in manufacturing, mechanical and mining industries 4,000,000. No human contingence can stay the progress of prosperity in America. Business stagnation is abnormal, and can be only temporary.

After speaking of the growing tendency to the desecration of the Sabbath, and recommending that business houses should be closed at 1 o'clock Saturday afternoons, the growth of the liquor traffic was commented upon. He said that in 1884 there was an average consumption of distilled liquor of two gallons for every man, woman and child, and of ten and a half gallons of beer. In 1884 the people paid a liquor bill of eight hundred and thirteen millions of dollars. The church, he said, is aroused to the consciousness that she must subdue this monster or fall a prey to his power. Ringing and not uncertain notes are echoing from every evangelical pulpit; clear, emphatic deliverances come pouring in from Christian assemblies. Christian people have resolved that the liquor traffic must go. Another evidence of the rising of the tidal wave that will sweep away this nefarious business is the steady growth of public sentiment.

The family of Dr. P. F. Finnell, of Buckhannon, W. Va., were all poisoned Wednesday by drinking coffee containing arsenic, but by the prompt application of remedies no fatal results followed. A colored servant is suspected of having placed the poison in the coffee, but she denies it.

The democrats of Salem, Roanoke county, will hold a primary election July 11 to select a person to be recommended for appointment as postmaster.

Mr. Royall says that the bondholders declare that any offer of compromise must come from the State of Virginia and not from them.

Charles W. Button has been appointed postmaster at Lynchburg, Va., and William W. Herbert at Alexandria, Va.

Mountain Outlaws.

FIVE PRISONER'S IDENTIFIED AS THE PERPETRATORS OF A DARING OUTRAGE.

The Circuit Court at Wheeling, West Va., was the scene of commotion on Wednesday during the hearing of a writ of *habeas corpus* applied for to obtain the release of John Culver and his son George, Edward Angus, and Thomas and William McGowan, brothers, charged with being members of a band of masked robbers that has been operating so fearlessly and cruelly on the mountains near Wheeling. The particular charge was that they had cruelly outraged old Daniel Marling last December. Marling is a bachelor, and a veritable miser. He lived by himself about five miles out in the country. At midnight, on a cold, stormy night, his house was broken open by a gang of six masked men, who, failing to find the treasure they sought, heated a red hot poker several times, and burned the old man in thirty places, very severely on the stomach and thighs. A pan of hot grease was then poured down his back, and he was beaten and choked till senseless. A climax was caused when Marling positively identified the men, and when Jasper Kincaid, a young man who has been in jail for another robbery, turned State's evidence, and told how he and the other five laid out their hellish work. The gang is a bad one. In the face of all testimony they are endeavoring to prove an *alibi*. The country people are aroused, and if the gang gets off it will do well to leave the State at once and thereby escape summary justice. Marling has not dared to tell what he knew before for fear that his evidence would not be corroborated and he would suffer further at the hands of the villains. He once had Tom McGowen arrested for theft. The rogue spent some time in jail for this, and soon after his release Marling's large barn was burnt. During the past six months there have been five other operations by masked burglars similar to the Marling case. In one case over $3,000 was secured.

The free traders of Great Britain fear that the new conservative ministry there may attempt to raise some of the revenue of that government by imposing a duty on provisions. That fear is by no means unnatural, for it is human nature to retaliate, and as the American Congress imposes a high duty upon English productions, it would not be at all unreasonable for the English Parliament to lay a duty upon those of this country. But if that be done the price of American farmers' products, low as it is now, would be still lower. And yet there are American farmers, few, to be sure, but still some, who continue to vote for protectionists to represent them in Congress.—*Alex. Gazette.*

A LYNCHING IN NORTH CAROLINA.—*Charlotte, N. C., July 3*.—John Boggan, the negro who assaulted Mrs. Bruner, a respectable widow, near Wadesboro', was discovered secreted in a cave at 1 o'clock yesterday morning by a party of seventy-five men, to whom he confessed the deed, and gave a detailed account of his crime. His captors then took him to Wadesboro', and at 2 o'clock strung him up to a tree near the court-house. His body was riddled with bullets, and a placard was placed on his breast which read as follows: "This man confesses the deed. Our women must be protected."

