WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

Stories and Chats with Noted Men on Various Topics.

BIGGEST FARMER OF THE SENATE.

Dakota Farms and How They Are Managed--Farmers Lending Money--Demagogues, Sheridan, and a Crank--Jimmie Voorhees.

[Special correspondence of the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, December 12.--The new senators from the Northwest are bringing in wonderful reports of the immense crops of wheat and other cereals which have been raised this year in the Dakotas and Minnesota. A large part of the wheat of North Dakota is yet unthreshed, and in those counties where the greatest distress was last year the crop is the largest. Hundreds of thousands of bushels of grain are lying under the snow from the lack of hands to do the harvesting. The local banks are full of money and the Minneapolis business-men who were here at the time of the meeting of the Republican National Committee told me that cords of money were coming from the Northwest to them for investment and that the probability was that a great amount of money would be sent East to be loaned. Mr. Brackett, one of the biggest operators of Minneapolis, says that about $400,000,000 have been gotten out of the ground of the two Dakotas and Minnesota this year and the farmers of these States are paying off their mortgages and are looking about for good loans.

One of the biggest farmers of the United States and the man who controls perhaps as large an amount of cultivated land as any man in the United States Senate is Senator Casey, of North Dakota. The Carrington and Casey Land Company has a large number of square miles of Dakota land and it has 5,000 acres under cultivation. Senator Casey is the business manager of this tract, and he is one of the broadest-minded farmers in the country. He looks, however, more like a scientific *literateur* than a farmer, and he is one of the best business-men and one of the most cultivated gentlemen of the Senate. He is a man of broad ideas, high culture, and he has made a considerable study of all questions relating to the agricultural interests of the country. He comes from the region of large farms, and when I asked him today to tell me something of the biggest farms in the United States he replied:

THE BIGGEST FARMS.

"I suppose the biggest farm in the United States is the Dalrymple farm, which is located in the Red-River Valley, and which belongs to Oliver Dalrymple. This farm contains 30,000 acres of the richest of Dakota lands. It is well farmed and its output is very large. The finest farm in the United States is the Grandin farm, which belongs to E. B. & J. L. Grandin, who came from Tidiout, Penn., some years ago and bought a large track of Dakota land. This farm is in the Red-River Valley about twenty-five miles north of Fargo. It has from 10,000 to 15,000 acres under cultivation, and it has made a profit of $480,000 during the past ten years. The lands composing it are now worth from thirty-five to fifty dollars per acre, and Mr. Grandin has other farms near this. He is one of the best farmers in the country, and has as superintendent Mr. A. W. Dalrymple, a nephew of Oliver Dalrymple, who owns the big farm. In addition to these farms there are in North Dakota a great number of farms ranging from one thousand to six thousand acres. We have five thousand acres in one place, and we keep four thousand acres of this under cultivation."

"How can you manage such a large farm, Senator?" said I.

"The big Dakota farms are run on business principles," replied Senator Casey, "Everything is systematically arranged and we know just exactly what everything costs and what everything is worth to us. A farm like ours, for instance, has its bookkeeper, its overseer, and its employees. We have reports every day from the farm, showing just what has been done during the day, and what each man, each horse, and each machine has done. We estimate the wear and tear of every machine in proportion to the amount of work it does, and we credit it with all its repairs, and know its life and value. We know just what each acre of wheat costs us, and the profits arising from it and we can tell to a cent just how much of an interest we are getting on the capital we have invested. All farming of this kind is done on a large scale. We have, for instance, twenty harvesters, and we can harvest three hundred and twenty acres of wheat a day. In putting in the wheat we drill in about two hundred and fifty acres a day, and our machines are all worked under the direction of a foreman, so that neither time nor labor is lost. In threshing we can thresh from twelve hundred to two thousand bushels of wheat a day with one machine, and the grain runs from the threshing machines into wagons, and these are dumped into the pit of our grain-elevator and are carried by an endless chain of buckets to the rooms in which we wish it to be stored."

THE FARMS OF THE FUTURE.

"Do you not think, Senator, that the tendency of the times is toward small farms rather than large ones?"

"No," replied Senator Casey, "I do not. I think everything points to expansive farming. The farms of the future in this country will be large ones rather than small ones. Farming becomes more of a business every year and the outlook is that from now on farming will be one of the best-paying industries of the United States. The day of cheap lands is passing away. There is very little unoccupied Government land left which are worth anything, and the day has come when the prices of cereals must rise and the people must pay the farmers what their products are worth. The increased consumption of wheat the world over averages forty million bushels of wheat every year and this increase will go on. The time will come when there is less wheat than the world wants and prices will have to rise to induce the farmers to raise it. As it is now it does not pay to raise wheat in most parts of the United States. The State Board of Agriculture for Ohio lately investigated the matter and found that it cost $20 an acre to raise wheat in that State and the Secretary of the Board of Trade of Toledo made a similar investigation and found it cost $20 per acre to raise wheat in Southern Michigan. We find that it costs us about $6 per acre for all the wheat we raise in North Dakota and you cannot get the farmers to raise wheat in Ohio until you pay them a price that will net them a good percentage over the $20 that it costs to raise it. I look for the time when wheat will be $1.50 a bushel and even at this rate it will hardly pay to raise it in some parts of the Union."

