THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY.

The DAILY DISPATCH is delivered to subscribers at FIFTEEN CENTS per week, payable to the carrier weekly. Mailed at $6 per annum; $3 for six months; $1.50 for three months; 50c. for one month.

The SEMI-WEEKLY DISPATCH at $2 per annum, or $1 for six months.

The WEEKLY DISPATCH at $1 per annum.

The SUNDAY DISPATCH at $1.50 per annum, or 75c. for six months.

Subscriptions in all cases payable in advance, and no paper continued after the expiration of the time paid for. Send post-office money-order, check, or registered letter. Currency sent by mail will be at the risk of the sender. Subscribers wishing their post-office changed must give their old as well as their new post-office. Sample copies free.

ADVERTISING RATES.

HALF INCH OR LESS.

1 time	$ 50
2 times	$ 1 00
3 times	$ 1 50
6 times	$ 2 70
12 times	$ 5 20
1 month	$ 9 88
3 months	$ 25 00

Reading notices in reading-matter type, 5 lines or less, $1; in nonpareil leaded, 75c.

Card of rates for more space furnished on application.

All letters and telegrams must be addressed to THE DISPATCH COMPANY.

Rejected communications will not be returned.

SATURDAY.....DECEMBER 11, 1886.

The Electoral-Count Bill.

Congress has for a hundred years, except in 1877, allowed the Federal Constitution to be the only law, properly so called, prescribing the method of counting the votes for President and Vice-President of the United States. The electoral-count bill is intended to prevent the recurrence of such a condition of things as existed in 1877, or any worse condition of things that might result from a failure to define by law the powers and duties of the two houses of Congress and their presiding officers in the matter of counting the votes aforesaid. Even the joint rules of the two bodies have always failed entirely to remove the danger of factious disagreements.

And yet it can hardly be considered very strange that Congress has found so much difficulty in framing a law better than the one contained in the Federal Constitution. Mr. EATON, of Connecticut, refused to vote for the bill of 1877, declaring that he preferred to be governed by the Constitution; and the event proved that he was probably right so far as the case before him at that time was concerned; for it is pretty certain, we think, that in the absence of the new law of 1877 Mr. TILDEN would have become President. This is guess-work, however, and we applaud now as we did then the action of Congress.

Under the Constitution, and in the absence of a law on the subject, there is much latitude allowed in counting and certifying the votes of the several States. The two houses of Congress can overlook many informalities which under a stringent law might cause the vote of a State to be thrown out and thus lost to the candidate for whom it was cast. This was, we think, Mr. EATON's principal objection to the electoral-count bill of 1877. He preferred the Constitution to a law. If the law merely carried out the constitutional provisions, it was unnecessary. If it went further than the Constitution, it was unconstitutional. We do not know that these objections of Mr. EATON's will not prevent the passage of a new law during the present Congress, notwithstanding the prospect for the passage of such a law seems now to be so bright.

Look at the bill as it passed the House of Representatives. What a multiplicity of words it employs to define the duties of the two houses of Congress in case there are two papers purporting to be returns from a State. Note, too, what is to be done if there are two sets of persons claiming to be the lawful State authorities. The two houses separate and both must agree as to which are the properly-constituted State authorities, or else the vote cannot be counted at all. What a temptation that provision would hold out to factious persons in the two houses when one house was controlled by one party and the other by another party.

However, as we have said, the bill in question may not become a law. It does seem exceedingly desirable that there should be a good law regulating all the proceedings in this important matter of electing a President; but better no law than one of doubtful operation. The end must be seen from the beginning, or else there will be a peril in passing any new law.

The Coupon Question.

The Wytheville *Enterprise* takes us to task because we have not reproduced as well what the papers say which differ with us on the coupon question as what those say which agree with us on that question. The *Enterprise* says:

"The *Dispatch* has a wide and deserved circulation, and it is the source to which many persons in this State look for correct information upon all subjects. We respectfully submit, then, that it is not coming up to its usual high standard when it prejudices this important matter by quoting extracts solely from those papers that agree with its own views on the coupon question."

We have followed the example set us by the other side. Nay, we have been much more liberal. We do not recollect that we have seen in the *Enterprise* a single extract from any paper on our side of the question. And we think we can say truthfully that nine out of ten of all the Democratic papers in the State are opposed to the policy of abandoning the RIDDLEBERGER bill. And as to the Democratic members of the Legislature, we are inclined to the belief that there are not five of them who favor that policy.

We have published gratis communications from Mr. ROYALL and Mr. COOPER, the chosen agents of the bondholders, setting forth, in the strongest language they could command, the views which the *Enterprise* thinks ought to be made known through our columns. Has one—even the *Enterprise*—of the few Democratic papers on the other side done as much for their opponents?

The United States?

