

WEATHER FORECAST
Forecast for Saturday and Sunday:
Virginia—Fair Friday and Saturday;
light to fresh north winds.
North Carolina—Fair Friday except
showers and cooler on the coast. Satur-
day fair; fresh north to northeast winds.

The Times

RANGE OF THERMOMETER.
The thermometer ranged as follows at
The Times office yesterday: 9 A. M., 57;
12 M., 64; 3 P. M., 65; 6 P. M., 84; 9 P.
M., 77; 12 midnight, 76. Average, 85.5

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RICHMOND, VA., FRIDAY, JULY 11, 1902.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

JOHNSTOWN VISITED BY APPALLING DISASTER

hundreds Perish in Frightful
Mine Explosion.
RESCUE WAS IMPOSSIBLE
Noxious Gases Overcome All
Who Attempt to Enter.
DEATH LIST WILL BE LONG ONE

Two Men Who Escaped Went Back
Two Miles in Attempt to Render
Assistance, and Nearly Lost
Their Lives—Son, Who At-
tempted Rescue of His
Father, Overcome.

(By Associated Press.)
JOHNSTOWN, Pa., July 10.—John-
stown has again been visited by an ap-
palling disaster.
It is only less frightful than the awful
calamity of May 31, 1889, in cost of life,
out in its terrible consequences it has
brought the shadow of sorrow in hun-
dreds of homes made desolate by a mine
explosion, which took place in the Cam-
bria Steel Company rolling mill, near
Westmont Hill, at 12:29 o'clock this
afternoon.
How many are dead it may take sev-
eral days to fully determine, but that it
is a long and shocking list is certain. It
may reach 200 or more men.
It was nearly an hour after the ex-
plosion before any knowledge
of what had happened got abroad. Men
who came from the mines, escaping with
their lives, told the terrible news, and
soon it spread like wild fire all over the
city. In scores of homes there were the
most pathetic scenes. Mothers, wives,
daughters and relatives were
frantic with grief. Hundreds rushed to
the point, and with sobbing hearts awaited
news that did not come from the ill-
fated mine.
IMPOSSIBLE TO ENTER.
At the opening across the river from
the point, the Cambria Iron Company
plant with several assistants, stood
guard, permitting no one to enter the
mine, from which noxious gases were
coming. It was nearly 4 o'clock when
all hope of sending rescue parties from
the Westmont opening, and the
two men who had escaped from the
mine, Richard Bennett and John Meyers,
went back two miles to see what as-
sistance could be rendered, but the
frightful damp drove them back, and
they fell prostrate and after a desperate
struggle reached the outside.
The doctors gave the men assistance,
and after working with them half an
hour restored them. Their story of the
situation in the mine made it clear that
the rescue work could not proceed from
the Westmont opening, and the
preparations were made to begin that
evening at the Mill Creek entrance.
Soon after the news of the explosion
reached the Cambria officials, Mining
Engineer Marhal G. Moore and one of
his assistants, Al G. Prosser, made an
attempt to enter the mine. They were
followed by Mine Superintendent George
Robinson, but the deadly gases stop-
ped their progress, and they were com-
pelled to return to the surface.
FEARED THEY PERISHED.
Mine Foreman Harry Rodgers, his as-
sistant, William Blann, and Bosses
John Whittier, John Retallick and John
Whitney, were overcome by the gases, and
it is feared they perished in an heroic
effort to rescue the miners. A son of
Harry Rodgers then tried to reach his
father, but he was quickly overcome by
the deadly gas and was carried out un-
conscious.

