THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

WHOLE NUMBER, 11,179. RICHMOND, VA., SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 30, 1887. THREE CENTS PER COPY.

STATESMEN'S LABORS

KENDALL'S BILL FOR $30,000 PASSED BY THE SENATE.

Discussion on the Richmond Equity-Court Bill—Afternoon Sessions of the House—Game Law.

In the absence of Lieutenant-Governor Massey, who was in attendance upon the session of the joint debt commission, Hon. John L. Hurt, President *pro tem.*, called the Senate to order at 12 o'clock noon yesterday. Rev. Dr. A. Harris, rabbi of Beth Ahaba Synagogue, offered prayer.

There was a fuller attendance of members than on any previous morning since the reassembling of the Legislature, and a number of visitors, including not a few members of the fairer sex, were in the chamber.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The message from the Governor, which reached the Senate after its adjournment on Thursday, was laid before the body. The same communication having been transmitted to the House and published in the morning papers yesterday its reading was dispensed with. It was laid on the table.

LICENSE-TAXES.

Mr. Koiner, from the Committee on Finance, reported without amendment House bill to repeal section 30 of chapter 1 of an act entitled an act to provide for the assessment of taxes on persons, property, and income, and imposing taxes thereon for the support of the government and public free schools and to pay the interest on the public debt, and to provide for the mode of applying for licenses to transact any business in this State, and prescribing the amount to be paid as a condition precedent to the right to transact such business, approved March 15, 1884, and to repeal section 31 of said act as amended by an act approved March, 6, 1886, and to add two sections to chapter 2 of said act approved March 15, 1884.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

The following leaves of absence were granted: Mr. Jones, of Highland, for six days; Mr. Grim, of Page, for two days; Mr. Duane, of Dinwiddie, two days.

BILL RECALLED.

Mr. Edmunds introduced a joint resolution, which, under a suspension of the rules, was adopted, requesting the House to return Senate Bill 240, amending the law incorporating the Atlantic and Danville Narrow-Gauge Railroad Company, &c. His object in doing this was to have an amendment engrafted on the bill.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED.

By Mr. Diggs, of Lynchburg: To amend and reenact chapters 4 and 5 of an act approved March 3, 1880, entitled an act to amend and revise the charter of the city of Lynchburg.

By Mr. Trout, of Roanoke: To relieve Thomas Witt, of Montgomery county.

By Mr. Diggs, of Lynchburg: To amend and reenact an act approved March 1, 1886, entitled an act to incorporate the Lynchburg Young Men's Christian Association.

By Mr. Gillespie, of Dinwiddie: To incorporate the Buckhorn Iron and Improvement Company.

By same: To authorize the Council of the town of Jeffersonville to borrow money.

By same: To incorporate the Kent's Ridge Coal and Iron Company.

By Mr. Diggs, of Lynchburg: To amend and re-enact section 8 of chapter 61 of the Code of Virginia, as amended and re-enacted by an act approved March 9, 188 , in relation to turnpike companies.

By Mr. Lovenstein, of Richmond: To require railroad companies chartered by and doing business in this State to establish and keep their principal offices in this State, and to prescribe a penalty for their failure to do so.

By Mr. Keezell, of Rockingham: To provide for the relief of Samuel L. Sinser, of Rockingham county.

By Mr. Warwick, of Chesterfield: To provide for the cancellation of certain bonds of the Commonwealth now held by the Board of Public Works.

By Mr. Gordon, of Albemarle: To provide compensation to the members of the special joint committee acting under resolution of February 8, 1886, and the accountant of said committee.

By Mr. Wickham, of Hanover: To provide for the removal of obstructions from the Chickahominy river.

By Mr. Williams: To incorporate the Danville, Wytheville and Southwestern Construction Company.

By Mr. Read, of Mecklenburg: To authorize the Board of Supervisors of Mecklenburg county to order a special election upon the question of building a court-house in Clarksville district.

CHESTERFIELD AND JAMES-RIVER ROAD.

One of the first measures reached on the calendar was the bill to incorporate the Chesterfield and James-River Railroad Company, which came up on its second reading. The amendments proposed by the Committee on Roads and Internal Navigation, which were immaterial, were adopted, and the bill was advanced to its passage and sent to the House for the concurrence of that branch. This company, of which the corporators are John Dunlop, Walter Hamilton, William T. Washburn, P. W. Rhodes, and George Bell, proposes to locate, construct, equip, maintain, and operate a road, either broad or narrow-gauge, from the coalfields near Midlothian, Chesterfield county, to any point on James river below the city of Richmond and not below City Point. The capital stock is not to exceed $1,000,000 in shares of $100 each.

THE EQUITY-COURT BILL.

