NOTES ON THE FIRE.

OFFICERS CONFIDENT THAT IT WAS NOT CAUSED BY THE ROASTERS.

The Secretary Heard a Noise—Stamps Washed Off—To Resume Operations Without Delay.

The officers of the Southern Manufacturing Company, whose plant and warehouse were destroyed by fire Friday night, are confident that the conflagration did not originate from their roasters. They made a close inspection yesterday of that portion of the building where the fire originated. It was ascertained that the woodwork near the machinery in question was charred less than in other places, which to their minds was proof positive that the flames must have started elsewhere.

HEARD A NOISE.

Secretary Robins and his brother were in the office writing letters late Friday night. About 11 o'clock the latter remarked that it sounded as if some one was moving about up-stairs, the attention of both having been attracted by a noise.

The Secretary said it was only rats, with which it seems the building was infested. A little later they heard a slight crash and a roaring sound, followed in a moment or two by the cry of "fire" from without.

WASHED OFF THE STAMPS.

One of the misfortunes of Messrs. Davenport & Morris was the washing off of the stamps from about 300 barrels of whiskey. This will entail no loss, though it will necessitate that the Inspector make oath to the fact that the tax on the barrels in question had been paid.

Chief-Police Poe yesterday wrote to Chief Puller, of the Fire Department, suggesting that as the latter was very properly in command of both the firemen and police at a fire some of the wagons carry ropes to be stretched around burning buildings to the end that the movements of the firemen might not be impeded.

Major Poe pledged the support of his men and stated that if at any time the Chief of the Fire Department thought the police were not attending to their duty, his complaint should be laid before the Police Commissioners promptly.

WILL RESUME SHORTLY.

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southern Manufacturing Company was held yesterday afternoon to make arrangements for a speedy resumption of operations.

A resolution of thanks was voted to the president, Mr. E. G. Leigh, Jr., for his energy in so promptly arranging for a continuance of the business.

A committee consisting of Messrs. E. G. Leigh, Jr., Junius A. Morris, and Adolphus Blair was authorized to make all arrangements for equipping and operating a new plant as speedily as possible.

By the latter part of this week the company expect to have its machinery running again.

LETTER FROM THE FAR WEST.

Mr. Pemberton Writes of His Travels Through Colorado and California.

Mr. and Mrs. T. William Pemberton, who have been taking a very extensive trip through Florida and thence to California, will return home next Monday. They have travelled a great deal in foreign lands and have seen most of the great cities of Europe and Asia, and the most picturesque scenery of those countries; but California and Colorado in their opinion surpasses all other lands in the splendor of their scenery and the charm of their climate.

In a letter to a friend Mr. Pemberton gives a very interesting account of Manitou Springs and the surrounding mountains. The country between that place and Colorado Springs was so enchanting they determined to go by carriage through the Garden of the Gods. He writes: "In coming here by carriage we are constantly in view of the stupendous mountain, Pike's Peak, towering nearly 15,000 feet in elevation. It is a grand sight to feast the eyes upon. Then we pass over the "Nassa," a great plain of highland stretching out like the sea to the line of meeting of sky and land. Then through the Garden of the Gods—so wonderful, so beautiful, so poetical, so entrancing. We did not get as valiant any ambrosia; nor did we take any potations of nectar, but we were inspired and refreshed by the sweet, soft air and the constant delight of looking upon such pictures. I feel a kind of afflatus from the poetical and bizarre-like scenery. I regret that the peculiar fantastic shapes which the rocks assume have not been named mythologically. I saw some amorphous-looking figure, which by imagination might be called Cyclops, &c. Unfortunately all of these strange shapes are called by common-place names, such as Punch and Judy, &c. We find Colorado Springs attractive, and we go upon Cheyenne Mountain with Eddie Kellogg to see the grave of Helen Jackson (Helen Hunt). We go from here to Denver."

NOTES ABOUT GOOD TEMPLARS.

A Distinguished Lecturer Coming to Virginia—Sidney and Jefferson Lodges.

Hon. J. J. Hickman, of Kentucky, the great temperance orator, will reach Virginia May 31st, and will remain in Alexandria till June 2d. He speaks at Orange Courthouse June 3d, Charlottesville June 4th and 5th, Lynchburg June 6th and 7th, Roanoke city June 8th, and in Richmond June 2d to 26th.

About 200 Good Templars attended the session of Sidney Lodge at Belvidere Hall Friday night. After disposing of a large amount of business and initiating seven candidates an interesting programme was rendered under the direction of Professor Lover. There were entertaining addresses by Messrs. Wootten, District-Templar J. B. Burroughs, Hamlin, Glenn, and others; recitations by Miss Stubbs; solos by Messrs. Haurand and Cocker, and chorus by the lodge. Next Friday night the meeting will be an open one for all.

