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SUNDAY.....JUNE 19, 1892.

THE FEATURES OF TO-DAY'S PAPER.

THE CHICAGO CONVENTION—Latest Aspects of the Situation—Arrival of Great Numbers of Delegates—Scenes, Incidents, and Announcements.

THE HUM OF SOCIETY—Preparations for Summer Outings on Seashore and Mountain—Close of the Home Season.

SILVER AND GRAIN—Their Ups and Downs—A Letter from Mr. Lewis H. Blair in Reply to Judge Hughes's Last Free-Coinage Letter.

THE FIRST-HONOR LIST—Pupils of the White Public Schools of Richmond Who Received the Highest Marks and Were Awarded Certificates.

FASHION FOIBLES—The "Going-Away" Wardrobes for the Watering-Places—"Pointers" on Mountain Dresses and Climbing Toilets—Short Skirts for Dauntless Damsels.

QUERIES AND ANSWERS—Order of Time in Which the the Books of the Bible Were Written—Michigan's Presidential Electors—Abraham Lincoln's Presidential Competitors.

RACING INTERESTS—The American Turf and the Men Who Win and Lose Big Sums—The Evolution of a "Julien Gordon"—Bennett Monument—Old John Swinton.

REJOINDER OF MR. TODD—Another Letter Concerning the Brazil Steamship Controversy—He Discusses at Length the Position of the Chamber of Commerce.

SOME OIL ROMANCES—Remarkable Happenings in the Bonanza Days of Oil Creek—The Great Benninghoff Robbery—How $260,000 Was Carried Off.

VOORHEES AND GRAY—What the Senator Has to Say of the ex-Governor's Political Record.

AN ENGINEER FATALLY SCALDED—Mr. Slater Caught Under a Locomotive and Dies in a Few Hours.

PEOPLE'S-PARTY CONVENTION—It Will Send Delegates to Omaha and to Organize Permanently.

WIN THEIR FIRST GAME—The Virginias Defeat the Manchester Club in a Base-Ball Contest.

THE STATE BAR ASSOCIATION—Great Interest in the Approaching Session at Old Point—The Programme.

OLD POINT COMFORT—The "Ambassadors" of Commerce Take a Sniff of the "Briny" at the Capes—Sweet Girl Graduates Welcome the Cadets from Annapolis.

A NOVEL INCIDENT—A Night Attack on the Receiving-Ship Franklin Made a Feature of the Drill of the Carolina Reserves.

ROANOKE REJOICES—Thousands Celebrate the Tenth Birthday of the Magic City.

The Way to Win—Again.

In speaking of the proceedings of the recent Minneapolis convention Mr. BLAINE said that the "resolution, energy, and persistence" which marked the proceedings of that body would, if turned against the Democrats, win the election in November. Here is a lesson for the Democrats. If the Minneapolis convention was characterized by "resolution, energy, and persistence" the Chicago convention will be characterized by these features in a much greater degree. No national convention has ever been held in this country which developed so much feeling as will be developed in Chicago, provided a nomination is not made upon the first ballot. Hard work night and day, constant appeals to the delegates, vigorous protests against the nomination of one and another of the aspirants, and an unlimited amount of "cheek" and "chinning," so to speak, will make the Chicago convention memorable. If we keep cool and shall not allow ourselves to be "taken off our feet" by the rushing tide of personal preferences which will assuredly sweep over Chicago, we shall be in good condition to fight the great presidential battle at home, let those do what they will who have manifested a disposition to care rather for men than for measures and to win a victory at Chicago this week rather than to win a victory at the ballot-box on the 8th of November next.

We repeat, however, that if we are to succeed in electing the nominee whom we shall select in a day or two we must lose sight of all minor differences and remember only that we are Democrats "first, last, and all the time"; that we have a country to save; that we have a section to guard against the inroads of the worst party that ever had an existence amongst us or our fathers; and that success, especially this year, will come only to those who work for it. Surely we hold that in our case he "serves his country best who serves his party best." Surely we can see the glittering bayonets which are to follow up and execute the force bill if we prove false to our duty and allow the Republicans again to secure control of the legislative, executive, and judicial departments of the National Government. Surely we will not allow our vision to be clouded by the smoke and dust of a contest within our own ranks when we have a battle so much more important to fight with the common enemy—the enemy of the peace, prosperity, and contentment of the South and of the whole Union. We must once more put down the sectionalists and South-haters.

Honest Money.

We have twice already quoted the silver resolution of the Minneapolis platform, so that our readers know that it is "a straddle" or worse. Nevertheless, the Cincinnati *Commercial-Gazette* has the effrontery to publish the following editorial paragraph:

"Will the Democrats at Chicago have the courage to adopt an honest-money resolution? Hardly."

