

Staunton Spectator.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15.

A Railroad Commission.

There is a bill before the Virginia Legislature to create a railroad commission. As the railroads are the most important business enterprises in the State, the eye of the demagogue is, of course, first fixed on them. A nice \$2,500 position with one's salary paid by the railroads, and a pass throughout the State, and other States for that matter, including wine and sumptuous feasts, is not to be sneezed at. The average man could be induced to accept it. The whole scheme is to make fat offices for indigent politicians, who have wasted their substance, and now want to be pensioned by the State at the expense of the railroads, or rather the people.

A number of our States have these parasites, and wherein are they more prosperous than Virginia, and wherein do our people suffer more than those of other States from railroad encroachments? Before we ever heard of an "Interstate Commerce Commission" our farmers could ship their cattle to Baltimore; get on the train with them; see them safely there; attend the selling; draw their money; get on the train and come home without paying a cent of railroad fare. Can an act of God now! If not, why not because the Interstate Commerce Law put a stop to it. Or, if not, the railroads have so construed the law, and now we pay for our cattle just as much as before, and our own fare in addition. Fools that we are. But we deserve it all and more.

A thousand things like this could be cited to show our farmers that every time we tinker with railroad laws, we rob ourselves. Does not common sense teach us that when we become hostile toward any creature, it, in turn, becomes so toward us? Why, then, array the railroads against us, when, in every conflict, we are the sufferers? When a commission of old political bums is foisted on the railroads, the railroads will own them; if not by purchase of one kind, they will by other, and we poor dupes will pay every dollar of the cost, with another dollar added for time and trouble. Virginia now has one railroad commissioner, but he cannot regulate rates or schedules, and this is all she needs. The more commissioners we have, the worse off will be our people.

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF ARBITRATION.

All Differences Should be Settled by Reason.

It has always seemed strange to us that reasonable beings should settle their differences, like the brutes of the field and wild animals of the forest, by an appeal for force instead of to reason. In such cases, the last appeal of rational beings is no higher than that of brutes. Why should intelligent beings, endowed with reason, abandon it, when its judicious exercise is most needed? Might is not right, and no principle is determined by its exercise. Force is as likely to triumph in the wrong as in the right. All differences between men should be determined by a suitable court of arbitration. In a large majority of such difficulties, if not in all, it would be better, even for the country that loses in the arbitration, than to go to war, in which the party in the right is as likely to lose as to win, after losing thousands of lives and millions upon millions of money. That Christians should favor war as a means of settling international disputes is to us inexplicable. "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" The Christian believes at least abstractly, if not concretely, that the souls of all unregenerate men who die in that state are lost to all eternity, and yet he is willing to "cry havoc" and let slip the dogs of war" on the slightest pretext, and consign the souls of his brother men to eternal punishment. How can he do it, if he believes what he professes? We suppose this is a view which he has never considered, and yet it is one which is more important than any other, and should be the Christian faith.

Public sentiment on both sides of the ocean is beginning to move in the right direction—looking to arbitration as the proper mode of settling all international differences. As the New York Herald says, "the reported move in London to bring about the formation of a permanent court of international arbitration, as proposed by Justice Harlan, is but another proof of the progress arbitration is making."

Justice Harlan's proposition was to have a tribunal composed of justices of the highest courts of England and of the Supreme Court of the United States for the settlement of international disputes. That would seem to be feasible, but whatever may be the precise form or process of international arbitration it is not to be denied that the adoption of the principle is a most desirable end. Both England and the United States have declared in favor of it, and the French Chamber of Deputies last summer recommended the government to negotiate a treaty for that purpose with the United States.

With an arbitration treaty in force between two nations, or an arbitration tribunal established by them, there would be no danger of war between them and no mischief caused by war scares or jingo outbreaks. The sooner that time comes the better it will be for the peace of the world.