We knew it was coming. We mean the Radical howl over Mr. HERSHUR's bill to make ex-Confederate soldiers and sailors eligible to appointment in the United States army and navy. The Philadelphia *Inquirer* is one of the first to give tongue, and does so in the following style:

"Will it not be time enough to accept this gratuitous assistance when war actually comes? And when it does come the United States will probably be found able to do its own fighting, without any assistance from men who have once been found faithless, and who have now become superannuated."

We hope our Philadelphia contemporary feels relieved. "Such sentiments are better out of thee than in thee," as the Friend said to an acquaintance who was using picturesque expressions. But isn't the *Inquirer's* language calculated to confuse and mystify the youthful student of geography and history? "The United States will probably be found able to do its own fighting" forsooth. Does not that suggest the questions where and what are the United States and what was all that row about which took place on the North American continent some twenty years ago? We had thought that the result of the late unpleasantness settled it that the States south of MASON & DIXON's line and the people thereof were part and parcel of the United States. Indeed it was given out upon pretty good authority that the northern people went to war to bring about that consummation. Certainly such was the view the southern people took of the matter. They did not know, as the *Inquirer's* words would seem to indicate, that the entire territory of the United States was situated north of the historic line. Nor can they understand why, if that is the case, the South should be allowed representation in the United States Congress and have a voice in choosing the President. Granting that all the *Inquirer* implies is true, a state of things exists over here that is unparalleled in the annals of Government; and the South could not attain more altitudinous impudence were it to elect and send members to the British Parliament. We do not imagine that our super-loyal contemporary's remarks will cause a violent disruption of the relations existing between the United States and the South. The illusion which led to these relations has continued so long that the process of disillusionizing the present generation at least would be decidedly difficult. In fact, we are inclined to think that rather than have any fuss about it future generations will allow things to remain as they are now. Nevertheless we insist that the *Inquirer* has raised an important point—a point which, in the interest of truth, should not be disregarded. It should be carefully considered to the end that history and geography, as far as they bear upon the United States, may be rewritten. We should not bequeath the great error into which we have fallen as a legacy to our children.

A Specimen Objection.

The New York *Times* applauds the House of Representatives for passing the electoral-count bill, and speaks of the bill as if it were one which, becoming a law, would conduce to the peace if not the prosperity of the Union. And yet amid its rejoicings the *Times* can perceive serious defects in the bill. The second section reads as follows:

"If any State shall have provided by laws enacted prior to the day fixed for the appointment of electors for the final determination of any controversy concerning the appointment of all or any of the electors of such State by judicial or other methods or procedure, and such determination shall have been made at least six days before the time fixed for the meeting of the electors, such determination shall be conclusive and shall govern in the counting of the electoral votes so far as the ascertainment of the electors appointed by such State is concerned."

Now, given a Legislature such as that of Ohio was last winter, and such a leader as Lieutenant-Governor KENNEDY to control it, and what sort of a law will be passed under that section? KENNEDY ruled that three or four Cincinnati senators were lawfully unseated by a minority of the Ohio Senate. Would he and his gang hesitate to pass any law that might be necessary to cause the vote of Ohio to be counted for the Republican candidate for President? You see, as the *Times* says, there are various possible sources of trouble such as double returns, due to the existence of two claimants to the office of Executive of a State; double returns due to the existence of more than one court claiming to have jurisdiction of questions arising under the choice of electors, and, besides these, errors, defects, and omissions in returns as to a portion of the electors or doubts as to the proceedings of an electoral college of which the title is not disputed.

We do not agree with our New York contemporary that these troubles will be prevented by the second section, as above quoted. We quote the *Times* again:

"If the State settles controversies for itself, that ends it. No power can overthrow or modify or nullify or delay the effect of such decision. If there be no such decision, then that return, and that only, is counted which both houses, acting separately, agree is presented by the Executive of the State. If there be two decisions, each purporting to be that provided for in the second section of the act, then again agreeing, separate action by both houses is required to count any vote."

But if the State settles controversies as these would have been settled in the southern States in reconstruction days—with a General DE TROBRIAND dispersing a Legislature at the point of the bayonet, how would the people of the whole United States like it? Would they quietly submit to seeing a President elected by known fraud in Nevada, or Oregon, or Florida, or Ohio?—because no power could go behind State action?

Agriculture—The Constitution.

