



ALEXANDRIA, VA.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1876.

A PAID OFF DEBT.—During the darkest period of the existence of our old town, when everything was at a standstill, and the progress of the town so slow that in ten years its population increased but twenty-five souls; when the town had been just ravaged by fire, and when, without hope at home, the faces of all young Alexandrians turned for their future towards the great West, the town determined to embark in a great effort to regain its trade. The design of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal was one that then captivated every sanguine imagination, and gave promises that lured even the most sober and thoughtful men of the community. The State of Virginia had incorporated the company in 1824, and in the preamble to the charter it was, in language more glowing than is usual in an act of the legislature, declared to be a work of "great profit and advantage to the people of this State and of the neighboring States, and may ultimately tend to establish a connected navigation between the Eastern and Western waters, so as to extend and multiply the means and facilities of internal commerce and personal intercourse between the two great sections of the United States, and to interweave more closely all the mutual interests and affections that are calculated to consolidate and perpetuate the vital principles of union."

The town was awake on the subject, and it was agreed with cordial unanimity to subscribe \$250,000 to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, and although the taxes previously had been very light, the people submitted cheerfully to a tax of 58 cents on the hundred dollars. The other district cities were also greatly interested in the project, and Washington submitted to a tax of 113 cents on real and personal estate, and Georgetown to a like tax of 56 cents, in order to make subscription to the great work. The history of its accomplishment cannot be told in the limits of a newspaper article, but at last, with aid from Maryland and the United States, and the issue of bonds, the work was carried to the coal fields, and a quarter of a century afterwards the sons of the men who had made the subscription in 1827 kindled bonfires on the hills near town to signify the joy of Alexandria at the completion of the work to the Cumberland coal fields.

Long before this, however, the money to pay the subscription had been borrowed in guilders from a company of Holland merchants, and the United States had guaranteed the payment of the debt, and had provided that on the occurrence of any deficiency in the sums collected for the payment of the creditors, the extent of such deficiency should be ascertained by the Secretary of the Treasury, and the creditors should be paid interest at the Treasury of the United States.

The people soon became restive under the tax. The Chesapeake and Ohio canal was yet unfinished, and in order to be sure of its advantages Alexandria was making ready, at a great expense, to construct the Alexandria canal to Georgetown, where the C. & O. canal ended. It grew to be a common saying that the town was "mortgaged to the Dutch," and the Holland debt was the grievance of the day. Finally Congress assumed the debt, paid the Holland merchants, and left the town free to contract more loans and go yet more heavily into debt. This was one debt paid off. The \$250,000 thus subscribed disappeared from public notice for many years; but in 1872 it again saw the light as an asset on the credit side of the annual report of the finance committee, thus "due from C. & O. Canal Company—\$250,000." It again appeared in 1873, but since then has been dropped, as an asset of no value.

The latest advices from the scene of the Indian war are to the effect that the U. S. troops under command of Generals Terry and Crook—who are not on good terms with each other and consequently have not been acting in concert—after avoiding a battle with the Indians are making arrangements for going into winter quarters. The results of the campaign have been the disgraceful defeat of Crook and Reno; the annihilation of Custer's command; panic and alarm among the settlers along the whole western frontier, and a revival among the Indians of the previously extinct hope that they can successfully resist the further advance of the white man upon their domain. The actual loss in money to the people of the United States has been millions, and the prospective loss millions more. Gen. Sherman, however, still rides his war horse up and down Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, accompanied by his son on a Sberdan pony; Lieut. Gen. Sheridan daily dashes along behind a spanking pair in Lincoln Park, Chicago; recruiting is prosecuted vigorously, but as the soldiers will not be wanted on the Yellowstone till next summer, they can be employed in carrying out the instructions of the Attorney General and the Secretary of War relative to securing some of the Southern States for Hayes and Wheeler; President Grant fares sumptuously at Long Branch, and invites Mr. Hayes, who endorses him, to come on there and partake of some of his delights, and the radicals cry aloud for a continuance of power, and are unable to say anything else against the reform candidate, who, they fear, will beat them, accuse him—a man who has lived without reproach for sixty years, honored and esteemed by a large number of the most influential and respected citizens of the country—of the small, low and mean crime of making a false return to the tax gatherer. No wonder the Sioux were successful, for the administration and its favorites must enjoy themselves, and must provide for a continuance of their party in power.

