THE DISPATCH.

BY COWARDIN & ELLYSON.

CASH—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

The DAILY DISPATCH is delivered to subscribers at FIFTEEN CENTS per week, payable to the carriers weekly. Mailed at $6 per annum; $3 for six months; 75c. per month for a shorter period.

The SEMI-WEEKLY DISPATCH at $3 per annum, or $1.75 for six months.

The WEEKLY DISPATCH at $2 per annum.

Richmond Dispatch.

THE CIRCULATION OF THE DISPATCH IS LARGER THAN THE COMBINED CIRCULATION OF ALL THE OTHER DAILY NEWSPAPERS OF THE CITY.

THURSDAY.....APRIL 16, 1874.

LOCAL MATTERS.

THE PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE GAUGE OF THE DANVILLE RAILROAD—THE BILL REPORTED YESTERDAY.—The House Committee on Roads and Internal Navigation yesterday morning reported favorably the bill "to authorize the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company to change and regulate the gauge of its road," amended so as to read as follows:

"Whereas it may be of much importance and value to the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company, and to a large portion of the people of the State who are provided by said company's road with an useful and necessary means of transportation, that the said company be authorized and allowed so to alter and regulate the gauge of its road as thereby the better to accommodate the business and economize its operations in conducting the same; therefore

"*Be it enacted by the General Assembly* of Virginia, That it shall be lawful for the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company to alter, change, and regulate the gauge of its road at such time and in such manner as the said company may judge best for the promotion of its business, and to maintain and operate their line of road on such standard of gauge as the said company may at any time deem necessary and proper to secure the most efficient, safe, and economical operation of the same. And any law or provision of law to the contrary is hereby repealed.

"Provided, however, that if the said company shall determine to change the gauge of its road as herein above authorized, it shall be previous so, and as a condition precedent thereto, enter into a written agreement, to be made with the Board of Public Works on behalf of the State, and by authority of the stockholders of the said company, confirmed by vote of a general meeting thereof, to the effect that the property of said company shall on and after the 1st day of January, 1884, become, and be forever thereafter, subject and liable to taxation in like manner as other property is subject to taxation under the Constitution and laws of this State; and provided further, the Board of Public Works may, of their discretion, at any time hereafter, require the said railroad to lay a third rail upon that part of its road between Richmond and Burkeville within twelve months after giving notice to that end to said railroad company, so that cars of five feet gauge may be transported thereon. And before this act shall become effectual, the stockholders of said company shall in general meeting agree to this provision.

"2. Nothing in this act contained shall be deemed to effect any contract or agreement which may have been made between the said Richmond and Danville Railroad Company and any other party.

"3. This act shall be in force from its passage."

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce will be held this evening at 6 o'clock, to consider the subject of the proposed change of gauge of this road. Business men generally, whether members of the Chamber or not, are invited to attend.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PIEDMONT AND ARLINGTON LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.—The seventh annual meeting of this company was held at its office, corner of Main and Tenth streets, at 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon. In addition to the directors, stockholders, and officers of the company, a number of agents, policy-holders, and friends of the corporation were present.

The meeting was organized by calling William B. Isaacs to the chair, and the appointment of D. J. Hartsook as secretary.

From the annual report, read by the President, W. C. Carrington, many facts were elicited of special interest to the policy holders and friends of this company, and of very general interest to all parties who are interested in life insurance. During the year ending December 31, 1874, 3,084 new policies were issued, insuring $6,572,000 of risks—an increase of more than 400 policies over the preceding year, and over 800 more than in 1871.

After the reading of the annual report the following directors were elected for the ensuing year: W. H. Palmer, George S. Palmer, John Enders, D. J. Hartsook, Parker Campbell, William B. Isaacs, J. E. Edwards, W. C. Carrington, J. J. Hopkins, John C. Williams, W. G. Taylor, and C. H. Perrow.

The Board of Directors met immediately after the adjournment of the annual meeting and reelected the following officers: W. C. Carrington, president; J. E. Edwards, vice-president; D. J. Hartsook, secretary; J. J. Hopkins, assistant secretary; Professor E. B. Smith, actuary.

THE CASES AGAINST COLONEL JOHN BURKE—THE TWO REMAINING INDICTMENTS QUASHED AND THE ACCUSED DISCHARGED.—The case of John Burke was again before the United States Circuit Court yesterday. Proceedings turned upon a motion to quash the two other of the three indictments, on the first of which the defendant was acquitted on Tuesday. The indictments were found in January, 1870. The defendant filed an affidavit charging that the two indictments on which he was now arraigned had been altered *since* they were found by the grand jury, in a material part. The indictments, on inspection, proved to have been altered by changing the name of "John" B. into that of "James" B. in several places. If the name of "John" had not been changed the indictments would have been fatally defective. They would have been good if the name had been "James" in the original draft of the indictments. The alterations made the indictments fatally defective. There was no evidence or indication of the alterations having been made before the action of the grand jury. The alterations were made with different ink apparently at a different time from that when the indictments were drawn.