Mr. HATCH, of Missouri, knows how to push a bill through the House of Representatives. Last spring he forced the oleomargarine bill through that body in spite of the opposition of a number of the ablest members. He is now the patron of a bill to enlarge the powers and duties of the Department of Agriculture. On Thursday there was an able and interesting debate upon that bill. In the course of his speech on the constitutional question, Mr. HATCH said:

"It is unconstitutional to place a representative of that great interest in the Cabinet of the President, but it is constitutional to have a Secretary of the Navy, with a few boats, not one of which ever dares to get four miles from shore, and which never meets one of these coal-scows, and happens to come into collision with it, without going to the bottom of the sea. [Great laughter.] Yet it is perfectly constitutional to have a Secretary of the Navy with a little navy which you can hide between here and the mouth of the Potomac river. [Laughter and applause.] It is perfectly constitutional to make a Secretary of the Navy, with all the finery and tomfoolery round that Department, and place him at the Cabinet table; but thirty millions of people engaged in agriculture are not to be entitled to the same consideration! It is perfectly constitutional and legitimate to erect a Department of the Interior, and let the land question and a few Indians be represented in the Cabinet of the United States, but the great labor interests of the country, agriculture and labor, must be driven out into the cold and insulted on the floor of this House year after year by the charge it is nothing but a seed bureau for the distribution of pumpkin-seed, and for that purpose a Commissioner of Agriculture is enough. [Laughter.]

IS THERE NO MIDDLE GROUND?—Says the Richmond (Va.) *Dispatch*:

"Mr. Watterson has never a kind word for civil-service reform. He says: 'Nobody believed in it except Curtis and the pastry-cooks. Nobody wanted it except Eaton and the cranks.' We suspect that the truth is that among the best men in the Democratic party are those who advocated, and still advocate that measure, whilst the best workers in the Democratic party were and are opposed to it. On the one side are the men who neither need nor desire office. On the other side are the men who at least imagine that they need office, who fight for it, and who work for it. The party needs both classes."

Is not our esteemed contemporary able to see that there may be those who are neither interested nor party workers, but who are yet opposed to the revolution of our official system under a pretext of a reform of its abuses? That is precisely where we stand. We are in no wise concerned about the distribution of patronage. We admit that great evils have sprung up in our civil service during twenty-five years of Republican ascendancy. But, having got their ring in the nose of the Administration, the civil-service shrickers are asserting the principle of a complete obliteration of party obligation and responsibility, and the erection of a perpetual official fabric, based on what they call "business principles." No thoughtful man expects the public business to be transacted upon principles which are not business-like. But we contend that, in addition to personal accountability, which is always assumed, there shall also be party responsibility, and that the political life and character shall not be expelled from our official system by the creation of a bureaucracy on the ruins of what the Mugwumps call "the spoils system." We want reform, certainly, but not revolution; and as the Republicans have been in so long as to forget their obligations to the people, and, as the people decided at the last election in favor of a change of parties, we think a needful incident to reform is to keep on turning the rascals out. But we have not been in a hurry on the subject, nor impatient with the President, whom we have at all times defended against the unreasoning clamor of disappointed office-seekers.—*Courier-Journal.*

We allow Mr. WATTERSON to give his views in his own words. He seems not to fear a civil-pension list as a consequence of civil-service reform, but we hold that to be the greatest objection to it.

BRIEF COMMENT.

A contemporary announces that "Boston is shrouded in impenetrable gloom." Is JOHN L. SULLIVAN dead?

"Financial writers tell us that money is getting closer." As a rule, other writers find that it is getting further off.

"The king of Spanish bull-fighters will visit this country." Wonder if he has been engaged by the Wall-street bears.

"MURAT HALSTED is again spending some time in New York, and is saying and doing all he can for Mr. BLAINE." Alas! poor BLAINE!

If Richmond gas does not soon take a fresh grip upon illumination most of our citizens will be inclined to swap their gas-fixtures for kerosene-oil lamps.

"The spoilsmen might as well move across the Potomac and settle in the defunct Virginia town of Jackson City." Virginia begs to be excused. She had enough of spoilsmen during carpet-bag rule.

"A smoking, fiery, horrible abyss has been found gaping in a Texas prairie, and the people are utterly at a loss to know what it is." It is to be hoped, however, that it swallowed up the Texas meteor man.

A Frenchman has invented a thermometer that is so sensitive it notes the entrance of a person into the room in which it is placed. What would become of that thermometer should EDMUNDS come upon it suddenly?

"BILL CHANDLER is assaulting the newspapers with long articles intended to prove that all the great Republican leaders are in love with one another, and that the talk about a quarrel between BLAINE and EDMUNDS is nothing but moonshine." BILL is at his old game of writing for the marines.

General Lee's Memoirs.

Memoirs of Robert E. Lee. His Military and Personal History, embracing a Large Amount of Information Hitherto Unpublished. By A. L. LONG, formerly Military Secretary to General LEE; afterwards Brigadier-General and Chief of Artillery, Second Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, together with Incidents relating to his Private Life subsequent to the War. Collected and Edited with the Assistance of MARCUS J. WRIGHT, formerly Brigadier-General Army of Tennessee, and Agent of the United States for the Collection of Confederate Records. Illustrated. New York, Philadelphia, and Washington: J. M. STODDART & Co. 1886. 700 pages.

