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WEDNESDAY..DECEMBER 28, 1887.

Who Are the Nullifiers?

Mr. HALSTEAD seems to have become the leading editor in the Republican party. He owes his promotion—if he has thus been promoted—to the fact that day after day, in season and out of season, he waves the bloody shirt and demands a new crusade against the South. He would place the southern States under the iron heel of the Federal Goverment, as they lay in reconstruction days, and have all of them represented in Congress by unprincipled scalawags and carpet-baggers. He speaks contemptuously of the Republican papers of New York, and claims that they represent a mere commercial or mercenary sentiment and not the real wishes of the people of the North, especially not the wishes of the Republicans of the Great West. He exposes his ignorance by claiming that Congress has the power to deprive a State of a portion of its representation in Congress because of the unauthorized acts of lawless men. In staring black letters he quotes the fourteenth amendment as fully justifying Federal laws which the Supreme Court of the United States would declare null and void without waiting to hear an argument on either side of the question. In his own elegant phrase, he holds that the fourteenth amendment has been and is "brutally nullified" in several of the southern States.

The South gained, let us say, sixteen congressmen under the operation of the fourteenth amendment. But the State of New York alone has thirty-six congressmen. And that State has been so districted by Republican legislatures as to "nullify brutally" the right of a majority of the people there to rule the State and choose a majority of its Legislature. New York is a Democratic State governed by a Republican Legislature. New York placed Mr. CLEVELAND in the presidential chair and Mr. HILL in her gubernatorial chair, and she is represented in the House of Representatives by a delegation a majority of whom are Democrats; but for all that she is under the heel of oppressors. She is governed at home by a minority party. Like New Hampshire and Connecticut, New York is so districted for the election of members to the General Assembly that it is an impossibility for the Democratic majority of voters to elect a Democratic majority of legislators. And what is the consequence? In the United States Senate at this time the Democratic State of New York is represented by two Republican senators. The fourteenth amendment, if we may say so, is as "brutally nullified" in New York as in Mississippi. The Republican majority in the United States Senate is due to that "brutal nullification." If New York and Connecticut were represented there by Democrats, as they ought to be, the Democratic party would have a good majority in that body. Having this, they would control both houses of Congress, and with Mr. CLEVELAND'S assistance could pass for the reduction of taxes the laws which the country so greatly needs. The Republicans in New York practically disfranchise tens of thousands of Democratic voters; but Mr. HALSTEAD has never a word to say in condemnation of the wrong. Shall we pronounce him a mere hypocrite?

Blaine vs. Mahone.

We were not at all surprised to read the statement of our Washington correspondent in yesterday's *Dispatch* that the anti-MAHONE Republicans in Virginia, or at least some of them, are in favor of adopting the policy of joining hands with BLAINE and drawing between SHERMAN and BLAINE the same lines which separate MAHONE and the regular Republicans.

It needs no ghost to come from the grave to tell the anti-Mahoneites that MAHONE will certainly defeat their plans if they rely upon their own strength. He has all, or nearly all, the negroes in Virginia at his beck and call in any contest between him and the anti-Mahoneites. But these same negroes may many of them be easily induced if not to support BLAINE for the nomination for the presidency at least to content themselves whilst MAHONE and his personal followers amongst the white men fight out with the regular Republicans the battle for that nomination. The opposition to MAHONE amongst the Republicans of Virginia is rather amongst the white leaders than amongst the colored men. Negroes are by nature sequacious. They like to have a commander. MAHONE is a man whom they can depend upon to relieve them of the trouble of thinking for themselves, and who will issue his orders whenever he desires anything to be done, and not wait to ask them whether they favor his schemes or not. This trait of the negro character was amusingly illustrated when a few years ago formal commissions were sent out from headquarters to the negro chiefs in the various counties. SAMBO "dearly loves" a master, to quote Lord BYRON'S phrase. BLAINE will also prove to be a good master to them.

But the white men amongst the Republicans of Virginia are not disposed to allow their party to be led by a man who does not even pretend to be aught but a dictator. They would prefer to have a voice in fixing the policy of the Republican party and in naming the persons who are to receive the offices. They would like to be consulted even though MAHONE might exercise the veto power and bring to naught all their suggestions. In a word they would like to be treated with the respect which they think is due to them if not to their suggestions.

