Richmond Dispatch.

TUESDAY.....SEPTEMBER 3, 1878.

PETERSBURG.

A DESTRUCTIVE FIRE—THE PETERSBURG LIBRARY BUILDING AND A LARGE GROCERY STORE BURNED—SEVERAL OTHER BUILDINGS DAMAGED—STOCKS OF GOODS IN SIX STORES DAMAGED—LIST OF INSURANCES AND LOSSES—A TREMENDOUS RAIN-STORM—MAGNIFICENT ELECTRIC DISPLAY—MORTUARY REPORT—DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DEATHS—ILLNESS OF A WELL-KNOWN MAN.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

SEPTEMBER 2, 1878.

The most destructive fire known in this city for years occurred this morning, breaking out in the store of Mr. Daniel Rahily between 12 and 1 o'clock. The cause is unknown, some attributing it to a lightning stroke during the severe thunder-storm in the early part of the night, others to an incendiary. The fire was first discovered on the third floor of the building, on which was stored a large quantity of liquors and other goods of an inflammable character, which added greatly to the intensity of the fire. As the barrels were burned through and the liquor ran out new fuel was added to the fire. The fire was confined to this building for nearly an hour, but, finally bursting through the roof, was communicated to the cornices of the large building of the Petersburg Library Association, separated by an alley only a few feet wide. The firemen were unable to reach the tall roof of the Library building by reason, it is said, of mud in the water-pipes, which clogged the steam engine, and the fire spreading soon took firm hold upon the roof. When the firemen got their engines in good working order the headway of the fire was too great to successfully combat it, and the two upper floors of the beautiful Library building were doomed to destruction. The building was sixty feet square and three stories in height. It was built in 1858-59, and belonged to an association of stockholders. It contained 3,600 volumes, some of them very valuable works—only about one-half of which were saved in a damaged condition. The building is insured for $10,000 in the Virginia Mutual of Richmond, and $2,000 in the Granite Company, also of Richmond. There was no insurance on the books. The Library building cost in the vicinity of $20,000, independent of the site on which it stood. The loss, therefore, is much more than the insurance.

Mr. Rahily's store was insured for $6,000 in the Mutual of Richmond, and his stock for $10,000, divided among the following companies: Liverpool, London and Globe, $5,000; Franklin of Philadelphia, $2,500, and the Atlantic of New York, $2,500. Mr. Rahily's estimated loss above his insurance is $15,000.

Under the Library building are four stores, the stocks of goods in which were mainly damaged by water and removal.

Mr. John W. Bradbury, hardware merchant, occupied the store at the corner of Sycamore and Bollingbrook streets. His insurances are: Five thousand dollars in the Royal, of Liverpool; $1,600 in the Home of Columbus, Ohio; $3,000 in the Home of Georgia; $3,000 in the Petersburg Savings and Insurance Company—total, $12,000. Estimated damage to stock, fifty per cent. of value.

The adjoining store was occupied by Mr. B. S. Burch, newsdealer. Loss, $150; no insurance.

Mr. W. D. Smith, furniture, occupied the next store. His stock was badly damaged by water. Insurance as follows: Royal, of Liverpool, $500; Home, of Columbus, $500; Phœnix, of New York, $500; Imperial and Northern (New York), $500; Commercial Union, of London, $500.

Messrs. J. Feibleman & Brother, dry-goods merchants, occupied the store on Sycamore street under the Library. Stock badly damaged by water. Insurances—Richmond Banking and Insurance Company, $1,000; Home, of Columbus, $1,000; Phœnix, of New York, $1,000; Lynchburg Fire, $1,000; Merchants and Mechanics, Richmond, $2,000.

Mr. I. Reinach's store, adjoining Mr. Rahily's, was somewhat damaged, and the stock of dry goods badly injured by water. His insurances are as follows: On the building, $4,000 in the Mutual, of Richmond; on stock, $4,500 in Liverpool and London and Globe; $2,000 in the Phœnix, of New York; and $2,000 in the Royal, of Liverpool; also, $600 on furniture in the Liverpool and London and Globe.

Mr. J. B. Brady's stock of gas-fixtures, in the store adjoining Library building, was damaged about $200; insured in the Home, of Columbus, for $1,000. The building was damaged about $400 or $500; owned by James W. Talley, and insured for $4,000 in the Mutual, of Richmond.

The directors of the Petersburg Library Association will meet to-morrow afternoon to decide what course to adopt in view of the destruction of their property. The debt of the Association is about $12,500, and it is more than probable that the affairs of the institution will be wound up, and its operations cease.

The severest storm of the season occurred here last night, lasting about one hour and a half. The rain fell in torrents, drenching the city and country for miles around. The display of electricity was magnificent, and almost continuous. Some of the flashes were blinding in their brilliance, followed by crashes of thunder almost deafening, and shaking the houses in the city. Lightning struck in two or three places in town, but fortunately did but little damage. The new Gillfield Baptist church, on Perry street, was struck and slightly injured, and a lamp-post on Sycamore street was shattered. It is learned from the country that the lands and roads were in many cases badly washed by the heavy rains. The churches here were all closed by the storm.