DEMAGOGUES AND THE ALLIANCE.

These big crops of which Senator Casey speaks have practically ruined the Farmers' Alliance as a party, and the United States senators here are breathing easier and are talking with more independence than they have shown for a year. Those who are re-elected pay no attention to the Alliance, and their feeling is well expressed by a remark of Senator Pugh in the Senate cloak-room just before the last session closed. Vest and Pugh were sitting together in the room and Pugh was looking over his mail. He would take up a letter, open it, glance at it, and then give it a vindictive sling, throwing it down upon the floor without reading it. He did this with letter after letter, and Vest at last noticed him and said:

"Why, Senator Pugh, what's the matter? And is that the way you treat your correspondence?"

"Yes," grunted Pugh. "Those letters are Alliance letters, and I am sick of them. I was elected a few weeks ago, and I am out of the demagogue business for the next five years."

He did not smile nor change a muscle of his face as he uttered this remark, and he meant what he said. There is no doubt but that our United States senators in their souls hate demagogy as much as any class of men in the country, but they have to do it to keep their positions. There is hardly any one of them who has not more or less of the demagogue about him at times.

OTHER DEMAGOGUES.

Ingalls was a demagogue when he hedged as to the Alliance men at the time that he hoped to be elected to the Senate but failed. Even Sherman now and then descends into demagogy and such men as Gorman and Bayard are more or less demagogues. The worst demagogues are those who try to make capital out of their poverty, their manners, or their clothing, and one of the worst demagogues we ever had here was Blue-Jeans Williams, of Indiana, who made his capital out of wearing jeans and being a friend of the farmer. Senator Peffer, of Kansas, is said to be a bird of the same kind, and the stories of Simpson and his socks recall the case of Taulbee of Kentucky, who was shot by Kincaid. Taulbee came from the mountain regions of his State, and he was accustomed to take off his shoes and stockings and to show his feet to his constituents, telling them as he pointed to them that those were the hard and horny feet of a ploughman, and that he wanted his friends to snow to the crowned heads of Europe, the Queen of England, and the King of France, that a ploughman in the United States was as good as any man and that he could be elected to Congress.

HOW GENERAL GEORGE SHERIDAN SETTLED A CRANK.

Speaking of these congressional cranks and their crazy theories which they are already rushing into the two houses in the shape of bills, I heard Mr. Leech, the Director of the Mint, tell a good anti-silver story the other night concerning an incident of General George Sheridan's stumping campaign of last fall. Said Mr. Leech:

Sheridan was going to make a speech in a town not a thousand miles from Washington, and he was warned before he left the hotel that he would probably meet an old, gray-haired, long-bearded, plausible-looking fellow during his stay, and that he ought to have nothing to do with him, for he was a crank. The man was fully described to him and he knew him when he was accosted by him within a few steps of the hotel. The man asked Sheridan if he might reply to his speech that evening. General Sheridan said that he had no control over the meeting, and that he could not give him an opportunity. The old man then asked General Sheridan if he would answer him if he asked him any questions during his speech, and General Sheridan replied that he would. That night there was a very large audience in the City Hall, and Sheridan's financial speech was received with great applause. In the midst of it the old man stood up and said: "General Sheridan, I may be wrong, but I would like to ask you a question."

"There are nine chances out of ten that you are wrong," replied Sheridan, "but I will answer you."

"What I wish to ask," continued the old man, 'is this: Do you mean to say that if the Government of the United States takes a piece of paper and prints on one side of it the words: 'This is one dollar' and under it the words: 'That it is legal tender for all debts, customs, and public dues,' and on the back of it prints the words 'This is one dollar,' do you mean to say that that does not make it a good dollar and as good for use as any gold or silver coin in the United States?"

General Sheridan looked at the man as he stood there in the midst of the audience and replied:

"Old man, I will answer your question by asking you another. Suppose the Government of the United States should take you and stamp on your forehead the words 'Daniel Webster.' Suppose they should pick you up and run you through one of the great Government printing-presses and stamp on your back in letters a foot long 'Daniel Webster.' Now, would that make you a United States senator?"

The audience roared and laughed and the old man sat down.

UNCLE JERRY ENDORSES HIM.

