Richmond Dispatch

THURSDAY.....JANUARY 22, 1880.

Unexpected Results.

We referred the other day to some facts connected with the recent troubles in Maine which went to show that Governor GARCELON and Governor LAMPSON had themselves set on foot the agencies whereby their partisan schemes were defeated. The former appointed a General of militia who became under that appointment a Dictator, and lorded it over the State with a high hand. The latter refused to qualify the Republican members of the Senate, and thereby set up an opposition Senate, which a few days afterwards superseded the body by which he had been chosen Lieutenant-Governor and remanded him and his legislative sympathizers to private life.

It would not be very strange if the Republicans of the New York Legislature should in like manner set in motion the guillotine which is to cut off the head of their candidate for President of the United States. Hitherto New York has been regarded as a pivotal State. As night go her immense electoral vote—three times as large as that of Virginia—so would go the votes of a majority of the electors; or, rather, her vote cast into the scale of either party would insure a triumph for that party. All men of all parties had come to look upon it as fixed that without the vote of New York the Democrats could hardly hope to elect a President. The solid South, it is true, has 137 votes; but that number falls 48 short of being a majority of the electoral votes. The question was how and where to get these 48 votes. New York and Indiana would together be sufficient to supply the missing 48 votes and have two to spare. But how are we to get both States? What candidate can carry both? What platform will suit both? These were the questions asked by everybody, but answered by nobody.

For years the powerful weight of New York has compelled the other States to nominate citizens of that State for President—SEYMOUR in 1868, GREELEY in 1872, TILDEN in 1876. The same result was beginning to be expected this year. Men had become convinced that it might be necessary to nominate a New Yorker again in order to carry that Empire State. Mr. TILDEN had fallen into the background, but Mr. SEYMOUR was daily gaining popularity, and even Mr. BAYARD's strongest point was that he could carry New York.

These circumstances had almost ruled out Mr. THURMAN and Mr. HENDRICKS, and were fast narrowing the question of the nomination down to a choice between SEYMOUR and BAYARD, when the scheme of the New York Republicans for having the presidential electors chosen by districts put an entirely new face upon presidential matters. If that scheme should be carried out, men saw at once that it might result exactly as GARCELON's and LAMPSON's did. It might insure the election of a Democrat who might otherwise have had no chance of success. It might make the defeat of the Republican nominee beyond a doubt. For, as our evening contemporary has repeatedly said, the South will vote for the nominee without regard to the platform upon which he stands. The platform, like the candidate, it was supposed, must be cut according to the New York pattern. Now, however, all is changed—that is, we mean, supposing that the New York electors are to be chosen by districts. Any Democratic candidate upon any platform could carry twelve to fifteen districts in New York if that scheme be consummated. So that as Ohio and Indiana are able to make up the rest of the 47 needed, it would then be as easy to elect THURMAN or HENDRICKS—more so, perhaps, than to elect any other of the aspirants. Mr. THURMAN could carry Ohio against GRANT or BLAINE as certainly as Mr. SEYMOUR could carry New York against either of them. And we think it highly probable that he could carry Ohio against even Mr. SHERMAN.

The New York Republicans will think twice before they adopt the proposed scheme. It would weaken them instead of strengthening them. If they are going to make any change it would be safer for them to have all the thirty-five electors chosen by the Legislature. Even this might not save their party; for Ohio, New Jersey, Indiana, Connecticut, and Oregon would almost surely make up the forty-seven votes needed by the Democrats in order to the defeat of the Republicans in their mad race for the presidency.

Maine and Louisiana.

The New York *Tribune* felicitates itself that the cry of "Fraud" as an issue in the next presidential election has been disposed of by the conduct of the Democrats of Maine. That journal has evidently dreaded the effect of that cry upon the popular vote. We cannot agree with our esteemed contemporary of New York. On the contrary, we think, with *The Nation*, that the counting out done in Maine has brought home to the consciences of many good Republicans the enormity of the offence committed in Louisiana in 1876. It has opened their eyes. They cannot but see that Governor GARCELON acted honestly in doing what seems to them to be an utterly inexcusable thing, whilst acts almost precisely similar were done in Louisiana in 1876 by a set of unprincipled carpet-baggers and scalawags who *knew* that they were committing an unpardonable offence against society.

Why, then, should the course of the Maine Democrats put an end to the cry of "Fraud?" It will not do so. It will, on the contrary, serve as an illustration of the course of the Republican leaders of Louisiana in 1876, and will enable the Democrats to press home the point upon the Republican orators. It will "point a moral" for our side. It will be political capital for us.

What is Demanded.

Those, if any, who suppose that the whites of Virginia can ever form a party alliance with the negroes without making concessions which the former will never willingly make, are invited to give their attention to the demands made of the present Legislature by the negroes, or, as the paper before us has it, the Republicans of Alexandria, at a meeting held in that city on Monday night.