This valuable book, which is not for sale by book-sellers, but only by Messrs. B. F. JOHNSON & Co., the agents of the publishers, has not only its intrinsic merits to recommend it, but the additional fact that a percentage of the profits on all the copies sold in the whole Union will go to the Soldiers' Home in this city. The book needs nothing to recommend it. It is worth all, and more than all, that is charged for it. Nevertheless, some persons will be induced to buy it because they will thus be contributing something to the soldiers.

The book is full, complete, reliable. It is embellished with four plates of General LEE, an official map of the seat of war, and seven maps which are *fac similies* of General LEE's field maps.

In a word, you cannot go amiss in buying this book, whether your object be to help the living soldiers or to keep in remembrance the greatest man of the civil war.

Another Man's Views as to the Causes of Defeat.

AFTON, VA., December 6, 1886.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Your course on the debt question should secure you support.

I see that Congressman Barbour attributes the recent Democratic defeat in Virginia to the failure of the Administration to dispense its patronage to hungry Democratic office-seekers. It will be unfortunate if the party leaders take up such a superficial view of the causes of the defeat. The great mass of voters think and care little about this; and many give Mr. Cleveland credit for making an honest effort at civil-service reform.

The real causes of the apathy of voters should be studied out, and we sadly need the statesmanship that will do this and seek to remove them. It has often been said that Democrats never learn anything, and there is much truth in it.

I am no politician, but will give my opinion as to some of the causes which produced the great falling off in the recent vote.

The course of the last Legislature on the temperance question has alienated many. The law passed was so very objectionable it served only to anger the many friends of prohibition.

In one congressional district the nominee was identified with the whiskey interest, while his Republican opponent has long been a strong temperance man. Many in this district could not vote for the nominee, and kept away from the polls; others cast their votes for the Republican candidate.

Much of the indifference manifested is no doubt due to the fact that Congress, and especially our Legislature, fails to give relief where it has been so long and loudly called for. The hard times felt throughout the country might be largely prevented by faithful legislation. The people are tired of seeing the rich become richer and the poor poorer.

Strikes, labor unions, &c., are an expression of this discontent. Legislation has been so entirely in the interest of capital and monopoly that the camel's back threatens to break. In every legislature a few try to regulate railroad rates and prevent discrimination within the State limits, but the result is nothing. The people are still plundered and the monopolists fatten. I for one feel like resolving to vote for no candidate who will not pledge himself to give the people relief on such questions. If our leaders do not pay more attention to the needs and wishes of the mass of our voters there will, in my opinion, be a worse defeat next election. Of what benefit is a triumph of our party at the polls when no practical advantage results from it, except to the successful candidate? A Republican Legislature which will do something for the real interest of the people is far preferable.

Half a Million for Harvard.

A Boston telegram says: The will of E. Price Greenleaf, the rich and eccentric individual who died last Saturday, was submitted to probate to-day. Nearly $500,000 is bequeathed to Harvard College, most of it for the assistance of needy and deserving undergraduates. An annual income of $3,000 is divided into ten scholarships, to be awarded not necessarily by rank, but rather by perseverance and high character. Of the remaining income one half goes to the support of the library, and the other half to the assistance of students, the disposition of this last-named sum to be left to the discretion of the president and fellows with no other restriction than that only really needy young men shall be aided. It was Mr. Greenleaf's original intention to insure the formation of a special branch of the library to bear his name, but he subsequently removed this provision. The fund bequeathed is to stand on the books of the college in such a way as to perpetuate the memory of the giver. In case Harvard declines the trust the Home for Aged Men and the Children's Hospital will receive the Greenleaf estate.

The tax on tobacco is most expensive to collect, and the most odious in the manner of its collection of all Federal taxation, and we hope, with our contemporary, that the Virginia Democrats in Congress will use their best endeavors to remove this burden from the people, which is in no way necessary. The Republican members we trust, too, will give their assistance in so manifestly just a cause. The tax is paid by the people of the whole country, it is true, but the producer is chiefly the loser by this method of taxation, and the Virginia farmers have certainly the right to ask their representatives in Congress to work in their interests, especially when the great mass of the people will be benefited by the proposed legislation.—*Portsmouth Times.*

Of 60,000,000 American population, it is said, one third use Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup.

NORTH STATE.

NO DECISION IN THE SPECIAL-TAX BOND CASES.

The Survey of the Boundary Line—Cotton and Cotton-Gins Burned—Accidents.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

RALEIGH, N. C., December 10.—Judge Bond left for Baltimore this morning. Judges Seymour and Bond will file their opinions later in the special-tax bond cases.

The Wake county sheriff and treasurer gave bonds to-day after five days' investigation, and were sworn in. Dr. Mott, of Statesville, and Q. Young, of Henderson, are on the bonds for large sums.

Governor Scales to-day received an official report from W. D. Pruden of the progress of work on the survey of the boundary line between North Carolina and Virginia. Up to the 4th instant six miles of the survey had been completed west of the Dismal Swamp canal, and the surveyors will continue westward almost three miles further; then return and run a line east to the ocean. Mr. Pruden thinks the worst part of the work is over. The labor has been severe, every foot of the way having literally to be cut by axe-men.

