DAILY DISPATCH.

VOL. LV. RICHMOND, VA., FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 7, 1879. NO. 33.

THE DISPATCH.
BY CO WARDIN & ELLYSON.
CASH—INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.
The DAILY DISPATCH is delivered to subscribers at FIFTEEN CENTS per week, payable to the carrier weekly. Mailed at $6 per annum; $3 for six months; $1.50 for three months; 50c. for one month.
The SEMI-WEEKLY DISPATCH at $2 per annum, or $1 for six months.
The WEEKLY DISPATCH at $1 per annum.

AMUSEMENTS.

RICHMOND THEATRE.
Last night but one of the
ADAH RICHMOND ENGLISH OPERA TROUPE
TO-NIGHT, TO-NIGHT—LA PERICHOLE.
SATURDAY MATINEE—
LA GRAND DUCHESSE.
Matinee admission, 50 cents. Children, 25 cents. Reserved seats, 75 cents. Box-sheet now open.
SATURDAY EVENING—GIROFLE-GIROFLA.
Theatre will be closed first four nights of next week. fe 7-1t*

SANGER HALLE.
FEBRUARY 10TH AND 13TH—
GYPSY CAMP,
GYPSY CAMP,
under the auspices of the ladies of the
GESANGVERIEN-VIRGINIA.
TABLEAUX, CONCERT, OR
DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE EVERY NIGHT.
Admission, 15c.; entitling bearer to Gypsy fare. [fe 5-4t*]

WORLD-RENOWNED ORATOR,
J. HARRY SHANNON,
MOZART HALL,
fe 4-4t FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH.

IRON PAINT.

OLD DOMINION IRON-PAINT COMPANY,
OFFICE, 1104 CARY STREET, RICHMOND, VA.
Our IRON PAINT is the same that was used by our Mr. EDWARDS when he was of the firm of N. T. Pate & Co. (the Richmond Iron-Paint Company), he having been the practical and experienced member of said firm, and is the only person capable of manufacturing and properly applying the iron Paint to roofs, walls, &c. As he has never made known to any one the ingredients of this paint, or the manner of mixing them, parties purporting to use it will perpetrate a fraud. We propose to keep the paint up to its acknowledged standard of excellency, guaranteeing to stop all leaks for a period of from five to fifteen years, according to the condition of the roof when painted.
Mr. Edwards, who has had an experience of fifteen years in the manufacture and use of this paint, will give his personal attention to all work entrusted to our care.
The merit of this paint has been attested by universal praise of all parties for whom work has been done, and has successfully stood the test of the severest degrees of temperature, both heat and cold, its excellent qualities remaining unimpaired the reby.
We also manufacture a SHINGLE PAINT, which has been extensively used throughout the Northern and New England States for the past fifteen years with great success. Old shingles that have been condemned as worthless have been treated with this coating, and their usefulness extended for years. The expense is small, and we guarantee to make the roof as good as new. The coating presents the same appearance as slate when finished.
Estimates made for old and new work by applying to or addressing J. R. EDWARDS & CO.,
Sole Manufacturers Old Dominion Iron- and Shingle-Paint, 1104 Cary street, Richmond, Va.
fe 5-1w

OFFICE OF THE RICHMOND IRON-PAINT COMPANY, RICHMOND, January 6, 1879.
THE FIRM OF N. T. PATE & CO. IS this day dissolved by mutual consent. N. T. PATE assumes all liabilities, and will continue business under the same name and style.
N. T. PATE,
J. R. EDWARDS.
Having secured the services of a regular chemist (graduate of the University of Maryland) of many years' experience in the manufacture of Paints, who will hereafter have entire charge and management of the compounding and mixing of the RICHMOND IRON PAINT, and employing none but skilful and experienced workmen, we can guarantee satisfaction.
All orders will receive prompt attention.
Office, No. 5 north Seventh street.
N. T. PATE & CO.
RICHMOND, February 3, 1879. fe 3-1m

GUANO.

SOLUBLE PACIFIC GUANO.
TO THE PLANTERS AND FARMERS OF VIRGINIA:
RICHMOND, VA., January 27th, 1879.
We have this day resigned the agency for the sale of the Pacific Guano Company's brands.
Under the terms of settlement between the Pacific Guano Company and ourselves, all the unsettled business of 1878, including collections, &c., is to be managed by our successors, Messrs. JOHN S. REESE & Co., of Baltimore, whom we commend to you, believing your relations with them will be both pleasant and satisfactory.
WALKER, SAUNDERS & CO.
From the above card you will please note that the Agency of the Pacific Guano Company will be conducted hereafter by the undersigned from Baltimore as well as Richmond. The splendid reputation of Soluble Pacific Guano, earned by its superior excellence and remarkable adaptability to the soil of Virginia, especially on cotton, corn, and tobacco, *will continue to be sustained*, a guarantee being afforded in the wise management of the Pacific Guano Company, which has practically unlimited resources at its command—viz., ample capital ($1,000,000), extensive works, most approved machinery, large deposits of phosphate, best scientific ability, to all of which add a long experience in the business in connection with the undersigned as general agents, dating back to 1865. We will keep a supply of Guano on hand at Norfolk, Portsmouth, Petersburg, and Richmond.
JOHN S. REESE & CO., General Agents,
ja 29-3m Baltimore and Richmond.

