THE DISPATCH.
BY COWARDIN & ELLYSON.

CASH—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.
The DAILY DISPATCH is delivered to subscribers at FIFTEEN CENTS per week, payable to the carrier weekly. Mailed at $2 per annum; $3 for six months; $1.50 for one month for a shorter period.
The SEMI-WEEKLY DISPATCH at $3 per annum; $1.50 for six months.
The WEEKLY DISPATCH at $2 per annum.

Richmond Dispatch.

THURSDAY.....MAY 6, 1875.

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

THE WEATHER TO-DAY.—*The probabilities are that the weather to-day will be cloudy, with light rains.*

THE WEATHER YESTERDAY was clear, mild, and pleasant during the day. In the afternoon it clouded up, and at night it commenced raining.

Record of Thermometer at the Dispatch office for May 5, 1875.

8 A. M.	46	8 P. M.	74
10 A. M.	55	6 P. M.	66
12 M.	68	Midnight	57

Commerce between the States—Sound Doctrine from the United States Supreme Court.

In the case of the State of Maryland *vs.* The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, decided Monday, the court laid down the doctrine, as follows:

That the road is one of the principal thoroughfares in the country for inter-State traffic is conceded, and, indeed, may be judicially assumed. As, however, nearly all the railroads in the country are, or may be, used to a greater or less extent as links in through transportation, this road cannot in principle be regarded as an exceptional one in that respect. Commerce on land between the different States is so strikingly dissimilar in many respects from commerce on water that it is difficult to regard them in the same light in reference to the respective constitutional powers and duties of the State and Federal governments.

No doubt commerce by water was principally in the minds of those who framed and adopted the Constitution, although both its letter and spirit embraced commerce by land as well. Maritime transportation required no roadway. Nature has prepared to that portion of the instrumentality of commerce. The navigable waters of the United States are recognized public highways of travel and intercourse. No franchise is needed to enable the navigator to use them. Again, the vehicles of commerce by water and the instruments of intercommunication and interaction with the regulation of them is assumed by the national legislature, so that any interference with transportation by water, and especially by sea, is at once clearly defined and distinctly discernible.

But it is different with transportation by land. Thus, when the Constitution was adopted, it was entirely performed on common roads and in vehicles drawn by animal power. No one at that day imagined that the roads and bridges of the country (except when the navigable streams) were not entirely subject, both as to their construction, repair and management, to State regulation and control. They were all made either by the States or under their authority. The power of the State to interpose or authorize tolls as it saw fit was unquestioned. No one ever then supposed that the wagons of the country, which were the vehicles of commerce, or the horses by which they were drawn, were subject to national regulation. The movement of persons and merchandise, so long as it was as free to one persons to another,—to the citizens of other States as to the citizens of the State in which it was performed—was not regarded as unconstitutionally restricted and trammelled by tolls exacted on bridges or turnpikes, whether belonging to the State or to private persons. And when, in process of time, canals were constructed, no amount of tolls which was exacted thereon by the State or the companies which owned them was ever regarded as an infringement of the Constitution. When constructed by the State and they might be the source of revenues largely exceeding the outlay without exciting even the question of constitutionality. Again, by the improvements and discoveries of mechanical science, railroads came to be built and furnished with all the apparatus of rapid and all-absorbing transportation no one imagined that the State, if itself owner of the work, might not exact any amount whatever of toll, or fare, or freight, or authorize its citizens or corporations, if owners, to do the same. Had the State built the road in question it might to this day, unchallenged and unchallengeable, have charged two dollars and fifty cents for carrying a passenger between Baltimore and Washington. Or might the railroad company under authority from the state, if it saw fit to do so. These are positions which must be conceded. No one has ever doubted them.

The unlimited right of the State to charge, or to authorize others to charge, toll, freight, or fare, for transportation on its roads, canals, and railroads, arises from the simple fact that they are its own works, or constructed under its authority. It gives them being. It has a right to exact compensation for their use. It has a discretion as to the amount of that compensation. That discretion is a legislative—a sovereign—discretion, and in its very nature is unrestricted and uncontrolled. The security of the public against any abuse of this discretion resides in the responsibility to the public of those who for the time being are clothed by law invested with it. In this respect it is like all other legislative power when not controlled by specific constitutional provisions; and the courts cannot presume that it will be exercised detrimentally.

So long, therefore, as it is conceded (as it seems to us it must be) that the power to charge for transportation and the amount of the charges are absolutely within the control of the State how can it matter what is done with the money—whether it goes to the State or to the stockholders of a private corporation? As before said, the State could have built the road itself and charged any rate it chose, and could thus have filled the coffers of its treasury without being questioned therefor. How does the case differ in a constitutional point of view when it authorizes its private citizens to build the road and reserves to its own use a portion of the earnings? We are unable to see the distinction between the two cases.