The bill to establish a court of equity in the city of Richmond was taken up, when Mr. Williams offered a substitute, the effect of which is to give the judge of the Circuit Court jurisdiction in all such cases as the judge of the Chancery Court may declare his inability to consider. Mr. Williams also moved that the bill and substitute be recommitted to the Committee for Courts of Justice. In support of his motion Mr. Williams said that he did not believe there was any necessity for the establishment of this additional court, for he had been reliably informed that Judge Wellford was willing to undertake the consideration of such cases as the judge of the Chancery Court might not be able to dispose of, and if this could be done then no other court was necessary.

Mr. Ellyson opposed both the substitute and the motion to recommit. The bill to establish the court of equity had been endorsed by the Bar Association of this city and approved by Judge Holladay and Judge Fitzhugh. The rapid growth of the business and population of the city, and the consequent increase in the number of causes in this court, made it impossible for one judge to dispose of the business. This bill was approved by a large majority of the lawyers practicing in the court, and the revenue paid into the State Treasury annually by the Chancery Court was sufficient to pay the expenses of both courts. Richmond contributed so largely to the support of the State government that she ought not to be denied whatever court facilities she might need.

Mr. Thurman was opposed to the bill. He saw no necessity for this court and he hoped the bill would be recommittted.

Mr. Wickham said he didn't believe that Judge Wellford had time for this extra work. He thought his time was already fully occupied.

Mr. Meredith earnestly favored granting Richmond whatever court facilities she might ask for. This bill was approved by nine tenths of the lawyers of this city, and he thought those who lived here were the best judges of what was needed.

Mr. Gordon said the committee had considered the whole question and the bill to establish the court should pass.

After further discussion the bill with the substitute was recommitted.

MILLER MANUAL-LABOR SCHOOL.

The Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Governor transmitting the annual report of the Second Auditor, and as such secretary of the Miller Manual-Labor School, in Albemarle, on the Miller fund, which, without being read, was laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

The report shows that there is now in the Treasury $39,765.72 and in the State Bank of Virginia to the school's credit $778.58.

KENDALL COMPANY'S CLAIM TO BE PAID.

The hour of 1 o'clock having arrived the bill to provide for the payment of a judgment recovered by the Kendall Bank-Note Company of New York against the Board of Commissioners of the Sinking Fund of Virginia, which had been made the special order for that time, came up. The bill without discussion was adopted by the following recorded vote:

AYES.—Messrs. Barry, Bibb, Bliss, Coleraine, Dalton, Diggs, Edmunds, Ellyson, Gordon, Heaton, Jones, Koiner, Lovenstein, McCormick, McDonald, Meredith, Pettit, Read, Stubbs, Thurman, Trout, Warwick, and Wickham.—23.

NOES.—Messrs. Blackstone, Gee, Grim, Hodges, Keezell, Rhea, and Williams.—7.

INQUIRY ABOUT BONDS.

Mr. Heaton offered the following which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance be requested to inquire into and report whether any of the bonds printed by the Kendall Bank-Note Company have been fraudulently issued, and from whom and how obtained, and also inquire into the expediency of having the bonds now under the control of the State burned or otherwise destroyed, and, if possible, to secure the destruction of the plates.

A GENERAL GAME LAW.

The bill introduced by Mr. McCormick, to prescribe a general game law for the protection of game in the State of Virginia, and to repeal all existing acts touching the same, which came up on its third reading, created some discussion.

The bill prevents the killing of pheasants or wild turkeys between February 1st and September 15th; partridges, between February 1st and November 1st; deer, between January 1st and August 15th; wild geese or ducks, between April 1st and September. This law permits counties to offer rewards for scalps of wolves, foxes, etc.

Amendments were adopted exempting the counties of Rockingham and Augusta from this law, they to remain under special game laws now in force; and the bill as amended was advanced to its passage and sent to the House.

PROPERLY REFERRED.

Mr. Wickham called attention to the fact that there were certain portions of the Governor's message read early in the day, and in this connection offered the following, which were adopted:

Resolved, That so much of the Governor's message of April 27th as refers to the depositories of public moneys be referred to the Committee of Banks and Finance, to report by bill or otherwise.

Resolved, That so much of the Governor's message of April 28th as refers to the members of the board of directors of State institutions be referred to the Committee on Public Institutions, and report by bill or otherwise.

The remainder of the session was spent on Mr. McDonald's resolution (reported elsewhere), and the Senate at 2:30 P. M. adjourned.

House of Delegates.

The House met at noon—Speaker Stuart in the chair. No prayer.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Leave of absence was granted Mr. McCandlish, of Petersburg, one day; Mr. Wise, of James City, one day; Mr. Franklin, of Appomattox, five days.

AFTERNOON SESSIONS HEREAFTER.

Mr. Loving, of Amherst, offered a resolution providing that, beginning at once and excepting Saturdays, the chair be vacated at 2 P. M. and resumed at 4 P. M. At the afternoon session the roll is to be called, and as each name is called the member shall have the right to call up any bill of a private or local nature.

Mr. Wise, of James City, wanted to amend by providing that the counties and cities be called instead of the roll. Lost.