Jefferson Lodge, No. 522, celebrated its 8th anniversary at its hall, Eighteenth street between Main and Franklin, Thursday night. A history of the work of this lodge covering thirty-two sheets of closely-written matter was prepared and read by R. C. Traylor, of Rescue Lodge, No. 532, in the presence of over one hundred and twenty-five persons. During the six years over thirteen hundred visitors attended its meetings and over five hundred were received into its membership. It is the first lodge in this city presided over by a full blood lady officer, Miss Timberlake being its present chief templar. Spicy remarks were made by E. M. Redford, of Rescue, and Harry Glenn, of Trinity; songs by J. W. Dixon, of Howard's Grove, and E. Cocker, of Sidney.

THE CLOSING PHILHARMONIC.

An Attractive Programme Arranged for the Concert Friday Evening.

The last of the four Philharmonic orchestra concerts will be given at the Academy of Music on Friday evening next (the 29th instant. The orchestra, which will be larger and in better trim than on either of the previous occasions, will be assisted by Madame Emil Gramm, the beautiful and talented soloist of St. Thomas's church, New York city.

The former concerts were successful, both from an artistic and pecuniary standpoint, and it is to be hoped that the work for ears of the Woman's Christian Association will realize a nice profit from this entertainment, which will in every respect live up to the standard of the others.

Mr. J. Emory Shaw, conductor, has devoted much care to the selection of the orchestral numbers, which are as follows: 1. Overture, Masaniello, Auber. 2. Polish Dances, Scharrwenka. 3 Revé Apres le Bal, Bouslet. 4. Second Rhapsodie, Liszt. 5. Selection from Lohengrin, Richard Wagner. 6. (a) Swedish Wedding March, Lederman, (b) Martha Washington Gavotte, Aronson.

The last number is the same as played by Theodore Thomas's orchestra with great success this season.

Madam Gramm has been complimented by the press in the highest terms all over the country and is to-day considered one of New York's leading singers.

The box-sheet opens to-morrow to subscribers at Walter D. Moses & Co.'s and to the general public on Wednesday.

THE COUNTY CAMPAIGN.

Democratic Rally at Jones's Store To-Morrow Night—Address to Voters.

Brookland Democratic Club, No. 1, will hold an open-air meeting to-morrow night at Jones's store, on the Brook road, just beyond the corporate limits. The Fairfield brass band in full uniform will be present to furnish the music. All of the Democratic clubs in the county are expected to be on hand. Addresses will be made by Hon. George D. Wise, Colonel Meade Haskins, Colonel Tazewell Ellett, Mr. George D. Carter, and all the candidates. After the meeting refreshments will be served.

ADDRESS TO VOTERS.

The following needs no explanation:

To the White Men of Henrico:

On Thursday next, May 28th, the white men of Henrico will be called upon to put down by their votes the men who have for seventeen years occupied the places of trust in the county. It is your duty, and we are satisfied it is your wish, to turn the present office-holders out and fill their places with men of your own color and men in full sympathy with you. Think for a moment and then remember that the success of the Democratic party in this contest is of the most vital importance, and we know that you will turn out in force and by your votes place in office those who will reflect credit upon the party.

If you have any doubt as to your duty, go to the county court-house and see the motley crowd that now infest that place—the negro magistrates there sitting to try white men and women. Shall we submit to this?

WHITE MAN.

THE INDEPENDENTS.

The colored independents had a meeting Friday night at New Bethel church, in Varina district. Several of the white candidates were present, the audience being about evenly divided. Everybody had something to say, and it was in the neighborhood of 2 o'clock yesterday morning before the meeting adjourned.

THE MASONIC PIC-NIC.

Sub-Committees Appointed—Master Mason's Daughter's Degree—Rose Croix.

An adjourned meeting of the committee appointed to arrange the celebration of St. John's day, June 24th, was held at St. Albans Hall last night. Chairman Julius Straus presided. A number of details were arranged and sub-committees on grounds and refreshments were appointed. It was decided to have a pic-nic at the Masonic Home on the same order as the very enjoyable one of last year.

MASTER MASON'S DAUGHTER'S DEGREE.

St. John's Lodge, No. 36, A. F. and A. M., calls its members and invited guests together to-morrow night at 8 o'clock. Each member is privileged to carry a lady, his wife, mother, daughter, or sister. Worthy James H. Capers, assisted by Mrs. Robert L. Hechler, and Worthy George H. Ray, D. D., will exemplify the Master Mason's Daughter's degree. The occasion promises to be unusually interesting.

The following is the programme: 1. Overture, Orchestra. 2. Male quartette, "In Silent Mad," F. W. Cunningham, W. K. Mathews, W. A. Galpin, and O. E. Lohman. 3. Opening, Worshipful Master and officers. 4. Baritone solo, Mr. W. A. Galpin. 4. Address, Rev. Brother S. A. Goodwin. 6. Tenor solo, F. W. Cunningham. 7. Recitation, Worshipful James H. Capers. 8. Bass solo, O. E. Lohman. 9. Quartette, "Slumber, Dearest." 10. Overture, Orchestra. Accompanist, Worshipful W. K. Matthews.