The preamble declares that the Readjusters are "pledged to their constituents to deal fairly and honorably by all men, irrespective of color or past party affiliation, and to wipe away the odious laws which perpetuate distinction because of color, and to break down, so far as possible, all class distinction." The meeting then went on to pass the following resolutions:

Resolved, &c., That we do ask the Legislature to repeal such law [capitation tax], or so far modify it as to remove the heavy burden that it now lays upon a very large class of voters.

Resolved further, That as marriage is a civil contract, really affecting only the parties to the said contract, and that as the present law prohibiting the intermarriage between blacks and whites does more to perpetuate caste than towards preserving the morals of the community, that we ask its unqualified repeal.

Resolved, &c., That we deem the keeping of two separate poll-lists—one for whites and one for blacks—and the use of only the white list in the summoning of juries as not compatible with the theory that all men are equal before the law, and is a discrimination against the colored man, which is unjust, and therefore we ask its repeal and the enactment of equal and impartial jury laws.

What say our legislators?

We have an indistinct recollection of having heard that there were white men in Richmond in favor of this programme.

"The time is out of joint." Let the people keep their eyes open.

Another Point Considered.

The first section of Article VII. of the Constitution provides as follows:

"All regular elections for county officers shall be held on the fourth Thursday in May; and all officers elected or appointed under this provision shall enter upon the duties of their offices on the first day of July next succeeding their election, &c.

Now, all county officers must be elected in May; and all of them must go into office on the 1st of July next following their election. Can the Legislature postpone the election until after the 1st of July and then let the term of the officers begin on the 1st of July afterwards, and at the same time have the officers inducted into office nine or ten months before the time when their terms begin? Certainly not. An officer can take office only when his term begins. In the case supposed the term would either begin before the election, in violation of the Constitution, or else the officer would take office before his term began, which no officer can do. Neither would be allowable.

So as to county judges. They take office on the 1st of January next following their appointment. But in reference to both county officers and county judges, as the case now existing as to the latter and the case supposed as to the former are provided for in the Constitution by giving the Legislature power to fill vacancies not otherwise provided for, that body may constitutionally pass a law providing how all such offices may be filled until the term of the officers-elect shall begin.

The Board of Education may have proceeded in disregard of the Constitution, if they did so proceed, simply because the attention of the members had never been called to the constitutional provision on the subject. At any rate Article VII. and Article VIII. must be taken together; and the latter in giving to that Board full power both to appoint and to remove county superintendents of public free schools does in effect make the term of office of those officers dependent upon the will of that Board, their action being of course approved by the Senate. The power to remove is exactly equal to the power to appoint.

COUNTY JUDGES.—There still appears to be dispute about the judges who have been elected since the 1st of this month.

This is a most important matter, and should be examined from a non-partisan standpoint. Much of great importance may depend upon the right of one of these newly-elected judges to hold the February courts.

It seems to us eminently proper that both houses should raise a committee who should consult the best legal talent, and settle this matter by report.

We think that there was a vacancy in all the county judgeships for which there had not been an election before the 1st of January. Until that vacancy was filled, or a regular successor qualified, the old judge could, if he chose, hold over; but we think that during the session of the Legislature it can fill the vacancy; if there is no session the Governor can. We are satisfied the newly-elected judges for the regular term only enter upon their duties January, 1881, wherever they have been elected since the recess, but we believe the Legislature could at once, and should at once, elect them to fill the vacancy, and thus get rid of the doubt.

Doubt as to the legal right of a judge to decide upon questions involving the life or liberty of a citizen should be prevented.—*Lynchburg News.*

The judges will hardly apply for the offices before they get their commissions. And when the Governor issues these, they will be very likely to tell when the term commences. We hope for as much, at the least.

WEST VIEW POST-OFFICE,
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA.,
January 19, 1880.

Editors Dispatch: Please inform me in what district of the census is this county, and how many enumerators there will be in this county, and how are the appointments made, &c. Respectfully,

J. C. JAMES.

Please answer at once. Also, please state salary of enumerators, whether there are district bounds, &c. J. C. J.

Goochland is in the Third district.

The enumerators are "designated to the Superintendent of Census" by the supervisors. Dr. J. GRATTAN CABELL is the supervisor for this district.

No enumerator is to have more than 4,000 inhabitants in his district (according to the census of 1870).

The compensation of enumerators will vary. Generally they will receive not exceeding 2 cents for each living person, 2 for each death reported, 10 cents for each farm, and 15 cents for each establishment of productive industry enumerated and returned.

NEW YORK.—The *Herald* thus disposes of Mr. TILDEN, and tells of Mr. SEYMOUR'S popularity:

Against Mr. Tilden almost any popular Republican candidate would have reasonable hopes. But suppose the Democratic candidate should be Horatio Seymour? Could Grant carry New York against Seymour? It is next to certain that he could not.