The resolution was agreed to.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED.

By Mr. Chalmers, of Isle of Wight: To allow the treasurer of Isle of Wight county to collect by levy certain tax-bills not returned delinquent.

By Mr. Terry, of Charlotte: To amend the act approved January 29, 1886, in relation to the election and qualification of county officers.

By Mr. Franklin, of Appomattox: A joint resolution in relation to the public debt.

By Mr. Southworth, of Essex: To legalize certain acts and proceedings of the Board of Supervisors of the county of Essex.

By Mr. Cardwell, of Hanover: To require the payment of the interest accrued hereafter of the Commonwealth for $10,000 held by the trustees of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States.

By Mr. Wise, of James City: Joint resolution in relation to the collection of taxes.

HOUSE BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEES.

To repeal the present road law in Carroll county; to amend the law entitled an act to provide for building bridges, opening, working, and keeping in order the roads of Charlotte county, approved March 3, 1886; to amend the law entitled an act to provide for the improvement and working of the roads of Henrico county, and the construction of bridges; to amend the law incorporating the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute; to remove the political disabilities of John L. Lee, of Amherst, and B. C. Mosby, of Bedford; to incorporate the Greene and Orange Telephone Company.

INTRODUCED AND PLACED ON THE CALENDAR.

By Mr. Cardwell, of Hanover: To amend the law in relation to poisoning horses, &c.

By Mr. Taliaferro, of Gloucester: To incorporate the Pamunky Mining and Navigation Company.

By Mr. Ryan, of Loudoun: To incorporate the Hillsboro' Water Company.

By Mr. Crismond, of Spotsylvania: For making and keeping in repair the roads and bridges of Spotsylvania county.

SENATE BILLS REPORTED.

To authorize and empower the Board of Supervisors of Rockingham county to allow certain compensation to the supervisors of the poor of said county; to amend the charter of the town of Dumfries, in Prince William county; to amend the law incorporating the town of Clifton Forge, in the county of Alleghany; to amend the act incorporating the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute; to incorporate the Virginia Steel Company.

SENATE BILLS PASSED.

To amend the law in relation to working and keeping in repair the public roads in the county of Page.

To incorporate the Pulaski Water Company.

To amend the charter of the Edenton and Norfolk Railroad Company, and to change the name of said company to that of the Carolina and Chesapeake Railroad Company.

To incorporate the Chowan and Southern Railroad Company.

For the relief of the land-owners of Mathews county to have their lands relieved from delinquent taxes and county levies.

For the relief of T. W. Edwards, oyster inspector of Portsmouth, Va.

To amend the charter of the Stock Creek Coal and Iron Company.

Authorizing and empowering the Councils of the city of Norfolk to establish and maintain a public park.

To incorporate the Norfolk Dock-Improvement Company.

To make provision for the levying a special tax for sinking-fund purposes for the city of Roanoke.

To incorporate the Northern Virginia Land and Improvement Company.

To incorporate the Leesburg Hotel and Improvement Company.

To incorporate the New South Cigar-Works Company.

THE MILLER SCHOOL.

The Governor communicated to the House the annual report of the Second Auditor in regard to the Miller Manual-Labor School, in Albemarle county, which will be printed as a House document.

ATLANTIC AND DANVILLE RAILROAD.

A communication was received from the Senate asking the return of Senate bill amending the charter of the Atlantic and Danville railroad.

Mr. Tilier, of Greensville, the president of the road, urged the House to refuse to send the bill back. The House, by a decided vote, refused.

At 2 o'clock the chair was vacated till 4.

Afternoon Session.

The House met at 4 P. M.—Speaker Stuart in the chair.

A large number of bills were ordered to their engrossment and third reading.

BILLS INTRODUCED AND REFERRED.

By Mr. Buchanan, of Washington: To give circuit courts the exclusive jurisdiction to grant charters of incorporation in certain cases.

By Mr. Roberts, of Smyth: To repeal as much of section 8 of an act approved November 26, 1884, entitled an "act to expedite the building of the Iron Felt Railroad Company in part" as gives said company the exclusive right to build its road through Rich Valley and Poor Valley.

COMMITTEE OF INVESTIGATION.

As the committee to investigate the charges against the judge of Essex the Speaker appointed Messrs. Huffman, Miller, and Moss.

SENATE BILLS PASSED.

To incorporate the Roanoke Street-Railway Company.

Changing the name of the Buckingham Mining and Development Company to the Southern Improvement Company, with authority for a further change.

To incorporate the Round-Mountain Mining and Manufacturing Company.

To incorporate the Virginia Steel Company.

Incorporating the Sandy-River Mercantile and Manufacturing Company.

HOUSE BILL PASSED.

To amend the law incorporating the Farmers' Union of Buckingham, Prince Edward, and Cumberland counties.

At five minutes to 6 the House adjourned.

New Laws.