It will be remembered that a short time ago Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt, daughter of Mr. William K. Vanderbilt, was married to the Duke of Marlborough. It will be further remembered that some time previous to this marriage, her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, were divorced. Now it is announced that the divorced Mrs. Vanderbilt is to marry Oliver H. Belmont on the 28th of this month. In the same papers we notice that Mrs. Corbett, the divorced wife of James J. Corbett, the pugilist, has married a young New York millionaire. These are New York Society events.

A fire in Norfolk early Sunday morning destroyed the millinery establishment of Mrs. G. V. Bassett and the drug store of W. R. Martin.

PAID UP.—On Tuesday last week, the city of Buena Vista paid to S. R. Moore, treasurer of Rockbridge county, \$1,028.18 in full of balance of instalments owed by the city to the county up to December 1, 1895.

USURIOUS INTEREST.—On Thursday, the Court of Appeals rendered an opinion that the only part of usurious interest that could be applied to the principal, was that in excess of the lawful interest, which is 6 per cent. The preceding Court of Appeals decided that the whole of it could be so applied.

DWELLING BURNED.—About 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon, January 5th, the dwelling of Mr. J. S. Mackey on Timber Ridge, Rockbridge county, was destroyed by fire. Most of the furniture in the lower part of the house was saved. It was a comfortable old log and frame building, and the loss was something under \$1,000. No insurance.

Senator Vest, of Missouri, on last Tuesday, attacked with much vigor and considerable feeling the Supreme Court, for its decision on the direct tax bill, and especially was he severe on the Justice who changed his opinion between the first and second decisions of the case.

LOST BY FIRE.—Mr. Thomas McNaught, formerly of Lexington, Virginia, and the oldest son of Captain John Bee McNaught, lost his life in a hotel fire in New York State. During a trip over the Northern Central railroad he stopped for the night, on December 3rd, at a hotel in one of the wayside towns. During the night a fire broke out in the building. His fire was rescued alive, but he so badly burned that he died on January 8th. The deceased was aged thirty-five years and went west when very young.

MARYLAND'S NEW GOVERNOR.—Hon. Floyd Lowndes, the newly elected Governor of Maryland, was inaugurated with due pomp and ceremony at Annapolis on the 8th instant. Governor Lowndes is the first Republican Governor of Maryland, and his election and installation are hailed with delight by his party followers.

He is a man of high personal character, and it is to be hoped will give his State an administration creditable alike to those who elected him, and to himself.

Gov. O'NEILL'S VETO.—On Tuesday last Gov. O'Connell sent his first veto of this session. He returns with his disapproval Senate bill to incorporate the Basic City, Bridgewater and Piedmont Electric Railway Company. The executive's grounds for refusing his signature was a provision authorizing the company to lay its track along county roads simply upon getting the consent of boards of supervisors. The Governor objected upon constitutional grounds.

WOMAN SHOT AT CLENDENIN, W. VA.—Last Thursday, at Clendenin, Kanawha county, W. Va., Mrs. J. W. Larkin was shot accidentally by Fannie Summerfield. The two women were working at the Riley Hotel, and in cleaning up rooms found a pistol. Miss Summerfield pointed the pistol at Mrs. Larkin saying, in jest, "Your money or your life," and snapped the pistol when it went off, the ball striking Mrs. Larkin in the face. The wound, while severe, is not necessarily fatal. Mrs. Larkin is the widow of J. W. Larkin, a former policeman of Charleston, who was shot and killed last summer at Glen Jean by a negro whom he was trying to arrest.

RAPE AT SALEM.—On Friday night a week at Salem, Roanoke county, Mrs. Ballard Webb was looking for her husband and took him home, fearing that he, with several other men, whom she thought she saw him, with after something to drink, when John Williams, colored, suggested a place where they would possibly find Mr. Webb, and when near the Salem Machine Works entered her into a house and attempted an assault. She screamed, and possibly frightened the would-be assailant off but not until after he had brutally assaulted and abused her. David Carroll found her lying face down, removed her to his home, which was near by, where she soon regained consciousness.

Mrs. Webb is 25 years old, and is the wife of Ballard Webb, an employe of the Salem Machine Works. The Salem Times-Register of the 10th, says:— "A warrant has been issued for the arrest of John Williams, but he has not yet been caught."

