PEOPLE OF FASHION.

RICHMOND SOCIETY VERY ACTIVE DURING THE WEEK JUST CLOSED.

Several of the Handsomest Entertainments of the Winter, Besides Germans, Luncheons, Theatre Parties, &c.

There are only a very few who agree with Mr. McVickar and take the same humorous view of society that prompted him to describe it so wittily in his recent book, "The Amateur Circus."

In Richmond, at any rate, there is a hearty enjoyment of social life, and that there has been in the last two charming weeks sufficient entertaining to satisfy even those most clamorous for gayety, no one will deny. The most inflated predictions have been more than realized.

The Westmoreland Club reception is announced on the 3d of February; Mr. Ginter gives a large reception on Tuesday evening the 9th in honor of the Misses Arents; Mrs. Emil Nolting and the Misses Nolting give a tea on Tuesday afternoon from 5 to 8, and the Richmond German is on Monday.

MISS PACE'S AT-HOME.

Miss Bessie Pace's at home on Tuesday evening was a charming gathering. All the decorations were pink. Miss Nannie Buerthe served the punch. Among those calling were Misses Janie Smith, Virgie Brock, Columbia Hayes, Frances Scott, Misses Booth, Mary Cullen, Bessie Martin, Maggie Ferguson, Mrs. Hancock, Mr. Jock Pleasants, Mr. Randolph Holliday, and Mr. James Anderson.

Mrs. William Talbott was at home Thursday evening. Miss Frances Scott and Miss Booth also received their friends informally. Mrs. James A. Welsh gave another charmingly informal at-home.

TEA GIVEN BY MRS LANGHORNE.

Mrs. C. D. Langhorne gave a charming tea on Monday afternoon. All the decorations in the parlors were pink, in the hall red, and in the dining-room green. Mrs. Wright, Miss Coxe of Philadelphia, Mrs. J. W. Reinhart of Boston, Miss Janie Smith of Danville, Miss Nina Taylor of Norfolk, Miss Morris of Louisa county, Mrs. Lewis of Lynchburg, Miss May Jones, Mrs. Perkins, Miss Alys Connally, and Miss Irene Langhorne assisted in receiving. Among the guests were: Mrs. Isaiah White, Mrs. Caskie Cabell, Mrs. J. A. Welsh, Mrs. E. D. Christian, Mrs. Harry Frazier, Mrs. Russell Robinson, Mrs. C. P. Lathrop, Mrs. John Enders, Mrs. Thomas Bolling, Mrs. Bradley Johnson, Mrs. J. B. Pace, Mrs. Josiah Ryland, Mrs. John Connally, Mrs. Edwin Hobson, Mrs. R. C. Morton, Mrs. Benjamin Nash, Mrs. John Hunter, Mrs. Blythe Moore, Mrs. Allan Donnan, Mrs. Joseph R. Anderson, Mrs. James Patton, Mrs. James R. Branch, Misses Queen, Miss Blankenship, Mrs. R. G. Cabell, Mrs. McAdams, Mrs. Edward Mayo, Mrs. C. E. Wortham, Sr., Mrs. Percy Montague, Miss Fannie Withers, Mrs. Judith R. C. Walker, Miss Annie Walker, Miss Belle Perkins, Mrs. Barton Grundy, Mrs. Dooley, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. John Dunlop, and Mrs. William Talbott.

In the evening there was a supper party, followed by an impromptu *musicale*. Guests present were all the ladies who received, and Messrs. Henry Fairfax, Edward Hanewinckel, William Ferguson, Iredell Jenkins, John Lyons, Mr. Wright, Murray Bohlen of Philadelphia, Levin Joynes, Moncure Perkins, John Atkinson, and others.

THEATRE PARTY AND RECEPTION.

Mr. and Mrs. John F. T. Anderson gave a Theatre party on Thursday evening to see the Kendals in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Dunn, of Washington. Mr. and Mrs. Tennant, Miss Mary Cullen, and Mr. George Morris, of Charlottesville, were the guests.

There was a reception afterwards at Mr. Anderson's residence. Guest present were Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Carter, Mr. and Mrs. John Dunlop, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley S. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Christian, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Christian, Mr. and Mrs. Otway Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Montague, Mr. and Mrs. Wyndham Meredith, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. William L. Royall, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bolling, Mrs. Connally, Misses Ellen Hobson, Mary Cullen, Mary Anderson, and May Handy. Messrs. Charley Bolling, Archer Anderson, Joseph Anderson, Thomas N. Page, George W. Morriss of Charlottesville, Frank Davenport, Iredell Jenkins, and William Grant. Recitations were given by Mrs. Connolly and Mr. Page. Mr. William Grant and Mr. Iredell Jenkins sang.

SMALL ENTERTAINMENTS.