CROCKERY, GLASSWARE, &c.

THE LEADERS STILL AHEAD.
IMPROVEMENT IN THE LEADER.
THE LEADERS SLIP AND OFF THEY GO, AND BETTER LEADERS FOR ALL THAT.
I would call the attention of everybody to the improvement in the above-mentioned BURNER, which facilitates lighting, making it vastly superior to the other leader. Call and see at
E. B. TAYLOR'S,
Importer of China and Glassware,
fe 5 1011 Main street.

LEADER BURNER,
THE BEST OF ALL.
I would call the attention of the trade and consumers to a new burner—THE LEADER—which is, as its name implies, the leader of any burner I have yet seen. The light is pure and brilliant, far superior to gas, and at a very great saving in the cost.
Dealers supplied at factory price. These burners can be seen in operation at my store.
GEORGE GIBSON, JR.,
Sole agent for the burner; also dealer in China, Glass, and Queensware.
ja 28

NOTE-PAPER, &c.

NOTE-PAPER.
100 DIFFERENT STYLES,
PUT UP IN NEAT BOXES,
containing 24 SHEETS OF PAPER and 24 ENVELOPES, at 10, 15, 20, 25, 35, 50, 75c., $1, $2 a box.
STEEL-, GOLD-, and RUBBER-PENS
in great variety.
ELLYSON & YANCEY,
Booksellers and Stationers,
fe 6 1112 Main street.

SEINE-THREAD.

SEINE-THREAD!
SEINE-THREAD!
UNPRECEDENTEDLY LOW PRICES.
SEINE-THREAD, SEINE-TWINES,
SEINE-LINES, SEINE-CORK,
YAWKING, GILLING-ROPE, &c.
We are offering the above at very low prices in order to close out our stock before making our alteration in store. All those in want should take the advantage of the low prices and supply themselves at once. We have expert hands in our employ for the manufacture of NETS and SEINES, which we are prepared to furnish at short notice.
L. LICHTENSTEIN & SONS,
corner Seventeenth and Franklin streets.
Sole Importers of the "LION BRAND" SEINE-THREAD, and importers of other brands. fe 6

PATENT TIN-BOXES.

THE NEW POST-OFFICE LAW
PROHIBITS THE MAILING OF
PENS, PINS, NEEDLES, AND OTHER SHARP INSTRUMENTS;
Flour, Sugar, and other powdered substances, excepting when enclosed in the PATENT TIN-BOXES. We have all the sizes for sale in any quantity.
RANDOLPH & ENGLISH, Booksellers,
fe 5-4w 1302 and 1304 Main street.

CONFECTIONERIES, &c.

PURE CANDIES.—I am manufacturing daily my inimitable pure crushed sugar CLARIFIED FLINT CANDIES. I make better CANDIES for wholesale purposes than any house in this country—warranted perfectly pure and no adulterations. We don't use any glucose grape-sugar, tartaric-acid, nothing but pure sugars; it is more highly flavored, whiter, brighter, firmer, and is warranted to stand firm in any climate.
LOUIS J. BOSSIEUX, Confectioner,
ja 30 1412 Main street.

Richmond Dispatch.

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

FRIDAY.....FEBRUARY 7, 1879.

WEATHER REPORT.

INDICATIONS FOR TO-DAY.—For the Middle States, areas of light rain or snow during the night, followed by partly cloudy weather, variable winds, shifting to northwesterly and southwesterly, and slowly rising barometer, with nearly stationary temperature.

For the South Atlantic States, light rains, followed by partly cloudy weather, winds mostly from north to west, slowly rising barometer, and stationary or a slight fall in temperature.

THE WEATHER YESTERDAY was raw, rainy, and disagreeable.

THERMOMETER YESTERDAY: 6 A. M., 42; 9 A. M., 44; noon, 48; 3 P. M., 46; 6 P. M., 43; midnight, 40.

Mean temperature, 43 5-6.

LOCAL MATTERS.

THE RIVER IMPROVEMENT.

Mr. Whitcomb's Recent Report to the Council.

WORK DONE SINCE LAST OCTOBER—THE MACHINERY REMOVED TO A PLACE OF SAFETY—THE ICE-JAM AND RISE IN THE RIVER—EFFECT ON THE BOTTOM—PERSONAL—PRESENT CONDITION OF THE CHANNEL, &C., &C.

