The Times.

VOL. 12—NEW SERIES, NO. 10. RICHMOND, VA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1897. PRICE TWO CENTS

FOR A $20,000 ALMSHOUSE.

Committee on Relief of the Poor Recommends That Such Be Constructed.

THE PLAN FOR THE NEW BUILDING.

It Will Accommodate 316 Persons, and Be Located in the Rear of the White Almshouse—Sinking Fund Investigation To-Night.

The Committee on Relief of the Poor, after a session lasting from 4:30 yesterday afternoon to 8 o'clock last night, determined to recommend to the Council that $20,000 be appropriated to erect a building in the rear of of the White Almshouse, in accordance with plans submitted by the City Engineer, the building to consist of a basement and two stories, to accommodate 316 persons, with wards large enough to contain eight inmates each, and a hospital for thirty.

The committee met with Mr. S. H. Cottrell (chairman) presiding, and the following members present: Messrs. Miller, Brock, Smith, Noble, Gunst, and Walke.

ALMSHOUSE PLANS.

The City Engineer appeared before the committee and presented the several plans for an annex to the Colored Almshouse, and a new building in the rear of the White Almshouse, which have heretofore been fully explained in The Times. These plans were again explained at length by the City Engineer, and thoroughly gone over by the committee.

The first plan taken up was that providing for an addition to the Colored Almshouse, and Mr. Miller moved that a resolution be adopted, setting forth that this committee deems it inexpedient to make any addition, improvement, or repairs to the Colored Almshouse.

Mr. Gunst vigorously opposed the adoption of this resolution, on the ground, first that it would not be so economical to build in the rear of the White Almshouse. Second, that it would be placing the colored paupers in too close proximity to the whites, and, third, because he was opposed to putting $20,000 down in the gulley back of the White Almshouse.

Mr. Walke thoroughly agreed with Mr. Gunst in his views.

Messrs. Noble and Miller argued in favor of building the proposed improvement in the rear of the White Almshouse, and stating that they were opposed to making any additions to a building which would doubtless have to be pulled down in the near future.

Dr. Trevillian, physician to the poor, stated that the sanitary condition of the Colored Almshouse was such that it would be inexpedient to attempt to add to it.

Mr. Gunst moved as an amendment to Mr. Miller's motion, that an addition be built to the Colored Almshouse, or that a new Colored Almshouse be constructed.

The amendment was lost, and the original motion adopted, only Messrs. Gunst and Walke opposing it.

THE NEW BUILDING.

It having been settled that if any building is erected, it will stand in the rear of the White Almshouse, the City Engineer presented and explained in detail a plan providing for the accommodation of 316 persons, consisting of two stories and a basement, with wards capable of holding eight persons each, and a hospital for thirty persons, the cost to be $20,429.

The question was then raised as to whether it would be better to locate the new building in the rear of the White Almshouse or on Second street. The City Engineer stated that it could not be located on Second street advantageously.

After some further discussion, Mr. Noble moved that the plan of the City Engineer, providing for a building to accommodate 300 persons, be adopted, and that the cost of the same shall not exceed $20,000. The motion was adopted.

Mr. Miller moved that the proposed building be located in the rear of the White Almshouse. The motion prevailed.

Mr. Brock then moved that a resolution be adopted, recommending to the Council that the Committee on Relief of the Poor be authorized to sell the Colored Almshouse property, and that the proceeds of the sale be placed to the credit of an account to be known as the new Colored Almshouse account.

This motion, after some discussion, was adopted.

WANTS TO BE READMITTED.

This concluded the new almshouse matter, as far as the committee is concerned, and upon motion of Mr. Brock, the rules were suspended, and the case of a former inmate of the almshouse who desired re-admission was taken up.

The party in question appeared before the committee and stated that he had applied to Superintendent Davis for re-admission, but had been refused, for what reason he did not know.

Superintendent Davis, who was present, stated to the committee that he always endeavored to be kind to every inmate of the almshouse, but in this case the party had three times been provided with a complete outfit of clothes, but had on each occasion gone out and become intoxicated, and returned to the almshouse in rags.

The matter was cut short by the applicant, who is a shoemaker by trade, withdrawing his application for re-admission to the almshouse, and declaring that he was going to work and make a living like a man.

On motion of Mr. Gunst, the committee unanimously adopted a resolution upholding the Superintendent in every case where admission had been refused on account of intoxication. The body then adjourned.

RETRENCHMENT AND REFORM

The Committee on Retrenchment and Reform will meet at 8 o'clock to-night, in weekly session, and the proceedings of the body are likely to be of great interest to the general public. The Board of Sinking Fund Commissioners have been summoned to appear before the committee, to give an account of the method of handling the Sinking Fund in the past, and its present condition. There is every likelihood that the whole session will be consumed in this investigation.