Mrs. Ashton Starke gave a lovely little luncheon on Tuesday to Miss Janie Smith, Miss Irene Langhorne, and Miss Ellen Hobson—all the decorations were yellow.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Christian entertained the Card Club on Monday evening. Six-hand euchre was played, and a most enjoyable evening was passed. The decorations were all light green. Among the guests present were Mr. and Mrs. Otway Allen, Mr. and Mrs. John T. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Christian, Mrs. Edward Christian, Mr. and Mrs. Wyndham Meredith, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Boykin, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bolling, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Langhorne, Mr. and Mrs. John Dunlop, Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Carter, and Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Harris.

MRS. NASH'S SUPPER.

Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Nash gave a box-party, followed by a beautiful supper, on Thursday evening. All the decorations were red. The floral centre-piece was of American Beauty roses and red carnations. Tall candelabras, wreathed in smilax, held candles capped with red-lace shades. Favors were placed at each place, and were tied with red ribbons. The supper was elaborate and served in courses. The ices were bird's-nests of red-spun candy, in which were placed ice-cream in the shape of eggs.

The guests present were Mr. and Mrs. James A. Welsh, Misses Bessie Pace, Maggie Stringfellow, Miss Booth, Miss Queen, Marie Saunders, Janie Smith, Annie Williams, Messrs. T. C. Williams, Jr., Jo Lane Stern, Phillip Ford, William Bishop, Waller Morton, William Hanewinckel, Robert Blankenship, Byrd Thompson of Norfolk, Frank Potts, and Scott Carrington.

IN HONOR OF THE KENDALS.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dunlop gave a charming reception on Friday afternoon in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Kendal, who are always the recipients of so much social attention. Several other members of the company were also present. Miss Nettie Potts, Miss Irene Langhorne, Miss Gertrude Rives, Miss Imogene Morris, Miss Bruce Williams, and Miss Alys Connolly assisted the host in receiving.

Among those invited to meet Mr. and Mrs. Kendal and their friends were Mrs. Lr. Crenshaw, Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Harris, Mrs. Edward Mayo, Miss Adkins, Mr and Mrs. Andrew Christian, Mr. Robert Archer, Miss Virgie Archer, Miss Frances Scott, Miss Marian Kemp of New York, Miss Booth, Miss Emily Hanewinckel, Miss Van Wyck of Baltimore, Mrs. John Rutherfoord, Miss Anne Rutherfoord, Miss Ellen Hobson, Mr. and Mrs. T. N. Carter, Mr. Peter Mayo, Mrs. Benehan Cameron, Mrs. C. D. Langhorne, Mrs. Lewis of Lynchburg, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bolling, Mrs. W. L. Royall, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Johnson, Mrs. Ed. Mayo, Miss Tennant, Mr. Edward Wills, Mrs. John T. Anderson, Mr. George Morris of Charlottesville, Miss Mary Cullen, Mrs. L. L. Lewis, Mr. John Rutherfoord, Mrs. Dooley, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. John S. Wise, Mrs. Russell Robinson, Miss Lilly Pleasants.

MRS. DREWRY'S RECEPTION.

Mrs. Clay Drewry gave an elegant reception on Friday evening from 5 to 9 o'clock. The house was decorated with palms in the greatest profusion. The drawing-room mantels were banked with cut flowers and ferns. Calla lilies were placed in numbers of cut-glass bowls on crystal reflectors. The musicians were screened behind an immense bank of palms. In the library the decorations were red. Here the punch was served by Miss Sallie Talbott. In the dining-room the decorations were pink. An immense bank of pink roses was the floral centerpiece; the mantels were banked with ferns, amid which were placed Malaga grapes and oranges.

Mrs. Drewry received in a gown of elegant black velvet, garnitures of rich point lace.

Mrs. Augustus Drewry, of Westover, wore a lovely gown of gray faille, garnitures of steel embroidery and pink chiffon.

Mrs. R. C. Morton was very handsome in a gown of old-rose faille, garnitures of jet and real lace.

Mrs. Lynch wore black jetted tulle.

Mrs. J. A. White wore a handsome gown of black faille, garnitures of silver and pink chiffon.

Miss Lizzie Barnes, of Bedford county, white silk.

Miss Emily Terrell, of King William county, white crepe de chine.

OTHER ASSISTANTS AND GUESTS.

Other young ladies who assisted in receiving were Misses Virgie Brock, Miss Virgie Cadot, Miss Alice Henning, Irene Langhorne, Miss Mary Hayes, Miss Carrie Coleman, Miss Mary Pace, Miss Maud Stokes, Florence Talbott, Miss Ethel Grover, Miss Mabel Todd, Miss Marie Saunders, Miss Sallie Wellford, Adele Tyler, Judith Deane, and Sallie Deane.