One of the richest of the new members of the House is the Hon. John Mitchell, of Milwaukee. Mitchell is the son of Alexander Mitchell, the great railroad-man, and he is many times a millionaire. The Mitchell house at Milwaukee is one of the finest in the United States, and John Mitchell, in coming from it to Washington, wanted to rent a house here which would not seem uncomfortable to him. He looked about and selected one which cost $8,000 a year and told the real estate agent he would take it. The real estate man said, "All right," but excused himself from making the lease that afternoon, as he was very busy, and he asked Mr. Mitchell to call around the next day. He knew nothing about him except that he was John Mitchell, from Wisconsin, and he did not propose to lease a $5,000 house to a tenant about whose credit he knew nothing. As soon as Mitchell had left the office he jumped into a cab and drove to the house of Secretary Rusk and told him he wanted to know something about this new congressman named Mitchell, who came from Milwaukee.

"What do you want to know about him?" asked the Secretary of Agriculture. "As far as I know he is a very good fellow and a very bright man. I don't know who he is for for Speaker, but he is a good man."

"I don't care a cent about his politics and his church relations," replied the agent. "What I want to know is about his credit. Is he good to pay $5,000 a year house-rent? That's what I want to know."

"Well," said Uncle Jerry, with a smile as he stroked the long, gray beard which hangs below his Santa-Claus-like face, "I think he is. If John Mitchell makes you out a check for three million dollars you may bring it here and I will endorse it, and that check will be the best piece of paper you ever had in your hand. But my endorsement won't help it, and it will be worth just as much without it."

JIMMIE VOORHEES AND JOHN M'CULLOUGH.

Speaking of great men's sons, I see that Senator Voorhees's boy James has written another book. It is entitled "The Tale of Wealth" and it is not of that striking character which will set the country on fire. Young Voorhees is now, I judge, about thirty years old. He is a tall, thin, wild-eyed young man, with a high forehead and a great shock of brown hair, which stands up from his cranium as though it was covered with cowlicks. He has a very intense air and is extremely earnest in everything he undertakes. His earnestness, however, has not so far been productive of very great success. He started out at one time, I believe, as a minstrel and from that drifted into travelling about with second-class theatrical troupes. He has a liking for the stage and his friends told him that he had histrionic talent. He was doing this when the late John McCullough and Senator Voorhees dined together one day. John McCullough was a great friend of Senator Voorhees, and upon the latter telling him that he had a son on the stage McCullough offered to take the boy into his troupe and make an actor of him if he had it in him. The result was that the Senator wrote to his son and young Voorhees went to New York and there joined the company. McCullough soon saw either that the young man was not a success or he tired of his bargain for some reason or other and got rid of him. I talked with young Mr. Voorhees about this career the other night. Said he:

"I saw before we left New York to make a trip through the West that McCullough was not pleased with me, and that he had decided to get rid of me. I wanted him to advance some money to me to buy some theatrical costumes for my wardrobe and take the sum out of my salary. He told me he thought I had better not buy the wardrobe, as I could not tell what might happen, and I could get along without them. As we went on through New York and out to Cleveland I saw other indications, and at Detroit I was left out of the cast. It was shortly after this that there was an act in one of the plays on which the whole troupe appeared on the stage. I had taken my stand with the rest, when McCullough spoke very roughly to me and asked what I was doing there. I was thunderstruck, and after the rehearsal was over I went to him and told him that I saw he wished to get rid of me, and that I would resign my position. He said that he would accept my resignation, and asked me if $50 would do me any good. I replied that it would, and he thereupon told me to come to the hotel and he would give it to me. I did so, and with that $50 I went to my home in Indiana. I was getting $25 a week as a salary, and there was a half-week's salary due me. As soon as I got home I sent a check to Mr. McCullough for the other $37.50. It was some time after this that I happened to be in Washington when Mr. McCullough was playing there. I called upon him at his hotel. He received me kindly, and among other things said what I did not consider a very kind thing."

"What was that?" I asked.

"Well," replied Mr. Voorhees, with a slight laugh, "he said, 'Now, Jimmy, I like you very much. In fact, I've never had anything against you. The only trouble with you, Jimmy, is that you are such a damn fool.' I don't think that was kind, do you?"

"Not very," said I.

"Well," continued Mr. Voorhees, "I met him again in New York. This was just at the time he returned from Europe. I had not seen him for some months, and I rushed into the theatre during rehearsal and went right up to the stage and held out my hand and said during the acting: 'How do you do, John? I am glad to see you.' He stared at me as though he did not know me, and told me to get out of his road. I suppose he was very angry at my presumption in speaking to him at such a time, and it may be that his mind had begun to break. I thought I could see evidences of this during the time I was with him."

"And what are you doing now?" I asked.

"I am in New York doing newspaper work and writing upon different subjects of various kinds. I have great hopes of my new book, which has just come out, and I hope some time to make a name in literature." FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Thrown from a Wagon and Killed.

HARRISONBURG, VA., December 11.--Caleb Durkholder, a prominent farmer and truckman, has met with a fatal accident. His horses ran away, throwing him from a wagon and fracturing his skull. Death came to his relief in a short time.

Hickok's No. 1, H. D. C., Fig, and Caroline Sun-Cured are Pure, Clean, and Choice Sun-Cured Tobaccos. Try them.