The mortuary report for August shows that the number of deaths from all causes in the city during the month was 53, being 14 less than in July. There were reported in addition five still-births. Of the total number 36 were males and 17 females; 20 were whites and 33 colored; 11 married, 40 single; 1 widow and 1 widower; thirteen died under the age of one year, and 14 between the ages of one and five years. So that over one half of the mortality was among children of tender years. There were nine deaths in First Ward, five in Second, five in Third, thirteen in Fourth, ten in Fifth, ten in Sixth, and one at the Almshouse.

The health officer's report to the Council is very gratifying as regards the sanitary condition of the city, which during the past few weeks has been very much improved, with a corresponding improvement in the health of the community. Disinfectants have been freely used, and all refuse matter hauled out of the city.

Mr. William A. Gregory, an old and prominent citizen of Prince George, is very ill of paralysis. He is not expected to live.

Rev. T. T. Eaton preached his third anniversary sermon yesterday. He stated that during the past year 78 persons had been added to the church. The present membership is 601. There was contributed for various purposes during the year $4,730. During the past year the church purchased a chapel in the western portion of the city, which is used as a mission church. The number of visits paid by the pastor during the year was about 1,500.

Appomattax, Powhatan, and Tecumseh Tribes of Red Men, and Naomi, Ruth, and Cockade Lodges, Knights of Pythias, lost all of their regalia, books, charters, working apparatus, &c., by the fire. Their lodge-rooms were in the Library building, and handsomely furnished. Powhatan Tribe is insured for $1,000 in the Petersburg Savings and Insurance Company, and Appomattox Tribe for $300. ROBIN ADAIR.

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

PROSPECT, VA., August 29, 1878.

This has been an unfavorable year for cropping in this section of country. A very safe estimate may now be made of the probable result to the farmer for the year; or, in other words, the season is sufficiently far advanced to see to the end. Wheat fell short far below the expectations of even the most careful observer. Though improving much just about blooming time, and apparently promising a fair yield, when the crop came to be measured the threshers were astonished at the small quantity of grain from so great a bulk of straw; and many farmers who had rented bags for shipping their wheat had to return them to the commission merchants empty. The cause of the failure in the crop is the subject of various conjectures, but the most reasonable one seems to be in the supposition that the rust upon the blade came so early as to affect not only the formation of the bloom, but the filling of the head. In like manner the oat crop was seriously injured by the rust. As to corn, the ears are not filling well, as is evident from the peaked shuck. There are but few grinning ears this year. The fodder is far spent before the grain is formed, as it was with the blade in the wheat and oats. As to tobacco, it is very late and the area planted small. The probability is that the knife will have to be used prematurely on at least one half of the crop. We grangers are not as zealous as we used to be. It is hard for us to unite on fertilizers, because in so doing we violate a law of nature. What suits one man's soil does not suit another's, and as to concentrating in trade, we are too poor to raise the money to combine in sending for what we want. This is what everybody knows; it is no secret. H*****.

EDUCATIONAL—THE POLITICAL SITUATION—NEW CANDIDATES—CROPS—CHANGE OF COUNTY-SEAT.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

HAMPDEN SIDNEY, September 2, 1878.

This very quiet village begins to manifest much activity in the beginning of the new collegiate year. Union Theological Seminary already enrols nearly fifty students, and will exceed that number. The prospects of Hampden-Sidney College are very favorable. The Worsham Academy (our Southside Rugby), under Principal Thornton and assistants, will receive that full patronage which it merits.

Rev. Dr. B. M. Smith, the county superintendent of schools, is sending out a timely circular in reference to uniformity of books and other important requisitions of law.

I cannot report the political outlook as favorable. Not only apathy exists among Conservatives, but it is to be regretted that the voice of the *bolter* is heard in the land. Depend you on it, politicians underrate the intelligence and sincerity of the people. In this and other counties they resolved in public meeting that the Virginia public-debt question was *not* a proper issue in the congressional campaign. Readjusters of every shade, forcible and feeble; repudiators, last-dollar men, and all, agreed on this point. And yet extreme men on both sides persistently insist to the contrary, and compel candidates to give their opinions on these questions, which, by no possibility, can come before Congress. Some voters express a determination to "act and govern themselves" according to their convictions, and will not vote. All of this is to be regretted.

Rumors come to us with more or less degree of authenticity. Letters have been received from the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. Jorgensen) that peripatetic politicians propose peregrinations from the prettiest parts of Pennsylvania or elsewhere, who will come down to instruct (!) and enlighten (!) the voters of the district in the matter of voting. They will have a lively time. This possibly is a very small tub thrown to the very large colored whale, while we have, "by authority," intelligence that *money* is to be sent to pay off the delinquent capitation tax, so as to allow the unbleached sovereigns to vote.

