TO FIGHT AGAINST VICE.

GOOD CITIZENS OF ALEXANDRIA COUNTY MAY COMBINE

To Rid Themselves of the Rascals—People who are Silent Because They Fear Persecution—The Coming Elections.

The recent exposure in The Evening Star of the depravity and vice that disgrace Alexandria county, Va., and especially those portions of it lying immediately adjacent to Washington at the ends of both of the bridges which cross the Potomac, has had the effect of awakening the law-abiding citizens of the community across the river to the necessity of taking some substantial action with a view to relieving themselves of the incubus which it is alleged the continued inaction of those chosen as their legal and peace officers has allowed to grow to enormous and deadly proportions. The decent citizens of Alexandria county, however, are confronted with a serious question in the premises. While they are anxious to do anything and everything to secure the purification of their neighborhood they fear that any open demonstration against the thieves and thugs and gamblers who infest the county might lead to the destruction of their own property as well as to their bodily injury. This is no exaggerated statement of the reign of terror that exists in Alexandria county. A reporter for the Evening Star has visited several reputable property owners in Alexandria county who are sufferers from the vice that is rampant there. All of them were perfectly willing to recite the revolting chapters of the story of local crime and degradation, but in every instance they begged that their names might not be mentioned in connection with their recitals because the majority of them would not hesitate to take revenge in the way of destruction of their property by arson and otherwise. Many of them have, however, expressed a perfect willingness to substantiate their statements, provided only one had the temerity to deny them.

INCLINED TO FIGHT.

"The bold and vigorous fight being made by the Star against the thieves, gamblers and law-breakers generally who hold high carnival at various places in Alexandria county, and particularly at Rosslyn and Jackson City, without fear of molestation from the county officers, is very highly commended by the decent citizens of Alexandria county, and has done a great deal toward strengthening our intention to begin an open fight against the crime that besets us right in the county itself," said a resident and property owner of Alexandria county to a Star reporter. "We were very much amused at the honest confession the prosecuting attorney made, that he had only prosecuted one gaming case and had failed to secure a conviction even in that. It is a matter of common report in Alexandria county that Prosecuting Attorney Dick Johnson is entirely familiar with the location of almost every gambling resort in Alexandria county, and is personally acquainted with the men who own and engineer them. He is a young man who owns fast horses, and it is pretty generally known that persons who want to transact business with him after 12 o'clock in the day have to seek him out at one of the race tracks. The same can be said of Sheriff Veitch, so far as concerns his knowledge of the location of the gambling resorts, and his familiarity and acquaintance with their proprietors and employes. It makes a decent citizen of the county sick to read such rot in the way of excuses for not carrying out the law as the county officers indulge in. They are seeking a re-election now, and I hope the Star will continue stirring up the vile mess over our way, so the reputable citizens of the county will be inspired into helping to elect decent men to the county offices at the coming election regardless of the political party to which they may belong."

THE LAW OFFICERS.

Another gentleman, who resides near Rosslyn and passes through that delectable village every day on his way to and from Washington, was visited by a reporter from the Star and asked what he thought of the representations of the Alexandria county officials to the effect that they could not bring the law-breakers of the county to justice.

"It is perfectly preposterous," he remarked, "that the people who are sworn and paid to preserve the peace and protect the property of Alexandria county should indulge in any such ridiculous declarations. Now, take Rosslyn, for instance. I venture to assert without fear of contradiction by any honest man familiar with the place as I am, that there is no more corrupt village of its size on the American continent, or anywhere else. The actual bona fide population of Rosslyn does not amount to more than one hundred and fifty people, and still there are five or six bar-rooms, the majority of which keep boldly open on Sundays; one or two speak-easies, three policy shops, a faro and roulette gambling place and a dance house in the town.

In the centre of Rosslyn is a saloon known by the name of 'The Black Diamond.' It is frequented almost entirely by a low, lazy, worthless, criminal class of negroes. Sunday before last over a hundred of these negroes were engaged in the back yard, and just outside of the rear fence of that inclosure, shooting craps. Sheriff Veitch and Justices of the Peace Burch and Trout know all about this place, because they have seen it in full operation time and time again, over the saloon, in Rosslyn, owned by County Supervisor Clark, is a faro bank and roulette wheel, one of the proprietors of which is a gambler, notorious for years in the city of Washington. Just outside of Rosslyn, on the river bank, is another notorious gambling dive, which is patronized by the worst classes of people from Washington on week days, and is their general gathering place on Sundays.