Men talk now-a-days carelessly about the difference between Republicanism and Democracy. Are they willing that Legislatures shall be dispersed, on the order of the President, by soldiers of the Federal army? Do they admit the States, upon a charge of insurrection without the call of the Governor, may be occupied and governed by Federal officers and their commands by direction of the President or resolution of Congress? These are Republican doctrines, and have been Republican practices, and have never been recanted.—*Lynchburg Advance.*

Jos. S. Fisher, Wytheville, Va., says in the year 1883 he used Powell's Prepared Chemicals for wheat, and increased the yield four fold. In proportion to cost it was the best fertilizer he ever used. The cost of Powell's Prepared Chemicals is $6 per bbl., a sufficient quantity to make one-half ton complete fertilizer. Address Brown Chemical Co., Baltimore, Md.

A YOUNG MAN GUILTY OF MANY ROBBERIES.—The Washington correspondent of the Balt. *Sun*, under date of the 5th inst., says:—

"A young man, who is said to have committed forty robberies in Maryland, was arrested by Washington officers yesterday. He gives his name as Wm. R. Brookes, but who, under the name of Harrison, as alleged, is indicted in Prince George's county, Md., for horse-stealing. He was taken from the sixth police station here this afternoon by Sheriff Scaggs and Deputy Robey and carried to Marlboro'. Brookes-Harrison was arrested yesterday at Laurel, where he had recently gotten married, established an ice-cream saloon and was about to start a billiard saloon. He was arrested yesterday at Laurel after his trail had been followed for eight hours by Detectives Edelin and Mattingly, of this city, and Sheriff Scaggs, of Prince George's county, Md. The same man was arrested here last year and turned over to officer Barranger, of Baltimore, who carried him to that city. On the way from Baltimore to Marlboro', while in charge of officer Talbot, of Prince George's county, he leaped while handcuffed from a train running thirty miles an hour. He then walked on to near Good Hope hill, and on the way got an axe from a farmhouse yard. He gave a colored man named Payne the axe in payment for taking off his fetters, and after some months' absence came to Laurel, and as mentioned married and settled there. His wife, it is stated, says that he has been absent from home on every night that a robbery has been committed in that neighborhood. He denies that he is Harrison, and says that he is the son of a bricklayer living in the Northern Neck of Virginia, near the line of King George and Richmond counties. The detectives, it is said, have ample evidence against him. The negro to whom he gave the axe attempted to sell it, and the first person to whom he offered it was the farmer from whom it had been taken.

It is claimed that Brookes committed numerous robberies near Laurel. Last Monday night, it is charged, he left his wife, telling her he was going to Baltimore, and went to the house of Mr. Dennison, in Prince George's county, which, it is alleged, he robbed of $200.

DEMOCRATIC MEETING IN HIGHLAND.—At a meeting of the Democrats of Highland county, held at the Courthouse on Tuesday, June 23, Wm. Hevner was elected Chairman and E. S. Samples, Secretary.

The following delegates were chosen to the Richmond Convention: S. W. Sterritt, L. H. Stephenson, James O. Hobbs; Alternates—S. A. Porter, C. P. Jones, and Joseph H. Armstrong.

To the district convention to nominate candidates for the Legislature: Delegates—Adam Stephenson, Col. Benjamin Hiner, S. A. Porter, John E. Gum, Anthony Lightner, James C. Newman, M. F. Wiley, J. M. Armstrong, W. W. Stephenson, C. P. Jones, Samuel Sullenberger, L. H. Stephenson, Wm. Vint, J. O. Hobbs, J. H. Armstrong, L. M. McClung, J. B. Bradshaw and Wm. H. Armstrong; Alternates—Sol. Newman, O. P. Chew, Hull Kramer, J. Lunsford, J. A. Buzzard, S. A. Gilmore, H. H. Seybert, V. B. Bishop, W. A. Beverage, A. T. Stephenson, R. T. Ogg, D. N. Buzzard. J. L. Marshall, A. H. Jones, H. M. Pullin, J. S. McNulty, J. L. Shumate, and J. N. Bradshaw.