Then rumors of an independent Republican candidate come to us through a reliable channel. If this be true, the bold adventurer forgets De Mortie's fate and fall in 1876, and the Radicals will not tolerate independency (so called). To say that the colored vote can be divided is an Oriental phrase—all *bosh*. They "pool all issues," and they have but one plank in their platform, and that is the *encouragement of hostility between the races*; and when Yankee orators come along with Jorgensen they will leave the "old flag," of which they have uttered so much twaddle and gush, unfurled at home and wave the ensanguined undergarment only. This will be the sole issue.

Still another letter has been received from Mecklenburg, to the effect that the grand North American National Greenback (two-feet men) party intend to have a candidate in the field. We do not hear that the Prince Edward people propose to form any association for the promotion of the views of these gentlemen, or by a court-house meeting to settle the gravest questions which will engage the attention of Congress.

Crops are looking well, and planters are working hard under great discouragements. Neglect of cleaning out creeks is causing chills and fevers. It is wonderful that landowners do not see that it *won't pay* to neglect this very important matter.

A refreshing breeze is springing up on the question of removing the county-seat from Farmville to a more central location. Its friends are confident of success, each at a cost of some ten thousand dollars. The village of Hampden-Sidney, on the Via-Sacra or Pater-Noster Row, is suggested as the location for the new courthouse, though Redd's Shop and Spring Chapel will be competitors for the much-coveted prize. EZEKIEL.

RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY.

AUGUST 30, 1878.

Editors Dispatch: This county was taken from Culpeper in 1831. It is said about 1740 Francis Thornton, from one of the lower counties of Virginia, penetrated this, then a wilderness, as far as the base of the Blue Ridge, and engraved his name upon a tree—the initials of his name, F. T.—from which F. T. church is named. The descendants of the said Francis Thornton owned very large landed estates for several generations, but it has now passed in other hands.

The wheat crop, though injured, is a large one. Corn almost made. On high lands will be larger than several previous years.

The Ebenezer Baptist Association (Old School) convened 23d instant at Battle-Run, a church constituted nearly a century ago by Rev. John Picket, who was imprisoned in Fauquier county, preaching. Large crowd of persons were in attendance. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Sears, of Missouri. In point of talents he is much above mediocrity. His discourse was practical, experimental, logical, and eloquent, free from sectarianism.

The Shiloh Association met the 27th at Gourd-Vine, in Culpeper, near the Rappahannock line. A vast concourse of persons were present—eighteen ministers, among whom were Rev. A. E. Dickinson and C. H. Ryland, and Mr. H. K. Ellyson, of your city. Mr. Dickinson made several addresses that excited the risibles to a high degree, which is so characteristic of him.

But, Messrs. Editors, I want to say something, or rather inquire, about the public schools that Mr. Superintendent Ruffner publishes in the *Journal* as working so well. Are teachers who were employed (now) last year to be paid? Most of them rely entirely upon their schools for the means of supporting their families. They have rendered service, complied with the school law and contracts made with trustees, and have created debts upon the promise of being paid, and now to be kept out of their pay is mortifying—nay, it is worse, a palpable fraud and robbery. Probably your correspondent may not know or is uninformed of the cause of non-payment of the teachers. But one thing he does know: the Constitution—the organic law of the State—creates and establishes public schools. What are the facts in the case? Teachers—poor men and women, who earned their money near twelve months ago—now can't get the pittance of pay to which they are entitled. The State has got the labor and toil, but no compensation. Governor Holliday must get his $5,000—the First and Second Auditors, and the the hundreds of subordinates, the members of the Legislature, all are paid. If the boasted public free-school system employs teachers, and then don't or won't pay, let it fall by its own impotency. As the case now stands trustees can't employ teachers. Confidence is gone—the whole thing in chaos and doubt. Governor Holliday, from his message, or rather inaugural, is hostile to public schools. He says, in substance, the interest on the State debt must be paid; wheels of government must not stop; if anything is left the public schools may come in. THERMOPYLÆ.

FLUVANNA COUNTY.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

AUGUST 31, 1878.

Dr. Horace Tally, a highly-esteemed physician of this county, died last week after a brief illness. He was buried with Masonic honors. Fork Union and other lodges were well represented in the funeral services. The largest crowd was in attendance that had been seen on any occasion for years.

We are glad to learn that Judge Pettit is nearly well of injuries received a few weeks ago in Louisa.

A protracted meeting was held this week at Fork Union, in this county, conducted by Rev. W. E. Hatcher, D. D., of Richmond, assisted by Rev. W. C. Hall and Dr. G. H. Snead, which was well attended, and resulted in the conversion of quite a number of persons. Meetings have recently been held at Antioch, Bethel, Wilmington, and Mt. Prospect—all in this county—with encouraging success. Services have been held every day this week in the Episcopal church at Columbia, conducted by a Richmond pastor who is spending his vacation in the neighborhood.

