Richmond Dispatch.

FRIDAY.....AUGUST 25, 1876.

We have no travelling agents. Any such person pretending to be authorized to solicit subscriptions to the *Dispatch* is a swindler. Please remember this.

Renomination of Governor Walker.

The Convention for this district yesterday by acclamation nominated ex-Governor WALKER for reëlection to the House of Representatives from this district. If we had said that the Convention reëlected him, we would not have been far wrong; for in this district—and especially in the case of Governor WALKER, who is what is called a phenomenally popular man—a nomination by the Conservative party is almost equivalent to an election by the people. There had been waged against Governor WALKER a personal war, which no doubt contributed to the unanimity of his nomination. The people will not stand idly by and see a faithful public servant traduced. They are almost certain to rally to his defence and support. It must have been doubly grateful to Governor WALKER's feelings to know that all the attacks which had been made upon him had not been able to prevent his renomination by a unanimous vote.

Governor WALKER is not a man of brilliant talents. He is not even a successful lawyer. But he is blessed with an extraordinary quantity of good horse-sense—common sense—that is, strong perceptive powers, a judgment almost infallible, and ability to adapt the means at his command to the end which he has in view. He has not distinguished himself in the House of Representatives by making a great speech, it is true; but it is also true that he has not furnished any ammunition for Republican speakers, as some of his party friends from the South have done. He is a man whom we can trust to represent our interests. He may not get much applause; but he will do whatever work is to be done. The interminable talkers caused the dissolution of the Union; and when it was dissolved, it was found that the interminable talkers could as a rule get more fighting than they wanted in the course of one revolving moon. Governor WALKER has, however, made one or more very good speeches—just as many as there was any occasion for him to make.

We have already said that Governor WALKER will be reëlected. If he has opposition, it will be merely a Quaker-gun opposition. His opponent will run for the honor of the race—perhaps with the hope that if HAYES should be elected he will pension him by giving him a good appointment.

New York.

We guessed aright the other day as to the Republican nomination for Governor of New York. Ex-Governor MORGAN received it. He is a strong man—that is to say, a popular one. His candidacy renders it absolutely necessary that the Democrats shall select their most popular man as his competitor in the gubernatorial race. We know not who that man is. A. H. GREEN is the man whom we had considered the most available; but the strenuous opposition which he meets with in New York city seems to indicate that POTTER or DORSHEIMER will after all be the lucky person. So much depends upon a proper selection, and the leading Democrats of New York are so shrewd and so capable of managing well their own affairs, that we feel confident the nominee will be an excellent one even if not the best one possible. The Democratic State Convention will meet next Wednesday.

Government Without Law.

"There seems," says that bitterly Radical journal, the Baltimore *American*, "to be a general tendency now to see how much religion a man can have without faith. We have come to that pass where large numbers of good men who reject the truth of the Scriptures, and even the existence of God, desire, nevertheless, to have a religion and even a church." The *American* belongs to a party which is conducted on principles similar to those referred to above. The Republicans manifest a general tendency to see how much government they can have without law. We have come to that pass where large numbers not of good men, but of such men as BEAST BUTLER and his allies, who reject the truths of the fathers, and even repudiate the Constitution, desire, nevertheless, to hold the offices. They wish to hold on to the Government, but they have no respect for constitutions and laws, or for the people's rights.

Mr. HEWITT, of New York, made a speech in that city a few days ago, in which he declared "the republic could not last four years longer with the same rule that it had had for the past eight years. It was not a government of justice, but a government of personal favors. No man could get anything because he was entitled to it by right, but as a personal favor." He also spoke of Governor TILDEN as a sagacious and successful man of business, as the wisest man he had ever known, and as honest as any man he had ever known, and as patriotic a man as ever breathed the breath of life. [Immense applause.]

Mr. HEWITT would make a capital candidate for Governor. Why not nominate him? He is certainly a modest man. We suppose that few of those who conversed with him *en route* to St. Louis suspected him of being able to encounter and overthrow such a giant as KASSON, of Iowa. But this he did.

It is already evident that there is not to be at present an organic union between the Methodist Episcopal Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church South. "A unanimous agreement of complete *fraternity*" is all that has been accomplished; and this may be better than organic union.

Nevertheless, the organic reünion of the two Churches will certainly be effected before many years shall have elapsed, unless the process of differentiation in the methods of church government shall go on more rapidly than the desire for union (and for the vast effectiveness which union would give) shall increase. There is no difference at all that we know of between the two denominations on doctrinal points. They are both episcopal churches. They both have the fifth wheel of the presiding eldership. The one has a large lay representation in its legislative bodies. The other, we think, has, if any, a smaller proportion of lay representation. There is much prejudice, however, yet obstructing the road to organic union—prejudice on both sides; and a sense of wrongs endured from the northern church on the part of the southern.