"Another place that is well known to persons familiar with Rosslyn is opprobriously termed 'Fort Myer's Death Trap.' It is a resort for lively white visitors of both sexes from Fort Myer. It is a regular dance house and a speak-easy, and there is fighting there frequently. Another place that is open on Sunday is called the 'Dutch Corral,' and is patronized by white people exclusively.

SUNDAY AT ROSSLYN.

"There are still other places where rum and riot prevail, and every Sunday almost Rosslyn is crowded with drunken people. It is nothing uncommon for a man to be stood up in broad daylight in Rosslyn and robbed of his property. On Saturday nights there is general and indiscriminate shooting of firearms, so that the decent residents are continually in fear of their lives and sit with drawn curtains and lowered lights for fear of attracting the aim of some desperate, drunken pistol flourisher.

"The names of the men who run the speak-easies, the gambling rooms and the policy shops are as well known to the people of Rosslyn as the names of the county officials themselves.

"If the property holders were to appear publicly and state these facts in the shape of affidavits, as they could easily do, the chances are ninety-nine to one that the torch would be applied to their holdings and their personal safety would be endangered all the time they were in their own State of Virginia. What I have stated are absolute facts, and Sheriff Veitch and County Attorney Dick Johnson and the justices of the peace, of whom ther are four in and around Rosslyn, know they are facts as well as I do."

THE COMING ELECTIONS.

In this connection a prominent citizen of Alexandria county writes the Star: "You seem to have begun a crusade against the lawlessness and disorder in Alexandria county, Va., and I wish for your effort the greatest success.

"In connection with this matter is it not well to invite public attention to the elections for county officers, to be held on the 23d of May next, and aid the cause of the reform candidates by urging all citizens of the county to vote for them on election day?

"One of the most important offices to be filled at this election is Commonwealth's attorney. It is understood in the county that R. W. Johnson, who now holds this office, will be a candidate for re-election.

"The conduct of his office during his present term has been farcical in the extreme, and his re-election for the term of four years from July 1st next, will nullify any reform efforts in this century!

"There is, however, a candidate in the field whose election will mean a new order of things for Alexandria county. He is a practicing attorney of the county and of the District of Columbia, and is known by all as a man of the highest character, integrity and ability. I refer to Mr. Wm. W. Douglas. If the Star will aid in his election it will be working in the right direction."—Washington Star.

Col. Ingersoll's Persecution.

Here is another remarkable specimen of the intimate acquaintance that many Englishmen have of American affairs: Speaking of Col. Ingersoll's recent trouble with the ministers of New Jersey, the Poulterer's Herald of Manchester, England, says: "Ex-Senator Ingersoll of Kansas, who, it will be remembered, ran against Mr. Blaine for President in 1884 and derisively bestowed upon him the title of 'Plumed Knight,' has recently been experiencing great difficulty in delivering his lecture on the Bible. Mr. Ingersoll is known as an authority on theological matters, but owing to the fact that he would take no part in the world's fair festivities at Chicago, upon the ground that the entire affair had an immoral tendency, the American people have turned against him, and now no opportunity to persecute him is neglected."—New Orleans Picayune.

WRONGED BY A BRITISHER.

A Fatal Betrayal by a Church of England Clergyman.

DETROIT, MICH., April 22.—A remarkable story of crime, in which two countries are interested, has finally developed out of the identity of the unknown woman who died in Mrs. H. B. Lane's lying-in hospital, February 6. Even the way in which public attention was first called to the crime is remarkable. A newspaper man happened in the undertaking establishment of Frank Gibbs one day and kicked a coffin that was lying in one corner of the room. The undertaker was indignant, and said: "Here, don't kick that coffin there's a body in it, and I've got $100 for keeping it."

The newspaper man reported the matter to the health office, and an investigation was started. It was learned that the body in the coffin had been embalmed two months before, and kept in the undertaking shop all the time, being moved on three different occasions, when Mr. Gibbs shifted his quarters.

The death certificate showed that the girl had died just two months before. The name on the death certificate was Myrtle Crook, the cause of the death was set down as pneumonia, and the doctor's name was J. D. Seaman. When Gibbs found the case had been reported he hurried to bury the body in Potter's Field. The health board ordered it dug up, and it was laid on a slab in another undertaking establishment, where a post-mortem was held and sufficient evidence secured to show that the girl had died of an operation, and not from pneumonia, as stated in the certificate.