In this dilemma, MAHONE commanding the great body of the Republican army and they only "the seventh regiment," what can the select few do to strengthen their side and snatch victory from the jaws of defeat? Nothing except to make BLAINE'S fight their fight. Nothing except to make SHERMAN'S weakness offset their own weakness, and BLAINE'S strength build them up in their opposition to BLAINE'S opponent.

Will CAMERON, RIDDLEBERGER, BRADY, SENER, YOST, LEWIS, and the rest of the regular Republicans who are disgusted with the leadership of the Readjuster-Democrat MAHONE, fail to improve the opportunity which MAHONE'S support of SHERMAN opens up to them? Will they begin work now, or will they leave it for him to take the initiative? Will they call a BLAINE convention at an early day, or will they wait until it is too late to counteract MAHONE'S movements? In a word, will they lead the Republican party in Virginia, or will they continue to allow it to be led by the man who, after he took his seat in the United States Senate, boasted that he was a better Democrat than BEN HILL?

How It Works.

The official statement is made that in more than one half the internal-revenue districts of the United States the expenses are greater than the collections. And it may be remarked that the rest of the districts not only pay the expenses of the whole internal-revenue system, but yield a surplus that is helping to stuff the Treasury to repletion. Further, the paying districts are for the most part in States that can least afford to bear the burthen, and the money wrung by un-American, tyrannical, and iniquitous measures from the people of those States never comes back to them in any form. What portion of it is distributed goes to further enrich the wealthier sections of country, seeing that all the pensioners of the Government worth speaking of live north of MASON & DIXON'S line. The North has a virtual monopoly of the bounty of the Government. The only men at the South who are helped by the internal-revenue system are those engaged in enforcing the iniquity.

The theory that BISMARCK is determined to make the Czar show his hand will do very well as a theory, but whether it is practicable is another question. BISMARCK is beyond doubt the master spirit of Continental Europe. His is a power with the Powers, and since the death of BEACONSFIELD is perhaps the greatest master of honest diplomacy, if there be such a thing, in the world. There is, we think, only one man living whose friends would dispute for him this honor with BISMARCK'S, and that man is DUFFERIN. But if the Iron Chancellor can make a ROMANOFF show his hand before he is ready to do so he can accomplish something not yet put down in diplomatic annals. The history of the ROMANOFFS is the history of treachery and deceit, and about the only thing certain regarding Russia's course is that she will fight if she is attacked.

MR. RANDALL.—The latest saying credited to Mr. Randall comes from another member of Congress, who reports Mr. Randall as saying, after a visit to the White House, that "a tariff bill will be introduced in the House which will not affect the industrial interests or disturb the business of the country. It will pass the House, and if it fails to become a law the responsibility will be with the Republican Senate. It will provide for the repeal of the tobacco and fruit-brandy tax. A bill, too, very much like the Henderson bill, of the Forty-ninth Congress, will pass the House. There is a misapprehension as to the President's position on the internal-revenue question, and he may deem it necessary to send a supplemental message to Congress on the subject. He does not oppose the repeal of the tobacco and brandy tax; and furthermore, he believes that the internal-revenue laws are oppressive as enforced under existing legislation."

This statement comes to us from the North and the West. We give it for what it is worth.

We would say in reply to the *Index-Appeal's* article against editorials on Christmas that there are every year young persons arriving at the age when these editorials may perhaps suggest profitable thoughts to them. We can even now, at a distance of many years recall at least one expression in a Christmas editorial which made a lasting impression upon our mind. How would it do to dismiss the preachers on the ground that all they could say had been better said before?

The Washington *Post* says that the great controlling issue of the presidential contest of 1888 is the reduction of the Treasury surplus through a prompt and complete revision of tariff duties. We trust not. Congress ought to make it impossible for that to be the issue. The surplus "must go" during the current session of Congress, or the people will know the reason why their orders with respect to it were not obeyed.

BRIEF COMMENT.

Would an attempt to form a brass trust be an attempt to control the Republican party?

It's rather dangerous to attempt to smash Santa Claus, considering the old fellow's ability to put a head on a man.

Now is the time to begin to make a corner in good resolutions. They won't be worth a cent on the 2d of January next.

What! teachers in a Philadelphia school in which the pupils are negroes object to serving under a negro principal? Oh, my! Such heresy in negro-loving (?) Philadelphia. Who would have "thunk" it?