If any time remains, however, it is likely that the city's salary list will be taken up and changes recommended. There is some difference of opinion, though, as to whether it would be just to the city officials to reduce their salaries without giving them a chance to make a personal statement to the committee, and this difference of opinion may lead to a discussion.

There is also a probability, if time suffices, that the matter of reducing the salary of the Commissioner of the Revenue may be re-opened, as some members of the committee contend that an injustice has been done Colonel Munford, and that the cut in his salary has been too deep.

The Committee on Ordinance, which was called to meet at 6 o'clock last evening, failed to get a quorum.

They Were Not Policy Slips.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—Charges have been preferred at police headquarters against James F. Hannon, a new precinct detective, who arrested on Saturday James McKay for violation of the lottery law. McKay was accused of writing policy slips, but when he was arraigned Hannon failed to appear against him, and he was discharged.

McKay belongs to the North New York Congregational church, and sings in the choir. He explained that it was one of his duties to select the hymns to be sung in the church. He marked the numbers of the hymns down on a slip of paper, designating which were to be sung in the morning and in the evening. He wrote the words "morning" and "evening" on top of the numbers. This was what Hannon thought was a policy drawing.

BOYD FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Will Governor Russell Plead His Cause With McKinley.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Special.—Representative Linney, of North Carolina, said to a representative of The Times concerning the report that Governor Russell has been invited to Canton to present the claims of James L. Boyd, of that State, for the position of Attorney General that he knew nothing about it. Continuing, he said, however:

"That Governor Russell should visit Canton on any occasion is an eminently fit thing to be done. He is probably the best representative of robust intelligence of all the Governors of the South. Governor Russell very early in life disclosed the possession of great talents and learning as a lawyer. As one of the very few Republican members of the legal profession of North Carolina he was able to measure arms with the best lawyers of the State, and to cut his way through the prejudices that then, more than now, existed against any Republican in the South to the first rank of his profession. North Carolina has been fortunate in the selection of her Governors. The names of Graham, Bragg, Vance, Caldwell, and Russell will stand in the history of the State forever as representatives of exceptional natural intelligence, vigor and learning. Governor Russell's views, therefore, as to the fitness of North Carolina's talented son, Mr. Boyd, or any other of her talented Republicans, should have much weight with the President-elect.

THE MONETARY CONFERENCE.

The President to Be Requested to Call One in This Country.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Special.—It seems now to be very probable that the Senate bill providing for the appointment of Commissioners to an international monetary conference will not pass the House. The opposition shown to it by Republicans in the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures while not unexpected, is stronger than had been anticipated, and threatens to influence the members of the House to an unexpected degree. The Democrats feeling that they should offer no opposition to any proposition which might bring about free coinage, nevertheless regard the bill as something of a sham, and are indifferent regarding its fate. Should the bill pass the House it will probably be amended so as to make it distasteful to the Senate. Representative Cooper, of Texas, has an amendment he hopes to have adopted providing that if no conference is called by another nation prior to September 1st, the President shall then be requested to call a conference to be held in this country. Mr. Cooper said to-day that his object in making this suggestion is to place responsibility upon Mr. McKinely and to demonstrate whether an international agreement is feasible.

IMPORTS OF COTTON YARN.

American Spinners Losing a Market That Might Be Profitable.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 10.—Consul Grinnell, at Manchester, Eng., has sent the State Department a statement of the large amount of cotton yarn exported from his consular district the past year (1896) to the United States, aggregating nearly 1,380,000 pounds.

Much of this, which includes a great variety of "counts," is of the finer qualities used by manufacturers of small fancy wares and electrical and other wire-covers, and shows just where the American spinners are losing a market which they might find very profitable.

The table shows 332,866 pounds of rovings, 131,429 of twe-seventies, 129,637 pounds of two-sixties, 97,759 pounds of two-hundreds, and less amounts of sixty specified varieties.

NAVAL RECORDS BEATEN.

Torpedo Boat No. 6 Makes an Average of Twenty-eight and Three Quarters Knots.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 10.—Torpedo boat No. 6 surpassed all speed records in the American navy to-day on her official trial near Newport. Commodore Dewey, chairman of the Trial Board, telegraphed the Navy Department as follows:

"Made very satisfactory speed trial. Five runs over twelve-mile course gave average approximate speed twenty-eight and three-quarters knots."

OLNEY NOT A PROFESSOR.

He Will Not Accept a Chair at Harvard but Will Practice Law.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Special.—Secretary Olney has decided not to accept the professorship of international law at Harvard University, and will so notify President Elliott. He intends returning to the practice of law when he leaves the Cabinet, and does not wish to be hampered by other engagements.

THE RICHMOND COLLEGE BILL.

Col. Ellett Has Secured Consent to Its Being Called Up.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 10.—Special.—Representative Ellett has secured from Speaker Reed a promise of recognition for the purpose of calling up the Richmond College bill. Mr. Ellett believes the bill will pass. It appropriates $25,000 to reimburse the college for losses sustained at the close of the war.