Among the guests were Mrs. Archer Anderson, Mrs. J. B. Pace, Mrs. A. T. Harris, Mrs. B. O. Barbour, Miss Lucille Fuller, Mrs. Langhorne, Mrs. John Lewis, Mrs. Harry Frazier, Mrs. Edward Mayo, Mrs. Daniel Talley, Mrs. A. T. Harris, Mrs. John H. Montague, Mrs. H. Theodore Ellyson, Mrs. Leroy, Miss Lalla Harrison, Mrs. Munford, Mrs. Coke, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. L. L. Lewis, Mrs. Camm, Mrs. J. J. Montague, Mrs. Savage, Mrs. Allen Talbott, Mrs. Charles Talbott, Mrs. Alexander Archer, Mrs. R. A. Nash, Mrs. Clifford Bridges, Mrs. W. C. Mayo, Mrs. Frederick Valentine, Mrs. Charles Todd, Mrs. Dr. Brock, and Mrs. Cadot.

THE STOP CLUB MEETING.

One of the most elegant and thoroughly charming private entertainments of the season was given on Friday evening, when Mrs. E. D. Christian entertained the Greenbrier Stop Club. Tall palms were placed throughout the house in endless profusion and Duchess of Albany roses and carnation pinks were placed everywhere on the mantels, cabinets, and tables. At the place of each guest at the card-table were placed large parchment cards with hand-painted figures of British soldiers in old Continental uniform, cavaliers, dainty Watteau figures, and in addition was "The Greenbrier Stop Club, January 29th," in gold letters. Champagne was served during the games. There were three tables of New Market stop, and one of six-hand euchre. The prizes were very handsome. Mrs. W. L. Royall won an elegant large clothes brush of *repousse* silver, primrose design; Mrs. R. H. Boykin, an elegant white ostrich feather fan with long pearl handle; Mrs. Carter Scott, an exquisite Sevres dish; Mrs. R. G. Cabell, a lovely Sevres puff box; Mrs. John Lewis, a pretty jewel case, and Mrs. John Branch, a Dresden china watering-pot.

MRS. CHRISTIAN'S GUESTS.

The guests were Mrs. J. W. Reinhart, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Christian, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Welsh, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Nash, Mr. and Mrs. Ben. Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Donnan, Mr. and Mrs. Levin Joynes, Mr. and Mrs. Otway Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Christian, Mrs. W. L. Royall, Mrs. Egbert Leigh, Mrs. John K. Branch, Mrs. Barton Grundy, Mrs. Russell Robinson, Mrs. John S. Wise, Mrs. Buck, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Langhorne, Mrs. Lewis, Miss Irene Langhorne, Mrs. Pegram Johnson, Miss Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Wortham, Jr., Miss Lalla Harrison, Miss Janie Smith, Mr and Mrs. Thomas Bolling, Miss Annie Williams, Mrs. John Enders, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. R. G. Cabell, Mrs. Bradley Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Carter Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Tazewell Ellett, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Boykin, Miss La Fonde Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Bosher, Miss Bagby, Mr. Fred. Scott, Mr. Carter Branch, Mr. Saunders Hobson, Mr. Palmer Gray, Mrs. Camm, Mr. Palmer Claiborne, Mr. MacMurran, Mr. T. C. Williams, Jr., and Mr. Edwin Palmer.

Mrs. Christian was a charmingly gracious hostess, and was very handsome in a white chiffon gown.

After the games an elegant collation was served in courses. On the large table the decorations were exquisite. A tall *repousse* silver vase, filled with superb Duchess of Albany roses, was placed on a crystal reflector, which was surrounded by a mass of soft pink silk and smilax. Two tall silver candlelabras, holding candles with pink shades, were placed at each end of the table, and at intervals were individual silver candle-sticks in the design of silver columns, holding pink candles with shades of pink roses. The ice-brick was banked with maiden-hair ferns and the mantels with ferns and palms. The house throughout was lighted by a profusion of banquet and standing-lamps exquisitely shaded with pink silk and lace.

MRS. WELSH'S LUNCHEON.

Mrs. James Armstrong Welsh gave an exquisite luncheon on Wednesday in honor of Mrs. J. W. Reinhart, of Boston, and Mrs. John S. Wise, of New York. Other guests were Mrs. McPhail, Mrs. R. C. Morton, Mrs. Edward Mayo, Mrs. A. T. Harris, and Mrs. Gideon Davenport. All the decorations were pink. A magnificent white-and-gold swan filled with American beauties formed the floral centre piece. Broad pink satin ribbons were laid lengthwise on the table. Silver candelabras with pink candles and shades were placed at each corner. Exquisite favors tied with pink ribbons were presented to the guests. Mrs. Welsh presided with charming grace and ease.