The fact that the Christmas-eve tragedy in Nashville, Tenn., was entirely a Republican affair takes the wind out of the sails of the organs that would have made it an evidence of southern Democratic lawlessness.

Those who have tried it say there is only one good cough medicine, and that is Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. It is cheap, too, only 25 cents a bottle.

THE DEAD STATESMAN

FUNERAL OF EX-SECRETARY DANIEL MANNING.

Albany's Great Sorrow—A Distinguished Gathering of Notables—Impressive Services—Laid at Rest.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

ALBANY, N. Y., December 27.—Soon after the death of ex-Secretary Manning was announced Saturday Mayor Thacher issued a proclamation to the citizens of Albany. He requested that their places of business be closed and that they cease from their usual employment during the funeral exercises, which occurred at 2 P. M. to-day from St. Paul's Episcopal church, of which Mr. Manning was a member. Yesterday the joy of Christmas was subdued by the sorrow occasioned by the passing away of Albany's foremost townsman. Flags were hung at half mast in honor of his memory, and in various places of worship fervent prayers were offered for the sorrowing family.

President Cleveland and members of his Cabinet arrived at the West-Shore depot at 8 A. M. They were met by Colonel Rice, Governor Hill's private secretary; Mayor Thacher, Erastus Corning, and Colonel E. L. Judson, and driven in sleighs to the Executive mansion, where they were breakfasted.

The body of the dead statesman, enclosed in a black cloth-covered casket, was in the parlor of the residence of his son, James H. Manning. At the foot of the casket was a profusion of camelias and white roses. The silver plate bore this inscription:

"Daniel Manning. Born August 16, 1831; died December 24, 1887."

TAKING THE LAST LOOK.

From 9 until 11 o'clock personal friends of Mr. Manning were permitted to look upon the face of the dead, which looked its original self, save for the impress left by the ravages of the struggle for life he had undergone. Callers came from all stations in life, and men whose names are historical viewed with those whose lot is humble in last evidence of respect to the departed.

Shortly before half-past 1 o'clock Rev. Dr. Reese offered prayer at the house, only the members of the family being present. The sad leave-taking of the fond husband and devoted father had its tearful ending, the lid was closed, and the coffin was borne to the hearse by the following stalwart foremen of the mechanical department of the *Argus* establishment: James J. Wall, M. J. McNully, M. J. Nolan, George S. Tice, John Gray, and David H. Wade. The pall-bearers were Charles J. Canda, of New York, vice-president of the Western National Bank, of which Mr. Manning was president; Sidney Webster, of New York, one of the ex-Secretary's most intimate friends while at Washington; United States Senator Gorman, of Maryland; C. N. Jordan, of New York, of the Western National Bank; Congressman S. J. Randall, of Philadelphia; Manton Marble, of New York; Judge Peckham, of the Court of Appeals; Simon W. Rosendale, from the Board of Directors of the Commercial Bank; Eastus Corning, president of the City National Bank; John H. Van Antwerp, first vice-president of the City National Bank; ex-Senator Roscoe Conkling, of New York, and Pascal P. Pratt, president of the Manufacturers and Traders Bank of Buffalo.

The funeral procession took its way down the street to St. Paul's church, in the block below. A good portion of the church was necessarily held in reserve for the family, pall-bearers, representatives of organizations, and others. The Christmas evergreens were still in their places.

THE CORTÈGE AT THE CHURCH.

At 10:30 o'clock, as the people began to arrive, the organist, George E. Oliver, sounded the opening chords of Chopin's "March Funebre," and then followed a choice programme of appropriate music. As the last strains of Gounod's march were concluded the *cortege* reached the church and the main doors were opened. The coffin was borne from the hearse, being met at the entrance by the rector of St. Paul's, Rev. J. Livingston Reese, Bishop Doane, Rev. Mr. Prawle, Rev. Dr. E. N. Potter, of Hobart College, Geneva, N. Y., formerly president of Union College, Rev. Dr. Battershall, Canon Robbins, Canon Fulcher, Rev. Schwartz, Woodman, Kenyon, Gray, Chapman, and Selkirk. As the procession marched up the aisle Dr. Reese began the reading of the burial service, beginning: "I am the resurrection and the life." The coffin was placed upon a bier which was covered with evergreens and palms, and the bearers, the mourners, and those that followed took their places, the pews having been arranged as follows: Middle aisle, at the left—Bearers, President and Cabinet, Governor and State officers, judiciary, and prominent out-of-town mourners; at the right—the family and very intimate friends, directors of the Western, National, New York, and Albany Commercial banks. Left aisle, at the right—the Mayor and city officers; at the left—*Argus* representatives. Right aisle, at the right—personal friends from the city and vicinity and delegates from Temple Lodge, No. 14, Free and Accepted Masons, representatives of Typographical Union No. 4, and other organizations, and editors and reporters from each city paper.