What is an "honest-money resolution"? If the silver resolution concocted at Minneapolis is an honest-money resolution, then the Democrats are at least as sound upon the silver question as the Republicans, seeing that the former have for years incorporated into their State and national platforms resolutions like the one adopted by the late Republican National Convention.

However, we confess that we do not like the Republican resolution on silver at all, and whilst rather expecting the Democratic National Convention not to be any more candid than was the Republican National Convention, yet we would fain hope that we might have a clear issue before us next fall. Let us go for or against free coinage. The people may be trusted.

Free Delivery.

Free delivery grows in popularity. By a vote of 114 to 53 the national House of Representatives recently decided that no additional free-delivery *offices* shall be established in any congressional district having one or more free-delivery offices until each congressional district having in it a place suitable shall have been supplied with at least one free-delivery office. But the House of Representatives went further. Its amendment provided that no additional *facilities* for free delivery should be furnished until the result just mentioned had been accomplished—that is to say, congressional districts already possessing free-delivery offices shall have no more of such offices and shall not have the facilities at those offices increased until all of the congressional districts entitled to free delivery shall have been supplied with free-delivery offices or at least one free-delivery office. We have emphasized the words "offices" and "facilities" to call attention to the peculiarities of this new legislation, which, by the way, may never get through the Senate.

The House of Representatives seems to be afraid to trust the people on the free-delivery question. In adopting the amendment we have alluded to above that body had to cut down the appropriation in the bill as a means of making that amendment in order under the rules. But we do not deem it necessary for the House of Representatives thus to deal with the people. Free delivery is popular wherever the people have enjoyed its benefits. It would be much more likely to damage a congressman in the estimation of his constituents for him to fail to secure for them free-delivery facilities than for him to vote for a bill carrying a few thousand dollars in the shape of appropriations to the free-delivery feature of the postal department of our great government. The Post-Office Department ought not to be expected to be self-sustaining. Think of appropriating $150,000,000 annually to the soldiers who served in the national armies in the late war and then refusing to appropriate $1,000,000 to confer upon all the people, and not upon soldiers alone, the inestimable benefits of a free-delivery system. Such economy ought to be distasteful to the people themselves. Surely they cannot approve of such legislative cheese-paring. Surely they know that with the increase of free delivery the intelligence of the people increases. "People run to and fro, and knowledge is increased." The man on the farm is brought into direct and quick communication with the man at the counter. The city and the country become closely allied in business and in hospitality.

Yes, let us have free delivery as soon as possible wherever there ought to be free delivery.

The Children and Their Vacation.

The list of first-honor pupils in the public schools of Richmond, which we publish this morning, will have thousands of readers. To the women and children, and to many men, too, it will prove more interesting than the news from Chicago or the latest developments concerning the Richmond and Danville railroad receivership.

These hard-earned honors are as dear to the winners of them as the spurs were to the knights whose valor they were made testimonials of. These scholastic honors represent nights and days of hard study and the sacrifice of many of the pleasures of youth. They would not be prized if they cost nothing, but we have known instances where they have cost too much—where health has been sacrificed to them. These, we must suppose, are exceptions to the general rule, for our public-school officers and teachers are sensible and humane men, and have had experience which qualifies them to judge of the capacity for work of the average boy and girl.

When the public schools of Richmond were opened last fall there was a great diphtheria scare here, and some parents and guardians thought it the part of prudence to keep their children away until the disease was well-nigh subdued in this city. Such children upon returning to school found their classes considerably advanced, and all of them could not overtake them. Doubtless not a few for this reason failed to win honors which would have otherwise been within their reach.

The vacation is the most blissful period of childhood. It never comes too soon or lasts too long, and is the compensation offered for hours of toil and for subjection to restraints which fret the freedom-loving spirit of youth.

We trust that all of the school-children of Richmond—the pupils of the public schools and the pupils of all of our other schools—will enjoy their vacation and return to their studies with tanned cheeks, expanded chests, and strengthened limbs, and with the determination to reap during the coming session harvests of medals, honors, and distinctions.

Unfortunate Phraseology.

It will take some time to detect and point out all the weak places in the Minneapolis platform. That platform is an *omnium gatherum*. Its component parts came from the ends of the earth. Its framers tried to obtain "here a little and there a little" political capital, but were too careless in gathering their material. They devoted twice as much space to the oppressed negro as to the oppressed Jews in Russia and the Irish, and although they had already given the negro a double portion of space in the platform they did not hesitate to include him with the Jews of Russia when this part of the platform was reached. We quote from the platform as follows:

"The Republican party has always been the champion of the oppressed and recognizes the dignity of manhood, irrespective of faith, color, or nationality; it sympathizes with the cause of home rule in Ireland and protests against the persecution of the Jews in Russia."