Mrs. John K. Connolly and Miss Alys Connolly gave a box party on Friday evening to see the Kendals. A reception and supper party followed. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bolling, Mr. and Mrs. John F. T. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Bradley S. Johnson, Mrs. Buck, Miss Emma Barksdale, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas N. Carter, Dr. Thomas Nelson Page, Miss Hanewinckel, Mr. and Mrs. Trigg, Mr. Allen Potts, Miss Gertrude Rives of Castle Hill, Miss Hattie Hathaller Ross, Mr. Palmer, Miss Handy, Mr. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Ottway Allen, Miss Ross, Mr. Rosewell Page, Mr. Grant, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Branch, Mr. T. Williams, Mr. Frank Davenport, Mr. Dudley McDonald, Miss Martin, and Mr. John Atkinson.

THE FRIDAY GERMAN.

This club's dance at Belvidere Hall Friday night was one of the most delightful of the winter. Mr. John Boisseau led the figures in a very graceful manner, and among the lady dancers were: Misses Bessie Fauntleroy, Tabb of Hampton, Va., Lalla Harrison of Leesburg, Va., Alice King of Brooklyn, Narcissa Barton, Alice Burwell, Sallie Talbott, Helen Ross, Mary Yancey, Jennie Queen of Philadelphia, Murchinson of New York, Comstock of New York, Fannie Dickinson of New York, Sallie Marshall, Boxie Scott, Carrie Shields, Bessie Pace, Ellen Hobson, Mary Mason Anderson, Carmichael of Fredericksburg, Lala Lyons, Boothe, Stewart Bradley, Virgie Cadot, McCaw of Kentucky, Jennie Smith of Danville, and Emma Barksdale, Mrs. Willie Talbott, Mrs. Mushbach, Mrs. John Hancock, Mrs. Shields, and Mrs. Henry Bohmer.

Messrs. Ned Palmer, Stewart Jones, Robert Pegram, Willie Pickerell, George Pegram, Stanley Tyler, Meade Haskins, Arthur Wily, Randolph Williams, George Lee, Edward Croxton, Jock Pleasants, Cary Sheppard, George Paine, George Mayo, Edwin Hobson, Saunders Hobson, Bailey Saunders, Dorsey Cullen, Randolph Marshall, George Ainslie, William Barton, William Frye, Christian McKinney, George Bidgood, John Goodwin, Joe Johnston, John Cullen, Edward Christian, William Mudd, David Lea, Robert Burwell, Preston Noland, Allen Talbott, Willie Talbott, and Allen Donnan were among the gentlemen.

PRETTY DANCE ON CHURCH HILL.

One of the most brilliant and enjoyable germans of the season was danced at Corcoran Hall on Friday night. Messrs. W. H. Shervin and John Wilburn led with their accustomed skill and introduced many beautiful and intricate figures. There were about thirty-five couples dancing, and the costumes of the ladies were particularly handsome. During the evening a collation was served.

Among those present were Misses Hunter Fergusson, Carrie Batchellor, Bessie Brown, Lula Scott, Fannie Angus, Fannie Walker, Lola Mitchell, Lizzie Jackson, Mabel Vaughan, Shackleford, Livesay, Alice Moore, Kate Fitzwilson, Lizzie Andrews, Adelaide Boudar, Nellie Heygarty, Mattie Westwood, Mamie Williams, Jennie Fergusson, Fannie Lee Guy, Nellie Smith, Spaulding of Norfolk, Perle Cook of Washington, and Mrs. J. B. Howard. Messrs. W. H. Shervin, E. C. Skinner, E. W. Moore, Benjamin Poindexter, W. H. Lumsden, Jr., I. D. Briggs, Jr., Taylor Curtis, J. T. Estes, John Luce, N. R. Crump, Robert Arthur, John Read, William Read, James Hall, Charles Read, M. Bullington, John Wilburn, W. R. Shackleford, J. B. Howard, Joseph Wyatt, E. Dickinson, H. McMinn, J. S. Moore, Jr., J. and L. McIlwaine, D. Talman, A. D. Landerkin, E. Baker, Gordon Fitzwilson, T. Harrison, Charles Meagher, and William Angus.

The chaperons were: Mrs. J. S. Moore, Mrs. J. F. Jackson, Mrs. C. P. Gary, Mrs. H. G. Crenshaw, Mrs. Fitzwilson, and Mrs. C. W. Clemmitt.

BRIEF SOCIETY ITEMS.

A great compliment has been paid a Virginia girl—Miss Lalla Harrison—who has been invited to represent Virginia at the World's Fair as a representative of beauty and charming manners.

Mr. and Mrs. Brydan Tennant gave a delightful supper party on Friday evening after the Kendals. Among the guests were Miss Tennant, Mr. Ed. Willis, Miss Fauntleroy, Mr. Henry Baskerville, Miss Nettie Potts, Mr. Ranlett of Holoke, Mass., Mr. E. Osborne McCabe, of New York.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Dickinson gave a large theatre party in honor of Miss Fannie Dickinson and Miss Comstock on Saturday evening to see the Kendals.