When all were seated the doors were again opened, and the side aisles and available space was soon filled. It was the most distinguished gathering of men Albany has ever seen at a funeral of one of her sons.

THE BURIAL SERVICES.

The chant to the burial psalm, "Lord, Let Me Know My End," was a familiar air by Felton and was given with fine feeling by a choir of sixty voices. Spohr's "Blessed Are the Departed" was then sung. Dr. Reese then read the usual lesson from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians, "Now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept." The anthem, "I Heard a Voice from Heaven," was rendered with fine effect. Prayers by Bishop Doane were followed by more singing, and as the Bishop pronounced the words of benediction the choir sang "Asleep in Jesus."

The casket was again taken to the hearse, the carriages were entered, and the procession to the cemetery was begun. From the time the *cortege* left the house, during the time of service, and as it moved past Capital Park down State street, and leaving Clinton avenue and Broadway and proceeded up the road to the city of the dead, the bell in the tower of the City Hall tolled, adding to the solemnity of the occasion immeasurably.

FLORAL DECORATIONS AND TRIBUTES.

The bier on which the coffin rested in the church was at the foot of the main aisle near the chancel steps. It was covered with a soft bedding of moss and at the sides were long flowing palms. At the ends were wreaths of laurel trimmed with dainty bouquets of roses, and tropical ferns enhanced the massive appearance of the bier. A beautiful wreath of white and purple violets and a large arch with a broad base of flowers and an easel with a printer's "case" resting upon it were among the exquisite floral tributes, and was presented by the compositors and former companions in the printing business of the deceased. The easel was six feet in height, and was trimmed with calla lilies, hyacinths, and smilax. The "case" was composed of ivy leaves, white carnation, lilies-of-the-valley, roses, and hyacinths. Resting at the bottom of the "case" was a printer's "stick," outlined in delicate pink carnations.

INCIDENTAL NOTES.

Secretaries Whitney and Endicott were not with the President's party from Washington, but arrived later in the day—Mr. Endicott from Massachusetts and Mr. Whitney from New York.

President Cleveland this forenoon sent a message to Mrs. Manning asking for the privilege of making a brief call, accompanied by the Cabinet officers and Governor Hill, before the private and public funeral ceremonies, and at 12:20 this distinguished party visited the house and viewed the remains of their former friend and associate.

The trains to-day brought in large delegations from various parts of the State, many of them representing political organizations. They came to attend Mr. Manning's funeral, and some of them were disappointed at not being able to obtain places in the church. James H. Manning said he had provided for the delegations that had telegraphed or written him that they were coming.

Besides the presidential party there arrived from Washington the following employees of the Treasury Department: Comptroller Durham, First-Auditor Shelly, Supervising-Architect Freret; E. O. Graves, chief of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing; R. S. Miller, chief of the Bureau of Loans and Currency; Chief-Clerk Youmans, Assistant Secretary Maynard, Comptroller Trenholm, Third-Auditor Williams; T. D. Kelleher, superintendent of the Treasury building; G. W. Albright, and Sixth-Auditor McConville.

Mr. Manning had been a member of St. Paul's church for six years and has been an attendant at church for upwards of thirty years.

"He was a most faithful and good, constant Christian," Rector Reese said this morning to a reporter; "and even during the excitement of the presidential campaign, in which he took such a deep interest in securing the election of Cleveland, he never missed a Sunday-morning service."

Mr. Manning last attended service at St. Paul's just previous to his departure for New York last autumn to assume the management of the Western National Bank of that city.

RESPECT TO HIS MEMORY.

NEW YORK, December 27.—At the regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen to-day resolutions of regret for the death of Hon. Daniel Manning were adopted and the board adjourned out of respect to his memory.