The white persons for whose benefit this plank was inserted in the Republican platform will not thank the Republicans for including them amongst the negroes. The Irish voters in this country are not to be tolled into the Republican ranks by the use of such language. To say that the Republicans mixed up the Russian Jews and the Irish with the American negroes is to say that the Republicans really felt no sympathy whatever with either the Irish or the Israelites in Russia. We trust that the Democratic National Convention will emphasize this blunder of the Republicans. Indeed, the Irish are so generally Democrats and such good Democrats that it would be criminal in the Chicago convention not to censure this left-handed compliment to the sons of Erin.

The Danville Offices.

The Richmond and Danville Railroad Company's offices should be located at Richmond.

This much is due to the city that gives it such an immense amount of business, while Virginia, which endowed it with all of the corporate privileges that it enjoys, certainly has the right to ask—yea, to demand—that these offices should be established and kept somewhere within her borders.

Our charity in this instance begins at home, but if the offices cannot be secured to Richmond then they should go to Alexandria or Lynchburg or Danville. Certainly they ought to be within the limits of the Old Dominion. We invoke the attention of the business-men of this city to this subject. If they will firmly demand their rights they will probably succeed, for the company no doubt will soon have favors to ask of our General Assembly, and while it is asking favors of our representatives we can insist upon our rights.

Let us hope that with the reorganization of the company the Richmond and Danville will be heard of no more as a foot-ball for speculators in Wall street, but that it will be often heard of building depots where they are much needed, opening up new trade areas and developing industrial centres, and doing a greater business and benefiting the public and the stockholders more than ever before. Let it become a "town-builder" in Virginia and North Carolina. It can thus enrich its owners as well as all of the country through which it passes.

The Minneapolis Platform.

The Republican platform of 1892 reads as if its constructors had felt that they had an unpleasant duty to perform, and so feeling performed it in the most perfunctory manner possible. It must, however, have required an effort to produce such a paragraph as the opening one. We quote it:

"The representatives of the Republicans of the United States assembled in general convention on the shores of the Mississippi river, the everlasting bond of an indestructible republic, whose most glorious chapter of history is the record of the Republican party, congratulate their countrymen on the majestic march of the nation under the banners inscribed with the principles of our platform of 1888, vindicated by victory at the polls and prosperity in our fields, workshops, and mines," &c., &c.

"General convention" is good. It is a new phrase as thus applied. "The everlasting bond of an indestructible republic" is good also. But all that all the Republicans and all the Republican conventions in the United States could say in the way of boasting is rendered ridiculous by the assertion that the most glorious chapter of the history of this country is the record of the Republican party! The record of the Republican party is the record of a faction which from 1870 until now has held possession of the government despite the fact that the Democrats have nearly always, if not always, during that time constituted a majority of the voters. The forms of government have been prostituted to the perpetuation of the rule of the miserable party whose record is thus spoken of as a "glorious" one. The negro vote has been relied upon to show that a majority of the people prefer Republican rule. What a "glorious record" is the record of the party that has for twenty-odd years endeavored to place the negro on top of the white man in the southern States and carried the North by the aid of the negro vote!

We appeal to the census of 1880 for the facts which show that the "glorious" victories of the Republican party have all been victories gained by negro votes. New York had in 1880, 20,089 negro votes; Indiana had 10,739; Ohio had 21,706; Pennsylvania, 23,892, and Illinois, 13,686. Leaving all the rest of the negroes out of the calculation, we say that if these negroes had voted with the Democrats in 1870 and afterwards the Republican party would have had no "record"—glorious or other. It would have died long ago. It has lived upon negro votes. HARRISON was nominated last week in obedience to the demands of the Republican negroes. So "the most glorious chapter" in the record of the Republican party is a negro chapter!

Bismarck and the Emperor.