Child Burned to Death. The Rockingham Register says that on Saturday morning a week, "little Evelyn Graham Wade, infant daughter of I. C. Wade, of Broadway, was so severely burned that death resulted in less than twenty-four hours. The little girl was aged 3 years, 9 months, and 4 days. She and a younger sister were alone in a room when other members of the family had been absent only a few minutes. While attempting to open the door of a coal stove the little one's clothing caught fire. The screams of the two children quickly brought their grandmother from an adjoining room, who succeeded in smothering the flames. This she accomplished with great difficulty and not before one of her hands had been very badly burned. The injuries of the little girl were not regarded as being dangerous until early Sunday morning, when she rapidly grew worse and died at 5 o'clock. Funeral services were held Monday morning at the home of Col. Wade, conducted by Rev. W. J. Whitelaw, of the Methodist church, assisted by Rev. F. G. Hartman and C. E. Bargebaugh.

The little victim of this terrible accident was a beautiful child, the special favorite of the family, and greatly endeared to many outside of the home circle. She possessed traits of character considerably advanced beyond her years and was a picture of child health and innocence. Her death cast a gloom over the whole community, and there is general sympathy expressed for the stricken household. The funeral services were largely attended and very impressive.

How War with England Would Affect the South.

Chauncey M. Depew, in an interview, says a war at this time "would wipe out the South." This language is probably too strong, but that a war with England, the best market for the products of the South, would be disastrous to the South, no reasonable man can deny, and this would be the case, even if no lives were lost and no cities destroyed, for there could be no sales to other products of the wheat, cotton, and other products of the South.

To plunge this country into a war with England on account of the dispute between her and Venezuela about the boundary between British Guiana and Venezuela would be "a blunder worse than a crime."

In the interview referred to, Chauncey M. Depew said:— "If war is declared at the present time with the country producing the state it is the securities will go down \$500,000,000 at once. We will all be starving to death. The farmer out on the prairie will burn his grain for fuel, and the man who mines will eat his coal for food. It is cruel, preposterous, unchristian, worse than heathenism to talk of plunging this beautiful peaceful country into war.

"Do you know, young man, that this country has just got over a war. That is the reason why the price of securities is so low. We are feeling it. In history it is still war times here. The south—brave, courageous, and full of spirit—is struggling under it. It is full of grief and brains. Its exposition shows that. But if you bring on war now you wipe out the prize which the few who have money would come north where they could carry on business and sell to people who have money, and the others would die of despair. We have money here. Our country can no more afford to plunge the south into another disaster than a father with a weak son could place all his family in Arctic latitudes. The simile is a faithful one."

"Put it down solidly for me that I'm against the war. Yes, heart and soul against it, though if the bugle is blown you'll see Chauncey M. D. on the march wherever his leader may point the way. But I can't talk of war for our lovely country again. It kills me."

A movement is on foot among a number of prominent Americans and Britons in London to bring about the formation of a permanent court of arbitration to settle all disputes between the two nations, as proposed by Justice Harlan in 1883.

In Lincoln county, W. Va., Charles Berger and Harry Brumfield attempted to arrest W. G. Hogan. In the shooting which followed Hogan was killed and Berger seriously wounded.

H. H. Holmes, the notorious murderer under sentence of death in Philadelphia, has written a letter denying the report that he murdered a man in Morgantown, W. Va., seven years ago. Mayor Swift, of Chicago, Ill., received a harmless bomb through the mail. He and his wife have received many threatening letters, and the former is constantly guarded by detectives.

The boiler of a torpedo boat on Lake Maggiore, Italy, exploded Thursday, sinking the vessel and drowning twelve people, who were on board of her.

A Berlin dispatch says that Russia's co-operation with Germany in the Transvaal is assured and that France will act with Russia. The Spanish cabinet has refused to accept the resignation of Captain-General Campes. Thousands of persons have been killed by recent earthquakes in Persia. A revolution is reported to be imminent in Hayti.