The indications of the unanimous nomination of Gen. Hunton by the Conservative Congressional Convention to meet here to-morrow are becoming more and more apparent. The Culpeper Observer says: "The Culpeper delegation in the Alexandria convention will be a unit for Gen. Hunton. At the last election the vote of Culpeper was cast solidly against him and for Mr. Barbour. Mr. Barbour is now a very zealous and warm friend of Gen. Hunton, and says by all means return him, as he has merited the position by his ability and strict attention to business. We are of the same opinion, and should he have opposition the vote of Culpeper will affirm it."

Among the transparencies at the radical rally at St. Albans, Vt., on Tuesday night, was the following: "Tammany sachems in 1870—William M. Tweed, Samuel J. Tilden, Peter B. Sweeney, Richard B. Connelly, Thomas J. Fields. A man is best known by the company he keeps." Judged by this rule, where will Gov. Hayes, who endorses President Grant, be? Gov. Tilden was the foremost man in arresting Tweed and searing the rest of the New York ring out of the country, but President Grant used the whole power of the government to secure the acquittal of his accomplices, Belknap, Babcock, Harrington, McKee and others.

The radicals are becoming more and more alarmed as the election day draws near. They are now fearful of a large reduction in their usual majority in Maine, where an election will take place on the 11th prox., and of the loss of some of their Congressmen from that State, and in their urgent appeals to the faithful to vote the straight ticket there, exhibit their fear by concealing the possibility of Mr. Tilden's election, and ask what chance a radical will have with a Democratic President and a Democratic Congress to sustain him?

Secretary Chandler, with that disregard of law which characterizes all the members of the present administration, has given up the Seaton House, in Washington, as the Pension Bureau, and leased the upper story of ex-Gov. Shepherd's new building, for five years, at \$15,000 a year, for that purpose; and has thereby rendered the government liable for that and an equal sum to the owners of the building he has relinquished, which still remains under lease to the government.

The radical papers don't deny that their candidate for President took away from a chaplain \$400 that a condemned deserter had given him to send to his mother. They say he turned it over to the government, but the books don't show it.

All the federal office holders of Democratic antecedents, and, if women, those whose dead husbands were Democrats, are being removed as rapidly as they charge against them can be substantiated.

Ex-Gov. Fayette McMullen still persists in his intention of running for Congress as an independent candidate in the district that General Pridemore will represent.

News of the Day.

At a meeting of the Methodist ministers of Richmond, yesterday morning, the following resolution was unanimously adopted: *Resolved*, That we hereby express our great gratification and satisfaction at the happy conclusions reached by the joint commission appointed by the General Conferences of the two Methodist Episcopal Churches (North and South) "to remove all obstacles to formal fraternity, and to adjust all difficulties between them;" and that we hereby express our cheerful acquiescence in and hearty approval of all that was done by the commissioners touching the whole question of fraternity between the two ordinate branches of the great Methodist family on this continent.

Mr. James B. Sener, ex-member of Congress from the Fredericksburg district, and a member of the National Republican Committee, has been appointed one of the National Republican Executive Committee, with headquarters in New York.

A water-spout burst over the Humane Es establishment at St. Paul's Island, Nova Scotia, on the 18th inst. Five buildings were destroyed and one man killed. Only two storehouses and a dwelling house were left standing, and they were much shattered.

The Virginia and Maryland boundary arbitrators met yesterday at Cape May. The argument on behalf of the Virginia claim of the boundary was commenced by Mr. R. T. Daal, attorney general of Virginia, and will be continued by him to-day.

Last Saturday Gov. Jacob appointed ex-Gov. Samuel Price, of Greenbrier county, U. S. Senator from West Virginia, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the late Senator Caperton.

It is estimated that there are 10,000 women in New York without the employment necessary for support of themselves and their children as dependent upon them.

Foreign News.