There has been a great sensation all day about news concerning Congressman Reid. A prominent Democrat informed me that Reid's whereabouts are not known. The actual state of affairs is difficult to be ascertained, but it must be dreadful. It is said that Reid's liabilities are something like $40,000, and involve many people. The wildest rumors are afloat about the matter.

It was learned to-day that the Western North Carolina railway was expected to be freed from the snow blockade to-night. The convicts are all right at Jarrett's, and will remain there. Heavy freshets in streams are expected from the melting snow.

George N. Folk, of Lenior, has arrived here for special medical treatment.

The cotton-gin and cotton of W. R. Whichard, of Pastolus, have been burned; loss, $2,000.

A FATAL CAVE-IN.

While T. N. Keel, a white man of Pitt county, was digging marl from a pit on his plantation the sides of the pit caved in on him and two negro men. Both negroes were badly hurt, and Keel was suffocated.

The cotton-gin of J. T. John, of Richmond county, with a quantity of cotton, was burned recently—loss, $2,500; no insurance.

The trial of Hayes, Wagner, Hayden, and Lindsay, four negroes who murdered Policeman Cutting at Lexington on election-day, is in progress.

Branch & Pope, of Enfield, have assigned. Their liabilities are not known. Efforts are being made to continue the firm in business. E. A. Cuthrell, of Weldon, has also assigned.

In Iredell county the accidental discharge of a rifle in the hands of William Campbell sent a bullet through the side of a house and killed his younger brother, Lemuel. The boy fell in his mother's arms and died in a few minutes.

A fire at Hasty burned the store and dwelling of S. A. McQueen and the store owned by J. H. Hasty, with the stock owned by Dr. J. W. Fry. The loss is thought to be $5,000.

THE ASHEVILLE CONTEMPT CASE.

An Asheville inferior-court judge, named Shuford, raised a great sensation last summer by having the three editors of the Asheville *Citizen* arrested on a charge of contempt of court, his anger being excited by the publication of a humorous paragraph about his court. The case has, after all the stir, slumbered quietly. A day or two ago Judge Shuford, by consent, discharged the rule for contempt, and referred the matter to a referee, that costs, which fall upon the editors, may be awarded.

A STATE TO LIVE IN.

Quite frequently there are paragraphs in papers in this State noticing the fact that people aged 100 or upward have just died, or do one something to bring them before the public. Incredulous persons laugh at these statements, and say that people do not live to the age of 100. Your correspondent will venture the assertion that there are now living in this State 100 persons over a century old. There is one in this city who is certainly 105. Hannah Potter, a colored woman, of Craven county, is certified to be 109, and a similar certificate and the records show that Stephen Clark (colored), of the same county, is 102. There is no State where people are healthier and live longer than this same North Carolina.

MORTALITY AMONG NEGRO CHILDREN.

From time to time comments have been made upon the excessive rate of mortality among negro children, due largely to the absolute lack of any sanitary precautions. The wonder is not that so many die, but that so few perish. The matter is again called to public attention by a report on the mortality at Wilmington, the chief city of the State. The deaths during the twelve months ending October 31st were 492, of which only 149 were of white persons. Of the whites 101 were adults and 48 children, while of the colored 167 were adults and 176 children. During the last four months of the twelve there were only 14 deaths of white children against no less than 94 of negro children. The negroes are remarkably prolific, and must needs be to make any gain in numbers, for it appears, from a series of observations made here in the course of several years, that three negro children die to one white. It is remarkable that more is not written on this subject.

DEALING IN FUTURES.

Some of the best men in the State have been "nicked" while dealing in futures, and it is said that many persons who decry the business have only taken that course after severe experience. Hundreds of thousands of dollars—nay, millions—in the aggregate have been lost by North Carolinians in this financial quicksand, and it is pleasant to know that this particular form of money-venturing has fallen somewhat into disfavor. So your correspondent was assured to-day. There is some trading in pork and wheat. Not a few persons regard the action of the State Board of Agriculture in taking ground against "futures" as well timed. Others say it is absurd, and that no state or its courts can make any laws, or enforce them, that will stop the business. But a bill will be brought before the Legislature looking to the carrying out of the Board's resolution.

THE STATE DEBT—AGAIN.

Will It Be Repudiation?—What the Papers Say.

[Halifax Record.]

Over a year ago the *Record* expressed the opinion that the failure of the bondholders to accept the Riddleberger bill, and a continued attempt on their part to force upon the people further obnoxious discussion of the State debt would result in repudiation.

We are more and more firmly convinced that this opinion is correct. The people of Halifax are just as honest and honorable and high-toned as any in the State, but they are weary beyond further endurance with this vexatious matter. Every day we hear our best citizens say they will vote for repudiation men and measures, but we have not heard one remark favorable to any other compromise or concession to the bondholders and coupon harpies than has already been made.