The following bills have been approved by the Governor:

To amend and re-enact section 13 of an act entitled an act to amend and re-enact sections 13 and 18 of an act entitled an act for the preservation of oysters and to obtain a revenue for the privilege of taking them from the waters of this Commonwealth, approved November 26, 1884; and to amend and re-enact section 17 and repeal sections 39 and 40 of an act entitled an act for the preservation of oysters and to obtain revenue for the privilege of taking them within the waters of the Commonwealth, approved March 4, 1884; and to provide for the payment of costs and expenses incurred in the execution of the oyster-laws of the Commonwealth.

To repeal an act to authorize the Board of Supervisors of Halifax to let public roads to contract, approved March 1, 1881; and to amend and re-enact section 27 of an act entitled an act to provide for the working and repairing public roads and bridges.

To incorporate the Arcola and Aldie Telephone Company.

To incorporate the Holy-Neck Lumber and Transportation Company.

To provide for the sale of delinquent land in Prince Edward county.

To authorize the qualified voters of Omega precinct, in the county of Halifax, to vote on the question of a fence-law within certain boundaries in the Red-Bank Magisterial district.

To incorporate the Virginia Mining Company.

To amend and re-enact sections 50, 71, 72, and 73 of chapter 9 of an act entitled an act providing a charter for the city of Norfolk, in force January 21, 1871.

To incorporate the Virginia Field-Sports Association.

To allow W. W. Allmond to erect a wharf on York river, in Gloucester county.

To allow B. A. Rowe and others to erect a pier on York river, in Gloucester county.

To amend and re-enact the fifth section of the act approved February 26, 1886, entitled an act to repeal an act entitled an act providing for a new board of visitors for the University of Virginia, approved April 14, 1882, and to amend and re-enact sections 2, 4, and 5 of chapter 80 of the Code of 1873.

To allow John T. Fosque and others to erect a pier on York river, in Gloucester county.

To incorporate Golden-Fleece Lodge, No. 1890, G. U. O. of O. F., of Hamilton, Loudoun county, Va.

To incorporate the Richmond and Tidewater Railroad Company.

To incorporate the Tazewell Coal and Iron Company.

To authorize the trustees of Tazewell High School to exchange any property held by them for other property more suitable for school purposes.

To incorporate the Virginia Trans-Atlantic Steamship Line, and to authorize it to purchase lands and build railways to connect therewith.

To confirm the rights and privileges of the City Manufacturing Company, and to grant certain additional powers.

To incorporate the Norfolk Land and Improvement Company.

To amend and re-enact an act approved February 12, 1886, entitled an act to incorporate the Roanoke and Southern Railway Company.

To incorporate the town of Emporia.

To amend and re-enact section 1 of an act approved January 17, 1871, entitled an act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to amend the charter of the town of Warrenton, approved April 9, 1852.

To amend an act entitled an act for working the public roads of Fairfax county.

To amend and re-enact an act approved March 3, 1886, entitled an act to amend and re-enact an act entitled an act to incorporate the town of Martinsville, in the county of Henry.

To provide for working the public roads in the county of Bedford.

Navy Tobacco Contract.

Myers Brothers & Co., tobacco manufacturers of this city, yesterday received from the Navy Department at Washington the papers officially informing them that they had been awarded the contract for furnishing tobacco to the navy. The contract is for 100,000 pounds. This firm had the same contract last year, and it does them as well as Richmond credit that from them and this market the tobacco for another year is to be purchased.

To Prevent Streets Being Tied Up.

The Committee on Streets at the next meeting of the Council will recommend that the resolution passed in 1884, giving citizens the right to tie up streets in cases of illness on certain conditions, be rescinded.

United States Court.

Judge Hughes, of the United States Circuit Court for the Eastern district of Virginia, heard a few cases of no general interest yesterday, and left on the 3:10 P. M. Chesapeake and Ohio train for Norfolk.

HERE'S THE QUESTION

HOW MANY BONDS DO THE DIPLOMATS REPRESENT?

This the Interrogatory of Yesterday—Proceedings of the Conference—Personal, &c.

The legislative committee (Speaker Stuart chairman) met in conference with Messrs Thornton and Braithwaite at the Allen house yesterday morning. Mr. Linney, of Washington, was appointed stenographer, but not having arrived in time for the session, Mr. George C. Lafferty filled the position *pro tem.*, and was engaged in note-taking for one hour and three quarters.

CLOSED DOORS.

It has been determined that all the meetings of the committee shall be secret—that is, as secret as the excluded newspaper reporters and "leaky members" will permit; but from time to time it is likely that facts of interest will be officially communicated to the two houses. Meantime the stenographers will go on note-taking and transcribing, and in the end will have enough matter written out to fill a large volume. This will undoubtedly be reported to the General Assembly at the close of the conference, and it will rest with the two houses to determine whether it shall be embalmed in print for the use of posterity or simply to "file it with the archives of the government." The average statesman had much rather see his speech printed as soon as delivered; but here it cannot be. It must wait and cool.