In our judgment there is no solid distinction. If the State, as a consideration of the charter, had stipulated that it should have the passenger-money and that the corporation should have only the freight for the transportation of merchandise, and the corporation had agreed to those terms, it would have been the same thing. It is simply the exercise by the State of absolute control over its property and prerogatives. This course is very different from the imposition of a tax or duty upon the movements or operations of commerce between the States. Such an imposition, whether relating to persons or goods, we have decided the States cannot make, because it would be a regulation of commerce between the States in a matter in which uniformity is essential to the rights of all, and therefore requiring the exclusive legislation of Congress. (Crandall *v.* Nevada, 6 Wall., 42; case of freight-tax, 15 Wall., 232, 279.) It is a tax because of the transportation, and is, therefore, virtually a tax on transportation, and not in any sense a compensation therefor, or for the franchise enjoyed by the corporation that performs it.

It is often difficult to draw the line between the power of the State and the prohibitions of the Constitution. Whilst it is commonly said that the State has absolute control over the corporations of its own creation, and may impose upon them such conditions as it pleases, and like control over its own territory, highways, and bridges, and may impose such exactions for their use as it sees fit, on the other hand it is conceded that it cannot regulate or impede interstate commerce, nor discriminate between its own citizens and those of other States prejudicial to the latter. The problem is to reconcile the two propositions; and as the latter arises from the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, and is therefore paramount, the question is practically reduced to this: What amounts to a regulation of commerce between the States, or to a discrimination against the citizens of other States?

This is often difficult to determine. In view, however, of the very plenary power which a State has always been conceded to have over its own territory, its highways, its franchises, and its corporations, we cannot regard the stipulation in question as amounting to either of these unconstitutional acts. It is not within the category of such acts. It may incidentally affect transportation, it is true; so does every burden or tax imposed on corporations or persons engaged in that business. Such burdens, however, are imposed *diverso intuitu* and in the exercise of an undoubted power. The State is conceded to possess the power to tax its corporations, and yet every tax imposed on a carrier corporation affects more or less the charges it is compelled to make upon its customers. So the State has an undoubted power to exact a *bonus* for the grant of a franchise, payable in advance or in *futuro*, and yet that *bonus* will necessarily affect the charge upon the public which the donee of the franchise will be obliged to impose. The stipulated payment in this case, indeed, is nothing more nor less than a *bonus*; and so long as the rates of transportation are entirely discretionary with the States such a stipulation is clearly within their reserve powers.

Of course the question will be asked—and pertinently asked, Has the public no remedy against exorbitant fares and freights exacted by State lines of transportation? We cannot entirely shut our eyes to the argument *ab inconvenienti*. But it may also be asked, Has the public any remedy against exorbitant fares and freights exacted by the steamship lines at sea? Maritime transportation is almost as exclusively monopolized by them as land transportation is by the railroads. In their case the only relief found is in the existence of fear of competition. The same kind of relief should avail in reference to land transportation.

Whether, in addition to this, Congress, under the power to establish post-roads, to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States, and to provide for common defence and general welfare, has authority to establish and facilitate the means of communication between the different parts of the country, and thus to counteract the apprehended impediments referred to, is a question which has exercised the profoundest minds of the country. This power was formerly exercised in the construction of the Cumberland road and other similar works. It has been more recently exercised, though mostly on national territory, in the establishment of railroad communication with the Pacific coast. But it is to be hoped that no occasion will ever arise to call for any general exercise of such a power if it exists. It can hardly be supposed that individual States, so far as they have reserve or still possess the power to interfere, will be so regardless of their own interest as to allow an obstructive policy to prevail. If, however, State institutions should become so consolidated and powerful as, under color of irrevocable franchises already granted, to acquire absolute control over the transportation of the country, and should exercise it injuriously to the public interest, every constitutional power of Congress would undoubtedly be invoked for relief. Some of the States are so situated as to put it in their power or that of their transportation lines to interpose formidable obstacles to the free movement of the commerce of the country.

Should any such system of exactions be established in these States as materially to impede the passage of produce, merchandise, or travel, from one part of the country to another, it is hardly to be supposed that the case is a *casus omissus* in the Constitution. Commercially, this is but one country, and intercourse between all its ports should be as free as due compensation to the carrier interest will allow. This is demanded by the general welfare, and is dictated by the spirit of the Constitution, at least. Any local interference with it will demand from the national legislature the exercise of all the just powers with which it is clothed.

But whether the power to afford relief from onerous exactions for transportation does or does not exist in the general government, we are bound to sustain the constitutional powers and prerogatives of the States as well as those of the United States whenever they are brought before us for adjudication, no matter what may be the consequences. And in the case before us we are of opinion that these powers have not been transcended.

Virginia and the Seventeenth—Preparations for the Reception of the Richmond Knights Templar.