The motion was argued by Messrs. Morton, Neeson, and Crump for the defence, and by the District Attorney (Mr. L. L. Lewis) for the prosecution.

The court ruled that alterations not explained on the face of the indictments, and converting them from defective to valid instruments, must be presumed to have been made after they were found by the grand jury; that the very fact of doubt vitiated them; and that prosecutions against the liberty of citizens must be made upon clean and unsuspected records.

The indictments were quashed and the prisoner discharged.

SCHOOL TRUSTEES APPOINTED.—The State Board of Education has appointed the following school trustees: Caroline county: Bowling Green district, Burton B. Wright *vice* Wade H. Dale, resigned, and John Y. Martin *vice* Major S. L. Lewis. Charlotte county: Walton District, Captain Josiah Vaughn; Bacon district, Colonel R. A. Barnes; Madison district, William M. Marshall. Isle of Wight county: Newport district, Henry R. Parker; Hardy district, E. P. Womble. Scott county: Taylor district, Jia N. Pendleton *vice* Johnson P. Horton, resigned. Spotsylvania county: Livingston district, Henry M. Holladay *vice* W. P. Nuckols, resigned. Wythe county: Fort Chiswell district, John W. Robinson *vice* H. W. Richardson, resigned.

DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. XLVI. RICHMOND, VA., THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 16, 1874. NO. 91.

THE DISPATCH.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING:

CASH—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

One square, one insertion	$0 75
One square, two insertions	1 25
One square, three insertions	1 75
One square, six insertions	3 00
One square, twelve insertions	5 50
One square, one month	10 00
One square, two months	18 00
One square, three months	25 00

Virginia State Agricultural Society.

IMPORTANT MEETING LAST NIGHT.

PREMIUMS FOR ESSAYS AWARDED—SCHEDULE OF PREMIUMS FOR NEXT FAIR—DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL CONGRESS—THE SOCIETY TO HAVE AN AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.

An adjourned meeting of the Executive Committee of the Virginia State Agricultural Society was held at the Ballard House yesterday afternoon. Present: Vice-President Cowan in the chair, and Messrs. William A. Burke, J. D. H. Ross, John Dodson, S. S. Bradford, Colonel Beverly, Major Rogers, Dr. S. P. Moore, D. Bannister, S. W. Ficklin, Esq., Mr. J. Newman, Major R. W. N. Noland, and Colonel Randolph Harrison.

IMMIGRATION.

The committee to whom was referred the subject contained in the communication of the President laid before the Executive Committee on Tuesday night in relation to the bill now before the Legislature on the subject of actual settlers in Virginia, presented the following report:

Whereas the experience of every day teaches us the necessity of considering the vital question of the restoration of the fortunes of Virginia by means of inviting immigration, and thereby securing the sale and lease of our unoccupied lands; and whereas this committee is profoundly impressed with the absolute and pressing necessity of adopting some practical plan to secure these desired ends; and whereas the bill now before the General Assembly appears to embody all the essential features of such a plan, and is in accordance with the views and wishes of the Virginia State Agricultural Society as set forth in its memorial of January 10, 1872, to the Legislature on the subject of immigration; therefore

Resolved, That a select committee of three be appointed from this body, whose duty it shall be to make known to the House of Delegates, through its Speaker, the Society's approval of the bill in question, and respectfully desire that the same may become a law.

The report was adopted without a dissenting vote, and the Chair appointed Messrs. John Dodson, S. P. Moore, and S. S. Bradford as the committee referred to in the report.

PROGRESSIVE AGRICULTURE.

The committee to whom was referred the communication of Mr. Edmund R. Cocke, of Cumberland, reported that they had carefully considered all the suggestions therein contained, and recognizing the necessity of some action on the part of the State Agricultural Society to enlarge its membership, increase its usefulness, and meet the requirements of a progressive system of agriculture, recommend that the president call a general meeting of its members to be held in this city on the 26th day of May, and that all the friends of the Society, and, indeed, all who are interested in the cause of agriculture, especially English and other settlers, be cordially invited to deliberate with the Society.

1. Recommend that as soon as the financial condition of the Society will justify the undertaking an experimental farm should be established in connection with the Fair Grounds; that a competent chemist should be employed, a cabinet of minerals collected, with such other auxiliaries to enlightened farming, mining, &c., as shall be deemed appropriate.

2. That a Farmers' Exchange and Reading-Room on the plan suggested would be of eminent utility to the farming community as well as to the society. That it is worthy of consideration whether it can be maintained in connection with the office of the secretary of the society—that is, in the same building and under his supervision, he of course to receive additional compensation for his increased duties.