That is strong language.

The St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* heads an article "Maine Preserved." We should say rather that she is in a pickle.

New Book of Poems.

The Poetical Works of James De Ruyter Blackwell. In Three Volumes. Vol. I. New York. Published for the Author by E. J. HALL & SON. 1879.

We return thanks to the author for a copy of this new book of poems.

[For the Dispatch.]

Prompt Action the Salvation of the Conservative-Democratic Party—Pour Oil on the Troubled Waters.

Let the State Convention be called as soon as possible. No time is to be lost. *Local issues* should not be allowed to enter. The present Central Committee should meet forthwith and appoint a day for the election of delegates to the State Convention, said Convention to assemble in Richmond on a day fixed by the committee. Let all regular delegates elected on the day appointed by the committee be admitted into the Convention. When this Convention assembles let the will of the majority be regarded in the selection of a new Central Committee, delegates to the National Convention, etc.

CONSERVATIVE-DEMOCRAT.

Richmond, Va., January 21, 1880.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA.

WEDNESDAY, January 21, 1880.

SENATE.

Lieutenant-Governor WALKER in the chair. Prayer by Rev. W. G. Starr, of the Broad-Street Methodist church.

Mr. RAWLES presented a resolution as to the expediency of amending the Constitution so as to abolish the office of county treasurer and county supervisor. Referred.

Mr. MAYO presented a bill to prevent the taking of oysters from Monroe creek, in the county of Westmoreland, for the purpose of conveying them to markets outside of the counties of King George and Westmoreland. Referred.

By Mr. HALE: A bill to regulate the pay of attorneys for the Commonwealth. Referred.

By Mr. RIDDLEBERGER: A bill to provide for the publication of the general laws of the State. Referred.

Mr. HURT's joint resolution for a committee of three on the part of the Senate and five on the part of the House, to whom shall be referred all constitutional amendments, came up.

Mr. FULKERSON moved to amend so as to except the resolution he offered yesterday proposing to repeal the clause requiring the prepayment of the capitation-tax. Agreed to.

The resolution as amended was agreed to.

PASSED.

Senate bill to incorporate the Grand Lodge of the Sons of Sobriety of Virginia.

Senate bill to authorize Smithfield Lodge, I. O. O. F., to borrow money.

Senate bill to incorporate the Luray Iron Company.

Senate bill to incorporate the Chesapeake and Idaho Gold-Mining Company.

Senate bill to incorporate the Mineral Land Company of Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee.

Senate bill to amend the charter of the town of Front Royal.

Senate bill to amend the charter of the city of Staunton.

Senate bill to amend the law in reference to the commissions of the General Agent and Storekeeper of the Penitentiary.

[For election of judges see local.]

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

The House was called to order at 11 o'clock by Mr. FRAZIER.

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED.

By Mr. SAYRES: Bill to amend and re-enact sections 4 and 5 of chapter 137 of the Code of Virginia.

By Mr. NICOL: Bill for the protection of mechanics by giving them a lien on articles repaired.

By Mr. PAYNE: Bill for the relief of the sureties of A. T. Creel.

By Mr. NELSON: Bill to incorporate the trustees of Millwood Lodge, Independent Order Good Templars.

By Mr. SLEMP: Bill to amend the charter of the Bristol Coal and Iron Narrow-Gauge Railroad Company.

RECENT LYNCHINGS.

Mr. PAIGE (colored) offered the following:

Whereas within the present month acts of lawlessness and violence against the peace and good order of this Commonwealth have been perpetrated by mobs upon innocent citizens of this State, resulting in brutal murders by lynching of two colored persons—to wit, Davis in the county of Amherst, and Arthur Jordan, in the county of Fauquier; and whereas said lynching was done in the absence of any proof of the accused parties having violated any law of this State, while the civil tribunals of the Commonwealth were fully able to bring the alleged offenders to justice had such proof against them existed; therefore be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates of Virginia (the Senate concurring), That the Governor be requested to offer a suitable reward for the apprehension of the perpetrators of said murders, with the view of bringing them to trial and punishment according to law.

Mr. PAIGE submitted some remarks in offering the resolution.

Mr. PAYNE replied, stating that the charges were untrue. The community (Warrenton) in which this affair happened had nothing whatever to do with it. He was satisfied the Governor would do what is proper. Mr. PAYNE spoke briefly of the negro's atrocious crime—the white woman being an idiot and the criminal her father's servant; and whilst he strongly condemned mob-law, yet when such a thing as this happens he wou'd turn his back and shut his eyes for a few minutes. [Applause.] In the case where rape is committed it is hard that the woman should be subjected to the horror of detailing the circumstances before a gaping crowd, and to avoid it justice will be executed by the indignant community. Mr. PAYNE moved that the resolution be referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice.