Mrs. William Stokes gave a delightful supper party on Thursday evening after the Kendals.

Mr. and Mrs. James Patterson, Miss Nannie Buerthe, Miss Adele Buerthe, Mr. George Ainslie, and Mr. Jock Pleasants enjoyed a theatre party at the Kendals on Thursday evening.

Wooden Wedding Celebration.

No. 100 north Seventh street was the scene of much merriment last Monday evening, the auspicious occasion being the celebration of the fifth or wooden wedding of Dr. and Mrs. Wendlinger. Professor H. F. Laube rendered some of his choice selections, which added much to the occasion. The happy couple were the recipient of many handsome and useful presents in woodenware. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. C. Wendlinger, Mr. Anthony Wendlinger, Captain and Mrs. Angle, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Deady, Mr. and Mrs. L. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. L. O. Moore, Miss Celeste Wendlinger, Misses Smith, Peter, Broaddus of Ridgway, N. C., Messrs. Robinson, Angle, and Evans.

If you go "a-fishing" this summer and take along a bottle of whiskey for "snake-bites," be sure and take a bottle of Bradycrotine for whiskey headaches.

THE IDLER'S LETTER.

THE QUESTION OF THE PRETTIEST GIRL AT THE BALL DISCUSSED.

Colonel Catlett Gibson a Ready Debater—Silk Hats All the Go at Present—Other Wandering Thoughts.

Every one who attended the Association ball was delighted and everyone commented on the number of handsome women present. These statements were not made as mere idle compliments, but were truly said. As I wandered around through the magnificently-dressed throng I could not refrain from listening now and then to the comments of the crowd. I heard several persons disputing as to which was the more beautiful woman, Miss May Handy or Miss Irene Langhorne. Of course, society has been worshipping at the feet of the former for several seasons, and she deserves all the homage paid her. Perfect in every feature, graceful in figure, and superb in bearing, she has held the social world entranced where'er she went. Whether among New York's *elite* at Narragansett Pier or in the merry circles of the gay old "White," she reigns a queen, beloved and admired by all. Miss Langhorne is still a mere girl. Her friends can without difficulty recall the few months past when she was a lovely child, and now they look upon her as a still more lovely woman. Her face is beautiful, her complexion as lovely and as delicate as the appie-blossom, and her movements the very personification of grace. Never has she appeared more attractive than on the night of the ball, when, clothed in an exquisite robe of white, she led the Saraband. But I am wandering from my subject, for I desired to speak upon the comparative beauty of the two belles. What I intended to say was that I thought any comparison would be "odious," for the truth of the matter is no human being can tell which is the prettier of the two. The difficultly lies in the fact that they favor each other—at least it looks so to me. Miss Langhorne is perhaps the truer type of blonde, but after all they are alike. Therefore, almost any compliment applicable to Miss Handy would be likewise applicable to Miss Langhorne. The young gentlemen who took part in the dance certainly deserve their share of the praise, and the success of the occasion is largely due to them. Now, it is a pretty severe test on a young fellow's *sang froid* to dress him up in silks and satins and expect him to pose before the public and "strike pretty attitudes." The more you bedeck a woman the more complacent they get, but the same rule don't apply to mankind. It makes them feel terribly embarrassed, and if they catch some friend's critical eye they collapse completely. For these reasons I say that the gallants who tripped to the music before that crowd deserve the greatest credit. Mr. John Atkinson, who led the the dance with Miss Langhorne, acquitted himself beautifully, but the most graceful man in the whole set was Mr. Edmond Woodbridge. His costume fitted him excellently and his every movement and pose was as graceful as possible. The girls in the audience simply "raved" over him. I do not know how much pains he took to ornament himself, and perhaps, after all, some lady had a hand in "preparing" him for the occasion, but at any rate he was the "belle of the beaux" that night.

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The Legislature has now gotten its work well under way and whatever latent genius lurks among the Virginia solons has by this time manifested itself. There are several brilliant and fearless speakers in the House, who have made their oratory felt as they thundered forth, but after all if I were called upon to name the most ready debater and the most brainy legislator I would point to the patriarchal head of Colonel J. Catlett Gibson, of Culpeper. Any one who saw him would be struck by his appearance. His hair and beard are white with age, his eyes dark and piercing, and his frame unbent with advancing years. Certainly no one could call him a graceful orator—he himself would laugh if such a name were given him, but when it comes to talking good "hard" sense, Colonel Gibson is "there." He has the readiest wit of any man I ever saw, and the widest store of general information. There is only one member of the House who does not fear him, for the "gentleman from Culpeper" is powerfully aggressive and sometimes he says things which completely overwhelm his adversaries. His black eyes twinkle with delight when he crushes an opponent and every one takes pains, if possible, to be on his side of the question. But after all there is not a kinder-hearted or more conscientious man in the whole Legislature than Colonel Gibson. If he speaks against a bill you may put it down for certain that there is something wrong and unjust about the measure. Always concur with him in what he says and he will lead you on to victory. Oppose him, and unless you have wonderful presence of mind he will sweep you off the face of the earth.