At the last meeting of the Common Council Mr. Curtis, on behalf of the Committee on the Improvement of James River, submitted a communication from Mr. R. E. Blankenship, chairman of the committee, enclosing the report of Mr. H. D. Whitcomb, engineer of the improvement, giving an account of operations on the river since his last report, made on the 1st of October. From the report we gather some interesting facts.

Work was suspended on the 28th of December, and all the machinery removed for safety to Richmond bar, where it now is. The contract-work at Dutch-Gap cut off was not suspended, however, being above water, and Mr. Haggerty has nearly completed that portion of his contract. He expects to begin dredging in a few days.

THE WORK NEAR RICHMOND.

The work near Richmond was impeded and sometimes suspended entirely from freshets, and the amount done in December was inconsiderable. Owing to these hindrances the plan of contraction contemplated has not been fully completed, and several of the lower wing-dams are yet indifferently protected against freshets. From the beginning of last year's work in July to the 28th December the following amounts were removed from the channel from a short distance above Rocketts reef to the lower end of Drewry's island: Sand and loose material, 14,000 cubic yards; soft and decomposed rock, cobble-stones, &c., 19,344 cubic yards; solid rock, principally from Rocketts reef, 1,234½ cubic yards. Besides this, 1,435 cubic yards of sand were removed from a shoal above Warwick, and 21,045 cubic yards were dredged opposite the wing-dams on Warwick bar and deposited on them for their protection. All the other material mentioned above was used in protecting the wing-dams and dikes. Four thousand nine hundred and seventy-six feet of wing-dams have been constructed.

No dredging or other work than repairs of machines and machinery was done by the city during the year except a few days' dredging in the early part of January, after the freshet of November, 1877.

REPAIRS TO STEAMERS.

After removing the machinery to a safe position on the 28th and 29th December, the tug Craighill was found to be leaking seriously, and although greatly needed here to aid in protecting the machinery, Mr. Whitcomb was forced to send her to Norfolk for repairs. She left on the 2d January, the day before the river was closed by ice, and returned on the 20th January, having been delayed by ice in Norfolk harbor and in the river.

The tug Somers is also in a leaky condition, and must be repaired before doing any hard service.

The repairs to the Craighill, including, however, eight tons of coal purchased, amounted to $155.30.

THE ICE JAM.

The river closed with ice on the 3d of January and remained so until the 10th, when the Old Dominion steamship Wyanoke cut her way to the wharves. At this time the ice was about six inches thick. Rain had fallen on the 8th and 9th, and on the 10th the ice from above was coming down in large quantities. At 1 P. M. on the 10th the water at Rocketts was 9½ feet above high tide, and it continued to rise until on the 11th it is reported to have reached nearly 15 feet above high tide. This rise was accompanied by a gentle current, and was caused by a gorge of ice several miles below, as the rise above the falls was nowhere over seven feet, so far as heard. Another rain fell on the 12th, which brought down more ice, but in the mean time the river had fallen several feet, and the later rise, due to the rain, was not so high as on the 11th. At this time the river was gorged with ice from Richmond bar to a point eleven miles below the city. It was then clear *via* Dutch-Gap cut to Varina, where another gorge or pack occured of more limited extent. The bend at Trent's reach was also packed full of ice.

HOW THE GORGE WAS BROKEN.

On the 15th the Old Dominion steamships Wyanoke and Richmond attempted to break the gorge—the former from Richmond, the latter from below Varina. The Richmond failed to make any serious impression below, and abandoned the effort. The Wyanoke spent the 15th, 16th, and 17th in the pack, and finally broke through on the 18th, and was met by her companion-ship, the Old Dominion, in the pack at Varina on the 18th. The latter came on to the city the same day without serious difficulty. The officers of the Wyanoke are certainly entitled to great credit and admiration for the persistent spirit shown, and for their long-continued effort, advancing as they did a few yards at a time until they had passed through at least eight miles of ice, averaging, perhaps, eight feet in thickness. Some of the ice left on the dikes measured on the 22d January nearly nine feet in thickness. It is safe to say that no other vessels coming to Richmond were competent for this task.

EFFECT OF THE ICE ON THE WING-DAMS.

The ice seems to have first gorged, so as to raise the level of the water perceptibly, at a point eleven miles below the city. Captain Frank Cunningham, who had charge of the city and United States machines during the absence of the superintendent with the tug Craighill, and who was on duty day and night during the ice freshet, states that the ice from above flowed in a steady stream by his post on Richmond bar for twenty-four hours, filling the whole space between the wing-dams, and that it did not check until the water had risen over the tops of the dams, when the current slackened from the ponding below. At its height these wing-dams were fourteen feet under water, and consequently suffered less damage than they did in the freshets of November and December previous. In some cases the outermost pile is here down or carried away, and the lowermost dams which were least protected by revetment, are very slightly injured. It is perfectly certain that these dams had no more agency in forming the gorge below than did the wharves at Rocketts. The ice-pack did not at any time reach much above the head of Richmond bar, and after the rush of ice was over it moved slowly down, so that on the 12th the tug Somers was able to come to the wharves for supplies. The second rise, with ice from above again, brought the head of the pack above the bar. It then moved down again, so that on the 15th its head was below the bar; on the 17th at Drewry's Bluff landing, and on the 18th the river was nearly clear.

