# THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

WHOLE NUMBER, 10,592 — RICHMOND, VA., FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 24, 1886. — THREE CENTS PER COPY.



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Special attention is invited to our stock of

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Our announcement of last Sunday attracted large crowds at our store, and the result was the most unprecedented sale of

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THE GREAT REDUCTION SALE

will be continued this week, and the

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se 23-3t, WAFER


## BUSINESS-MEN TALK.

THERE MEETING OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE YESTERDAY.

What Richmond Has, What She Wants, and What the Iron Ore—Danville Railroad, &c.

That Richmond is not wanting in individual enterprise the appearance of the city to-day as contrasted with it on the day of Evacuation proclaims in unmistakable terms.

Here in 1865 a great part of the business-houses was in ashes. Our merchants generally were without stock, without credit or capital, and their customers were without money to make purchases. Confederate currency—all that we had—was worthless. Our banks were annihilated; our State was as helpless as her war-stricken capital city. To-day our manufacturing and mercantile establishments are vastly superior in equipment, stock, and patronage to what they ever were before. The population of Richmond and Manchester has gone above 80,000, and there is a steady increase. The annual sales of our manufactured products are over $25,000,000 and our other trade brings us $30,000,000.

In making new streets, in improving old ones, in beautifying the public parks, Richmond is making remarkable strides.

That we have a pretty city nearly all visitors who come here enthusiastically acknowledge. That there is a very considerable degree of prosperity in our community the hundreds of handsome residences built in recent years prove. That there is "push" in our people is demonstrated by the trade that is brought here from the South and West; but with all these, there is this one thing lacking: Unity of action on the part of the business-men. They have not acted in concert to encourage new enterprises, or to sustain old ones. They have not always labored together to extend our commerce. They have not been as a unit to resist wrongs and discriminations on the part of railroad companies. Each man has depended too much upon his own personal efforts, failing to see that organization, which is so fruitful of good for private persons and business corporations, would be just as valuable, just as productive of happy results for a city. For some months past the Chamber of Commerce (of which George A. Kindle, Esq., is president) has been at work stimulating public spirit in this direction. A report from its Committee on Manufactures—prepared by the chairman, Mr. Adrian Sterke—was recently submitted and was soon thereafter published in the *Dispatch*. It pointed out our deficiencies; it suggested some remedies, and a special meeting of the chamber was arranged for yesterday evening, and all the business-men of the city invited to discuss the report and express questions.

THE MEETING.

The attendance was large, and representatives were present from nearly all the branches of trade.

After calling the meeting to order President Kindle said that the report contained so much matter of importance that the Board referred it to the Chamber, and the Chamber had invited *all* the business-men of the city to meet them here to consider it. The object of the Chamber, said he, is to do everything to facilitate the business of the city, to remove all causes of complaint, and for these purposes it is open and free to all the people of Richmond. It had even appointed a Committee on Arbitration to settle business disputes and controversies. He was glad to see the large attendance on this occasion, and promised that whatever the Chamber could do to advance the interests of this city should be done.

THE COMMITTEE'S CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Sterke, by invitation of the president, took the floor in explanation of the report. He said:

That you should have deemed the paper which I had the honor of reading before this body worthy of being printed and this special meeting to consider its suggestions is, of course, gratifying, and if out of the discussion there shall come any thing of value which shall contribute to the upbuilding of our city, and secure to the gratification, will have received itself into that satisfaction which every true man feels in the accomplishment of meeting cannot terminate only in which he lives to take one step forward in the march of progress.

The preparation of this paper was prompted solely by what I conceive to be existing wants in our midst to-day.

It will be noticed that the committee has framed it in the shape of suggestions only. We offer it simply as a basis, hoping that the discussion which it may follow may take the widest latitude, and, though the paper itself be but a single entirety, we may be led into further channels and more promising fields for action.

The day has come when Richmond must show her strength. The business communities in the land are selecting for visiting grounds in the great battle of life. Where will Richmond stand? It is with her and her people to decide. The strength of an army is in its concert of action. We must move together to a common end—the making of Richmond a great city, and, in my judgment, the opportunity is at hand such as will not be here again in the present century.

What do we mean by a proper manipulation of capital and labor? It is to learn and teach the dependence of the one upon the other—to open the pockets of capital and broaden the mind of labor; to teach labor that it is the coupling-pin to capital, and capital that it needs labor to make the wheels labor—the interests of the owner inseparable, the same. A strife between the two never had and never can have but one result—mortification of capital, discomfort for labor, and a standing army to control the two. Men of business, I beg you to reflect the prospect which, if we will, the demagogy that would plunge us into such a chaos!