P. S.—Since writing the foregoing we have received a letter from the Rev. H. C. CHEATHAM, in which he says that the work done by the agents of the two Churches is as we have guessed and what we have stated above. We differ with Mr. CHEATHAM as to the time when organic union will take place. It is, we are confident, a question of time only—a few years, more or less. Nothing can prevent it but a too rapid adaptation of the two bodies to their surroundings; and even then these surroundings must be totally different in the cases of the two Churches.

P. S. No. 2.—Having read the paper issued by the commissioners of the two Churches, we are prepared to say that in our opinion it takes a long stride towards organic reünion. The rules adopted for the government of the local congregations in places where there is church property in dispute seem to us to be fair and just. There need be no more trouble between the two denominations if this agreement be carried out according to its spirit. It will result in a vast saving of money. The northern Church will not hereafter subsidize churches in the South, we take it for granted. What is to be done with Bishop HAVEN and some others of the northern preachers whose breath is agitation, we are not informed. Perhaps they will be allowed to carry on their work of spreading discord between the whites and the blacks of the South; but we hope not. The future will soon tell what is to come of this most important of all the "new movements" that the country has seen since the close of the war.

THAT LETTER.—The Republican papers say that the Democrats stole General KILPATRICK's letter, and that there was nothing in it anyhow; that all he said had been given to the public in the newspapers long ago. So they admit not only that the letter is genuine, but that its statements are true. Now, let us read it again:

"GRAND HOTEL, INDIANAPOLIS,
"August 21, 1876.

"Dear Sir,—I have just finished a tour of six counties in Indiana, and feeling that any reliable information from this State will interest you, I write. In the first place, the canvass is well conducted, the people are enthusiastic and determined, *and the old war-spirit thoroughly aroused*; and if it were not for one thing we could rest certain of victory in October. There is an Independent party in this State, confined, it is true, to a few counties, but formidable, and it will defeat General Harrison. There is but one way to overcome this movement. The leaders of the Independents are poor, needy, and in debt; they must be lectured, and documents be placed in their hands, that they may be convinced of their folly. *A bloody-shirt campaign with money, and Indiana is safe*; a financial campaign and no money, and we are beaten. The National Committee has done nothing for Indiana. Alone they are fighting their battle, and bravely; but unless the National Committee wakes up and does its duty to you, to the party, and the country, defeat is certain in October. I never in all my life felt so certain I was doing my duty as in this contest; and my desire for success, my dear sir, is my only excuse for writing you. Your friend,

"J. KILPATRICK.

"To *R. B. Hayes*, Governor," &c.

How to Advertise.

The Virginians are said by the people of other States to have too high an opinion of their own importance. Whether this be true or not, one might infer from some of the advertisements which appear in Virginia papers that the advertisers take it for granted that everybody knows them. But such advertisements ought to go out of fashion now. Here is a specimen copy:

"FOR SALE.—The subscriber has for sale a large lot of [anything you please.]

"JOHN JONES."

Now, we claim to know as many people in Richmond as almost anybody else who is not a policeman or a public officer, and yet when we see advertisements of this sort it is frequently the case that we have not the remotest idea as to where the advertiser can be found. He may reside either in Screamersville or in Fulton, so far as we know. For some persons it is a waste of money to advertise in this careless manner. The advertisement reaches none but the acquaintances of the advertiser. Richmond has outgrown her village condition. There are seventy thousand people here. Recently a distinguished Doctor of Divinity, known all over the United States, who has resided in Richmond for scores of years, and a lawyer equally distinguished who has resided here still longer than the clergyman in question, met in our office. When the one went out the other, very much to our surprise, inquired who he was. If anybody in Richmond could safely advertise his wants without stating the street or the number of his residence or place of business, either of these gentlemen surely could; and if anybody in Richmond might be certainly assumed to be known to either one of the two, it would be the other of them. The lesson is, State in your advertisements the street and number of your place of business or dwelling-house.

Here is another specimen of these curt advertisements. We looked into the *Central Presbyterian* of this week to ascertain where our old presbytery would meet this fall, and found the following:

"Roanoke Presbytery will meet at Spring Hill church on Wednesday the 6th of September, at 12 M."

Now, as we claim to be so familiar with this Presbytery, it may be said that we ought to know where "Spring-Hill church" is; and we admit that we ought to know; but we don't. Buffalo church we know, and Briery, and Rough Creek, and College, and Farmville, and Appomattox; but not Spring Hill; but some even of these are not within the bounds of Roanoke Presbytery, we think; and so we make our own ignorance an excuse for lecturing other people on their short-comings as advertisers.

The Conservatives of the Ninth district yesterday nominated General A. L. PRIDEMORE, of Lee county, for Congress. General PRIDEMORE was a member of the State Senate a few years ago. He enjoys great popularity with the people, and will without doubt make a vigorous canvass. General TERRY at present represents the district in Congress.

We have received a bound volume of *Lippincott's Magazine*, covering the period from January to July of this year. LIPPINCOTT'S is one of the best of the popular magazines. For sale by J. T. ELLYSON.