There are many indications of thrift in the part of the county visited by your correspondent. The crops of corn and tobacco are the best that have been grown for years. There has been plenty of rain lately for the growing crops, but not enough for fallowing in all cases, yet a good deal of that kind of work has been done.

The position taken by you on the currency question is right, and "the right will win"; but if not, it is worth more to be right than to win. The good people of Fluvanna have more in their soil and skill in farming to make them prosperous, as they really are, than an inflated currency could ever do for them. The neighborhood around Fork Union is religiously, socially, and financially one of the best in the State. H.

THE SWEET CHALYBEATE.

SWEET CHALYBEAT SPRINGS, ALLEGHANY COUNTY, VA., August 29, 1878.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

The first autumn leaves at the Little Red have begun to wither and fall, and the beautiful green foliage to change its color, as the sear and yellow emblem of autumn may be expected to put in its appearance over hill and dale on Monday; and yet it is pleasant to be seated upon the spacious porch of the hotel, overlooking this lovely lawn, and witness the friendly morning greetings of friends (for all formality is discarded) as they file along the walks beneath the shade of the trees, from their neat and cozy cottages, on the way to the spring to take their morning allowance of mineral water, and after breakfast see the groups of lovely women and handsome men seated upon rustic benches gossiping over the pleasures and enjoyment of the place.

At 9 o'clock precisely the doors were opened, and for an hour there was a continuous stream of belles and beaux until the magnificent ball-room was so full that there was hardly comfortable room for the dancers. Messrs. Miller and Stack and Mr. H. Saunders were assiduous in their attentions in securing seats for those who came to enjoy the dance as lookers-on, as well as to see that each and every one enj-yed themselves and to add to the mirth and pleasure of the evening. It was a grand sight to see the beautiful women brilliantly dressed in their lovely and becoming fancy costumes, with their handsome beaux arrayed to a dot; and so well disguised were most of them that their most intimate friends were unable to recognize them as they passed around the room in review of the wall flowers. All at once, the band, under the charge of Professor Voegler, of Richmond, Va., struck up a waltz and the ball began in earnest. It was beautiful in the extreme, and words fail me to give an adequate description, and I must leave it to the imagination of your readers. It is not necessary for me to add that the result fulfilled the highest expectations of all concerned—dazzling in the extreme and never before surpassed in the best days of the Little Red. The attendants came from all of the neighboring springs, and pronounced this the best time that they had enjoyed while in the mountains of Virginia. I must add, however, that the young ladies did not have everything their own way, for there are not a few of the married ones who contended with the best of the maidens in beauty and attraction. There is no peerless beauty here, for there are too many who might lay claim to the crown were their competitors absent. The ladies were all dressed with elegance and great taste; and here again we must content ourselves with naming only a part.

New Orleans was represented by the Misses L. and P. Miss Georgie L. as "Marchioness" of the days of Pompadour; dress—pink petticoat and blue court-train overskirt combination, white mousline and lace; hair the style of that age; ornaments, diamonds and pearls—very charming. Miss Aglaise L. as "Pocahontas"; costume, red and gray drapery, richly and tastefully ornamented with furs; head-dress, crown, with painted feathers; ornaments, beads; character well sustained. Misses M. L. as "Topsy," and Maggie L. as "Italian Peasant"; costume well gotten up. Miss M. P. as "French Bonne"—costume, black dress, white cap, apron, and 'kerchief. Misses E. B., as "Flower Girl," and Katie B., as "Dutchess," were splendid. Richmond, Va., a large delegation, represented by Miss F. L., a beautiful blonde, as "Duchess of Lancaster"—dress, lavender silk, with rose-colored court-train, trimmed with ermine, powdered hair dressed with pink ostrich tips confined with jewels, with red rose of the house on right breast. Miss Bessie L. richly attired, with a combination of brilliant colors, effective and pleasing. Miss C. L. as Red Riding Hood, Marie L. as Little Bopeep, Alice L. as Fairy Queen, and Miss M. P. as Flora, were simply exquisite. Miss M. M. as Snowflake—dress, white tarletan, with a flowing veil of illusion and entire costume flecked with down; effect incomparable. Miss B. as Fannie Fern—dress, white tarletan, ornamented with all the rare ferns of the mountains, and crown of same. Miss L. W. as Bohemian Girl—dress, skirt, red and yellow, blue peasant waist, red cap, and tamborine; character well sustained and very jolly. Miss A. McK., "Coming Thro' the Rye"—dress, white muslin and lace, elaborately decorated with rye and flowers, rustic hat, with flowers and trimmings to correspond.

There were a number of gentlemen in costumes well gotten up. Most noticeable: W. B., of Richmond, as Lord Dundreary; J. L. as Monk; R. L. as Colored Senator; N. L. as Bootblack; E. C. as Chief Powhatan; F. B. as Indian Chief; J. K. as Clown; Mr. L., of New Orleans, as Pantaloon; and M. W., of Texas, as Bridget, and others not remembered.