William Stibich spent several hours at
the Mill Creek opening. He said that he
believed as many as 450 men were still
in the mine. In his opinion, from the
amount of gas which was coming out,
it could not exceed 150 men had
come out.
When the news of the explosion reached
the surface, Marshal G. Moore, mining
engineer, and one of his assistants, A.
G. Prosser, promptly made an attempt to
enter the mine. They were followed by
Mine Superintendent George Robinson.
After much trouble they reached one of
the telephones located in the mine and
communicated with the Cambria general
offices. They were unable to give any
information, but feared the loss of life
would be large. The damage to the mine
must be serious. Their progress was
stopped by the deadly gases, and they
feared that an attempt would be made
to reach the scene of the disaster.
The rescue party from the Franklin
Slope and Conemaugh Mine, they are
slowly working their way toward the
scene of the explosion, but must fight the
deadly gas every step of the way. Can-
vas screens are being used to wall off
the side entrances and rooms so as to
force a direct current of pure air ahead
of the rescuers. Engineer A. G. Prosser,
who, with Mr. Moore, entered the mine at
the main opening, came to the surface at
Mill Creek and immediately set about se-
curing men and material to aid in the
rescue.
It will be absolutely impossible to state
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RESCUE WORK.
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It is believed that the explosion was
caused by a gas pocket which had
accumulated in the mine. The gas was
ignited by a spark from a piece of
machinery. The explosion was so
violent that it threw up a column of
black smoke which was seen for miles
around. The ground was covered with
pieces of machinery and other debris.
The mine was completely destroyed.
The damage to the mine must be
serious. The rescue work is being
pushed forward as rapidly as possible.
The authorities are doing everything
in their power to save the lives of the
miners who are still in the mine.
The rescue party is making slow
progress, but it is believed that they
will be able to reach the scene of the
disaster in a few days. The rescue
work is being carried on day and
night. The authorities are doing
everything in their power to save the
lives of the miners who are still in
the mine.

NEW CONSTITUTION IS NOW EFFECTIVE

It is Properly Recognized by
Executive Officers.

RAILWAY PASSES CALLED IN

Some of the Provisions Not Yet Effec-
tive, But Will Be Accepted in Good
Faith by a Majority of the Peo-
ple—First Female Notaries.

Just as the clocks of the Common-
wealth were registering the hour of noon
on yesterday, the new Constitution—the
work of the best brains and energies in
the State—became effective.
The sweeping change in the organic
law of the State was made without the
striking of a cog in all its vast machin-
ery, and there was everything to indicate
that the new conditions will not only be
gracefully acquiesced in but gladly wel-
comed by the people.
The day was practically given up to
dealing with the changes at the Capitol
and little other business was done.
Led by Gov. Montague, who was the
first to swear, all the State officers
cheerfully took the oath of allegiance,
save two, and they are temporarily ab-
sent. They are Gen. Hill and Attorney-
General Anderson. They will return in
a few days.
GOVERNOR HAPPY.
Gov. Montague was in a very happy
frame of mind. He had at last witnessed
the fruition of his long-cherished hope
and he affixed his signature to the oath
in the presence of Judge S. B. Witt and a
number of other friends, his countenance
beamed with delight.
As soon as the ceremonies were over
he caused a large batch of commissions
to issue to female notaries public, the
first sex having been made eligible to
hold these positions under the new Con-
stitution. Secretary Eggleston spent the
day in sending out commissions of reg-
isters appointed under the new instru-
ment, and in receiving and filing the
oaths of nearby judges who had sworn
promptly and sent in their papers.
PASSES CALLED IN.
Another evidence of the advent of the
new constitutional conditions was the drawing
in of all street and steam railway pas-
senger tickets in the hands of public offi-
cers or private citizens. Out in the State
the judges and other officers required to take
the oath were proceeding to do so in
order, and with promptness and fidelity,
and all indications are strongly point-
ing toward the peaceful operation of the
instrument. One case in court was dis-
posed of under the changed conditions, the
judge passing sentence on a prisoner who
pleaded guilty in the city of Staunton
without the intervention of a jury. Sev-
eral other resignations of minor officials
in Norfolk were reported, they having
retired to retain their railroad passes.
Many of the branches of the Constitu-
tion do not become effective for some
time yet, notable among these being those
relating to the Corporation Commission
and the new fiduciary system. The for-
mer will be in effect on February, 1903,
and the latter one year later.
The terms of most of the present offi-
cials are extended by the schedule,
though some of them are slightly cut.
The progress of affairs under the new
constitution will be watched with great
interest all over the State, and the gen-
eral impression seems to be that it will
work admirably and be accepted in good
faith by a vast majority of the people.

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lives of the miners who are still in
the mine.

DEATH AND HAVOC FOLLOW IN WAKE OF HEAT AND STORM

One Man Dies and Another Prostrated; Auditorium Des-
troyed; Mule Killed; Convict Escapes, and
Much Damage Done.