3. That the committee disapprove the recommendation of a salary to the president, and that the members of the Executive Committee should receive payment for their travelling expenses. They consider that the time-honored custom of the Society in this respect should be seriously observed.

In conclusion, the committee express the hope that much will be done in the direction indicated by the memorialist, and that the decadence of the Society by diminution of its membership, which is undeniably going on at present, may be arrested by vigorous effort; that the downward current which is now lamented will soon be reverted and succeeded by the flood tide of prosperity.

The report was adopted.

AWARDS FOR EXPERIMENTS AND ESSAYS.

The Committee on Awards for Experiments gave $30 for an essay on the best method of cultivating a farm of 200 acres in the granite section of Virginia; for an essay on poultry-raising, $10; a medal to V. Vaiden for an experiment to test the relative yield of land ploughed to different depths.

THE TOBACCO INTEREST.

Major R. W. N. Noland presented the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Whereas the Congress of the United States up to the 30th of June, 1873, has drawn into the Federal Treasury $234,600 ($140,000 from the tobacco-tax), and until recently levied a most onerous tax of 32 cents per pound on the plug tobacco, the especial product of the southern and western States; and whereas they reduced the same to a uniform tax of 20 cents per pound by the act of June 6th, 1872, in the line of which enlightened legislation a result was reached which increased the demand for planters' leaf by more than 19,000,000 pounds, and at the same time the revenues of the Government; and whereas a further reduction by the next Congress to 12c. per pound uniform tax would, in the opinion of this committee, stimulate the consumption annually to an amount not far short of 150,000,000 pounds, thereby increasing the demand for planters' leaf, and consequently the prices we would receive for the same; therefore.

Resolved, That a committee of fifteen be appointed on the part of the State Agricultural Society of Virginia, who shall be charged with laying this subject before the approaching National Agricultural Congress, which meets on the 13th of May next in the city of Atlanta, Ga., with the urgent request that the representative body of the great agricultural interests of the country may take such action as in their judgment may place the interests of the tobacco-growing States of Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky, Maryland, Tennessee, Missouri, and the southern parts of Indiana, Illinois, and Ohio interested in the growth of the great staple, properly before the Congress of the United States on a subject so intimately affecting its growth and prosperity.

A NEW MAP.

On motion of Colonel Ross, Major Jed Hotchkiss was authorized to prepare a geological map of the State twenty feet in length and the proper width at a cost of $100, which is to be hung up in one of the buildings at the Fair Grounds.

SCHEDULE OF PREMIUMS.

In Department I. (Raw Material and Produce) the committee have reduced the number of judges, and there will be a slight reduction in the premiums.

In Department II. (Machinery, &c.,) there will be no material change. In Department VI. the committee decided to award a premium for the best essay on sheep. In other respects there has been no material change. The essay is to be prepared and handed to the secretary by the 1st of October next. In Department IV. (Fine Arts) Mr. Newman moved to strike out all the monied premiums and insert medals or diplomas. Lost.

Under the head of "Farm Products" the committee decided to award the following premiums:

For the largest product per acre of corn, wheat, oats, and hay, provided that not less than ten contiguous acres be cultivated in either crop, and provided also that the yield of corn shall not be less than 30 bushels (shelled), wheat 60 bushels, oats 50 bushels, and hay 2½ tons per acre; and for the best crop of tobacco of not less than 2½ acres, with a yield of not less than 1,500 pounds (well cured) to the acre—for each crop Society's diploma and $100.

Major Bradford submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That for the most satisfactory and accurate experiment to test the relative productive value of at least five of the commercial fertilizers sold in the Virginia market, to be used on corn, wheat, and tobacco, each—premium, one ton of the fertilizer proven to be the most valuable.

A proposition for the publication of an agricultural journal in this city, in which shall be printed all the proceedings, essays, etc., of the Society, and which is to be given in lieu of small monied premiums, and be furnished the Society and such other persons as may desire to subscribe at $1 per annum, was adopted.

DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CONGRESS.

The Chair appointed the following delegates to the National Congress under Major Noland's resolution: Major R. W. N. Noland, of Loudoun; Colonel Dromgoole, of Brunswick; Colonel John L. Eubank, of Bath; Colonel George W. Bolling, Petersburg; L. Ragland, Halifax; E. W. Hubbard, Buckingham; Dr. Graham, Rockbridge; Major W. T. Sutherlin, Danville; Hon. Mr. Whitehead, Amherst; General Joseph R. Anderson, Colonel W. P. Burwell, Richmond; William Watts, Roanoke; Judge Critcher, Westmoreland; Colonel Robert Beverly, Colonel S. S. Bradford, Culpeper.

On motion of Major Noland, Colonel W. C. Knight and Colonel John T. Cowan were added to the committee.

GENERAL MEETING.