Norfolk's Postmaster.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Special.—Mr. G. H. Williams, of Norfolk, is a candidate for the postmastership of that city. He called at the Postoffice Department to-day and filed an application with the Postmaster General. He is strongly endorsed. It is thought that if a nomination is made now the Senate will not confirm.

Mr. Walter Sharp also called at the Department to ascertain what charges had been made against him and by whom. He has withdrawn from the race for the postmastership.

A Big Reduction.

IRONWOOD, MICH., Feb. 10.—A reduction of 10 per cent. in the wages of all employes has been ordered by the Metropolitan Iron and Land Company at the Norrie, East Norrie, Pabst, and other mines belonging to it on the Gogebic range. The reduction affects every employe, from the superintendent down. The principal stockholders in the Metropolitan Company are officers of the Illinois Steel Company.

Woman Suffrage Favored.

BOSTON, MASS., Feb. 10.—The Legislative Committee on constitutional amendments to-day voted to report an amendment to the constitution striking out the word "male" thus giving to women the full right of suffrage.

Blizzard in Minnesota.

ST. CLOUD, MINN., Feb. 10.—Throughout the central and northern part of this State a blizzard is raging and all trains coming from the west are delayed.

A Norfolk Preacher Called.

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., Feb. 10.—The North Congregational church, of this city, has finally extended a formal call to the Rev. John Depew, of Norfolk. It is understood that he will accept. The North church is the most influential church here.

MR. TRIGG ON STATE BANKS.

He Addresses the House Banking and Currency Committee.

HE TELLS THE NEEDS OF THE SOUTH.

Repeal the Ten Per Cent Tax and There Would Not Be a Corporals Guard of Silver Men Left—Virginians a Debt-Paying People.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 10.—Special. William R. Trigg, president of the Richmond Locomotive Works, to-day appeared before the Banking and Currency Committee in support of the bill to repeal the law placing a tax of 10 per cent. on the circulation of State banks. He held that the circulation of these institutions was two small and curtailed by this tax.

He read to the committee the paper he recently presented at the Business Men's Convention at Indianapolis.

Mr. Trigg showed the committee how greatly the South and West suffered from a lack of banking facilities and how disproportionate has been the distribution of benefits resulting from the present national banking system.

POINTING OUT EVILS.

His statement contained highly important and interesting statistics, which were carefully listened to and very favorably commented upon by the members of the committee.

Mr. Trigg contented himself with pointing out the evils and defects of the present system in the main and left it to the committee to find remedies. His paper will be printed as part of the committee's report.

Among other things, Mr. Trigg said: "And I will interlope just here, not from political motives, for I have never held a political office, I have never drawn so much as a witness fee, but from patriotic motives.

What I have to say is this: Those who attach to the word "doubtful" the suggestion that Virginia is lacking in honor are mistaken, and the committee should not approach the subject they have in hand in that spirit. Though a sound money man myself, I am no better nor am I as good as thousands of my fellow Virginians, who embrace the cause of silver serious, earnest, forceful men, who are desperate for relief.

VIRGINIA HONEST.

This committee must close its ears to the cry of dishonor and probe for and remove the grievance. My State is never reflected upon that I am not angered, knowing as I do the honesty of her people and their acts. General R. E. Lee, possibly in this very room, in March, 1868, before the "Reconstruction Committee," when questioned as to the feeling of his people in the payment of their private debts, the national debt incurred in prosecuting the war, and even the Confederate debt, concluded a most interesting colloquy with the words: "I have never heard any one in the State, with whom I have conversed, speak of repudiating any debt, having previously stated, to use his own word, "simply from his knowledge of the people, that they would pay all debts." And he did not judge them amiss.

Already prominent Virginians had assembled at Richmond and assumed the entire State's debt of Virginia, and it was after 1870, when Mr. Gilbert C. Walker was made Governor of Virginia, that they set apart any of it for West Virginia to pay, and later under the awful pressure of the funding bill, when readjustment was mooted it was fought for years, and though familiar with the facts myself, I am pleased to be able to quote from so distinguished a man as our late Minister to Spain, Dr. J. L. M. Curry, that 90 per cent. of the payers voted throughout for full payment."

In reply to a question by Mr. Cox as to what would be the effect of the repeal of the 10 per cent. tax on State banks with reference to silver, in the South, Mr. Trigg replied: "I believe that if the 10 per cent. tax was repealed there would not be a corporal guard of silver men left in the South.

ACCIDENT ON THE MAINE.

The Dolphin May Be the Blockade Runner.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 10.—There was a serious accident on board the battleship Maine yesterday, but it was kept quiet until to-day. This was rendered possible by the fact that the ships are some sixteen miles away from the city and out at sea.