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Resolved 1*st*. That it is the sense of the Democratic party of this county, that public spirit and patriotism alike demand that the use of coupons in the payment of taxes should be discouraged in all proper ways, and that we pledge ourselves not to use or countenance the use by others of such means for the payment of taxes.

2*nd*. That the settlement of the State debt under the act known as the Riddleberger bill should be abided by and carried into effect.

On motion, a copy of the proceeedings was ordered to be sent to the Democratic papers of Staunton for publication, after which the meeting adjourned.

A VIRGINIAN'S INSANE ATTEMPT TO MURDER HIS FAMILY.—A dispatch from Decatur, Illinois, to the New York *Herald*, says:—

"A highly sensational attempt at wife-murder occurred in Decatur on Thursday morning at three o'clock. Prof. Chas. Castleman came here from Virginia in May last, accompanied by his wife and three children. He was on his way to Tipton, Mo., but was forced to stop here because on the train he had displayed evidences of insanity. The family had plenty of money, and began housekeeping. The Professor, who was a noted scholar in Virginia, where he had been connected with the Leesburg Academy for many years, took a notion Wednesday that he would go back to Virginia, and had arranged to start on Thursday. On Wednesday night a brother of the Young Men's Christian Association sat up with the Professor, who had been acting queerly. Shortly after two o'clock Castleman got a revolver and suddenly went out of the large room to where his wife was sleeping, crying out that he would kill the children and himself. He had cocked the revolver and had taken aim when the frightened watcher made a lucky catch at the madman's arm, and in a desperate struggle disarmed him. Neighbors who heard the cries came to the house. It took half a dozen men to put Castleman under control. He severely injured several of them. The officers took him to jail. He is a very talented man of about 35 years. His reason is dethroned because of too close application to studies. The wife, who is greatly distressed, sent word to Virginia for relatives to come out and take charge of the Professor."

The President is at the head of the most stupendous business affairs of the world, and the application of south business principles to these requires deliberate action in the selection of agents. These reconsiderations to whichothers might be added, vindicate Mr. Cleveland from the impatient criticisms of those who demand universal and instantaneous change of officers; and the patient assiduity with which he attends to his arduous duties should entitle him to praise instead of censure.

We desire to see the Augean stables swept. We desire to see all incompetent or improper officials turned out. We think an administration of reform should have clean-handed agents; but we realize the fact that Cleveland has a prodigious task before him, which can be discharged only by slow and well-considered means.

"Rome was not built in a day," nor can this Republic be tacked and put about like a catboat. This plain, common-sense view of the matter must commend itself to all right-thinking men; and instead of clamor against his method of doing business, he should be rewarded by the sympathy and applause of the good people of the Republic.—*Norfolk Landmark.*

The Chesapeake and Ohio railway has within the past three years built up an extensive southwestern system, and had it not been for the general depression, that system would now be greater than it is.—The Chesapeake and Ohio syndicate has a pretty direct line from Newport News to New Orleans, *via* Louisville and Memphis, and a line has been projected by the same syndicate from Nashville to Lexington, Ky., where it will tap the Chesapeake and Ohio proper. It is stated that the Pennsylvania Company has made arrangements to extend its line from Pittsburg to Nashville. As the Pennsylvania can always command abundant capital for its enterprises, the projected enterprise will doubtless be carried out.—This will probably cause the Chesapeake and Ohio syndicate to "hurry up" its Nashville road; for if the Pennsylvania reaches Tennessee's capital first, much trade that would naturally come to the seaboard *via* Richmond, will be diverted to Baltimore and Philadelphia. It is said that the Pennsylvania Company expects to run its trains between Pittsburg and Nashville by the 1st of January, 1887.—*Rich. State.*

FATAL FREE-WHISKEY AND TEMPERANCE FIGHT.—*Louisville, Ky.*, July 1.—special to the *Times* from Mount Sterling says in a fight at Stepstone, a small station on the Chesapeake and Ohio railway seven miles from this place, last evening, Dr. James Carter was shot and dangerously wounded, and a negro, name unknown, was killed. The affair grew out of the trial of a druggist for selling liquor wiihout a physician's prescription, which resulted in his being fined. Stepstone is a local-option place, and the friends of "free whiskey" and the temperance people are arrayed against each other.