ALEXANDRIA.

The Funeral of Mayor Smoot—A Large Attendance.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

ALEXANDRIA, VA., December 27.—On the suggestion of Acting-Mayor Strauss many mercantile establishments suspended at noon, allowing all who desired to do so to pay the last tribute of respect to our late excellent mayor, news of whose demise was sent yesterday. The funeral occurred from his late residence on Prince street. The concourse was exceedingly large, perhaps greater than any seen here before, and comprised from the humblest of our citizens to many distinguished personages from abroad. Both branches of the City Council, the Mount Vernon Association, the four fire companies, the Masons, and a detail of eighteen policemen attended in a body. The remains were viewed by hundreds just before the services, which were of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and conducted by Dr. Norton, of St. Paul's, assisted by Dr. Suter, of Christ. At the cemetery Mr. Nourse, of the First Presbyterian church, officiated. The casket, on which were scattered a few floral cuttings, was borne by ten colored men. Ex-Mayors Beckham and Berkely, Messrs. Benoni Wheat, William H. Marbury, Edward S. Leadbetter, and William Henry Lambert were the honorary pall-bearers and carried the floral pieces, the handsomest ever seen here. The interment was at St. Paul's cemetery. Senator-elect Barbour, Judge Gay Gordon, Jeff. Chandler, Editor Fox, W. A. Short, and Ex-Governor Pattison were among those attending.

Although yesterday was quiet several serious affrays and accidents occurred owing to whiskey and gunpowder. On the 3:30 ferryboat a riot ensued between some negroes and white men. The negroes used razors and the white men chairs and stools. Several were badly hurt, but nearly all eluded capture.

State Secretary Williams closed the first of the series of lectures before the Christian Association to-night.

The city charter provides for the present emergency by authorizing the City Council to elect a mayor, but this is being warmly debated.

The remains of Mr. House were buried this afternoon. It was a large funeral also.

Acquitted—Found in the Dock.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

NORFOLK, December 27.—J. B. Fentress, the postmaster at Centreville, Norfolk county, was tried in the County Court to-day for shooting and killing a colored woman named Wise about two months ago, and was acquitted.

The body of Gustave Kurtz, a German of the crew of the yacht Magnolia, was found floating in the Clyde Line dock last night. It is supposed that he committed suicide. He had a bank deposit-book in his pocket showing he had $1,000 in a bank in Philadelphia.

Fire Near Winchester.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WINCHESTER, VA., December 27.—The Morgan Woollen Mills, near this city, were entirely burned last night. Kern, Barr & Co. were the owners. The origin of the fire was accidental. Insurance, $5,800. The loss was much in excess of that amount.

A TERRIBLE SCENE.

A Burning Town Robbed by Roughs.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

CHICAGO, December 27.—A special from Ashland, Wis., about the fire at Wakefield, Mich., says the lawless element had full control of the town during the progress of the fire. Hundreds of shots were fired by the roughs to intimidate the merchants who were endeavoring to save some of their stock. They went into a number of stores in a body, and while some of them would cover the inmates with revolvers others would rob the store of the most valuable goods. The whiskey secured from the many saloons in the block made the men perfect demons. The people whose property was burning stood by powerless and made no efforts to interfere with what was going on. The streets were filled with hatless women, some rushing about searching for lost children and others wringing their hands and crying as they watched the destruction of their homes. Wakefield is a typical mining-region town, and is composed entirely of wooden buildings. The fire once started was beyond control, as there were no facilities for fighting it.

Mr. W. W. Corcoran.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 27.—Mr. W. W. Corcoran, the aged millionaire and philanthropist, celebrated his eighty-ninth birthday to-day. His mind is perfectly clear and he is in fairly good physical health, though he is somewhat weak in his legs from the effects of the paralytic stroke of last summer. Congratulations poured in upon him by telegraph and through the mails, and many of his friends also sent flowers and other tokens of their esteem. Those from institutions for the needy were especially prized by their recipient. Many persons called during the day to pay their respects, but Mr. Corcoran saw only a few of his more intimate friends until the afternoon, when he held a reception of an hour or more.

Failure.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

CHICAGO, December 27.—Newhouse Brothers, clothiers, have made an assignment. Liabilities, $60,000; assets, $30,000.

POWDER DID IT.