Conferring degrees by Worshipful James H. Capers, assisted by Mrs. Robert L. Hechler and Worshipful George H. Ray, D. D., after which the craft will be called from labor to refreshments.

Committee on Entertainment—Worshipful Albert Witt, Brother Frank Cunningham, and Worshipful Junius A. Cosby.

Reception Committee—Worshipful James E. Goode, Worshipful M. C. Lawson, Brother William L. Snider, R. Archie Schutte, J. J. Walton, J. L. Brannan, A. S. Owens, R. J. Burroughs, W. D. Sutherland, and Oscar J. Adams.

St. John's is one of the most flourishing lodges in the city. The present Masonic year has been particularly so. Its membership has been largely increased by the accession of worthy young men, and its treasury accordingly augmented. Now, that the ladies are to have some light, the members will doubtless be licensed to remain at the meetings late at night and return home in peace and harmony.

BRIEF NOTES.

Pelican Chapter of Rose Croix, No. 2, will confer the Rose Croix (18°) next Friday night, May 29th, on a number of aspirants. This will be the last Rose Croix work until October next. The candidates who receive the Rose Croix at this time will be eligible to the Kadosh and Consistory degrees in June.

After the speech-making at the Home Friday afternoon Mr. Julius Straus entered on his subscription book one life member, $100—Major Mann Page—two annual members, $5 each, and fifteen lady members, $1 each; total, $125.

MANCHESTER AND VICINITY.

A Trio of India Games—To Build a Large Vault—Personal and Briefs.

Messrs. Bradley & Owens, of this city, owners of Woodland Heights Poultry-Yards, have just received a trio of the celebrated Cornish India games. These birds are the first of the kind ever owned in Virginia. They are very handsome fowls indeed and justly deserve the high estimation placed upon them. India games are attracting more attention at present than all the other inhabitants of the gallinaceous world. Messrs. Bradley & Owens's yards are visited daily by many spectators curious to see the much-talked-of "Indias," and while they are in company with other pretty fowls, such as B. B. Reds, Red Piles, Silver Duckwings, Shenandoahs, Whites, &c., nobody seems to care to see anything but "Indias." India games were first imported to this country about three years ago.

DIRECTORS CHOSEN.

The Home Building and Loan Association has elected the following officers, President, H. C. Beattie; Vice-President, J. W. Snellings; Secretary and Treasurer: A. J. Bradley; Directors, R. A. Bowen, B. A. Nunnally, T. B. Cersley, Charles Keller, W. D. Anderson, T. J. Nichols, John E. Utz, A. H. Fitzgerald, T. P. Pettigrew, and C. A. Jones.

The report of the Secretary shows the company to be in good financial condition.

The total revenue derived by the city from assessment on personal property of the whites is $4,760.53; colored, $550.22. School-tax assessment of the whites on personal property $568; school-tax assessment of the colored on personal property, $32.87. The colored assessment on real estate for city taxes is $2,507; for school taxes, $358. The white assessment on real estate for city taxes is $28,759; for school taxes, $4,108.

The Manchester Ironsides and the Manchester Giants will play a match game of base-ball at Woodland Heights to-morrow afternoon at 4 o'clock.

TO BUILD A VAULT.

Messrs. Rennie & McIntosh, of the Chesterfield Granite-Works, have been awarded the contract for furnishing and cutting stone for a tremendous vault to be built in Pittsburgh, Pa. The granite will be cut in Manchester, and some of the pieces will weigh twelve tons after they are dressed.

Rev. S. A. Goodwin, D. D., of Grove-Avenue Baptist church, will preach to railroad-men this afternoon at 4 o'clock in Leader Hall. All friends of the Young Men's Christian Association are invited.

Rev. William C. Latane will preach at the Meade-Memorial church this morning and to-night. Services at night will begin at 8:15 o'clock.

Rev. I. J. Spencer will preach at Leader Hall to-night at 8 o'clock.

Track-laying on Decatur street has been completed to about the Petersburg turnpike.

Mrs. Oscar T. Smith, of Durham, N. C., is visiting relatives in the city.

ITEMS FROM THE REGIMENT.

Can Soon Learn to Shoot—Preparing for the Encampment—Brief Notes.

Captain Gasser reports to headquarters that he finds but few of the men in the several companies of the First regiment who cannot within a short time become familiar with the use of the sights of the rifle.

This report is a very agreeable surprise, owing to the very limited instruction the men have had in the use of the rifle.

Next week will begin the regular gallery practice with diminished charges. Each member of the regiment will be required to fire ten shots at the target. A record will be kept of each shot in this manner to test the efficiency of the soldier boys.

SWORD PRESENTATION.

Friday night Second-Lieutenant J. H. Goode, of Company A, was presented with a sword and belt by the members of the company. The presentation was made by Captain E. Leslie Spence, of Company E. This was a well-deserved compliment to Lieutenant Goode, whose appreciation of it was feelingly expressed by him.

