# PROUD RACE PURSUED BY A RELENTLESS FATE

## A Deed That Ruined One Family and Blighted Another.

## A STORY OF HATE, LOVE AND REMORSE

### The Restoration of a Stately Home in Loudoun Recalls a Grim Tragedy That Clouded a Famous Neighborhood for More Than a Half Century.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

LEESBURG, VA., Feb. 8.—With the announcement that Selma mansion is to be rebuilt very shortly by Mr. E. B. White, the owner of the magnificent estate of that name, there is revived a story, which in the grim tragedy of relentless, pursuing fate, rivals those of the Middle Ages.

Few men now living can recall the two young kinsmen, Armistead Mason and John McCarthy, both starting out in life, now over a century ago, with every promise of success and every advantage that wealth, position and brilliant intellects could give. Fewer still are those who can now relate the circumstances of that famous duel, the second to be fought on the bloody field of Bladensburg, which buried one young man in an untimely grave, and scarce so kind to the other, left him to witness the direful consequences of the vengeful deed, and to drag through long weary years the prey of remorse.

Thursday, February 6th, of the past week commemorates the eighty-third anniversary of that unfortunate and deadly combat, which marked the beginning of the end of two of Loudoun's most prominent and influential families. Viewed in the light of subsequent events, it seems that avenging justice was not to be appeased until the blood there shed had been atoned for even to the last drop.

A POLITICAL QUARREL.

Armistead Mason and John McCarthy were both natives of Loudoun county, young, handsome, gifted, wealthy, with all the prestige of family about them. Closely allied by marriage, they were widely separated by political differences, from which sprang a succession of bitter quarrels. In 1815, following the example of his father and of his illustrious uncle George Mason, Armistead Mason entered the Senate of the United States—the youngest member of that august body. He had served in that body for four years when there arose between him and John McCarthy, some difficulty of a political nature, which became more and more bitter through the influence of injudicious friends, foremost of whom is said to be no less a personage than Andrew Jackson.

At length the bitter hatred resulted as such matters were very apt to in those days. John McCarthy, then serving in the Virginia Legislature, resigned to meet his opponent "on the field of honor."

The old Mason estate in Loudoun county was Raspberry Plain, now owned by Mrs. George Hoffman of Leesburg. Upon his marriage a few years previous to the duel, Armistead Mason had taken up his residence at Selma, the beautiful plantation adjoining that of his mother at Raspberry Plain. Here with a young and devoted wife and a bright baby boy a few months old, the "Chief of Selma," lived in a world of happiness and beauty.

John McCarthy ,though several years his junior, was already a rising young lawyer in Loudoun and a member of his State's Legislature. He, too, had found a woman known for her loveliness of person and character, and their wedding-day was fast approaching, when the fatal tragedy loomed big on the horizon.

DUEL IN A SNOW-STORM.

All unsuspected, the two combatants made their preparations in silence. When about to start for the field of honor, young Mason persuaded his wife to go on a visit to his mother at Raspberry Plain, directing a letter to the latter in case of his death, to go to his young wife and comfort her. The fatal day was in keeping with the fatal deed. February 6, 1819, dawned gray and lowering. The final preparations were made in a blinding snow-storm, and as the two stood for one brief moment facing each other, the muzzles of their muskets almost touched. Mason wore his overcoat, while McCarthy appeared in his shirt sleeves, with arms bared to the shoulder. At the fatal signal both fired, and though McCarthy escaped without a scratch, Mason fell with his antagonist's ball piercing his heart.

He was carried to his mother's at Raspberry plain, and the news broken to his stricken wife. So overwhelming was her grief that months passed before she regained control of her reason. The grief of the dead senator's fond old mother was scarcely less heart-rending.

Meanwhile, John McCarthy had frankly written to his sweetheart, Miss Lucinda Lee, making a clean breast of the affair and leaving her a week in which to decide whether, in the face of the tragedy, she would keep her engagement unbroken. The conflicting emotions of that one short week would complete the experiences of a lifetime. We have it from the young girls own lips the agony she suffered, how she knelt in despair at her mother's feet, and how the old lady could give no better advice than the dictates of her daughter's own heart. At the end of the week her lover received a letter telling him to come.

FAITHFUL TO HER LOVER.