The several debt-paying papers of the State argue, along with other curious propositions, that if the Democratic party does not soon agree upon another compromise with the bondholders, that General Mahone will next year come out upon such a platform and sweep the State. This is a mistake. General Mahone only waits to see if the Democratic party will be foolish enough to retract its solemn pledge to stand by the Riddleberger settlement, and if it does, Mahone will then, in all probability, come out squarely for repudiation. If he does, can there be any doubt whatever as to the result? Does not everybody know the State would be given to Mahone?

The bondholders have all to lose and nothing to gain in the position in which they have placed themselves. The Democratic party has stood by them for years—stood between them and repudiation—only to find that the more the State conceded to the bondholders the more exorbitant and unreasonable became their demands. Patience now has ceased to be a virtue. Virginia owes obligations and has responsibilities resting upon her greater than any involved in this debt matter. It is her duty to preserve her government pure and elevated and free from the hands of corrupt parties; it is her duty to preserve her government upon a solid basis, and not forever writhe under this burden of foreign money-changers; it is her duty to demand and maintain her sovereignty as a State; it is her duty to relieve her growing generation and those that are to come from this harassing and demoralizing question. It is *not* her duty to surrender all or any of these things to the uncharitable and unreasonable demands of those who abuse, denounce, and defame her before the world.

The people will either settle upon the terms of the Riddleberger bill, or they will take the matter in their own hands and repudiate.

P. S.—After the above was put in type, the Washington *Star* comes to us with the following:

"It is learned here to-night [6th], from good authority, that the English holders of Virginia consol bonds, which have been partially repudiated by laws enacted by the Legislature, have determined to boycott, as far as possible, Virginia tobaccos in the English markets, and that a plan to carry out this purpose is now arranging. A partial success of such a retaliatory move will immediately injure one of Virginia's industries, and this novel feature in the way of boycotting has its terrors for manufacturers, strippers, dealers, cigarette-makers and packers. Up to this time the move has been kept secret."

Now, what do Virginia farmers think of that? Who that loves his mother State can think of paying taxes in coupons? What is to be thought of the great-souled, benevolent, and magnanimous bondholders who contemplate this dirty deed? Do they deserve further consideration? Must the people of Virginia forever cringe at their feet in the attitude of slaves pleading for mercy at the sharp end of the lash of persecution?

Out upon them, say we, now and for all time to come!

The Riddleberger Bill.

[Portsmouth Enterprise.]

In 1881-'82 General Mahone controlled the Legislature, and the Legislature passed the Riddleberger bill. The same Legislature sought to rearrange the congressional district, to turn out all the circuit-court judges, and elect Mahoneites in their places; to turn out all school trustees and notaries public in the State and fill their places with the same kind of men; to pass the commissioner-of-sales bill and various other measures which would have placed the State almost to a certainty under General Mahone's control, and only the revolt of Senators Newberry, Lybrook, Hale, and Williams prevented the passage of those objectionable measures, and Mahone was enabled to control the Legislature because the Democratic party favored the McCulloch bill, but at the Convention at Lynchburg in 1883 the Democratic party pledged itself to accept the Riddleberger bill as a final settlement of the debt question and to carry it out in good faith, and, upon the strength of that pledge the people restored the Democratic party to power and elected nearly a two-thirds majority in each branch of the Legislature. That body redeemed the pledge of the party, and passed laws which, if the Supreme Court of the United States had not usurped unconstitutional jurisdiction and set aside, would have settled the matter forever and the Riddleberger settlement would have been an accomplished fact, and the people, seeing that the Democratic party had redeemed its pledge again in 1885, placed it in power with a still greater majority in the Legislature.

But some of our Democratic exchanges, governed by a fatal influence of some kind, are urging that the Riddleberger settlement be set aside; that the pledges which the party made to the people, and upon which they were again placed in control of the State government, be broken and a new settlement be made which will meet with the approval of the bondholders.

It has been demonstrated to a mathematical certainty that no party which advocates the payment in full of the principal of the debt can carry this State, and the only effect of reopening the question will be the defeat of the Democratic party. This seems to us so plain a proposition that we do not see how any man who will take the trouble to learn from the past can fail to see it. Are our cotemporaries ready for this?

"Forcing the Fighting."

[Pocahontas Head-Light.]

It seems that the people of Virginia will never get rid of the State debt, or the agitation which its discussion causes. The bondholders are "forcing the fighting" just now, and have some well-equipped auxiliaries in the State, and even in the Democratic party. It appears that they *will not* accept the Riddleberger settlement, and they are skilfully preparing a plan to *embarrass* the State into a settlement on their own terms. We know something of the sentiment of the people, and we believe that every step taken by the State's creditors in this direction will but add to their discomfort by and by. The people believe they have made a fair offer, and if it is not accepted they will find a way to make the bondholders regret driving a sovereign State and a long-suffering people to the wall. They will ask for a good deal less than the "pound of flesh" some day, and not get even the sum "nominated in the bond."