DISQUIET.

There is a deal of disquietude or something of the kind among the members who are not on the committee. As an instance of it at one time yesterday it looked as if the Senate were going to adopt Mr. McDonald's resolutions. The reason is that when members approach committeemen to converse about this debt matter the latter speak under great restraint. So it has come about that a mutual embarrassment has arisen, and the result of it may be that the secret sessions will be terminated. Certainly Sir. Edward and Mr. Braithwaite will not object, as they have not brought any stenographers with them, and probably never before entered a diplomatic conference where such persons were present.

SKIRMISHING.

At the session yesterday there was a vast deal of "skirmishing for position." Each side wished to know what the other would propose, but no very valuable hints were thrown out by the Britishers.

The legislators were not so reserved. They said over and over again that "any settlement must be based upon our net revenues." All were emphatic on that point; but some went further and indicated that they would in no wise alter the Riddleberger bill. Others spoke in a more encouraging and conciliatory spirit.

TIME WANTED.

The upshot of it all was that Messrs. Thornton and Braithwaite said that they must have time to look into the State's financial exhibits.

They named several books, reports, &c., &c., which they wished to get, and which the committee promised to furnish them with.

HOW MANY BONDS DO THEY REPRESENT?

That is the great question.

Several members of the committee expressed a desire to know of Messrs. Thornton and Braithwaite how many dollars and cents in Virginia bonds they were prepared to speak for and treat about.

This pointed question the British gentlemen were not ready to answer outright.

What they claim, it is understood, is that practically they represent or control all of the bonds that bear tax-receivable coupons and all the overdue coupons. Any agreement made between them and the State they will be able to bring all the holders of those securities into.

This is regarded by many of the committee as unsatisfactory.

They want precise *data*.

The reason that Messrs. Thornton and Braithwaite cannot be more precise is that all their arrangements for bringing the tax-receivable debt into their pool have not yet been perfected. On Monday, to which time the committee adjourned, it is possible that Sir Edward and his colleague may be able to speak more definitely. It is essential to the further progress of negotiations that they should. The committee will never be satisfied with anything less than positive and accurate information in dollars and cents.

THE CREDENTIALS.

The *Dispatch* has been unable to see the credentials presented to the Governor and to the committee by Sir Edward Thornton and Mr. Braithwaite, but from expressions that have fallen from committeemen there is something in them that the Virginia diplomats—or some of them, at least—regard as unfortunate.

THE CHIEF TALKERS.

At yesterday's conference the chief talkers on our part were Mr. Massey, Speaker Stuart, and General Wickham. On the part of the bondholders Mr. Braithwaite did most of the speaking. He was very cautious and prudent in the language he used. Both he and Sir Edward were very pleasant indeed in all they said to the committee.

Several of the legislators plied the visitors with questions as to the number and amount of bonds they represent, and other pertinent questions of the same sort, but were unable to get answers then and there; but the commissioners promised to make full responses on Monday, giving explicitly all the information asked.

CART-LOAD OF BOOKS.

The books asked for by Messrs. Thornton and Braithwaite, making nearly a cart-load, were sent down to their hotel yesterday afternoon.

It appears that in their investigations they do not wish to go back further than 1871.

YESTERDAY.

Mr. Royall was with Sir Edward at an early hour yesterday, and he and Mr. Cooper were closeted with the two commissioners at a late hour Thursday night.

Sir Edward and daughter during the day visited several points of interest in the city. At one time (during the session of the Legislature) they were in the Capitol Square, and they spent several moments standing in front of Jackson's statue.

CALLERS.

Several ladies and gentlemen called to see Sir Edward and daughter yesterday—among them Mrs. Mary Morris Jones, Mr. James W. Allison, Mr. T. M. Rutherford, Mr. William Marshall, Mrs. Charles E. Stuart, Mrs. Adair Pleasants, and Mrs. J. H. H. Figgat.

Governor Lee and Mrs. Phillip W. Haxall called in the afternoon and paid their respects. Mrs. Lee is out of the city.

Mr. Charles U. Williams sent the following with his compliments: "The Westmoreland Club tender Sir Edward Thornton the privilege of their club."

A handsome bouquet of roses was sent Miss Thornton by a friend.

TO DINE WITH HON. J. S. WISE.

To-day Sir Edward, Miss Thornton, Mr. Braithwaite, and Mr. Bouverie will dine with the Hon. John S. Wise and lady at their residence, on Franklin street.

A good many people said yesterday that Sir Edward favors Mr. Henry Exall, of this city.

THEY GO TO THE THEATRE.

Governor Lee, learning that Sir Edward and Miss Thornton intended visiting the Theatre last night, sent his carriage to the hotel for them. Governor Lee occupied a box with Sir Edward, Miss Thornton, Mr. Braithwaite, and Mr. Bouverie. In the opposite box were Mrs. Henry A. Wise, Jr., Mrs. Meredith Montague, and Mrs. Phil. Haxall, of Governor Lee's party. Miss Thornton was in full evening costume, and wore a handsome white silk. She is of medium size and has a very fair complexion.

