

Local Matters.

Sun rises tomorrow at 4:51 and sets 7:21. High water at 2:56 a. m. and 3:28 p. m.

WEATHER PROBABILITIES.—For this section partly cloudy tonight with rising temperature. Friday showers and thunder storms and not so warm in the afternoon or at night; light variable winds.

Wedding.

A very pretty wedding took place yesterday afternoon at the residence of the bride's mother, Mrs. James L. Pettit, southeast corner of Oranock and St. Asaph streets, when Miss Irene L. Pettit, a popular young lady of this city, became the bride of Mr. Frank Mickleback. The ceremony was performed at 3 o'clock by Rev. J. H. S. Ewell, pastor of the M. P. Church. The bride party entered the parlors, which were beautifully decorated with palms, to the strains of Lohengrin's wedding march. The bride wore a handsome gown of white organdie trimmed with satin and carried a bouquet of white and pink roses, and was attended by her sister, Miss Nellie Pettit. Mr. Fred Mickleback, brother of the groom, was best man. After the ceremony a reception was tendered the couple by the bride's mother. The happy couple left on the six o'clock train for an extended trip to Atlantic City and other New Jersey resorts, and will return to this city about September 1st where they will reside. Among out-of-town guests were Mrs. Annie Minnigh, of Gettysburg, Pa., and Mrs. Ada Penn Brooks, of Norfolk, Va.

Drowning Accidental.

The jury in Washington which investigated the drowning Sunday night of the steamer "W. Lee" returned the following verdict: "We, the jury, find that Edward G. Lee came to his death in the Potomac river at the foot of P street southwest, on Sunday, July 17, by drowning, as the result of an unavoidable accident." As has previously been stated the collision between the steamer Harry Randall and the gasoline launch of the schooner yacht Mist, of the Capital Yacht Club late Sunday night, resulted in the drowning of Lee, who was acting as engineer of the launch. Probably the most important point brought out by the investigation was the fact that the launch was without steering gear and that after its separation from the sailing yacht Mist by the breaking of the tow rope connected with the yacht, it was entirely unmanageable. This seemed to explain the collision which terminated in the collision and the throwing of Lee beneath the paddle wheels.

Scarcity of Accommodations.

Attention was called in the Gazette a week or two ago to the fact that Alexandria did not possess public house accommodations for the floating population, and that a gentleman was compelled to walk almost over the entire city on a certain night in search of a place to sleep. It seems that this condition of affairs is becoming serious among some permanent residents, as a gentleman who came here recently as a government appointee was unable for a time to secure hotel or boarding house accommodations. Last Sunday night a gentleman and his wife from another city who desired to remain here until the next day found it impossible to secure a room in a hotel or boarding house and were finally entertained in a private house. It is also noticeable that it is impossible to secure suitable dwelling houses at present, and househunters are met every day going from street to street in search of places in which to locate.

Circus Coming.

John Robinson's circus will appear here on the 3d of August. Rev. Walter Baer, a Methodist minister last week resigned his charge to become manager of and lecturer in the extensive menagerie of this big show. The ex minister is considered to be peculiarly well fitted for the position, as he is one of the best informed men on natural history in this country this having been his favorite study. Mr. Baer has been aided to a considerable extent by having access to the winter quarters of 200 acres of the great John Robinson show at Terrace Park, Ohio. He has also had much experience in the Chicago and Cincinnati zoological gardens. John Robinson's shows were always instructive, interesting and popular, and that now on the road is justly regarded as the ne plus ultra of such exhibitions.

Firemen's Meeting.

The citizens' committee having in charge the State convention of Virginia firemen, met in the rooms of the Business Men's League last night. In the absence of President Trimyer, Mr. F. J. Paff presided. The finance committee reported that an enthusiastic public had liberally subscribed to the fund. Appropriations for entertainment, music and prizes were authorized. The hotel committee reported that ample accommodations could be given the visiting firemen. The secretary, Mr. Frank L. Pollard, has received acceptances from most of the invited companies. The local companies are enthusiastic and will make a most creditable display in the parade.

A Menace to Health.

People living on Wolfe street, between Lee and Union, are complaining of the action of a thoughtless boy who yesterday deposited a wheelbarrow load of crabs in an advanced stage of putrefaction near the Vulcanizing Works. The wind has been from the southwest today, and the effluvia from the crustaceans has been obnoxious. It is said to be a common practice for some people to dump discarded crabs into docks instead of the channel of the river. They are beached and floated by the fall and rise of the tide and become very obnoxious under the piercing submergences.