The body of the poor girl lay for five days on a slab, subjected to public gaze, in hope some one might identify her. Out of the thousand or more who viewed the body, not one could furnish a clew to her identity, and it was finally buried. It was more than a nine-days' sensation, owing to the peculiar circumstances which surrounded the case.

Prosecutor Fraser was afterward visited by a woman, who told him a remarkable story. She said that she had been an inmate of the Lane Lying-in Hospital in January, and there met a girl who answered the description given of Myrtle Crook, but that she knew no such person.

She said the girl she knew was Emily Hall, and that she was an English girl, and there was something very peculiar about her coming here. Prosecutor Fraser was interested, and immediately devoted his entire attention to the case. He hunted up corroboration in every field, and has finally established a case which leaves no room for doubt, and which will call the attention of two countries to the case.

One of the first things that Fraser learned, and he early called to his assistance the aid of Chief of Detectives Baker, was that the girl arrived in Detroit January 23, and went direct to Mrs. Lane's hospital. He also learned that all arrangements had been made for her coming there; that she arrived in the night, was driven direct to Mrs. Lane's, and four days later an operation was performed, from which she never rallied.

The doctor who performed the operation is known, Then Fraser had the body re-exhumed, and when his strange informant gazed upon the features she said: "That is Emily Hall, but these are not her clothes." His further investigation developed the fact that Emily Hall had frequently talked to his informant about Birmingham, had said that her parents were worried to death about her, and that she was going back home as soon as she was well.

With this much of a clew, the prosecutor and chief of detectives went to work. They established the fact that she had received a letter which was headed "Princess Villa, Station road, Dudley, England," and was signed "Jon." He also established the fact that on February 6 a registered letter was received in Detroit addressed to Mrs. H. D. Lane, No. 63 Lincoln avenue, which contained $50, the price for the work.

The detective and prosecutor have secured the evidence of two persons, one of whom swears that Emily Hall told her that she had been wronged by a man who sent her to this country, and was a clergyman, and the other of whom makes affidavit that Emily, before her death, said she had been led astray by a Church of England clergyman, who resided in Birmingham.

CENTRAL AMERICA'S WEALTH.

What the University of Pennsylvania Expedition Found.

NEW YORK, April 22.—Among the passengers on the steamship Regulus, which arrived yesterday from Belize, which port she left on April 1, were the members of the expedition sent out by the University of Pennsylvania to Central America to procure specimens for the biological section of that university. The party consisted of Professor Charles E. Hite, Henry C. Walsh, Alfed C. Harris, Jr., and Dr. J. McDonald. They returned with numerous specimens of the fauna and flora, which they collected in Honduas.

The expedition left New York on January 22, and went directly to Belize, from which point they journeyed through Honduras collecting and making observations.

Speaking of the trip, Professor Hite said that, considering the short season they had been away, the expedition was a very successful one. He said he was particularly interested in the geology of Honduras, which, from the standpoint of mineralogy, was quite varied.

"Honduras," he said, "is extremely wealthy. Gold, silver, copper and lead ores are to be found there in great abundance, and it needs but the influx of foreign capital to develop a country the wealth of which the apathetic natives have no conception. During our trip we spent ten days at Copan, where we found members of the Peabody museum engaged in the exploration which they have been carrying on for the past two years. Honduras is a great country, which could be easily developed by American immigration."

Professor Hite paid a high tribute to President Bonilla, of Honduras, who, he said, extended the expedition every courtesy, and placed facilities in their way to make their work of observation easy.

The members of the expedition returned to Philadelphia to-day with the specimens, which will be immediately turned over to the biological section of the University of Pennsylvania.

MAJOR-GENERAL McCOOK.

The Last of the Famous Officers of That Name Retires To-Day.

DENVER, COL., April 22.—After serving continuously in the service of the United States for a period of forty-three years, Major-General Alexander McDowell McCook retired from the army to-day, a step made necessary by the law, the limit of age, sixty-four years, having been reached. General McCook will leave Denver this week for Dayton, O., where he will remain until May. He will then go to Washington and New York, reaching the latter city June 1st, to be present at the graduation of his daughter. Later in the summer the General will rail for Europe with his family, where he will visit several months. He has made no plans concerning himself after returning to the United States. With the retirement of General McCook, the last of the fighting McCooks goes into private life, and for the first time in nearly half a century the army will be without a McCook on its active rolls. It is a most noteworthy fact that General McCook, father of General McCook, who was retired to-day and the sons were all in the field fighting for their country at one time, and that four of them attained the rank of general.