A FEARFUL ACCIDENT NEAR HOLLY SPRINGS, NORTH CAROLINA.

A Store Literally Blown to Pieces—Two Persons Terribly Mangled—General News Notes.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

RALEIGH, N. C., December 27.—Last night at the store of John Louis Johnson, near Holly Springs, this county, there was a terrible and fatal accident. Robert Johnson, son of the owner of the store, entered it and struck a match on the counter. Instantly there was an explosion and the store was blown to atoms. Young Johnson was blown many yards; a negro boy named Stephenson, who had entered the store at the same time as Johnson, was also blown a great distance. The people in the neighborhood rushed to the scene greatly alarmed by the explosion. They found the store utterly wrecked and on fire. Both boys were picked up unconscious. Johnson's hands were blown off and he and the negro were badly mangled. It was found that a keg of powder was on the counter and that some powder spilled from it was ignited by the match. It is said this evening that both Johnson and Stephenson are dead.

The body of Willis Hinton, one of the men drowned three weeks ago in Neuse river near this city, was found yesterday near Goldsboro'. It had floated down the river.

Rev. Dr. M. M. Marshall, rector of Christ church, this city, left to-day for Philadelphia for medical treatment for a disease of the throat.

L. C. Bagwell, agent, dealer in furniture and coffins in this city, made an assignment this afternoon. His liabilities, he says, he does not know, but are mainly debts to northern firms. Some Raleigh creditors are the only ones preferred. His assets are estimated at $3,500.

Adjutant-General Jones reports the strength of the State Guard to be 1,152. The Quartermaster-General to-day received instructions to equip the Lumber-Bridge Light Infantry, of Robeson county. This company is a revival of one of the same name which served in the war of the Revolution. J. D. Malloy is captain. This makes the number of companies in the State twenty-seven.

The sheriffs are this year, under the new law, extraordinarily lively in the matter of collecting taxes. With most of the sheriffs to-day was the last day of grace. Lands on which taxes are not paid will be sold next month, and if necessary will be bid in by the State. Heretofore this has been in the main a farce, as the Legislature passed relief acts from year to year granting an extension of the time for making settlements. The State has thus lost money. It has also lost by the undervaluation of property—very often a crying evil.

The people of Onslow voted to-day on the railway-subscription question. The result cannot be known for a day or two. Newberne will next vote on the same matter. The people of Wilmington will certainly take another vote, the Supreme Court having declared the former election void and invalid. At the next meeting of the Board of Aldermen an election will be ordered, it is expected. All these elections are on subscriptions to the same road from Wilmington to Newberne. Some Virginia capitalists are specially interested in this line.

Goldsboro' is to have a new paper, an afternoon daily—the *Evening Telegram*. It will take the Associated Press dispatches. Mr. A. Roscower will be its editor. A daily morning paper is now published there.

Lucian Rowe (colored) is to be resentenced to death at the next term of Durham Superior Court, and will be executed early in the spring, it is expected. His crime is burglary, committed over a year ago. He is the first man convicted in Durham county of a capital crime.

Private letters from Lumberton say that the improvement in the health of Congressman Alfred Rowland, of the Sixth district, is quite marked. For months his friends feared that his disease would have a fatal termination. He hopes to be able to be in his seat when Congress reassembles.

The State papers are, as a rule, enjoying the holidays. Most of the weeklies do not appear until next week, and some of the dailies are taking a four-days' rest. The people of the State generally enjoy Christmas in the old-fashioned way—very primitive but all the more delightful. North Carolinians have a "bigger streak of fun" in their composition than almost any people on the face of the earth. So says a prominent Boston gentleman now in this State.

Mr. D. Q. Nicks, of Wilkes county, was killed in Alamance county a few days since by a kick of a mule, the blow completely breaking his neck.

Captain W. J. Street, whose rather sudden death at Goldsboro' was reported yesterday, was the commander of a company in the Second North Carolina infantry, which served in the Army of Northern Virginia.

There is complaint at the neglect of the Government to put light-houses in operation on Pamlico sound. Business in a shipping way is becoming important there and the neglect is a serious matter.

TRAVESTY ON THE CIPHER.

Critic Rowbotham Proves That Shakspeare is a Solar Myth.