TALK OF THE TOWNS.

NOTES OF INTEREST TO VIRGINIANS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Personal, General, and Social News from All the Cities and Towns of the Commonwealth.

Norfolk.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

NORFOLK, December 12.--Assistant-Engineer W. Strother Smith, of the navy-yard, and his bride, formerly Miss Irma Abrams, of Orlando, Fla., are expected in Norfolk in about a week. They were married a few days ago, and Mrs. Smith is the daughter of Major Alexander S. Abrams, of Orlando.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas P. Bullock have returned from their wedding trip.

Mrs. Ida Heller, of Duluth, Minn., is in the city visiting her brother, Councilman J. D. Hofheimer.

Dr. B. Frank Manning, of Fargo, N. D., formerly of the Roanoke (Weldon) *News*, and subsequently of the Danville *Daily News*, arrived here yesterday on a visit to his cousin, Mr. E. L. C. Manning.

Naval-Cadet Wendell Neville, United States navy, is visiting his mother and other relatives in Portsmouth.

The many friends of Mr. O. E. Lasher, United States navy, always very popular in Norfolk and Portsmouth, have been pleased to meet him this week. He is on the Jamestown and will be here for two months or more.

Captain John Sharrett is very ill at his home, on County street, Portsmouth, and Mr. John E. West, the well-known builder of the same city, is prostrate with the grip.

Rev. Charles W. Cain, of the North Carolina Methodist Episcopal Conference, is in Portsmouth to spend a portion of the Christian holidays with relatives. He is located at Fairfield.

Major John C. Winder, general manager of the Seaboard Air Line, was in the city several days ago this week. So was Colonel A. Pope, of the Norfolk and Western.

Mr. J. B. Harris and Miss Eva L. Whitehurst will be married next Wednesday at Emanuel Protestant Episcopal church, Kempsville.

Mr. J. J. Barkrow, of Rochester, N. Y., is on a business visit to Norfolk.

Police-Justice J. Frank East has returned from his trip North.

Colonel William A. Boykin, of the Fifth Maryland regiment, was in Norfolk the most of the past week.

Mr. J. O. Magruder, of Charlottesville, who has been visiting his brother-in-law, Colonel William H. Stewart, in Portsmouth for a month, returned home yesterday.

The Methodist ministers of Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Berkley will, after January 1st, have a general exchange of pulpits on the third Sunday in each month.

Quite a number of business-men of North Carolina have been in Norfolk this week.

Rev. R. W. Forsyth, rector of Trinity church, Portsmouth, has been in Smithfield several days this week preparing a class for confirmation by the Bishop, the Episcopal church at that place not having any rector.

Dr. F. W. Morgan, of Berkley, continues sick at his residence.

Mr. B. P. Holland has been appointed assistant-superintendent of the Norfolk, Albemarle and Atlantic railroad.

Mrs. W. B. Todd and son, of Washington, D. C., are visiting relatives in Norfolk.

A party of sportsmen from Atlantic City, N. J., passed through the city yesterday to spend several days in gunning on the Currituck marshes.

Mr. W. R. Veith has resigned from the Select Council.

Captain George R. Drummond is quite sick at St. Vincent's Hospital.

Mrs. Alice L. Pyle and her daughter, Miss Gussie, who have been the guests of Mrs. Junius A. Coleman, on Granby street, have returned to their home, in Richmond.

Mr. J. H. Watters, the hardware merchant, is down with the grip at his home, on York street.

Miss Nannie Woodward, of Front Royal, and her uncle, Colonel F. N. King, who have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Cooke, on Chamberlaine Place, returned home this week.

Cards are out for the marriage of Miss Evelyn Eberson and Mr. H. C. Nofheimer on the 30th instant.

It is announced that Miss Kate Armistead, a charming young lady of Portsmouth, eldest daughter of the late Beverly A. Armistead, and Mr. Willis A. Hart, draughtsman in the navy-yard, are to be married in January.

Captain and Mrs. Samuel Hodges, of Wilson, N. C., and Mrs. G. Woodville Smith, of Lynchburg, are visiting Major and Mrs. Harry Hodges in Bute street.

Norman Lewis, local editor of the Portsmouth *Progress*, has resigned to take charge of the Suffolk *Daily Progress*.

Dr. Swepson J. Brookes and wife, of Sweet Chalybeate Springs, are enjoying a visit to this section.

Mrs. A. S. Wheelan, of Roanoke, arrived in Norfolk yesterday to visit friends.

Captain Richard Irby, of Ashland, arrived in Portsmouth yesterday visiting his daughter, Mrs. H. E. Cutherell.