MR. JUSTICE JACKSON.

INTEREST FELT IN HIM WHO WILL BREAK THE TIE.

His Career Has Been a Notable One—Work in the Senate and Transfer to the Bench. Condition of His Health.

The keen desire of the opponents of the income tax to have the Supreme Court in full bench pass upon the tax awakens a good deal of interest in Mr. Justice Jackson, whose presence with his associates in October next is now confidently expected. Nothing whatever is known, of course, concerning Judge Jackson's views on that subject. It has never come before him in any form, either as a legal or political question, and hence no position that he ever took while he was in politics, nor any decision he has ever rendered since going on the bench, affords any basis for conclusive speculation. He will take it up, then, as his associates of the court recently did, without having made a record of any kind bearing on the disputed law.

ELECTION AS SENATOR.

Judge Jackson's public career has been a notable one, and it stamps him as a man of unusual force. He came to the Senate from Tennessee some twelve years ago as the result of a heated controversy over a question of the state debt. Tennessee was heavily involved at the time, and a proposition was brought forward, somewhat similar to that championed by General Mahone, in Virginia, for scaling down the state's obligations. The democrats divided and ran two state tickets, and this enabled the republicans to elect their candidate for governor. The legislature, however, was democratic on joint ballot, and, among its other duties, was charged with the election of a United States Senator. The contest for Senator proved to be bitter and protracted, and at one time there was danger that the democrats, through their inability to agree would lose the office. But at last a union of the factions was effected, and Howell E. Jackson, a member of the lower house of the legislature, was elected.

The winner of the great prize was unknown outside of the state, but was most favorably known throughout the state's borders, and belonged to what was called the debt-paying faction of the democracy. He advocated meeting the state's indebtedness, dollar for dollar, no matter how heavy a tax levy might be required to raise the necessary money. He was likewise a man of much personal popularity, and when his name was finally brought forward in the democratic caucus it secured a very hearty indorsement.

ELEVATION TO THE BENCH.

Mr. Jackson, as senator, proved the wisdom of his selection to that office. The circumstances of his election had called particular attention to him, and it was conceded that he entered upon his new duties with diligence and success. He soon took rank as a sound lawyer, and his speeches showed a generous grasp of public questions. After a service of several years in the Senate, and a vacancy occurring in one of the Federal circuits in the South, Senator Jackson was appointed to the place by Mr. Cleveland in the first term of his presidency. The choice was much applauded, and was dictated, it was generllay believed, not only because of Senator Jackson's liberal equipment in the law, but also because of the stand he had taken on the Tennessee debt question. That feature of the record was considered of especial merit in the eyes of Mr. Cleveland, and as calculated to recommend the new judge to all of his constituents. Justice Lamar's death occurred during the term of President Harrison, and again the presidential favor fell on the Tennessean. Judge Jackson's course on the circuit bench had won more credit for him, and as a southern man was wanted for the vacancy on the Supreme bench he was promoted. Mr. Harrison, there is reason to believe, was impressed as Mr. Cleveland had been with the record made in the Tennessee State debt question, and considered that it would invite confidence to Judge Jackson as a member of the court of last resort. The appointment, though somewhat displeasing to certain Republican leaders, who held that a Republican ought to have been chosen, was well received by the country, and confirmed by a Republican Senate.

FOR A SOUND PUBLIC POLICY.

Nothing in all this is thought to have any direct bearing on the question of the constitutionality of the income tax. At most it is canvassed as showing that Justice Jackson has always stood for a sound public policy, and against the slightest impairment of public obligations, and it is thought to separate him from any possible sympathy with any movement with a tendency to serve agitation at the expense of property interests. But the constitutionality of the income tax is conceded to be a question without connection with such a record, and which, in its purely legal aspect, Judge Jackson may pass upon without reference to any other question. He comes from a section where the income tax is cordially endorsed, and Congressman McMillin, of his State, was the chief instrument in the House in securing the enactment of the law. Messrs. Harris and Bate, of his State, were likewise supporters of the measure when it reached the Senate. But neither will this be likely to weigh with a man of Justice Jackson's individuality and firmness of character. Lawyers speak with great respect of his course on the Supreme bench and of the soundness of the opinions he has delivered as a member of the court, and the interest they feel in the premises attaches to what they believe will grow as a piece of good reasoning out of the examination of so important a question by so competent an authority.