EVERY REPUBLICAN MUST GO.—The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun*, under date of the 5th inst., says:—

"It is related on the authority of a democratic State Senator of Ohio, who called upon the President a day or two since, that Mr. Cleveland asked him about democratic prospects in Ohio for the coming election. He replied that things were looking fairly well, but that the democrats could not hope to succeed unless they had the small post-offices. To this, according to the State Senator, the President, looking at Postmaster-General Vilas, who was in the room at the time, replied, 'Oh, you shall have them; every republican must go.'"

TWIN COLTS.—Mr. Jas. A. Linaweaver, Superintendent of the Poor-house and farm, has a pair of twin colts about one month old. He says they are doing well and will make a fine match team; they are marked alike, the only difference being in their size. One is a trifle heavier than the other. This is a rare occurrence, and we hope Mr. L. will be successful in raising them.—*Spirit of the Valley.*

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED.—By a lady of experience, a situation to teach the English Branches, Latin, and Music. References exchanged.—Address Miss M. V. W., Elbow Postoffice, Powhatan Co., Va. jy8-2t

NOTICE.—All persons indebted to the undersigned, are earnestly requested to come forward and settle up at once, as on the 1st day of September next, I will place all open claims in the hands of my attorneys for collection.
jy8-4t JACOB S. GARRISON.

DISSOLUTION.—The firm of Echols, Bell & Catlett, real estate owners, has been dissolved by mutual consent, the undersigned, John Echols, having transferred and assigned his entire interest in said firm to M. Erskine Miller and Edward Echols; and the said firm is reorganized under the firm name and style of Bell, Catlett, Miller & Co., and is composed of H. M. Bell, R. H. Catlett, M. Erskine Miller, and Edward Echols, who will be entitled to all the assets and be responsible for all the liabilities of the aforesaid firm of Echols, Bell & Catlett.

This partnership is limited to the holding, controlling, and disposing of the property of the aforesaid firm of Echols, Bell & Catlett.

JNO. ECHOLS,
H. M. BELL,
R. H. CATLETT,
M. ERSKINE MILLER,
EDWARD ECHOLS.
jy8-2t

EXECUTOR'S SALE OF 1980 ACRES OF VALUABLE TIMBERED AND GRASS LAND.—By virtue of the will of Clinton Hall, deceased, the undersigned, Executor therein named, will, on—

Wednesday, the 12th day of August, 1885,

at 12 o'clock, M., in front of the Court-house of Mercer county, in the town of Princeton, West Virginia, offer for sale at public auction, a tract of land, containing **1980 Acres**, situated in Mercer county, West Va., within two miles of Princeton, county-seat of Mercer, and 8 miles of Ingleside Depot on the New River Railroad.

This land is gently undulating, well watered, and adapted to grass. The timber is exceedingly valuable for railroad ties and other purposes, and no portion of the tract is too steep for wagons. About 200 acres have been cleared, of which 100 acres are bottom land; a large portion of the tract is limestone, and when timber is removed, will be admirably adapted to farming and stock-raising. Churches and schools convenient, and the population intelligent and refined.

TERMS.—Cash to pay costs of advertisement and sale, and $3,000, or negotiable note well endorsed, for last named sum, interest added, at 60 or 90 days, and residue on credits, evidenced by bonds, with good security, bearing interest from day of sale, and title retained as ultimate security. For further particulars, address JOHN A. STUART,
Ex'or of Clinton Hall, dec'd.
je24-tds Lyndhurst, Augusta Co., Va.

The following papers will please copy till day of sale and send bills to this office:—*Staunton Vindicator* and *Kanawha Gazette* 6tds; *Wheeling Register* 2twtds; *Lynchburg Virginian* 2twtds.

JUDICIAL SALE O