The fact that Prince REUSS, the German ambassador to the Court of FRANCIS JOSEPH, has been granted "convenient leave of absence," in order that he may solve gracefully the problem of not meeting BISMARCK when the latter arrives in Vienna to attend the marriage of his son, is taken as evidence that there is no truth in the report of an immediate reconciliation between the ex-Chancellor and Emperor WILLIAM. It is, however, also evidence that WILLIAM has the sagacity to understand that he cannot afford to give BISMARCK an open affront. We have never put much faith in the stories that the Emperor and BISMARCK were about to settle their differences, for the reason that the time is not ripe for a reconciliation. Both parties to the quarrel—the seriousness of which has been considerably exaggerated—have heads of their own, and stubbornness is a marked characteristic of each. There is under present conditions no necessity for either to make overtures to the other. As regards questions of internal policy and foreign relations Germany is getting along very smoothly. But should a serious crisis arise in the affairs of the empire there can be no doubt that the Emperor and the old Chancellor could fall upon a *modus vivendi*. The patriotism of neither can be doubted. WILLIAM cannot fail to comprehend that BISMARCK has a potent following that it would be unwise to antagonize; and there is nothing in BISMARCK'S record to show that he would not recognize his duty to his sovereign and to the Fatherland should his influence be needed to avert danger to the integrity of the empire. As we have frequently said, in some respects BISMARCK out of power is more powerful than BISMARCK in power, and it is to the credit of the young Emperor that he appreciates this and would steer clear of arousing the resentment of a party that when some grave issue was involved might prove stronger than its leader. However overbearing and autocratic BISMARCK may have proved, the occasion may yet present itself when he of all men in the empire may be needed to control and direct popular opinion and band the people together. However much he may be wedded to the old *regime*, the people have faith in him, and WILLIAM sees that it will not do to make his adherents more zealous in his quarrel than he is himself. The manner in which the threatened Vienna complication has been disposed of would, therefore, seem to be best for all concerned.

The Trolley.

All the west-side real estate owners of New York are against the trolley, says the *World*. There is death in it, says the big Empire City, but Richmond has not learned to fear its dangers. We are curious to know how it is that a system is harmless in Richmond which is harmful in New York. We suspect that it is the multiplicity of wires which has caused the trolley panic in New York. Nevertheless, the trolley seems to be growing in popularity faster than any other system. It has been familiar to our people for three or four or more years.

The Michigan Law Constitutional.

We have repeatedly said that it was possible the next President of the United States might owe his election to the new law in Michigan districting that State for the election of electors of President and Vice-President. On Friday last the Supreme Court of Michigan, three Republicans and two Democrats, unanimously decided that the law is constitutional. So the Democrats will have a chance to secure several—perhaps ten or twelve—electoral votes in the Peninsula State, and it is possible that the Michigan Democratic electors, added to those from other States, may turn the scale in favor of the Democratic nominee.

The court could not have decided the case otherwise. It says so in its opinion.

Book Notices.

China Collecting in America. By ALICE MORSE EARLE. Illustrated. CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS. New York: 1892. Pages 424, small 4to. Price $3.

For sale by WEST, JOHNSTON & Co., Richmond, Va.

There is a much-used saying, "*De gustibus nil disputandum*," and yet there is hardly anything about which people are let less alone by critics and censors than their taste or tastes. Taste is a capacity for just discrimination and sound judgment in regard to matters of admitted value and importance, which require some culture in order to properly appreciate them.

Tastes are inclinations, preferences, and leanings generally put in practice in certain directions or towards certain things which contribute to one's enjoyment, real or supposed. Taste may be good or bad, refined or vitiated, and tastes may be high or low, elevating or grovelling. Taste and tastes may address themselves to a great variety of objects and be indulged in in a multitude of modes, so that extensive latitude may very properly be allowed. Hence the French supplement the Latin above with "*chacun a son goût.*"

Yet we cannot sympathize, as our authoress does, with the admission of CHARLES LAMB, who said that when he got to a big house his first desire was to examine the china-press. We hope that this was one of ELIA'S jocular exaggerations, for surely he ought to have preferred the library, the picture- and sculpture-gallery, the conservatory, and the landscape-gardening of any house that deserved to be called "big" to its choicest and rarest display of porcelain and pottery.

When that wonderful octopus, "society," puts its tentacles around a fad and makes it fashionable it becomes irresistible, whether it has in it any good taste or not; and when enthusiastic women take hold of *ceramics* you have to let them alone even if they choose to run into *seraphics*. If they please they can turn *bric-a-brac* into *brick-a-bat*, if the bat has any historic or traditional association connected with it; if, for instance, it is said to have come from the Tower of Babel, a Hebrew strawless brick-yard in Egypt, or even the old church-tower at Jamestown.

The handsome and interesting volume before us gives an amusing account of the china-hunters and their tricks, even down to lying and swindling. The writer claims that she was not guilty of such things; but she has to confess to some very doubtful *finessing* in order to obtain some of her coveted treasures. She even wishes that she could be a peddler, in view of the better chance which one of that occupation had had at the possessors of porcelain rarities and the advantageous barter he had made in his purchases. She gives a good deal of information in regard to the manufacture of porcelain in our own country and others, and shows how it has honored and brutted some of the greatest worthies in American history. Indeed we wonder, from what has been done, that china does not now enter into our political campaigns, in a very different manner from discussing the exclusion of Chinese from the United States. From the work before us even the Farmers' Alliance might derive examples, models, and inscriptions for the prosecution of their plans. The authoress has been fortunate in her publishers, who have placed her before the public in an elegant and artistic form.