Among the visitors in Norfolk during the week on pleasure or business were Mr. George Grange and wife, Atlanta, Ga.; H. L. Pelouze, Richard D. Robinson and wife, A. C. Diggs, R. A. Gathwright, Robert Lecky, Jr., J. W. Young, L. Midyette, Richmond; A. S. Sale, Lynchburg; Edward Butcher, W. D. Smith, and J. H. Rodgers, Petersburg; John T. Sims and W. M. Whitney, Danville; J. M. Wiley, Charleston, W. Va.; R. K. Atwood and D. Atwood, Boston; George F. Falling, Key Port, N. J., and W. R. Cox, Sweetwater, Fla.

Danville.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

DANVILLE, VA., December 12.--Mrs. James E. Schoolfield made a visit to the northern cities this week.

Miss Susie Howison is visiting her sister, Mrs. L. C. Berkeley.

Miss Norvell Otey, of Lynchburg, is visiting Miss Kate Gravely.

Mr. John T. Watson and bride stopped at Asheville, N. C., *en route* South, and spent a day with their friends Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Robinson.

Mrs. E. L. Gilmer, of Greensboro', is visiting her sister, Mrs. Charles H. Conrad.

Miss Eliza Williams, of Winston, has been visiting Mrs. John Graham.

Mrs. J. P. Hall and Miss V. C. Hall, of Suffolk, who have been visiting here, left Friday for a brief visit to Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Claiborne have returned to the city.

Miss Lottie Barksdale, of Richmond, has been visiting Miss Kate Gravely.

Miss Kate Ayers, daughter of ex-Attorney-General Ayers, is visiting Miss Jennie Belle Bethel.

Mrs. P. T. Conrad, of Richmond, has been spending several days with the family of Mr. Charles H. Conrad.

Mr. J. S. Carr, of Durham, was in the city on Wednesday.

Mrs Rosa Freeman, of Kansas City, who is visiting her uncle, Mr. R. E. Freeman, will leave for her home soon after the holidays.

Miss Grey Morehead is visiting her sister, Mrs. William Nelson.

Miss Fannie Harvie is still visiting in Washington, D. C., and will not be at home until the holidays.

Mr. L. A. Francisco will sail on the 12th instant for the old country.

Hon. Lee S. Overman, of North Carolina, has been visiting Mr. Edwin Overman.

Captain J. R. Hutchings, of Durham, was in the city on Tuesday.

Miss Nannie B. Winston, of Glen Allen, Va., is visiting Mrs. John W. Holland.

Miss Emma Fitzgerald is the guest of Mrs. W. W. Brown.

Miss Lizzie Waite, of Culpeper, is visiting Mrs. E. R. Waddill.

Miss Lizzie Lee Wilson and Mr. R. W. Rector were quietly married here on Thursday night.

Mr. Frank Lewis, a well-known citizen of Norfolk, was in the city yesterday.

Mr. George G. Temple, recently appointed city treasurer, is quite a young man, and the appointment to so responsible a position is a great compliment to him.

Petersburg.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

PETERSBURG, VA., December 12.--Mrs. John M. Wyche is entertaining her niece, Miss Effie Schoolfield, of Culpeper county.

Miss Minnie Tinsley has returned to the city after a pleasant visit in Mecklenburg and Greenesville counties.

Mrs. Amanda Finch, her daughter, Miss Florence, and her son Harry, of Littleton, N. C., are the guests of Mrs. J. E. Calvert.

Mr. J. E. Calvert, of this city, is visiting Mr Rufus Johnson, in Greenesville county.

Mr. James Walton has gone to Richmond, after spending several weeks with friends in this city.

Mr. Harry Lee Cheatham, of Lynchburg, is the guest of his father, Mr. H. C. Cheatham, on Liberty street.

Miss Josie Childress has as a guest her friend, Miss Eva Wynne, of Dinwiddie county.

The Misses Jahnke, of Richmond, who have been visiting Miss Genie Smith, of this city, returned home this week.

Mrs. A. B. Smith and daughter, Miss Ariadne, of this city, have gone to Richmond and are visiting Mrs. Warner Moore.

Mr. John B. Rodgers, a prominent young cotton broker, is visiting in Norfolk.

Mr. A. W. Talley, of Lynchburg, who went to Richmond to attend the marriage of his son, Dr. Talley, of New York, remained over in Petersburg and paid a pleasant visit to his brother, Dr. Talley, of this city, a prominent dentist.

Mr. W. Y. Barkely spent several days in Lynchburg this week.

Miss Lula Minetree, of Washington, D. C., a very popular young lady in social circles here, is visiting Mrs. Robert Hill.

Miss R. T. Peebles left to-day for Northampton county, where she will be the guest of Mrs. F. W. Jones.

Mr. Clarence Williams and wife, of Norfolk, were in the city this week, and were entertained by Mrs. Rebecca Potts.

Miss Riddick, daughter of Rev. J. H. Riddick, is visiting Mrs. Taylor, on Liberty street. Rev. Mr. Riddick and his son are the guests of Presiding Elder J. A. Riddick.

Rev. J. R. Tillery, the new pastor of Wesley Methodist Episcopal church, has moved his family into comfortable quarters on Federal street.