The loss by the burning of Waterman's hub and spoke factory at St. Louis, was about $40,000. Insured.

Hon. Joseph R. Underwood, ex-senator of the United States from Kentucky, died at his residence in Bowling Green Wednesday, aged eighty-six years.

Sheriff Harris and John Hunt, of Crockett county, Tenn., have been arrested under the enforcement act for complicity in a shooting affray in which one man was killed and nine wounded.

Three young ladies and a young man were drowned by the swamping of a boat near Guysboro', N. S., Tuesday evening. They were Misses Hadley, Hart, and Myers, and Bruce O'Brien.

A block of buildings in Albany, N. Y., embracing Davis's planing-mill, Spear's canal stables, and Martin's roofing establishment, and some dozen dwellings, was destroyed by fire Wednesday. Loss about $85,000; partially insured.

AMERICAN METHODISTS.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS ON FRATERNAL REUNION.

RESULT OF THE CONFERENCE AT CAPE MAY—THE KEY-NOTE OF BROTHERLY LOVE STRUCK—STATUS OF THE TWO CHURCHES—QUESTIONS OF CHURCH PROPERTY—RULES FOR ADJUSTMENT OF CLAIMS—WISE COUNSEL COMMENDED—CONGRATULATIONS—SECTIONAL DISPUTES—THE TRUE SPIRIT OF THE GOSPEL—THE BENEDICTION.

CAPE MAY, N. J., August 23.—The boards of commissioners appointed by the Methodist Episcopal Church and Methodist Episcopal Church South to remove all obstacles to fraternity between the two Churches have been in session at Congress Hall during the last few days. They concluded their labors this evening, and issued the following

Address

To the Bishops, the Ministers, and the Members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and of the Methodist Episcopal Church South:

Dear Fathers and Brethren,—We, the commissioners appointed by authority of the General Conferences respectively of the above-named Churches to remove all obstacles to formal fraternity and to adjust all existing difficulties between them, deem it proper, in advance of our report to the General Conferences of our respective Churches, to communicate to you in general terms the results of the recent harmonious session of our joint commission.

Pursuant to a previous appointment we convened at Cape May, N. J., on the 16th day of August, 1876, and were favored by the attendance of all the members of both boards of commissioners. After a written communication from the commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church South was received and answered by the commissioners of the Methodist Episcopal Church both boards met in joint session, the labors of which were continued during seven days.

We have had a full and free conference and interchange of views respecting the important matters that claimed our united consideration. If any in the Churches entertained the fear previous to our meeting that we could not attain complete harmony of sentiment touching the momentous questions to be determined, they will be rejoiced to learn that after having given due attention to all questions involved in the proper construction of a platform of complete fraternity between the two great branches of Episcopal Methodism in the United States, we have arrived at a settlement of every matter affecting, as we suppose, the principles of a lasting and cordial adjustment. We have the satisfaction to declare that our aspirations for harmony of views on vital points have been realized. By divine guidance, as we trust, we have been able, after a frank interchange of views and prayerful endeavor to harmonize all differences, to arrive at the desired consummation of an unanimous agreement to complete fraternity.

We believe that no principle of honor on either side has been evaded. We struck the key-note of brotherly love till it sounded high and clear, and so have been enabled to reach the element of perfect harmony. No divergence of sentiment mars complete unanimity of the joint commission touching the essential principles of fraternization.

At the beginning of our consultation one great question seemed to overshadow all others. It concerns the relation of the two Churches to each other and to Episcopal Methodism. To this important matter our most earnest thought and prayerful deliberations were first directed, and the result attained occasioned the interchange of rejoicing congratulations between members of the joint commission.

STATUS OF THE TWO CHURCHES.

We adopted without a dissentient voice the following declaration and basis of fraternity as to the status of the Methodist Episcopal Church and of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and their coördinate relation as legitimate branches of Episcopal Methodism:

Each of said Churches is a legitimate branch of Episcopal Methodism in the United States, having a common origin in the Methodist Episcopal Church organized in 1784; and since the organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church South was consummated, in 1845, by the voluntary exercise of the right of the southern annual conferences, ministers, and members to adhere to that communion, it has been an evangelical Church reared on scriptural foundation, and her ministers and members, with those of the Methodist Episcopal Church, have constituted one Methodist family, though in distinct ecclesiastical connections.

CHURCH PROPERTY.

It was next incumbent on us to consider questions concerning conflicting claims to church property and some special cases that could not conveniently be referred to the operation of a general rule. There were two principal questions to be considered with regard to the church property in dispute between local societies of the two Churches—First, as to the legal ownership of said property; second, as to whether it will consist with strict equity or promote Christian harmony or the cause of religion to dispossess those societies now using church property which was originally intended for their use and occupancy, and of which they have acquired possession, although they may have lost legal title to it by their transfer from the one Church to the other.