The losses of the Servians in the recent battles at Alexinzatz are estimated at ten thousand. Arrests of Russian volunteers for Serbia in Hungary continue. The London Times, reviewing the situation, says the question of peace or war rests with England, which should co-operate with Russia and the Powers to that end. The preliminary report of Mr. Schuyler on the Bulgarian outrages, fully confirms the worst that has been told of the atrocities, and characterizes the report of the Turkish commissioner as a mass of falsehoods.

It is reported that Tzeu Yui Eeg, Governor of Yunnan, has committed suicide, in obedience to orders from Peking. No details are given, but it is rumored among the natives that the Government takes this method of endeavoring to check further inquiry.

The Roman Catholic Church in Ning Kuoeh was attacked by a mob, who threw combustibles among the congregation, and slaughtered the numbers as they endeavored to escape from the edifice.

Renewed efforts at reconciliation with England are being made through the Viceroys at Nankin, but thus far without effect. The insurrection in Cambodia has been suppressed.

Harvesting in England is progressing satisfactorily. The yield of wheat will be less than an average.

Lord Ribblesdale, step-son to Earl Russell, has committed suicide in Switzerland.

Fire.

PORT JERVIS, N. Y., Aug. 29.—The Supervisor of the town has warned out all the inhabitants of the northwestern portion of the town to help fight the fires that still rage in that section. A vast quantity of timber has been destroyed. The fires are supposed to be the work of incendiaries and a large reward has been offered for the apprehension of any of them. The whole atmosphere is permeated with smoke and the mountains a short distance away are indistinct.

The Bloody Shirt Campaign.

Gov. Morton in a recent speech thus described the condition of the South, which, he said, had been wrested from the Republicans by violence:

"The Democrats have not got the slightest hope of success except by murder and intimidation. They cannot elect Tilden without a solid South, and hope to elect him by the shotgun. One is murder and the other fraud."

A man from the North going down South will always be under suspicion and surveillance, no matter how loudly he may cry for 'Tilden and reform,' just as the Northern Democracy will look with suspicion on a Union soldier profiting to be a Democrat. All I wonder South is a fair election but I despair of getting it. We ask equal rights in the South, nothing more. You know they are not practiced there. I could not go down there and make the speech I have made here this afternoon. We want to bury the hatchet and shake hands with the people of the South, but we cannot do it as long as they practice murder on our people. I believe we shall conquer, and this year. I do not believe that Tilden, with his 'bar' of money,' will be elected. The Democratic party is not to be trusted either by its past record or present promises. They have done nothing of advantage or benefit to the country in twenty-five years, by their own admissions, save appointing smelting committees by the House of Representatives, which will cost the people a million of dollars. But they claim that they have cut down expenses \$30,000,000. Yes, they have, by retarding appropriations. Next year they will have to pass deficiency bills amounting to \$30,000,000 and these same howling reformers will vote for them. Oh, no, that party is not the friend of the country, and has not been for thirty years. And that we have a country at all is due to the fact that that party has been defeated at the polls. The rebellion was as much a Democratic rebellion as the St. Louis Convention was a Democratic Convention; actuated precisely by the same feelings.

It was this last part of his speech which awakened the greatest enthusiasm in the audience, and provoked all question that the bloody shirt is in Putnam county the real living issue of the contest.

The New York Herald says: It was the war which re-elected Lincoln and gave Grant his two terms. It is the war which will elect Hayes, if he should succeed. The Republicans may add as many planks to their platform as they please—about currency, civil service and the Pope—the living thought underlying their party is the war. Once withdraw that question from our politics, once unite the North and the South on a basis of peace, fraternity, the acceptance of the war amendments and conceded political equality, and the Republican party will be as dead as was the Whig party after the compromise measures in the administration of Fillmore. Outside of the faucon necessity for a government that will protect the negroes there is no pretext for the Republican organization. Its leaders have dared to take new ground, to adapt it to any one of those vital problems the consideration of which must absorb the attention of parties in the future.