A meeting of the general committee of thirty of the De Molay Commandery, Knights Templar, of this city, appointed to arrange for the reception and entertainment of the Richmond Knights Templar on the 17th of June, was held at the Parker House last evening, Eminent Commander John M. Clark in the chair. A satisfactory report was presented by the finance committee, and the following sub-committee was appointed:

Finance Committee.—Sereno D. Nickerson, Joseph M. Russell, Stephen A. Tripp, James H. Freeland, John Mack, Franklin Smith, James H. Collins, Charles B. Lancaster, James B. Mason, Nelson Bartlett, Charles B. Barrett, Hayden Sargent, Job Lockwood, George F. Wright. John M. Clark, chairman; George Phippen, Jr., secretary and treasurer.

Advisatory Committee.—Winslow Lewis, William Sutton, John S. Tyler, Sereno D. Nickerson, Joseph H. Chadwick, Elisha G. Tucker, E. B. Studley.

Committee on Entertainments.—William F. Davis, Marlborough Williams, Joseph M. Russell, Franklin Smith, Hayden Sargent.

Committee on Reception.—William Parkman, William F. Davis, J. W. Dadmun, Marlborough Williams, Benj. F. Guild, Charles M. Clapp, Stephen A. Tripp.

Music.—Joseph M. Russell, Sidney A. Stetson, Edward G. Stevens.

Printing.—George Phippen, Jr., Benj. F. Guild, George F. Wright.

It will be remembered that when De Molay Encampment, of Boston, visited Richmond in 1859 their reception by the fraternity there was a perfect ovation, and an occasion never to be forgotten by members of the Mystic Order who were present. The members of the brotherhood in Boston cannot hope to excel their brethren of Richmond in hospitality, for that is impossible; but they can and will endeavor to give their southern brethren a welcome worthy of the organization. The Richmond Knights Templar are expected to arrive here on the afternoon of June 16th, and will be received by some two hundred and fifty members of De Molay Encampment, who will escort them through some of the principal streets to Masonic Temple, where there will be an interchange of greetings, and very probably a grand collation will be served. The Richmond visitors are expected to number about seventy-five men, and during their stay in Boston will be quartered at one or more of the prominent hotels in the city, and will be escorted to various places of interest in and around Boston. Some $4,000 have already been subscribed toward defraying the expenses of entertaining the distinguished guests, and it is proposed to increase the amount to $10,000 or more. No efforts will be withheld in perfecting arrangements for making the occasion one of the most prominent features of the celebration on the 17th of June.—*Boston Sunday Herald, May 2.*

Mademoiselle Redenti, who lately sang "Maritana" with the Kellogg company in Brooklyn, was known as Mrs. Read when she taught music at Topeka, Kansas.

Brignoli reappeared in London recently, after an absence of eight years. The critics say his voice is not what it was once, but he uses it with such skill as well nigh to hide the ravages of time.

LOCAL MATTERS.

AN OFFICIAL POISONED.—On Saturday last Major John Poe, Chief of Police, requested Dr. Taylor, analytical chemist, of this city, to examine a quantity of coffee which had been handed to him by Miss E. L. Van Lew, postmaster of this city. At a meal previous to Saturday all the members of the family were taken violently sick after having partaken of coffee, and it was feared that poison had been administered either accidentally or designedly. The symptoms were such as to induce the suspicion that the family had been poisoned by arsenic. They were attacked with nausia and pains in the stomach and head, and exhibited other evidences of the administration of arsenic or other metal poison. Subsequently Dr. Taylor received some of the coffee-grounds, but after a careful examination of both failed to discover any evidences of arsenic.

It is, however, possible that the poisoning may have been occasioned by some other metal, which can only be detected by a complete and careful analysis. The other members of the family have entirely recovered, but as the matter now stands it is a mystery.

THE RACE YESTERDAY.—A smaller number of horses than was expected took part in the trot yesterday afternoon, but the contest was spirited. Four heats were entered, with the following result:

John Kearney's Eureka, b. s.	1	1	2	1
Parker Wescott's Irishman, s. g.	2	2	1	2
W. S. McCance's Lady Oakland, b. m.	3	3	4	4
William Ellis's Pus, r. m.	4	4	3	3
Thomas Duke's Small Jim, b. g.	5	5	5	0

Time; 3:10, 3:10, 3:05, 3:11.

Eureka was declared the winner of the purse.

JUVENILE DEPRAVITY.—"A picked nine" of colored juvenile thieves, including David Bryce, Robert Davis, Dudley Edward Jones, and Abram Lee, were before the Police Court yesterday morning, charged with stealing two pairs of shoes, the property of B. Bear, and a ham of bacon, the property of W. H. Tatum. The boys ranged in age from ten to sixteen years, and though young in years are old in depravity. Their "nine" is a systematic organization for stealing show-goods placed in front of stores on Main and Broad streets, and a large amount of property has thus been illegally acquired by them. The Justice at first announced his determination to send them all to jail for sixty days, but afterwards, in consideration of their tender youth, reduced the punishment to thirty days' imprisonment. They went back to the prisoners' box with a grand overture of sobs and the display of many big tears trickling down their dusky and dirty cheeks.