What is our policy? I am speaking now to merchants and capitalists, and while I cannot enter into anything akin to a full consideration of stockholding, there is secure to me a single line of conflict as an index to the direction and of the position occupied by the interests of the owner of the capital. In your stock companies fix the shares at such values as to be within the reach of every working man who adores for you, always holding a reserve for the investment, thus making him a sharer in your gains, a partner in your success, and, for his satisfaction, make your labors for that the little fish may not be swallowed by the whales.

In your individual enterprises make your employees to know that your success means their success, so you may so in proportion by the work help to share his appreciation of it, and the common aim alone will fail to against such an action.

Encourage your men to become masters of business and manufactures. I would that this Chamber might instruct the Virginia Mechanics Institute to offer each year to its patrons one premium of one hundred dollars and another of fifty, for the best paper from the hands of mechanics in the month in our city, upon the best modes of conducting and the appliances to be used in carrying on the different branches of manufactures, so that such stimulus might result in leading the day when we will no longer go to the North and East for skilled superintendents, and see grand enterprises struggling on by operatives, but none our own men and of a stuff that will stand the strain, and whose best interests are here.

The prime question called to this paper is, What can the Chamber do? The answer can only be found day by day as our conditions are spent. Among the first matters demanding our attention is to carefully investigate and consider our system of taxation to-day, and, to ascertain if any adjustment can be made there that will lead to enlarge and extend our manufactories, jobbing houses, and perhaps inaugurate some special reliefs and schemes that will create enterprises in those branches not known among us.

We need to have a committee of adjustment which shall stand between stockholders and purchasers, so that no manufacturer may be turned from selling the fruit of his labor by reason of undue value being placed upon property, and when necessary, even offer a bonus, if practicable, to secure the same, and in so doing check the land-speculator who would, for petty self-gain, throttle enterprise.

We need to encourage expansion from our capitalists to tell how far they are willing to help with their money new manufacturing ventures, which shall be shown to their satisfaction safe and paying investments. Let them say how much they will invest in such, open up the grand book, and let it appear in every issue of our papers "Five hundred thousand dollars or more stands waiting here in Richmond to help new manufactories."

We need to interview our railroads and see if we can get them to further special low rates for new settlers. This is a very respective course, as an inducement to immigration, and those that our power favors in this section enjoy the full measure of benefit to which they are entitled as the favorite of the Government. Indeed, there is a closer sympathy between our merchants and the agricultural—most of them, so that they can easily feel that we are not altogether engrossed with what we may make out of them, but for their welfare we are ready to do a full work.

Above and beyond all we need to secure immediate arrangements for the manufacture of our iron. Capital cannot be depended upon for the upbuilding of our city. Individual success is dependent upon general success—community prosperity are the individual chances enhanced; but the reverse of this is not always true. Under a wholesome sentiment, does it think herself a congregation other than what has failed that the success of others are immediately followed by "hard times." Not always so. There is an author whose trade seems somewhat strange, while for sons all of his competitors fail, does he engage this an immediate success that he is on the sure road to success." I tell you, Sir, Richmond is starting to build upon the wreck of another. God pity the man who would. The failure of the smallest tradesman in our midst works in the detriment of every single merchant in our city. When one limb is diseased the whole body suffers.

I hear there are merchants in this city who would rather see a competitor here but than one in the south. This is wrong. We must unite in Richmond against the foe, and every man ready to defend enough, and speak for her whenever and wherever he is. There is a man selling goods at cost rather than let the competition sell. This is unpardonable folly. He makes not himself and keeps others from making profit. The competitor is a fool, that man will be disturbed in the man. Cannot this Chamber do a work here? We cannot demand our details, perhaps, but I believe we can exert an influence that will be a good one. A current organizing of this kind, can our Arbitration Committee, on complaint, ask questions, get facts and things, and when we believe a man is damaging the health of trade, presenting an unwise and unseemly display of business, do it as kind as all this we do.

We have reached an epoch in the history of this people, a crisis for master-strokes of business wisdom. The were hour is here when we must show a position to stand against our neighbors as a people, to put forth untold energies towards enlarging our resources, to encourage enterprises that have been little dreamed of, or are long the idle surmises from the best and most promising young men, will commence, and we be left as a thrown stone amid the beacons of the overwhelmed to weep over what might have been. Richmond can be, she should be, she is made her great.

