

RANGE OF THERMOMETER.  
The thermometer ranged as follows at  
The Times office yesterday: 9 A. M., 52;  
12 M., 56; 3 P. M., 60; 6 P. M., 60; 9 P. M.,  
60; 12 P. M., 46. Average, 55.3.

# The Times

WEATHER FORECAST.  
Forecast for Sunday and Monday:  
Virginia—Fair Sunday; cooler in western  
and northern portions; Monday fair; fresh  
west to north winds.  
North Carolina—Fair Sunday and Mon-  
day; variable winds.

VOL 16 NO. 237 TWENTY PAGES RICHMOND, VA. SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1901 PRICE THREE CENTS

## THE HABLESTON BUILDING BURNED DOWN AND ONE MAN'S LIFE WAS PROBABLY LOST.

### The Great Electric Structure the Prey of Flames.

### WOMAN JUMPS FOR HER LIFE

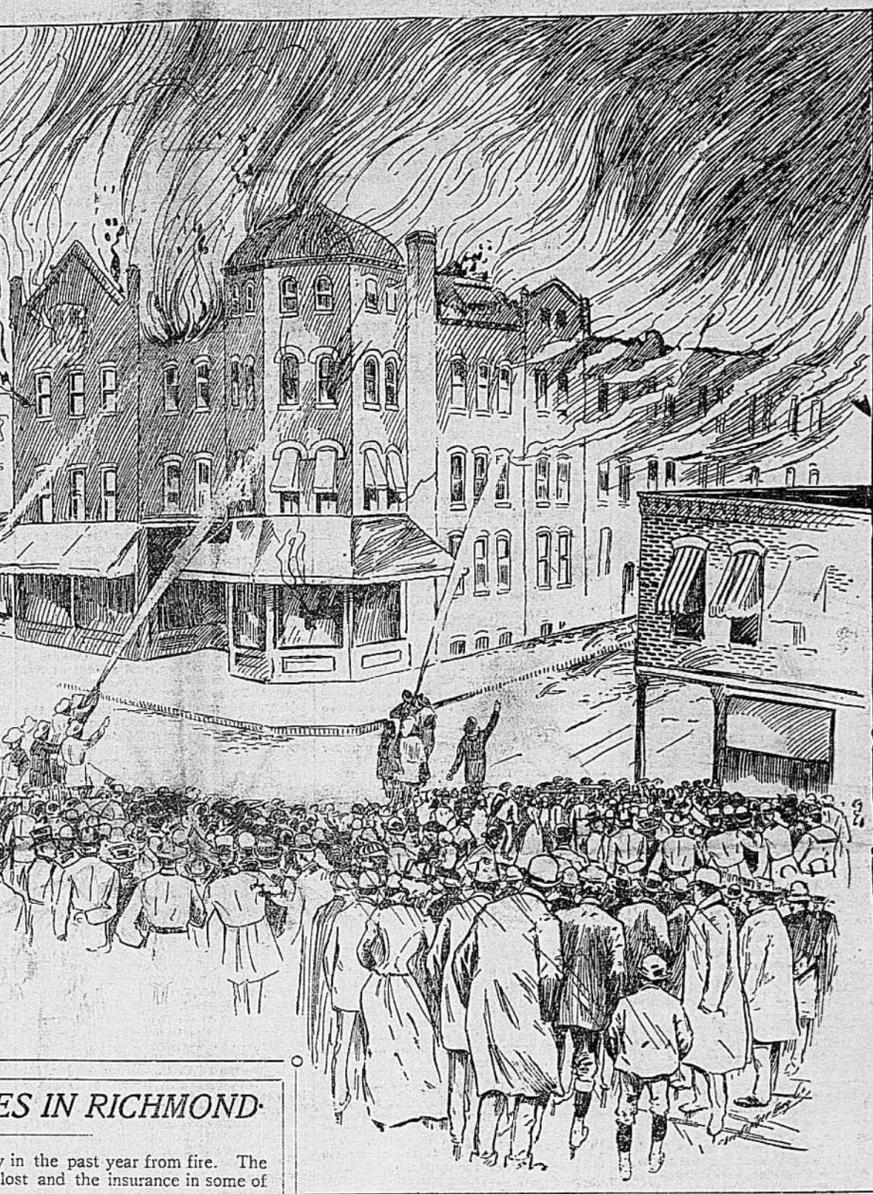
### Miss Crump Leaps from Win- dow, Making Narrow Escape.