Miss Mattie Cronberger, of Baltimore, and Miss Sallie Dance, of Richmond, are in the city, and stopping with Mrs. W. T. Gates, on Old street.

Colonel Joseph P. Minetree and his wife have moved to Atlanta, Ga., their new home.

Miss Bessie Venable is visiting Miss Addie Johnston, in Richmond.

Mr. E. W. Grigg, of Max Meadows, is on a visit to old friends here.

Mrs. Albertina Jeter, who has been spending several months with friends in Philadelphia, has returned home.

Mr. Thomas L. Dabney, the fine tenor of St. Thomas church, New York, and well known in musical circles here, is visiting Mr. J. William Friend.

Mr. and Mrs. George Pegram have gone to New York.

Miss Lucy Jones, of Selma, Ala., who has been visiting Miss Mattie Watson, left for home this week.

Miss Laura Goodrich, of Brunswick county, is a guest in the family of Mr. S. M. Green.

Miss Otelia M. Johnson has been spending the week with Miss Addie Johnston in Richmond.

Mrs. W. L. Watkins has returned from a visit to her daughter in Montgomery, Ala.

Mr. Lemuel Peebles, of Brunswick, is visiting his brother, Mr. Charles Peebles, in this city.

Miss Jennie Vain, of Waverly, is visiting Miss Pattie Harrison, on Harding street.

Mrs. Laighton, whose illness was recently mentioned, is very much better.

Staunton.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

STAUNTON, VA., December 12.--Miss Estelle Ast is on a visit to friends in Buena Vista.

Mr. Richard S. Ker returned from Washington during the week.

Mr. and Mrs. McHenry Holliday left town Thursday by the F. F. V. for a ten days' visit to Philadelphia.

Mr. Charles Howard, of Boston, is in town on a visit to a host of friends here.

One of Richmond's charming women, Miss Grace Hersman, who has been for several weeks the guest of the Misses Timberlake, of north Augusta street, returned home on Thursday.

Miss Annie Child will spend the winter in Mobile with her cousin, Miss Belle Hopkins, of that city. Miss Child left for Mobile Tuesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. William Purviance Tams returned this week from New York.

Captain Henry L. Hoover is reported ill at Statesville, N. C. Mrs. Hoover and daughter, Mrs. Elverton, are in that town in response to a message calling them to Captain Hoover's bedside.

It is reported that Mrs. Rose Harrison Ranson, bride of Dr. Ranson, of Harper's Ferry, is ill of typhoid-fever at her husband's home.

Miss Fannie McChesney is visiting her sister, Mrs. W. T. Yarbrough, of Church Hill, in your city.

The beautiful Miss Lamb, of Baltimore, is the guest of Miss Daingerfield, at "Rolla."

Mrs. Benjamin Blackford is being entertained in Baltimore by her many friends in that city.

Mr. Holcombe Alexander was in the city Friday.

Mrs. D. N. Hildebrand, of Afton, was in the city during the past week visiting relatives here.

Countess de Mauny and her son, Mr. Maurice de Mauny, who have been the guests of Mr. Allen Caperton Braxton, left this week for New York, where they are the guests of Mr. Ward McAllister.

Miss Fannie Baker is off for Ox Moor, Ala., on a visit to her cousin, Mrs. Dr. Berry.

Mrs. Thornton is at the "Hotel Mozart" for the winter, after a prolonged visit to Staten Island friends.

Mr. John Donovan returned Wednesday after a flying trip to Washington.

Howe P. Cochran, Esq., superintendent of schools for Charlottesville, was in the city Wednesday and Thursday.

Mrs. J. E. Turner, of Albemarle, together with her two daughters, is in the city visiting Mrs. S. Brown Allen, her sister, who is ill with la grippe.

Professor A. J. Turner, musical director at the Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institution, is quite ill at his residence, on Fayette street.

Lloyd D. Logan, of Winchester, spent several days here this week.

The reception and german given Tuesday evening by the Misses Cooke, of New York, who are spending the winter here at Hotel Mozart, was one of the most elegant social occasions of the season. Mr. Kenneth McCoy, just back from New York, led the merry dancers in the german, introducing several new and graceful figures.

At 12 o'clock a tempting treat was found in the supper-rooms. The music was furnished by the Italian band.

The guests present were Misses Bessie Young, Lillian Arthur, Ella Foster, Maude Cooke, Lelia McCorkle, Nettie Baker, Rebecca Young, McKee, Ella Guigon, Mattie Christian, Bessie Van Lear, McCoy, Mesdames Benjamin Blackford, Albert Dabney, Talulah Dabbs, H. H. Henkel, R. S. Funk, Thornton, Colonel and Mrs. John Lewis Peyton, Major and Mrs. James B. Dorman, and Mrs. Walsh, of Washington.