Major Noland offered the following:

Resolved, That a general meeting of the Virginia State Agricultural Society be called to meet in Richmond, on the evening of the 26th of May next, to which all members of other agricultural associations of the State and all friends of agriculture are cordially invited.

Adopted.

Colonel Harrison, a member of the committee, presented his resignation, which the committee refused to accept.

Adjourned at 8 P. M. *sine die*.

DOLLAR SAVINGS BANK.

THE AFFAIRS OF THE INSTITUTION TO GO INTO THE HANDS OF TRUSTEES CHOSEN BY THE CREDITORS.

Important Order in This Case Entered by Judge Hughes Yesterday.

In the United States District Court yesterday Judge Hughes entered the following order, after considering the proceedings of the meeting of creditors of the Mutual Building Fund and Dollar Savings Bank (at which trustees were chosen), and the objections of certain creditors thereto. The foregoing proceedings under the 43d section of the act of Congress entitled an act to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States, approved March 2d, 1867, having been placed on file and read, the court doth confirm the same, and doth appoint George D. Wise, E. J. Warren, and Thomas G. Jackson trustees to take and hold and distribute the estate of the said the Mutual Building Fund and Dollar Savings Bank, which the said trustees shall do under the direction of E. M. McCarthy and J. T. Vaughan, the committee mentioned in such proceedings, and the court doth order that the said George D. Wise, E. J. Warren, and Thomas G. Jackson, trustees as aforesaid, shall have and hold all the property and estate of the said bankrupt in the same manner and with the same powers and rights in all respects as an assignee in bankruptcy would have done had the resolution of the creditors of the bankrupt appointing said trustees had not been passed; and the proceedings of the said trustees, under the direction of the said committee and under the orders of this court, shall be as binding in all respects as any creditor of said bankrupt whose debt is provable, who has not signed the said proceedings, as if he had signed them, and on any creditor whose debt, if provable, is not proved, as if he had proved it.

And the said trustees are ordered to proceed to wind up and settle the said estate under the direction and inspection of such committee of the creditors for the equal benefit of all the creditors.

And such winding up and settlement of the said estate shall be deemed proceedings in bankruptcy under the act of Congress aforesaid, and the said trustees shall have all the rights and powers of assignees in bankruptcy given by the said act of Congress.

And power is given to the said trustees to summon and examine, on oath or otherwise, the officers of the said Building Fund and Dollar Savings Bank, and any creditor, and any person indebted to the estate of the said bankrupt, or person suspected to have any of the said estate in his possession, and any other person whose examination may be material or necessary to aid the said trustees in the execution of their trust; and leave is given said trustees to apply to the court for process to compel the attendance of such persons and the production of books and papers; and it is ordered that the said trustees do collect the choses in action of the said estate by suit in this court or otherwise as prudent individuals would as if acting in their own right, and are forbidden to sell at auction or to make other wholesale disposition of said choses in action, or any of them, except by order of this court made after good cause shown; and are forbidden to pay any fees or expenses other than those prescribed by law except they be approved by the register, taxed by the clerk, and authorized by the express order of this court.

And the said trustees are not to enter upon the discharge of their duties in this behalf until they shall first have entered into a bond, approved by the register or the court, in the penalty of twenty-five thousand dollars, conditioned for the faithful performance of their duties.

And it is ordered that all monies collected and received by and all drafts and promissory notes taken by the said trustees in the progress of their duties shall be deposited to the credit of this cause forthwith after being received in the Planters National Bank of Richmond, Va.

This order is not to take effect until the papers reported by the register on the 14th instant shall have been executed, and the bond aforesaid of the trustees shall have been signed and delivered by each of the said trustees.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, WEDNESDAY—*Judge Robert W. Hughes presiding.*—The following business was transacted:

Jaffray & Co. and *als. vs.* D. Stern, &c.: Ordered that the injunction bond given in this cause November 12, 1873, by C. U. Williams and A. L. Boulware, in the penalty of $1,300, conditioned to pay all costs awarded against the plaintiffs, &c, be and the same is hereby rendered null and void.

In the case of Shelton T. Helm, bankrupt, *vs.* T. P. L. Dudley and *als.*: Restraining order preventing the sheriff of Franklin county from levying upon bankrupt's property to satisfy a judgment for some $80, for benefit of Cornelius Kenney.

W. M. Davidson, assignee of G. W. Scott, bankrupt, reported that on the 16th day of February, 1872, he offered for sale, on the premises, at public auction, the tract of land containing 290 acres, and that J. W. Giles became the purchaser at $7.65 per acre, he being the highest bidder for same; aggregate of sale, $2,218.56.

In the matter of James M. Wilkerson, of Mecklenburg county, bankrupt: Petition of assignee to sell and relieve property from lien, order to show cause, certificate of register, &c.

UNITED STATES RAILROAD MUTUAL LIFE ASSOCIATION.