EFFECT ON HIS HEALTH.

Among Justice Jackson's personal friends some congratulation is felt at the turn things have taken. They hope for good results physically for him from this recognized necessity for his presence here. His poor health is represented as having, in a measure, affected his spirits, and as he is a man of a high sense of duty and of much resolution, he will exert himself, it is thought, beyond what he could otherwise have been induced to do to resume at an early day his public functions.

Bicycle Rights and Wrongs.

The shocking death of Mr. Robert Center intensifies public interest in the question of regulating the use of bicycles in city streets. Readers of The Tribune are well aware that it has always endeavored to promote this healthful and delightful form of diversion in all suitable ways by giving much space to matters of concern to wheelmen—the evolution of the wheel itself through all the stages of its rapid advance toward perfection, the improvement of highways, the competitions of experts, the details of legislation, the formation of clubs, the defence of individual rights and the triumph of common sense over prejudice in regard to the modern vehicle of pleasure. We shall not, therefore, be accused of illiberality when we say that decisive measures are necessary to prevent the bicycle from becoming a nuisance which the public will not and ought not to tolerate. The extraordinary increase in the number of city wheelmen during the last year, and especially during the last few weeks, has produced a marvelous change of conditions in streets adapted to bicycling. Such streets are already at times inconveniently crowded by the addition of a host of bicycles to the customary array of wheeled vehicles, and there is no reason to suppose that the limit of congestion has been nearly reached. Obviously, therefore, it is incumbent on all concerned to use their rights so as not to abuse them, and the duty of the authorities to compel strict obedience to law.

The majority of bicycle riders, it may be assumed, are prudent for their own sakes and considerate of others. But there are many who need to be subjected to stricter discipline than has been enforced against them, and their number is increasing not only absolutely with the multiplication of wheels but relatively also, we fear. These persons choose to be a law unto themselves. They often ride four or five abreast, at a far higher rate of speed than the city ordinance permits; they dart through narrow openings without warning and from one side of the street to the other; they whirl around corners with little regard for their own welfare and none whatever for the safety of others, and in general they monopolize the streets to a dangerous and indecent extent. They are the enemies of the community at large and in particular of all who ride legitimately. At night especially they constitute a dangerous nuisance against which popular sentiment will certainly enter a vigorous protest before long. The police possess ample authority now and though there are difficulties in the way of enforcing it owing to the facility with which an offender may disappear they are altogether too negligent of their plain duty. The penalty for violations of law ought to be rigorously applied in every case.

It is not charged that Mr. Center was a notoriously reckless rider and the circumstances of his fatal accident do not prove that he was at fault when he met his death excepting as regards his position on his wheel. His death is due in part to his leaning forward in racing style; with his eyes on the ground just before him, and in part to the fact that the driver of the coal cart which suddenly sheered into his path from behind a street car was on the wrong roadway of the Boulevard. He was doubtless riding rapidly and with the careless confidence of proficiency, but perhaps not faster than the law permits. We cite his lamentable case rather because it furnishes an impressive warning; then because Mr. Center's own conduct clearly invited disaster. Nor is the action of the coal-cart driver, on whom a measure of responsibility for the fatal collision doubtless rests, a complete illustration of the offences which are frequently committed against bicycle riders. He was not deliberately carrying out a purpose to annoy, confuse and endanger a person having as much right in the street as himself, as is the habit of many carters and coachmen. Such surly and impudent trangressors are quite as deserving of punishment as are the selfish and reckless wheelmen to whom we have referred. The authorities ought to bring both classes of offenders to reason as promptly as possible, making no exception in anybody's favor and collecting every fine which can be legally imposed. The increased occupation of smoothly paved streets consequent upon the use of the bicycle has reached a point at which the sternest discipline needs to be unremittingly enforced.—New York Tribune, April 19th.

COSTA RICA AND PANAMA.

Mr. Hill's Address on the Geography and Geology of These Regions.

At the regular meeting of the National Geographic Society in the large hall of Cosmos Club Friday night, says the Washington Star, Mr. Robert T. Hill, of the United States Geological Survey delivered an address upon the "Geography and Geology of Costa Rica and Panama." The fact that he has only recently returned from a tour of scientific investigation of the region, during which he saw a good deal of the prevailing revolutionary spirit, gave special interest to his remarks.