We have considered the papers in all cases that have been brought to our notice. These arose in the following States: Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Tennessee, Louisiana, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

RULES FOR ADJUSTMENT OF CLAIMS.

In respect of some of these cases we have given particular directions, but for all other cases the joint commission unanimously adopted the following rules for the adjustment of adverse claims to church property:

Rule 1. In cases not adjudicated by the joint commission, any society of either Church, constituted according to its discipline, now occupying the church property, shall remain in possession thereof; provided, that where there is now in the same place a society of more members attached to the other Church, and which has hitherto claimed the use of the property, the latter shall be entitled to possession.

Rule 2. Forasmuch as we have no power to annul decisions respecting church property made by the State courts, the joint commission ordain in respect thereof—First. In cases in which such a decision has been made, or in which there exists an agreement, the same shall be carried out in good faith. Second. In communities where there are two societies, one belonging to the Methodist Episcopal Church and the other to the Methodist Episcopal Church South, which have adversely claimed the church property, it is recommended that without delay they amicably compose their differences irrespective of strict legal title and settle the same according to Christian principles, the equities of the particular case, and, so far as practicable, according to the principles of the aforegoing rule; but if such settlement cannot be speedily made, then the question shall be referred for equitable decision to three arbitrators, one to be chosen by each claimant from their respective societies, and the two thus chosen shall select a third person not connected with either of the said Churches, and the decision of any two of them shall be final. Third. That in communities in which there is but one society Rule 1 shall be faithfully observed in the interest of peace and fraternity.

Rule 3. Whenever necessary to carry aforegoing rules into effect the legal title to the church property shall be accordingly transferred.

Rule 4. These rules shall take effect immediately.

In order to further promote the peaceful results contemplated by this joint commission, and to remove, as far as may be, all occasion, and especially to forestall all further occasion for hostility between the two Churches, we recommend to members of both as a wise rule of settlement where property is in contest, and one or both are weak, that they compose their differences by uniting in the same communion, and in all cases that ministers and members recognize each other in all relations of fraternity and as possessed of ecclesiastical rights and privileges of equal dignity and validity. They should each receive from the other ministers members in good standing with the same alacrity and credit as if coming from their own Church, and without interference with each other's institutions or missions, they should nevertheless coöperate in all Christian enterprises.

MATTERS OF OPINION.

It is not to be supposed in respect to some matters of mere opinion that all ministers and members in either Church will be in accord, but we trust and believe that a spirit of fellowship and mutual regard will pervade the reconciled ranks of the entire ministry and membership of both Churches. We believe also that their supreme allegiance to the cause of the Great Master will triumph over all variation of personal sentiments, and will so exalt the claims of brotherly affection that from this auspicious hour a new epoch in Methodism will begin its brighter history, so that we shall know no unfraternal Methodism in the United States, or even in the wide world.

To all we commend the wise counsels given in 1820 to missionaries and members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and of the Wesleyan connection in the Canadas by Bishop McKendree and the Wesleyan committee—namely: "Feel that you are one with your brethren, embarked in the same great cause and eminently of the same religious family; and if any warm spirits rise up and trouble you, remember that you are to act on the principles now sanctioned and avowed by the two connections, and not upon local prejudices."

CONGRATULATIONS.

We cannot restrain the expression of our united congratulations to both of the great Churches whose commissions we have executed in uniting between them the broken cords of affectionate and brotherly fraternization. Henceforth they may hail each other as from the auxiliary ranks of one great army. The only differences they will foster will be those friendly rivalries that spring from earnest endeavors to further to the utmost the triumph of the gospel of peace. Whatever progress is made by the one Church or by the other will occasion general joy. They will rejoice in each others' success as a common good, and, amid the thousand glorious memories of Methodism, they will go forward devoted to their one work of spreading scriptural holiness over these lands.

Two by two the Apostles began the promulgation of Christianity in the world. They were companion evangelists, distinct in their several individuality, but they were at the same time one in spirit, purpose, and fellowship.

Their itinerant successors in the chief Churches of American Methodism in restored fraternity will vie with each other to wave the banner of the cross in this western world, and henceforth will proclaim that these Churches are one in spirit, one in purpose, one in fellowship.

AN ASTRONOMICAL ILLUSTRATION.

Astronomers tell us of dual stars revolving together in mutual relation and harmony, whose differing colors are so much the complement of each other as to produce a pure, white light of exceeding brilliancy. The dual Churches of American Methodism will henceforth revolve in mutual fellowship and harmony, so much the complement of one another as together to produce the pure and blended light of Christian charity and fraternal love.

SECTIONAL DISPUTES.

These fraternized Churches have no further occasion for sectional disputes or acrimonious differences. They may henceforth remember their common origin, pursue their fruit-bearing work, and rejoice in their own and each other's success while engaged in the same great mission of converting the world to Christ. Distinctive features of profession and polity are bound up with the name of Episcopal Methodism. That form of Christian propagandism and ecclesiastical economy has peculiar elements of power and qualities of attraction that commend its efficiency in proclaiming a pure gospel to the world.