A STRIKER STRUCK.—Edward Blunt, the ring-leader of the striking waiters of the St. James Hotel, was before the Police Justice yesterday morning, charged with creating a disturbance in the hotel, and threatening to assault Robert Taylor and Robert Cousins. Taylor and Cousins are two of the waiters who refused to join the strikers, and in consequence excited the ire of Blunt, who told them that if "they didn't git out them jackits"—meaning the waiters' jackets—he would "knock 'em out." At the same time he demonstrated heavily with an iron poker. Police-Justice White struck the striker for a ten-dollar fine, which is Blunt's loss and the city's gain.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY.—An attempt was made to enter the shoe-shop of Mr. James Atkinson, corner of Twenty-fifth and Broad streets, on Tuesday night. The thief or thieves broke off the shutter-fastenings, but the sash resisted the efforts of the bar which was used in trying to raise it. In the same neighborhood frequent entries have been effected into the grocery store of Councilman William H. Williams. The last attempt was made only a short time since, when the robbers unscrewed the wire-screens from his window and threw them in the yard of a residence several doors off.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA.—The Executive Committee of this Association has completed the arrangements for a celebration during this month, which will consist of a dinner on Monday, May 24th (being the Queen's birthday); divine service at Monumental church May 23d; annual meeting of the Association at the Virginia Opera-House at noon May 24th; anniversary dinner at same place at 5 o'clock P. M.; and concert on Tuesday, May 25th, at 8 P. M.

CHARGED WITH STEALING A YOUNG WOMAN. Richard Forrester, a colored member of the City Council for Jackson Ward, and quite a respectable man, yesterday obtained a warrant for the arrest of John Harris (colored), charged with taking and carrying away and secreting his daughter, Exie. The girl is about eighteen years of age; and if Harris has not her in his keeping, Forrester believes he knows of her whereabouts, and charges that he is instrumental in preventing her return to the parental roof.

WHAT IT COSTS TO STEAL A TUMBLER.—In the Hustings Court, yesterday, David Anderson (colored) was arraigned, tried, and found guilty of stealing a glass tumbler valued at ten cents from J. W. B. Newton. The punishment of the accused was fixed at fifteen days in the chain-gang.

CHURCH REMOVAL.—The colored Baptist church, of which Rev. Scott Gwathmey is pastor, located on the corner of Thirtieth and Broad streets, is being pulled down, and will be rebuilt in Shedtown.

CONVICTS RECEIVED.—The following were received yesterday from Fauquier county: Fleming Brown (white), fourteen years, murder in the second degree; Middleton Pinn (colored), four years, grand larceny, and Taliaferro Taylor (colored), three years, burglary.

OLD FIRST VIRGINIA REGIMENT.—Active preparations are being made for the Oakwood memorial services on Monday next by this old and highly-honored regiment. It is expected that all old members in good standing will report at once to Sergeant George A. Nolting, in order to receive their badges to be worn on the occasion.

SMALL FIRE.—Yesterday afternoon the Fire Department was called out in response to an alarm from Station 17, corner of Third and Duval streets, caused by the burning of a chimney on Duval street near St. James.

CARRIED TO THE PENITENTIARY.—Deputy Sergeant Briggs yesterday carried to the penitentiary Martha Miles *alias* "The Household Treasure," who is to serve out a term of five years for stealing clothing.

CITY COMMITTEE.—Arrangements to hold ward meetings to elect a new City Committee will be made at the meeting of the City Committee to take place at General Bradley Johnson's office to-night at 7½ o'clock.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—A called meeting of the Chamber of Commerce will be held this evening at 6 o'clock to hear Mr. Daniel H. London and others on the subject of the currency, &c.

ASCENSION-DAY.—To-day being Ascension-day, divine service will be held in the Episcopal churches at 12 M.

Service will be held in the Catholic churches as on Sunday.

HEN-HOUSE ROBBED.—The hen-house of Mr. R. C. Riddick, corner of Pine and Beverley streets, was broken into Tuesday night and seven hens and one cock carried off. All he had.

MALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.—The annual meeting of this Society will be held in St. Paul's church at 8 o'clock next Tuesday evening. Judge Ould will deliver the annual address, and matters interesting to the public will come before the Society.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE HUSTINGS COURT YESTERDAY—*Judge A. B. Guigon presiding.*—The following business was transacted:

Moses M. Tyler was tried and convicted on an indictment for misdemeanor and fined $100 and costs. His license was revoked as ordinary-keeper, and he ordered to give bond in $100 to keep the peace for one year.