Mr. PAIGE did not say that this negro was not guilty. He knew nothing about that. He may have been guilty or he may have been innocent, like the woman lynched in Rockingham. He had no objection to offer to any disposition the House might see fit to make of the resolution.

The resolution was sent to the Committee for Courts of Justice by the following vote:

AYES.—Messrs. Adams, Bailey, Barbour, Bell, *Bulman*, Burgess, Chamberlayne, Claytor, Cross, Dalton, Dandridge, Dickerson, Downs, Duke, Echols, Edmonds, Edwards, Ellis, Farr, Ficklin, Finney, Fitzpatrick, Fray, Gibson, Goode, *Gray*, Green, Gregory, Haden, Hanger, Harmon, Harrison, Harwood, Head, Jewett, Lacy, Linkenhoker, Lyons, McConnell, Menefee, Miehie, Moffett, Moorman, Morgan, Mushbach, Nelson, Nicol, Palmer, Parks, Payne, Pitts, Redd, Rowe, Sayers, Slemp, *E. H. Smith*, Spessard, Stratton, Strayer, Stribling, Turner, Waddell, Wale, Watkins, Watson, White, Wilkinson, Witt, and Yager—69.

NOES.—Messrs. BLAND, COLE, COLLINS, Coiiv, DUNGEE, EVANS, HAMILTON, LEWIS, NORTON, OWENS, SCOTT, and H. D. SMITH—13.

ABSENT OR NOT VOTING.—18 members.

Colored Republicans in SMALL CAPS; white Republicans in *italics*.

HOUSE BILLS REPORTED.

To repeal section 2 of chapter 85 of Acts of 1878–'9, entitled an act imposing certain duties upon county and corporation treasurers and other collectors of State revenue.

To provide for submitting the question of liquor licenses or no liquor licenses to the qualified voters of each magisterial district in the county of Loudoun.

HOUR OF MEETING.

On motion of Mr. STRAYER it was

Resolved, That on and after to-morrow (the 22d instant) the House of Delegates shall meet at 12 o'clock M.

COMMITTEEMEN.

The following committee on the part of the House to investigate the penitentiary store, as required by the joint resolution, was announced: Messrs. YAGER, MENEFEE, and GRAY.

The following committee changes were announced: Mr. WITT to Prisons and Asylums *vice* Mr. WATSON; Mr. WATSON to Public Property *vice* Mr. WITT.

ORDER BUSINESS.

On motion of Mr. FRAZIER it was

Resolved, That the concurrent resolution providing that in the election of county and corporation judges the roll shall be called for the election of five judges before a count shall be had is hereby rescinded.

THE KING WILLIAM CASE.

The contested-election case of ANDREW NELSON (colored) *vs.* ROGER GREGORY came up as unfinished business (Mr. MOFFETT in the chair).

Mr. GIBSON was entitled to the floor. He spoke in favor of the sitting member, Mr. GREGORY, and had the floor at 12:30 P. M., when the joint special order was announced. He said some sharp things about Messrs. BAILEY and FRAZIER and the Readjusters generally.

A resolution in relation to the order of business—election of judges—offered by Mr. CROSS, was adopted and sent to the Senate.

The Senate poured in upon the House numerous resolutions in regard to the order of business.

The committee appointed to count the votes taken on Monday reported all the candidates elected, except D. J. Godwin for judge of Norfolk city. In that case there was no election.

NORFOLK CITY.

For judge of Norfolk city Mr. TURNER nominated D. J. Godwin.

Mr. CHAMBERLAYNE nominated W. W. Old. He spoke of Mr. Godwin as a chronic candidate for Congress and for Attorney-General, and as a latter-day convert to the Readjuster party. He objected to this man being put in a responsible position, who had himself never taken any responsibility, and who had been on all sides of all political questions.

Mr. TURNER said that Mr. CHAMBERLAYNE had met Colonel Godwin in the late campaign, and been pretty severely rubbed by him, and that the sores had not yet healed. He stated that Colonel Godwin had begun life at nothing, and is now worth $75,000, and is the equal of any man in the State in debate. He thought he would make a good judge, and the people want him.

Mr. CHAMBERLAYNE replied to Mr. TURNER, and said that as for the wounds given him by Mr. Godwin, he would leave that to the consideration of the people who had seen them meet in the late campaign. Because the candidate had made money was no reason for his being made judge. That was a poor reason to give for making a man judge. Mr. CHAMBERLAYNE insisted that Mr. Godwin is a changeling and a chronic office-seeker.

Mr. BAILEY, commenting upon what Mr. CHAMBERLAYNE had said about Colonel Godwin being a chronic office-seeker, said that there was on this floor a chronic objector and grumbler.

He, in concluding his remarks, said that for his services to the people the name of Colonel Godwin will live in increasing splendor long after the gentleman's from Richmond has been forgotten.