Their meeting on that occasion remains a pleasant task for the imagination, but we are told that Miss Lee was seated at the piano, and as her lover entered, she softly sang these words:

"Come rest in this bosom, my own stricken dear;
Though the herd has flown from thee, thy home is still here;
I know not, I ask not, if guile's in that heart,
I but know that I love thee whatever thou art!"

They were married shortly afterward and settled in Loudoun country not far from Leesburg.

Upon her recovery the young widow of Mason decided to go back to Selma, the scene of her short but blissful wedded life. She was carried into the wide hall, when raising her eyes they fell upon the coat and hat of her dead husband hanging just as he had left them. With a wild shriek she fell into the arms of her attendants, who bore her to the rear of the mansion. There she remained for twenty long years, until the lisping boy had become a man.

The front rooms were kept in order and guests occupied them as usual, but not once in that time did their mistress cross the threshold. On the occasion of her son's twenty-first birthday a dinner party was given to the blood relations of the family.

A SPELL BROKEN.

Says one who was then present: "We were all sitting in the library towards the rear of the house, when the door was thrown open and the gray old butler bowed his acknowledgment. Without an intimation of breaking the habit of twenty years, Mrs Mason promptly arose—a frail, fair woman of forty—and taking the arm of her son walked directly into the front of the hall and thence to the dining-room as of old." At last the spell being broken, she shunned the hall no more, although from the day of the duel even to her death bed, the name of her husband never passed her lips; nor would she even consent to be buried beside him in Leesburg.

According to her own strange dying request, her body was laid to rest in the Congressional Cemetery at Washington, without mark or tombstone.

Although a wife never loved her husband better, her boy grew up to manhood in ignorance of his father, feeling that a tragedy unspeakable rested on the house, about which he dared question not even his mother. It was left for him to hear from the lips of strangers, the true story under whose shadow he had been brought up from infancy. For one brief moment in his short career this shadow of destiny seemed to lift from this boy Stevens Mason, and bright rays of sunshine to illuminate his darkened pathway.

A HOPELESS LIFE.

But the glad sunshine lasted only a moment, and in the end, gloom settled down more completely and hopelessly. The young man loved, wooed and won a fair daughter of the South, and once more Selma held the hope of joy and happiness. But his austere mother, whose shattered life had centered itself in a selfish love for her son, could not be reconciled to his marriage with any one, and while outwardly fulfilling every obligation, withheld the mother's welcome and the mother's love which an affectionate nature craved. Following closely upon this shock to the sensitive heart, came a sudden fever, and in three months from the arrival the frantic young husband laid his beloved bride by the side of his murdered father in the Episcopal churchyard in Leesburg.

After this troubles came thick and fast. Financial difficulties pressed hard, and their fine estate with all that pertained to it, melted from them and soon came into the hands of strangers. Mrs. Mason did not long survive the loss of Selma.

Bereft of all that man holds dear, Stevens Mason sought alleviation for his grief in military excitement. He was among the first to enlist in the Mexican War, with rank of captain. Shortly after he was mortally wounded by a cannon shot and died in the arms of his lieutenant. It was an impressive day when his body was brought home and laid beside those of his father and bride. Friends from far and near composed the funeral cortege and did honor to the dead hero but when the church yard was reached there were of those blood relations, who but a few years before had met at that dinner party, but three who stood within the enclosure around that open grave. So swiftly had family and fortune passed away!

CLOUDS OF MISFORTUNE.

But the clouds of misfortune hung equally heavy on the McCarthy house. They, too, centered their hopes and affections in an only son. Although living but a few miles apart the two families had never spoken since the duel, and there was a mutual avoidance; yet the very irony of fate decreed that young McCarthy should breathe his last upon his enemy's domain. A frequent sportsman the boy had never been known to set foot upon the Mason line, but one day in the excitement of pursuing game he went so far as to mount the dividing fence. He attempted to reload in this position, when the gun slipped from his hands, exploded and sent the ram-rod straight as an arrow crushing through his skull. He fell upon the ground he had all his life avoided.

But one thing was needed at this moment to complete the dramatic situation and this was not lacking. As the boy fell young Stevens Mason came riding by, and the dying youth was carried to Raspberry Plain "the blighted homestead of the Masons, the birthplace of his father's victim," and laid dead in the great hall.

For many years thereafter the mansion at Raspberry Plain was closed, and report soon started that it was haunted. At length, however, the place passed into strange hands and became once more the seat of happiness. With Selma on the other hand it seems that the avenging fate will be satisfied only when the last vestige of the tragedy is obliterated. Following the ruin and decay of its once proud owners, the vacant mansion has stood for many years as a melancholy monument to their unhappy memory.