CHAMBER REMARKS.

President Kindle: The meeting will now be glad to hear from Colonel Buford.

Colonel Buford stated that he had not expected to speak at this stage of the proceedings; but, if he was anything at all, he was practical. The remarks of Mr. Sterke had very largely covered the views which, in his opinion, deserved consideration. We have had a reasonable prosperity, and we have stood the depression in business quite as well as the country generally. But the world is moving, and we must keep along with it. What you want is new stores and four manufactories where you have one now.

Richmond has climatic advantages unsurpassed; her wages of commerce are almost complete. What you specially need is the further improvement of James river. You should stand as one man and demand of the General Government liberal appropriations for it. Your railroad connections are superior to those of most cities, and these roads for the most part have a natural regard for the interests of Richmond; but if they do not do you justice, your right is to look after them. All these lines are of no avail unless you prepare to garner the fields open to you. That many of our people have thrown conspicuous enterprise, that they have worked hard, Colonel Buford acknowledged. But activity is the rule nowadays. You cannot sit and hold your hay and expect business to be poured into it. You must go out and draw it in. Interest your capitalists and your manufacturers. It is a matter of great concern for them. If they but knew it.

Open more wholesale houses, build hotels, establish new manufactories. Why are not your mills roaring with industry? The whole West is ready to pour her grain into your lap upon terms you cannot complain of. You must look after the minutiae matters, or it will grow smaller by degrees and beautifully less. Other towns are absorbing it.

Let the people who understand this trade set to work and devise how to utilize our advantages. Richmond is traditionally the tobacco market of the country. She ought to be *the greatest* tobacco market of this country. And why should she not be the port for the shipment of the grain of the West? You need the *sympathy and the capital* of your rich men to do it.

Our progress in fifteen years has been astonishing, but it is a new world we live in, and we must subdivest our methods to meet the changed condition of affairs. I speak these words out of my mature judgment, as well as from deep interest in this great community. We are the heart of this State. If Richmond retrogrades, Virginia retrogrades. She is the hope of Virginia. Norfolk, Lynchburg, Danville, and other cities are worthy of admiration, but Richmond is the hope of the State.

Now it will not do after we have had such conferences as this to go out and do nothing. We talk very, very well, but we do not go out and put in our best licks. That is what we must resolve to do. I would advise organization. Divide your burdens. Let as many men as you can be interested in your enterprises. If they be a burden, you will have more shoulders to bear them—you will have more people to give you sympathy. If we make mistakes some times, pick your fine and try again.

THE IRON INTEREST.

Mr. Kindle: I feel very thankful for the admirable addresses of these gentlemen; but we have representatives of special industries here. The iron interest is a very large one, and it would give us great pleasure to hear from Mr. Blankenship.

Mr. Blankenship said that he came to the meeting simply as a member of the Chamber in answer to the call. He should attend all of its meetings, and felt a deep interest in its welfare. He was not present to make a speech. So far as the iron trade is concerned—so to what they have done, what they are doing—if you will go to the Anderson, to the Tredegar, to the Tanners & Delaney, to the Falls, to the Johnsons, you will see what is the spirit of enterprise that pervades this branch of our trade.

Mr. Blankenship said he read Mr. Sterke's paper with astonishment. The water-front here has been filled with failures of such enterprises. Nor did he concur in the reference to the "conservatism of our working people." They are not conservative. The boycott and the strikes here will show that we are perhaps the most radical people in the country.

Mr. Blankenship strongly insisted that we are wide-awake; that we do have enterprise and push, and that to say the contrary is unfair and injurious.

He closed by desiring to ask of Colonel Buford one question—viz., Why has the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company found it necessary to remove all of its offices from Richmond to Washington, only leaving here enough force to keep not a *de facto*, but a *de jure* office in operation?

WHY THE RICHMOND AND DANVILLE OFFICES WERE MOVED FROM RICHMOND.

