

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH

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TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 1885.

Richmond's Business Outlook.

The New York World presents a cheerful view of the business outlook. Inquiries by a representative of that paper among principal merchants in various departments of business in New York elicited the fact that trade is much better than it was at this time last year, that it has improved very much during the last fortnight, and that there is every indication of a further increase, both in volume and in price, in the immediate future. And what is true of New York is in a measure true of most commercial centres. Inquiry among leading merchants of Richmond shows an exceedingly gratifying condition of business here. While none of our merchants look for an immediate business boom, there is general satisfaction and confidence in regard to present trade and the prospect. The experience of our principle houses is that business is conservative and healthy and is building up on a basis that is a guarantee of a return to solid commercial prosperity. The country merchants are buying closely and carefully, and payments are, as a rule, better than they have been for some time past. This is particularly the case with respect to transactions made during the last six months. When it is remembered that it has been impossible to handle tobacco to any great extent we are justified in expecting that as soon as the planters get a season the volume of remittances will be largely increased, and there will be a steady drain upon our wholesale men to increase the stocks of country merchants, which stocks, as above intimated, are being kept down to safe proportions. Richmond houses can meet any demand that the State or southern trade may make upon them, and that, too, at figures and with a saving of time and freight charges that enables our merchants to compete successfully with any city north of us. Owing to the fact that there has been no disposition on the part of country merchants to overbuy, and that stocks have been bought with an eye to immediate demands, the saving of time is a most important inducement to the country merchant to trade with Richmond. As to territory, our merchants, despite the business depression of last fall, have been slowly but surely reaching out into new fields. The North Carolina trade with Richmond is steadily increasing in volume and improving in desirability, and our trade ramifications further south promise to be permanent.

BRIEF COMMENT.

Harbingers of spring are at hand. That's a new name for rheumatism and pneumonia. The Vice-President has power to appoint a keeper of the Senate restaurant. It is certain that a Bourbon-whiskey dispenser will get the place. Next to the eclipse of the Republican party, the eclipse of the sun yesterday was the finest spectacle that has been witnessed in this country for a long time. The Philadelphia Press heads an editorial "The Ring Eclipse." That is very suggestive. It was the ring eclipse, as the Press has reason to know. HAZEN pleads guilty and charges the Secretary of War with being disrespectful to HAZEN. It is impossible that the Secretary of War could have been disrespectful to HAZEN. The Boston Globe says: "The latest mathematical question runs as follows: Two girls met three other girls and all kissed. How many kisses were exchanged? None; as such kissing don't count." Ex-Secretary CHANDLER thinks there are not clerks enough to run the departments the year around, instead of too many. But, fortunately, the Administration don't care what CHANDLER thinks. A letter from Dr. Wightman withdrawing from the Conference was read. He stated his reason was because of personal circumstances, and his resignation was granted. He is pastor of Chateaufort Independent church, Baltimore. Of the class of deacons of the first year, J. M. Hawley, S. S. Troy, D. L. Reid, T. D. Griffith, and H. A. Brown, having passed approved examination, were advanced to the class of the fourth year. J. O. Tackett, not having been before the committee, was continued in the third year. Report No. 1 of the Joint Board of Finance was read and approved. The amount reported for bishop fund, educational, Bible cause, and superannuated fund was \$7,872. The examination of character was resumed, and the elders of East Baltimore and Washington districts were approved. A. E. Bradenbaugh passed in character and withdrew from the Conference in order to take missionary work in Baltimore. The secretary read report No. 1 of the Educational Board in regard to Haine Institute at Augusta, Ga. It was established in 1863 by the General Conference for the training of preachers of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church of America. Eighty pupils are now in attendance. Mr. Dunlop, commissioner, represented the institute. A collection was taken up for its benefit, amounting to \$120. The order of the day for to-morrow at 11 o'clock is memorial services for the church and world, by G. S. Ferguson, and McCormick will preach to-night. The Conference will not adjourn before Wednesday night or Thursday.

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THE CITY BY THE SEA.