Mr. EDMONDS, of Portsmouth, spoke earnestly in favor of Mr. Godwin.

Mr. PAIGE (colored) followed. He said that "everybody in Virginia is a chronic office-seeker." Also, that as for Colonel Godwin being after Mr. Goode's shoes, Mr. Goode never had any on that belonged to him. He referred to Mr. CHAMBERLAYNE as a gentleman of fine ability and character, but a chronic jumper from place to place.

Roll-call. Party vote. Godwin elected.

FRANKLIN.

[See first page.]

Adjourned.

To the Hon. B. F. Lacy, Speaker of the House of Delegates:

Sir,—You are the son of my old and valued friend Richmond T. Lacy, deceased, who was as brave and honest a gentleman as ever lived. Exercising the ordinary rights of a free citizen, which I yet awhile enjoy without knowing how long it may continue, I venture to address you.

The Constitution of the United States, in the 10th section, 1st article, provides as follows:

"No State shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder, *ex-post facto* law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts, or grant any title of nobility."

You will perceive by that that the States are expressly forbidden to pass any law impairing the obligation of contracts. And the 6th section of article 5 contains these words:

"This Constitution and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof; and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every State shall be bound thereby, anything in the Constitution or laws of any State to the contrary notwithstanding."

Let me ask, then, why will you pass any law to repeal the McCulloch bill, since it can never become a law while our present brave and truthful Governor holds the pen of State to disapprove it? But if it could, if he would dishonor by his well hand the noble stump, which he lost in a patriotic effort to defend Virginia, her rights, and sacred honor, still the bill would be impotent for all good, and potent only to blur the fair escutcheon of this noble and patriotic old State, and excuse if not justify the vile slanders which the infamous Conkling has heaped upon her, while himself stands self-accused of having stood by quietly while President Grant was preparing with arms to overthrow the Republic and did nothing but assist to fabricate a fraud with a view to allow Hayes to do the work without arms.

I do not believe that all Readjusters are rascals, designing wilfully to overturn their government. I know many of them personally, yourself among the number, who are honest gentlemen (though bad electors of judges), who are misled by their cunning and selfish leader, who stands accused, by common report, of more than one crime; and to them, and toall, I appeal to know whether they will involve our good old mother in anarchy and confusion, if not fratricidal war, without the possibility of obtaining from it any good of any kind?

Our Supreme Court of Appeals, guided by the dictates of honor and unselfish honesty which have always guided it, has already decided the question against you. And the Supreme Court of the United States will be bound to do likewise.

And the 18th section of the 7th article of the Constitution of the United States declares that Congress shall have power "to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof."

It cannot be possible that any Virginian will give the Government of the United States an excuse to turn its whole power upon recreant Virginia as it did Sheridan and his myrmidons upon Louisiana when she was not recreant.

I implore you, therefore, in the name of the half-starving Nihilists of Virginia (as the Yankees and consolidation Federalists, miscalled Republicans, have made them, except that they do not slay their rulers and commit murder) to pause and take to yourselves the comforting consolation that I have proven my regard for Virginia and her people by yielding up for their good all selfish and vain-glorious considerations, even in the moment of victory, and have said to the mad demon of party spirit, So far and no farther shalt thou go.

Respectfully, your friend,

JAMES LYONS.

January 20, 1880.

The Asylums.

[For the Dispatch.]

The pressing needs of the lunatic asylums of the State call loudly for relief. The law of the State requires the Auditor to pay one third of all cash revenues which may come into his hands to the payment of all arrearages due these institutions, and also directs him to pay their appropriations quarterly in advance. These laws have been disregarded, and the asylums are in arrears in the aggregate to the extent of $111,125.12. For the fiscal year ending 1879–'80 alone their arrears amount to $67,214.12. This notwithstanding the asylums had their appropriations largely decreased last year, though their number of inmates has largely increased. They are now practically at a standstill in the enlargement of their buildings, and are in debt to every one for supplies. These charities should be fostered, and the poor creatures now lying in jails should have relief.

The Finance Committee of the House of Delegates is now looking into this matter. The asylum authorities pledge themselves to care for all the lunatics of the State in the next twelve months if their arrearages are made up. Let this be done at once.

The County Judges.

WAVERLIE, ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, VA.,
January 11, 1880.

Editors Dispatch: I see that the question as to the beginning of the county judges' terms still continues to be discussed in your paper. Does not this view of the question settle it? Before a judge can qualify, or, rather, enter upon the duties of the office, he must have the commission of the Governor.

By the Constitution the Governor is guided in fixing the duration and time of beginning of the term. If a judge is elected on the 15th of January, 1880, and the Governor issues his commission on the 20th of January, 1880, could the Governor do otherwise than specially specify in the commission that A B is hereby commissioned to perform the duties, &c., &c., for a term of six years, beginning on the 1st day of January, 1881? Now, if the judge can only qualify by the Governor's commission, and if such commission specifies when his term begins, does not this settle the question?