When a Man's Single. A Tale of Literary Life. By J. M. BARRIE, author of "The Little Minister," "My Lady Nicotine," "A Window in Thrums," etc., etc. 242 pages. Price 25c. New York: The Waverly Company, publishers. 61-65 Park Row.

Memoirs of a Mother-in-Law. By GEORGE R. SIMS, author of "Ostler Joe," "Mary Jane's Memoirs," "Mary Jane Married," etc. 250 pages. Price 50c. New York; The Waverly Company, publishers.

The Family Physician. By one of his victims. 164 pages. Price 25c. New York: W. D. ROWLAND, publisher.

Why I'm Single. By ALBERT ROSS, author of "The Garston Bigamy," "Moulding a Maiden," "Her Husband's Friend," "His Private Character," "Speaking of Helen," "Thou Shalt Not," etc. 360 pages. Price 50c. New York: Copyrighted, 1892, by G. W. DILLINGHAM, publisher, successor to G. W. CARLETON & Co.

Rose Mather. A Tale. By MRS. MARY J. HOLMES, author of "Tempest and Sunshine," "Lena Rivers," "The Samoa Pride," etc., etc. 407 pages. Price 25c. Same publishers.

A Chit of Sixteen and Other Stories. By MIRIAM COLES HARRIS, author of "Rutledge," "Missy," "A Perfect Adonis," "An Utter Failure," etc. 180 pages. Price 25c. Same Publishers.

On Calvary. A Description of the Biblical Calvary. 394 pages. Same publishers.

Estelle. A Novel. By Mrs. ANNIE EDWARDS, the author of "Archie Lovell," "Ought We to Visit Her?" "Steven Lawrence, Yeoman," etc., etc. 432 pages. Price 50c. Same publishers.

Obsequies John S. Barbour, late a Senator from the State of Virginia. In the Senate of the United States, Monday, May 16, 1892. Washington: 1892. A pamphlet of 13 pages.

The Battle of Love (La Lutte). A Realistic Novel of Ruthless Ambition. By ALPHONSE DAUDET, author of "Sappho," "Tartarin," "Lise Tavernier," etc. Translated by HENRY LLEWELLYN WILLIAMS, translator of this author's "Tartarin," "Sappho," and "Lise Tavernier." Chicago: DONOHUE, HENNEBERRY & Co. 1892. 278 pages. Price 50 cents.

DAUDET is a great man and this is one of his great books. It is a tragedy. The two heroines commit suicide. The father of the girl of the story is killed by her false lover, and the false lover in turn falls at the hand of the true lover. The story is woven around a beautiful girl who loved "not wisely but too well."

Madame Chrysantheme. By PIERRE LOTI. Translated by HETTIE E. MILLER. Chicago: DONOHUE, HENNEBERRY & Co., publishers. Price 50c.

This is a celebrated book. The author, who describes himself as a French naval officer, "married" a Japanese woman, and his story is a chirpy narrative of the life and customs of that strange people.

CIRCUS-TICKETS FOR THE CROWD.

Mr. Wise's Reward a Pass for Himself and a Clean Sweep of the Precinct.

[St. Louis Globe-Democrat.]

When the circus was here last week and the house found itself without a quorum George D. Wise, of Virginia, told a good cloak-room story. Mr. Wise, in his youth, was a page in the United States Senate. Senator Gorman was a page at the same time, and two other smart boys who were pages at that period were afterward elected to Congress. But Mr. Wise's story did not relate to his experience as a Senate page. It was founded on fact. The scene was Hanover Court-house, in Mr. Wise's district, and the time was the last campaign. Mr. Wise and one of the Democratic nominees for elector-at-large were announced to speak "on the issues of the day" at Hanover.

"When we got to town," said Mr. Wise, "we discovered that a circus had spread its canvas for that very afternoon. The crowd was large, but I had my doubts as to how the speech-making would go in opposition to the circus. The meeting was set for 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and I knew that the circus-people would begin to do business at about the same time. There didn't seem to be anything to do but to go ahead with our appointment. We had the meeting called to order, and I told the elector that courtesy demanded that he, being a candidate on the State ticket, should make the first speech. He was inclined to waive that and have me begin, but I insisted. I knew that the circus crisis was coming, and I preferred to have him face it. So the elector was introduced and started off. All was ominously quiet around the circus-tent. The crowd gathered to hear the speaking and the elector began to warm up to the occasion. He had spoken perhaps fifteen minutes when suddenly the band struck up, the ticket-seller took his place, and the canvas door was thrown open. The crowd turned as one man and started for the show. In two minutes there wasn't anybody around the platform, and I was the only person besides the elector upon the platform. The elector stopped and looked at me. 'It's no use talking against a circus,' said I, and we got down and followed the crowd, which was gathering around the ticket-seller. I brought out some money from Richmond, to extend hospitalities to my hearers when I finished the speech I expected to make. I hunted up one of my best friends in the crowd, and, handing him some money, I said:

"'Here, you buy tickets to the circus with this and give them to the right persons with my compliments.'