The weather of yesterday left its mark
upon Richmond. Not this summer was
a forenoon or early afternoon hotter.
One man died from being overcome by
the heat and another was prostrated.
Soon after 4 o'clock a severe thunder
storm, which was accompanied by great
drifts of country about Richmond. The
Auditorium, the largest building of the
kind in the State, was struck by light-
ning and totally destroyed. The wind,
while not severe here, did great damage
in Manchester and further up the river.
The State farm was partially de-
stroyed. Another was taken up bodily
and buried into the creek, four tobacco
barns were blown down and demolished,
the chimney of the manager's house was
blown down.
Yesterday dawned clear, and from be-
cause daylight evidences were abroad that
the storm was going to be a scorcher.
Soon the sun was blazing down on
the streets. At 8 o'clock his heat had
reached that of any normal midday. At
noon the mercury in the thermometer
had climbed up to the 92 degree mark.
The storm, which was made up of
rain, hail, wind and thunder and light-
ning, had the effect of cooling the at-
mosphere and making life less a burden,
but then all the mischief had been done.
At midnight the temperature was regis-
tered at 71 degrees, and, as was re-
ported, probably in half the homes in
Richmond it was a "good night for
sleeping."
Mr. John H. Nagle, a postman, was the
victim of the fatal heatstroke. A man
named Allen, of Miller Street, was the
patient victim. He soon recovered.
The lightning had the effect of putting
out of use a number of wires in the
city. A trolley wire at Twenty-first and
Broad Streets fell, and one of the mules
to Ellman's delivery wagon was killed.
One of the big clothing stores has a
patented "change" system operated by
means of an electric current. It was put
out of business.
The Auditorium was struck about 4:45.
In a short while it was reduced to a

DR. BUTTRICK HAS PLENTY QUININE

Will Help in Movement to Cure
Disease of Ignorance.

ADDRESS AT THE UNIVERSITY

Secretary of General Board of Educa-
tion Cleared Up All Doubt as to Ob-
jects of His Board Which is
Helping Southern Education.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, VA.,
July 10.—Dr. Wallace Buttrick, secretary
and executive officer of the General
Board of Education, which is doing so
much to aid in the Southern education
movement, addressed the members of
the School of Methods and the school
superintendents to-day, and set at rest
all doubt as to the object of his board.
He was introduced by Dr. P. B. Barringer
in a very cordial manner. Dr. Barringer
said:
There has been much discussion in the
South as to the real purpose of this
board. There have, I believe, been serious
misconceptions. My own idea has
been that it was organized as a sort of
combination clearing house for general
philanthropy and an educational board
of health.
I put it this way because I have al-
ways believed that ignorance and pov-
erty were closely related to disease like
malaria, which can be gotten rid of by
cleaning up and improving our surround-
ings, by a thorough appreciation of how
the neighborhood is the cause, and last, but
not least, the use of the specific quinine.
I am told that he has the quinine.
I am not assured that my idea of Dr.
Buttrick's mission is correct, but at
least I can assure you that he comes
with heart full of charity and good
will, and one can depend upon all that
he says. We are therefore glad to have
him here, and I present with pleasure
Dr. Wallace Buttrick, the general sec-
retary and executive officer of the Gen-
eral Educational Board, who will ad-
dress you as to the purpose of his board.
DR. BUTTRICK.
Dr. Buttrick came forward and said:
The general Educational Board had its
inception in the recognition of the fact
that the people of the South are ear-
nestly engaged in prosecuting general edu-
cation and that in such work they should
receive generous aid. For this reason
certain gentlemen organized themselves
as the General Educational Board and
to them has been given unconditionally
a considerable sum of money. We learn
from you that the problem is peculiarly
one of rural schools, fully 85 per cent.
of the Southern people having their
homes in the country. It has therefore
been deemed wise to postpone the for-
ming of a constructive programme until we
shall have made a careful and compre-
hensive study of the educational situa-
tion in each of the Southern States
and their respective needs. The coun-
ty superintendents of Georgia voted to
hold an adjourned meeting at Athens on
Sept. 10, 11 and 12. Athens is the site
of the State University and Chancellor
Hill invites the superintendents and
their guests. A sum of money has been
donated to pay the fare of all the su-
perintendents. I have just returned
(Continued on Second Page.)

AUDITORIUM BURNED TO THE GROUND; WE MAY NOT HAVE THE HORSE SHOW.



THE AUDITORIUM SOON AFTER THE FIRE STARTED.