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION.

Reports of Officers—Cincinnati the Next Place of Meeting—Election of Officers.

The fifth annual session of the United States Railroad Mutual Life Insurance Association was held in the parlor of the Exchange Hotel yesterday.

The Convention was called to order shortly after 11 o'clock by President Franklin Fairman, who introduced Rev. J. L. Burrows, D. D., of the First Baptist Church, who opened the Convention with prayer.

DELEGATES PRESENT.

The Committee on Credentials reported the following delegates present and by proxy. The report was received and acknowledged:

C. D. Alexander, Pennsylvania railroad; E. Doughty, West Jersey railroad; George A. Wolfersberger, Pennsylvania railroad; E. T. Roberts, P. W. and B. railroad; A. A. Mead, H. and St. Joseph railroad; John B. Vancleve, Amboy Division P. R. R.; M. R. Wood, C. R. I. and P. railroad; J. L. McNeil, Denver Pacific railroad; W. Beadle, N. Y., N. H., and Hartford railroad; L. G. Rice, Illinois Central railroad; James P. Curry, P. C. and St. L. railroad; J. D. Cruise, Kansas Pacific railroad; O. C. Briggs, P. and R. railroad; Thomas W. Dunn, U. railroad, N. J.; W. S. Tabb, L. C. and L. railroad; F. Fairman, I. C. railroad; James Johnson, Illinois C. railroad; L. B. Blydenburg, C. railroad, New Jersey Divison P. railroad; W. F. Blake, Ill. Central railroad; Samuel F. Barclay, P. Railroad Co.; Rufus Y. Yerkes, N. Penn. railroad; T. W. Stone, P. and Rdg. railroad; Wm. S. Cottringer, Penn. railroad; W. G. Gale, A. and G. W., M. C., and B. and O. railroad; E. V. Cherry, P. C. and S. L.; D. H. Mundy, C. and At. railroad; P. H. Dennis, I. C. railroad; George S. Courter, F. and J. Ag. railroad; Charles McGinley, Phil. and Reading railroad; O. P. McCarty, I. B. and W. R. Y.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Mr. Fairman, of the Illinois Central railroad, president of the Association, next read his annual report, giving a full history of the operations of the Association during the past year.

The number of assessments have been unusually large, but there has been a fair increase in the aggregate membership. During the four and a half years of the Association the sum of $89,000 has been raised and paid out, besides assessments and in process of collection, which will amount to $15,000. This has been done with a total expenditure of $8,500, which includes the original outlay incident to a new organization.

The number of members enrolled has been increased from 2,584 to 2,981, the deaths, forfeitures, &c., from 678 to 904, and the actual membership from 1,906 to 2,077. Out of four and five hundred roads now in existence in this country not over one quarter are connected with the association and many of these to a very limited extent. The president urges that this state of things should be changed. The president touches at length upon the subject of "total disability," which, he says, has been the cause of much trouble and anxiety during the past year. The subject of expunging the section on this subject from the constitution and by-laws he also discusses. The subject of increasing the limit of insurance from $3,000 to $5,000, which was proposed at the last convention and postponed until this meeting, the president also discusses. The president says he is satisfied that one-half of the members would be unable to meet the assessment on a larger limit than $3,000.

He advises a limitation of the penalty prescribed in the case of reinstatement of members. He suggests the propriety of authorizing the Executive Committee to make an advance assessment of one dollar, the proceeds to be applied to the immediate payment of a substantial sum in all cases of death after the proper proofs have been received by the Association.

In concluding, the President says that the Association is so firmly established that no fears need be entertained in regard to its permanence, and it only needs a continuance of the same principles of action that have characterized the Association in the past to insure an uninterrupted career of prosperity and usefulness.

The report was received and adopted.

OTHER REPORTS.

The reports of the general secretary and treasurer (R. D. Kean), executive and finance committees was also read and adopted. The report of the Finance Committee and general secretary and treasurer is embodied in the facts published in the *Dispatch* of yesterday morning.

The Executive Committee recommends the formation of local organizations to be auxiliaries to the general association.

NEW BUSINESS.

The chair appointed the following Committee on By-Laws, &c.: Messrs. C. McGinley, O. P. McCarty, T. W. Dunn, W. Beadle, E. T. Roberts, T. Fairman, and R. D. Keen.

Special Committee to Consider Claims, &c.: Messrs. C. D. Alexander, A. A. Mead, and L. B. Blydenburg.

The subject of "total disability" was discussed at some length. After which the Convention took a recess until 3 P. M.

Afternoon Session.

The Committee on By-Laws appointed in the morning submitted their report recommending various changes in the constitution and by-laws. The report was taken up and voted upon by section and finally adopted with some amendments.

CASES OF "TOTAL DISABILITY."