The Debt in the Senate.

In the Senate yesterday Mr. McDonald (Republican), of Northumberland county, called up the preamble and joint resolutions offered by himself on Wednesday, soon after the Legislature reissembled, instructing the State debt committee to ascertain from the Corporation of Foreign Bondholders or representatives the names of persons holding the State's bonds, and the number and denomination held by each; by what authority the council or committee determine to ask for or demand the settlement of Virginia's bonds which they do not now represent; and requiring that before their representatives shall be permitted to examine into the affairs of the State they shall file with the Auditor of Public Accounts a $500,000 bond to be approved by the State officers; that in the event of a settlement of the debt the corporation shall agree to defend the State and her agents against all suits which may be brought within the *ensuing ten years* from date of bond, by or in the name of any bondholders of Virginia's debt in the courts of this State or in the courts of the United States, which may have for their object the reopening or invalidating the said settlement.

Mr. McDonald said this move on the part of the bondholders might be a plan to boom the bonds, and that after the settlement is made they may, without this or some similar safeguard, be false to their contract and sell their bonds to other parties. What security has the State that they will perform what they promise? He spoke at some length on this line.

Mr. Heaton moved to refer the resolution to the special debt committee, and, as a substitute for this, Mr. Gordon moved to lay on the table. He thought this was practically an insult to the commission, and he hoped the resolutions would either be laid on the table or be overwhelmingly voted down.

Mr. McDonald thought it a preposterous idea that men should be insulted by being required to give bond for faithful compliance with their contract when such is done every day in business life.

Mr. Hodges (Republican) thought this should be treated as a matter of business. Every safeguard possible should be thrown around the settlement and have this infernal turmoil eliminated from the politics of the State.

The vote on the proposition to lay on the table resulted—ayes, 13; noes, 13. Mr. Massey voted no, deciding it in the negative.

REFER TO COURTS.

Mr. Berry moved to refer to the Committee for Courts of Justice.

Mr. Hurt hoped this motion would be lost and that the resolution would be voted down at once. This subject should not even be discussed while negotiations for a settlement are in progress. If a settlement is reached it will then be sufficient time to talk about restrictions and limitations.

Mr. Berry thought the resolutions and what their patron had said replete with wisdom. He was thoroughly convinced that his position, taken before the recess, that the Legislature should be in session while negotiations are in progress, was the correct one. Here was, he thought, a particular in which the committee needs the assistance of the Legislature, and others may arise from time to time; and it is of the utmost importance that before the deliberations of the commission are concluded the General Assembly shall know what is going on.

Mr. Heaton again insisted that the matter should properly go to the special committee which has this subject under consideration.

Mr. McDonald thought there were other gentlemen on the floor who possessed some intelligence as well as those on the committee, and if he had thought the committee would have the wisdom and forethought to guard the matter properly he would never have offered the resolutions.

Mr. Berry, in reply to what had been said by Mr. Heaton, remarked that he thought the debt committee had enough to engage their attention, and all collateral matters should be considered by the two houses or their committees.

EMBARRASSING SITUATION.

Mr. Wickham thought if Mr. Berry's motion prevailed it would place the debt committee in a very delicate and embarrassing position. It would be difficult for them to act on the matter in charge when another committee was considering instructions to them. He questioned the wisdom of such a measure being adopted under the circumstances now existing.

Mr. Gordon could not imagine any circumstances under which the resolutions would be proper. He thought even their reference to a committee would have a detrimental effect.

Mr. Koiner said in his opinion no proposition should be entertained that would cause a grave doubt as to whether the State intends to go on with the negotiations. The whole country was hoping for a settlement, and he sincerely desired that no such step as this should be taken to in any way impair the realization of these expectations.

INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.

Mr. Hodges briefly supported Mr. Berry's motion to refer to the Committee for Courts.

Mr. Lovenstein moved to indefinitely postpone, and this motion, after a short discussion, prevailed.

Change in Schedule—Sunday Excursions.

A change will be made in the Atlantic-Coast-Line schedule over the Richmond and Petersburg railroad on Sunday next, May 1st. The through passenger trains heretofore leaving Richmond at 9:35 P. M. and arriving at 10:45 A. M. will be discontinued. Sunday accommodation trains between Richmond and Petersburg will be resumed for the season on Sunday next.

Annual Meetings.

The annual meetings of the Travellers' Protective Association Board of Directors—W. D. Simmons, *ex-officio* president; Railroad Committee, Colonel W. A. James, chairman; Legislative Committee, John S. Harwood, chairman; Hotel Committee, W. A. Crenshaw, chairman; Press Committee, H. E. Hirshberg, chairman—will be held at the American Hotel to-night.

Temporary Organist.