In addition to the charming galaxy of beautiful young ladies in costumes there were in full dress many others who participated in the dance, lending further brilliancy to the occasion.

Petersburg was handsomely represented in the person of Miss M. D., a lovely blonde, richly attired in a superb dress of white brocade satin—ornament; tourcoise hair; powdered. Miss A. B. and N. M. in full evening toilet of white—ornaments, pearl and diamonds. The Misses G., of Richmond, appeared to great advantage in rich toilets, tasteful and beautiful. Norfolk had a charming representative in the person of Miss A. G. Toilet very pretty and exquisitely in taste.

The interest of this joyous occasion was greatly enhanced by the presence of many very handsome and stylish married ladies, among them the beautiful Mrs. C., of Richmond; Mrs. D., of Petersburg—toilet, lavender silk, point-lace trimming—ornaments, diamonds; Mrs. H., of Louisville, Ky., whose graceful bearing showed to much advantage her rich toilet of dark-brown silk and ornaments of diamonds. But as I cannot speak of all I may as well stop here, and truly say the half has not been told. There were many in this pleasant company of whose personal attractions and elegant toilets I would like to speak did your space allow. I must not close without speaking of the large number of ladies and gentlemen who graced the occasion as the invited guests from the Old Sweet Springs, whose presence and participation in the festivities greatly enhanced our enjoyment. At 12 P. M. the large company were invited to partake of a nice collation prepared by mine hosts Miller & Stack; after which dancing was resumed, and extended into the wee sma' hours.

We noticed among the gentlemen visitors General Mahone and Colonel Bolling, of Petersburg; Colonel Bradford, of Culpeper; Mr. W. Moore, of New Orleans; —— Legarde, of New Orleans; D. Kenny, L. W. Waller, and T. Gwathmey, of Norfolk; Messrs. Winston, Haxall, Harris, and Talley, of Richmond; A. C. Jones and Sutton Brandon.

Vive la Miller, Stack, and the Sweet Chalybeate Springs and their guests. May we all be spared to meet again. M.

Grand Fancy-Dress Ball at the Jordan Alum Springs.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

JORDAN ALUM SPRINGS, August 28, 1878.

A fitting finale to the gaieties and festivities which for the past season has rendered this one of the most delightful of our many delightful Virginia watering-paces was the grand fancy-dress ball given here last evening, which, notwithstanding the fact that it was the closing one of the summer series, was by far the handsomest, best-attended, and most brilliant that has yet taken place.

Promptly at 9 o'clock the throng of merry maskers assembled in the large parlor of the Grand Hotel, and after forming in procession were marshalled to the ball-room by the master of ceremonies, Mr. J. M. Brown, of North Carolina, who, as Earl of Essex, elegantly dressed in a rich court suit of the Elizabethian period, introduced to the guests there assembled the various characters as they entered the room. After a short *promenade d'inspection* the band struck up that divinest of waltzes "La Manola," and in an instant the floor was covered with gracefully-gliding couples, whose various-colored costumes as they wound in and out in the changeful evolutions of the dance made the scene one of kaleideoscope beauty.

Masks were removed after the second set, but the merriment continued unabated until the event of the evening. The "Ladies'" German was opened at 12 o'clock by William Ayres, of Virginia. The fascinations of this is too well known to render it necessary to say that the "wee sma' hours" had attained the proportions that greet the sun ere the strains of "Home, Sweet Home," floating softly out on the night air, reminded the happy dancers that the ball was over. "All that's bright must fade," but in the "sweet by-and-bye" the memories of this evening of unalloyed pleasure will oft return to the participants.