"The next minute my friend was shouting at the top of his voice: 'Ladies and gentlemen, the Hon. George D. Wise has authorized me to see that every one of you has a ticket to the show, with his compliments.'

"With that the crowd shouted and crowded up. I saw my money go into the hands of the ticket-seller and I saw the crowd pass into the circus at my expense. Of course there was no stopping after that. It took the last quarter out of my pocket before the job was finished, and there I stood, with my crowd inside and I alone on the outside. The circus manager came over to me, and with a grin complimented me on my electioneering tactics. He wanted to know if I wasn't going to see the show, and I told him the condition of my pockets. 'Pass right in, Mr. Wise,' he said, and in I went.

"When the returns came from Hanover Courthouse after the election I found I had swept the precinct clean."

Comforting.

[Judge.]

Tailor: Look here! I have worried myself sick over that bill of yours.

Casket (the undertaker): That's all right, old man. If worst comes to worst you can take it out in trade.

Different Modes of Kissing.

[Boston Courier.]

In Boston when they osculate
It's just a saccharic hush,
No louder than the mingling of
Four dainty bits of plush.

In Hartford when the labials meet
A gentle whisk is heard,
Like sound that pulses from the grain
When by a zephyr stirred.

But when in Bangor they collide
In lip-caress you hear
A sound quite like a clap-board dropped
Upon an iron pier.

A NOVEL INCIDENT.

THE CAROLINA TARS IN A NIGHT ATTACK ON THE FRANKLIN.

Vessels in Distress—The Raleigh's Boilers Shipped—A Trucker's Losses—Arrival of the First Brazilian War-Ship.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

NORFOLK, June 18.—A night attack was a feature of the drill of the North Carolina naval reserves on the frigate Franklin last night, and the explosion of heavy guns and rattle of musketry in the darkness was rather a novel incident on the harbor. The reserves made another short run down to Hampton Roads on the United States steamer Newark this morning, and this afternoon all left for home.

MARINE NEWS.

A wrecking force has gone to North river, North Carolina, to raise the Norfolk steamer Harbinger, sunk on a snag a few days ago with a cargo of potatoes.

The French bark Alexandria, which put in here in distress, replaced her cargo and sailed yesterday, having repaired damages and put new copper on her bottom. This is the first vessel recoppered here in several years.

The boilers of the new cruiser Raleigh, built at the Brooklyn navy-yard, have been shipped to this yard on a brig. They are six in number and large and powerful.

Rev. James I. Vance left this morning for Hampden-Sidney, where he will deliver the baccalaureate sermon to-morrow.

A GOOD COMMITTEE.

The Chamber of Commerce has appointed a committee composed of William Lamb, Barton Meyers, and O. E. Edwards, to attend the convention of commercial organizations to be held at Old Point next week to form a State association.

A colored girl named Lizzie Wood, on trial in the Hustings Court of Portsmouth for attempted murder, has been acquitted.

One Norfolk-county trucker says he will lose $4,000 this season, owing to the failure of potatoes to bring remunerative prices and other crops being short.

PERSONAL.

Rev. H. C. Tucker, representative of the American Bible Society in Brazil, is in the city and will preach at Cumberland-Street church to-morrow night.

Mrs. John M. Moore, of Atlanta, Ga., daughter of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. M. B. Wharton, is here with her children on a visit to her parents.

Mr. T. J. Wool having resigned to take a course of law at the University of Virginia, Miss Ruth Davis was last night elected principal of the Fourth-District public schools in Portsmouth, and Mr. W. A. Culpeper elected clerk to the School Board.

The cavalry company organized in Berkley last night with forty-seven members, and John P. Keeling was elected captain. The town now has two military companies, the other being the Berkley Light Infantry.

General William P. Roberts, of Gatesville, N. C., is in this city on his way to Chicago.

The Brazilian training-ship Alemerante Borrosa, Captain Di Leo, from St. Thomas to New York, arrived here to-day, the first Brazilian man-of-war ever in this harbor. She had a crew of 304 persons.

MECKLENBURG CIRCUIT COURT.

One Hundred and Five Decrees Entered—Brunswick Stews and Prohibition.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

CHASE CITY, VA., June 18.—The Circuit Court of this county, after a term of two weeks, has just adjourned. An unusual amount of business was transacted. There were 105 decrees in chancery entered, and and all the litigated cases in the law docket that were ready were tried. The jury was used at this term for the first time in several courts past. The amount of $250 was required to pay them. The cases of Humphreys *vs.* Richmond and Mecklenburg Railroad Company and Riggan *vs.* Riggan's administrator were taken to the Court of Appeals, and the clerk is now preparing the records.