In St. Petersburg it is reported that Japan has offered free and unlimited anchorage to Russian warships in all Japanese harbors, with a view of diverting Russia from her intention of acquiring a harbor in Corea.

Mrs. Tom Smith, of Charlottesville, while making a fire on Sunday last week fainted and fell into the open grate, and was badly burned about the face and neck. She may possibly lose her eyesight.

Mr. J. P. Fitzgerald, grand master of Virginia Masons, has announced the appointment of Rev. George H. Ray, D. D., pastor of Centenary M. E. Church, Lynchburg, as grand chaplain, to succeed the late Rev. Dr. Geo. W. Dame.

There is a feeling of uncertainty in London as to the meaning of the great naval preparations the country is making, and it is feared there are developments concerning the Transvaal dispute which have not been made public.

The authorities of Havana have discovered what they consider a conspiracy to hand the city over to the insurgents. Many arrests have been made and the Inspector of police has resigned.

A decree has been gazetted prohibiting the export from France or the French colonies of warlike munitions intended for the island of Cuba.

Charles Broadway Ross Memorial Hall at Charlottesville, Va., was dedicated Friday. A reunion of members of Company B, Twelfth Virginia Cavalry, was one of the features of the occasion. Postmaster-General Wilson was present and made an address.

A Dark War-Cloud Overhangs Europe.

Under the caption above the Lynchburg News says that while yet the troubled air is filled with the sounds of war that broke upon the peaceful season of Christmas tide, in this country, in England, over the Venezuelan controversy, a yet wilder storm has suddenly disturbed the tranquility of the mother country, growing out of the jealousy between Germany and Great Britain, and involving colonial interests in South Africa.

So great is the war feeling against Germany that the Venezuelan contention is for the time forgotten by our English cousins as comparatively insignificant. Indeed it is not unlikely that the paramount importance given to the threatened outbreak with Germany may induce Great Britain to accede to the demands of the United States in the Venezuelan matter.

That our readers may have an intelligent understanding of the telegraphic dispatches concerning this new war-cloud, that darkens the horizon not only of England, but of Europe, we will state that England, Germany, and France have in recent years acquired important colonial interests in the South African continent. Some of these, is the Transvaal Republic, with a population of something less than 400,000. It came into existence in 1837, when the Boers, retiring from that region and declaring their independence, after the annexation of the Orange River Free State to the British crown, the Boers of the Cape of Good Hope. Those of them who set up the independent Republic of Transvaal are known as the Boers, and are a brave, and exceedingly formidable in battle. The voting class are called "first class burghers," and are comparatively few in number, but they have a large and influential population. By a convention in 1854 Great Britain set up certain provisions in the Transvaal, and the Boers have since that time transacted through the British Foreign Office.

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The Finance Committee has made its report to the Senate. It is still with the committee, and is as thorough, but bad and mischievous as could well be invented. It would be called in the slang but expressive language familiar in Senator Jones' State, a bill "loaded with slugs for the gold men and every one else who has a cent."

It could be loaded to the bursting point and then touched off it might be of some public service. It is still with the power of the sound money Democrats and Republicans to nite and see that this dangerous measure is properly disposed of. It is still with the power of the sound money Democrats and Republicans to nite and see that this dangerous measure is properly disposed of.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, Lucas County. FRANK J. CHERRY makes oath that he is the senior partner of the firm of Lucas & Cherry, doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every copy of a certain book that cannot be cited by the name of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

Sworn to and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1896. A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public. Halls Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. See testimonials, free. F. J. CHERRY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c.

It is Shearing or Slaughtering the Lamb. R. B. Mahone, son of the late Gen. Wm. Mahone, is after the Lamb that is now the bell wether of the Republican flock, with a sharp knife. From the State Republican we copy the following card from R. B. Mahone:—

Several days ago, there appeared in the Washington Post, Col. Lamb's remarks of acceptance upon his election to all the vacancies caused by the death of General Mahone. He says: "The positions have come to me unsought."