Colored Excursions.

The colored Knights Templars of Washington, and the colored Masons of Alexandria gave excursions to Glymont and Somerset Beach today. The boat carrying the Knights Templars stopped here and took on excursionists. Both steamers were crowded with colored persons from Washington, this city and the surrounding country.

POLICE COMMISSIONERS.

Charges Against Lieutenant Smith, Preferred by William H. Travers, to be Investigated Tonight, Together with Strictures on Officers Lyles and Arrington Made in the Corporation Court During the Burnett, Wrenn Trial.—Commissioner Lawler Declares that About One-half of the Force Virtually Do Nothing. The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners was held last night. No business was transacted, but considerable discussion marked the meeting.

Mr. Lawler, secretary of the board, read the minutes of the June meeting, by which it appeared that the commissioners had been discussing the procedure of Officers Lyles and Arrington in connection with the arrest of Richard C. Burnett and Henry Wrenn, who on the 13th of April were intercepted by Officers Smith and Allen while on a wagon on their way down Prince street in the night time. In the board were articles alleged to have been stolen from Washington Southern Railway cars. The facts in connection with the case are as follows: The authorities had been notified that cars had been entered and goods taken therefrom, and a box and some soap labels were found in the yard of a colored woman named Rebecca Quill, they having, it was alleged, been placed there by a colored man named Henry Brown. The latter was subsequently arrested. Officers Lyles and Arrington traced the stolen goods to Wrenn's place where it was evident they had been sold. The officers went to Wrenn's store and he acknowledged that he had purchased the goods from Brown and promised to deliver them at the station house that night. The officers searched the place, but failed to find where they had been deposited. In the meantime Lieutenant Smith ascertained that Wrenn had that morning disposed of three pairs of shoes to a second-hand dealer in this city. He also secured other information which led him to believe that the goods taken from the cars were at Wrenn's store. He accordingly repaired thither and found Officers Lyles and Arrington on the premises. The officers stated that they had searched the place, but they failed to inform the lieutenant of the fact that Wrenn had made a confession to them. The lieutenant determined to search the place himself. He found nothing, although it is now suggested that the officers failed to enter a loft between the ceiling and the roof. Messrs. Lyles and Arrington went off duty that day, believing that Wrenn would fulfill his promise to them and carry the goods to the station house. Sometime during the early part of the night Wrenn, in company with Richard Burnett, was seen by Officers Smith and Allen to emerge on a wagon from the area between Burnett's and Wrenn's houses at the Stone bridge and proceed east towards Payne street. They turned north into that thoroughfare and upon reaching Prince street turned east again. A train of freight cars had blocked Fayette street, and the wagon was stopped midway the square in the shadow of the houses and under some trees. The officers appeared at this point and took the two men in custody. In addition to a miscellaneous lot of goods a pistol, a bottle of whisky and some cigars were found in the wagon. Burnett and Wrenn asserted that they were on their way to the station house. The subsequent events and the trial of the men before the Corporation Court are of recent date and are still fresh in the minds of newspaper readers.

Commonwealth Attorney Brent during the examination of the case in the Police Court made certain strictures upon Officers Lyles and Arrington for not arresting Wrenn upon his own confession; also for neglecting to report his information to Lieutenant Smith when he arrived at Wrenn's place or to Chief Webster, who had directed the officers to endeavor to locate the stolen goods and identify the thieves. Mr. Brent during the trial of the case in the Corporation Court reiterated his criticisms in his argument before the jury, while Mr. Moncure, who defended Wrenn and Burnett, made the assertion that variances between members of the police force entered prominently in the case. It is these strictures the commissioners desire to investigate and they have summoned all parties connected with the charges before them tonight, and Judge Barley has issued an order for the production of Wrenn before the commissioners. There was a general interchange of opinion among the commissioners after Mr. Lawler had read articles from the Gazette in connection with the arrest and trial of the accused. All the commissioners were anxious to have the charges investigated at once some saying that if the charges were substantiated the accused should be dismissed from the force; if innocent they should be so declared.

Mayor Simpson gave a resume of the Burnett-Wrenn case, as well as the part the different officers took in the matter. Officer Smith was called in and he answered certain queries propounded him by the Mayor and commissioners. Mr. Smith denied that there were factional fights among members of the police force, as stated by Mr. Moncure, counsel for Wrenn, during the trial in the Corporation Court. It was finally decided to summon witnesses and investigate the matter at an adjourned meeting tonight.