James Wade, indicted for misdemeanor, pleaded not guilty, and a *nolle prosequi* was entered. Same disposition was made of the case of T. F. Granger.

Albert Hundley was tried and acquitted for forging an order on the Tredegar store for one dollar; also William James.

Henry Wormley was found guilty of misdemeanor and sent to jail for twelve months, with labor.

Julia Williams, indicted for felony. Prisoner admitted former conviction of petty larceny, and plead guilty of last offence, and was sent to the penitentiary for one year.

William James *alias* William Perkins was sent to the penitentiary for five years for felony—robbing the person of one James Bayley.

Annie Robinson was fined $50 and costs for a misdemeanor.

In the case of V. Girard, for misdemeanor, prosecution dismissed without cost.

Polk Britt pleaded guilty of breaking into the store of Brown, Pemberton & Co. with intent to steal, and was sent to the penitentiary for three years.

Andrew Tinsley, charged with stealing a barrel of Epsom salts, &c., from the Powhatan Steamboat Company, was found guilty of petit larceny and sent to the chain-gang for twelve months.

Judge Beverley R. Wellford, of the Circuit Court of the city of Richmond, will preside in the Hustings Court to-day, Judge Guigon being called out of town on business.

THE NEW RESERVOIR.—The investigation into the affairs of the Water Committee and the new reservoir is progressing. Colonel Cutshaw has been examined, and the Committee on Retrenchment and Reform are engaged in overhauling the books and accounts connected with this important public improvement.

SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PUMP-HOUSE.—At a meeting of the Council Committee on Water held yesterday afternoon Mr. Walter J. Mahoney was elected superintendent of the pump-house *vice* John P. Tyler, deceased.

HEBREW LADIES' MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION. The ladies of the Hebrew Memorial Association held their annual meeting evening before last. The following officers were unanimously elected for the ensuing year: Miss R. H. Myers, president; Mrs. E. Cohen, first vice-president; Mrs. Alfred Moses, second vice-president; Mrs N. Ezekiel, third vice-president; Miss R. C. Levy, secretary and treasurer.

Wednesday the 19th was appointed for memorial-day, on which occasion they agreed to cordially invite the ladies of the Oakwood and Hollywood Associations to unite with them in decorating the graves.

INSTALLATION OF TEMPERANCE OFFICERS.—Mount Vernon Division, No. 6, Daughters of Temperance, have installed the following officers for the ensuing quarter: Sallie Dickerson, worthy patriarch; Henrietta Clarke, worthy associate; Victory Dotson, recording scribe; Sally Johnson, assistant recording scribe; Nanny Weeks, financial scribe; Lucy Sower, treasurer; Louisa Robertson, chaplain; Mary E. King, conductor; Margaret Jackson, assistant conductor; Matilda Robertson, inside sentinel; Eliza Hamton and Mary J. Scott, past worthy patriarchs; L. Sower, local deputy.

THE PHILHARMONIC ASSOCIATION.—To-night this old Association will meet for the purpose of rehearsing for the concert to be given in a few weeks. The members are confident of making it one of, if not the best, musical entertainments ever given to the musical public of this city. By particular request, it is understood that Wagner's unrivalled "Chorus of Pilgrims," which placed the Association so high in the musical world at the last Sängerfest, will be given for the last time on the evening of the concert.

A SELECT ENTERTAINMENT.—On next Tuesday and Wednesday evenings the Fourth-Street Club, an organization comprising much of the amateur talent of the city, will give two select entertainments at Assembly Hall. Music—vocal and instrumental—character acting, and other features will be combined to please and interest the audiences. The programmes will be arranged with special reference to pleasing the ladies, who are expected to be present in large numbers.

TOM THUMB.—Tom Thumb and wife, Commodore Nutt, and Minnie Warren had a very large audience at their matinée yesterday, and even a larger one last night. The performances consisted of songs, dances, character acting, &c., and was very pleasing to young people, while old folks were much interested. There will be a matinée at 3 o'clock this afternoon and the concluding performances to-night.

ST. MARK'S FAIR.—The ladies of St. Mark's Episcopal church are conducting a fair on the second floor of the building at the southeast corner of Fourth and Broad streets. To-night, in addition to many other attractions, there will be a concert, and to-morrow night a spelling-match.

SPELLING-MATCH.—The champion spelling-match between a picked class from Manchester and Richmond will take place at Assembly Hall to-morrow evening at 8 o'clock.

MANCHESTER NEWS.

THE COURTS.—The May term of the Circuit and County Courts begins on Monday the 10th instant.

POLITICAL.—Conservative ward-meetings will be held in the Second and Third wards to night for the purpose of nominating councilmen and the transaction of other important business.

RELIGIOUS.—An interesting revival is in progress at the colored Baptist church. Crowds of people are nightly in attendance.