While the crew, consisting of First Sergeant Wagner and Privates Senman and Hardin, were loading a one-pound gun of the Maine's secondary battery with a one-pound calibre cartridge, the cartridge exploded, injuring First Sergeant Wagner on the right hand, tearing the flesh from the bones. A part of the shell struck Hardin in the leg and hasn't yet been extracted.

The men are painfully rather than seriously hurt. Senman was injured about the face.

The Indiana and Massachusetts have not joined the fleet.

It was learned to-day that the manœuvres are to begin at once, and the Dolphin, which it was thought yesterday had gone South, is probably to act as blockade runner. It may be that her first attempt to get into harbor past the battleships will be made to-night.

This morning a committee of citizens in charge of Collector Bryan called upon Admiral Bunce to learn his pleasure regarding the entertainments which are to be given the fleet by the city of Charleston.

It is of course impossible to obtain definite information regarding Admiral Bunce's plans, but it is generally believed here to-day that the dispatch boat Dolphin is now engaged in an attempt to run into Charleston harbor undetected by the fleet. The Dolphin sailed southward Monday evening, and it is said that Lieutenant-Commander Clover, who is in charge of her, was instructed by the Admiral to make the attempt to run the blockade.

The search lights of the squadron were kept flashing across the sea until late last night, but the Dolphin did not put in an appearance. The ships held their positions of yesterday all day to-day, the men on the various vessels engaging for several hours in exercising their secondary batteries. Towards nightfall signals were hoisted by the flagship, and in response to them the Amphitrite, Marblehead and Columbia moved further out to sea and to the southward. The stretch of water covered by the battleships is thus extended for a distance of more than ten miles.

From the steeple of St. Michael's church to-night the flashlights of the warships may be observed as they cast great paths of light up and down the coast and out to sea. It is supposed that the fleet is engaged in an attempt to detect the Dolphin.

Neither the Indiana nor the Massachusetts joined the fleet to-day, though it is said that both vessels are expected to coal at Port Royal to-morrow. The Newark, which has been engaged on police duty at the mouth of the St. John's river for some days, is now coaling at the same place. This has given rise to the rumor that the Newark will join the fleet at Charleston to-morrow.

Mayor Smith and a committee of reception and entertainment visited Admiral Bunce on the flagship New York at noon to-day and extended the privileges of the city to the fleet. The Admiral, his staff, and the senior fleet officers were invited to attend a banquet of the Chamber of Commerce on February 18th, to meet Secretary Herbert. Also to attend a reception to Secretary Herbert on that day and a ball on the 19th inst. Admiral Bunce expressed his gratification at the attentions shown and said he would endeavor to accept the invitations. All the ships in the locality that can enter the harbor will do so before the Secretary's arrival, and it will be made convenient for the officers to accept the hospitalities tendered. The Admiral would not say much of the details of the blockade, but said he anticipated a most instructive and valuable season here.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—The Newark has arrived at Port Royal and the Dolphin has taken her place watching for filibusters off St. John's river bar.

The official reports of Captain Croninshield, of the battleship Maine, and of Admiral Bunce, of the exciting and disastrous times on board the blockading fleet off the Carolina coast reached the Navy Department to-day. They have been anticipated by the representatives of the Southern Associated Press from Charleston, and confirm the accuracy and completeness of those reports. They are full of interesting detail, but contain no new facts.

Captain Croninshield recommends Landsman William J. Creelman, of the Maine, for a life-saving medal of the first class for his heroism in endeavoring to save the lives of his comrades who were washed overboard.

THE BROOKLYN'S INJURIES.

Three Weeks Will Be Required to Repair the Cruiser—Will Cost $50,000.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 10.—According to the official report from Naval Constructor Linnard of his examination of the cruiser Brooklyn after her bottom was exposed in the League Island dock, that vessel's injuries are more serious than at first reported, and it will probably take three weeks to remedy the damage, at an expense which may reach as high as $50,000.

Divested of technical details, the report shows that the horizontal keel-plates are badly bent up on both sides of her vertical keel, from frame No. 30 to 61, and on port side to No. 70. The keel is probably not materially injured. Strake "A" starboard from No. 30 to 60 is bent in from one to four inches. Strake "A" portside is completely broken through every frame from No. 30 to 70, the frames being bent in from six to twelve inches. Strake "B," on portside, is slightly bent for a short distance. Strake "A" is the course of plates alongside the keel plates, and "B" is the next course above. As the frames are four feet apart, it appears that the plate broken through on the portside is 160 feet long, extending from beyond the forward boiler compartment under the bow magazine to the floor of the engine-room.

No action has yet been taken by the department towards fixing the responsibility for the accident by a court of inquiry.

WILL RESIST THE TURKS.

Prince George, Son of the King of Greece, Sails for Crete.