In justice to the memory of Gen. Mahone and his many friends in the State of Virginia, I can not let these remarks go unmentioned. I allow Col. Lamb to longer deceive those friends, Col. Lamb not only sought those positions and came to the meeting of the Republican Convention, but he was elected to both places, but when he could be elected to both places, formed a combination with Gen. Mahone's bitter enemy, and by Brady's influence and manoeuvring succeeded in being elected.

Col. Lamb, posed as Gen. Mahone's greatest friend, deceived and imposed upon Gen. Mahone's friends and joined hands with Brady, Gen. Mahone's bitter enemy, and by Brady's influence and manoeuvring succeeded in being elected.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 15, 1895. NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. FRANK T. HOLT, By the Right Men, At the Right Time.

THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW is recognized in the English language, and no excellent is spared in maintaining its position. It is the most complete and up-to-date of its kind, and is read by the men and women who know most about the great topics on which Americans receive and desire to be informed from month to month. Its list of contributors forms a roll of the representative men and women of the age.

Subjects that concern the interests of AMERICAN WOMEN receive constant and special attention. Among special features of extraordinary interest, which THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW has in preparation for 1896, is a series of articles on the life of Mrs. H. C. H.

W. E. GLADSTONE ON THE FUTURE STATE AND THE CONDITION OF MAIN IT. Series will begin in the January number. 50 Cents a Copy; \$5.00 a Year.

THE POPULAR CIGARETTE. MILD AND PURE. MANUFACTURED BY ALLEN & GINTER. THE AMERICAN TOBACCO CO.

The Government's Revenue.

The revenue for the first six days of the year, despite the fact that the receipts were computed to take charge and run amounted to \$5,777,896. At this rate the receipts for the present month will exceed \$31,000,000, which would be \$7,000,000 more than the receipts of January, 1895. When the McKinley tariff was in operation, and nearly \$1,000,000 more than the high McKinley rates yielded in January, 1892, and there was no disturbance of the trade or the finances of the nation.

It is also noteworthy that the receipts from customs duties are now (for the time) larger than those from internal revenue. What urgent need is there, then, for more revenue? The President and Secretary of the Treasury have not asked for more revenue and the necessities of the government do not now require it. A little economy in appropriations would be sufficient to meet all that is needed for the present.

But every Representative and Senator perfectly well knows that the present rate of taxation would be the law of the land if it were not for the fact that it is a law of the land. It is a law of the land, and it is a law of the land. It is a law of the land, and it is a law of the land.

There is an old superstition to the effect that anything that happens twice in succession is always sure to occur a third time. The fact that the Norfolk and Western railroad company in the way of fires would seem to justify this belief. Last Saturday afternoon, the Norfolk and Western railroad company in the way of fires would seem to justify this belief.

The Finance Committee has made its report to the Senate. It is still with the committee, and is as thorough, but bad and mischievous as could well be invented. It would be called in the slang but expressive language familiar in Senator Jones' State, a bill "loaded with slugs for the gold men and every one else who has a cent."

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED.—Wanted to employ a competent man to take charge and run a portable saw mill. None but capable, sober, industrious men need apply. A. R. HULLSTEN, W. A. HULLSTEN, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

COMMISSIONER'S SALE.—By virtue of the decree of the Circuit Court of Augusta county, rendered in the case of John Storer's Creditors vs. John Storer's Adm'r and others, we will proceed in front of the court-house in the city of Staunton, on Saturday, the 15th day of February, 1896, to sell at public auction, that desirable farm containing 162 acres, situated near Parham in Augusta county, known as the "Old Shiloh Farm," adjoining the lands of Valentine Huntman and others—being the farm of which John Storer died seized and possessed—upon the following terms, to-wit:—

So much in cash as will pay the costs of said sale, and the remainder upon a credit of two and one-half years from date of sale, with interest from date of sale—the purchaser giving bond with approved personal security, containing a stipulation that he will pay the same in six months installments as will be required.

FRANK T. HOLT, By the Right Men, At the Right Time.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, Staunton, Va., Jan. 13th, 1896. Frank T. Holt, Adm'r, et al. vs. Kenneth McCoy, Adm'r, et al.