At last as an omem of good, there comes the announcement that the old mansion is to be torn down and replaced by one far surpassing it in splendor and magnificence.

# AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC. Monday—Richards and Pringle's Georgia Minstrels. Friday—"Faust," matinee and night. Saturday—Nat Goodwin in "When We Were Twenty-one" and "An American Citizen," matinee.

BIJOU THEATRE. Bijou Musical Comedy Company in "A Black Sheep."

Richards and Pringle's Georgia Minstrels will be at the Academy Monday night, and of course the top gallery will be crowded. This company has always been a great favorite with the colored people, and as it is the only company of its kind it is well patronized. The old favorites will be there and many new ones.

LEWIS MORRISON.

The exquisite effects obtained by the skillful use of electricity to add effect to scenery and make impressive many scenes in modern plays can be exemplified and proven in the forthcoming elaborate production of Lewis Morrison's new "Faust," in which Lewis Morrison himself appears as Mephisto, at the Academy Friday, matinee and night. Fire, lightning, clouds and gorgeous sunset effects are manipulated throughout the play by electrical agency through stereopticons, calciums, kaleidoscopes, olivettes or open box lights, shaded and varied by skilled electricians.

The dramatic work of Faust, Marguerite and Mephisto gains added value and effect from the ever-changing lights. As the curtain descends Mephisto stands silhouetted against a star-lit firmament in the soft moonlight. The Brocken scene, the new prologue and the beautiful apotheosis are all subjected to varying light and shade effects of equal beauty. The scenery for the whole production is fresh from the New York studio, and at no time has "Faust" been so elaborately produced. The chief interest, however, will be centered in the appearance of Lewis Morrison in the part of Mephisto, which he will positively play next Friday night. His charming daughter, Rosabel Morrison, will appear as Marguerite.

NAT C. GOODWIN.

The splendid art of Mr. N. C Goodwin and Miss Maxine Elliott will again be revealed to the devotees of the theatre during their coming visit Saturday, when they will present two of their greatest successes, the first Henry V. Esmond's charming ideal "When We Were Twenty-One," and the other Madeline Lucette Ryley's charming diction "An American Citizen." As the devotees of the theatre know Mr. Goodwin is certainly one of the greatest actors of the day, and Miss Elliott is one of the most beautiful women of the stage. Their remarkable success in these two comedies has led to the revival of these plays for this tour, and that it seems to have met with the approbation of playgoers the already large advance sale fully attests. Each play will be beautifully staged and handsomely environed, and in each Miss Elliott will wear a number of new gowns especially designed for her by the greatest creators of feminine garments in both Europe and America.

"An American Citizen" will be given at the matinee performance.

KATHRYN KIDDER.

Public curiosity has already been stimulated concerning the appearance of the distinguished star, Kathryn Kidder, who will be seen in this city on February 19th and 20th at the Academy, in her new play, "Molly Pitcher." Glen MacDonough who wrote the piece, looked over the list of American star actresses and finally decided upon Miss Kidder as the artist most competent to fill the requirements of the leading role. Her acting as the heroine of the Battle of Monmouth is said to be nothing short of a sensational triumph. She is supported by an unusually strong company that has been selected for the New York run which will commence shortly after her appearance in this city.

MISS THURSTON IN SWEET CLOVER

Adelaide Thurston will make her second appearance here this season in her new play, "Sweet Clover," next Monday and Tuesday evenings at the Academy. When viewed here for the first time last September, "Sweet Clover" proved to be a delightful admixture of comedy and pathos, the scenes of which are equally divided between the city and the country. The character of "Lois Holcombe," which Miss Thurston plays, is as pure and fragrant as the blooms from which the play is named. A natural country flower, she finds herself among the hothouse plants of the city's gayest society. The stirring events which transpire make a singularly fascinating play. There is a carload of fine scenery, costumes and electrical effects. The supporting company is headed by Otis B. Thayer.

**At the Bijou.**

The announcement that the Bijou Musical Comedy Company will furnish the attraction at the Bijou this week is sufficient assurance that there will be something worth a visit to the theatre, but when this announcement is coupled with the fact that the offering is to be "A Black Sheep," the comedy written for Otis Harlan by Charles Hoyt, and that "Billy" Devere, the comedian who created the part of the editor, would play with the company here and in Norfolk, it is evident that a real treat is in prospect and this declaration has caused quite a demand for seats for the several performances during the week. Max Hoffman has arranged the musical programme, and it was selected with a view of making it a feature of the offering. He has written a new coon song and cakewalk and freshened up a number of the popular hits of the early part of the season.