EFFECT OF EXPLOSIVES.

The effect of explosives was tried near the extreme lower end in Kingland's reach by Mr. E. G. Hall, superintendent of rock excavation, with no results worthy of mention, except that the effect was too limited to be of the slightest service, as had been predicted.

In Kingsland's reach the jam was tight enough to raise the water so that a portion escaped across the bend, where the freshet of November, 1877, had made a breach; but the main body of water must have passed under the ice, and its effect on the shoal in Kingsland's reach is very marked. A survey of this shoal had been made the latter part of November, 1878. There was then barely 10½ feet depth of water in the channel at high tide. We found yesterday, says Mr. Whitcomb (January 22), in the ordinary channel, from 20 to 21 feet at high tide, but did not examine for width. The rush of water between the ice and the sandy bottom removed the latter to a depth of 4 or 5 feet about one third of a mile in length. The opening across the bend should now be closed by a levee and proper dikes built to maintain the present excellent channel. It is remarkable that with all this pack of ice the can-buoy marking the channel was not moved. In the ice freshet of two years since it was carried to Osborne's, five or six miles below and over water forty feet and upwards in depth. The two vessels caught in the ice at this place were uninjured, and have since come to the city.

CHANGES MADE IN THE RIVER-BOTTOM BY THE FRESHET.

The changes made in the river-bottom nearer the city seem to be very slight. There is perhaps a better channel below Randolph's flats. On the bar and on the flats there appears to have been no scour at all. Had the ice gorged there as it did below the effect on the bottom would have been favorable, but there was at no time any stoppage of the ice due to the wing-dams. The losses due to this ice-gorge are less than it was feared there would be at one time. A vessel loaded with flour, bricks, and machinery was sunk on the Manchester side, and two large barges were somewhat injured on the Richmond side. The United States will lose about 20,000 feet of sheet-piling, and have to replace the gauge-house on the bar. The wing-dams are not materially injured, and aside from the repairs to the tugs Craighill and Somers, due as much to decay as to the ice, there was no loss or damage to the city or the United States machinery on the improvement. At one time it seemed to be in great danger, and Captain Frank Cunningham and his assistants deserve the commendation of the committee for their watchfulness and judicious labor during these trying nights of the ice-gorge.

HOW A GORGE MIGHT BE PREVENTED.

In such a pack of ice as this, no explosives, or such boats as are used to break up ice in harbors would have served; nor would such steam-tugs as we have on James river be more than logs in such a gorge once formed. No better vessels for such a purpose can be found than the powerful iron ships of the Old Dominion Steamship Company. With properly sheathed steam-tugs patrolling the river in short beats, such an ice-gorge *might* be prevented *from* forming. It would take several boats and unceasing watchfulness, however.

Although there has been some further improvement in the depth and width of the channel at Rocketts and elsewhere, I do not consider it advisable, says Mr. Whitcomb, to change the recommendation of the committee made November 2, 1878, as to the draught which can safely be brought to the city. I prefer to await the effect of the freshets which usually occur in the spring before advising any further report on the subject.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION MEETING AT DR. PRESTON'S CHURCH.—The rain lessened the congregation, but by no means the interest, in the meeting yesterday evening.

Rev. Dr. Hatcher conducted the meeting, and made a very effective address on making Christ first.

Earnest remarks were also made by Dr. Read, Rev. Mr. Schaeffer, and Rev. H. S. Keppler.

General Field, Dr. Read, Rev. Mr. Campbell, of Manchester, and Dr. Hatcher led in special prayer, and remembered the requests sent up.

Rev. Dr. M. D. Hoge will conduct the meeting this evening from 5 to 6. The meeting is held regardless of weather.

THE OPERA.—To-night Miss Adah Richmond's company will play La Perichole.

The opera is a bright one, and the company equal to its rendition in an acceptable manner.

The performances of the past two nights have given great satisfaction, and afford the best guarantee of the realization of what is promised to-night.

SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS, THURSDAY.—Gill and *als. vs.* City of Richmond. Appeal allowed and *supersedeas* awarded to a decree of the Chancery Court of the city of Richmond.

Reynold's executor *vs.* Callaway's executor. From the Circuit Court of Franklin county. Affirmed, Judge Moncure delivering the opinion.

Allen *vs.* Scruggs, administrator, and *als.* From the Circuit Court of Buckingham county. Reversed, Judge Christian delivering the opinion.

Kenny *vs.* Hoffman and *als.* From the Circuit Court of Fauquier county. Reversed, Judge Anderson delivering the opinion.