Mr. Hill's lecture, illustrated by a large number of very interesting lantern slides, mostly from photographs taken by him during his recent trip, was partly popular and partly technical in character, descriptive of the topography, vegetation, products, architecture and customs of the widely contrasting regions of the Isthmus of Panama and the modern Spanish-American Republic of Costa Rico to the northward.

The isthmus was discussed as a type the low-lying coastal lands of the tropical region where Caucasian population could only be maintained by constant immigration, and which would be uninhabited did it not lie in the track of commerce between the two oceans. All of its population, except a few unconquered Indian tribes, is concentrated in the two seaports of Colon and Panama, or along the right of way of the railway and canal. On either side it is still an unconquered jungle. The important commercial and political American interests in this region were discussed, showing that its traffic is entirely in the control of Americans, and that it is an important point between our Atlantic and Pacific seaports.

CONTRAST AT COSTA RICA.

Costa Rica, on the other hand, is an example of the higher and better climatic conditions existing in the tropical American region, where indigenous civilization flourishes under healthy climatic conditions. Mr. Hill spoke of this as an ideal country, and praised the hospitality and progressive spirit of the people. Illustrations were given of the entire course of the Panama canal, showing the topography, cuttings, machinery and laborers at present working upon the construction. While not committing himself to any preference of canal routes, he said that the affairs of the Panama Canal Company had been painted in this country much darker than they deserved. The terminal port facilities have been completed. Nearly twenty-five miles of the canal are finished, reducing the distance between the oceans from forty-seven to twenty-two miles. About two-fifths of the necessary grading has been accomplished, and every possible machine and tool for its completion is upon the ground. The great problem of controlling and diverting the waters of the Chagres has also been accomplished.

The lecturer gave interesting accounts of the various zones of vegetation seen in ascending the great volcanoes of Costa Rica, and, incidentally, a general description and classification of the region bordering the gulf and Caribbean sea. Especial attention was called to the important bearing of this Spanish-American region, between the latitude of the Orinoco and the southern boundary of the United States, upon the great problems of continental development, and its correlated biologic and meteorologic problems; and to the great work Prof. Alexander Agassiz has undertaken at his own expense in studying the marine physiography of the region, especially as regards the origin of its vast areas of coral reefs.

CLASSIFICATION OF MOUNTAIN SYSTEMS.

In speaking of the mountains, he classified the systems as follows:

1. The southern extension of the Coralleron region of the United States, which terminates with the great scarp of the Mexican plateau in the latitude of Vera Cruz.

2. The Andes proper, the north and south ridges of which end abruptly in northern Colombia.

3. A system of more ancient mountains, having an east and west trend, and composed of mesozoic rocks, with paleozoic axes, extending along the north coast of South America between the Caribbean and Orinoco, throughout the Greater Antilles, and through Guatemala, Nicaragua and British Honduras. For this Mr. Hill proposed the name of the "Antillean system." It was shown that there were submarine topographic ridges connectin the Honduras peninsula with the islands of Jamaica, Hayti and Puerto Rico, probably also part of this ancient corrugation.

4. Protuberances of older volcanic accumulation, such as the Windward Islands and Isthmian region.

5. Mountains of recent volcanic accumulation, including the three widely separated groups, with different trends, of southern Mexico, Central America and the northern Andes, all more or less parasitic upon the termini of the antecedent and fundamental mountain systems of corrugation, and to a certain extent owing to their newness and greater mass) concealing them.

At the close of the meeting, which was thoroughly enjoyed by a large audience, Mr. McGee, who presided, announced that the lecture next Friday evening, in National Rifles' Hall, will be an illustrated one by Mr. Frank Hamilton Cushing; also, that details regarding the field day at Fredericksburg will be forwarded very soon to all members, and that a fine map of the region would be given to each of the party.

Slates are Banished.

The reason assigned by the school committee for the discontinuance of slates, slate pencils and sponges in the public schools and the substitution of paper, lead pencils and rubber erasers in their places are as follows:

First. A light gray mark upon a slightly darker gray surface is more or less indistinct and trying to the eyesight.

Second. The resistance of the hard pencil upon the hard slate is trying to the muscles, and the resistance to which the muscles are thus trained must be overcome when beginning to write with pencil or pen upon paper.