In the case of John G. Hill (from Erie, Atlantic and Great Western railroad), claiming the full amount of insurance on account of "total disability," the claim was disallowed. The cases of W. H. Allen (from I., P. & W. R. R.) and Joseph C. Ling (from Wilmington, Columbus and Augusta railroad) were disposed of in the same manner.

The Convention then took a recess until 8 o'clock.

Night Session.

The Convention resumed its session at 8 o'clock.

Mr. Fairman, from the committee appointed at the morning session to consider special claims of members of the Association, presented a report containing the names of several persons who had been members of the Association, and whose claims had been forfeited by reason of failure to pay instalments.

The report created considerable discussion, and was finally adopted and the committee discharged.

COURTESIES.

An invitation from the general ticket agent of the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad to the delegates of the Association to pass over the line of that road as far as Cincinnati was received, and accepted with an appropriate resolution of thanks.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The Convention next went into the election of officers.

Mr. Franklin Fairman, of the Illinois Central railroad, was elected president, the secretary casting the vote of the Association; Messrs. A. A. Meade, Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad; William Beadle, New York, New Hampshire and Hartford railroad; E. Doughty, West Jersey railroad; E. V. Cherry, Illinois Central and St. Louis railroad; O. C. Briggs, Philadelphia and Reading railroad, vice-presidents.

Reynold D. Keen, United Railroads of New Jersey, secretary and treasurer.

Executive Committee: Messrs. Charles McGinley, Philadelphia and Reading railroad; C. D. Alexander, Pennsylvania railroad; M. R. Wood, Chicago, R. I. and Pacific railroad; Moses Atwood, P. C. and St. L. railroad; and W. G. Gale, A. and G. W. railroad.

Finance Committee: Thomas W. Dunn, United Railroads of New Jersey, Bordentown, N. J.; David McKnight, Pennsylvania railroad, Philadelphia, Pa.; Joseph W. Allen, West Jersey railroad, Camden, N. J.

Cincinnati was selected as the next place of meeting.

Resolutions of thanks were tendered to Rev. J. L. Burrows, D. D., Mr. J. L. Carrington, the press, and the several railroads coming into Richmond, especially the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad, for courtesies received; after which, at 10:10, the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

CONFERENCE OF CONSERVATIVES.—A conference of Conservative members of the General Assembly was held at the Capitol yesterday evening for the purpose of nominating a candidate to fill the vacancy in the fourteenth judicial circuit caused by the resignation of Judge Alexander Mahood. The circuit includes the counties of Roanoke, Craig, Botetourt, Floyd, Montgomery, and Giles.

The names before the caucus were those of Messrs. Henry E. Blair, of Roanoke; John J. Allen and Edmund Pendleton, of Botetourt; John Merritt, of Floyd; John J. Wade, of Montgomery; and on the fourth ballot the name of ex-Attorney-General James C. Taylor was brought forward. After the first ballot the name of John J. Wade was dropped; after the second, that of John Merritt; third, that of Edmund Pendleton. On the fourth ballot the vote stood: Allen, 55; Blair, 47; Taylor, 7. Fifth ballot: Blair, 51; Allen, 47. It was then proposed to make the nomination of Mr. Blair unanimous, but objection being made, the conference adjourned until 9 o'clock this morning.

Messrs. Blair and Allen are prominent members of the House of Delegates.

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS.—The following business was transacted in this court yesterday:

Jones's executors *vs.* Clark and *als.* Further argued by William L. Royall and James Alfred Jones, Esqs., for the appellee, and continued till to-day.

HUSTINGS COURT.—In the Hustings Court yesterday Nathan Jacobs moved, through his counsel, to grant him a new trial, which motion was overruled by the court. A bill of exceptions was then prepared in order that the case may be taken to the Supreme Court of Appeals.

John B. Renan was tried for forgery, but the jury failed to agree.

PARDONED BY THE GOVERNOR.—Governor Kemper yesterday granted a pardon to Cornelius Smith (colored), who was sentenced on the 21st of February, 1874, by the Hustings Court of Richmond to one year's confinement in the penitentiary for assault. In extending executive clemency the Governor says: "The character of the prisoner has always been excellent. The assault was without malice, committed on sudden and great provocation, and not attended with serious consequences. Whatever guilt existed has been fully punished. Pardon recommended by Commonwealth's Attorney and others connected with the trial, and by a large number of good citizens."

BODY FOUND IN THE RIVER.—Yesterday the body of an unknown white man was found on Stearns's flat, in James river, about two miles below the city. It was drawn ashore, and remains there for the action of the authorities of Henrico county, as Coroner Taylor, who viewed the body, found his authority did not extend to that point.

SENTENCED AND CARRIED TO THE PENITENTIARY.—William H. Mitchell, who was tried in the Hustings Court on Tuesday for felony, found guilty, and his term of confinement ascertained at two years in the penitentiary, was yesterday sentenced by Judge Guigon, and forthwith carried out to the penitentiary by jailor Cummings.