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The silk hat is again asserting its supremacy and steadily pushing the "Dunlap" aside. At one time the diamond-bedecked advance agent of the circus and the "wandering minstrel" monopolized the glossy headgear, but now it is quite the thing to don them, and every boy, after he has passed the age of twenty, feels that one of the precious articles is essential to his appearance. So, also, the masculine heart now yearns for patent-leather shoes, and the popular taste calls for something "shiny." For my part, I am heart and soul for the patent-leather shoe. It is pretty, and, what is better still, when a fellow gets up in the morning he doesn't have to insert himself under the bed to draw forth the recreant blacking-brush.

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It is a surprising fact that at the recent Association ball where over a thousand hats and coats were entrusted to the custody of a few individuals in charge of the cloak-room only one hat was lost. At times the jam in this apartment was terrific and silk hats were knocked about the place as base-balls are about Island Park in summer time. Several persons presented their checks only to find their overcoats on a peg in one portion of the room and their derby in another. But the order on the whole was good, and even though the fellow who lost his hat, was around to see me early the next morning to claim my new beaver, I as well as all others, except this gentleman who was forced to go home bareheaded, were satisfied with the accommodations afforded.

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Major John Poe, the Chief of Police, always strikes me as a wonderful man. His figure is erect, his shoulders square, and his general appearance always neat. He is a good friend of mine, and therefore I won't say anything about his age, but it will not be revealing secrets to say that he fought in the Mexican war. I often ask him how it is he manages to keep so spry and cheerful, and he laughs and says that he makes the most of life and always gets plenty to eat. Certainly no man can adopt a better system for passing his existence pleasantly, but I sometimes suspect that he must have bathed in the youth-giving waters of "Ponce de Leon."

THE IDLE REPORTER.

THE REAPER DEATH.

Mr. Isaac S. Tower Passes Away After a Short Illness—Mrs. Robinson.

Mr. Isaac S. Tower, one of Richmond's most active business-men and citizens, is dead. He passed away at his residence, No. 109 south First street, yesterday morning at 3 o'clock. The sad news of his death was a shock to the entire community, as he had only been sick for ten days, and his indisposition was not thought to be serious. Although feeling very unwell for some time past Mr. Tower did not give up, and he was at his office last Thursday. That night he became worse, but his fatal illness did not develop until Friday. Even then his life was not despaired of, and strong hopes were entertained for his recovery. During his last hours the deceased suffered from almost incessant coughing, and this no doubt hastened his end, which was caused by pneumonia.

Mr. Tower would have been sixty-two years old next month. He was a native of Springfield, Vt., and came to this city about the time he attained his majority at the invitation of Mr. H. M. Smith, who was his cousin.

For a number of years he was engaged in various business capacities with that gentleman, and ultimately became a member of the firm of H. M. Smith & Co.

When the business of this firm was discontinued Mr. Tower became engaged as a dealer in agricultural implements and as agent for manufacturers on his own account.

The deceased married a sister of Commonwealth's-Attorney H. M. Smith. This lady, with five children, survives him. By a coincidence the oldest child of Mr. Tower—a son—reached his twentieth year on the day of his father's death.

Mr. Tower was a man of excellent business capacity and widely known in commercial circles. His manners were very engaging and he was popular with all who knew him. As a husband and father he was tender and true, while as a friend he was devoted and faithful. He was a zealous and popular Mason, having been past master of Richmond Lodge, No. 10; a past high chief of Lafayette Chapter, No. 43; past commander of Richmond Commandery, No. 2, Knights Templar, and past grand commander of the State, and also a member of the Board of Directors of the Masonic Temple Association and a member of the Building Committee. In the Grand Lodge he was chairman of the Finance Committee.

The funeral will take place this afternoon at 3 o'clock from Monumental church. The following gentlemen will act as pall-bearers: Active—Messrs. Thomas Potts, Charles F. Taylor, C. M. Branch, Rufus Yarbrough, John M. Nolting, Franklin Stearns, J. B. Moore, and Thomas Christian. Honorary—P. R. Wellford, A. R. Courtney, J. V. Bidgood, J. F. Mayer, J. H. Capers, W. E. Tanner, C. E. Wingo, William B. Isaacs, Charles E. Hunter, and Dr. R. G. Cabell.