Judge Samuel F. Coleman presided for the first time here, and gave entire satisfaction by his readiness, impartiality, and ability.

The crops of this county are exceptionally promising. The wheat and oat yields will be above an average. Mr. James L. Thompson, near here, has a field of wheat, about 20 acres, that will yield thirty bushels to the acre and now ready for harvesting. Tobacco has started off well and a good stand. The Irish-potato crop will be the finest yield for many years.

A GOOD OLD CUSTOM.

Many town people here keep alive the old Virginia custom of Brunswick stews. The season for them has just commenced. It is a glorious day for merry participants. A shady grove and a spring of cool water near by, a few lambs, several dozen chickens and squirrels, appropriate vegetables, an abundance of good butter, high seasoning, a supply of ice, mint and accompaniments, and a few old-style Virginia darkies ready to serve you are indispensable requisites. It is a go-as-you-please affair, and ceremony is dispensed with. Yesterday evening many enjoyed a royal time eating, and the boys were full, very full, of Brunswick stew. All these occasions are pleasant and good cheer prevails.

ON THE WANE.

The Prohibition sentiment in this country—if any really ever did exist, about which there is doubt—is decidedly on the wane. If a candidate for office should run on such a ticket he would be beaten, even if no one opposed him, as a candidate for corporal in the writer's company was during the war. When he took his stand in front of the company as the only candidate the order was given for all in favor of Royall L—— to march to him, and not a man moved from his position. Other aspirants had to come out before there was an election.

GENERAL NOTES.

Judge Coleman's decision with regard to the license question here is universally regarded as strictly in accordance with law and putting a *quietus* on the delusion of a few misguided extremists.

Joe Carrington, a native African, died in this county on the 11th, and was about 75 years old.

The Episcopal church here has just been ornamented with an imposing steeple, and all the exterior of the building handsomely painted. The lady members deserve all the credit for the improvement.

The hotels here have been greatly enlarged and improved. Summer visitors are constantly arriving, and city friends are renewing acquaintance with their country cousins. There is ample room for all, and the inevitable fried chicken still remains the luxury of the country.

A FRIGHTENED THIRD PARTY.

Reid Objectionable to Mahone—Capt. McCabe's Nineteenth Voyage—Personal.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

PETERSBURG, VA., June 18.—The Third-party people in Dinwiddie county, in response to a call issued for that purpose, will meet at the county court-house on Monday for organization and for the election of delegates to the State convention soon to assemble in Richmond. Since the meeting of the Republican National Convention, where so much stress was laid upon the passage of a force bill, and since the enunciation of the Republican platform, the Third-party talk in this section has very materially lessened. It is not believed the Dinwiddie organization will amount to much.

A prominent Republican of this city thinks that Whitelaw Reid, the candidate for Vice-President, is just as objectionable to General Mahone as Harrison is, for the reason that no paper in the country has said more bitter things about the General than the New York *Tribune*.

TO VISIT GREECE.

Captain W. Gordon McCabe will sail from New York about the 1st of July for Liverpool, whence he will go to Paris. After a sojourn in the French metropolis he will go to Greece, where he expects to remain about six weeks. This will make Captain McCabe's nineteenth voyage across the Atlantic.

Mr. W. R. McKenney, one of the delegates from this district to the Democratic National Convention, left to-day for Chicago. He is accompanied by Mr. M. B. Cogbill, an accomplished young stenographer of this city, who will probably be appointed secretary of the Virginia delegation.

To-morrow will be Children's-Day at Oakland Methodist church, in Dinwiddie county. The services will continue all day.

During the past few days the shipments of vegetables to the the North over the Atlantic Coast-Line have averaged 150 car-loads per day. An immense business is going on in this line.

COPS SHOULD BEWARE OF COONS.

Officer Dyson, of the police corps, ran down a coon on Market street this morning and was painfully bitten through the hand by the animal.

Mr. George W. E. Birchett, aged about 80 years, the oldest carpenter in the city, is very sick at his residence, on Washington street.

Notes from the Warm-Springs Valley.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

WARM SPRINGS, VA., June 18.—The whereabouts of young Hamilton, whose strange disappearance was noticed in your issue of Thursday last, is as much shrouded in mystery as ever.

Among the arrivals in the valley from the different schools we note the following: The Misses Warren, from Mrs. Biling's school, at Winchester; the Misses Hopkins, from the Agnes Scott Institute at Decatur, Ga.; Mr. Lyttleton Warren, from Roanoke College, and Mr. Frank Hopkins, from Washington and Lee University.