It thus appears to me that the whole matter will be settled by the Governor's commissions. J. C. W.

"Virginia Politics"—Another View.

To the Editors of the Dispatch:

In your issue of the 10th instant, under the caption "Virginia Politics," a writer under the *nom de plume* of "Democrat" gives his views on the present status of affairs in our local political arena, and suggests a new venture which he thinks most important for the future welfare of the old Commonwealth and as a preventive against a danger which he deems an imminent one, relative to the vote of the State in the approaching presidential contest. The political affiliations of "Democrat" and myself are doubtless identical, since I also am a Democrat and Conservative Funder. There is, however, quite a difference between our views regarding a good deal he says in the communication referred to. It is not, however, the object of this communication to reply to the sentiments as to the "cause" and "effects" of the present situation expressed by "Democrat," but to dissent from his suggestions for future action on the part of those having the State and national interests at heart, and to offer a substitute which I think will be more effectual in bringing about the desired end as regards *one point*—to wit, the unity of all Democrats in the presidential election next fall.

The gist of the suggestions offered by "Democrat" is as follows: The calling of a convention to be held at an early day by the people who have the State's interest at heart and their own welfare—those uninfluenced by partisan purposes or by the desire of political aggrandizement; the convention to organize the Democratic party in Virginia upon a platform to accord with that of the national party in national affairs, and with "a broad, liberal, and just platform as regards State affairs"—the "line being thoroughly drawn between the Democratic and Republican parties in Virginia" to force the adherents of the party now in power to give up their adherence to the same and join the former party or openly come out as Republicans—the party being so organized as to preclude the dividing of the people one way in national and another in State elections; a plank in the platform in regard to the debt—promising to the creditors a settlement to the best of our ability, and providing that any proposition shall be subject to the people's approval; a broad and liberal plank upon the color question, &c.

Now, Messrs. Editors, I fully agree with "Democrat," both as to the fact of the necessity of taking some action in regard to State affairs, and that of the importance of organizing for the presidential contest next fall. Nor am I disposed to disagree with the principles of his proposed platform. But in that he has made a compound mixture of national and State politics. I think his convention would prove a most complete failure, and so far from bringing about the desired end, would result in "confusion worse confounded"—and why? The State has recently passed through probably the most hotly-contested canvass her territory was ever the scene of, and unmistakably proving the fact that there exists a difference of opinion among the people—among Virginia's sons—the character of which differences, and the circumstances attending the question, having given rise to factional feeling. Hence in this situation of affairs, however good the suggestions and principles enunciated by "Democrat" may be in themselves, and regarded by those of his party or faction, the people are not in that condition to give such attention to the subject as would be essential to success. Suppose, now, such a convention as suggested is called and held; when the State-debt question arises there would be a variety of irreconcilable views and a bolt on the part of all whose principles were not adopted and embodied in the platform—if, indeed, there would be any response to the "call" by any than those agreeing with the party to which "Democrat" belongs, in which and in any other event the one aim to unite the Democracy would prove a most miserable failure. By the "mixture" (if the term may be allowed) of State and national politics, the result would be hurtful to both. The trouble is just this—that while nearly all of the whites of Virginia are united in their Democratic principles, they are terribly divided in regard to State matters; and hence the fruitlessness of an attempt to organize the State Democratic party at present with any plank in the platform concerning the State debt. A moment's thought will convince any one of this fact. It would be an experiment doomed to be fraught with inextricable difficulties.

Now, let us take one at a time. Let there be a convention called in the interest of the Democratic party—to organize for the approaching election—with a distinct understanding and avowal that State political matters will be "severely let alone" in that convention. To this call Readjusters and Funders (those of each party who are Democrats—comprising the bulk of each, certainly,) will respond, an harmonious session will be the result, a thorough organization for the campaign, and the organization, if it is deemed advisable, of the "State Democratic party."

The people will flock to the Democratic standard, as "Democrat" very truthfully remarks, and with the Democrats of both State factions united and harmonious under the national Democratic banner, we would present a solid and impenetrable front to the enemy, and, as usual, carry the State by an overwhelming majority. Now, it is absolutely all-important that this unity and harmony of action be secured, or else it will be perfectly useless for any effort to be made to carry the State for the Democratic ticket. Let us contemplate for a moment the holding of a convention by each wing of the old Conservative party (now known as Funders and Readjusters) and the appointment of two separate delegations to the National Convention. Both delegations could not be recognized, and the faction whose delegation was "repudiated" would hold aloof from participation in the canvass, and there would be imminent danger, to say the least, of the State's going by default. This would not only be a State calamity and be the cause of an everlasting reproach upon the fair name of the old State, but it would seriously affect the national result and in the greatest probability result in giving the victory to that corrupt party that has been in the ascendency, to the detriment of this country, for so many years. These facts should be borne in mind by the good and true of our State, and it is high time we were "up and doing." Now, let us be conciliatory; let us at once stop this filthy stream of vituperation engendered by the heat of the late great campaign; let us rise above the low level of partisans and blind bigots; and while we may differ widely in our views, let us learn to respect the opinions of our fellow-citizens, remembering that men's minds are not all constituted alike, and that differences in ideas and views are as natural as it is for water to seek its level. Both factions should heed these things, remembering that there are not all the good nor yet all the bad men on either side.