Prominent among the most successful personations by the lady maskers were the following: The *spirituelle* Miss M. Vaison, of Georgia, as "Snowflake," would have melted the heart of old Heims himself by her radient loveliness, whilst the charming and vivacious Mrs. Madison, District of Columbia, fascinated all as a "German Peasant." Miss Louise Talbott, as a "Jockey," was one of the most admired in the room for beauty elegantly and tastefully adorned. Miss Alice Maury, District of Columbia, made a bewitching little "Marchioness," as her sister, Miss Nannie Bell Maury, did a "Lady of '76." Mrs. Stoddard, of Georgia, was elegantly attired as a "Bavarian Peasant"; Miss Hopkins as "Spanish Lady." Mrs. Payne, District of Columbia, looked lovely as "Autumn"; Miss Josie Raynor, District of Columbia, "Greek Girl"; Miss Katie Cameron, North Carolina, "Italian Peasant"; Miss Augusta Lippett, North Carolina, "Peasant"; Miss T. Starror, Virginia, "Ragged Nan." Miss Bessie Bryan looked specially lovely as "Night." Miss Julia Lock, District of Columbia, made a perfect little "Flower Queen." "The Two Orphans" were beautifully represented by Misses Pickens and Curtis, of Georgia. Miss Sue Maury, Virginia, made a piquant and lovely little "Cigarette," "the Daughter of the Regiment," one of the most complete and handsome costumes of the evening. Mrs. Johnson as a "Nun"; Miss M. Starroc, Virginia, as "Dolly Varden"; Mrs. C. M. Butler, Georgia, "Spanish Lady"; Mrs. Mills, Georgia, "Quakeress"; Miss Duncan, Georgia, "Folly"; Miss Ruth Tuck as "Red Riding Hood"; Miss Mills as "The Press"—all attracted marked attention. Besides the maskers there were a great number of ladies present in evening dress; amongst whom we recall Mrs. William Maury, District of Columbia, elegantly dressed in black velvet and diamonds; Mrs. T. Jones and Mrs. J. L. Schoolcraft, Virginia, both in elegant black silk toilets; Miss Wilson, blue silk and cameos; Miss Blue, white silk and diamonds. Among the gentlemen were E. Dufner, Louisiana, "Brother Jonathan"; W. Brooks, Maryland, and G. Carter, Kentucky, "Clown"; W. Ayres, Virginia, "Dundreary"; J. P. Verdree, Georgia, "Romeo"; C. A. Brady, "Captain Mulligan, of the 'Guards'"; J. Delph, Georgia, "Monk"; F. Goldsby and W. Leal, District of Columbia, "Harlequins"; Mr. Stoddard, Georgia, "Highlander"; S. Graham, "Clown"; Willie Smith, "Page." By far the most successful personation of the evening was that of "Humpty-Dumpty," by Mr. E. Forrest, District of Columbia, whose performances through the evening elicited rounds of applause from the guests and kept them in a continuous roar of laughter. Though they had no Columbine to pursue, the misfortunes of he and Pantaloon, especially during their separation, made serious breaches in the gravity of even the most staid. Long may he wave. There were many more in improvised costumes whose names we were unable to get, but suffice it to say all enjoyed themselves. The thanks of the guests for this most pleasant episode in our summer's pleasure is due not alone to Major J. W. Cameron, the proprietor, but also to the manager, Mr. J. M. Browne, to whose ingenuity and untiring effort the success of the ball is entirely due. In the words of Rip Van Winkle, "Here's to them and their families; may they live long and prosper"; and in our own, may we attend many such balls. H. W. F.

On Saturday an explosion of "black damp" occurred in the new tunnel of the Stanton coal mine, near Wilkesbarre, Pa. Nine men were prostrated, one, named William Dougherty, dying from the effects.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—SEPEMBER 3, 1878.

Sun rises	5:35	HIGH TIDE.	
Sun sets	6:23	Morning	9:21
Moon sets	10:34	Evening	9:52

PORT OF RICHMOND, SEPTEMBER 2, 1878.

ARRIVED.

Steamship Old Dominion, Walker, New York, merchandise and passengers, G. W. Allen & Co., agents.

Steamer Norfolk, ——, Philadelphia, merchandise and passengers, J. W. McCarrick, agent.

Steamer Ariel, Mayo, Norfolk, United States mail, merchandise, and passengers, L. B. Tatum agent.

Bark Rival (Nor.), Jorgensen, Liverpool, salt, Crinnan & Morris.

Bark Argot (Nor.), Andersen, Delaware Breakwater, in ballast, to load for Europe.

Brig Sigrlin (Nor.), Admundson, Norfolk, in ballast, to load for Europe.

Brig Maajen, Grunde, Pernambuco, in ballast, to load for Europe.

Brig Rocky Glen, Higgins, Hampton Roads, in ballast, to load for Europe.

Schooner W. W. Pharo, Cranmer, New York, salt.

Schooner Harry Landell, Taylor, New York, merchandise, to order.

Schooner William Layton, Layton, Baltimore, merchandise, to order.

Schooner Lily, ——, Alexandria, wheat, Dunlop & McCance.

SAILED.

Schooner Ann E. Moore, Eskridge, New York, lumber, Curtis & Parker.

Schooner Tanhauser, ——, Portsmouth, N. H., coal, Curtis & Parker.

Schooner Anthea Godfrey, Price, Philadelphia, coal, Curtis & Parker.

CLEARED FOR THIS PORT.

Schooner D. H. Ingraham, Kenniston, Rockland, Me., August 27th.

Schooner A. F. Kindberg, Robinson, New York August 31st.

MEMORANDUM.

Schooners Charley Woolsey, Brown, and Mabel Hall, Titus, hence, at New York August 31st.

By Telegraph.

BOSTON, September 2.—Arrived: Bolgr an.

SOUTHAMPTON, September 2.—Arrived: Torrento.

MOBILE, September 2.—Arrived: State of Virginia.

LIVERPOOL, September 2.—Arrived: Old Dominion.