Colonel Buford said that he was gratified to have an opportunity to be heard in explanation of this matter, and he would do it with the utmost candor. "Now," said he, "I will state the reasons which, I believe, have influenced the management in the removal of these offices. It is very well known that, although I watched over the situation with paternal or maternal solicitude, and tried to keep this property in the hands of our people, our dollars didn't have money enough to do it, or if they had the money they had other uses for it. So the road passed into new hands, and the owners, with the exception of myself, live in the North. It is a long story perhaps, but I must go back and tell you that years ago it became necessary to secure the Midland road. It was controlled by Mr. Garrett, and he was backed by Baltimore. They had determined to extend it southwardly and make it a formidable competitor for the Danville road. They had 400 or 500 men in the field digging for an extension of the Virginia Midland. With our southern trade thus threatened, we saved the situation for ourselves and for you. We did not want the Virginia Midland, but we got it and we must take care of it. Now, sir, these owners own these two properties. The Midland road really terminates at Washington. It is a great and growing city; there it connects with the systems going north. These owners thought that these properties could be managed with more success at Washington than anywhere else. Not only have offices been removed from Richmond there, but offices have been removed from other places further south. The owners think that from Washington their property can be most advantageously managed.

I don't say that is was my judgment, and I need not undertake to express myself here. But they carried them there because it was at the terminus of the impending peril to you and to us, and we united "body and soul," figuratively, to go it, and we thereby incurred the hostility of at least one community, but great prosperity. But our business relations with Richmond will always be the same. So far as your business interests are concerned they are what they have always been. I want you to remember, too, that while we have lost from this community officers and friends whom we all miss, the pay-roll of the shops at Manchester has been greatly increased.

THE FAIR.

Mr. George W. Hays, Secretary of the State Agricultural Society, after speaking on business topics generally, proceeded to advocate the claims of the Fair as a means of promoting the prosperity of the city. Said he: "Our people decry and ignore the Agricultural Society, and say they have given it money, which they have not done. They have not supported it like such enterprises are encouraged in the West." He referred to what St. Paul and Minneapolis do for their fairs and how poorly Richmond encourages her Fair. The railroads do their part. They are very liberal, but what do you do? In the last three years we have received $1,100 from the city of Richmond. This year we asked for a like appropriation, meaning to use it in specially attractive features. We were first cut down to $1,500, and then that was expunged. If you want to help your city help the Fair. If you wish to exhibit your resources, if you hope to bring strangers here, help this Society.

NEW RAILROAD PROJECTS.

Mr. R. E. Whitlock was next summoned. He spoke for co-operation, for general sympathy in new enterprises, and these he thought vital to the welfare of the city. When a stranger comes into our midst he should be welcomed and assisted. It ought not to be the sole object to make money out of him.

"I venture to say," said Mr. Whitlock, "that if a stranger were to come here to-morrow to invest in our water-power he would be charged three times its worth. I do not believe that our water-power is worth what it was twenty years ago. It has been built too high. I have been working steam, and believe that it is a strong competitor with water-power. I do not wish that we should value our water-power too highly. Then to be a successful city we must be a railroad centre. How are we to do that? Look to railroad men? Not at all. We must go to work for ourselves. We had just as well learn that the Richmond and Danville Railroad Company and all other railroads manage their business to suit themselves—that is, the owners of the road do. The Danville road will grow and spread, and we should see to it that it comes through Richmond. It can be done. The office can be brought back to Richmond; but how? The paying portion of the Richmond and Danville road is the freight; it is not the passengers. At Washington they handle only the passengers. From here they could manage both. Now let us give that railroad a better line to Washington than they have. We have only to build a line from Richmond to Orange Courthouse, a distance of seventy miles, and lease it to them, and they will have a better passenger line than they now have. Water transportation is important to us, but railroads are more important. We should make this a railroad town."

Mr. Whitlock regretted Colonel Buford's explanation of the removal of the offices from Richmond as satisfactory, and he uttered no complaint against the owners of the road.

THE OTHER VIEW.

Mr. Blankenship contended that the Richmond and Danville railroad is a creation of the State of Virginia, and it is for our people—the creators—to say how far in the interests of the road's owners it can go. Washington is not the terminus of the line. Between Washington and Alexandria there is another railway. He did not believe the company had the right to go out of the State with its offices, and in his view the people of Virginia had come right to be heard in a matter such as this, as well as the owners of the road.

Mr. Sterke did not agree with Mr. Blankenship. He thought the question had been fairly answered. He did not know that the charter of the company required it to have its offices in Virginia. But that is all fixed. Now what we want to do is to prevent any more such blows. There are more important points now to be discussed. We must be looking to the future.

A PERTINENT THOUGHT.

Mr. E. B. Thaw said that he was about to take a trip to the North with the view of getting means to secure the old brewery building here for a new enterprise—making of wire, wood-pulp, and other material for paper. In vain he had tried to raise this money here. Our people are "well up in speech-making, but when they come to answering the roll-call, they are not there," said Mr. Thaw.