ATHENS, Feb. 10.—The torpedo fleet, commanded by Prince George, second son of the King of Greece, has sailed for Crete. Before the fleet departed Prince George was given a grand reception.

The Prince declared that he would prevent the Turkish troops sent from Smyrna, the news of whose dispatch to Crete created intense excitement here, from debarking in the island.

Advices have been received in Athens that the town of Retimo, Crete, has been set on fire in several places by Mussulmans.

FITZ IS CONFIDENT.

He Leaves New York for Carson City With His Partner.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—Bob Fitzsimmons left this city at 2 o'clock this afternoon on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad en route for Carson City, Nev. The Australian was accompanied by Martin Julian, his brother-in-law and manager; Pan Hickey, his sparring partner, and Ernest Roeber, the wrestler. The party will not go direct to Nevada, but will stop at Omaha, Denver and Salt Lake City, and give sparring exhibitions.

Lanky Bob appeared in the best of spirits and full of confidence as to the result when he meets Corbett in the ring on March 17th, he said.

"I have won hitherto, and I am going to win again. I see nothing to prevent it."

B. Y. P. U. CONVENTION.

It Will Be Held in Chattanooga Instead of Brooklyn.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Feb. 10.—At a meeting of the National Executive Committee of Baptist Young People's Union, held in Chicago to-day, it was decided to have the annual convention in Chattanooga next July.

The meeting had been promised to Brooklyn, but owing to excessive railway rates and the holding this year of the Tennessee Centennial, the offer was reconsidered. At least 15,000 people will be in attendance. Work on Chattanooga's new auditorium is being rushed to get it in readiness for the occasion.

Promotions on the Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Feb. 10.—At the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company this afternoon a number of important changes were made in the official staff, the action being due, primarily, to the death of President Roberts. The changes are: Captain John P. Green, promoted from second vice-president to first vice-president; Charles E. Pugh, promoted from third vice-president to second vice-president; Sutherland M. Prevost, the general manager, made third vice-president; William J. Joyce, general freight agent, promoted to freight traffic manager (the office being created for him); Samuel Rea, assistant to the president, made first assistant to the president, and E. T. Postlethwait and William A. Patton made assistants to the president.

Captured a Town.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—Information has been received here that the British Niger expedition has captured the town of Bida, the capital of the Foulah tribe. One officer was killed in the assault upon the town.

Later dispatches say that the officer killed in the capture of Bida was Lieutenant Thompson, of the Leicestershire regiment. The Foulah army is said to have comprised about 2,000 men, while the expedition numbered a little over five hundred men, with six Maxim guns and nine hundred carriers, backed up by a flotilla of river steamers. No details of the fighting have been received.

Shot by an Italian.

Between 12 and 1 o'clock this morning Frank Jasper (colored) called at the Third Police Station and showed a hole in his head, which he said had been caused by a pistol shot fired by an Italian by the name of Marchetti, at No. 524 west Broad street. The ambulance was called, and Dr. Charles Labenberg attended to the negro, who did not seem to be seriously injured. He subsequently went home. The police are looking for the Italian, who had not been found at a late hour this morning.

Trouble Expected in Huntington.

HUNTINGTON, W. VA., Feb. 10.—Wade Tillinghast, the outlaw, arrested this afternoon charged with being the leader of the band, who murdered Officer McCloskey in Central City, is now in the cell at the county jail and guards have been placed about the prison. Five hundred enraged citizens are here from Central City, and a lynching is predicted. Officials claim they are able to repel any disturbance which may arise.

THE BRADLEY-MARTIN BALL.

As a Social Function It Has Had No Parallel in America.

SCENES OF OLDEN TIMES REVIVED.

Gorgeous Decorations and Picturesque Costumes Make Up a Strange and Startling Spectacle—Only Two George Washington's—The Dancing.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—The Bradley-Martin fancy dress ball took place this evening in the spacious ball-room of the Waldorf Hotel. The mise en scene was of bewildering enchantment, a veritable fairyland, resplendent with all that wealth and taste could command, and graced by the presence of many hundred members of the fashionable set, radiant in rich robes of historic renown.

The richness of the decorations, the ancient picturesque costumes, the beautiful allegorical toilettes, and commingling of so many beauties, old and young, amazed and charmed all fortunate enough to have been bidden to the ball.

HAS HAD NO PARALLEL.

As a superb social function, it has had no parallel in America. Its fame may pass into history, and perhaps its splendors will be written down as the standard for the belles and gallants of the coming century.

The scene presented was a strange spectacle in this up-to-date Metropolis. At the first coup d'oeil, one would have imagined the graves had opened and the kings and queens, the princesses and the titled aristocracy of the departed centuries had arisen in chorus to again become themselves in all their old-time glory.

Perhaps there were seven thousand guests present, all gorgeously garbed in silks and satins, and magnificently bedecked in diamonds.