THE ENCAMPMENT.

The North Carolina State troops are very much interested in the proposed joint encampment with the First Virginia regiment. All of the North State troops will be in camp at the same time this year. This gives an admirable opportunity for the business young men of Richmond to become acquainted with their comrades in arms from all portions of North Carolina. And, apart from the pleasures anticipated by all, the men believe that it will materially advance the business relations which they have so long had with all sections of the North State.

BRIEF NOTES.

An inspection of Companies A, C, and F will take place on Monday at 8:30 P. M., and Companies B, D, and E on Thursday at the same hour.

Benjamin G. Garner enlisted in Company B last week.

Corporal Thomas Bondar, Company B, has been discharged.

Struck the Striker.

There was a slight row in a bar-room on north Seventeenth street Friday night.

One of the strikers, it seems, undertook to administer personal chastisement to an operative now employed at the Locomotive-Works.

This latter, it is understood, had struck at first, but returned to work.

The man who was set upon succeeded in proving by ocular and practical demonstration that he was perfectly capable of taking care of himself and got the best of the fight.

HIS LEG TAKEN OFF.

MR. POWELL'S INJURED LIMB AMPUTATED AND HE MAY RECOVER.

The Motor-Man and Truck-Driver Arrested and Bailed—Expressions as to How the Accident Occurred.

The condition of Mr. John H. Powell, who had his right leg terribly crushed in the collision that occurred at the corner of Main and Third streets late Friday night between Electric-Car No. 29 and Hook-and-Ladder Truck No. 3, was regarded as very critical yesterday.

Considering the character of his wound, Mr. Powell rested very well through the remaining hours of the night after being taken home.

At 6 o'clock yesterday morning the injured member was amputated by Dr. Hugh M. Taylor. Dr. Hunter McGuire, the family physician, was present, but was too much indisposed to perform the operation, and it was at his request that Dr. Taylor acted.

There were grave fears that Mr. Powell would be unable to stand the amputation, but, although he did not bear it so well as his physicians anticipated, his condition afterwards by no means precluded hope. At the time of the operation he was under the influence of opiates and remained partially so during the day, but retained consciousness and was perfectly aware of his condition. Later in the afternoon, though pronounced a very ill man by the doctors, his life was not despaired of.

ILL, BUT MAY RECOVER.

A short while before midnight Dr. Taylor, who was seen at his office on Fifth street by a DISPATCH reporter, said that while his patient was in a precarious condition the symptoms were slightly more encouraging than earlier in the day. He said he did not think Mr. Powell was hurt internally.

Mr. Powell is principal of the Richmond Seminary, which is located at No. 3 east Grace street, and resides at this institution. He is well known in this city and held in the highest esteem by all with whom he is acquainted. Scores of people inquired at his residence yesterday concerning his condition, and such was the anxiety of his friends that several rumors of his death arose.

Mr. Powell is a man of slight frame and rather below the medium height. For these reasons many of his friends are exceedingly apprehensive lest he shall be unable to stand the severe strain upon his system. He is about fifty or fifty-five years old.

CAPTAIN GATHRIGHT'S CONDITION.

Captain W. T. Gathright, of the truck company, was perhaps the most badly injured man after Mr. Powell. He received painful and ugly cuts about the face and head. One of these is near the forehead and the other on the right cheek near the mouth. His wounds were sewed up by Dr. Ross on the night of the accident and he is now doing very well.

Mr. Henry Landon Cabell, who was on the car, had his foot slightly hurt.

Major Selden said last night that judging from the portions of the car injured and the damage done the truck, the latter must have turned slightly after the front part passed the car. He thinks the rear wheels of the truck hit the car transversely after it had been slightly turned by the tillerman. This appears to be evidenced by the manner in which the left side of the car's splash-board was battered, and is borne out by the statement of Tillerman Shubridge published in this paper yesterday.

MAJOR SELDEN'S THEORY.

The Major thinks that Mr. Powell's leg was probably injured while the two conveyances were in this attitude. He is further of the opinion that had the car struck the truck squarely the former would not have been knocked off the track, as was the case.

Referring to the blame attached to the motor-man, Major Selden said that as the truck was coming up Third street and the car down Main it was impossible for him to perceive it from a distance unless he could have seen around the corner.

When the men undertook to remove the broken car the brakes were found to be so firmly fixed that it took the united efforts of three persons to unloose them sufficiently to put it back in running order.

Mr. Powell was at one time Major Selden's school-teacher, and the latter was particularly grieved at the accident for these reasons.

Mr. Frank Davenport was among the passengers on the car, as were also Messrs. Preston Carson, Egbert G. Leigh, and other prominent business-men.

MOTOR-MAN AND DRIVER ARRESTED.