### BEGINS WITH AN EXPLOSION

### The Flames Starting from an Unknown Cause in the Basement, Soon En- veloped the Big Structure and It is Quickly Consumed.



### THE GREAT FIRE AT ITS HEIGHT.



...the swirling flames, octopus-like in their greediness, yesterday afternoon claimed one human life, swallowed up property valued at about \$50,000, threatened with their fiery tentacles a young woman, forcing her to leap to certain serious injury, and led to one of the most thrilling rescues ever witnessed in this city. For perhaps an hour the flames roared and hissed through the Hableston building, at Main and Seventh Streets, leaving it a mere shell, after the fiercest and fastest destruction this city ever witnessed.

The young woman who was seriously injured, is Miss Emily Crump, of No. 316 North Twenty-seventh Street, stenographer for the Richmond Traction Company. The life lost was that of Thomas Dabney, a negro employed by the same company, who in all probability met death in the basement of the burned building, and the daring rescue was that of C. C. Clifton, a clerk of the Traction Company. The principal sufferers through the fire were Mr. Charles T. Davis, owner of the building; the Tower-Binford Company, manufacturers of electrical equipment, who, with the Richmond Traction Company and the Virginia Electric Railway and Development Company, occupied the entire four stories and basement of the structure. In addition to these several occupants of near-by shops suffered, these being principally Ernest Young, who has an art store at No. 3 North Seventh Street; Smith and Webster, jewelers, No. 626 Main Street; Joe Bickert, bicycle repairer, No. 624 Main Street, and C. W. McGinness, watch repairer, of No. 622 Main Street.

...she fought the smoke for a time, then, driven back, she heeded the roaring advice of a clamorous and excited throng and leaped. Her injuries are dangerous, but not necessarily fatal.

### A NEGRO PROBABLY DEAD.

While the death of the negro is practically certain, it remains for a delving through the basement of the building to absolutely prove this. Mr. Clifton, who was dragged from the basement through a small sidewalk opening, the steel bars having been smashed in with an axe, is positive the negro must have been injured by the first explosion and was unable to escape, had opportunity offered. A search for the body has been begun, but so far has been fruitless.

### RECENT BIG FIRES IN RICHMOND

Richmond has suffered heavily in the past year from fire. The following table gives the amounts lost and the insurance in some of the recent large conflagrations:

Date	Name	Insurance	Loss
February 19	R. H. Boshers' Sons	\$ 21,500	\$ 9,073.25
March 29	Jefferson Hotel	530,000	513,861.33
April 10	Julius Meyers' Sons	234,250	229,153.79
August 14	James N. Boyd	17,500	12,000.00
August 19	American Cigar Co.	120,000	100,000.00
November 9	Hableston Building	20,000	50,000.00
Total		\$943,750	\$916,087.78

### LARGE AMOUNT OF BUILDING HERE

Architects and Builders Busier Than Ever Before.

### NOT ENOUGH SMALL HOUSES.

Many Improvements Being Made in Public Buildings and Private Residences.

Some of the Work Now Going On.

There is an unprecedented amount of building going on in Richmond. The architects, builders and real estate agents say they can recall no similar activity in this city, and give as the logical reason the remarkably good times.

"The only thing that is lacking to make things perfect in this respect," said a prominent real estate man, "is the unwillingness of capitalists to put more money in buildings. There is a demand for medium-sized houses that cannot be supplied. Day after day people come to us looking for houses that rent from \$200 to \$300 a year. We cannot supply such houses, for there are none; and, in fact, there are scarcely any houses of any description vacant at this time. There is also a demand for high-priced houses.

"In my opinion, there is no better way at this time than to invest money in real estate. People are coming into the city to live, and we are unable to give them the houses they seek."

Another agent, in speaking of the many improvements that are being made to private residences and business houses, said that the tendency now was to beautify one's surroundings, and the best of the decorators and painters were being put to work on many private residences.