Boynton and *als. vs.* MacNeal and *als.* From the Corporation Court of the city of Alexandria. Reversed, Judge Staples delivering the opinion; Judges Christian and Burks dissenting.

Danville Bank *vs.* Waddill's administrator. From the Circuit Court of the town of Danville. Affirmed, Judge Burks delivering the opinion; Judges Moncure and Christian dissenting.

POLICE COURT, YESTERDAY—*Police-Justice J. J. White presiding.*—George Guvernator and Frank Kane, charged with carrying concealed weapons and shooting at George Lawson. Guvernator was discharged. Kane was fined $10; committed to jail in default.

Polly Jackson and Agnes Williams were fined $1 each for unlawful trespass.

A. Startelt, a vagrant, was jailed for thirty days.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Coroner Taylor was yesterday called upon to view the body of a young colored woman named Virginia Bowling, residing near the corner Seventeenth and Venable streets. The death was very sudden, probably caused by brain-disease.

BRIEF ITEMS.—An over-heated stove set fire to some of the wood-work at Maccubbin's feed-store, on Franklin street near the First Market, yesterday. A set of harness was also burned.

Harry Shannon, the boy orator, commences an engagement at Mozart Hall to-night.

PUBLIC PRINTING.

Report of the Committee on the Goode-Frayser Investigation.

NOT ONE OF THE CHARGES SUSTAINED BY THE EVIDENCE—TO BE A TYPE-SETTER NOT REQUIRED OF THE SUPERINTENDENT BY LAW—CAPTAIN FRAYSER FOUND WELL QUALIFIED AND A CONSIDERABLE SAVING IN PRINTING SHOWN FOR THE PAST FISCAL YEAR, FOR A PART OF WHICH HE IS ENTITLED TO CREDIT—CAPTAIN FRAYSER FULLY VINDICATED BY UNANIMOUS REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION.

Mr. Bland (in the Senate) and Mr. Lovell (in the House), from the joint standing Committee on Printing, yesterday presented the unanimous conclusions of the committee as to the Goode-Frayser investigation.

The report is a somewhat lengthy one, and in the beginning states the charges of Mr. Goode and answer of Captain Frayser, and the law relative to the qualifications of the Superintendent of Public Printing.

It says, in the opinion of the committee, a person may be qualified to hold this office without being a printer or type-setter. They are of the opinion that the language of the oath prescribed in the statute ought to be taken and construed in a broad and comprehensive sense, and that it ought not to be restricted to the contracted construction sought to be placed upon it. Viewed in the light of his duties, the words "skilled in and acquainted with the practical details of the business of printing" will include not only skill in and acquaintance with printing, but also with book-binding and the purchasing of paper. Though technically each is a different business, yet they are all directly connected with the business of printing, taken in its broad and comprehensive sense, since an acquaintance with the quality and style of book-binding and the quality and price of paper are as essential to the duties of this office as a knowledge of the style and quality of printing and the art of measuring it.

The report goes on to discuss what is perjury, and says that Captain Frayser in becoming a candidate for the office candidly stated that he was not a type-setter, and presented the opinion of counsel to show that it wasn't necessary. It says further:

It is alleged in the first specification that Captain Frayser was warned by the Secretary of the Commonwealth at the time the said oath was administered; but this is denied both by Captain Frayser and the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and there was no evidence to sustain it. From a review of the law and the evidence submitted, the committee fails to see that Captain Frayser in taking said oath committed any offence whatever, but so far from it that he acted prudently and conscientiously in the matter.

THE CHARGE OF INCOMPETENCY.

The second charge against this officer is incompetency, and this brings with it the inquiry, What were the qualifications of Captain Frayser at the time of his entering upon the duties of this office?

It appears from the evidence that for eight or nine years after the late civil war Captain Frayser was employed in several capacities in the offices of two of the daily papers of this city, and discharged the duties pertaining thereto in an efficient and competent manner. A good many printers introduced by Mr. Goode testified that it was their belief that no one except a practical printer or type-setter could correctly measure printed matter; and that none except printers or type-setters could be qualified to hold the office of Superintendent of Public Printing. While not doubting the sincerity of many of these witnesses, who testified as experts,

SKILLED IN THE MYSTERIES

of the craft, and while weight ought to be given to the opinions of men so intelligent as a class, yet in this case the practical printers were divided in opinion. Some of them testified positively that others besides printers could be taught in a very short time to measure all kinds of printed matter.