Mr. Kindle and several other gentlemen said that they thought the money could be raised if the enterprise seemed to promise success.

DANVILLE FIGURE.

Mr. E. A. Cullin gave some reminiscences of the introduction of new enterprises at Danville, and how the contributories established there had paid the public-spirited people of that city. He agreed with Mr. Sterke that the business men of this city had better close up their places for a day and come here to discuss these matters than longer to neglect their evident interests in this respect.

At 7½ P. M. the meeting adjourned until Thursday, September 30th, at 4 P. M., when the discussion will be continued.

## ROCKBRIDGE COLLEGE OPENING.

Addresses by Dr. Pollard, the New Professor, and Others.

The chapel of the college was filled last night with faculty, trustees, students, and friends of the college, assembled to honor the opening of the session and to hear the new professor of English.

Professor E. H. Harris, chairman of the faculty, presided with his usual dignity and grace, and appropriately introduced the exercises. Rev. Dr. George Cooper read appropriate Scriptures, and Rev. T. P. Bell made an appropriate and fervent prayer.

Professor Harris stated that there were present to-day about 120 students, more than at the opening last year, and that the outlook for the coming session is decidedly bright. He said that it was expected that Hon. S. S. Witt, president of the Alumni, would make an address of welcome on this occasion, but as he was detained by important professional engagements he would call on a gentleman who was always ready to speak for the college or its young men. He referred to

DR. W. S. BANCHER.

After a pleasant hit at the chairman, Dr. Bancher said that he looked on the opening-day of Richmond College as a most important and happy one. He spoke of the good, honest work being done by all of the colleges of Virginia, and could heartily congratulate the students of them all; but he claimed that Richmond College was among the best of the family, and he heartily congratulated the students who entered this institution.

Dr. Bancher referred to the ability of the faculty, and of their purpose to do this year the best work they have yet accomplished. He said also to the new students that while these "old boys" may have some of the "original old boy" about them, and may apply to them some complimentary epithets, and may disturb their dreams at unreasonable hours, yet they were, on the whole, good fellows, and would prove useful companions. He heartily welcomed these students to the college and to Richmond, and made one of those felicitous speeches for which Dr. Bancher is always ready.

HON. R. E. ELLYSON.

Hon. R. E. Ellyson, president of the Board of Trustees, was then called on by the chairman and made an appropriate and eloquent response. Speaking for the trustees, the faculty, and the people of Richmond, he warmly welcomed these students to their homes and their hearths. He eloquently urged that there is no "royal road to success," but that if these young men are to bear of the honors of the college at success in life they must fear God and work.

Mr. Ellyson was peculiarly happy in his earnest and eloquent address.

REV. DR. JOHN POLLARD.

Professor Harris was proceeding to introduce Dr. Pollard when the young ladies of the Richmond Female Institute filed in, and were greeted by the students with loud applause.

In its wards Dr. Harris introduced his colleague, Rev. Dr. John Pollard, the new professor of English.

Dr. Pollard was greeted with loud and prolonged applause. He commenced his remarks by saying that he felt embarrassed by the fact that a year ago there stood on this platform a noble man, who made a noble address, and whose lamented absence was the occasion of his being here to-night. He was also embarrassed by the fact that it had been twenty-five years since he had cut loose from college, and these had been for him years of busy pastoral work. He was to discuss, he said, "The Relations of English to a Liberal Education."

It might seem unnecessary to discuss this question. It would be in Germany where a critical knowledge of English is necessary to graduation in the Universities. But it is true of English that "a prophet is not without honor save in his own country and among his own kin," and there is truth in the sarcasm of the great professor, that "English is an unknown tongue in England."

Dr. Pollard spoke of the progress that the study of English had made within the past twenty years, and claimed that Richmond College had been one of the first colleges in the whole country, and the very first in the South, to establish a separate chair of English.

The speaker ably argued the necessity of the study of English, and beautifully illustrated its advantages. Dr. Pollard showed himself a master of pure English, and his address clearly exhibited his fitness for his new chair, to which he brings a knowledge, working power, and enthusiasm which insure his splendid success.

He closed with eloquent words to the students and to the citizens of Richmond.

CLOSING REMARKS.

Professor Harris closed the exercises with a very practical talk, which frequently brought down the house. He urged the students to be Christian gentlemen and to work.

The occasion is one of deep interest, and it will gratify our people that their college opens so auspiciously.