"Business houses are remodeling and enlarging because the great increase in business demands it," he said. "There is hardly a retail store of any prominence all over the country, has been closed for us, but in spite of it there has been a substantial movement forward. Now that labor conditions have settled down somewhat, there will probably be a stiff revival in the trade which will last for some time to come."

D. Wiley Anderson, architect of No. 529

### COL. E. L. HOBSON DROPS DEAD

Fell at His House, Having Just Returned From His Farm.

### DIED OF HEART TROUBLE.

Was of Distinguished Virginia Lineage Though an Alabama by Birth—Was a Gallant Soldier and Fine Christian Gentleman.

Colonel Edwin L. Hobson, one of the best known men in the city, dropped dead of heart trouble at his home, No. 2 West Franklin Street, a few minutes to 7 o'clock last night.

Colonel Hobson had just returned from his farm in Goochland county, where he had spent the day in his usual health, and had just entered the hallway of his home and was making some change to pay the driver who brought him up from the station, when he fell to the floor and died without a murmur.

Colonel Hobson was one of the most widely known men in the city and his sudden death was a great shock to his family and friends.

HE WAS A GALLANT SOLDIER.

Edwin L. Hobson was born in Greene county, Ala., sixty-six years ago on his father's farm, near Greensboro. His father was a wealthy cotton planter, and his grandparents were Virginians, and Mr. Hobson was descended from distinguished stock of this State.

At the breaking out of the Civil War Mr. Hobson entered the Confederate army as a private, and by reason of his distinguished gallantry he rose rapidly until early in the war he became colonel of the Fifth Alabama Regiment with the remainder of which he surrendered at Appomattox in 1865.

As a soldier Colonel Hobson was little known to this generation, so modest and unassuming was he in his bearing, but to the survivors of the ever glorious Army of Northern Virginia his mere name is the synonym of cool, determined valor. In the official reports of the great battles fought by that army his name occurs again and again as major, lieutenant-colonel, and colonel of his regiment, always with most emphatic praise on the part of his superiors for his prudence, skill and courage in the most desperate and critical events.

The Fifth Alabama was one of the crack regiments of the Confederacy and was in Virginia during most of the war,

having participated with splendid gallantry in many of the hardest battles. Colonel Hobson led his men on many a field where the battle raged fiercest, and was severely wounded a number of times. He was brought to Richmond for treatment at one of the hospitals here during the latter part of the war, and soon after the war made this his home.

HIS HOME AND FAMILY.

In November, 1865, Col. Hobson married Miss E. L. the second daughter of the late Gen. Joseph R. Anderson, who, with ten children, survives him. Col. Hobson owned a fine farm and country residence in Goochland county, on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, and he divided his time between visiting after that and his business interests in this city. He used his residence in Goochland as a summer home, and he and his family spent their winters in this city, at their home here, No. 2 West Franklin Street.

For some years past Col. Hobson had been connected with the Tredegar Iron Works, and was at the time of his death a director in that company. He had long been a consistent member of St. Paul's Church, and was, for many years, and at the time of his death, one of its vestrymen.

Col. Hobson was a man of fine manners and pleasing address, and was widely popular wherever he was known. He was generous to a fault, and was noted for his charitable deeds and kindness of heart.

He was a kind father, and a devoted husband and loved the association of his family beyond all else in life. He was a gallant soldier, a true patriot, an honored citizen and withal a noble Christian gentleman, whose presence will be sorely missed in the community. Col. Hobson is survived by the following children: Mr. J. R. A. Hobson, who is an officer of the American Long Distance Telephone Company in Savannah, Ga.; Dr. E. L. Hobson, Jr., of this city, and Messrs. Graham E., Dr. DeGraffenried, Frank, George and Archer, and Misses Sallie and Fannie Hobson, all of this city, save Mr. Corydon Hobson, who is now a student at the University of Virginia.

No funeral arrangements have yet been made, but it is probable that it will take place to-morrow afternoon.

### Good Roads Train.

(By Associated Press.)  
KNOXVILLE, TENN., Nov. 3.—The Southern Railway's Good Roads Special arrived at Greenville, Tenn., last night, and to-day the machinery was unloaded and preparations begun for the Good Roads Congress on Monday and Tuesday next.