Among the gentlemen present were Messrs. D. Stephens Cooke, C. P. Barnett, Clarke Worthington, J. Lewis Bumgardner, Edward S. Sublett, C. R. French, W. H. DeBell, Joseph A. Glasgow, Carter Braxton, Eugene Hoge, R. E. R. Nelson, John Hoge, J. Martin Perry, John Wingfield, Robert Blackford, Peyton Brown, T. C. Morton, Jr., David Fultz, J. Walker McChesney, A. S. Morton, and Messrs. Charles Thorn and W. H. Calhoun, from the University of Virginia.

Charlottesville.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., December 12.--The condition of Captain A. J. Farish, who fell on an icy pavement in Richmond recently and severely injured his hip, is unchanged from the last report, and he now lies critically ill.

The following gentlemen from Charlottesville will attend the meeting of the Grand Lodge of Masons in Richmond next week: Dr. R. W. Nelson, Messrs. W. T. Jones, James B. Wood, C. W. Rogers, L. D. Aylett, R. H. Wood, Frank Gilmer, T. J. Williams, and William H. Prout.

Mrs. Annie Bull Percley, of Orange, is visiting her sister, Mrs. T. S. Keller.

The pupils of Charlottesville Female Seminary will give a recital on Monday evening at 7 o'clock, in which the following young ladies will take part in the music: Misses Ida Valentine, Carrie Norris, May Lyman, Mary Durrett, Blessing Whitmore, Josephine Ott, Clara Hotopp, Lizzie Antrim, and Miss Worthington. Recitations will be given by Misses Humphreys, Belknap, Lyons, and Warnie Kent.

The twenty-first birthday of Mr. Benjamin Leterman, son of Mr. S. Leterman, who has been engaged in business in Baltimore for more than a year, will be celebrated next Monday night at the residence of his parents, in this city, when a grand reception will be held. Mr. Leterman will be presented with a handsome diamond ring by his parents.

Mrs. William M. Hauline, Mrs. M. Bornheim, and Mr. Morris Konigsberg, of Baltimore; Mr. and Mrs. Hageman, of Staunton, and Mr. and Mrs. D. Lowenberg, of Norfolk, are now at Mr. S. Leterman's, having come to be present at the celebration.

Rev. John B. Turpin will preach on next Sunday morning to the children, and at night will deliver a sermon on temperance with some reference to the temperance convention soon to be held in Richmond.

Miss Imogen Yuille, who has been attending school at Covesville, this county, has left for her home, in Lynchburg. She will be attendant to her cousin, Miss Gordon, whose marriage will take place next week. Miss Yuille will remain in Lynchburg until after the holidays.

The engagement of Miss Leonora Leterman, daughter of Mr. S. Leterman, of this city, to Mr. Harry Lee Lowenberg, formerly a student of the University, is announced.

Dr. John R. Wood, of Whitehall, this county, is recovering from his extreme illness.

Mrs. E. B. Smith is the guest of Professor F. H. Smith, at the University.

Miss Hancock, daughter of Captain R. J. Hancock, of "Ellerslie," is visiting friends in Baltimore.

Mrs. Carter H. Page and Miss Mary Page went to Richmond on Wednesday.

Rev. H. M. Wharton, of Baltimore, will deliver a lecture at the Methodist church on the 18th instant, the subject of which is "Through Palestine on Horseback." The proceeds will be for the benefit of the Parsonage Society of that church.

A half-mile race-track is being graded at "Castle Hill" under the supervision of Miss Gertrude Rives.

Miss Maggie Timberlake and Mr. Henry Quarles Bibb were married on Wednesday last at Auburn Hill, the residence of Mr. J. Massie Smith, a few miles from Charlottesville, the Rev. J. B. Turpin, of the Baptist church here, performing the ceremony in a most happy manner. The guests, of whom there were quite a number, were mostly relatives of the bride and groom. Miss Nellie T. Smith was the maid of honor, and Mr. Herbert H. Harris, of Lynchburg, usher. The couple were also attended by Mr. Edward M. Sneed with Miss A. Gillette Bibb, of Louisa county; Mr. Edward Bibb, of Louisa, with Miss Fannie Thornhill, of Lynchburg; Mr. Sommers Bibb, of Low Moor with Miss Sallie W. Smith; Mr. Robert C. Rodes, of Rouceverte, W. Va., with Miss Fannie B. Shelton, of Staunton; Mr. Robert S. Williams, of Albemarle, with Miss Mamie A. Smith, of Waynesboro'. After the ceremony the bridal party, accompanied by a number of friends, took the train for Louisa Courthouse and proceeded to the estate of the groom, a few miles distant, where they will in future reside. Mr. H. B. Bibb, the father of the groom, tendered the newly-married couple a brilliant reception at his residence the same evening.

OLD-TIME MUSIC IN RICHMOND.

Recollections of Noted Artists Who Sang and Performed Here in Former Days.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

Thanks to your lively correspondent who recalled some pleasant recollections of the musical treats which we Richmonders enjoyed in the days that have passed. There are some others which deserve to be added to his list.