CITY COUNCIL.—This body will meet to-morrow night at the Auditor's office.

FLOWERS in rich profusion,
FLOWERS in great perfection,
FLOWERS—a rare collection,
at W. W. TURNER'S Flower-Garden, Cherry street near Hollywood. Bouquets, cut flowers, floral decorations. Urns and baskets filled at low prices.

MIMIC MILITARY MANŒUVRES—Assembly Hall, Tuesday, May 11th.

FLOWERS! FLOWERS!—Carnations, Roses, Fuchias (Ladies' Ear-Drops), Verbenas, Pansies, Coleus, and all the standard varieties of border-plants, in great perfection and profusion, for sale by JOHN MORTON, Florist, corner of Main and Reservoir streets.

COWARDINI'S CAVORTATIONS—Assembly Hall, Tuesday, May 11th.

FLOWERS! FLOWERS!—Those in want of flowers should go to JOHN MORTON'S gardens, corner of Main and Reservoir streets, where they will find a large collection of roses, verbenas, fuschias, pansies, geraniums, and other plants.

STRAWBERRIES! STRAWBERRIES!—PIZZINI has just received a fine lot of nice strawberries from the South, and we advise all our friends to "go for" them at once.

MIMIC RANDOLPH-MACON SPELLISTS—Tuesday evening, May 11th, Assembly Hall.

FRESH STRAWBERRIES just received by PIZZINI yesterday. Go early this morning if you wish any.

SLATE! SLATE! SLATE!—We offer for sale five hundred squares of the very best (Government) second-hand slate. Will sell in lots to suit purchasers at a low price. CHAFFIN, STAPLES & CO., Real Estate Agents, No. 11 Tenth street.

"FLOWERS ARE LOVE'S TRUEST LANGUAGE." The flowers can be obtained at SMITH'S Hollywood Flower-Garden, corner of Albemarle and Cherry streets. The love can be gotten elsewhere.

Mr. SMITH'S stock is large and varied, and comprises the choicest flowers suited to this climate. As the weather now seems settled and warm, the favorable opportunity for planting has arrived, and he will be pleased to fill all orders with promptness and care, and will give such instructions about planting as will insure their successful growth.

Mr. SMITH will also attend to sections in Hollywood, and will do work by the job, or contract for keeping sections in good order by the year.

MINOR'S MUTERIAL JRUDGES—Assembly Hall, Tuesday, May 11th.

MIMIC RICHMOND BAPTIST COLLEGE ORTHOGRAPHISTS—Tuesday evening, May 11th, Assembly Hall.

PERSONAL.—Mr. RAPHAEL FERRANDINI has returned to the city from New York. He brings with him an elegant stock of new fancy goods of all descriptions, which were all imported from Paris by himself. Give him a call.

FOURTH-STREET CLUB—Tuesday evening, May 11th.

HOME INDUSTRY.—Buy the "Excelsior" Water-Cooler and the "Polar" Refrigerator, the ONLY CHARCOAL-PACKED ice-economizers made in this city. For sale by the principal dealers in our line. MOUNTCASTLE & COVER, manufacturers, 520 Broad street.

REDPORDINI'S FEMININE FOLLIES—Assembly Hall, Tuesday evening, May 11th.

DYSPEPSIA AND ITS EFFECTS—such as sour stomach, sick headache, habitual costiveness, heart-burn, water-brash, disagreeable taste in the mouth, palpation of the heart, and diseases of the stomach and liver—cured at once by two doses of GREEN'S AUGUST FLOWER. If you doubt this, get a sample bottle for ten cents and try it. PURCELL, LADD & CO., Agents.

BASSINI'S BASS-OLEON—Assembly Hall, Tuesday evening, May 11th.

RICHMOND HOMŒOPATHIC PHARMACY Depot for Humphrey's Homœopathic Specifics, Epps's Homœopathic Cocoa, Liebig's Liquid Extract of Beef, and the British Egg-and-Butter Powder, 705 Main street. R. P. DUNN.

BOSCHEN & BROTHER, 509 and 511 Broad street, have received their fall spring supply of ladies', gentlemen's, misses', boys', youths', and children's boots, shoes, brogans, slippers, ties, &c. Also, an elegant assortment of trunks, valises, railroad bags, and satchels, which they are offering at a reduction of former prices.

LEAVE YOUR MEASURE to secure a good fit for a first-class pair of boots or shoes made in any style—hand-work only—at BOSCHEN'S, 509 and 511 Broad street.

LADIES' BOX-TOE BUTTON GAITERS at BOSCHEN'S, 509 and 511 Broad street.

HAVE YOUR CLOTHING AND SHIRTS made to order by E. B. SPENCE & SON, Merchant Tailors, 1300 Main street. Perfect fit guaranteed or no sale. Call and examine their stock of cloths, diagonal coatings, and cassimeres for suits.