Mr. Lewis Williams, the motor-man on Car 29, which collided with the truck, was arrested yesterday morning on a warrant sworn out by Captain Angle. The accused was found at his home, No. 312 south Laurel street, by Sergeant Cosby, and as he was quite badly hurt Justice B. A. Jacob accompanied the officer to the house. Williams was bailed in the sum of $300 for his appearance at the Police Court Wednesday. Dr. R. E. Franklin, his physician, thinks that it will be several days before he can be out.

Later in the day Mr. James Weimer, the driver of the truck, was also arrested, while at the engine house, by Sergeant Cosby. He too was bailed for his appearance before the Police Court Wednesday morning.

The condition of Mr. Williams was not thought to be improved last night. When a DISPATCH reporter called at his home on Laurel street about 9 o'clock a brother of the wounded man said that he was slightly unconscious and could not be induced to take medicine. He further stated that his injuries were more serious than was at first supposed, as he seemed to be hurt internally.

COULDN'T HURT A DUTCHMAN.

When the reporter, who next called at the Laurel-street engine-house, asked to see Mr. James Weimer, he was introduced to a young man apparently about twenty-two years old, and told that this was the person he sought. Mr. Weimer remarked that as he was under arrest he preferred not to make any statements until he was examined in court. He said that, barring a severe shaking up which he received, he escaped uninjured and remarked; "You can't hurt a Dutchman."

At the engine-house the accident was the absorbing topic of conversation and those who figured in it were eagerly pressed with questions all day. The firemen all deeply regretted the occurence.

A PASSENGER'S VIEW.

A gentleman who was on the car at the time of the accident approached the DISPATCH reporter a few minutes afterward and said that while he was disinterested toward both parties he thought it but justice to those manning the street-car and to the company to state that it was going very slowly. "I was very observant about the speed," said he, "and I know that we were travelling very slowly. Several persons who were going to the fire were complaining about it. The car was not going over three miles an hour, and I am confident that the moter-man reversed the current as soon as he saw the truck coming. The car struck it about midship."

WHERE MR. POWELL GOT ON.

Another gentleman who was on the car at the time of the accident was asked to tell his view about the collision. He said: "Professor Powell, a friend, and myself boarded the car at Second and Main streets. It was then going very slowly and did not stop for us, but we swung on. Professor Powell got in front and I behind. The conductor slacked up between Second and Third to take on or let off somebody. I do not think the car was going over three miles an hour—certainly not more than four or five. I don't think the motor-man was to blame. While swinging on behind I saw that the truck was coming and knowing that a collision was inevitable, jumped off. I told Professor Powell when he got on with me to come back where I was."

STOOD BY THE PROFESSOR.

Morgan Shepperd, a son of Mr. Joseph H. Shepperd, was standing on the front platform of the car at the time of the accident. His younger brother was in front of him. Just before the car reached the corner Morgan saw the truck coming and seizing the bell-rope pulled it furiously. The next thing he knew "he didn't know nothing," to use a slang expression, for when the collision came he was thrown out the car and was either knocked senseless or too frightened to realize what had happened. He was slightly bruised about the legs, but not otherwise hurt.

DRIVEN INTO HIS HAT.

Strange to say his little brother was not injured at all, but had his Derby hat completely demoralized. It is said that he had to be pulled out—certainly it was very forcibly pressed on his head.

Morgan was questioned by the reporter yesterday and asked to give an account of the collision. He knew he would have to testify in the case, and therefore was rather afraid to talk, but said the car was not going at an unusual speed. He would make no guess as to how many miles an hour they were running, but said that as soon as he pulled the bell the conductor put on the break and reversed the motor. They were then in front of Cooke's grocery store.

GIBBS WOULD NOT TALK.

Mr. James H. Gibbs, one of the firemen on the truck who had his hand badly hurt and one of his fingers broken, was asked by a DISPATCH reporter to give their side of the story. He said he had been requested by the Chief to furnish him a written statement and therefore preferred not to talk. He added, however, that the gong on the truck was ringing continuously. Mr. Gibbs was on the street yesterday and discussed the accident freely with his friends. He said when the collision came he was knocked senseless and turned a sort of somersault in the air. His thumb was badly hurt, while the bone in his forefinger was split and the member will probably have to be amputated to-day.

MEMORIAL SERVICES TO-DAY.

Several Bodies to Attend—Visiting Clergymen—Sermons to Mechanics.

The Ladies' Hollywood Memorial Association will inaugurate to-day the custom which they propose to observe annually hereafter of attending service in a body on the Sunday preceding Memorial-day.

This service will be held at 5 o'clock at the Second Presbyterian church, where the pastor, Rev. Dr. M. D. Hoge, will officiate.

The ladies of the Hollywood Memorial Association will meet in the lecture-room of the church at 4:30 o'clock. They are expected to wear their badges.

Pickett and Lee Camps and the Howitzer veterans will attend in bodies. The first two bodies will meet at their respective halls at 4 o'clock. A general invitation has been extended all the military organizations in the city to be present. All veterans and soldiers are requested to wear their badges and uniforms.

VISITING CLERGYMEN.