Third. The use of slates, slate pencils and sponges is a very uncleanly custom and leads to and establishes very uncleanly habits.—Boston Herald.

The Only Qualification.

"Where is the old man?"

"Gone to school."

"What! at his age?"

"Yes. You see, they're a-goin' to run him for office, an' he wants to larn how to count."—The Atlanta Constitution.

DEATH OF MRS. FORE.

A MOST ESTIMABLE CHRISTIAN LADY PASSED AWAY SUNDAY.

Mr. Wiley Thaxton Badly Hurt in a Railroad Accident—Arrested for Assault. Marriage Cards—Personals and Briefs.

MANCHESTER BUREAU RICHMOND TIMES, No. 1121 HULL STREET, BEATTIE BLOCK.

Mrs. Sarah M. Fore, widow of the late Ferdinand Fore, who has been in bad heath for a long time past, died at 9:30 o'clock Sunday morning at her residence on Eleventh street. She was a most estimable Christian lady, and bore her painful illness uncomplainingly. Mrs. Fore was in the forty-third year of her age, and leaves six young children, one boy, Julian, and five girls, Maude, Ruth, Bettie, Myrtle, and Mabel, the youngest of whom is eleven years of age.

Her funeral took place at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon from Bainbridge-Street Baptist church, Rev. L. R. Thornhill conducting the services. A large number of her friends and acquaintances were present. The following gentlemen were the pall-bearers: Messrs. L. M. Nunnally, W. T. Pitt, T. A. Davidson, Lee Walker, Smith Latham, and R. C. Braoddus.

Her remains were interred in Maury cemetery, by the side of her husband.

Mr. Wiley Thaxton was brought to his home at Ninth and Decatur streets Sunday, badly hurt by an accident which occurred Sunday morning on the Southern railway, near Keysville. The accident was caused by the pulling out of one of the drawheads of a box-car, which caused the caboose, in which Conductor Thaxton and his brother, Mr. Wiley Thaxton, were riding, to roll down an embankment. Conductor Thaxton escaped miraculously with a few slight bruises, but his brother was quite seriously hurt about the right shoulder and collar-bone. His condition last evening was somewhat improved.

William Graham, colored, was before 'Squire Jones yesterday morning, charged with an assault upon Martha Skinner, also colored, on Saturday night last. He was also charged with violently resisting Officer Alvis, of Swansboro, who arrested him. The magistrate fined him $20 for resisting the officer, and sent him to the grand jury on the charge of assault.

Invitations have been issued by Mrs. M. E. Hall to the marriage of her daughter, Miss Lucy, to Rev. William Edward Hurt, to take place at 6:30 o'clock Tuesday evening, May 7th, at the Second Baptist church, Richmond.

There will be a meeting of the Finance Committee to-night in the Council chamber.

The meetings which have been in progress at Clopton-Street Baptist church will continue during the week. Rev. Mr. Haight preached Sunday at both services. Sunday night there were two professions of faith.

Miss Sallie Minor, of the University of Virginia, is visiting at the home of Mr. J. W. Bronaugh.

Mrs. Ashby Claiborne is able to be out again after a severe spell of sickness.

Mr. R. L. Roberts is able to be out again, after a week's sickness.

Candidates for office at the coming election should notify Secretary Cox by this evening, as the City Central Committee will meet at 8 o'clock to-night.

Mr. Charlie Whitlock is detained at home by sickness.

Rev. W. A. Campbell, of Richmond, preached at West-End M. E. church Sunday night.

An Epworth League Society was formed at West-End church Sunday with twenty-eight members.

Two negroes were arrested in Richmond yesterday with eleven chickens and two hams, belonging to Mr. John Hughes, of Swansboro.

FASHIONS IN FLOWERS.

Elegant Simplicity, Rather Than Gorgeous Display, is Desirable.

The flowers for the Gould-Castellane wedding cost $6,500. It was the greatest floral display that has been made in New York for many years. Nevertheless, a writer for The Star is informed by persons of authority in such matters that the flowers at this very gilt-edge hymeneal celebration were overdone. There were too many of them—such masses of bloom, in fact, as to render impossible a high artistic effect. The walls of one drawing room were entirely covered with roses. This was accomplished by erecting frames of wire from floor to ceiling, in which the blossoms were stuck. When the ceremony was performed the bride and groom stood in front of a background of lilies-of-the-valley, the latter being arranged in a similar fashion.