"A Black Sheep" was written when Hoyt had reached the top of the list of comedy playwrights. It was the climax work of this brilliant man. Hoyt studied Otis Harlan a little more than usual, and wrote the part of "Hot Stuff" in a manner so natural that it fits the comedian like a glove. Harlan was allowed to use his own judgment, and when the piece was produced the critics in the large cities declared it was the best of the Hoyt plays and that Harlan had made it so. Others have played the parts, but none of them have ever been half so successful in the art of laughmaking as Otis Harlan and "Billy" Devere.

The story of "A Black Sheep" is interesting.

Members of the company have been cast for parts that they will handle well. Miss Lane is to have a leading part, and dainty Miss Marble will be in one of the best parts she has had. Dan Marble, David Andrada, Tony Hart, John Early and the others will "make good," and Little Chip, as "Underdog," "Hot Stuff's" partner, will have chances to make laughs, and it is useless to say that he will improve them.

**In a rical Topics.**

John W. Dunne, the popular managing director of the Bijou Musical Comedy Company, is very ill at the Monticello Hotel, Norfolk. He was first seized with a severe attack of the grip, but typhoid fever has since developed.

The suit of Mr. Dunne against Fisher and Ryley for an accounting for his one-fourth interest in "Florodora" has been postponed. The many friends of Mr. Dunne in Richmond trust that he will soon recover his health.

The first annual ball of the Richmond Theatrical Stage Employes' Local Union No. 87 will be given at Monticello Hall Thursday night, March 6th. The grand march begins at 9 o'clock. 'Squire Graves, at the Academy, and John Durrell, at the Bijou, are two of the best stage managers in the country, and their assistants are as capable as can be found. There are no men in the theatrical business who work harder than the stage hands, and they deserve the encouragement of a large sale of tickets. Members of visiting theatrical companies have been very liberal in purchasing tickets.

Paul Gilmore will be starred next season in a spectacular revival of "The Duke's Motto," in which Maurice Barrymore achieved such distinguished success.

Howard Gould, in "Brother Officers," closed his season in Wilmington, Del., last Saturday. The play was on tour four months, and while the press notices were flattering, the box-office receipts were not satisfactory.

De Wolf Hopper will go on the road next season again as a star in a version of "Pickwick Papers." Charles Klein will be the librettist.

Chronic Bronchitis and Catarrh of the Bladder
Cured in 48 Hours.

SANTAL CAPSULES MIDY

Superior to All Other Remedies.

## MUSICAL EVENTS.

**Paderewski to Appear Here This Month and Madam Schumann Heink in March.**

The sale of seats for the concert to be given by Paderewski at the Academy on Thursday, Feb. 27th, opens at the store of Walter D. Moses & Co. to-morrow morning. Subscribers will have the first choice of seats in the order in which their names appear on the list.

Mr. Frye, the manager of Paderewski's American tour, has written to Mr. Louis Pizzini, stating that the house for Paderewski's first concert in this country, to be given in New York on Feb. 15th, was sold out the same day that the box office was opened, and that the receipts are over $6,000. Wherever the great pianist is announced to appear on his farewell tour there has been an increased enthusiasm, and there is evidence everywhere to form the basis of the belief that he will be greeted more enthusiastically than he has ever been before, which seems an almost impossible statement.

Paderewski made his debut as a virtuoso in Vienna in 1887, and from that time on his career was crowned with success. In May, 1891, he made his first appearance in England, and the next year he made his first tour of America.

THREE TOURS HERE.

He has made three tours of this country, and this is to be his farewell before he retires to his castle in Podolia and fulfills his long-cherished ambition by devoting his entire time and talents to composition.

Although many pianists have regarded the United States as the country in which they could make a fortune before retiring, none have been so successful, financially, as Paderewski. Paderewski's first three tours netted him half a million dollars, according to the account of Mr. Hugo Gurlitt, who was his manager. This estimate does not include the money earned at several concerts given for charitable purposes, of which the income, of course, went to the charities in question.

SCHUMANN—HEINK COMING.