DOCTRINES AND WORK.

Its cardinal doctrines of free salvation by faith and of the witness of the spirit, its scriptural articles of Christian belief, its primitive system of church government, its sententious demand of those who would join its societies, its itinerant plan of preaching the gospel, its Wesleyan simplicity and orthodoxy, its urgency of the practice of a holy life, its liberal and systematic benevolence, its support of educational institutions, its promotion of Sabbath-school instruction, its vigilant care for the deserving poor, its provision for superannuated ministers, their widows and children, its world-wide missionary enterprise, and its general activity in the dissemination of gospel truth, are one and the same in the Methodist Episcopal Church and in the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Far away in dark portions of the earth to which their missionaries have penetrated a divine light is breaking on the long night of Paganism for the elevation of humanity. It is more than the wand of an enchanter. There as well as here Methodist doctrines and usages wear their own peculiar and Heaven-blessed distinctiveness, and seem to presage the dawn of that era of gladness when the claims of universal brotherhood will commingle with the full glory of the millenium. Episcopal Methodism was never more strong and influential, and never appeared to feel more the quickening impulse of its glorious destiny than it does at the present day. It is eminently fit, therefore, that in its native realm and wide-extended home in these United States, whence its spirit and power go forth like swelling anthems of gladness to bless mankind, it should bear along the blended sweetness and fraternal harmony. Then will its cadences roll down the ages enriched with the true spirit of the gospel; for the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated; full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, without hypocrisy; and the fruit of righteousness is sown in place of them to make peace.

FLOWING STREAMS.

The flowing streams of gospel truth issuing from the depths of their sacred fountains in the Holy Scriptures, as they are borne to thirsty thousands through the instrumentality of a called and qualified ministry, and made effective to salvation by the mighty working of divine power, will increase their assuaging freshness when all the itinerant ranks of Episcopal Methodism shall move together in fraternal concord. Then, as chosen vessels of grace, may they bear the living water of salvation to all the world. Contemplating the prospect of complete fraternity among them, we are led to look back to those inspiring scenes of primite time, when the company of disciples were of one heart and mind, steadfast in the apostle doctrine of fellowship having all things common, continuing daily in the temple praising God and having favor with all the people. In completing the work to which we were assigned by the highest judicators of the two great branches of Episcopal Methodism in the United States we pour forth our united prayer for these kindred Churches in the language which inspiration has prepared for us and say, "may the Lord of peace himself give you peace always by all means."

Now unto Him that is able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy. To the only wise God, our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

In the bonds of the gospel of peace, your brethren and servants, M. D. Crawford, Enoch L. Fancher, Erasmer G. Fuller, Clinton B. Fisk, John P. Newman, committee of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Edward H. Myers, Robert K. Hargrove, Thomas M. Finney, David Clopton, Robert B. Vance, committee of the Church South.

CLINTON B. FISK.

FRATERNAL BANQUET.

SEA GROVE, August 21, 1876.—To-day the fraternal commissioners of the Northern and Southern Methodist Churches—who have been in session for a week at Cape May—were entertained at the Sea Grove Hotel by Alexander Whildin, the large-hearted and gentlemanly president of the Sea-Grove Association. These gentlemen were ten in number: Rev. Dr. Fuller, Atlanta, Ga.; Judge Fancher, New York; Rev. Dr. Myers, Savannah, Ga.; Dr. Hargrove, Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. J. P. Newman, Washington, D. C.; Judge Clopton, Montgomery, Ala.; Dr. Crawford, New York; General R. B. Vance, North Carolina; Dr. Finney, St. Louis; General Clinton B. Fisk, St. Louis. After an elegant dinner a reception was held in the hotel parlor, to which the public was invited. The principal speakers were Dr. Grammer, who delivered the address of welcome; Judge Fancher, Dr. Myers, Hon. John Hill, ex-member of Congress of New Jersey, and Hon. R. B. Vance. The speech of General Vance was received with special favor, his Christian and patriotic utterances being heartily applauded by the audience. It is to be hoped that the conference between these representatives will result in bringing the two branches of this large body of Christians into closer relations, if not into one body.—*Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.*

THE TRUE OBJECTS OF THE CONFERENCE STATED BY A RICHMOND MINISTER.

RICHMOND, August 24, 1876.

Editors Dispatch:

Dear Sirs,—I have just read your article on the Methodist Churches. While you are waiting for Lafferty's decision permit me to make a brief statement of facts. There have never been any commissioners appointed or delegates elected to effect a reunion of the M. E. Church (Northern Methodist) and the M. E. Church South, or to find a basis for such a reünion, or to consider any question looking to such a reunion. The question of the reünion of the two Churches has never been mooted or hinted at in the General Conference of either Church. It is but the smallest figment of the Southern Methodist Church who desires such a thing or dreams of it ever taking place. The speakers in the General Conference of both Churches who have spoken on the subject of *fraternal relations* between the two Churches have been prompt to disclaim any thought or intention of *organic reünion*. In my opinion there is nothing farther off than the reünion of these two Churches, not even the judgment, and there is nothing more undesirable in this life.