The pulpits of most of the Episcopal churches of this city will be filled to-day by members of the Council which has been in session in Petersburg for nearly a week.

The Rev. Kinloch Nelson, D. D., professor of New Testament literature, Church polity, and pastoral theology at the Theological Seminary, at Alexandria, will deliver an address at St. John's at the 11 A. M. service.

Rev. Mr. Carmichael, of St. Paul's, will preach at Grace church in Petersburg and his pulpit will be filled by Bishop Randolph.

Rev. Mr. Clarke, of Fredericksburg, will officiate at the Monumental.

SERMON TO MECHANICS.

Rev. W. H. Atwill, of Clay-Street Methodist church, will preach a sermon to the Junior United Order American Mechanics at Pine-Street Baptist church this afternoon at 4 o'clock. This interesting occasion has been arranged for by Aurora Council, No. 28, and they have been joined by Rescue and A. W. Glenn councils, all of whom meet in the West End of the city.

Rev. Mr. Hutson, pastor of Pine-Street church, will assist in the exercises. The choir, who have volunteered their services, have prepared an excellent musical programme.

BRIEF NOTES.

Rev. Dr. J. M. Frost came home yesterday, returning from the convention and from Kentucky, where he has been holding a meeting with the church in which he grew up and which gave him his license to preach. He will be in his pulpit to-day at Leigh-Street.

Two events of interest will take place to-day at the First Presbyterian church. The anniversary of the Male Orphan Asylum will be held at 4:30 P. M., to be addressed by Rev. Dr. Tudor, and at 8 P. M. the anniversary of the Ladies' Missionary Society will be addressed by Rev. Dr. Woods, missionary from China, who is home on a brief visit.

Rev. George H. Ray will preach this afternoon at 4 o'clock at the Soldiers' Home. His son will fill his pulpit at night.

The Shreveport (La.) *Times* says editorily: Rev. W. S. Penick has been ably assisted the past week at the revival services of the First Baptist church by Dr. W. W. Landrum, of Richmond, Va., who comes to us as no stranger, having been pastor of the same church for several years. He is lovingly remembered by all his friends, and his welcome to the city again is a generous one.

WHAT THE OARSMEN ARE DOING.

The Membership of the Virginia Club Greatly Increased.

There is great enthusiasm at present in boating circles, and the Virginia club is enjoying greater prosperity than ever before in its history.

Its membership at present reaches about sixty-five, and of this number twenty-six have been added during this season. The club has just received two new pleasure-boats, and as many more have been ordered and are expected shortly.

The Richmond College crew, which has been training for several weeks under the instruction of Mr. James C. Lamb, is progressing finely, and although some of the men have hardly ever been on the water before they have already acquired considerable skill in handling the oars. One of the Virginia crew predicts that they will soon make formidable rivals for the former club, as they are all of fine physique, and seem to take to boating naturally.

Contributions for the club to be established under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association are now coming in more rapidly, and the committees are extremely hopeful of its success.

THE ORPHAN BOYS' OUTING.

They Have a Good Time at Mayo's Island as Mr. Brown's Guests.

The boys of the Male Orphan Asylum were given a fish-fry and pic-nic at Mayo's Island yesterday by Mr. J. Thompson Brown, and a royal good time they had.

When the youngsters reached the island they immediately threw out their fishing lines and patiently awaited a bite, as Mr. Brown had promised to pay 5 cents for each fish caught. When the little fellows had finished fishing and had a general counting up Mr. Brown found himself with quite a big bill to pay, much to the delight of the boys.

A fish-fry dinner was served by Mr. and Mrs. Craig with Brunswick stew added, which was greatly enjoyed. After dinner there were foot-races, apple-tart cutting, and other sports. An exciting dog race between the asylum canines and several dogs owned by individuals closed the days' festivities.

The boys with their matron, Mrs. Joseph Gill, marched up Fourteenth street to Franklin, where they took the electric cars for the asylum.

Police Court Yesterday.

Spencer Booker (colored), a small negro boy, was charged with stealing a silver watch and chain and $15 in currency, the property of David Rider. The case was continued till next Saturday.

T. D. Ryan, drunk and threatening to kill his daughter. Committed for six months in default of surety.

Ben. Gilman, drunk and begging on the streets. Thirty days in jail.

Joseph Zimmer, drunk and striking W. L. Wallace. Fined $5 and cost.

Charles Roach, assaulting and striking Charles Rice with a hatchet. Continued till Tuesday.

Another Collision on Third and Main Streets.

A collision occurred yesterday afternoon on Third and Main streets between the buggy of Mr. Charles H. Page and that of another gentleman. No one was hurt, but the vehicle of Mr. Page was badly smashed.

MINERS' STRIKE AT AN END.