Almost every character of note in the times of Louis XIV. and XV., from the plebian peasant to the jewel-crowned king and queen, was personated. They presented imposing figures, dancing in the stately minuet or whirling in the merry waltz.

Numerous were the Pauedo-Marie Antoinettes, Queen Elizabeths, Lady Teasles, Gismondas, Juliettes, Joan D'Arcs, Empress Josephines, Mary Queen of Scots, Colonial dames, knights of Malta, Cardinals, Romeos, Toreadores, and Cavaliers, all presented in costumes of the costliest fabrics, and with marvellous truth to detail.

The Marie Antoinette ladies predominated. American historical notables seem sadly neglected, even the father of his country, George Washington, being honored by only two representatives.

Aside from the beauty of the costumes, interest centred in the unprecedented display of jewels, many rare old, priceless, family heirlooms being worn. There is no estimating their monetary worth, but they certainly represented vast fortunes. Many of the women seemed ablaze with the sparkling gems.

ARRIVAL OF THE GUESTS.

The guests began arriving about 11 o'clock. They entered the hotel through a private door at Thirty-third street and were immediately ushered to the second floor, where a suit of fifteen large apartments had been reserved for dressing purposes. Here were stationed numerous hair-dressers, cosumers, modistes and all functionaries required for the final polishing touches of the exquisite outfits.

These rooms were decorated with a profusion of roses and smilax.

After the guests had assembled and made ready for the grand entree, they descended the flower-strewn stairways to the reception parlor on the main floor. As they passed through the archway they were met by the hostess, Mrs. Bradley Martin, who stood beneath a canopy of rich tapestries and floral effects. Mrs. Martin wore a becoming costume of the Queen Elizabeth period, made of black velvet over red brocade. She was adorned with all her magnificent jewels, including her famous rope of diamonds.

As the guests approached, their names and the characters impersonated were announced by lackeys. The walls of the reception room were covered with costly tapestries of the daintiest colors, while myriads of roses, carelessly thrown, rested in the folds, as they chanced to fall. In one corner was placed the Hungarian band, hidden behind a tower of long-stemmed roses.

The guests moved from this saloon through the corridors, which had been made to represent a woodland, lit by scores of concealed miniature incandescent lights, to the big ball room. The decoration of this room was also a work of art and the illumination brilliant. At the end of the room was a balcony, handsomely adorned, in which was stationed Victor Herbert's orchestra for the dance music.

THE DANCING.

It was near midnight before the quadrille D'Honneur, the opening minuet of the ball, was danced. It had been organized by Mrs. Astor. Mr. John Jacob Astor was the king of the night and Mrs. Bradley Martin the queen. They led the quadrille and at one side were Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish and Mr. Robert Van Cortlandt, at the opposite end Miss Gerry and J. Townsend Martin and Mrs. Whitney Warren and Mr. Lispenard Stewart. The opposite side couples were Mrs. Orme Wilson and Mr. Harry Lehr; Mrs. Leo Tailer and Mr. Craig Wadsworth, Miss Lena Morton and Mr. Center Hitchcock and Miss Madeline Cutting and Mr. J. J. Van Alen.

Following this came the Mrs. Edmund L. Bayne's quadrille, which was participated in by Mrs. Ogden Mills, Mrs. John Jacob Astor, Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., Mrs. Henry Sloan, Miss Edith Morton, Miss Van Rensselaer, Miss Alfonso De Navarro, H. D. Robbins, Worthington Whitehouse and others.

Then came the debutante quadrille, all the dancers wearing costumes of the Louis Quinze epoch. The quadrille was danced to the slow music of the minuet, and the different figures were executed with grace and precision. General dancing was then indulged in. Supper was served in the Empire dining-rooms. The tables were prettily decorated with roses.

The cotillion after supper was led by Mr. Elisha Dyer, Jr., who wore a costume of the period of Francis I. It consisted of a cloak of royal purple velvet, a coat of the same material, and richly decorated with gold embroidery. The tights were of violet silk, and he wore a hat with huge ostrich feathers.

"HOME, SWEET HOME."

The gray streaks of dawn were struggling through the windows of the Waldorf before the last echo of "Home, Sweet Home," had died in the floral-scented room, and the greatest ball in Gotham's history was ended.

There were many guests from out of town, small parties coming from San Francisco, Chicago, New Orleans, Washington, Boston, and Baltimore.

Caroline County Court.

MILFORD, VA., Feb. 10.—Special.—County Court convened in two days' session at Bowling Green this week. On Monday only routine business was transacted. The chief attraction on the green was a fakir, who, after ingeniously indulging for a while the propensity of humanity to be duped, invoked heaven's blessing upon his victims and departed, taking with him a snug little sum of his countrymen's free silver. The second day's session of the court was occupied with the trial of William Washington for shooting John Mosby (both colored.) Washington was employed last year as section hand on the belt line of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac railroad. He came home Christmas to spend the holiday, and one night at a festival found the attention of John Moseley to his wife more than he could appreciate, and decided to take her home. Moseley objected, and an altercation arose, in which Washington used his pistol, inflicting a painful but not serious wound in Moseley's side. The jury's verdict was not guilty.