DELIRIOUS NEGRO SHOTS DOWN DR. BATTIS, CORONER OF NORFOLK

When Surrounded in His Home by the Police He Fires on Them.
With Drawn Revolvers They Enter the Dark Room Where
He is Concealed and Wound Him Mortally.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
NORFOLK, VA., July 10.—One of the
most sensational murders that have
started Norfolk for many years oc-
curred to-night when Dr. J. C. Batts,
City Coroner, was instantly killed by a
negro named Gray, at the home of the
latter, in Brambleton, a suburb.
The physician was called to attend Gray's
wife, and from the best information ob-
tainable was shot down by Gray the
moment he entered the house.
The police were notified, and immedi-
ately surrounded Gray's house. The
desperate negro had not left the place,
and when the officers arrived opened fire
upon them, barely missing several of the
officers. No cause could be assigned for
the killing of Dr. Batts, who was one
of Norfolk's most prominent young phy-
sicians.
The wildest excitement prevailed in
Brambleton, and it looked as if a lyn-
ching was in prospect.
After endeavoring by every means to
induce Gray to come out of the dark
room of his house in which he had
taken refuge, the squad of police with
drawn revolvers charged up the steps,
and though Gray fired upon them sev-
eral times they continued to advance un-
til they had reached the door of Gray's
room.
The officers fired a volley in the dark,
and Gray was heard to groan. An in-
vestigation revealed the fact that Gray
had been mortally wounded. Several
bullets had taken effect in his head and
body.
Gray was removed to St. Vincent's
hospital. He cannot live. Dr. Batts
death was caused by a wound from a
double barreled shot-gun. The charge
struck him full in the face, inflicting a
horrible wound.
The only motive assigned for the mur-
der of Dr. Batts is that Gray who had
been ill for some time, was delirious.

ST. JOHN'S KEEPER IN CONTINENTALS RUSH OF LEADERS CAUSES MUCH TALK

New Council Committee Directs
That Mr. Graffigna Wear Dress
of the Revolutionary Days.
Speculation as to Reason for
Presence of So Many—Sen-
atorship and Reapportionm't.

Mr. Antonio Graffigna, keeper of his-
toric St. John's burying ground, will re-
turn himself be one of the notably
unique and interesting figures to be found
in the city.
The St. John's Burying Ground Com-
mittee of the Council, at its meeting
last night—the first meeting of the new
committee, and the first meeting of its
kind in the city—adopted a resolution
and spread upon its records for all the world
to see a resolution to the effect that, in
view of the historic associations which
surround old St. John's of Revolutionary
and colonial memories, the keeper should
wear a continental uniform, rather than
the less picturesque attire in vogue in
these latter days.
It may be something of a surprise to
Mr. Graffigna's friends on Church Hill in
a day or two when that well known and
highly esteemed citizen of that section
is seen in the uniform of a soldier and
forbidding garb of blue coat and brass
buttons, which he has long adorned and
dons in lieu thereof the more picturesque
and impressive combination of knee
breeches, stockings and silver buckled
slippers of colonial days.
In Revolutionary times old St. John's
was the leader in patriotism and liberty.
In these latter days it has become the
leader in a reaction against the narrow
and restraining dictates of modern fash-
ion, and will do yeoman service in the
movement for a return to colonial ways
and days.
Mr. Graffigna's new attire is awaited
with interest.

JOINT DEBATE HELD IN THE CITY OF PETERSBURG

Congressman F. R. Lassiter and Mr. R. G. Southall Ad-
dressed Good Audience at Base-Ball Park.
Garden Seed Topic of Discussion.

(Special Dispatch to The Times.)
PETERSBURG, VA., July 10.—Con-
gressman F. R. Lassiter and Mr. R. G.
Southall, the Democratic candidates
for Congress, addressed a good size
crowd at the base-ball park in this city
to-night.
Despite the threatening weather and
the fact that a meeting was being held
at Young Men's Christian Association for
the purpose of promoting the battlefield
park movement, a large crowd greeted
the candidates.
The meeting was called to order by
Councillman Waverly Owen, who intro-
duced Mr. Southall.
The Amelia candidate seemed much
pleased with his reception. He spoke
for about twenty minutes and was fre-
quently interrupted by applause. He
took exception to a circular letter is-
sued to the voters of Petersburg over
the signatures of six citizens, in which
without giving any reasons for their
opinion they said "after careful con-
sideration, the undersigned are satisfied
that it is best for our party and district
that the Hon. Francis R. Lassiter be
renominated for Congress."
He said that Virginians had heard
many times of the "Big Four," but that
Petersburgers had come now to receive
their orders from the "Big Six," who
had assumed the duty of thinking for
the people. He said, too, that by inter-
ference the letter declared that his own
nomination would be harmful to the
party and district, and demand to be
known was.
He thought that Mr. Lassiter should

Freat Frame Structure Con- sumed in Few Minutes-

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING

This Sets Fire to the Building,
Which Burns Like Tinder.