The Richmond Commandery will attend the funeral in a body.

MRS. ALCINDA MORGAN ROBINSON.

The sad intelligence was received in this city yesterday of the death in Washington of Mrs. Alcinda Morgan Robinson. Mrs. Robinson was paralyzed Friday night and five hours later breathed her last. Two years ago she had three attacks of grip, from the effects of which she never entirely recovered. The deceased was a daughter of the late Colonel Charles S. Morgan, of this city, and spent most of her early life here, where she was a great favorite in society. She was a communicant in St. Paul's church, and long the leading soprano in the choir there; a lady of lovely disposition, possessed of a singularly bright mind, and attracted a host of devoted friends, to whom the news of her death will be a great shock. She leaves three sons. One sister, Mrs. John Enders Robinson, and two brothers, Captain Charles S. and Captain Stephen E. Morgan, also survive her.

The funeral will take place in this city, the time to be announced hereafter.

MR. J. J. DEITRICK.

Mr. J. J. Deitrick died yesterday of pneumonia at his residence, on the Broad-Street road, about fourteen miles from Richmond. The funeral will take place from the home at 2 P. M. to-day.

WHERE LIGHTS WILL BE PLACED.

The Gas-Works Superintendent Makes His Report to the Committee.

Superintendent Adams, of the City Gas-Works, yesterday presented to Mr. W. Deane Courtney, chairman of the Council Committee on Electric Lights, his report with regard to the location of the 500 electric lights contracted for by the city. The number of electric arc lamps of 2,000 candle power to be used is 543, and these are to be placed as designated on the principal parallel streets and in the northern and southern sections of the city. The Superintendent has suggested that the lights be distributed as follows:

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Main street from Twenty-eighth to Lombardy, one on each corner, 39.
Franklin street from Thirtieth to Lombardy, one on each corner, 40.
Bank street from Twelfth to Ninth, 2.
Grace street from Twenty-ninth to Lombardy, 33.
Broad street from Thirty-fourth to Lombardy, 46.
Marshall street from Thirty-fourth to Lombardy, 46.
Clay street from Thirty-first to Lombardy, 37.
Leigh street from Thirty-first to Lombardy, 36.
Cary street from Twenty-eighth to Lombardy, 39.
Canal street from Thirteenth to Beach, 25.
Floyd avenue from Laurel to Lombardy, 8.
Grove avenue from Laurel to Lombardy, 6.
Park avenue from Harrison to Lombardy, 3.
Monroe Park, 4.
Chimborazo Park, 2.
Marshall Park, 2.
Capitol Square, 4.
Dock street from Fourteenth to Ash street, 10.
Beach street, 2.
Culvert street, 3.
Cherry street, 5.
Laurel street, 5.
Pine street, 5.
Belvidere street, 5.
Jackson street from Fifth to St. Peter street, 8.
Duval from Seventh street to Brook avenue, 7.
Charity from Second to St. Peter, 6.
Baker street from Seventh to Brook avenue, 7.
Federal street from Second to St. Peter, 5.
Coutts street from Second to St. Peter, 5.
Hill street from Second to St. Peter, 5.
Orange street from Second to St. Peter, 5.
Bacon street from Second to St. Peter, 5.
Goddin street from Calhoun to Hickory, 2.
Cabell street from Calhoun to Hickory, 2.
Creek street from Calhoun to Hickory, 1.
Moore street from Calhoun to Hickory, 4.
Seventeenth street from Venable to Hospital, 9.
Church-Hill avenue, 3.
Mason street, 4.
Nelson street, 4.
O street, 4.
P street, 6.
Q street, 6.
Orleans street, 4.
Louisiana street, 6.
Denny street, 5.
Nicholson street, 4.
Williamsburg avenue, 5.
Virginia street, 1.
Byrd street, 10.
Gamble's-Hill Park, 2.
Fourteenth street, south side of dock, 1.
Total, 543.

THE COMMONWEALTH CLUB.

Its Doors Thrown Open Last Night—New Directors Elected.

The Commonwealth Club was thrown open to the members of that organization for the first time last evening. Everything about the handsome structure was in perfect readiness, and the new club has started out with a most brilliant prospect. During the evening there was a continual inpour of members and visitors, and the place presented a decidedly brisk appearance.

A business session of the club was held, in which Messrs. W. R. Trigg, J. F. T. Anderson, and Thomas Atkinson were elected members of the board.

INTERIOR FURNISHINGS.

The interior of the club-house is beautifully finished and very handsomely furnished. The main parlor, which is in the northwestern section of the first floor, is furnished in white and gold, the harmony of which is exquisite. On the opposite side of the large hallway is the reception-room, the upholstering in which is of a rich color and of most magnificent texture. The dining-room is on the second floor, and the billiard-room, bar, and offices are on the ground floor. The entire building is very completely and elegantly equipped for club purposes, and the Commonwealth has predicted for it a long and bright future.