Miss Zelle Minor has been appointed temporary organist of Monumental church *vice* Mr. E. B. Kinney, Jr., resigned. Miss Minor is an accomplished musician, and will fill the position well.

RATES FOR RICHMOND

REPRESENTATIONS MADE ON OUR BEHALF TO THE RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS.

Memorial of the Delegates of the Chamber of Commerce to the Board Sitting at Atlanta.

On Wednesday R. E. Blankenship Esq., chairman of the committee of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce sent to Atlanta to represent the interests of this city before the United States railroad commissioners, submitted the following:

To the Honorable Inter-State Commerce Commission, Sitting at Atlanta, Ga.:

We have the honor to be a committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Richmond, Va., an organization formed to promote the general progress and prosperity of our city and to further just and equitable principles in trade. The members of this chamber are composed of our merchants, manufacturers, business, and professional men generally, who are interested in the welfare and prosperity of our city and State.

Your petitioners respectfully represent to your honorable body, as follows—viz:

A very large portion of Richmond was destroyed by fire at the time of its evacuation by the Confederate forces and its business and manufactures almost completely changed or destroyed by the results of the war. Notwithstanding this, and the additional fact that the country around it was devastated by the contending armies, our people have, by energy and enterprise, rebuilt our city, extended and enlarged their manufacturing and mercantile facilities, until we now have the largest manufacturing and next to the largest commercial centre south of the Potomac. We employ about nineteen thousand operatives in our manufactures alone, have taxable values amounting to forty-eight millions of dollars, and aggregate sales, according to Government statistics, of nearly sixty-three millions of dollars in 1885.

THE FOURTH SECTION.

These results could have only been attained by reason of the facilities we have received from the different railroads which terminate at Richmond and by means of cheap freight rates which they have given us, and which were absolutely necessary to enable us to compete with other cities having water communication with the same markets. Our State has contributed largely towards the construction of some of these railroad lines with the idea principally of thereby building up her chief and capital city, and our city has also contributed to them from her treasury with the same end in view. These lines, some of them thus commenced by State and municipal aid, have been added to and extended until they are now solely relied on to reach the markets for our products and merchandise. On the faith that we would continue to have the means afforded by these railroads for reaching these markets, thus secured at great labor and expense, which we have enjoyed for years, and with which the Government has never heretofore interfered, our merchants and manufacturers have increased their investments, our operatives have in many cases invested their savings in homes in our city, and the changed condition of affairs which will necessarily follow an enforcement of the whole of the fourth section of the inter-State commerce bill must of necessity work injury to many branches of our trade and mechanical industries, inflicting loss, not only on those actually engaged in those pursuits, but great damage to our whole community.

SOUTHERN MARKETS.

The peculiar reason why Richmond's interest will be so injuriously affected by the enforcement of so much of the fourth section of said act as prohibits a greater charge for a shorter than for a longer haul is found in the fact that, as before stated, Richmond has devoted herself almost exclusively to building up her railroad lines to reach the southern and western markets for her products, and she now has no other direct mode of communicating with them; and while she is at the head of navigation on the James river (to deepen which she has already expended from her treasury a large amount of money, and which, with proper aid from the National Government, can in the course of time be made a great commercial highway), she has not now a single steamer running to any of the southern States, all of which, however, have either seaports or cities situated on large, navigable rivers, with regularly-established lines of steamers plying between them and the cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore, and by means of these lines of steamers such cheap rates of freight could be offered as would exclude Richmond from these markets entirely, preventing her from trading with those who are her natural friends, who wish to trade with her people, with whom she is more entitled to trade by reason of her geographical position than any of the cities above named, and thus defeating the very object which the fourth section of said act was framed for the purpose of accomplishing.

MAKE PERMANENT THE TEMPORARY ORDER.

This law has wisely clothed your honorable commission with the power of so administering its provisions as to prevent such injuries to communities as we apprehend will be inflicted on the people of Richmond by the enforcement of the whole of said fourth section of said act, and was so framed to meet just such cases as we now present for the consideration of your honorable body.

Our Government was founded upon principles of equal justice and protection to all, and we cannot believe that the framers of this act (many of the provisions of which are, in our judgment, wise and salutary) ever intended that it should have the effect of building up a few large commercial centres at the expense ruining smaller ones; of destroying millions of invested capital and turning thousands of honest workingmen and women from their regular avocations to find intermitting employment or perhaps starve; nor can we believe that your honorable commission will so administer the provision of said act as to work these results as long as you have the power to avert them. We therefore respectfully but earnestly pray your honorable body to make permanent the temporary orders already made by you suspending the operation of so much of the fourth section of said act as prohibits the different railroads having their termini at Richmond from charging a greater sum for a shorter than for a longer haul. And your petitioners will ever pray, etc.

R. E. BLANKENSHIP,
GEORGE L. CHRISTIAN,
JOHN S. ELLETT,
A. H. CHRISTIAN, Jr.,
Committee.

RETURN OF THE COMMITTEE.