Now, the questions of adjusting our State debt, &c., which "Democrat" alludes to are all important, and should doubtless receive due attention at the proper time; but I do not think this the proper time, inasmuch as I hold that national and State politics are two entirely distinct things, and under the existing state of affairs the combination of the two would result in endless confusion and a vast deal of harm; and secondly, inasmuch as the national contest takes place this fall, and there will be no State election until the succeeding fall, I think the proper step to take is to turn our attention to the former contest first, and await the proper time for agitating our State issues. Nor can the objection to this be urged that we would thereby make our State's affairs subordinate to our national affairs; it would be paying proper attention to both.

Like "Democrat," I am by no means an egotist in regard to my views. I have the good of the nation and of the State at heart, and I cannot believe that Virginians will suffer their blood-bought heritage to be forever lost by a disagreement in regard to State politics, but that "Virginia is Virginia still," and will show to the world that she intends to preserve untarnished and transmit to posterity her bright and glorious escutcheon. OLD DOMINION.

December the 31 1879

W D Vaughn Dear Sir After Considerble meditation In regard to the Judge ship I find I cannot give satisfaction to all my friends by nominating A man myself, thare fore I shal submit the matter to the people, that Elected me to bring out A man at floyd court, and send me his name, then I will make the nomination in the Legislative Hall.

you must Excuse me as there is a bout three men on the track, my friends must deside the matter yours truley

AMOS DICKERSON.

The above communication, which is given word for word and letter for letter, will speak for itself.—*Floyd Reporter.*

WHAT THEY NOW SAY.—A few days ago we heard a gentleman who voted for the Readjusters say that he had done so for the purpose of letting them readjust the public debt; but if he had had the most remote idea that they were going to readjust the offices instead of the debt and turn good men out merely because they differed from them he never would have voted the ticket. The people are getting their eyes open.—*Floyd Reporter.*

Bishop Littlejohn, of the Long Island diocese, has prohibited the Rev. J. W. Sparks, an English Episcopal clergyman, from conducting ritualistic services for the seceders from St. Luke's Church, in Brooklyn.

DEATHS.

Died, in the city of Richmond, January 21, 1880, Mr. CHARLES H. BARKSDALE.

The funeral services will take place from Dr. Hoge's church at 3½ o'clock TO-DAY the 22d instant. Friends of the family are invited to attend.

Died, on the 17th instant, in Alexandria, in her seventieth year, Mrs. EUGENIA C. HYDE, daughter of Thomas Fairfax, and widow of Charles K. Hyde.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

☞ CORSETS! CORSETS!

We have taken out of our stocks all of the CORSETS that are soiled, and have placed them in a basket. We sell them at the uniform price of 75 cents. In the lot will be found CORSETS formerly sold at $2.50.

We also show a full assortment of CORSETS, white and colored, in all sizes, and call particular attention to the LADY TEAZLE CORSET at $1.

ja 21 LEVY BROTHERS.

☞ LACE CURTAINS.

NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS at $2 a set for two windows;
NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS at $2.50 a set for two windows;
NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS at — set for two windows;
NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS at $5 a set for two windows;
NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS at $5.50 a set for two windows;
NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS at $6 a set for two windows;
NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS at $7 a set for two windows;
NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS at $8 a set for two windows;
NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS at $9 a set for two windows;
NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS at $10 a set for two windows;
NOTTINGHAM LACE CURTAINS, $12, $13, $14, $15, and $18 a set for two windows;
LAMBREQUIN LACE at 30c. per yard worth 50c.;
LACE LAMBREQUINS at $2.50, $3, $3.50, and $4 a pair;
LACE BED-SPREADS, with PILLOW-SHAMS to match, at

ja 21 LEVY BROTHERS'.

☞ A CHANCE TO GET BARGAINS.

DRY GOODS AT LESS THAN OLD PRICES!

JULIUS MEYER,
603 BROAD STREET,

being determined to reduce his stock preparatory to making a change in business, has marked his entire stock way down.