One witness, a gentleman of great intelligence and of well-known integrity of character, reared a printer and skilled in all that pertains to the business of printing, introduced as a witness by Goode, testified that it is not necessary for a man to be a practical printer or type-setter to acquire the knowledge of measuring printed matter correctly, and that in a week any man of intelligence might be taught how to

MEASURE ALL THE WORK

done for the General Assembly. This is the testimony of an intelligent and impartial witness, corroborated by some of the best practical printers who appeared before the committee. Two witnesses introduced by Goode testified that Frayser had admitted to each of them at different times that he did not know how to measure work. But their statements were contradicted by facts and circumstances, as well as by witnesses. An intelligent witness, who was proven to be a practical printer of large experience, testified that shortly after Frayser's election he was curious to know how he was getting along in the discharge of the duties of his office; that he frequently asked him questions with a view of ascertaining what he knew, and that he evinced a knowledge of the business which was surprising to him; that in answer to questions put by him to Frayser he satisfied him that he was pretty familiar with the business; and that, according to witness' own judgment, Frayser was certainly qualified during the summer of 1878 to discharge the duties of his office.

It appears that

GOODE'S CONTRACT

for public printing did not close until in the spring of 1878, and yet he failed to show by evidence that Frayser did not properly measure all the work done by him, while direct testimony, uncontradicted, showed that he did measure the work, and in one or two cases corrected accounts, thereby effecting a saving to the State. The heads of departments who testified proved that the work for the different offices was promptly and well executed.

In reviewing all the evidence, which is quite voluminous, the committee is of opinion that, whilst some of the bills and other work are too *"fat"*—that is, having too much blank space in the pages—yet generally speaking the office has been properly managed and the books well kept.

In the opinion of the committee,

FRAYSER WAS COMPETENT

to discharge the duties of the office at the time he took the oath, and that the charge of incompetency is not sustained by the evidence. All statements made in the specifications reflecting on Frayser and not referred to in this report, were either abandoned or there was no evidence to sustain them.

The public printing during the last fiscal year has cost much less than ever before since the creation of this office, and many thousands of dollars less than under the old system.

By reference to the annual report submitted by this officer it appears that for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1878, the entire disbursements amounted in the aggregate to the sum of $21,754.12, whilst for the last fiscal year of his predecessor, ending September 30, 1877, it amounted in the aggregate to $29,812.35; showing a balance in favor of the last fiscal year of $8,058.23. While it is true that a portion of this amount saved was due to the late Superintendent of Public Printing, and to the action of the Committee on Printing in upsetting most of the contracts made during the session of the General Assembly of 1876-'77, which resulted in

VERY LOW BIDS

afterwards awarded to contractors for the public printing, yet the present incumbent superintended the public printing from the time of his entering upon the duties of his office on 31st day of January, 1878, until the close of the fiscal year on 30th of September, 1878, and to him a part of the credit is due for the fine result shown by his report; and this brings us to the third and last charge—to wit:

Falsifying the records by garbling and otherwise, so as to present a more favorable showing for himself in his report to the General Assembly.

By reference to chapter 19, section 20, page 217, Code of 1873, it will be seen that it is made the duty of the Superintendent of Public Printing "to furnish an annual report to the General Assembly, setting forth the cost of all stationery purchased by him during the fiscal year, together with the quantity and cost of that remaining on hand; also, the cost of all printing, binding, lithographing, and engraving. He shall also report in detail the amount of

COST FOR PRINTING,

and such other expenses connected therewith as is required and done by him for the Senate, House of Delegates, and for each department of the State government.

In obedience to this requirement of the law, Captain Frayser submitted his annual report, which contains what the law requires, with the results given above. It is true that there were a few errors in the statement of the amounts paid under the contracts of the late Superintendent, R. F. Walker, which were acknowledged by Frayser before the committee, but the evidence does not show that Captain Frayser wilfully committed these errors, but that they were inadvertently taken from the books of Major R. F. Walker in the office of the Superintendent of Public Printing. These errors, however, do not vary results as stated in the report, and in which the Legislature is directly interested.

IN CONCLUSION,

the committee recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the charges and specifications preferred by James E. Goode against R. E. Frayser, Superintendent of Public Printing, are not sustained by the evidence.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. F. BLAND,
WILLIAM E. TANNER,
JOHN T. LOVELL,
HORATIO DAVIS,
I. C. FOWLER.

In the House the report was ordered to be printed.

Before the Committee of Investigation, Captain George D. Wise and Mr. C. V. Meredith represented Captain Frayser, and Colonel W. W. Gordon Mr. Goode.

Fire-Proof Building for State Records

The following bill "to provide for a fire-proof building for the preservation of the public libraries, papers, and other property of the State," has been introduced in the Senate by Major Daniel and referred to the Committee on Public Institutions:

1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly*, That a lot of ground in the Capitol Square, in the city of Richmond, fronting on Twelfth street opposite to its intersection with Franklin street, which shall not exceed ninety feet in width, nor in length from said street one hundred and thirty feet, shall be appropriated for the erection of a fire-proof building, to contain a court-room, conference-room, clerk's office, and office for the Attorney-General; and also rooms for the law and miscellaneous libraries belonging to the State, and for the Virginia Historical Society and State Historical Society.