A London special to the *Herald* says: The prominent Christmas-gift of the London public unquestionably is what may be called a literary bon-bon in the shape of a Shakspearean travesty of the Ignatius Donnelly cipher. It is evident this bon-bon is from J. F. Rowbotham, a London critic. He begins by denying that there is any extant proof that a man named Shakspeare ever lived. He then puts forth as the centre of his bon-bon this query: "How then did the idea of Shakspeare arise in the English mind? The answer is plain. Shakspeare is a solar myth. He is a personification of the sun, that great luminary of the universe, which has been the object of man's worship and the fountain of man's legend since the beginning of time, appearing in the mythology of past ages as Hercules, Orpheus, Apollo, Samson, and in more recent years under more beautiful allegory as Shakespeare. Let us remark the unmistakable evidence afforded by the name, which is parallel to the Greek *ekata bolos*. In private this second a is a sign for Eta, meaning Far-darter, and is clearly an epithet for the sun god, who, as he flashed his rays of light to earth, was pictured to the poetical imaginations of our untutored ancestors as a mighty warrior, who darted his arrows or shook his spears.

"Examine this name a little more closely, for under it lies a mystery of mysteries. The word Shakspeare in this is the old spelling and contains exactly twelve letters. Is not the inference from this plain enough? These twelve letters are the twelve months which make up the sun's annual revolution, while they are at the same time the twelve signs of the zodiac. In keeping with this is the fact that the full name of our legendary here is William Shakespeare a name which consists of four syllables and therefore emblematical of the four seasons. The tale of his life we shall find a marvellous and cunningly constructed allegory, full of poetry and beauty. He is said to have been born on the 20th of March. How appropriate! For it is the time of the vernal equinox, when all nature has its annual birth. His birth, justly placed, being in the reign of Elizabeth, the Virgin Queen, there is a plain allusion to Virgin in the signs of the zodiac. It is made to occur in 1564, the seventh year of Elizabeth's reign. Now, as allowed in the interpretation, all legends, biblical and others, to interchange a year and day there can be no reasonable doubt that the seventh year here spoken of is the seventh day, which is Sunday, or the day of the sun.

"Thus far, then, we found a fable man named Shakspeare, born on the 20th of March, in the seventh year of Elizabeth's reign, which means really that the sun god, Ekatabolos, the Far-darter or Spear-shaker, begins his annual life-time in the vernal equinox, in the sign of the Virgin and on the day dedicated to his honor, Sunday. Then continue the early years of Shakspeare, involved in darkness, which is a way with all solar myths, and we hear absolutely nothing of him until we find him coming into collision with a certain 'Sir Thomas Lucy.' Here the interpretation is easy, for Lucy is evidently a corruption of the Latin *lux lucis*—light. The fable of Shakspeare stealing deer from Lucy is a poetical way of saying that the sun, the spear-shaker, robs the light of its rays and decorates himself with the spoils. How truly beautiful is the next episode in the legend. The sun mounting above the horizon and tenderly keeping watch over this globe of ours is idealized and transformed into the poetic conception of Shakspeare, mounting above footlights and becoming manager of the Globe Theatre. During his management the Globe is reduced to ashes, which is evidently an imperfect version of the story of Phaeton interpolated by some later hand. As the sun rises in the east and sets in the west, so in the legend is Shakspeare made to rise to fame in London, the east of England, and at East End, and settle down to die in Stratford, which, compared with London, is undoubtedly the west.

"Finally, as the sun's annual life is brought to its end in fifty-two weeks, so does Shakspeare, the allegorical sun, sink and die after a life of fifty-two years, substituting the week for the year. The parallel is complete as to how the connection originated between the allegorical sun god and the plays that bear his name. There are three hypotheses possible—the first that the plays were in existence before the allegory had become crystallized into its present shape and were dedicated to the sun god under his cognomen, the Spear-shaker. The second is that they were written by the priests of the sun god, and third, that they were the direct productions of the sun god himself. This last view is broadly hinted at in one of the plays themselves, where the following mysterious sentence is found: 'If the sun ever writes a book critics will have plenty of work in deciphering it.' The fool then: 'Knaves may find employment.' But many other reasons besides go to support the theory, for on no other supposition can we account for the repeated references—250 in number—to sun alone.