BOND GIVEN.—The Hon. R. M. T. Hunter, State Treasurer, yesterday gave bond in the sum of $100,000, with Lewis E. Harvie, of Amelia; Lewis D. Crenshaw, of Richmond; Robert L. Montague, of Middlesex; G. W. Ward and John F. Wall, of Frederick; and Robert W. Hunter, of Winchester, as sureties.

PARDONS REFUSED.—Governor Kemper yesterday refused pardons in the two following cases: W. H. Hemmings, of Smyth county, who is serving out a sentence of six years in the penitentiary for grand larceny, and Malotha W. Trail, who is serving out a ten years' sentence for horse-stealing.

ACCIDENT.—A wagon containing several gentlemen was upset about 7 o'clock last night at the corner of Bank and Twelfth streets, and Mr. William Freyfogle was badly cut on his head and face.

DEATH OF AN EX-LETTER-CARRIER.—Mr. James Krischman, who was some time ago a letter-carrier, and who was last week indicted by the grand jury for violations of the postal laws, died yesterday at his residence in this city.

CONCERT OF THE PHILHARMONIC ASSOCIATION.—In response to the request of many prominent citizens the Richmond Philharmonic Association will give a repetition of the concert of last Wednesday evening at the Theatre Thursday evening next. The programme is a most excellent one, and is likely to prove attractive and acceptable to large numbers of our people.

CONVICTS RECEIVED AT THE PENITENTIARY. Benjamin Waller (white), three years for grand larceny, and James Hawkins (colored), one year for malicious wounding, both from Fredericksburg, were received at the penitentiary yesterday.

COLORED SONS OF TEMPERANCE.—A mass meeting of the officers of the various divisions of this Order in Richmond, Henrico, and Manchester will be held in Manchester on Friday at Temperance Hall at 8 P. M.

Next Monday, the 20th instant, W. H. L. Combs, grand scribe, and Joseph P. Evans, grand State lecturer, will institute at Norfolk and Portsmouth at least four more divisions, composed of good material. Public meetings will also be held in each city, and will be addressed by good speakers.

This Order is growing rapidly, and is said to be very popular among the colored people.

REPUBLICAN ORGANIZATION OF CLAY WARD. The Republicans of Clay Ward have reorganized the ward club for the ensuing twelve months and elected the following officers: J. G. Brightwell, president; W. B. Page, vice-president; N. V. Bachus, secretary; B. F. Turner, assistant secretary; F. F. Hackett, treasurer. Executive Committee: F. F. Hackett, William Nott, N. V. Bachus, S. Jasper, and William Booker. City Central Committee: J. G. Brightwell, William Nott, and F. F. Hackett.

UNMAILABLE LETTERS REMAINING IN THE RICHMOND POST-OFFICE APRIL 15, 1874.—Margaret Auzé, 19 east Thirty-first street, New York city; Walter C. Dalton, Esq., Richmond, Va.; Mr. John Morton, Main and Reservoir streets, Richmond, Va.; Hon. A. H. H. Stuart, Richmond, Va. *Packages.*—Miss Bettie F. Harris, Charlotte Courthouse, Va.; Miss Mattie Sloan, Greensboro', N. C.

POLICE COURT.—Yesterday the following persons were fined at the Police Court: Charles Allen (colored) $1 for an assault, and Paul Jefferson $2 for a similar offence.

Marcus Bowler, charged with burglary, was discharged.

QUALIFIED.—Mr. C. H. Wendlinger qualified to practice in the United States Circuit Court yesterday.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE WALKER LIGHT GUARD.—The Walker Light Guard, Captain L. L. Bass, celebrated its third anniversary by a parade through the principal streets yesterday afternoon and a banquet at Gerot's last night. The marching and manouvers of the company elicited the highest admiration and exhibited that careful training which can only be gained by excellent officers, aided by earnest and willing soldiers.

The banquet was a happy affair. In response to toasts speeches were made by ex-Governor Walker, Mayor Kelley, Captain Anderson, Captain Charles F. Taylor, Sergeant Stratton, ex-Lieutenant Bland, Messrs. James P. Wood, S. S. Cottrell, W. G. Taylor, and others.

Letters from Governor Kemper, Colonel Sloan, Adjutant-General Richardson, and Mr. James P. Cowardin were read. All the writers sent their greetings and congratulations, and expressed regrets at being unable to attend.

A large number of honorary and contributing members were present. On the parade and at the banquet music was furnished by McCann's First Regiment Band.