A Couple of Fires--Loss and Insurance--A Duck Hunt. (Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.) NORFOLK, March 16, 1885. The fire yesterday morning destroyed two buildings on Water street belonging to Mrs. Ann R. Taylor and Mrs. Greene. The loss on buildings is fully covered by an insurance of \$1,000 in the Liverpool and London and Globe. The buildings were occupied by the following parties: A. A. Rauldine & Son, cigar-makers; insured in Hamburg-Bremen for \$2,000; loss slight. I. Friedman, clothing; loss claimed to be \$5,000; insured in Northern of London for \$2,000; Connecticut for \$1,500. H. G. Williams, liquors and cigars, stock damaged by water; loss fully covered by an insurance of \$3,000 in Hamburg-Bremen, \$1,000 in Georgia Home, \$5,000 in Imperial, \$500 in Niagara, and \$1,000 in Northern of London. A. G. Goodrich, groceries; loss fully covered by an insurance of \$1,500. Peter Turney, fishermen's supplies. Loss covered by an insurance of \$2,000 in Home of Georgia and Hamburg-Bremen. A small store and dwelling belonging to W. Wilkinson & Co., situated on the corner of Green and Race streets, Portsmouth, were destroyed by fire last night. The loss is covered by insurance. The schooner J. H. Maxwell, which was recently sunk near New Point with a cargo of coal, has been raised and is being towed to this morning. Bishop Whittle will visit Norfolk on the 28th and remain in this city or Portsmouth until April 2d. Last night the steamship Roanoke was coming down the James, with her electric light out, she ran into a large log of canvas-bag ducks when off City Point, and made great slaughter among them. The ducks were blinded by the electric light, and seemed not to know which way they went. They flew against the rigging and house of the ship, and about one hundred of the dainty fellows were picked up on deck. Mr. F. M. Hannah, assistant purser of the Old Dominion ship Roanoke, will soon go on the Richmond as purser. This ship has been overhauled and provided with a new wheel, and will be on duty again in a short time. ELIA.

SOUTHERN METHODISTS.

The Baltimore Conference--Services, Sunday--The Richmond Conference. (Special telegraph to the Dispatch.) SALEM, Va., March 16--The services Sunday in the churches here, at Roanoke, at Hollis Institute, and at other places around were largely attended. Bishop Granbery preached at the Methodist church here from John, first chapter, fourteenth verse, upon the incarnation of Christ, and ordained Deacons C. W. White, C. W. Martin, G. J. White, C. W. Mark, C. B. Sutton, J. O. Knott, and C. S. Potter. At 2 o'clock Dr. Bennett, of Randolph-Macon College, addressed the students of Roanoke College, a Lutheran institution in prosperous condition. The Sunday-school meeting held at the Presbyterian church at 3 P. M. was addressed by Bishop Granbery, Dr. Harper, and C. M. Brown. It was presided over by T. J. Magnager, of Baltimore. Dr. Wiley, of the Holston Conference, preached at the Methodist church at night; after which the Bishop ordained Elders B. W. Waters, J. E. Wilson, J. Miller, J. W. Mitchell, S. V. Hildebrand, and O. W. Hammond. The Conference love-feast at the Town Hall was well attended and was a very interesting occasion. CONFERENCE WORK. The devotional exercises of the Conference this morning were conducted by Dr. Head. Bishop Granbery stated that a letter from Bishop Wilson represented his health improved. He gave hope of an early return to his home and his work, and contained a message of love to his brethren. The Bishop announced the transfer to this Conference of J. T. Wightman, of the South Carolina Conference, and of W. J. Young, of the Texas Conference. A letter from Dr. Wightman withdrawing from the Conference was read. He stated his reason was because of personal circumstances, and his resignation was granted. He is pastor of Chateaufort Independent church, Baltimore. Of the class of deacons of the first year, J. M. Hawley, S. S. Troy, D. L. Reid, T. D. Griffith, and H. A. Brown, having passed approved examination, were advanced to the class of the fourth year. J. O. Tackett, not having been before the committee, was continued in the third year. Report No. 1 of the Joint Board of Finance was read and approved. The amount reported for bishop fund, educational, Bible cause, and superannuated fund was \$7,872. The examination of character was resumed, and the elders of East Baltimore and Washington districts were approved. A. E. Bradenbaugh passed in character and withdrew from the Conference in order to take missionary work in Baltimore. The secretary read report No. 1 of the Educational Board in regard to Haine Institute at Augusta, Ga. It was established in 1863 by the General Conference for the training of preachers of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church of America. Eighty pupils are now in attendance. Mr. Dunlop, commissioner, represented the institute. A collection was taken up for its benefit, amounting to \$120. The order of the day for to-morrow at 11 o'clock is memorial services for the church and world, by G. S. Ferguson, and McCormick will preach to-night. The Conference will not adjourn before Wednesday night or Thursday.

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