## Appointment of Serious Superintendents.

The State Board of Education met yesterday morning at 10 o'clock at the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and appointed the following superintendents of schools:

For Botetourt county, Colonel Cary Breckinridge, in place of R. S. Burks, deceased.

For Northampton county, George R. Hogg, vice James L. Nottingham, deceased.

For Fredericksburg, Professor J. G. Swartz, in place of James Taylor, resigned.

## Meetings Court.

As soon as this court met yesterday morning Commonwealth's-Attorney Witt announced the death of Mr. John G. Sieger, and moved that through respect for his memory the court adjourn, which it at once did.

## PUZZLING PLANS.

MR. GEORGE RYERS TALK ANGRY FROM BEGINNING TO END.

He Brings the City-Hall Plans Decked, But Not Complete, as Colonel Cutshaw Contends, &c.

The Committee on Grounds and Buildings met yesterday evening at 8 o'clock in the office of the City Engineer. Present: Messrs. Lentlier (chairman), Ammons, Pizzini, and Snead, and Colonel Cutshaw, City Engineer, and Mr. George Ryers, of Detroit, with plans of the City Hall; also, Judge Hunter Marshall, Mr. Ryers's counsel, and Mr. Charles V. Meredith, City Attorney.

It appears that at a meeting of the committee held early in this month the City-Hall plans were found to be incomplete, and, for that reason, were rejected, and the following resolution adopted:

*Resolved*, That E. E. Myers be allowed until September 21, 1886, to furnish in complete condition to the Committee on Grounds and Buildings, all Compositions, elevations and drawings on the four front elevations, foundations, basements, floor-plans, and longitudinal sections, with numbers fully given and carefully marked on the same, and until October 4th, 1886, within which to furnish a complete transcription, with numbers given thereon, in the manner and when the same is done then the contract is to be signed by the city and the first fee for the plans be paid.

When the committee assembled yesterday evening the plans were submitted by Mr. George Ryers, who claimed that all that was required had been done and that they were now complete.

THE PLANS STILL INCOMPLETE.

Colonel Cutshaw took the plans and pointed out to the committee certain things that were wanted. He went over them in detail, showing what was objectionable. He stated that they were incomplete and that the resolution passed by the committee had not been complied with.

In answer to a question asked him by Judge Marshall, Colonel Cutshaw said that any good architect could finish the plans, and that it would only require a few days to do it. He thought Mr. George Ryers himself could do it if he would; but whoever did it must assume the responsibility, and he urged the committee to require Mr. Myers to complete the drawings that there should be no delay with the building.

MR. MYERS SPEAKS.

Mr. Myers rose from his seat, his face flushed, and, in a heated manner, asserted that all had been done that was required, and that the plans were correct and complete.

THE LAST TALK.

Mr. Snead to Mr. Myers: All of this talk is useless. What we want is that you complete the plans.

Mr. Lentlier: Do what you agreed to do.

Mr. Myers (much irritated): I have said to the committee that we claim that all the figures are there, and that the plans are complete, and that there is no mistake in them, and that the scales are all right.

Mr. Snead to Mr. Myers: We do not want to trifle with you. We mean business. We want to go on with this work.

Judge Marshall: I want to know of Colonel Cutshaw if all this cannot be arranged by some one in the city without having to send the plans back to Detroit?

Colonel Cutshaw: Yes; if Mr. E. E. B. Myers assumes the responsibility. I do not wish to appear as if putting any obstacle in the way of Mr. George Ryers. The committee can do what it pleases, but I will never give my consent as City Engineer until the plans are complete.

Mr. Ammons: Colonel Cutshaw, I fully agree with you, and I move that this committee adjourn, and that Mr. Myers be required to comply with the resolution passed at the last meeting.

Mr. Lentlier: Wait a moment; let me see if we can't come to a better understanding.

After considerable colloquy between Mr. Myers and members of the committee Mr. Ammons again moved to adjourn to meet Saturday night.

MR. E. E. MYERS TO COME TO SOUTHERN.

Mr. Myers: Make it Monday night. My father can be here then; so can Judge Marshall. I do not propose to appear before this committee without counsel.

Mr. Ammons: Before the committee adjourns I want to know what Mr. Myers is going to do.

Judge Marshall: Oh, we will have the plans first up.

The committee adjourned to meet Monday night.

Colonel Cutshaw says that if Mr. E. E. Myers were in the city the plans could be completed within months.

## IN AID OF CHARITIES.

The Brilliant Concert at the Theatre Last Night.