DRESS GOODS closing out at and below cost;
DRESS GOODS reduced from 37½ to 25c., from 30 to 20c., from 20 to 16⅔c.;
DOUBLE-WIDTH NOVELTIES reduced from $1.25 to 85c.;
STEEL-MIXED POPLINS reduced to 6¼c.;
STRIPED MUMMY-CLOTHS at 8⅓c.;
BLACK and COLORED CASHMERES greatly reduced;
ALL-WOOL COLORED CASHMERES reduced to 45c.; superior quality reduced from 75 to 60c.;
BLACK ALL-WOOL CASHMERE at 42c.—very cheap;
60c. BLACK CASHMERE reduced to 50c.;
$1 CASHMERE reduced to 85c.;
Specially low prices made in BLACK and COLORED SILKS;
PEKIN STRIPED SILKS and SATINS at cost;
MERINO and ALL-WOOL UNDERWEAR at greatly reduced prices;
BLANKETS closing out at cost;
LADIES' and CHILDREN'S FURS closing out much below cost;
And lots of other goods below regular prices, at

ja 2 JULIUS MEYER'S.

☞ CLOAKS AND DOLMANS
FROM $8 to $15—
AT PRIME COST.
LOWER QUALITIES AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

ja 2 at JULIUS MEYER'S.

☞ UNLAUNDRIED SHIRTS AT OLD PRICES.

JULIUS MEYER'S, 603 BROAD STREET.

Notwithstanding the recent heavy advance in material, we are selling our celebrated
LINEN-BOSOM SHIRT at 60c.;
The extra quality at 80c.; and the
Celebrated PEARL SHIRT at $1.

ja 2

☞ A. HUTZLER & SON,
306 BROAD STREET.

NEW GOODS FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

We have just received a full and complete line of NOVELTIES suitable for HOLIDAY PRESENTS, SILK HANDKERCHIEFS, TIES, SHELL-BOXES, GLOVES, HOODS, MITTENS, COMFORTS, KNIT JACKETS, EMBROIDERED COLLARS AND CUFFS, together with many other articles too numerous to mention.

BLACK and COLORED CACHEMIRES, full line, from 15c. to $1.25;
POPLIN LUSTRES, full line of colors, at 12½c.;
PEKIN STRIPES, in SILKS, SATIN, and VELVETS;
BROCADE SILKS, full line colors;
BLACK and COLORED SILKS, VELVETS, and VELVETEENS;
A few more of those CHEAP DAMASK TOWELS at 25c.;
LADIES', GENTLEMEN'S, and CHILDREN'S UNDERWEAR;
HOSIERY, WHITE GOODS, and CASSIMERES;
NOTIONS in endless VARIETY. de 11

☞ JOHN C. SHAFER,
MERCHANT TAILOR,
1004 Main street (corner above post-office),
RICHMOND, VA.

His stock consists of a LARGE AND FINE ASSORTMENT OF GOODS, imported especialy for him, and is constantly receiving NEW GOODS, STYLES, and PATTERNS.

Prices to suit the times.

SHIRTS, COLLARS, and CUFFS of fine grades made to order. no 14

SHEET MUSIC.

JUST RECEIVED, TEN THOUSAND COPIES OF THE FINEST PIECES OF SHEET MUSIC, from G. Schirmer, New York. They include his latest publications; also, the finest importations of FOREIGN NOVELTIES and CLASSICS. Teachers and amateurs solicited to call and examine. Prompt and courteous attention assured to all.

RAMOS & MOSES, Piano Warerooms.
ja 20-2w 914 Main street.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

☞ GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES.

D. & E. MITTELDORFER
WILL FROM THIS DATE OFFER THEIR ENTIRE STOCK AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

DRESS GOODS to be sold at and below cost;
BLACK and COLORED CASHMERES reduced 25 per cent.;
CLOAKS, CLOAKS, at less than cost to close;
CARPETS! CARPETS!—Our stock must be sold at less than old prices;
UNDERWEAR for ladies, children, and gentlemen at old prices;
LADIES' VESTS at 50c., regular price $1;
MEDICATED RED FLANNEL SHIRTS and DRAWERS for ladies and gentlemen at $1.25, regular price $2;
We have a few BLANKETS left. Will be sold at prices to astonish all.
BLEACHED and BROWN COTTONS—a very large stock, bought before the rise, which we will sell at a very small advance on cost.
CORSETS! CORSETS! CORSETS!—The best goods for the money in the city.
SIDE-LACE and SIDE-STEEL CORSET at 50c., worth $1;
ABDOMINAL CORSETS, for stout ladies, at 50c., worth $2;
IRISH LINENS in REMNANTS;
TABLE-DAMASKS, TOWELS, CRASHES, CRUMB-CLOTHS, NAPKINS, and a full line of WHITE GOODS. Now is the time to buy these goods.
TORCHON LACES, HAMBURG EDGINGS and INSERTINGS, PATENT LACES, RUFFLINGS (a very large stock), RIBBONS, BUTTONS, TRIMMINGS of all kinds;
HOSIERY—a full and complete stock;
CASSIMERES, KENTUCKY JEANS, WATERPROOFS—