The next most interesting event of the present season will be the concert recital to be given in this city by Madam Schumann-Heink on Thursday, March 27th. The great contralto will give a programme illustrative of the various schools of song. The subscription list for this event will be opened at the store of Walter D. Moses and Company to-morrow morning.

Madam Schumann-Heink is the leading operatic contralto in the world. Her immense success in Wagner roles has been something wonderful, and it is a delightful fact that Mr. Grau promises that the artist shall be heard in some of the selections from her favorite operas. Mme. Schumann-Heink is well and favorably known here, having won all hearts when she sang in the May Festival two years ago.

**Personal Items From Columbia.**

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

COLUMBIA, VA., Feb. 8.—Bishop Robert Gibson will preach at St. John's here on to-morrow morning at which time a very interesting class will be confirmed.

Miss Ella Mayo, of Richmond is visiting her sister, Mrs. A. T. Richardson, with whom she will remain several weeks.

George H. Pettit, formerly of this county, but for the past nine years a prominent citizen of Eaton, Colorado, returned yesterday to his western home, after a visit of several weeks to his mother Mrs. M. Pettit at Wilmington, Va.

Miss Evelyn Gray Bell, who is well known in Richmond society is visiting friends at South Boston, where she is the recipient of many flattering social attentions.

W. O. Thomas whose continued ill-health is a source of anxiety to his friends is now improving under the treatment of Dr. Smith, of Palmyra.

To have good health eat good food. MALTA-VITA contains all the elements necessary to sustain life, together with the peculiar curative qualities of malt. Ask your grocer.

SAMPLE ROOMS.

I wish to notify my friends and the public that I have opened the store No. 114 East Main Street, where they will find a select stock of the finest wines, liquors, and cigars in the city. Prompt attention will be given to all orders.

KENDALL B. SAVAGE.

Referring to the annual statement of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York, which will be found on another page, we desire to call the attention of the people of this city and State to the very remarkable growth of this company, particularly in this State, during the past year; and in calling attention to this remarkable growth, we desire to emphasize the fact that this company has in force in this State over 86,000 policies, representing more than $14,000,000 of insurance, and in the entire country it has over 6,000,000 policies in force, with more than $1,000,000,000 of insurance. This is really a grand showing for any company to make, and it reflects great credit on its management and the large army of faithful and energetic employes by whom it is represented. The Richmond district of the company comprises the cities of Richmond, Manchester and Petersburg, and is under the superintendency of Mr. John E. Harding, whose office is located in the Smithdeal building, at the corner of Ninth and Broad Streets, this city. Mr. Harding employs about ninety men in the transaction of the company's business in this district, and it is largely to the untiring activity and energy of himself and his employes that the large results accomplished in this State are due.

EAT THIS AND SAVE MONEY.

Arbuckle's, Lion or Corodva Coffee, 10c; Large Burbank Irish Potatoes, 25c. peck; Fresh Oyster Crackers and Dust, 5c. lb.; Try our large assortment of Canned Soups, any kind you wish, such as Mock Turtle—each can will make six plates of soup—3 cans for 25c.; Genuine Boneless Codfish in 1-lb. bricks, 6c.; Best Cream Cheese, 14c. lb.; Swiss Cheese, 20c.; Limburger Cheese, 15c. lb.; Flat Can Salmon, 10c.; 7 lbs. Best Virginia Buckwheat for 25c.; Postum Cereal, 12c. package; Grape-Nuts, 12c. package; Ginger Snaps, Soda Crackers, 4 1-2c. lb.; Lemon Cakes, 5c. lb.; Small Smithfield Country Hams, 14c. lb.; Moutain Roll Butter, 15c. lb.; 3 bars Best Tar Soap, 10c.; New Scotch Herrings, 40 to box, per box, 20c.; Large Bright Fat Mackerel, 4 for 25c.; Sugar-cured Breakfast Bacon, 12c. lb.; Baking Chocolate 12 1-2c. cake; Baker's Cocoa, 10c. can; quart cans of Maple Syrup, 25c.; Asparagus, 20c. can; Dried Apples, 6c. lb.; New Dates, 5c. lb.; Layer Figs, 12 1-2c.; New Hominy or Grits, 2 lbs. for 5c. It will pay you to read our ad. on another page.