Cards are out announcing the marriage of Dr. C. R. Massey and Miss Inez E. Colbert, both of Spotsylvania county, at Massaponax church, on the 17th instant, at 6:30 P. M.

WHEELMEN FOR GOOD ROADS.

Discussion in the L. A. W. Meeting—The Fight for Offices.

ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 10.—Wheelmen of the highest prominence from all sections of the country are present to-day at the opening session of the annual assembly of the National League of American Wheelmen.

The opening gun was fired in the cause of good roads, the day being devoted to the consideration of this important question as regards the highest interest of wheelmen.

The assembly opened in Jermain Hall, under auspicious circumstances, having a larger attendance of delegates and leaders from every State than at any previous one. Every State in the Union is represented, with the exception of Florida and Louisiana.

It is doubtful if there will be any one present from the latter State, but a delegate from Florida is expected to arrive during the day.

At present about two hundred and sixty three delegates and about forty ex-officio voters are here, being equivalent to 93 per cent. of the membership of the league.

There was quite a little interest attached to one delegate in particular. This was Miss Mabel Woodberry, of Danville, Ill., who bears the distinction of being the first woman to act as a delegate in L. A. W. assembly.

The fight for the different offices goes merrily on, and has tended to counteract on the good-roads discussion, many of the delegates being absent, so that they could do something to build the fences of their candidates stronger.

All the Western States, with the exception of Illinois, are united on A. Cresy Morrison for first vice-president, and it is expected that a deal will be made whereby New York will support him, and this strengthens Potter's chances for the presidency. The caucusing, wire pulling, and bargaining equals that of a political convention.

The convention met at 10:30 and was called to order by President Elliott, who introduced Chief Consul I. B. Potter, of New York, as chairman of the day. Mr. Potter introduced Lieutenant-Governor Woodruff, who welcomed the delegates and introduced the good roads discussion. Speeches on the subject were made by delegates from Oregon, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Illinois, New York, and E. C. Harrison, of the Government Bureau of Good Roads.

A recess was taken from 1 o'clock until 3—the afternoon session being devoted to a continuance of the good roads discussion. E. W. Connolly, of Illinois, still persists in having his name sent to the convention as a candidate for president.

Unless there is a change before 10 o'clock Thursday morning all the votes that Connolly will have will be those of his own State.

PETERSBURG AFFAIRS.

Insurance Appointment—The Keeper of Blandford Cemetery Dies.

PETERSBURG, VA., Feb. 10.—Special.—W. Alfred Witherspoon, of this city, has been appointed special agent of the Caledonia Fire Insurance Company of Scotland, with headquarters at Atlanta, Ga. His territory will be the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Mr. Witherspoon has been manager for some years of the Underwriters' Bureau of the Southern Tariff Association.

Mr. John B. Evans, register of the water works, will discharge the duties of the office of superintendant until the vacant office is filled by the City Council. There are many applicants for the office.

Mr. James Mulhead, for the past sixteen years keeper of Blandford Cemetery, died this morning after a painful illness. He was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on the 15th day of August, 1821. About thirty years ago he was a member of a United States survey expedition which visited the Falls of St. Anthony in the Northwest, which up to that time was said to have been unvisited by white men. He afterwards came to Petersburg and carried on a grocery business on Halifax street. He was several years ago a member of the City Council. He leaves a widow.

A WRECK AT CHURCH ROAD.

The Passenger Train Saved by Being Late—The Work of a Boy.

PETERSBURG, VA., Feb. 10.—Special.—A wreck occurred at Church Road on the Norfolk and Western railway, last night, which was caused by a locomotive of an east-bound freight train running into some empty flats which had been standing on a siding.

It so happened that the passenger train was over an hour late last night, and a freight train was run out on its schedule, and was not running fast when it struck the flats at Church Road, but the engine was badly damaged, the cars badly broken up, and the main line was blocked for about five hours.

To-day a white lad named Hog Williams, residing at Church Road, was taken into custody by one of the constables of the railroad company, on suspicion of having unlatched the brakes of the cars which were standing on the siding and which caused the cars to run on to the main track, and thereby causing the wreck. Williams, who is fourteen years of age, does not deny that he kicked the latch off the brakes, but says the cars did not move while he was about them. It is not believed that his purpose was malicious.

Williams will be taken to Roanoke to-morrow before J. H. Sands, general manager of the Norfolk and Western Railway Company.

B'Nai B'Rith Endowment.