The Theatre was well filled last night by a brilliant audience on the occasion of the concert given in aid of the Charitable relief fund. The performance was a gratifying success, and reflected credit in every way on the ladies and gentlemen who volunteered their efforts in behalf of a noble charity.

The orchestra, enlarged for the occasion, numbered about twenty-five, and was very effective in the two numbers of the programme rendered by them—the charming "Fingal Cave" overture of Mendelssohn and the Potpourri from the "Mikado."

The second number of the programme, a waltz song by Delle, rendered by Miss Berta Harrison Bonawell, of Savannah, with orchestral accompaniment, was sung with a brilliancy and verve that would reflect credit on a practiced professional singer, and won the enthusiastic applause of her audience. The effect of her brilliant singing was enhanced by the grace and ease of the fair performer.

Mrs. Knowles's beautiful voice was heard to fine effect in a charming song, whose simple grace was expressed with touching effect; and Mrs. Reinhardt, in her selection from Rossini's "Figaro," sang with her usual effectiveness. Her voice is as sound and beautiful as ever, and she was assisted by a selected orchestra.

The Aeion Society rendered Abt's "Singer's Grave," and for an encore gave Becker's March chorus, accompanied by the Cornetin quartette.

By way of variety, as gratifying the lifting for comicalities, and on the merits, Mr. A. Sale Watkins's rendition of "The Gravedigger," an ancient tragic theme, with modern perversions, was a great success and won immense applause. His sense of humor and mimic powers well expressed the comical version of that ancient and well-known history.

As contrasting with this humorous number of the programme, Mr. Frank Cunningham sang, with pathetic effect, Glover's "While the Bugle Sounds Gay" in such manner that he was compelled to respond to an encore.

The grand duo for clarinet and trombone between Messrs. Jordella and Epui was one of the most beautiful instrumental numbers.

The duties of director and accompanist were rendered by Professor Reinhardt with his accustomed success and skill. To him and the ladies and gentlemen who participated, the thanks of the community are due for an exhibition of public and charitable spirit that will probably add a considerable amount to the fund going from Richmond to our sister-city Charleston. While the returns are not all in, it is expected that the sum realized will reach $700.

THE ORCHESTRA.

The following gentlemen—professional and amateur—composed the orchestra last evening:

*First Violins.*—John Kosmich, George Walker, Jr., John C. Reinhardt.

*Second Violins.*—G. A. Thilow, William J. Tenner, Jr., Joseph Kosmich.

*Violas.*—John Bossler, James C. Thurston.

*Violoncellos.*—C. W. Thilow, Leon Thurston.

*Double Bass Violins.*—John H. Reintz, Richard Wagener.

*Clarinettes.*—Felix Jordella, C. O'B. Cowardin.

*Flutes.*—William Wagener, Edward Archer.

*Bassoon.*—B. Krause.

*Cornets.*—A. J. Lass, Jacob Beier.

*Trombone.*—A. Epui.

*Melody Horn.*—John Thurston.

*Timpani.*—J. Thomas Pulling.

THE AEION SOCIETY.

Following is the Aeion Society:

Officers: C. O'B. Cowardin, president; Joseph W. Lathe, vice-president; M. W. Fursell, secretary and treasurer; Isaiah Jenkins, librarian, and Professor Jacob Reinhardt, director.

*First Tenors.*—Messrs. E. Cowardin, W. S. Benning, Moses Hay, W. D. Johnson, and C. L. Sizer.

*Second Tenors.*—Messrs. David L. Burr, C. J. Nunn, W. S. Parry, H. L. Ross, E. T. Ellyson, M. W. Fursell, W. B. Sadler.

*First Bass.*—Messrs. W. W. Crawford, C. O'B. Cowardin, A. W. Miller, P. S. Powers, L. W. Pizzini, Jefferson Wallace.

*Second Bass.*—Messrs. L. A. Bethel, J. E. Harris, Jr., Isaiah Jenkins, M. B. Leonard, Oscar Lehmann, J. W. Lathe, L. Alby Carlton.

THOSE WHO AIDED THE CONCERT.

The great success of the entertainment is due to the work of those having it in charge—the singers and musicians—and the generous aid and contributions of other citizens.

Too much credit cannot be given to Mrs. Powell for the promptness with which she tendered the use of the Theatre, free of charge, with ushers, doorkeepers, and accessories. The building was in "apple-pie" order, and everything worked smoothly.