During the meeting W. H. Travers appeared before the board and made formal charges of assault against Lieutenant Smith. The assault took place at the Old Dominion Glass Works on the 29th of last month. The case was set for tonight. Before adjournment Mr. Lawler said he desired to call the attention of the board to the fact that about one-half of the policemen virtually do nothing but appear at the City Treasurer's office once a month and draw their salaries. The laws concerning nuisances were ignored, fights occurred and the participants were not arrested, torpedoes were placed on railway tracks and disturbances were often reported in various quarters of the city. He cited newspaper items in corroboration of his statements. If, he said, in order to obtain the force the board should be apprised of the fact, and in order to obtain this information he offered a resolution which requires the chief to make monthly statements to the board of the number of arrests and by whom; the nuisances or disturbances reported and by whom—in short an exhibit which will show what each member of the force is doing. Mayor Simpson said that Mr. Lawler's observations were correct in regard to some members of the force.

Mr. Lawler, among other things, said a chronic nuisance had been tolerated within a stone's throw of the police station. He referred to the condition of affairs in the yard adjoining the Brad-dock House on the east.

Mayor Simpson said the officers had notified the agent of the property of the nuisance complained of. The resolution was adopted and the board adjourned.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

J. W. Davis, living near Annandale, died this morning. People from Fairfax county report an abundant wheat crop. Several freight cars were derailed near the east end of the Wilkes street tunnel this morning. The temperature was pleasant last night. The weather today, however, has been warm and sultry. The W. O. T. U. will meet at the Children's Home on Duke street, Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock. The steamer Dennis Simmons, from Williamson, N. C., with lumber to Smith & Co. and H. K. Field & Co., arrived yesterday. The Lexington volunteer firemen have elected delegates to the annual meeting of the State firemen's convention which meets here next month. North Carolina watermelons of a choice variety were plentiful in market this morning. Home-grown melons have not appeared in market yet. The funeral of the late Mrs. Mary E. Craven took place this afternoon from Trinity M. E. Church. The services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Jeffers. One more case of Snow Flake White Goods, worth 10c, now 5c. White Oxford Madras with black and colored dots, sold for 15c, now 10c. Solid Color Oxford Madras, evening shades, black and navy, sold for 15c, now 10c. White and Fancy Colored Corded Wash Silks, sold for 35c and 40c, now 25c. All wool Blue Flannel, for bathing suits, 25c. Mohair, for bathing suits, 35c and 40c. Yard wide Percal, sold for 12c, now 7c. Lot of Dress Gingham Remnants, worth 10c to 25c, now 5c. Lot of Silk Gingham, worth 15c, now 7c. Yard wide Colored Madras, for shirts, sold for 25c, now 10c. 50 pieces of Seersucker Gingham, worth 8c, now 5c. Indigo Prints, worth 6c, now 3c. Dressing Dress Linens, worth 10c, now 7c. Fine 40-inch Brown Cotton, worth 8c, now 5c. Heavy J Brown Cotton, worth 5c, now 3c. Androscoggin Bleached Cotton, yard wide, worth 10c, now 7c. Yard wide Heavy Brown Cotton, worth 7c, now 5c. Shaker Flannel, worth 6c, now 5c. Infants' White Flannel, worth 15c, now 12c. 6-inch Mousselin Ribbons, white and black, worth 25c, now 12c. Short Corsets, sold for 50c, now 30c. Ladies' Waists, sold for 50c, now 30c. Ladies' Waists, sold for \$1.00, now 75c. Ladies' Waists, sold for \$1.50 to \$1.75, now \$1.00. Boys' Blouse Waists, sold for 25c, now 15c. Muslin Gowns, sold for 50c, now 40c. Muslin Chinese, worth 25c, now 20c. Muslin Underskirts, short embroidery ruffle, 50c. Cambric Corsets Covers, 12c. Corset Covers, 30c value, now 25c. Ladies' Gause Lisle Hosiery, 10c value, now 12c. Ladies' Dropstitched Hose, sold for 12c, now 9c. Men's Fine Gauze Socks, 9c, or 3 pairs for 25c. All \$1.25 Lawn Wrappers, now 80c. All \$1.00 Calico Wrappers, now 60c. Lot of Ladies' Lace Neckwear, worth 15c, now 9c. Lot of Dress Shields, sold for 12c, now 6c. Lot of Turkish Bath Towels, sold for 12c, now 9c. Lot of All Linen Napkins, worth 30c, now 25c dozen. Men's White Madras Shirts, worth 60c, now 40c. Men's Working Shirts, now 23c. Heavy Jointless Matting, worth 20c, now 15c. 15c Jointless Matting, now 12c.