THE THEATRE—MISS CUSHMAN.—The contrary elements militated considerably against Miss Cushman last evening on the occasion of her second appearance as Meg Merrilies. Nevertheless the dress circle and family circle were well crowded with a fashionable and appreciating audience. We doubt if there is a finer piece of acting on the American stage to-day than Miss Cushman's Meg Merrilies. Despite advancing years, she has lost not a whit of the vim and spirit of the piece, and she acts it with astonishing fidelity. Could Sir Walter Scott have lived to have seen her impersonation of his wild Gipsy character, he could not but have been struck with admiration and wonder. Those who have been familiar with Miss Cushman's acting in years past assert that she never acted better in her life. She received last evening a fair support at the hands of the Theatre company.

Mr. Sheridan bore the palm in the part of Dandie Dinmont. The *role* of Dominie Sampson, though rather out of his line, was fairly enacted by Mr. Ogden, who did, perhaps, a little too much of the "prodigious." Mr. Duffield acted well as Henry Bertram. The acting of Miss Ella Wren as Julia Mannering was easy and natural.

Miss Cushman makes her last appearance here at the matinée on Saturday, and as all the seats are already engaged it is hardly necessary to predict a brilliant audience. Tomorrow night "Henry VIII." is announced.

STATE TREASURY.—The balance in the State treasury yesterday was $382,581.16.

MANCHESTER ITEMS.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—Grant Section, No. 5, colored Cadets of Temperance, has elected the following officers for the ensuing term: Charles Allen, W. A.; Plummer Morton, V. A.; J. B. Graham, C.; A. Morton, A. S.; V. Thompson, S.; Robert Morton, T.; W. R. Cogbill, A. T.; William Randolph, G.; Pleasant Perkins, U.; James Fox, W.; Madison Jones, A. W.; John M. Branch, P. W. A. These officers have been duly installed by Martin A. Harris, D. G. W. P.

MERITED PROMOTION.—Judge Clopton has appointed A. Carter Attkisson, Esq., Commonwealth's Attorney for the Hustings Court. Mr. Attkisson is cashier of the Bank of Manchester, and Conservative candidate for the position to which he has been appointed; was formerly in the county clerk's office; is in every way qualified for the position, and the appointment gives great satisfaction.

COUNTY COURT.—The County Court transacted no business of public interest yesterday.

THE TOWN TRUSTEES meet Friday night.

SCHAAP'S News Depot, 1402 Main street, is patronized by Americans, Frenchmen, Germans, Englishmen, and Hollanders, because their language is spoken there, and thousands of various articles are sold there at very moderate prices.

The famous GILLIAM'S WINESAP, put up in tin-foiled little blocks, for sale exclusively at SCHAAP'S Premium Cigar and Umbrella store, 1402 Main street.

GOLD-HEADED and other CANES, as also UMBRELLAS of superior quality, remarkably low at SCHAAP'S, 1402 Main street.

JAPANESE SILK POPLINS, new spring styles, at 50, 60, and 75c., just received at JULIUS MEYER'S, 603 Broad street.

The place to buy HATS for men and boys is at 1201 Main street, where the entire stock will be sold at and below cost. Save from 25 to 50 per cent., and call before the goods are all gone.

CHARLES E. KENT.

USEFUL REMEDIES.—To remove dandruff from the scalp and to cure diseases of the head there is no remedy so efficient as PALMA CHRISTA HAIR TONIC, prepared and sold by MEADE & BAKER, Main street.

ANDALUSIAN BALM, prepared by the same firm, is a sure preventive against chapped hands and faces, so common at this season of the year.

LIST OF GIFTS IN THE GRAND MASONIC GIFT ENTERPRISE, to take place at Norfolk May 5th, 1874:

One grand cash gift	$50,000
One grand cash gift	25,000
One grand cash gift	12,500
One grand cash gift	10,000
One grand cash gift	5,000
One grand cash gift	2,500
24 cash gifts, $500 each	12,000
50 cash gifts, 250 each	12,500
80 cash gifts, 200 each	16,000
100 cash gifts, 150 each	15,000
150 cash gifts, 100 each	15,000
590 cash gifts, 50 each	29,500
9,000 cash gifts, 5 each	45,000
Grand total, 10,000 gifts, all cash	$250,000

Whole tickets, $5; half tickets, $2.50. Club rates: 11 tickets for $50; 22 tickets for $100.

Tickets can be had at P. WEISIGER & CO.'s hat store, 1201 Main street, Richmond, Va.

ALE FOR FAMILY USE—ENGLISH ALE, CREAM ALE, AND PORTER.—To supply a demand from his many countrymen here, HENRY BOWLER has now an ale that he flatters himself will fairly compete with their home beverage both in flavor and quality, and with his universally-approved "cream ale" and porter will enable him to please the palates of all. Orders to Spring Park Brewery promptly filled.

With their usual promptness in such matters Messrs. E. B. SPENCE & SON have put in their spring styles of CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, and VESTINGS. Their selections for the spring season are beautiful and sufficiently varied to suit the fancy of any