Our Capital City.

[Fincastle Herald.]

The city of Richmond has tendered to her Treasurer this year coupons amounting in the aggregate to less than $18,000. Last year her people offered $31,000. Under all the circumstances this is a good showing for Richmond. It is but reasonable that in a population as large as that of Richmond there would be found some persons unpatriotic and selfish enough to array themselves against the best interests of the State; but the record above shows that the great mass of her people are on the right side of this question.

CHASING THE WHALE.

Captured and Landed on the Beach at Lewes, Delaware.

[Philadelphia Times.]

The whale which was seen in the Delaware river at several different points last week is dead. On Tuesday morning, when the lamp-tender on the Delaware Breakwater went up in the light-tower to put out the lamps, he saw what appeared to him to be the bottom of an upturned vessel slowly drifting toward the stone-pile. He awakened the operator in the United States signal Department, and, by the aid of powerful glasses, discovered the object to be the upturned body of some ocean leviathan. It was distinct on the surface in the point of a large belt of driftwood and apparently lifeless.

The crews of several vessels in the harbor discovered the body about this time, and by the activity displayed aboard of some of them it was evident that an expedition was about to be organized for its capture. The operator immediately cabled ashore to Lewes, Del., that the carcass of a dead whale was floating just outside of the Breakwater. Jack Lynch, who enjoys the reputation of a veteran whale-hunter, was immediately notified. He quickly collected a number of custom-house boatmen, and taking F. C. Magill's large surf-boat and a quantity of implements, such as rope, axes, and harpoons, launched the boat into the surf, which was running very high at the time. After capsizing twice, the boat with its venturesome crew finally got out over the line of the surf and was soon pulling in the direction of the whale's location.

About this time a boat manned by four sailors was seen to put out from the schooner Lurena, of Somers's Point. As soon as Captain Jack discovered the interloper he urged his crew to redoubled efforts, and from their experience in making their way through the ice it was evident that they were gaining on the schooner's boat. It now became a regular stern chase, and as the occupants of each boat were aware of the sum of money to be realized from the whale's carcass they pulled with all their strength. After fighting their way through the ice for about two hours the surf-boat drew up abreast of the Lurena's yawl. By this time the crews of very nearly all the vessels in the harbor were up in the rigging shouting words of encouragement to the contesting parties.

At this juncture the oar used by Peter Martin became entangled in a cake of ice and snapped off close to the handle. The Lurena's boat then gradually drew ahead, and for the time it looked as though they were going to win the prize. With a ready mind and a strong arm Captain Jack threw his steering paddle over the gunwale of the boat and into Martin's hands. After this exciting episode the schooner's crew gradually began to lose heart and finally dropped out of the race altogether, leaving the surf-boat in undisputed possession of the prize.

The victors drove a harpoon firmly into the body and attached a rope to it. Then began the struggle. The ebb-tide had begun to flow, and for some time it looked as though the boat, whale, and ice would all be carried out to sea together. With indomitable pluck Captain Jack still retained his hold on the carcass until the tug George W. Pride, Jr., seeing the plight of the boat's crew, came to their assistance and towed the whale and boat into the Breakwater, where, after several hours' hard labor, the carcass was finally landed on the beach above the iron pier.

The blubber and whalebone taken from the carcass, it is estimated, will be worth $800. When viewed on the beach it was evident that the whale's death was due to the fact that he had been crushed between two large fields of ice. The skin was torn off in large patches, and the tail was badly mutilated.

The imperceptible motion of the so-called fixed stars is not only detected by the spectroscope, but measured. Sirius is found to be now approaching the earth at the rate of twenty miles a second, while a few years ago this notable star was receding from us twenty-five miles each second.

Personal.

W. M. Rossetti supplies a preface for the new collected edition of the works of Dante Gabriel Rossetti.

Sir Arthur Sullivan and W. S. Gilbert have nearly finished their new opera, which is on an oriental subject.

Cyrus W. Field, according to a Boston paper, gave a Garfield memorial-window to Williams College, on which Field's name appears in larger letters than Garfield's.

Yankee enterprise has received another rebuke in the arrest of A. O. Norton, a leading merchant of New Haven, on the charge of allowing his customers to guess the number of seeds in a squash. Fifty dollars and costs were exacted of the enterprising merchant by the callous and unappreciative court, which held him to be guilty of disposing of wares by chance.

Mr. Stambuloff, the Bulgarian hero and patriot, is a small but strongly-built man, with brown complexion, bright eyes, and an energetic bearing. He is only thirty-seven years old, and when he was elected a deputy in 1879 the Russian conspirators tried to keep him out of his seat because of his youth. They failed, and he has ever since been their bitterest foe, the traitor Zankoff being his especial detestation.