The reason why the Republican leaders have never dared to identify their party with questions of free trade, finance, the constitutional relations of the States to the government, and so on, is that on every possible question that now attracts the attention of thinkers the Republicans are as helplessly divided as the Democrats. For this reason the elimination of the war from the politics of the day would destroy the Republican party. That is the bond of its existence. It is a bond which grows weaker as time heals the wounds of the war and brings the sections into a closer union.

The executive committee of the county lodge will be glad to hear from any friends with a view to the formation of new lodges in their vicinity. Communications should be addressed to Dr. M. R. Falls, Churem, County Templar, or to Mr. E. P. Berkeley, Fairfax C. H., County Secretary.

ANGLO VIRGINIAN.

Letter from Westmoreland. [Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.] WESTMORELAND, VA., Aug. 28.—Men from Baltimore and the North are prospecting to some extent in this region for ship timber, of which it is said there is still a good deal, though much in years past has been cut away. Some showed me who own large tracts of timber in Lancaster refuse to allow a stick of it to be cut, claiming that it will continually improve, and of course as timber grows scarcer, by worth more. It is hard to understand why fine wood which brings \$8 per cord in New York city does not pay to get it out, and yet it seems difficult to make any money out of it. A great deal is cut and hauled to the rivers and shipped, costing consumers heavily, and yet woodmen here say it does not pay. What we want is the wood, and not the money. Men are cutting up a good team to haul it much more than a wheelbarrow load of wood en route to the Potomac. I met such one one day and asked him why he hauled such small loads: "Why," said he, "would's nary one, and I don't want to stop hauling." Our roads here are confessedly (some pronounce the word as it is) "cussedly," but the other is right) bad, and it is hard getting over them. We have no way of making good roads, however, as you can rarely find a stone to throw at a bird, or kill a snake. When the "bottom entirely falls out," we cut pine poles and make a "corduroy."

Many here who used to know your city in the auto-bellum days now know it no longer, but go to Baltimore for a market, and to spend their money. Now that the route via Snep-perd's is open it is largely patronized, our country stores finding it cheaper and more direct than by way of the Chesapeake and up the Potomac or Rappahannock as formerly.

Last year the travelers on our great high way, the Potomac, were pleased by the promptness, accommodation and reliability of the little steamer Pilot Boy, which was run on the river by Capt. Byles. When his boat went down the river with a flag flunk, on which was inscribed, "Bought off, not run off; kind friends far-well," we felt as though a personal friend had left us. This summer it was with feelings of real pleasure that we were surprised by the return of the captain with another staunch little steamer, the Mattozo, [pronounce it to suit yourself] which is now making bi-weekly trips as did the Pilot Boy, creeping into all the creeks and inlets and carrying off an astonishing amount of produce.

THE LAW OF HORSE HIRE.—The Rural Sun has the following: It has been decided that when a horse or carriage is let out for hire for the purpose of performing a particular journey the party letting warrants the horse or carriage fit and competent for such a journey. If the hirer treats the horse or carriage as any prudent man would do, he is not answerable for any damage that either may receive. But he must use the horse for the purpose for which he hired him. For instance, a horse hired for saddle must not be used in harness. If the hirer violates this express condition of the contract he is liable for any damage that may occur. If the horse is stolen through the hirer's negligence, such as leaving the stable-door open all night, he must answer for it. But if he is robbed of it by highwaymen, when traveling the usual road at usual hours, he cannot be held for damages. As these questions are frequently in dispute, these decisions may be interesting.

At a recent negro meeting in South Carolina a resolution for self-defense was drawn up, beginning with the declaration that "there are 100,000 colored men in this State ready with rifle and revolver to meet the whites; that there are 200,000 colored women who can apply the torch to our enemies' heads and dash their knives in the hearts of our enemy."

Good Templars.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.] FAIRFAX C. H., Aug. 28.—In May last the lodges of the I. O. G. T. in Fairfax established a county lodge, consisting of representatives from the subordinate lodges. The objects of this organization are: To help the subordinate lodges in their work by holding sessions on stated occasions at their respective places of meeting, to form new lodges wherever practicable, and generally to overlook the interests of the order in the county.