S. ULLMAN'S SON,
Three Stores.

A Back Number

Piano cannot be found in our establishment. Our

Conover, Cable, Kingsbury and Wellington Pianos

are up-to-date, with richness and freshness of tone that is as the first note of "the wild bird in spring." There is an irresistible air of elegance and refinement about our new uprights that is unsurpassed by any Piano Made.

The Simplex.

Of course you know what it is. It is the most perfect piano player sold. It has many good points not to be found in any other piano player. FREE CONCERTS GIVEN DAILY. YOU are cordially invited to call at our ware-rooms and examine this remarkable instrument.

The Cable Company.

J. G. Corley, Manager. 213 East Broad Street.

## WINTER LIFE IN GLOUCESTER.

**Many Skating Parties—An Elegant Entertainment at Lednecmade.**

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

GLOUCESTER C. H., VA., Feb. 8.—The cold weather has brought to the young people of Gloucester another season of skating, and the bright lights of bonfires which encircle the ponds and the merry shouts of the skaters keep this fact much in evidence.

The favorite place of resort is the Robins' Mill pond, where the novel sight of ducks swimming on one side and skating on the part where the sun shines not is seen.

Miss Ellie Sewell, of "Ladiesmeade," gave a beautiful card party last week, which, in spite of the absence from the county of so many of the young people, was a most delightful affair, many of the married set participating in its pleasures.

Mrs. John Catlett, of Timberneck, who spent several months in Newport News with Mrs. Maryus Jones, has returned to Gloucester. She is most warmly welcomed by her friends.

Owing to the indisposition of Judge Charles Catlett there was no County Court held on Monday. The many friends of Judge Catlett are glad to know his illness is not a serious one.

Mr. Maryus Jones spent Monday with Mr. L. C. Catlett.

Mr. C. E. Cary, accompanied by Master Sam Cary, will leave for Richmond to-morrow.

Mr. W. W. Groves has returned to Norfolk.

Miss Lou Sewell spent last week at the rectory.

Much to the pleasure of every one, Sherwood, the hospitable home of Mrs. R. C. Selden, will be reopened. Mrs. Selden and Mrs. Dimmock are expected in Gloucester on Thursday.

Mr. W. C. L. Taliaferro, one of the most prominent lawyers in Gloucester, left Tuesday for Hampton, at which place he will make his future home. Mr. Taliaferro is a representative Gloucester man, and the people of his county part with him with regret and bespeak for him the friendship of the citizens of Hampton.

## BRUNSWICK AFFAIRS.

**A Successful Bazaar—Mr. Turnbull Mentioned for Congress.**

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

LAWRENCEVILLE, VA., Feb. 8.—The bazaar held by the ladies of the Methodist Church last Thursday and Friday nights at Raney's Hall was quite a success, and would have been more so but for the inclemency of the weather. The amount raised is to be used in the purchase of a new organ for the church.

From the best information obtainable at least six-tenths of the tobacco crop of last year still remains unmarketed. Owing to the dry, cold weather it could not be handled.

Lawrenceville has had its share of drummers since the holidays. One hotel claims to have entertained 60 since that time.

From experssions of a good many Confederate veterans, you would not think they took very kindly to Mr. Rixey's bill now pending in Congress.

Everything is quiet along political lines except the mention of Brunswick's representative to the convention as a possible candidate for Congress this fall, which would meet with the approval of Democrats of Brunswick pretty generally.

There is a movement on foot to get a dispensary here, which the best citizens hope will be successful, as it will tend to break up the illegal sale of ardent spirits and keep hundreds of dollars in the community which otherwise goes to other points where liquor is sold.

Mr. Charles H. Hawkes died suddenly at his home, near Sturgeonville, Tuesday morning. He was awake about 4 o'clock, and took a drink of water. He was called at 7 for breakfast, but as he did not respond his door was opened and he was found dead in his bed.

Mr. Hawkes was a brave Confederate soldier and a worthy citizen.

**Affairs in Greene.**

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

RUCKERSVILLE, VA., Feb. 8.—The Ruckersville Tie, Lumber and Stave Company, under the management of T. B. Jennings and Oscar Fitzhugh, are preparing to conduct business on an extensive scale. They have now in operation about a mile above Quinque, a saw-mill, also a store, and have ordered a large stave mill. They will give employment to quite a number of men.

Mr. W. S. Wright and J. R. Mitchell, of the sassafras oil plant, have been "froze out" by the cold weather, and are loafing at present.