Miss Nanett Hopkins is the principal of the Agness Scott.

Mrs. James Frazier, of Clifton Forge, is a guest of her father, Judge J. W. Warrick.

Miss Ceri, of North Carolina, is spending some weeks with Miss Roberta L. Parker.

A double daily train has been placed on the Hot Springs branch of the Chesapeake and Ohio, connecting at Covington. This train arrives at the Hot Springs at 9:20 in the morning and about 9 o'clock at night. After Monday next a mail service will be put on the road.

The weather here for the past two weeks has been ideal weather for the farmers and their crops have progressed rapidly.

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

Programme of the Final Celebration of 1892—The Largest Class of Graduates.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, June 18.—The final celebration of the university will begin Sunday, June 26th, with the annual celebration of the Young Men's Christian Association. The sermon before the association will be preached by Rev. Robert P. Kerr, D. D., of Richmond, Va. On Monday evening the annual celebration of the Washington Literary Society will be held, and addresses will be delivered by the president, Mr. R. F. Leach, Jr., of Maryland; the debater, Mr. R. E. Cofer, of Texas, and the orator, Mr. Hanes L. Moss, of Virginia.

On Tuesday at 11 A. M. Dr. Thomas Nelson Page, the distinguished Virginian author, will address the two literary societies, and after his address the medal for the best prose article contributed by a student of the present session to the *University Magazine* will be awarded. At 8 P. M. the annual celebration of the Jefferson Literary Society will be held, and addresses will be made by the president, Mr. J. Jordon Leake, of Virginia, and the orator, Mr. Lewis H. Machen, of Virginia.

On Wednesday at 10 A. M. the closing exercises of the university are held. Diplomas of graduation and professional and academical degrees are awarded. The class of bachelors of arts (graduated under the new elective requirements) will be the largest, doubtless, in the history of the university. After the degrees are conferred the annual celebration of the Society of Alumni is held. The address will be delivered by Hon. Laurence S. Marye, of Lynchburg, Va. At the conclusion of the address the alumni are invited to a luncheon given by the faculty in the university library.

For the delectation of the young folks there will be the usual number of germans to dilute the stream of oratory. Persons of a graver mind will find matter of interest in visits to the astronomical observatory, the natural-history museum, and the biological, chemical, and physical laboratories; all of which will be open to visitors at this time.

A HANDSOME TESTIMONIAL.

Cadet-Captain Wright Presented with a Sword by His Company, "B."

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

LEXINGTON, VA., June 17.—At tattoo tonight at the Virginia Military Institute Cadet-Captain Moorehead Wright, of Arkansas, of the graduating class, was presented with a handsome sword and belt by Company B, of which he is commander.

Cadet James I. Stephens, of Lynchburg, at the report of the orderly stepped forward and said:

THE PRESENTATION.

"Captain Wright, during the ten months you have commanded us you have endeared yourself personally as a soldier to the entire command. Now, that the year is drawing to a close, the company wishes to show by some substantial token their appreciation of your service. As their representative it is my pleasant duty to present to you this sword, the unanimous gift of your men, coupled with the wish that wherever you draw it your commands may always be as cheerfully obeyed as they have been by Company B."

THE RESPONSE.

Captain Wright was unable to respond for some time, being overcome by emotion, as he was taken wholly unawares, and not expecting such a token of esteem and good-will from his men. His reply was touching. He said "that he would always cherish a lively remembrance of the occasion, and that it had been a most pleasant duty to command such a company, always faithful and ready to obey all commands under any circumstances."

The presentation was greeted with cheer after cheer by the entire corps.

INSCRIPTION.

The sword has the following inscription:

Presented to Captain M. Wright,
By Company B,
Corps Cadets V. M. I.,
'91—'92.

Shenandoah University School.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

BERRYVILLE, VA., June 17.—The fifth annual commencement exercises of the Shenandoah University School took place in Winston Hall last evening at 8 o'clock. A select and an enthusiastic audience was present.

In opening the exercises Captain William N. McDonald, the efficient principal of the school, made appropriate remarks, in the course of which he said the standard of scholarship in the higher grade was much greater than ever before and that he had been agreeably surprised at and more than gratified with the results obtained. After closing his remarks he announced the names of those who had secured honors, as follows:

Lower School—Joseph D. Warner, New York city; William Hoge, West Virginia; E. P. C. Lewis, Jr., Clarke county.

Middle School—W. G. Williams, West Virginia; W. Cabell Moore, Clarke county; L. P. Wheat, Jr., Clarke county.

Upper School—Thomas G. Clagett, Clarke county; Ed. O. Russell, Loudoun county; W. N. Bronaugh, Manchester.

Prizes for mathematics, Latin, English, and writing were awarded to R. D. Wight, Baltim