The Council Committee.

The Council Committee meets Monday night. This will be a regular monthly session of the lower branch, and among the matters to come up for action will be a resolution recommended by the Grounds and Buildings Committee appropriating $1,000 to the Howitzer Association and donating the triangular piece of ground bounded by Park and Grove avenues and Harrison street to that organization for monumental purposes.

Police-Court Statistics.

During the past month the Police Justice disposed of 216 criminal cases and tried 370 charges of ordinance violations. On criminal charges 48 persons were sent on to the Hustings Court for indictment by the grand jury, 7 were convicted of misdemeanor, 83 were sent to jail in default of surety for their good behavior, and 193 were fined.

City fines collected, $600; State, $21; costs, $147.80—total, $768.80.

Episcopal Sunday-School Union.

The quarterly meeting of the Episcopal Sunday-School Union will be held in All-Saints' church to-morrow evening at 8 o'clock. There will be addresses by Dr. Newton and Rev. Mr. Williams, of St. Paul's. Reports of each Sunday-school superintendent will be called. Dr. Burton, of St. John's, will explain the purposes of the coming meeting of the Sunday-School Institute.

Rocketts Democratic Club.

The Rocketts Democratic Club will hold a meeting at Murt Hogan's Hall, 2213 Lester street, on Tuesday night, February 2d. A full attendance is desired as business of importance will be presented. This club is a consolidation of the members of the two old Fulton Democratic clubs, and all members of those clubs and voters of Marshal Ward are eligible to membership.

He Was Not Insane.

A commission of lunacy was held yesterday afternoon in the case of Mr. O'Keefe, who registered at the American Hotel on the 28th from Long Island City. He was adjudged not insane, and was sent back to New York on the 7:05 P. M. train. His queer actions were due to other less causes.

Don't irritate your lungs with a stubborn cough when a remedy safe and certain as Dr. D. Jayne's Expectorant can be so easily procured. Sore throats and lungs are speedily helped by it.

WILL APPEAR HERE.

JANAUSCHEK AND MANTELL AMONG THE WEEK'S ATTRACTIONS.

The Latter to Present Mr. Alfriend's Play, The Louisianian—Speech of Mrs. Kendal—Brief Dramatic Notes.

Madame Janauschek, who was to have been here earlier in the season, but was detained in Baltimore by a severe attack of the grip, will appear at the Richmond Theatre to-morrow and Tuesday evenings, with a matinee on the latter day, in her new play "Harvest Moon," in which she has achieved one of the greatest triumphs of her life. There is little to be said of this actress, except that she is as strong and vigorous as she has been in ten years, and her dramatic methods are as superb as in her palmiest days. As Mrs. Oakley in her new play, she has every opportunity to display her wonderful art. The play has been cordially received wherever it has been presented.

Madame Janauschek's company has been carefully selected. Notable in it is Mr. A. H. Stuart, her leading man, who plays the clergyman with artistic effect. Mr. Stuart is not only a fine actor but a true Virginian, having been raised near Fredericksburg and served his mother State in the late war. Mr. Everton and Mr. Clifton are also members of the strong cast.

"The Harvest Moon" is close-knit, simple, and direct in plot and action. The involutions that complicate and confuse are not able to divert the straight line of the story, and this story goes on developing from situation to situation, culminating in a remarkable dramatic and psychologic climax in the third act and solving easily and naturally in the last.

ROBERT MANTELL.

Lovers of a superb specimen of manhood and of a fine actor will find these combined in Mr. Mantell's impersonations of three strong romantic parts—the dual *role* in "The Corsican Brothers" Wednesday night; "Monbars" at the matinee Thursday, and "The Louisianian" Thursday night. Mantell is well known throughout the country and has made a national reputation. He is possibly the handsomest actor in America, and as an amateur swordsman is only second to Perry Belmont. The new play, "The Louisianian," is from the pen of Mr. Edward Alfriend, who is so well known in Richmond from his long residence here. He is now living in New York, where his several plays and his ability as a playwright have placed him in a conspicuous place in the theatrical world. The Corsican Brothers as a play is well known, and the production that Mr. Mantell gives is said to be very fine. He carries all scenery used, and his effects are superb. Monbars is a charming play. "The Louisianian" has never been seen here, but northern critics have been lavish in their praise and pronounced it one of the best literary effects in the last decade. It will probably attract more attention than any play in the *repertoire*.

MINSTRELS ON SATURDAY.

Gorman's Minstrels, which will be at the Theatre Saturday, were only organized last season, but their entertainment on their visit here in the spring made them many friends. The company was then good, and it is promised that they have greatly improved since. The costumes are new, bright, and rich, the Gorman brothers decid