On Thursday last the county lodge held its second session at Clifton. Representatives were present from Herndon, Falls Church and Fairfax C. H. lodges. The Presbyterian church was kindly placed at the disposal of the Templars, and the members of the lodge made a donation for the physical wants of their brethren in the shape of a public dinner and supper in Mr. Makely's hall.

At the morning and afternoon sessions the constitution was finally revised and other business attended to.

Messrs. Job Hawhurst and E. P. Berkeley made earnest speeches declaring their devotion to the order.

Rev. G. H. Williams described the growth, prosperous condition and power for good of the lodge at this place.

In the evening a public meeting was held, which was largely attended. Mr. G. W. Mackin, of Falls Church, was called to the chair, and one of Mr. H. C. Newman's musical family presided at the organ.

Messrs. Korris and Berkeley presented the claims of temperance; Mr. Stokes compared physical and moral force, urging that as physical force was never lost so the moral force of the order could never be, and Dr. J. J. Moran made a vigorous speech, which was received with much favor.

Mr. H. C. Newman, in the name of Clifton lodge, thanked the representatives for their attendance.

The next session will be held at Fairfax C. H. on November 10th, when distinguished speakers from other counties may be expected.

The five subordinate lodges in this county have now a membership of about 400. Loudoun, with nineteen lodges, has a membership of about 1200. The order has increased from 800 to 5000 in Virginia during the past three years. A grand lodge now exists in every State in the Union. In England and Scotland it has grown with a rapidity which promises to rival in numbers and influence the lodges in this country. In far off Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand, in Bermuda and in H. R. M. J. S. W. on the high seas lodges exist, while in percentage of population the order is probably stronger in Canada than anywhere else. The membership throughout the world is about 721,000.

In Good Templary the secret society, literary and social features are omitted. An organization has thus grown up which, in the elements of permanence, increase and influence for good has, probably, apart from the Christian churches, never been equaled. Based upon the Christian teachings of self-denial and brotherly love, it has for its object the philanthropic work of checking and ultimately crushing out the greatest vice which has afflicted all English-speaking people from the earliest periods of their history. It therefore commends itself to all good citizens and Christians, without distinction of party or creed.

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Radical Meetings—Third Ward.

A meeting of the Third Ward radicals was held in the basement of the old Court House, last night, with J. McKee in the chair, and T. J. Eblein, Secretary, and reorganized the 3rd Ward radical club by the election of the following named officers: J. McKee, Ward, President; John King, Vice President; A. B. Crupper, Secretary; Hamibal King, Treasurer.

On motion of Hamibal King it was resolved that the delegates from the Ward to the Congressional Convention, to be held here on the 30th inst., were instructed to vote for I. C. O'Neal, and the meeting adjourned.

FOURTH WARD. The Fourth Ward Hayes and Wheeler Club held a meeting at the colored Old Fellows' Hall, last night. The room was tolerably well filled with negroes, the only white persons present being the Gazette reporter, W. L. Penn and Isaiah Fisher.

Gus. Lumpkins called the meeting to order, and said the first business would be the selection of a chairman.

After a solemn pause for some minutes somebody moved that Lumpkins act as chairman, which motion, after another pause for a second, was put and carried, although the noes were decidedly louder than the ayes.

Lumpkins, on assuming the chair, thanked the meeting, and said that he had had the honor before of presiding over bodies fully as honorable, although, perhaps, not so large. He then asked for nominations for a secretary, but no one seeming disposed to make any, Dick Dugan was dispatched to look for Nickens, but reported that he could not be found.

After another long halt, and declinations from Tom Bueck, Claggett and others, Lumpkins left the chair, went out side the door and, after an absence of ten minutes, returned with Mr. C. Chase, a Washington body-darker, whom he installed as secretary.

Lumpkins then requested Wm. Claggett, whom he designated as the chaplain, to lead the club in prayer, and thereupon assumed a devotional attitude.

After a pause of some moments, Claggett said that he was not the chaplain, and did not want to pray where there was so much disorder.

Gaines was then called for to pray, but not being present.

Lumpkins said that if no one had grace enough to pray, the meeting must proceed without it.