2. The said building shall be constructed in accordance with a plan to be approved by a board of commissioners, consisting of the Governor and Secretary of the Commonwealth, the Attorney-General, and the presidents of the Virginia Historical Society and of the Southern Historical Society, or such other member of each of the said societies as they may select, which Board shall advertise for plans, specifications, and proposals for the construction of the said building, to be executed under their control and supervision.

3. In the said building there shall be assigned to each of the said societies at least one suitable room, and such other accommodations as in the opinion of the said Board shall not conflict with the other public uses for which the said building is designed. And each of the said societies may contract with the said Board for the lease, during a term of years, of such rooms and accommodations, which may be enlarged in consideration of and in proportion to any contributions which shall be made by either of the said societies to the expense of constructing, enlarging, or repairing the said building.

4. The bricks and other building materials contained in the old belfry or guard-house, now on the Capitol Square, and all such materials not heretofore appropriated to other purposes by the General Assembly, contained in or belonging to the old State armory, shall be appropriated to the construction of the fire-proof building provided for by this act; and the said Board is hereby authorized to employ in the proper preparation and removal of such materials, and in the construction of said building, any of the penitentiary convicts not otherwise employed under the laws and resolutions heretofore adopted by the General Assembly; or the said Board may, in their discretion, sell any of the said materials belonging to the said old buildings, and with the proceeds of such sale purchase any other materials better suited to the purposes of this act.

5. The said Board, for the purpose of defraying in part the cost of the said building, is hereby authorized to draw upon the Auditor of Public Accounts and the Treasurer of the Commonwealth, from time to time, as the same shall be needed for the construction of the said fire-proof building, their warrants for such sums as may at the time be required, not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of fifteen thousand dollars, to be expended for the purposes of this act under the direction and supervision of the said Board, who shall report all their proceedings and expenditures under this act to the General Assembly.

6. When the Supreme Court of Appeals shall have removed its court-room to said building, and the clerk's office thereof and law library shall have been established therein, the Board of Commissioners aforesaid (with the exception of the presidents of the historical societies aforesaid) shall sell at public auction to the highest bidder, after duly advertising the same, the building now occupied by the Supreme Court of Appeals, with all the appurtenances thereto, upon the terms of one fourth cash; balance in six, twelve, and eighteen months, and take bonds with good personal security for the deferred payments, payable to the Commonwealth of Virginia. The cash received shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Commonwealth by said commissioners, and the bonds delivered to him for collection at maturity.

7. This act shall be in force from its passage.

THE CAPITOL.—The House Committee on Cities and Towns heard Messrs. C. C. McRae and William Ambers yesterday morning in relation to the Free-bridge bill. The discussion is not yet closed.

The Auditor sent a communication to the Finance Committee yesterday morning stating that the treasury is empty. The Committee asked the Treasurer to inquire of the Governor as to the State's capacity to borrow money for present needs.

Mr. Grimsley, chairman of the Finance Committee, yesterday received a telegram from New York stating that holders of $300,000 of State bonds had agreed to the proposition to extend the 3 per cent. term to ten years upon certain conditions named and not considered onerous by those who have seen the telegram.

The House ordered the canal-railroad bill to engrossment yesterday, and will probably pass it to-day.

PERSONAL.—We are pleased to notice that Mr. David Cardwell, one of our well-known and highly-esteemed townsmen, has been appointed assistant general freight and passenger agent of the Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta railroad.

Mr. Edward S. Baker, special correspondent of the San Francisco (Cal.) *Journal of Commerce*, is in the city.

Mr. Ed. S. Young, assistant general ticket-agent of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad Company, was in the city yesterday, looking well. By the way, Mr. Young, an expert fisherman, is fond of trout-fishing, and made inquiries as to our game and fish laws.

AN INTERESTING OCCASION.—Last evening Major W. E. Foster, of Norfolk, delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture on "The Knight's Rank" to the members of Marshall Lodge and visiting members, at Schiller Hall. A large number of Pythians were present, and great interest was manifested. The lecture was carefully studied and gave evidence of great research of ancient history. Major Foster has very kindly consented to deliver the lecture to-night before Hines Lodge.

MOZART HALL TO-NIGHT—THE ORATOR.—J. Harry Shannon, the youthful and gifted orator, appears at Mozart Hall to-night. A well-known gentleman of this city, writing of him, says: "His powers of memory and elocution are almost superhuman, and if any one may be regarded as a prodigy, he surely may; and with all he is a most charming and engaging child."

MANCHESTER AND VICINITY.

A Split.—There was a very large crowd of our colored citizens around the Mayor's Court yesterday to hear the proceedings in the case of the Excelsior Society against the Olive Branch (sisters). It seems that the two societies have for some time past occupied the same hall, and jointly purchased furniture and other necessary articles. But some of the sisters becoming dissatisfied with society life, and desiring to have a division of the property, removed some of the furniture to an adjoining neighbor's. Whereupon the brethren representing the Excelsior order, thinking that the sisters had taken more than their share of the property, had that neighbor arrested for receiving stolen goods.