BALTIMORE, MD., Feb. 10.—The B'nai B'rith Convention, which began its sessions yesterday, spent to-day in the consideration of the endowment feature of the order. The plan finally adopted provides for a graduated scale of insurance from $250 to $1,000, instead of only the $1,000 class, as heretofore. The convention adjourned sine die late this afternoon.

To Hang for an Assault.

HOUSTON, TEX., Feb. 10.—Alexander Terrell, the negro who assaulted Mrs. Jackson, a white lady, in the outskirts of this city, last December, pleaded guilty to the charge this morning and was sentenced to death. The officers who escorted Terrell to the courthouse and subsequently to the jail, were followed by a large crowd but beyond a few jeers and curses no demonstration was made.

President Duke Subpoenaed.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—President Duke, of the American Tobacco Company, was subpoenaed this morning to appear before the Lexow Committee. Mr. Duke says he will appear and give all the information at his command.

Will Not Close on Sundays.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—In the House of Commons to-day the bill providing for the closing of public houses on Sundays was rejected by a vote of 209 to 140.

ON THE CURRENCY DISTRESS

Governor O'Ferrall Telegraphs the Massachusetts Reform Club.

WILL BE UNABLE TO ADDRESS THEM

On Account of Sickness—The Present Banking System, He Says, Should Be Thoroughly Reformed—No Money in the Farming Districts.

Governor O'Ferrall continues to improve after his severe illness, but his recovery is necessarily slow, and on that account he has been compelled, though very reluctantly, to decline to deliver an address before the Massachusetts Reform Club, of Boston, to-morrow upon the financial troubles of the South and the best methods for their abatement.

The Governor yesterday received from Mr. Charles Warren, secretary of the Reform Club, a second letter urging him to be present, if possible. In his letter Mr. Warren emphasizes the importance of the people of Massachusetts understanding the financial condition of the South.

THE GOVERNOR'S REPLY.

In reply to this letter the Governor yesterday telegraphed as follows:

"Richmond, Va., Feb. 10, 1897.

"Charles Warren, Esq., Secretary of the Massachusetts Reform Club, Boston, Mass.:

"For the last month I have been confined to my room with an acute functional trouble. Ever since the receipt of the invitation of your club I have earnestly hoped day by day I would so improve as to be able to accept. I find now that my condition will prevent me from being with you. Please convey to the Club my thanks for the high honor done me. I trust your meeting will be a great success, and that throught the patriotic efforts of your Club and similar organizations means will be devised for the financial relief of the South.

GENERAL CURRENCY DISTRESS.

"No one familiar with the facts can deny that there is general currency distress in the Southern States. The present banking system should be thoroughly reformed and some way reached by which the demands of trade of the whole country can be met. During the late Presidential campaign I opposed the free coinage of silver believing as I did that it would reduce the volume, make money scarcer, paralyze business still more, give the country a fluctuating and depreciated currency and create a panic the result of which no prophet could foretell. The silver sentiment which prevailed to so great an extent in the South was induced by a desire for some change which would bring relief—a willingness to try any proposed remedy—the result of a State of desperation and a feeling of revolt at the present monetary system. In the rural and farming districts there is virtually no money or other medium of exchange.

"It is with deep satisfaction I note that in Massachusetts where the people do not suffer from the troubles, I have described there is so strong a feeling of sympathy with those of us who do.

"CHARLES T. O'FERRALL."

The Governor is greatly in hopes that he may be able to accept the invitation to address the Sons of the American Revolution in Hartford, Conn., on the 22d instant. The event will be one of great importance, preparations for its observance having been made on a grand scale.

DIED IN DE RESKE'S ARMS.

Armand Castlemary Expires After a Successful Performance.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—At the conclusion of the final scene of the opera "Martha" at the Metropolitan Opera House to-night Armand Castelmary, the well-known singer, reeled, and before assistance could be procured he fell dead. Heart disease was the cause. He was sixty-three years old.

He had the part of Tristano, and had drawn round after round of applause by his superb singing and acting.

At the conclusion of the act, the scene represents him as surrounded by a crowd of merry villagers. Nearly half a hundred chorus girls were dancing in a circle about the old man. Suddenly Castlemary reeled, tripped and fell. By a superhuman effort he recovered his his feet and rushed in among the crowd which surrounded him. He grasped a table and supported himself until the curtain dropped. As the curtain went down Castlemary gave way and fell to the stage. The first to reach the dying man was Jean De Reszke, who was standing in the wings. Castlemary, without uttering a word, breathed his last in De Reszke's arms.

ENGAGEMENTS IN CUBA.

La Lucha Says the Island is Tired of Politics and Politicians.

HAVANA, Feb. 10.—Official reports received to-day give the details of many skirmishes, but state that no serious encounters have taken place recently. According to the reports, the insurgents, as usual, were completely defeated in all these skirmishes, losing seventy of their number dead and four taken