The committee returned on yesterday. They were greatly pleased with their visit to Atlanta and think it very well that Richmond was represented there. In a meeting of delegates representing about thirty different trade-centres and interests, which was held at the Kimball House the night before the meeting of the commission, they were agreeably surprised to find such unanimity of sentiment in opposition to the enforcement of the "long- and short-haul" clause of the inter-State act. A petition drawn by Judge Christian asking the commission to make permanent the temporary orders heretofore made by its suspending said "long- and short-haul" clause was unanimously adopted by said meeting. The only delegation before the commission in opposition to this view was one from Wilmington, N. C., and a counter-petition from that city, signed by several prominent merchants, was presented by the railroads favoring the continuance of the temporary orders.

WHAT MAY BE EXPECTED.

The committee are inclined to think that the railroads were not fully prepared for the course of procedure adopted by the commission, and for that reason could not present their case as strongly as they might otherwise have done, but they think that the case as made by the roads a strong one, and that it was greatly strengthened by the petitions of the several commercial bodies and interest presented and the unanimity of sentiment pervading them in support of the position of the roads, and this leads them to believe that the commission will not take the responsibility of injuring trade to the extent these petitions represent will be done by a revocation of their suspending orders. The members of the committee were very favorably impressed by the commission, and expressed the belief that they were earnestly endeavoring to find out what they ought to do in the premises. Whilst they did not state their impressions of the several members of the commission they were all very much impressed by Judge Cooley, its president, and invited him to bring his commission to Richmond, which he said he should be very glad to do.

Physicians' Fees.

Mr. Waddill, of Henrico, has introduced in the House a bill allowing a physician who is summoned to give evidence before a lunacy commission a fee of $5 for such service; not $5 a day, but $5 for the entire service in each instance. Lately the law has been so construed that the physician could only draw the allowance of an ordinary witness—50 cents—and this bill is to make the fee statutory.

Light all Night.

At the next meeting of the Common Council a report will be presented recommending that the gas-lamps be burned all night. This desirable innovation comes with the joint indorsement of the Finance and Light Committees.

A member of the Light Committee stated yesterday to a *Dispatch* reporter that it *is* the duty of the police to report the lamp-lighters when the latter fail to do their duty.

May Festival.

The ladies of Venable-Street church, assisted by the ladies of the Leigh-Street church, will hold a festival at Corcoran Hall during the week, beginning Monday, May 2d. A different programme will be presented every night, and no pains will be spared to make the evenings pleasant and entertaining to those who attend. Refreshments in variety and abundance will be provided at reasonable prices.

Dan River Fish.

The Senate Committee on Fish and Game will meet on Monday at 10 A. M. to hear all parties who wish to make statements in regard to the obstructions to the passage of fish created by the dams at Danville.

Dr. Talmage.

Rev. T. De Witt Talmage returned home yesterday morning by the 7 o'clock train. It was his purpose to reach Brooklyn by last night to deliver his usual Friday-night lecture.

To License-Tax Payers.

I am prepared to pay license-taxes, in coupons, and guarantee full legal protection, notwithstanding the change in time that licenses are to run from twelve months to one month. I advise all persons having license-taxes to pay to call on me or any of my agents before they make their payments. They will find it still more to their interest to pay in coupons now than before the law was changed. Apply to

J. P. COOPER,
911 Main street, Richmond, Va.

$10,000 to lend, or would divide this sum. Only 6 per cent. Security must be Richmond property and ample.
MANNING C. STAPLES & CO.

Dr. Henley's Nerve Tonic

is composed of pure extract of Celery, Beef, and Iron, and is food for the brain, strength for the nerves, and enriches the blood. Beware of imitations. Take only Dr. Henley's.

Auction Sale, Monday, May 2d,

at 10 o'clock, of E. B. Spence & Son's stock of Clothing, Cloth, Worsted, Cassimere, and Cheviot Suitings. Goods will be sold to suit the consumer. Single Suits and Single-Suit Patterns. A splendid opportunity to buy Clothing and Suitings at great deal less than their value. CYRUS BOSSIEUX,
FRANK I. STARKE,
Trustees.

Buy Your Shoes

of Spence, Tyree & Co., and you stand a good chance of getting a Grand Upright Emerson Piano free.

Something Seasonable.

Sweetbreads, Lamb Fries, Spring Chicken (dressed), Devilled Crabs (ready for family use), and Florida Strawberries at Pizzini's New Store.

Try our Floor-Paint. Quick to dry. Beautiful color. Delivered in any part of the city. H. M. Sheild & Co., Druggists, Fifth and Marshall streets. 'Phone, 145.

Thompson's Bromine-Arsenic Water. H. M. Sheild & Co., Fifth and Marshall. street. 'Phone, 145.

Do you suffer with corns? If so, use Excelsior Corn Salve, 15c. a box. All druggists. H. M. SHEILD & CO., Fifth and Marshall streets.

We Lead

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