NEW YORK, September 2.—Arrived: Montana, Carondelet.

BOSTON, September 2.—Arrived: Schooners Hattie Turner, from Savannah, and Joseph W. Allen, from Richmond.

LONDON, September 2.—Arrived: Australia and Tycho, Brahe.

FINANCIAL.

RICHMOND STOCK EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, September 2, 1878.

American Gold.—100¼ bid.

State Securities.—Virginia consols, 54 bid; Virginia consols, new, 28½ bid, 31 asked; Virginia fundable, 20 bid; Virginia deferred, 4½ bid; Virginia interest certificates, 6 bid; Virginia tax-receivable coupons, 78½ bid, 79 asked.

City Securities.—Richmond city 8's, J. and J., 116 bid, 117 asked; Richmond city 6's, J. and J., 100½ bid, 101 asked.

Railroad Bonds.—Virginia Central Railroad first mortgage 6's, J. and J., 85 bid; Virginia Central Railroad third mortgage 6's, J. and J., 85 bid; Virginia Central Railroad fourth mortgage 8's, J. and J., 96 bid; Virginia Central Railroad non-mortgage 8's, J. and J., 96 bid; Virginia and Tennessee Railroad second mortgage 6's, J. and J., 92½ bid; Virginia and Tennessee Railroad third mortgage 8's, J. and J., 100 bid; Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad mortgage 8's, J. and J., 100 bid; Richmond and Danville Railroad consolidated 6's, M. and N., 72 bid; Piedmont Railroad first mortgage 8's, A. and O., 97 bid.

Bank Stocks.—First National, 100 par, 110 bid; National Bank of Virginia, 100 par, 82 asked; Merchants National, 100 par, 80 asked; State Bank of Virginia, 100 par, 72½ bid.

Insurance Companies.—Virginia Fire and Marine, 25 par, 33 bid; Virginia State, 25 par, 27 bid; Virginia Home, 100 par, 100 asked; Merchants and Mechanics, 100 par, 87½ asked; Granite, 100 par, 80 asked.

By Telegraph.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, September 2.—Gold opened at 100½. *Noon.*—Stocks heavy. Money on call, 2 per cent. Gold, 100⅛. Exchange—Long, 483¾; short, 488. State bonds quiet. Governments firm.

Evening.—Money easy at 1½ per cent. Exchange steady at 483. Gold quiet at 100⅛. Governments firm; new 5's, 106⅛ States steady.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET, &C.

NEW YORK, September 2.—Stocks irregular. New York Central, 111¾; Erie, 13¾; Lake Shore, 65½; Illinois Central, 80; Pittsburgh, 80¾; Chicago and Northwestern, 34; Chicago preferred, 64¾; Rock Island, 116¼; Western Union, 93¾.

Sub-Treasury Balance: Gold, $130,401,315; currency, $49,441,713; paid interest, $210,000; paid for bonds, $137,000. Customs receipts, $411,000.

BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, September 2.—Virginia 6's, old, 20; deferred, 4¾; consols, 54; second series, 29; past-due coupons, 78¾. North Carolina 6's, old, 16; new, 8; special-tax, 1. Bid to-day.

COMMERCIAL.

CORN AND FLOUR EXCHANGE.

RICHMOND, September 2, 1878.

OFFERINGS REPORTED TO SECRETARY.

WHEAT.—*White*, 166 bushels. *Red*, 4,193 bushels.

CORN.—*White*, 94 bushels.

OATS.—106 bushels.

SALES REPORTED TO SECRETARY.

WHEAT.—*White*, 166 bushels Fultz at $1.10. *Red*, 109 bushels common Lancaster at 95c.; 36 bushels common Fultz at 90c.; 176 bushels prime Lancaster at $1.12; 40 bushels Fultz at 85c.; 26 bushels very good Fultz at $1.07; 128 bushels choice amber at $1.12; 18 bushels mixed at $1.05; 98 bushels mixed at $1.05; 100 bushels mixed at $1.05; 50 bushels mixed at $1; 50 bushels common Lancaster at 95c.; 38 bushels common Fultz at 85c.; 455 bushels very good Fultz on private terms; 40 bushels prime Lancaster at $1.12; 64 bushels Lancaster at $1.03; 78 bushels mixed at 95c.; 228 bushels Fultz at 99c.; 88 bushels mixed at 95c.; 24 bushels Fultz at at 80c.; 96 bushels Fultz at $1.03; 134 bushels mixed at $1.08; 24 bushels prime Lancaster at $1.12; 26 bushels good Fultz at $1.04; 32 bushels common Lancaster at $1; 40 bushels very good Lancaster at $1.10; 150 bushels at $1.05; 20 bushels at 90c.; 26 bushels at 90c.; 58 bushels Fultz at $1.05; 50 bushels Fultz at $1.05; 10 bushels common Fultz at 75c.; 44 bushels common Fultz at 95c.; 38 bushels mixed at $1; 36 bushels very good Fultz at $1.05; 358 bushels good Fultz at $1; 56 bushels very good Fultz at $1.06; 86 bushels good Fultz at $1.08; 50 bushels good Lancaster at $1.08; 152 bushels very good Fultz at $1.05; 30 bushels Fultz at $1.03; 36 bushels Fultz at $1.03; 84 bushels Fultz at 90c.; 144 bushels prime Fultz at $1.08; 4 bushels Lancaster at $1.10; 20 bushels prime Scott at $1.10; 50 bushels very good Fultz at $1.05—total, 3,096 bushels.