The question of fraternity between the two Churches has been discussed, promoted, and carried forward nearly to accomplishment. This, of course, is a good and desirable thing. There were certain difficulties growing out of property claimed by both Churches, which stood in the way of a complete and cordial fraternity. Commissioners were appointed by the General Conferences of the two Churches to adjust these questions of property, and thus remove the barriers to a genuine fraternity—*not reünion by any means.* I suppose these commissioners have done their work satisfactorily, which gave existence to the telegram in your columns of this morning.

With great respect,

H. C. CHEATHAM.

TERRIBLE GUNPOWDER EXPLOSION.—Shortly before 11 o'clock yesterday forenoon a terrific explosion was heard in the neighborhood of Baltimore and Stricker streets, frightening residents and pedestrians, and leading them to believe that something of a serious nature had occurred. As soon as the momentary excitement had subsided it was discovered that flames and smoke were issuing from the grocery store of Mr. J. W. Riggs, No. 903 west Baltimore street, and an alarm was at once sounded from Box 53, to which the fire department promptly responded. The store and house overhead were found to be completely wrecked, the walls being scattered and the windows blown into fragments. The flames were soon subdued, when Mr. Riggs stated he had stepped out of the store for a few moments prior to the explosion, and on returning and seeing a blaze behind the counter asked his clerk, Frank Kraft, to ascertain the cause. The young man had no sooner gone behind the counter than the explosion burst on all of them like a thunder-bolt. The store was filled with a dense smoke and the stock in trade was scattered in every direction. Mrs. Keyser, who rents the building overhead, had a considerable quantity of her furniture irretrievably ruined. Several beautiful vases which were placed on the mantel were totally destroyed, as also several valuable pictures, which were blown from the walls. Mrs. Keyser, who was at the time standing in a room of her house, was lifted several feet into the air by the force of the explosion. A keg of powder, containing twenty-five pounds of that explosive substance, was placed under the counter on a pile of wrapping-paper, and it was afterwards suggested that a match had been dropped on the floor, setting fire to the paper, and from thence communicating with the keg. Mr. Riggs and Mr. Kraft, as did all others around, escaped with a few slight abrasions of the skin. The house is owned by Mrs. Nancy Smith, and the loss on the building is estimated at $2,000, while Mr. Riggs estimates his loss at $2,000. The damage done to Mrs. Keyser's furniture was also considerable, but all was covered by insurance. After an inspection and examination by Inspector Holloway it was found that the walls were in a tottering condition, and it is probable that the building will be torn down.—*Baltimore American, 24th.*

DEATHS.

Died, at the residence of his mother-in-law, Mrs. E. Cameron, 528 Broad street, yesterday, the 23d instant, at ten minutes past 2 o'clock P. M., ROBERT D. BOHANNON, in the forty-fourth year of his age.

The friends and acquaintances of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, on FRIDAY, the 25th instant, at 3½ o'clock P. M., from the First Presbyterian church. 2t*

Captain GEORGE MYERS, of Henrico county, born January 4, 1830, and died August 24, 1876, at fifteen minutes to 6 o'clock A. M.

His funeral will take place at his late residence THIS (Friday) AFTERNOON at 3 o'clock. Relatives and friends of the deceased are invited to attend. *

Died, in this city, on the morning of the 20th, at ten minutes to 11 o'clock, Mrs. ELIZABETH W. POWERS, wife of Mr. John L. Powers, in the thirty-sixth year of her age.

She was a sufferer from consumption of a protracted character, which she endured with Christian fortitude. She was an affectionate wife and devoted mother, and leaves a kind husband and several small children, with a large circle of friends, to mourn their loss. She was a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

"Blessed are they who die in the Lord, for they rest from their labors and their works do follow them." [*] A FRIEND.

Died, in Manchester, Va., August 20th, after a painful illness, which she bore with patience and resignation, Miss EMMA A. LEIBS, daughter of John M. and L. F. Leibs; aged twenty years.

She was cheerful and lively, the light of her home and the joy of a large circle of friends. Her disease being typhoid-fever, there were few quiet intervals for religious conversation; but in reply to a question asked by her mother she said she was not afraid to die, and that she expected to go to Heaven. There had been a marked change in her life during the month preceding her illness. V.

Fincastle papers please copy. *

Died, in Farmville, Va., very suddenly, on the 23d of August, 1876, EDWARD N. PRICE, Esq., inspector of tobacco in one of the public warehouses. His many friends, and especially his old army friends, will long remember him and his genial virtues.

PERSONAL.