MAY POSTPONE HORSE SHOW

Owners Do Not Expect to Rebuild and
There is No Other Place Available
for the Exhibition, Which Prom-
ised to Be Such a Success.
The Property Par-
tially Insured.

The Auditorium building was burned to
the ground between five and six o'clock
yesterday afternoon. The fire was occa-
sioned by lightning, and the very com-
bustible nature of the building rendered
all efforts at extinguishing the flames
futile.
The building was unoccupied at the
time. A thorough-going rearrangement
of the interior had recently been com-
pleted for the Horse Show to be held in
October at a cost of some \$30,000, in ac-
cordance with the plans of Messrs. No-
land and Baskerville, recently published
in The Times. It belonged to the Fair
Grounds Company, of which Mr. R. L.
Williams is president and Mr. E. R.
Williams is secretary. There was \$10,000
or more of insurance, practically cover-
ing the loss, placed through R. Lan-
caster and Chapin and Home.

MAJORITY OF HORSE SHOW.

The most serious and important result
of the fire is the fact that it destroyed
the one building in or about Richmond
in any way suitable for the purposes of
the Horse Show Association. Its de-
struction seriously jeopardizes the prac-
ticability of a horse show being early
held in October. Until a meeting of
the directors of the Association is held
it cannot be stated what change in its
plans will result from the destruction
of the auditorium.
It is regarded as extremely improbable
that the owners of the auditorium will
rebuild it. The fact that they are no
longer interested in the Traction Com-
pany, coupled with the high cost of
building material at this time, leads to
the belief that the structure will not be
restored.

CAUSED BY LIGHTNING.

The severe storm which passed over
Richmond shortly before five o'clock yester-
day afternoon was the cause of the
fire. The auditorium stood fortunately
well separated from other buildings of
every character, but exposed to lightning
workmen near the building were startled
by a terrific crash of thunder. More-
over, one person in the neighborhood saw
the bolt of lightning strike the high
southern front of the large frame struc-
ture. The two or three workmen who
had taken shelter in the other end of the
building fled from it to find a small fire
starting at the top of the southern front
of the building. The first window, which
the flames broke through, was the win-
dow high up in the southern front. Im-
mediately the fire in the center. It was some
time before the alarm was turned in form.

SUMMARY OF THE NEWS

FORECAST.
Fair Friday and Saturday; light to
fresh winds.
Highest temperature—at 2 P. M. 97
Lowest temperature—at 6 A. M. 75
Mean temperature yesterday 84
Normal temperature for July 64
Terrible storms in South and West.
Precipitation during past 24 hours 0.05

LOCAL.
The Auditorium is struck by lightning
and burns to the ground in a few min-
utes. Will hardly be rebuilt. The burning of
the house the negro fires on them. The
Auditorium will cause the postponement,
if not the abandonment, of the Horse
Show.
The hottest day of the summer followed
by a severe storm. One death attrib-
utable to the heat.
The Constitution goes into effect
and the State officials take the oath
promptly.
Keeper of St. John's Burying Ground
must, by order of the Council committee,
wear continentals in future.
Grave doubt that the street railway com-
pany will accede to the demands of the
men for a nine-hour day.
Rev. Dr. Derieux will not accept a call
to Fore Smith, Ark., preferring to remain
in Richmond.
Manchester Council elects officers and
Street Committee maps out plans for
work.
Much damage wrought at State farm
by wind and storm.

VIRGINIA.

A probably delirious negro shoots Dr.
Batts, the coroner of Norfolk, with a
shotgun. When the police surrounded the
house the negro fires on them. They
rush the house and wound him mortally.
A young lady in Fredericksburg ap-
proached a negro from behind while
swinging in a hammock on her father's
porch. When she screamed the negro at-
tacked her with a knife.
United States boat ordered to a Colum-
bian port to protect the interests of
Americans.
President will pass upon the reply of
the Vatican in regard to the friar lands.

GENERAL.

Johnstown, Pa., visited by a fearful
mine disaster, in which hundreds have
perished.
The freight handlers in Chicago are still
on strike, but there is a possibility of the
difference being settled by arbitration.
Corbett Tracey is still at large, well
armed and provisioned. He is, however,
becoming fagged out by the long pursuit.
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