COMMISSION MERCHANTS can have their printing done at the DISPATCH PRINTING-HOUSE at the very lowest rates. Send in your orders if you wish to save money.

DISPATCH PRINTING-HOUSE.—Unsurpassed facilities for the prompt execution of all kinds of printing. Orders filled promptly and at low prices.

LETTER-HEADS, NOTE-HEADS, BILL-HEADS, ACCOUNTS, SALES, BUSINESS-CARDS, &c., neatly printed at DISPATCH PRINTING-HOUSE.

ELECTION TICKETS printed at DISPATCH PRINTING-HOUSE at low rates.

ELECTION TICKETS.—Send your orders for election tickets to DISPATCH PRINTING-HOUSE.

AUCTION SALES THIS DAY.

GODDIN, WARREN & CO., 5 P. M., framed dwelling at the southwest corner of Clay and Smith streets.

LYNE & BROTHER, 5 P. M., suburban farm and residence in Henrico county on the Newbridge road.

W. GODDIN, 5 P. M., lot on the south side of Clay between Monroe and Henry streets.

GODDIN, WARREN & CO., 4½ P. M., brick dwelling at the southwest corner of Clay and Madison streets.

THOMAS W. KEESEE, 10 A. M., household furniture, shelving, &c.

W. B. RATCLIFFE, 10 A. M., at No. 226 Seventh street, bar-fixtures, counter, shuffle-board, &c.

DISSOLUTIONS & PARTNERSHIPS.

DISSOLUTION.

The firm of FERGUSSON & RADY is this day dissolved by mutual consent. CHARLES P. RADY retires from the firm. JOHN W. FERGUSSON assumes all liabilities of the firm, and will continue business at the same place.

JOHN W. FERGUSSON,
CHARLES P. RADY.

RICHMOND, May 1, 1875.

CO-PARTNERSHIP.

I have this day admitted my son, EDGAR H. FERGUSSON to an interest in my business. The style of the firm will hereafter be JOHN W. FERGUSSON & SON.

With increased facilities and strict attention to all business entrusted to the new firm, I hope to receive in the future, as in the past, the patronage of my friends and the public generally.

JOHN W. FERGUSSON.

NOTICE.—Referring to the above announcements I beg leave to return my sincere thanks to my friends and the public for the generous support given the old firm, and also to solicit a continuance of the same to the new, feeling assured that all work will be executed with satisfaction to all interested. Their facilities will be increased to meet all demands that may be made upon them.

my 6-3t CHARLES P. RADY.

CO-PARTNERSHIP.

MR. CHARLES P. RADY, late of the firm of Fergusson & Rady, having this day been admitted to an equal interest in the business heretofore conducted by George A. Smith, a co-partnership has been formed under the name and style of SMITH & RADY, for the purpose of continuing a GENERAL SUPPLY HOUSE at No. 4 Governor street, for railroad, machinists', saw-mill, and miners' supplies. A continuance of the favors so liberally bestowed on the late firm is respectfully solicited.

GEORGE A. SMITH,
CHARLES P. RADY.

RICHMOND, May 1, 1875.

Returning my grateful thanks to my friends and the public generally for favors in the past, I would say that with increased advantages the new firm will be enabled to supply all demands promptly, and will use every endeavor to give satisfaction.

my 6-3t GEORGE A. SMITH.

DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP.—The partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned under the firm of WEST & LACY is this day dissolved by mutual consent. All persons indebted to the firm are requested to make payment at once. All claims against the firm will be paid on the 1st day of June. The name of the firm will only be used in liquidation. Each of us will commence business separately on and after the above date.

T. J. WEST,
my 4-6t* J. B. LACY.

R. G. RENNOLDS, of Fredericksburg, is admitted to an interest in our business from and after this date. In future the style of the firm will be H. B. TALIAFERRO & CO. The old firm's name will be used in settlement of the business.

TALIAFERRO & CO.
MAY 1, 1875. my 1-eod1m

THE CO-PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing under the firm name and style of ANDREWS, ORDWAY & GREEN having been dissolved on March 24th, 1874, by sale of all their property and business to the WESTHAM GRANITE COMPANY, of Virginia, all persons, if there be any, who may have claims against said firm are hereby notified to present them at office of Westham Granite Company of Virginia, corner of Eleventh and Main streets, Richmond, Va.

ap 8-Th4w* E. SNOWDEN ANDREWS.

LOST, STRAYED, AND FOUND.

LOST, ON SATURDAY NIGHT, MAY 1st, on Third between Byrd and Cary, or on Cary between First and Third streets, a BLACK CRAPE VEIL. A liberal reward will be paid if left at this office. my 5-3t*

LOST.—Strayed from 515 Seventh street, between Clay and Leigh, a dark brown COW with black face, broad horns, smooth crop in left ear, and a crop in the right ear with two slits. A reward will be paid for her return.

my 5-2t* T. M. LOGAN.