DEATHS.

BEATTIE.—Died, at her late residence, Ninth and Hull streets, Manchester, Va., at ten minutes to 9 o'clock Thursday evening, Mrs. MARY L. BEATTIE, widow of the late Robert Beattie, in the sixty-ninth year of her age.

Funeral at the Presbyterian church SUNDAY the 12th at 11 A. M.

PAGE.—Died, on the evening of the 9th, HENRY PAGE, aged one hundred and one years.

His funeral will take place from the colored Second Baptist church at 3 o'clock To-DAY. The friends of this estimable man are requested to attend his funeral.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, (corner of Grace and Madison streets).—Rev. R. P. KERR, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. and 8 P. M. A cordial welcome to all. Sunday school and Bible classes at 9½ A. M.

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Rev. Dr. RICHARDSON at 11 A. M.; Dr. HOGE at 4 P. M., and at Old-Market Hall at 8 P. M.

THIRD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Sunday school at 9:30 A. M. Rev. R. R. HOWISON, pastor, at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Seats all free.

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (Grace above Shafer).—Preaching by the Rev. MOSES D. HOGE at 11 A. M., who will administer the communion of the Lord's Supper. No service at night.

THE PRESBYTERIAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION will hold its regular meeting in the church at 3:30 P. M., postponed from last Sunday on account of the weather. A cordial welcome is extended to all.

GRACE-STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—Drs. READ and DREW, Pastors.—Services at 11 o'clock A. M. and 8 o'clock P. M. Preaching by Dr. DREW.

MIZPAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Preaching by Rev. W. F. C. GREGORY at 11:30 A. M. Time so changed for every Sabbath.

THE PRESBYTERIAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION will hold its regular meeting (postponed from last Sunday) SUNDAY AFTERNOON at 3:30 o'clock in the Fourth Presbyterian church, on west Grace street. Addresses, reports, and service of song. All welcome.

J. D. K. SLEIGHT, President.
E. H. Gillison, Secretary.

ST. JOHN'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH (Twenty-fifth and Broad streets)—Rev. LEWIS WILLIAM BURTON, Rector.—Services on SUNDAY: Sunday school at 9:15 A. M. Morning service and sermon at 11 o'clock. Evening service and sermon at 8 o'clock.

MONUMENTAL CHURCH—Rev. JOHN B. NEWTON, Rector.—Divine service at 11 A. M., and at Chapel at 8 P. M. Sunday school at 3:30 A. M., and at Chapel at 4 P. M.

TRINITY METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (corner of Broad and Twentieth streets). Rev. J. C. REID, Pastor.—Preaching at 11 A. M. by J. POWELL GARLAND, presiding elder; at 7:30 preaching by the pastor. Communion after preaching in the morning.

PARK-PLACE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (west Franklin street).—Preaching by the pastor, Rev. W. E. EVANS at 11 A. M. and at 8 P. M. Holy Communion after morning sermon. Subject at night, "The Babylonish Garment and the Wedge of Gold." Bring "Gospel Hymns" to the night service.

UNION-STATION CHURCH (corner Twenty-fourth and N streets).—Preaching at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. by the pastor, Rev. JAMES C. MARTIN. Communion service in the morning.

BROAD-STREET METHODIST CHURCH (corner Broad and Tenth streets).—Rev. S. S. LAMBETH, pastor, will preach at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Welcome to all.

CLAY-STREET METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (corner Clay and Adams streets)—Rev. J. H. RIDDICK, Pastor.—Service at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Seats free. Sunday school at 9 A. M.

CENTENARY METHODIST CHURCH (Grace street between Fourth and Fifth streets)—Rev. W. E. EDWARDS, D. D., and Rev. GEORGE W. WRAY, Pastors.—Preaching at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. by Rev. GEORGE W. WRAY. Strangers always welcome.

LAUREL-STREET METHODIST CHURCH (corner of Laurel and Albemarle streets)—Rev. WILLIAM P. WRIGHT, pastor.—Sunday school at 9 A. M. Preaching at 11 A. M. and 7:30 P. M.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (corner of Twelfth and Broad streets)—Preaching by the pastor, Rev. GEORGE COOPER, D. D., at 11 A. M. and 7:45 P. M. Strangers and others cordially invited.

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH (corner Main and Sixth streets).—Rev. W. W. LANDRUM, D. D., will preach at 11 A. M. and 8 P. M. 21

GRACE-STREET BAPTIST CHURCH (corner Grace and Foushee streets)—Rev. WILLIAM E. HATCHER, D. D., Pastor.—Sunday school at 9 o'clock A. M. Preaching at 11 o'clock A. M. and at 7½ o'clock P. M. Seats free. Strangers invited.

SERVICES AT LEIGH