Nearly All Gone to Work in Illinois—Gained Nothing—Signed Old Contracts.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

CHICAGO, May 23.—The miners' strike in Illinois is practically at an end. The men at Spring Valley, Streator, Braidwood, and Wilmington resumed work yesterday. One or two of the smaller places are still in a state of agitation, but it is expected that the example of those already named will have its effect and induce them to settle matters. Not one of the large companies is now idle. The same terms of agreement which prevailed last year hold good this season until next May. The men gained nothing by the strike, for they have all signed contracts which in no way differ from those that bound them last year.

FOURTEEN BALLOT-BOXES STOLEN.

An Effort to Defeat the Validity of an Election Which Failed.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., May 23.—At midnight last night somebody broke into the Sheriff's office at Somerville, the county-seat of Morgan county, and stole fourteen ballot-boxes. An election to locate the courthouse was held last week and resulted in favor of Decatur. It is supposed the outrage was perpetrated by some persons who hoped that the loss of the boxes would destroy the validity of the election. Duplicates had been kept as usual by the managers and no harm results.

"A GROSS BREACH OF FAITH."

The Parnell Delegates Indignant About Sending $15,000 to McCarthy.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, May 23.—At a meeting of the Parnell Delegates Reception Committee held to-day resolutions were adopted declaring that the action of certain members of the Parliamentary Fund Association in forwarding to Justin McCarthy $15,000 of the proceeds of the Dillon-O'Brien reception fund is a gross breach of faith to the subscribers, and that it should be sent to Kenny and Webb, the authorized joint treasurers of both sections of the Irish Parliamentary party.

EUPOPEAN TREATIES.

A FORMIDABLE CUSTOMS COALITION INDICATED BY EVENTS.

France in Danger of Isolation—Uncle Sam and Spain—The Russo-French Entente—Notes.

[Copyrighted, 1891, by the New York Associated Press.]

BERLIN, May 23.—The attention of the Foreign Office is absorbed in commercial treaty negotiations, some of the results of which will have a direct bearing on German's relations with the United States. The arrangements with Italy, Switzerland, and Roumania are progressing towards an *entente*. Belgium is also negotiating with Germany, but that country is less likely than the others to be drawn within the customs bond. Russia's overtures for a reduction of the German corn-tariff in exchange for a lessened tariff on German manufactures have been received in a friendly spirit here, but the opposition of Austria is expected to bar the way to a definite arrangement.

AUSTRIA'S OBJECTION.

Austria tried to secure a reduction of the German grain tariff in favor of herself exclusively. She failed in this, however, and now raises points of the German-Austrian treaty as precluding a differential treatment for Russian imports into Germany. Servia has offered to join the commercial alliance on the basis of the free entry of her leading products—swine and cattle—into Germany, Austria, and Hungary. As the Servian exports cross Austrian territory in order to reach Germany, the Berlin Government wants the Austrian authorities to guarantee against the dangers of infection from Servian swine.

SERVIAN AGAINST AMERICAN PORK.

The admission of Servian pork into Germany would be inconsistent with the prohibition against American pork, which is acknowledged to be safer and of a superior quality.

The general position of the negotiations now really gives reason to expect a formidable Central-European customs coalition, including Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy, Switzerland, Roumania, and Servia, while Belgium, Russia, and Spain may have partial reciprocity with the general European bund.

THE AMERICO-SPANISH ARRANGEMENT.

The effects of the American convention with Spain have begun to excite press comments. The Hamburg papers denounce the convention as a permanent blocking out of the German trade with the Antilles. They contend that the German-Spanish treaty of July, 1888, affords a basis for the Foreign Office to interfere. Until the pending European treaties seem to be secured no pressure upon Spain will probably be tried. As soon as these are arranged the special privileges which the convention accords to America will be contested by the combined Powers.

FRANCE THREATENED WITH ISOLATION.

The situation of France, which country is menaced with commercial isolation, dictates a governmental policy of adhesion to a moderate tariff admitting of reciprocity treaties. As far as Germany is concerned the French Government appears to rely upon the maintenance of the Frankfort treaty as insuring France the "most favored nation" treatment, but among the critical political consequences arising from Germany's commercial alliance a denunciation of the Frankfort treaty is now freely discussed in official circles. Schouvaloff, the German Ambassador to Russia, who is now in St. Petersburg, supports Giers, the Russian Prime Minister, in proposing a commercial *entente* with Germany. M. Viangali, M. de Giers's assistant in the Foreign Office, who is a strong pan-Slavist, having great influence in the Czar's circle, uses his power to paralyze the negotiations as tending to weaken the alliance between France and Russia.

FRANCE AND THE CZAR.

A sensation has been caused by a discovery relating to the French exhibition at Moscow, which gave the Czar occasion to show his solicitude for the French. To avoid wounding the feelings of the French committee the exhibition, which was in need of funds, secretly applied to the Jewish and Russian capitalists Grunwald and Poliakoff, and got a loan on depositing 1,200,000 tickets as security. Grunwald and Poliakoff became involved in a quarrel with the committee and claimed control of the entrance-money of the exhibition. The rupture led to a scandal.

THE CZAR AND THE HATED HEBREWS.