Walter L. Penn being introduced, proceeded to crate. He warned the negroes to beware of the Democrats, who wanted to do them all imaginable kinds of harm. He admitted that there was corruption in the republican party, but thought that common to all parties. He condemned Belknap, but at the same time commended the Congressional investigations, on account of the cost. He closed by giving the office-holders a rap.

Isiah Fisher spoke next, his speech being more of a 4th of July oration, and alluding to the glories of one hundred years ago, &c. He belittled Belknap's innocence; thought him an honest, simple-hearted man, who had been betrayed by his subordinates. He criticized Grant and Hayes, and assailed the Democratic nominees. He acknowledged that there had been grafting by the republican officials, but did not think that the party should be held responsible for their faults.

The next speaker was introduced by Lumpkins as "Mr. Lieut. Howard L. Smith, a copper colored youth, evidently a new-begunner on the rostrum. He proceeded in a dolorous and whining tone of voice to read a written speech of some length, in which everything contrary to the speaker's notions was branded as "despicable." His remarks were mainly an appeal to the race prejudices of the negroes, whom he wanted to have their share of the government and, if they could not get it in any other way, to take up arms and fight for it, saying to the white people, "We have met you before, and are prepared to do so again." [Applause.] He said that without the negroes the republican party would be nowhere, and still that party was false to them, and did not give them a fair share of the offices. Notwithstanding this he appealed to them to keep on supporting that party. He waved the bloody shirt a little, and took his seat on a bench, which, unable to bear so ponderous a weight of wisdom, let him down on the floor, and dust under his laughter.

Mr. C. Chase, the secretary, then commenced to read another speech, but the hour being late, the reporter left, and was not enlightened by his wisdom.

Rev. Charles King's Card to Editors and the Public.

To the editor of the Alexandria Gazette: On opening the Alexandria Gazette, nearly a week since, I saw a communication in regard to myself that was so unjust that, notwithstanding my pleading difficulties had entered into rest, I wrote hastily, and under a very high degree of excitement, an article, which, subsequently appeared in your paper, in which there were some mistakes. Whether they were made in writing or in the printing I will not say positively. I have not the paper before me and have to write from memory. The most important was with reference to the magistrate who took my recognition. What he said was in substance that I would have no trouble about the matter. You omit the word "no" or "not," which places the magistrate in a wrong position. I sent you a correction as soon as I first saw this, but I am told it did not appear in your paper. I thought that I had erased the name of D. W. Whitling from the article, but it would seem from the printed article I did not. I must apologize to the public for mentioning his name in a respectable newspaper. I have not seen his communication in reference to my card, but am glad he published one. It is immaterial to me what a man like Whitling may write about me or any other person. I simply "leave him in the hands of a merciful God." The less said about him the better. All I wish is for those who know him to know that he is the leading spirit in this prosecution, and that he is the man who has sent out for publication these rumors in reference to myself. He is a fair sample of the parties who are arrayed against me. They all breathe the same spirit and are "check by jaw" together in the same sordid business. My friends will please take due notice and govern themselves accordingly in making up any estimates as to their baseless accusations.

C. KING.

THE MESS WITHERS' PARTY.—The daughters of Senator Withers, of Virginia, gave a delightful party at their country residence, near Wytheville, Virginia, on Friday evening last. The gay old mansion was alive with the youth and beauty for which that portion of the country is famous, and the festivities were prolonged until a late hour. Among the throng was noticed Miss French, becomingly attired in carn-colored silk, black lace overdress; Miss Marie French, the belle of the evening; Miss silk, on trains; trimmings of natural flowers; Miss Logwood, plain muslin, blue trimmings; Miss Gibbons, black illusion; Miss Lawson, black lace, scarlet trimmings; Miss Withers, delicate green silk; Miss E. H. Withers, rose-colored; Miss Willie Withers, white, coral ornaments; Miss Susie Withers, pale blue; Misses Bessie and Jennie Williams, of Baltimore, coral lace; Mrs. K. Gibbons, mauve-silk; Miss E. P. Gageur, of Lynchburg, white, cardinal trimmings; Mrs. Williams, of Baltimore, black orgain, lace and diamonds; Mrs. Read, of Danville, white satin and tulle. Among the gentlemen were Dr. Fredericks, of New Orleans; Mr. Rathover, of Pennsylvania; Mr. Carr, of Richmond; Mr. Charles Hancock, of Louisville, Kentucky; Mr. E. E. Marlow, of Alexandria; Mr. Benjamin Terry, son of Hon. William Terry; Senator and Mrs. Withers received their guests with their usual grace and dignity.—Wash. Chronicle.