The principal disadvantage of this method of treating flowers is that they are injured in the process of arrangement. They have to be handled too much, and many of them are, in consequence, half-faded by the time the work is done. It is the same way with baskets and other contrivances of flowers with a basis of wire, and for this reason partly such devices have gone out of use within the last few years to a great extent. When they are employed, furthermore, each blossom has to be separately wired, and suffers injury in the operation.

Thus, background and like displays of massed flowers have ceased to be used. An exception is the canopy of blossoms, which is always a feature of a wedding among Hebrews. Probably the floral bell, being associated intimately with the folklore of matrimony, will always survve, but at present it is more fashionable to have a whole chime of bells—half a dozen or more—tied together with ribbons. The fad just now is to combine ribbons with flowers. It has been rather long in reaching this country, having been all the "go" for several years in Paris, where it originated.

The accepted fashion in flowers to-day is the "empire" style, in which superb bunches of roses or other blooms are associated with green garlands and wide ribbons with great bows. It is not expensive, comparatively speaking, owing to the large amount of smilix and other greenery that is introduced. Elegant simplicity is demanded, rather than gorgeous and costly effects. In this respect the mode has undergone quite a change within the last few years. More attention is paid to the artistic arrangement of flowers. The floral artist, having undertaken a job, goes first of all to the house that is to be decorated and inspects it, in order to determine what kind of a display will be best suited to the rooms.

Naturally, some people go in for quantity when they buy flowers, while others prefer quality. At this season roses may be purchased for $30 per 1,000, while American Beauties cost $1 apiece.

Florists are paying less attention to the cultivation of the American Beauty than formerly. Though no rose is more exquisite, it has the disadvantage of not blooming very freely. Obviously, a kind of rose that will yield 250 bossoms in a season is far better worth the attention of the grower, other things being equal, than a variety yielding only fifty blooms. The demand in this country is for large roses of fine color on long stems. Abroad, on the other hand, the best market is for small roses that are profuse bloomers. For this reason in France and England the "tea" roses are the greatest favorites. What florists in this country are trying to obtain is a rose that shall be a free bloomer, while possessing the advantages of the American Beauty in respect to size and color. Of course, perfume must be considered also.

Fashions in flowers are started in trifling ways. Joseph Chamberlain gave popularity to a particular kind of orchid for the buntonhole. Just at present a foreign count, attached to one of the legations in Washington, has a standing order at a local florist's for a boutonniere, which is sent to him every evening. It is composed of four white carnations and three pink carnations. The combination may be all the style a season or two hence.

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DESCRIPTION OF No. 7563.

The waist shown here has a fitted lining, over which the material is laid in box-pleats in the front; the back being smooth at the top, with four tiny pleats at the waist line. The lining fastens in the centre front, the box-pleated front hooking at the shoulder and under arm-seam on the left side. The sleeves are leg-o'-mutton shape, and are shown here with a trimming of lace. The same lace is laid over the back at the top in yoke fashion, and is placed between the pleats in front to simulate a yoke.

The model is much used for silk waists, with lace trimming as shown here. A green and black taffetas, with tiny black figure, is exquisite to wear with black skirts, using black lace for trimming.

Violet silk, trimmed with black or ecru lace, is exceedingly pretty, and blues of the bluet shades are much used in the same way.

Crepon makes up very well after this model, with lace, as illustrated. Or the trimming may consist of a row of buttons on both sides of each pleat, from the neck to the bust, using twelve buttons on the central pleat and fourteen on the side pleats.

This latter mode of trimming makes it appropriate also on woolens of light weight. A gown of rose and black novelty goods was trimmed in this way with black buttons, and black belt and collar.

Thin wash fabrics make up most daintily after this pattern, and the latest fancy is for out-lining the pleats with ruffles of yellowish Valenciennes over lace of the narrowest width. The collar of ribbon or material should be adorned with two points of white Nainsook, edged with the same lace.

Another pretty mode of trimming is to lay a piece of ribbon between the pleats, turning the lower edges up at the bottom to face points. The ribbon is also laid between the side pleats and the arm-size, extending over the shoulders and meeting at the waist line in the back. A bow of ribbon is laid over the end in front at the bust. The pattern is cut in sizes 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42, and a medium size requires 5 1-4 yards of 21-inch goods.

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