The Czar was incensed that the fair should have fallen into the hands of the detested Jews, and to-day it was announced that the projected visit to Moscow of himself, the Czarina, and their family depended upon a settlement between the committee and the Jewish loan-mongers. If the matter is not speedily settled he will abandon his visit in order to avoid giving offence to France by going to Moscow without patronizing the exhibition. He has sent the promoters of the fair an angry intimation that the presence of the Imperial family as an assistance to Jewish speculation is impossible. His ire has also been increased by the fact that during his stay in Moscow he desired to lay the foundation-stone of the monument to be erected in memory of his father and also to open the first exhibition of Central Asian products held in Russia.

THE CZAR "WON'T PLAY."

The whole programme has been dropped. The Czar would now send the Grand Duke Vladimir to inaugurate the monument, himself remaining in St. Petersburg. A message plainly expressing the Czar's indignation has been telegraphed to the Moscow authorities, stating that the original French promoters of the show must buy out the Jews.

PECULIAR PREDICAMENT OF A CLERGYMAN.

Rev. Mr. Ayers, a young American clergyman who has been preaching in the English chapel here, has been the victim of a peculiar persecution. A young German woman took a strong fancy to him, and made it a habit to attend the church and gaze obtrusively in rapt attention at the preacher. She followed him about the streets and finally went to his room. She forced him to move from one boarding-house to another to elude her. She threatened to commit suicide before his eyes unless he listened to her suit. The American Minister, Mr. Phelps, was finally appealed to by Mr. Ayers. Mr. Phelps communicated with the lady's family, and it being evident that her mind was unbalanced she was sent to an asylum.

BRITISH AGAINST PORTUGUESE.

Serious Conflict Between Colonists in South Africa—Seven Portuguese Killed.

[By Anglo-American cable to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, ENG., May 23.—A dispatch from Lorenzo Marquez, a Portuguese town of Africa on the north side of Delagoa bay, says that the British twin-screw torpedo-cruiser Brick, six guns, has arrived there and reports that a serious conflict has taken place between British and Portuguese colonists. The troops stationed at the Portuguese military post on the river Pungwe have attacked the British South Africa Company's expedition, commanded by Commissioner H. H. Johnston. Seven Portuguese were killed. The British loss is unknown. The British twin-screw cruiser Magicienne and British composite gunboat Pigeon, six guns each, have arrived at Beira, Mashonaland, a Portuguese settlement in South Africa. It was at Beira that in April the Portuguese authorities seized the British mail-sacks and refused to allow them to be carried to their destination.

PERU'S CONGRESSIONALISTS.

Their Version of the Reported Capture of Taltal—A Recognition.

[By Anglo-American cable to the Dispatch.]

PARIS, FRANCE, May 23.—The delegates of the Congressional party, whose headquarters are in this city, referring to the report cabled to Europe from Iquique by way of the United States that forces of President Balmaceda have captured Taltal, give a wholly different version of the affair. The Chilean delegates declare that the Government war-ships Imperiale and Almirante Condell entered the harbor of Taltal during the absence of the Congressional fleet from that place, landed troops, and issued a proclamation in favor of President Balmaceda. But, instead of re-establishing the old *regime*, the inhabitants attacked the Government troops and drove them away.

The Congressional delegates also announce that Bolivia has officially recognized the Congressional forces as belligerents.

A Son of Salvation Booth in Trouble.

[By Anglo-American cable to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, ENG., May 23.—The *St. James Gazette* this afternoon says that the fact that Bramwell Booth, a son of General Booth, of the Salvation army, is a creditor in $10,000 of a bankrupt stock-broker named Taylor suggests stock-exchange gambling on the part of Mr. Booth. The *Gazette*, on this ground, demands that explanations be given.

The Argentine Revolt.

[By Anglo-American cable to the Dispatch.]

BUENOS AYRES, May 23.—The statement that a revolution had broken out in the province of Cordova is confirmed. There was firing in the streets of Cordova, the capital of the province of that name, Thursday and Friday. It is believed the revolt was instigated by leaders of rival factions in Buenos Ayres. Troops quelled the disturbance yesterday evening. The insurgents had cut the telegraph wires, but communication with Cordova has been restored by the Government troops.

A NAVAL ORDER.

Many Positions in the Norfolk Navy-Yard Declared Vacant.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 23.—Secretary Tracy to-day issued the following special order:

REORGANIZATION OF THE CIVIL FORCES AT NAVY-YARDS.

Special Order No. 2:

1. All positions of foremen or master mechanics at the Norfolk navy yard are hereby declared vacant on July 1st next.

2. The following positions are included in this order: Construction department—1, master shipwright; 2, master joiner; 3, master ship-fitter; 4, ——; 5, master ship-smith; 6, master plumber; 7, master boat-builder. Steam engineering department—8, master machinist; 9, master boiler-maker. Yards and docks department—10, foreman of laborers.

3. An examination of applicants for fil