My earliest recollection on this subject is of the original Swiss bell-ringers in an old wooden building on Grace street not very far west of St. Peter's Cathedral. That such music could be made by bells was novel and striking, and the rapid, yet easy, change of the tinkers according to the notes required was an interesting part of their performance, which was, I think, both vocal and instrumental. Whether the taste be sufficiently classical to be avowed or not I confess that I have a vivid remembrance of the pleasure which I received. In the same hall Braham (or Abraham) declaimed and sang some of the songs for which he had been so long famous, but his powers had failed somewhat, Yet he made a deep impression on his hearers, for he employed as much expressive action as if he had been delivering an oration or engaged in an opera. Public singers, male and female, use too little gesture and torture many of their listeners by their modes of handling printed music. "Get it by heart," as they say at school, and deliver it with appropriate action as Braham did.

There was a pianist and vocalist named Russell, who gave some excellent concerts in the room in the rear of the Exchange Hotel. His singing was good, and his accompaniments were extraordinary. They seemed to pervade the whole piano, and to float out thence and diffuse themselves like sweet perfume throughout the audience.

Maurice Strakosch, too, was here, at the Theatre, I think. He spent an evening at my residence and played for us. Herz was also here with his admirable execution and wonderful variations.

NOTED ARTISTS.

When I heard Madame Bishop it was in the old African church, and in connection with her grand vocalization, should be mentioned Bochsa's masterful strains from his harp, which so powerfully touched that other "harp of a thousand strings." Parodi and Parepa were here also.

Ole Bull was the great orator of the violin. He appeared in the Theatre, and I think he was alone. Anyhow I do not remember his associates, if any he had. At times he seemed to be completely enrapt, communing with the spirit of music and conjuring his instrument to be true to what he wished it to utter. His imitation of Paganini on one string brought down the house of course, but was in fact an inferior part of his concert.

Other distinguished violinists gave fine concerts in the old African church, among whom were Sivori, Veiux Temps, and Miska Hauser. The latter's appearance was ungainly and unpromising, but his Cremona poured forth skilful and delightful strains.

JENNIE LIND.

But the Swedish nightingale took all hearts by storm. Even without Barnum's management she would have enjoyed an ovation here, as in all America, for there was not a single drawback or holdback against her as an artist or as a woman. The auction of seats at the Theatre presented an exciting scene. A hatter in New York had paid the highest price there for a seat, and, I think, a hatter paid the highest price here. I had to wait till the bidding became somewhat reduced. In the mean time, however, I had fixed my eye upon a long bench, admirably situated for both seeing and hearing about the centre of the parquette. At length the time arrived and my bid of twelve dollars was accepted, and when asked, "How many seats?" there was a slight commotion at the answer, "twelve." These were partly for the daughters of some gentlemen then under my charge. I had not had time to consult their parents, but every one of them heartily approved the purchase and they returned the one hundred and twenty dollars advanced for them. We all felt well recompensed.

Jennie Lind's charitable disposition was as well known as the matchless charms of her voice. At the time of her visit here a large number of our citizens were deeply interested in the success of the Male Orphan Asylum. Its friends and managers conceived the idea of enlisting this remarkable cantatrice in its behalf, and resolved to approach her, as respectfully and delicately as possible, on the subject. It was devolved upon me to prepare and present the request. I forget who were my associates. I think Mr. Frederick Bransford was one. When we called at the Exchange Hotel she excused herself from seeing us because she was necessarily occupied. But Mr. Barnum came in her stead. He was very bland and kind and delivered her regrets that she could not do anything in the way of singing for the benefit of the asylum, but it gave her pleasure to make a contribution to its funds. And she did make it, and though the exact amount is not remembered, it was quite a liberal one. Cannot my friend Dr. Parker hunt it up and let us know what it was?

At the same hotel I once called and paid my respects to another estimable Swedish woman, Frederika Bremer, the authoress.

B. B. M.

RICHMOND, December 10, 1891.

THE SEASON OF ELECTIONS.

Many of the Benevolent Orders Put New Men in Office.

At a regular meeting of Virginia Lodge, No. 568, Knights of Honor, held at Concordia Hall on Thursday night, the following officers were elected for the ensuing term of twelve months: Dictator, D. Witte; Vice-Dictator, C. W. Emenhauser; Assistant Dictator, A. H. Kaufman; Reporter, W. Zwanziger; Financial Reporter, I. Lovenstein; Treasurer, S. Binswanger; Chaplain, H. G. Miller; Guide, E. E. Schmidts; Guardian, E. Bohme; Sentinel, F. Bear; Past Dictator, C. J. Schmidt; Trustees, H. G. Miller, Christian Unkel, Robert Senfe; Representative to Grand Lodge, A. H. Kaufman; Alternate to Grand Lodge, H. G. Miller. After the business was transacted the Lodge partook of refreshments, and speeches were