As it is a case that requires many witnesses—the lodges having a membership of about one hundred and fifty persons—it is thought that it will be several days before it can be decided. Many of the witnesses are residents of Chesterfield and Richmond; it will take some time to summon them all. Judging from the names of the two societies it seems that they, above all others, should be the last to disagree.

The writer was forcibly struck with the good advice of one of the elder members to another. It was said in a way peculiar to them, and in a manner that cannot possibly be written: "What a pity brothers and sisters cannot dwell together in unity."

Beethoven Hall.—The rainy weather did not prevent a large attendance at Beethoven Hall last night to enjoy the concert, tableaux, and charades given by the ladies of the Meade Memorial church. All present expressed themselves well pleased with the programme. Our people were very anxious to see and hear Mrs. Tyler, of Richmond, it being the first time we have had that pleasure. She was several times *encored*, and the audience was completely carried away with her charming voice. In the charades Mr. E. took a prominent part, and was ably assisted by Mr. R., both gentlemen being from Richmond. Manchester was well represented in the persons of Misses H. W. and T.

It is only just that the Messrs. S. and C. should be complimented upon the rendering of their part of the programme.

Mr. Stringfellow's friends deserve credit for getting up such an attractive performance, and it is to be hoped may prove a financial success, and that it may be repeated at an early date.

Friendship Lodge, No. 20, K. of P.—This lodge met last night at Covenant Hall. Several applications for membership were presented. The lodge is in a very flourishing condition, having a membership of over one hundred, and accessions every meeting-night. Mr. W. T. Lithgow will represent this lodge at the Grand Lodge of Virginia, which meets in Richmond on the 18th of this month. He was also the representative at the last session.

Chesterfield Court.—This court will convene next Monday. No criminal cases are on the docket. Some unimportant civil cases will be decided. The grand jury term of this court will meet next month.

Musicale.—The regular programme for the *musicale* to-morrow night has not yet been arranged; but it will no doubt be very interesting. The concert is postponed for a week or ten days.

Firemen's Meetings.—The meetings of the Alert Fire Company are changed from semi-monthly to monthly. The company expects to have a grand ball in a short while.

Lecture.—The proceeds derived from the lecture at the Methodist church Wednesday night is estimated to be about $50. Next Sunday a silver cup will be awarded to the scholar that sold the largest number of tickets.

Personal.—Mr. E. B. Dunsford has recently taken charge of the large brick-yard belonging to Messrs. Redford & Co., on Twelfth street, *vice* O. A. Mallory, resigned.

TURKEY SALAD at PIZZINI'S at 75c. per quart.
INDIVIDUAL CHARLOTTES at 60c. per dozen at PIZZINI'S.
SWEET ORANGES 20 and 25c. per dozen at PIZZINI'S.
ICE-CREAM, WINE JELLY, at PIZZINI'S, 807 Broad street.
TEAS.—Choice New, 50c. a pound. For sale by JOHN M. HIGGINS.
CLOAKS CAN BE HAD AT LEVY BROTHERS AT extremely low prices. They have only thirty remaining on hand, and in order to close them out they have made great reductions in prices. There never was such a chance to purchase a Cloak as the present. You can save from $1 to $10 by buying at LEVY BROTHERS'.
DO YOU WANT A PAIR OF NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS? If so, go to LEVY BROTHERS', and you will find a large assortment at the lowest prices. LEVY BROTHERS also show a large variety of Cornices, Bands, and Loops for Curtains, Window-Shades, and Fixtures.
"AMBER" WHISKEY.—We retail this pure RYE WHISKEY at $2 per gallon, including State tax.
W. D. BLAIR & CO.
HOUSEHOLD ECONOMY.—The housekeeper or cook who studies economy in the kitchen can do so in one direction by always using DOOLEY'S YEAST-POWDER. It will be found a truly economical and valuable assistant in baking biscuits, rolls, bread, cake of all kinds, waffles, muffins, and most all articles prepared from flour. And why? Because in using the DOOLEY POWDER you save in eggs, in shortening, in patience, in everything; and when the baking is done it is turned out light, palatable, and wholesome, so that every morsel is eaten up and no waste.
AN OLD CITIZEN OUT OF TROUBLE.—The friends of Ezra Dorsey, Esq., brother of the well-known proprietor of Barnum's Hotel, Baltimore, will be glad to read the following:
"Dear Sir,—I have suffered greatly during the last ten years, and been frequently disabled by inflammatory rheumatism, which, up to two weeks ago, resisted alike physicians' prescriptions and all other remedies I could find. Very lately I used a bottle of the GYPSY'S GIFT, and in two days was entirely restored the use of my limbs and relieved of all pain. It is the most remarkable medicine I have ever met with. E. DORSEY."
SAVE MONEY by having your printing done at the DISPATCH PRINTING-HOUSE. Good work, low prices, and satisfaction guaranteed.

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