TAKEN UP, ON MONDAY THE 3d of May, on my place, near Oakwood, TWO COWS—one DARK RED HEIFER, one LIGHT RED with white about the head. The owners will please come forward, prove property, pay damages, and take them away.

my 5-3t W. E. BASS.

STRAYED.—Came to my house on Saturday forenoon a SMALL SORREL PONY with letters on hip. The owner will come forward, pay charges, and take it away, or it will be dealt with as the law directs.

J. H. DODD, Central road,
my 5-3t* four miles below the city.

BY TELEGRAPH.

The Recent Changes of Prominent Officials.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, May 5.—The summary removal of Internal Revenue Commissioner Douglass excites very great surprise and much comment here. No one was more surprised than Douglass himself, who undoubtedly had good reason to believe that his official tenure was as safe as the safest who hold positions under this Administration. By many it is believed that the recent changes in prominent officials in the Treasury and elsewhere is but the forerunner of a complete reorganization of the various offices in the Departments.

It is well enough known that none of the changes, even including that in the United States Treasurer's office, were entirely voluntary. It is now said that the Second and Third Auditors and the Commissioner of Customs will be soon succeeded by new appointees, and also that a change is impending in the office of Controller of the Currency.

Douglass's friends express much indignation that he was not advised of the intention of the President to fill his place. The Internal-Revenue Commissionership is, politically, the most important office below a Cabinet position under the Government, and its patronage can be used to great advantage. Douglass was never a politician, and no few believe that with the change that is made the extensive machinery of the bureau can be brought to bear in favor of the President's candidate for the next term.

TIMON.

[By Associated Press.]

Commissioner Douglass Ousted.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—The displacement of Commissioner of Internal Revenue Douglass was a surprise to that gentleman, as he had no previous intimation of it. Yesterday afternoon Secretary Bristow called on Douglass, saying he did so at the request of the President, and to perform the disagreeable duty of informing him that Senator Pratt had been tendered and accepted the position of Commissioner of Internal Revenue.

Douglass made one inquiry only following this verbal communication.

It was, whether his integrity as a man and an officer had been in any manner impugned. To which the Secretary replied, "Not in the slightest degree." With this Douglass expressed himself satisfied.

Other changes in office are intimated.

Weather Report.

WASHINGTON, May 5.—For Thursday: In the Gulf, South Atlantic, and Middle States, falling barometer, warmer southerly winds, cloudy weather, and light rains, followed by cooler northerly winds in western New York and Pennsylvania, and the southwest.

For Tennessee and the Ohio Valley and the Lower Lakes, northwest winds and rain, followed by northerly winds, colder, clearing or cloudy weather, and rising barometer.

Alabama.

DEMOCRATIC VICTORY IN MONTGOMERY—GENERAL JUBILATION—THE SPENCER INVESTIGATION, &C.

MONTGOMERY, May 5.—The official returns of the election here yesterday give Moses (Democrat), for Mayor, 484 majority; Smith (Democrat), for City Clerk, 548 majority. The Democrats carry every ward. Among the aldermen elected are Hon. George W. Stone, late justice of the Supreme Court, and Major Thomas G. Jones, whose memorial tribute to the Federal dead attracted so much attention at the North last year.

Nearly half the colored people voted the Democratic ticket straight for the first time since reconstruction.

The city was illuminated last night, and almost the whole night was passed amid cannon-firing, bands playing, and general jubilation.

J. S. Perrin, late Republican member of the Legislature, for Wilcox county, testified before the Spencer investigating committee to-day. He gave an expose of the means used to secure Spencer's election to the United States Senate; how troops were obtained and used for intimidation, they being accompanied by United States marshals, who had fictitious warrants, with citizens' names prominently displayed, and shown to persons who would inform them. He testified to shooting a hole through his own hat and reporting that he had been attacked by kuklux, and then sending troops to arrest the mythical assailants. He kept and used the troops as a political machine to secure the Legislature at all hazards and elect Spencer.

In the United States District and Circuit Courts, all the cases under the enforcement act have been continued to await the decision of the Supreme Court in the Louisiana cases.

The grand jury of the courts, which was empannelled yesterday, consists of twenty Republicans and three Democrats.

The weather is cool and the crops backward.

New York Legislature.

ALBANY, May 5.—The committee of the State Senate appointed to investigate the prices charged at New York and Buffalo for handling grain report that the charges are too high, and if New York is to retain its commercial supremacy these terminal charges must be materially reduced.

The report of the joint committee of the Legislature in relation to the canal frauds and investigation reports that the system of letting and prosecuting contracts for canal work is full of grave defects, giving opportunities for numerous and varied deceptions and frauds—opportunities that designing men have not hesitated to embrace. In the brief time allowed it would not probably be poss