There will be quarterly meeting here Saturday and Sunday, services being held by Presiding Elder Hank, and our new preacher, Mr. Hall, from Orange circuit. He is quite a young man, and is much liked, both for his eloquence in the pulpit and his genial presence out of it.

Farmers have done no plowing at all around here on account of the bad weather, and the spring work will be on with a rush.

**Hardtone Farm Sold.**

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

LEESBURG, VA., Feb. 8.—The sale of the handsome country estate belonging to Captain J. W. Foster, formerly of Leesburg, but now living in Schuyler, Va., to Mr. G. W. Hevener, of Monterey, Highland county, Va., has just been confirmed. The farm, which is undoubtedly one of the finest in the State, contains 482½ acres and is situated just south of Leesburg. It is especially adapted to producing and grazing. Mr. Hevener, who spent the past summer in the county searching for a Loudoun farm, will return to his new home about the first of April and begin the erection of a handsome modern residence.

ANNUAL STATEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING THE 31ST DAY OF DECEMBER, 1901, OF THE ACTUAL CONDITION OF THE METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, ORGANIZED UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, MADE TO THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, PURSUANT TO THE LAWS OF VIRGINIA.

Name of company in full—METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.
Location of home or principal office of said company—Madison Avenue, New York city.
Character of the business transacted by the company—Life Insurance.
President, JOHN R. HEGEMAN; organized and incorporated, June 1866.
Secretary, JAMES S. ROBERTS; commenced business January, 1867.

The amount of capital stock ..... $ 2,000,000 00

| | Ordinary. No. | Ordinary. Amt. | Industrial. No | Industrial. Amt. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| The number of policies and the amount of insurance effected thereby in force at end of previous year | 166,990 | $154,900,241 00 | 5,327,067 | $768,977,676 00 |
| The number of policies issued during the year and the amount of insurance effected thereby | 115,431 | 84,334,849 00 | 1,791,302 | 296,606,312 00 |
| Total | 282,421 | $239,235,090 00 | 7,118,369 | $1,065,583,988 00 |
| The number of policies and the amount of insurance which have ceased to be in force during the year | 56,781 | 43,749,337 00 | 1,109,707 | 184,092,537 00 |
| The whole number of policies in force and the amount of liabilities or risks thereon at end of year | 225,640 | $195,485,753 00 | 6,008,662 | $881,491,451 00 |

RECEIPTS.

| | |
|---|---|
| The amount of premiums received during the year | $34,422,305 33 |
| The amount of annuities received during the year | 282,880 17 |
| The amount of interest received from all sources | 2,399,829 31 |
| The amount of all other receipts | 912,148 60 |
| Total | $ 38,017,163 41 |

DISBURSEMENTS.

| | |
|---|---|
| The amount of losses paid | $10,704,746 67 |
| The amount of matured endowments paid | 9,637 00 |
| The amount paid annuitants | 23,808 49 |
| The amount paid for surrender values | 413,506 51 |
| The amount of dividends paid to policyholders | 557,219 42 |
| The amount of dividends paid to stockholders | 140,000 00 |
| The amount paid for expenses—(including taxes, $516,929.50) | 14,456,105 04 |
| The amount of all disbursements; viz., agents' surety bonds | 15,208 11 |
| Metropolitan Savings Fund | 56,062 57 |
| Total | $ 26,376,344 [illegible] |

ASSETS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Bonds and stocks, market value | $36,312,739 55 |
| Real estate, unemcumbered, market value | 10,175,762 61 |
| Loans secured by first mortgage on real estate | 22,070,375 01 |
| Cash in banks, trust companies and company's office | 2,227,024 21 |
| Loans on company's policies, assigned as collateral | 523,926 33 |
| Premium notes, etc | 653,167 87 |
| Interest due and accrued | 469,812 17 |
| Rents due and accrued | 9,036 81 |
| Uncollected and deferred premiums | 2,329,923 49 |
| Carried out at market value—total | $ 74,771,758 [illegible] |

LIABILITIES.

| | |
|---|---|
| The amount of losses unpaid—(unadjusted, $113,911.30; no proofs received, $97,814.73; resisted, $33,896.25) | $ 245,532 28 |
| The amount due for annuities | 299 27 |
| The amount of liability on policies, etc., in force 31st December last, on basis of 4 per cent.; actuaries mortality table; issue of 1901 American table 3½ per cent | 62,580,985 00 |
| The amount of other liabilities | 70,994 78 |
| Special reserve | 1,225,427 00 |
| Total | $ 64,833,228 [illegible] |