"Various solar, stellar, and meteorological phenomenal allusions to night, heat, cold, rain, snow, stars, moon, sky, and clouds occur over and over again; four seasons are continually mentioned and two leading ones, summer and winter, have two whole plays dedicated to their service—'A Midsummer Night's Dream' and 'A Winter's Tale.' The signs of the zodiac enact a still more illustrious role. The sign twins are palpably the foundation of the 'Comedy of Errors.' The sign of the scales furnishes the catastrophe to the 'Merchant of Venice.' Most honorably is the crab alluded to in 'Two Gentlemen of Verona,' under the allegory of Launce's dog, Crab, while the lion is actually brought on the stage along with the moon and other celestials in the interlude of the 'Midsummer Night's Dream,' where the stage-joiner plays the lion's part. Out of the mass of facts here adduced it is quite possible for a practiced critic to invalidate or explain away some half dozen or so, but all petty tampering with the position will be entirely nugatory, since we now proceed to greater heights of discovery, and bring forward three facts. The first fact is the total number of words in plays is exactly equal to the total number of miles in the sun's diameter, being precisely 883,000.

"The second fact is still more convincing. Take the plays in any order and count the words from beginning to the middle and you will find the two central words—that is to say, the 441,500th and the 441,501st—to be the sun. Thirdly, and as accurately following statistics would be a little more troublesome to test, we give notice that whoever has found us right in the two preceding calculations may spare himself pains verifying the following, since it is quite as correct as either the former: the total number of letters in the plays is 500,000. Now, according to Pythagoras, five is the nuptial number; multiply, therefore, 500,000 by 19—Shakspeare's age, according to the legend, at the time of his marriage—and the result is 95,000,000, which is the exact distance of the sun from the earth, calculated in miles."

Value of First Impressions.

[Chicago Journal.]

"How do you come to be such a good judge of human nature?" I said recently to one of the oldest and most successful detectives in the city. "By the observance of one simple rule," he replied. "I cling to my first impressions of a man, and govern myself by them to the end. Perhaps I might add another rule, and it is this—if a man's personal appearance reminds me, at first sight of another man, I conclude that the resemblance extends to character also. If you will adopt these two rules, and act on them for a few years, you will be just as good a judge of men as I am. I remember that twenty years ago a rather venerable looking man called on me, said he was a minister, and asked me to subscribe a dollar to some benevolent object. I declined, and when he had gone got to thinking how much he reminded me of a noted horse-thief at the East that we used to call Cheeky Joe. Well, about ten years afterwards I was looking for a stolen horse. I did a good deal of hard work on the case, and at last got on the trail of the thief. He dodged around from place to place, but I kept up close behind him all the time, and at last bagged him. 'Why, I have seen you somewhere?' 'Very likely; I've been there,' he replied. Said I: 'Ain't you a minister?' 'No,' he said, 'I ain't no minister. I was working that racket, though, when you saw me last.' It was the very man whose resemblance to another horse-thief I had noticed ten years before."

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of New York, Surgeon-General of United States Army (Retired), Professor of Diseases of the Mind and Nervous System in the University of New York, &c.

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THE LATE DR. M. H. HOUSTON,
Physician to Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, Va., Member Medical Society of Virginia.
[Extract from communication in the *Virginia Medical Monthly* of February, 1886, on the Properties and Uses of the Buffalo Lithia Water.]

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MEETINGS.

UNION BANK OF RICHMOND,
RICHMOND VA., December 27, 1887.
THE REGULAR ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THIS BANK will be held in the First National Bank, on THURSDAY the 12th day of January, 1888, at 12 o'clock M., for the election of directors, &c.
JAMES MILLER, Cashier.
de 28-3t

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF RICHMOND, VA.,
RICHMOND, December 23, 1887.
THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THIS BANK will be held at its banking-house, No. 1104 east Main street, on TUESDAY the 10th day of January, 1888, at 12 o'clock M., for the election of directors, &c.
H. C. BURNETT, Cashier.
de 24-3t

LECTURES.

REV. SAMUEL SMALL
has been secured for ONE LECTURE ONLY. Subject
"FROM THE BAR-ROOM TO THE PULPIT."
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BROAD-STREET METHODIST CHURCH,
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Admission 25c. Hear this famous speaker and help the boys. de 28-1t

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Prices as usual. Next attraction, NOVELTY COMEDY COMPANY. Souvenirs will be presented to the ladies at the matinee to-day.
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