AN EXPLANATION.—On Monday, August 21, 1876, there was an excursion to be given by the Order of G. S. and D. of S. to the city of Washington, D. C., by way of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac railroad. After finding six coaches well filled with colored people and one of whites, numbering not less than 400 persons in all, but finding that the train was unable to leave, we therefore wondered as to the cause, and upon examination we found that a great many persons had not obtained tickets, and declared they would not until the train left the ground; and, further, we found that some of our tickets had got lost and were found by other parties and sold from $1 to $1.50—a much lower rate than even our whole tickets specified. Now, this money we failed to get; but rather than fail we offered an endorsed note for the small sum of $114; which note was refused without any investigation. Now, Messrs. Editors, you may judge as to the cause of the failure of the intended excursion of the G. S. to the above-named place.

au 25-1t* J. B. TAYLOR.

MULES, HORSES, &c.

RM. POWERS HAS JUST ARRIVED from Greenbrier county with THIRTY HEAD of GOOD SADDLE HARNESS, and FARM HORSES; also, FIFTEEN HEAD of BROKE and UNBROKE KENTUCKY MULES. All in want of good stock will do well by giving us a call at TURNER & CO.'S BACK STABLES.

au 25-4t* JOHN D. CLARKE and PETER PAUL.

WINES, LIQUORS, &c.

I HAVE ON HAND A PURE RYE WHISKEY—very old. It is strictly medicinal. As the quantity is limited, parties would do well to supply themselves at once at

au 25-2t J. T. GATEWOOD'S, Second and Grace streets.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

FOR CHEAP DRY GOODS

GO TO

LEVY BROTHERS'.

They have a large stock from which you can make your selections, and their prices are always the lowest. They now offer many special bargains, to which they call the attention of those in want of goods in their line.

FOR THE CENTENNIAL:

LADIES' LINEN SUITS, DUSTERS, and ULSTERS;
THREAD GLOVES and GAUNTLETS,
SATCHELS, VALISES, and LUNCH-BASKETS;
SARATOGA and other styles of TRUNKS.
SHAWL-STRAPS, SHAWLS, and WATERPROOF CLOAKS;
SHETLAND SHAWLS in great variety;
HANDKERCHIEFS, NECK-TIES, and SCARFS, at

LEVY BROTHERS'.

Bargains in FLANNELS. au 23

BLANKETS! BLANKETS!

BLANKETS!—We open to-day,
100 pairs of BLANKETS, extra large size, at $5 worth $7;
100 pairs BLANKETS, extra large, at $6.50 worth $10.

au 23 LEVY BROTHERS.

SOMETHING NEW.—Handsome CREPE LESSE TIES, embroidered with Silk—the prettiest Tie of the season—a great variety at

LEVY BROTHERS'.

Bargains in TIDIES. au 23

THREE-, FOUR-, FIVE-, AND SIX-BAND RUBBER BRACELETS—the latest style Bracelet out—at prices still lower than ever.

LEVY BROTHERS.

KID GLOVES in great variety. au 23

LINEN DRESSES FOR LADIES—some extraordinary bargains;
A LINEN SKIRT, OVER-SKIRT, and JACKET, elegantly braided, for $6;
A large stock of GOWNS, CHEMISES, DRESSING-SACQUES, DRAWERS, and APRONS, at

LEVY BROTHERS'.

Bargains in FLANNELS. au 23

THIRTY-FIVE STYLES OF RUFFLING from 15 to 85c. per yard;
RUFFLES at 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40c. per dozen;
LINEN COLLARS and CUFFS in all of the new styles at low prices;
CASHE'S TRIMMINGS in great variety at low prices;
TAPE TRIMMINGS, CROCHET and SMYRNA EDGINGS at

LEVY BROTHERS'.

Bargains in BLANKETS. au 23

GOOD NOTE-PAPER at $1 per ream;
GOOD ENVELOPES at 50c. for a box of 250;
RUBBER-HEAD LEAD-PENCILS at 25c. per dozen;
NOTE-PAPERS in boxes, at 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40c. per box at

LEVY BROTHERS'.

Bargains in FLANNELS. au 23

BLACK SILK at $1.75 worth $2.50;
BLACK SILK at $2 worth $3;
BLACK SILK at $2.25 worth $3.25;
BLACK SILK at $2.50 worth $3;
BLACK SILK at $3 worth $5.

We offer these SILKS at the prices named until the 1st of September, so those who wish to save money should purchase at once.

A large variety of PLAID, PLAIN, and STRIPED SILK at old prices.

Buy now, as you will have to pay a heavy advance when the new silks come in.

LEVY BROTHERS.

Bargains in FLANNELS and BLANKETS. au 23

DRUGS, MEDICINES, &c.