County Schools.

The following address to the people of the county of Alexandria has just been issued by the County Superintendent:

To the people of the County of Alexandria: I lay before you the following report of the school affairs for the year ending July 31st, 1876. There were in the entire county in June, 1875, three hundred and nineteen white and five hundred and eighty-eight colored persons between the ages of six and sixteen. During the school session white boys have closed one hundred and ninety-nine of the former and three hundred and five of the latter attended school. Besides these, there were three white and thirty-eight colored children under six, and twenty-three white and thirty-eight colored persons over sixteen on the rolls, making a total of six hundred and fifty-six, from which deducting sixteen who stood more than one school and are therefore enrolled twice, we have six hundred and forty persons who received some education.

This is a great improvement upon the past, but it is not all that we have a right to expect. The census returns of the same year show that only eight persons were attending school elsewhere, and we may, therefore, infer that about one third of the white and almost one half of the colored children who should have been at school were not there. When you consider that these children, thus growing up without knowledge of the common school, will be the future of the county, you will see the importance of attending to the matter in time. It is, no doubt, true that the poverty of many parents requires the labor of their children at an early age, but surely in winter, when there is no work to be done, time might be spared for attendance at school.

There are but few schools in the county, four for white and five for colored children. I do not think that any child would have to walk more than two miles to get to school; and, in many cases, you have school houses at your very doors. These school houses are, for the most part, very comfortable, and the district boards are conducting very good schools, both white and colored. The schools are kept open about eleven months of twenty school days, or from September until July—longer than in any other county in the State. The average number on the school rolls is only four hundred and seventy-two, but in the county there are one hundred and eighteen colored, and this, probably, to the fact that the services of many of the older children are required at home during a portion of the year; but the fact that the average enrollment only three-fourths of the white and not quite one-third of the colored pupils are in attendance on an average, is not creditable. When a child is at school nothing but the most urgent necessity should interfere with its attendance, for if one day is lost in the week and two in that the connection between lessons is lost, and very little improvement can be made.

TAXATION AND EXPENSES.

The report of your excellent County Treasurer shows that there was a balance at the beginning of the year to the credit of Jefferson district of \$27.82. The sum of \$349 was received from the school taxes in the county, at an average rate of 10 cents on the \$100, while the district levy of 10 cents on the \$100 produced \$77.88. Thus the sum of \$1,297.70 was at the disposal of the trustees. Of this they paid \$1,033.50 for salaries of teachers; \$126.30 for repairs, rent, fuel, books and other contingencies; \$110 for the salary of a clerk, and \$100 for the treasurer's commission, and there remains in the treasury to the credit of the district the sum of \$157.90.

Arlington district had a balance of \$58.00; the State appropriation amounted to \$44.34; the county tax yielded \$7.41; and the district school levy of 10 cents on the \$100, \$1,037.44; making \$2,297.44.

This district paid teachers \$1,437.50, expended for maps, globes, &c., \$24.19; for repairs, fuel, books and contingent expenses, \$206.67; paid the clerk, \$110; and the treasurer's commission, \$100; and there remains in the treasury to the credit of the district the sum of \$708.00.

The entire expenses of education in the county was \$2,881.20, leaving a balance of one month's school officers' salaries, at the average rate of 12 cents on the \$100, not including cities, in which the expense is greater, was last year 21 cents, or nearly twenty-five per cent more. Only six counties—Accomac, Carroll, Floyd, Grayson, Lee and Patrick—exhibit more economical management than this county. The average for the counties of the State (not including cities, in which the expense is greater) was last year 21 cents, or nearly twenty-five per cent more. Only six counties—Accomac, Carroll, Floyd, Grayson, Lee and Patrick—exhibit more economical management than this county.

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