The experts accompanying the train are much pleased with the success of the enterprise. They state the people are manifesting much interest in the good roads movement.

### Bought by Judge Leake.

A deed of bargain and sale was recorded in the Chancery Court yesterday in which the property, No. 148 Grove Avenue, is transferred to Judge William J. Leake by the Old Dominion Building and Loan Association for \$750.

### MANY CHANGES AT THE CAPITOL

### New Faces in Many Public Places.

### SOME HOT FIGHTS.

### Much Ceremony About the Governor's Inauguration.

### CONTESTS FOR STATE OFFICES.

### Pretty Race for the Speakership—Other Fights Before the Men Who Are to Make the Laws This Winter—any Have Served the People Here Before.

As a result of the elections held throughout Virginia on Tuesday last there will be surprising changes at the Capitol on January 1st, 1902.

The new year comes in on Wednesday, and the casual visitor who leaves the historic old building on Tuesday will be startled at the many new faces he will find in the public offices.

A new Governor will be in command at the Executive Department, and a new Lieutenant-Governor will wield the gavel over the State Senate. There will be a new Secretary of the Commonwealth, and over in the Library building a new Attorney-General will be at the helm. New private secretaries will receive at both the Executive office and that of the Attorney-General, and there may be some new faces in other State offices.

But changes will begin as early as the first Wednesday in December, for the coming Legislature will have in it a larger percentage of new men than any that has assembled in the State in years. Over the deliberations of the lower branch of that important body a new speaker will preside, and it is expected that at least some new officers and committee clerks will be chosen.

### WITH POMP AND CEREMONY.

It is expected that the new administration will be ushered in with much pomp and ceremony on the first of January. Governor-elect Andrew Jackson Montague will take the oath of office before representatives of the beauty and chivalry of the Commonwealth in the hall of the House of Delegates, and his inaugural address will doubtless be a masterpiece of eloquence and logic, as he is regarded as one of the most splendid orators in the State.

The new Governor will have but little patronage to distribute, and he has given no intimation up to this time as to what will be his policy in this line. It is thought, however, that he will retain his present efficient private secretary, Mr. D. A. Ritchie, and that he will reappoint Hon. G. W. Kolner as Commissioner of Agriculture, and General William Nalls as Adjutant-General.

As to Labor Commissioner, there will be a big fight, and the result seems uncertain. There will be many applicants for membership on the State Board of Fisheries, and some changes are said to be probable. Messrs. Harman, Chesterman and Murphy are the present members of the Board of Directors of the penitentiary. The present board may be retained. This about completes the list of places the Governor will have at his disposal, with the exception of a physician to the penitentiary, eighteen colonels for his staff and members of the Boards of Visitors to the various educational and humane institutions of the State.

### THE LEGISLATURE.

The Legislature will meet on the first Wednesday in December, unless it shall be otherwise ordered by the convention, which now has the question under advisement. Hardly in fifteen years has there been a General Assembly chosen in which there were so many new men. There will be hardly enough old leaders—especially in the lower branch—to facilitate business on the start. One thing, however, is true in this connection, and that is that the body will be charged with a great deal less responsible work than usually falls to such an assembly in Virginia.

The wisest leaders do not dream that to complete its work in time for the Legislature elected last Tuesday to put it into operation, and it seems to be the better opinion that the next one chosen will be charged with that irksome task. It is expected that the Legislature will meet here at the usual time; pass appropriation bills and other necessary measures; count the vote cast in the recent election, according to law; elect State officers; attend the gubernatorial inauguration, and then adjourn sine die.

### MANY HOT BATTLES.

But however short the time of the coming session, there will be some hot contests for the offices to be given out. The speakership of the House will furnish one of the prettiest contests. Hon. Samuel L. Ketchum, the brilliant young leader of this city, and Hon. John N. Ryan, the popular member from Loudoun, are the aspirants, and the Hon. George Y. Hunley, of Mathews, has been mentioned by his friends. Mr. Kelley has filled many positions of honor and trust in his party, and has long been an active, working Democrat. He was Democratic elector for this district in 1890, and in that capacity made a powerful stump canvass for the party.

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