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DRY GOODS.

A ROUSING SUMMER Clearing Sale. A Mighty Avalanche of Midsummer Bargains. A veritable July feast of splendid bargain values awaits you at D. Bendheim & Sons. It isn't prices reductions alone that will make this sale an event long to be remembered, but the quality and merit of our superior offering must add increased interest to this wonderful selling of seasonable and wanted merchandise. Colored Lawns, sold for 8c and 10c, now 5c. Colored Lawns, sold for 12c and 15c, now 8c. Mercerized White Goods and Figured White Piques, sold for 15c and 25c, now 12c. Colored Voiles and Silk Mulls, sold for 12c, now 8c. Lot Remnants White Goods, 8c value, now 3c. Lot of Remnants of White Goods, worth 15c to 25c, now 10c. One more case of Snow Flake White Goods, worth 10c, now 5c. White Oxford Madras with black and colored dots, sold for 15c, now 10c. Solid Color Oxford Madras, evening shades, black and navy, sold for 15c, now 10c. White and Fancy Colored Corded Wash Silks, sold for 35c and 40c, now 25c. All wool Blue Flannel, for bathing suits, 25c. Mohair, for bathing suits, 35c and 40c. Yard wide Percal, sold for 12c, now 7c. Lot of Dress Gingham Remnants, worth 10c to 25c, now 5c. Lot of Silk Gingham, worth 15c, now 7c. Yard wide Colored Madras, for shirts, sold for 25c, now 10c. 50 pieces of Seersucker Gingham, worth 8c, now 5c. Indigo Prints, worth 6c, now 3c. Dressing Dress Linens, worth 10c, now 7c. Fine 40-inch Brown Cotton, worth 8c, now 5c. Heavy J Brown Cotton, worth 5c, now 3c. Androscoggin Bleached Cotton, yard wide, worth 10c, now 7c. Yard wide Heavy Brown Cotton, worth 7c, now 5c. Shaker Flannel, worth 6c, now 5c. Infants' White Flannel, worth 15c, now 12c. 6-inch Mousselin Ribbons, white and black, worth 25c, now 12c. Short Corsets, sold for 50c, now 30c. Ladies' Waists, sold for 50c, now 30c. Ladies' Waists, sold for \$1.00, now 75c. Ladies' Waists, sold for \$1.50 to \$1.75, now \$1.00. Boys' Blouse Waists, sold for 25c, now 15c. Muslin Gowns, sold for 50c, now 40c. Muslin Chinese, worth 25c, now 20c. Muslin Underskirts, short embroidery ruffle, 50c. Cambric Corsets Covers, 12c. Corset Covers, 30c value, now 25c. Ladies' Gause Lisle Hosiery, 10c value, now 12c. Ladies' Dropstitched Hose, sold for 12c, now 9c. Men's Fine Gauze Socks, 9c, or 3 pairs for 25c. All \$1.25 Lawn Wrappers, now 80c. All \$1.00 Calico Wrappers, now 60c. Lot of Ladies' Lace Neckwear, worth 15c, now 9c. Lot of Dress Shields, sold for 12c, now 6c. Lot of Turkish Bath Towels, sold for 12c, now 9c. Lot of All Linen Napkins, worth 30c, now 25c dozen. Men's White Madras Shirts, worth 60c, now 40c. Men's Working Shirts, now 23c. Heavy Jointless Matting, worth 20c, now 15c. 15c Jointless Matting, now 12c.

Mr. Bilibisly Hudgins, a young man of Portsmouth, and Miss Bessie Jones, daughter of Dr. T. M. Jones, of this city, who is the guest of Mrs. W. S. Langhorne, in Portsmouth, had a narrow escape from drowning at Willoughby Spit on Tuesday evening. While attempting to teach Miss Jones how to swim Mr. Hudgins suddenly stepped off a sand bar into deep water. The young lady, whose suit he had hold of, was also carried beneath the water. Mr. Morgan Hudgins, hearing the young lady's screams as she rose to the surface, rushed to the scene and held the couple above water until a fisherman, who happened to be nearby