The floral decoration of the stage was the most beautiful of its kind that has ever before been seen here, and was the work of love of Mr. R. W. Ludwigh, florist.

Some of the handsome floral pieces which adorned the stage were donated by Mr. E. A. Cullin. A beautiful floral pillow on which was inscribed "Sympathy" was the gift of Mr. W. L. Timberlake, florist. A most exquisite floral lyre was donated by Mr. Bacon the florist. This was auctioned off by Mr. E. B. Cook, the veteran auctioneer. Mr. Cook novelized the audience by his witty and bright remarks, and his efforts were by no means the most interesting feature of the evening. The bidding was not spirited, so the sale was not continued further.

The beautiful programmes were gotten up and donated by Messrs. W. D. Rosser & Co. This firm also kindly placed the grand piano used at the disposal of the committee.

Major R. W. Carter furnished four banks for the lady singers.

Messrs. M. B. Ramos & Co. took charge of the sale of reserved seats, and, with the rest of the special committee, took general charge of the sale of tickets.

Messrs. Quarles & McCurdy auctioned off the private boxes in the Tuttwiler Exchange yesterday. The two lower boxes brought $25 apiece—one was purchased by Mr. T. C. Williams, and the other by Mr. M. Rosenbaum.

Thanks are due to the Richmond Musical Protective Union for their unanimous resolution to assist in the concert.

Mr. Eugene Hays volunteered his services in arranging the stage during the evening.

The tuning of the piano was generously done by Mr. C. H. Wagner.

Mr. E. M. Cantrell, manager of the Academy of Music, kindly permitted two principal members of his orchestra, Messrs. Jordella and Epui, to assist in the concert.

## Death of N. Beach Pleasants.

Mr. N. Beach Pleasants is grandson of Mr. Nat Beach Hill, formerly of Richmond, and at one time employed by Turpin & Brother, and at another by Ryland & Lee, but lately of Memphis, where he was in business as a merchandise broker, died at his mother's residence, in this city, on Twelfth street, last night about 9 o'clock. The deceased was only twenty-three years of age, and was a bright and pleasant gentleman. Some years ago, when Pinafore was produced here by the amateurs, he took the part of the Boatswain, and sang and acted with such sprightliness as to gain for himself general admiration.

Mr. Pleasants, fifteen days ago, married Miss Minnie Hunter, of Memphis, and they were here on their bridal tour when he was stricken by congestion of the brain.

His funeral will take place from the First Baptist church this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

## Mr. John G. Sieger's Funeral.

The funeral of Mr. John G. Sieger took place yesterday at 12 o'clock from St. James church. The edifice was crowded with friends of the deceased, who was held in high esteem by all who knew him. Dr. Peterkin conducted the services, assisted by Rev. Mr. Nash.

The following gentlemen acted as pall-bearers: Honorary—Judge E. H. Marshall, Colonel W. H. Palmer, Judge Joseph Christian, Messrs. J. A. Pleasants, R. F. Pleasants, J. R. Crenshaw, E. M. Garnett, R. G. Leigh, Sr., W. H. Harrell, Garnett F. Watson, Robert Sillos, L. R. Page, Colonel Thomas J. Evans, and Dr. John G. Shelton. Active—Colonel W. W. Gordon, Messrs. James Pleasants, G. G. Kean, William J. Leake, P. L. Warwicky, R. A. Dunlop, R. G. Leigh, Jr., F. W. Christian, C. W. Branch, and F. H. Deane.

The vestry of the church, of which Mr. Sieger had been a member for thirty-five years, attended in a body. The members of the bar of the city were also present. The interment took place at Hollywood.

## THE REGISTRATION.

ONLY ABOUT 2,700 WERE REGISTERED YESTERDAY.

The Colored People Rather More Active Than the Whites, &c., &c., &c.

The new registration of voters began yesterday, and the following is the result:

| Wards. | White. | Colored. |
|---|---|---|
| *Marshall.* | | |
| First precinct | 79 | 68 |
| Second precinct | 62 | 70 |
| Third precinct | 79 | 70 |
| Total | 220 | 208 |
| *Jefferson.* | | |
| First precinct | 32 | 60 |
| Second precinct | 40 | 60 |
| Third precinct | 41 | 60 |
| Fourth precinct | 47 | 50 |
| Total | 160 | 230 |
| *Madison.* | | |
| First precinct | 63 | 82 |
| Second precinct | 56 | 62 |
| Third precinct | 63 | 55 |
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