CORN.—*White*, 50 bushels prime at 65c.

OATS.—82 bushels winter at 33c.; 24 bushels on private terms—total, 106 bushels.

Flour.

Fine, $3; superfine, $3.75@$4; extra, $4.50@$4.75; common family, $5@$5.25; fancy brands, $6.

RICHMOND TOBACCO EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, September 2, 1878.

The breaks to-day comprised 109 hogsheads and 12 tierces. The offerings at auction on 'Change were 57 packages; of which number 17 were taken in, and the remainder sold at prices ranging from $1 50 to $45.

We continue to quote:

NEW DARK.

Lugs.—Common to medium, $1.50@$2; medium to good, $3@$4.

Leaf.—Common, $4@$5; medium, $5@$6; good, $8@$10; fine, $11@$14.

BRIGHT.

Lugs.—Common colory, $3@$4.

Fillers.—Common, $4@$5; medium, $5@$7; good, $7@$10; fine, $10@$13

Smokers.—Common, $7@$8.50; medium, $9@$11; good, $10@$13; fine, $15@$18; fancy, $18@$22.

Wrappers.—Common, $12@$15; medium, $18@$25; good, $30@$45; fine, $60@$70; fancy, $75@$90.

By Telegraph.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, September 2.—Cotton quiet; sales, 581 bales; uplands, 12 3-16c.; Orleans, 12 7-16c. Southern flour steady and quiet; common to fair extra, $4.75@$5.75; good to choice extra, $5.80@$6.50. Wheat less active, though a large business is reported; 97c.@$1.14 for ungraded red; $1.10@$1.12 for No. 2 ungraded red. Corn a shade firmer and moderately active; 45@50½c. for ungraded, 49½c. for No. 3. Oats ¼@½c. better. Coffee steady and quiet. Sugar firm; fair to good refining, 7 3-16@7¼c.; prime, 7⅝c.; refined quiet. Molasses dull and unchanged. Rice dull and heavy. Rosin steady at $1.40@$1.45. Turpentine steady at 28½. Pork lower and dull; mess, $10.05. Cut-meats dull; middles lower; western long-clear, 6⅝c.; city long-clear, 6½c. Lard lower and more active; prime steam, $7.30@$7.40. Whiskey nominal at $1.12½. Freights lower.

BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, September 2.—Flour quiet; Howard-street and western superfine, $2.50@$3.25; extra, $3.50@$4.50; family, $4.75@$5.25; City Mills superfine, $2.50@$3.25; extra, $3.50@$4; Rio brands, $3.50@$5.75; Patapsco family, $6.50. Southern wheat steady; western steady; southern red, prime, $1.03@$1.05; amber, $1.09@$1.10; No. 2 Pennsylvania red, $1.09½; No. 2 western winter red, spot, $1.09½; September, $1.09½; October, $1.09⅝. Southern corn dull; western firm; southern white, 53c.; yellow, 52@53c. Oats—Prime, 1c. advance; southern, 26@28c. Provisions dull; pork, $11@$11.25. Bulk-meats, loose—Shoulders, 5½c.; clear rib sides, 6¼c. Bacon—Shoulders, 6¾c.; clear sides, 7¾c.; hams, sugar-cured, 12@13½c. Lard, refined, in tierces, 8½c. Whiskey, $1.09@$1.10. Sugar steady at 8⅝@9¼c.

CINCINNATI.

CINCINNATI, September 2.—Flour weaker; family, $4.25@$5.50. Wheat inactive; red amber, 90@95c.; white, 93@98c. Corn—Demand fair; market firm at 42@44c. Oats dull and heavy at 20@25c. Pork steady at $10@$10.25. Lard dull and a shade lower; current make, $7 bid; $7.10 asked; kettle, $8@$8.5. Bulk-meats quiet and firm; shoulders, $5.12½; short rib held at $6.15 cash; short clear, $6.37½. Bacon—Demand fair and market firm; 5⅝@7¾c. and 7⅛@7½c. for shoulders, clear rib, and clear sides. Whiskey active and firm at $1.06. Sugar steady and unchanged. Hogs dull; packing, $4.10@$4.40; butchers, $4.40@$4.55.

ST. LOUIS.

ST. LOUIS, September 2.—Flour easier; double extra fall, $3 80@$4; treble extra fall, $