ALL parties interested in the above-styled cause, now pending in the Circuit Court of the county of Augusta, take notice, that pursuant to an order of said court, entered in said cause on the 11th day of January, 1896, I shall, at my office in Staunton, Va., on

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13th, 1896, proceed to ascertain and report— 1st.—What debts are due and owing to said estate, and what debts are due by said estate to others.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, Staunton, Va., Jan. 13th, 1896. The Basic City Bank. Swain, E. T., et al.

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Administrator's Sale.

The undersigned Corneil D. Hanger and John H. Hanger, Administrators and Administratrix respectively of H. H. Hanger, dec'd, will on

Wednesday, January 29th, 1896, at the farm owned by the late Capt. H. H. Hanger in Middle River, by adjoining the farms of John Huffman, Money-maker and others, sell at public auction the following personal property:—

Seven head of horses; ten head of cattle, which includes a bull, milk cows, and beef cattle; sixteen hogs, including brood sows and fattening hogs; sixteen head of sheep; seven to eight head of calves; one yearling cow; one lamb in February; one rearing machine, mowing machine, harrows, wagons, drill, buggy, rick, cart, horse, and one mill; corn, grain, cradles, log chains, hay, fodder, corn; also twenty-eight acres of growing wheat.

TERMS.—Ten dollars and under cash, for sums over that amount negotiable notes at six months maturity endorsed will be required. CORNELIA D. HANGER, Administratrix. JOHN H. HANGER, Administrator. Jan 8-9ts G. W. W. HANLEY, Administrator.

GRATEFUL-COMFORTING. EPPS'S COCOA. BREAKFAST-SUPPER. "By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and assimilation, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Epps's Cocoa is prepared in a manner which supplies a delicate and nourishing food, and which may save many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until in perfect health, and all the weaknesses of old age and infirmity are overcome. It is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal illness by keeping ourselves well fortified with this food. It is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal illness by keeping ourselves well fortified with this food.

Churchman's Executor vs. Churchman's Adm'r.—Pursuant to a decree of the Circuit Court for Augusta county, entered in this cause, December 18th, 1895, I shall proceed, at my office, in Staunton, on

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13th, 1896, to ascertain and report— 1st.—Whether John S. Churchman, late Executor of the estate of John Churchman, dec'd, has collected by him, and by a careful application of the law, all the assets of his testator's estate that were in his hands.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, Staunton, Va., Jan. 7th, 1896. Geo. Organ Co. vs. Wallace Childs, et al.

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COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, Staunton, Va., Jan. 7th, 1896. Geo. Organ Co. vs. Wallace Childs, et al.

ALL parties interested in the above-styled cause, now pending in the Circuit Court of the county of Augusta, take notice, that pursuant to an order of said court, entered in said cause on the 11th day of January, 1896, I shall, at my office in Staunton, Va., on

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15th, 1896, proceed to take, state, and settle an account showing— 1st.—Whether Wallace Childs, et al., have collected by them, and by a careful application of the law, all the assets of their testator's estate that were in their hands.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, Staunton, Va., Dec. 15th, 1895. M. C. Robertson vs. M. C. Robertson.

ALL parties interested in the above-styled cause, now pending in the Circuit Court of the county of Augusta, take notice, that pursuant to an order of said court, entered in said cause on the 11th day of January, 1896, I shall, at my office in Staunton, Va., on

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15th, 1896, proceed to take, state, and settle the following accounts:— 1st.—What debts are due and owing to said estate, and what debts are due by said estate to others.

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE, Staunton, Va., Dec. 15th, 1895. M. C. Robertson vs. M. C. Robertson.

ALL parties interested in the above-styled cause, now pending in the Circuit Court of the county of Augusta, take notice, that pursuant to an order of said court, entered in said cause on the 11th day of January, 1896, I shall, at my office in Staunton, Va., on

COMMISSIONER'S SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE.

Pursuant to a decree of the Circuit Court of the county of Augusta, rendered in the case of Humphreys' Creditors vs. Humphreys' Ad