AT MEADE & BAKER'S DRUGSTORE:
BATHING and TOILET SPONGES;
BATH-BRUSHES and SPONGE-BAGS;
AIR-CUSHIONS for BED-SORES;
AIR-PILLOWS for TRAVELLERS;
PURE RUBBER-CLOTH for INFANTS' TOILET;
RUBBER BED-PANS for INVALIDS;
ENGLISH TOILET CARBOLIC SOAP;
PACKERS' TAR SOAP;
JUNIPER TAR SOAP;
GREEN MOUNTAIN ASTHMA CURE;
HIMROD'S ASTHMA REMEDY;
CUTLER'S POCKET INHALER;
IMPROVED STEAM ATOMIZERS;
IMPORTED COLOGNE-WATER;
COLOGNE-SPRAY ATOMIZERS;
ELASTIC STOCKINGS for WEAK JOINTS;
ABDOMINAL SUPPORTERS;
CHOCOLATE with EXTRACT OF BEEF;
VALENTINE'S MEAT-JUICE and GLYCERINE;
and all new preparations sold by

MEADE & BAKER, Pharmacists.

au 25 919 Main street.

"MEDITERRANEAN SEA SALT" for sale by

au 17 POLK MILLER & CO.

BUFFALO LITHIA WATER—a fresh supply just received.

au 17 POLK MILLER & CO.

WOOD'S CORAL DENTIFRICE for sale by [au 17] POLK MILLER & CO.

PREPARED FOOD FOR MOCKING-BIRDS for sale by

au 17 POLK MILLER & CO., Apothecaries.

CARBOLATE OF LIME—the best disinfectant—in 10c. packages.

au 17 POLK MILLER & CO.

FLIES, FLEAS, BED-BUGS, AND ROACHES are thoroughly exterminated by our ITALIAN INSECT POWDER.

au 17 POLK MILLER & CO., Apothecaries.

TO PHYSICIANS.

A few fresh

VACCINE QUILLS (non-humanized)

o be had to-day at J. B. BLAIR'S,

au 16 corner Broad and Ninth streets.

SPONGES

FOR BATHING,
FOR CARRIAGES,
FOR SLATES,
FOR SURGEONS.

A full and fine assortment of all kinds and qualities.

OIL-DRESSED CHAMOIS SKINS, all direct from the importers. For sale wholesale and retail by

PURCELL, LADD & CO.,

au 14 Druggists.

ANOTHER STARTLING CURE—READ.

RICHMOND, VA., July 12, 1876.

Mr. Ro. Armistead:

Dear Sir.—I take very great pleasure in saying that the use of one bottle of your DR. D'ARMSADT'S DYSPEPTIC DROPS has entirely relieved a servant in my family who has been suffering for some time with dyspepsia in its most aggravated form, and I cheerfully recommend its use in the treatment of that disease. Very respectfully,

R. B. BERKELEY,

jy 14-eod Attorney at Law.

SUMMER RESORTS.

MOUNTAIN TOP.

To those who have made inquiry, I can now say there are several rooms vacant. And to those returning from the larger places, they will find MOUNTAIN TOP a pleasant place to stop off at for a season of quiet and rest. The board is equal to the best. All day-trains stop at "Mountain-Top Station" upon notice to the conductor.

TERMS: Per day, $2; per week, $10; per month, $37.50. J. E. NEISWANGER,

au 19-13t Proprietor.

THE HYGEIA HOTEL, OLD POINT COMFORT, VA., situated within one hundred and fifty yards of Fort Monroe. Open all the year with ample capacity for 500 guests. Has all modern improvements. Six daily mails and telegraph office. Fifteen to twenty first-class steamers land daily (except Sunday) 150 yards from the door. Superior beach for bathing at door-step, and good from May until November. Boating, fishing, and driving especially attractive. Send for circular describing hygienic advantages, &c., &c.

au 4-18cl H. PHOEBUS, Proprietor.

BILL-HEADS, $7 to $10 per ream, at the DISPATCH PRINTING-HOUSE.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

W. D. BLAIR & CO.,

903 MAIN STREET,

(Established 1829)

DEALERS IN

WINES, LIQUORS, TEAS,

TOBACCOS, CIGARS, and

FINE GROCERIES.

Liberal discount to the trade. au 24-2w

FOR DISEASED GUMS, USE MEADE & BAKER'S CARBOLIC MOUTH-WASH.

It is very pleasant to the taste, and will destroy the offensive odor caused by decayed teeth and diseased gums. Price, 50c. a bottle.

To whiten the teeth, use MEADE & BAKER'S SAPONINE DENTIFRICE, which removes incipient tarter without injury to the teeth. Price, 50c. a box.

Prepared solely by MEADE & BAKER, Pharmacists.

Sold by druggists generally. au 24

A VERY LARGE STOCK OF DOMESTIC GOODS

has just been opened at

SYCLE BROTHERS', 429 BROAD STREET,

amongst which you will find

500 pieces BROWN and BLEACHED COTTONS, of the best brands, at the very lowest market prices;
50 pieces UNBLEACHED SHEETING, full