BUSINESS IN VIRGINA DURING 1901.

| | Ordinary. No. | Ordinary. Amt. | Industrial. No. | Industrial. Amt. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number and amount of policies in force December 31st of previous year | 2,155 | $1,952,098 00 | 74,861 | $ 10,559,026 [illegible] |
| Number and amount of policies issued during year | 1,614 | 1,219,047 00 | 32,498 | 5,078,428 [illegible] |
| Total | 3,769 | $3,171,145 00 | 107,359 | $ 15,637,454 [illegible] |
| Deduct number and amount which have ceased to be in force during the year | 1,038 | 850,857 00 | 24,060 | 3,673,236 [illegible] |
| Total number and amount of policies in force at end of year | 2,731 | $2,320,288 00 | 83,299 | $ 11,964,218 [illegible] |
| Amount of losses and claims on policies unpaid December 31st of previous year | 1 | 1,000 00 | | |
| Amount of losses and claims on policies incurred during the year | 26 | 22,358 32 | 1,283 | 111,203 [illegible] |
| Total | 27 | 23,358 32 | 1,283 | 111,203 [illegible] |
| Amount of losses and claims on policies paid during the year | 23 | 19,358 32 | 1,281 | 111,132 [illegible] |
| Amount of assessments, premiums, dues and fees collected or secured in Virginia during the year, in cash and notes or credits, without any deduction for losses, dividends, commissions, or other expenses: | | | | |
| Ordinary | | | | 66,056 [illegible] |
| Industrial | | | | 358,666 [illegible] |
| Total | | | | $424,722 [illegible] |

(Signed) JOHN R. HEGEMAN, President.
(Signed) J. J. THOMPSON, Assistant Secretary.
State of New York, city of New York, ss:
Sworn to January 27, 1902, before Thos. W. Folsom, Notary Public.

JOHN E. HARDING, Supt.,
Smithdeal Building, 9th and Broad Sts.,
Richmond, Va.

## WAR TAX REDUCTION

**Bill Will Be Passed Practically as It Comes from Committee.**

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 6.—One of the House leaders whose position gives him the fullest information as to the outlook of legislation, said to-day:

"The programme for considering the war revenue reduction bill is fully understood, but it is not desired to give those who oppose the majority information on the exact time of its consideration. One thing has been settled beyond any doubt—that the bill will be passed exactly as reported, except in minor verbal committee changes."

## MRS. BALDWIN'S MUSIC TEACHER

**Leaves Staunton for Her Home in Sweden to Marry a Distinguished Man.**

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)

STAUNTON, VA., Feb. 8.—Miss Klara Leeb, who for some sessions has been an instructor of instrumental music at the Mary Baldwin Seminary, left for New York Monday evening, and will spend a week there before sailing for her home in Sweden.

Miss Leeb resigned her position at the Mary Baldwin Seminary on account of her approaching marriage to Herr Richter, German Consul at the Court of Roumania. Her marriage will take place in the early part of May. Miss Leeb is one of the most brilliant pianists who has ever been in Staunton. She was the favorite pupil of Schwarenka, and was his assistant in his conservatory in New York. She also assisted Burmeister in the same institution.

Miss Leeb is succeeded by Miss Schelling, of Philadelphia, who is a teacher of much experience. Miss Schelling comes from a family of musicians. Her father, a German, was founder of the Beethoven Conservatory, in St. Louis; her brother, Ernest Schelling, is now studying with Paderewski.

**Ode to a Peanut.**

Oh, the peanut, with its racket,
As you crack it,
Has a cheerful sound to back it
As it leaps from dusky shell;
Whether fingers trim attack it,
Or dimpled fists do thwack it,
Or first-thing-handy whack it
From its cozy, silk-lined cell!

Whether roasted, candied, salted,
It is exalted;
Lives there one who knows it faulted,
If he but the truth will tell?
Lives there one who has not halted,
With olfactories assaulted
(Unless nickels have defaulted)
By the roasting peanut's smell?

But when 'round the table brightly,
Ever brightly,
Goes the chaff and laughter lightly
When the gay ones "forfeits" sell,
Then the peanut, roasted-quitely,
Beats all other 'freshments, slightly,
Save a loving glance, and sprightly
Lift of lips to pay one well.

—Charles McIlvaine in Leslie's Weekly.