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# THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

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## PRESIDENT H. B. HYDE

COLONEL COCKERILL'S STORY OF A REMARKABLE BUSINESS CAREER.

The Keynote of His Own Life Insurance—Men With Large Policies—Conspicuous Sons-in-Law.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, June 25.—Occasionally I pass on Broadway the spare active form of Henry B. Hyde, president of the Equitable Life-Assurance Society, and in his own personality as well as by virtue of the great corporation he has practically created, one of the most remarkable men in the world. A friend of Mr. Hyde, in reply to my question giving some details about Hyde's career, said he supposed that less had been spent about this man than any other career filled so important a public place. "Hyde," said he, "has all his life been a worker and not a talker. This is true of him now as it was thirty years ago, about which time I conceived the idea of the company whose name he has so completely identified with the idea of life. And he is almost as active now as then, although years have told on most of his contemporaries. Of no small achievement to found a career or to plan a city, it seems to me to make a comparison between such an achievement as Hyde's, who has created and brought up to the pitch of usefulness a society—I use that word to the term corporation—which, measured alike by the standards of usefulness, wealth, influence and extent, I am very free to say is a peer.

"And then I have heard allusions to the enormous sums annually paid Mr. Hyde by the society as payment for his services. I consider it a compliment. The directors of the New York Life Insurance Company resolved the year to pay Mr. William H. Beers, president of that corporation, a salary of $37,500 annually, as a gratuity, and to some extent in addition to the salary of $75,000 he had annually received during his tenancy. When some of the policyholders made objections to the amount of what they called such an enormous gratuity, it was discreetly suggested to them that that gratuity was equivalent to a contribution of about $3,000 per year from each of the policyholders, and that for a man who devoted his life to the service of a corporation, without growing rich, as most corporate officers do, such a contribution was simple justice. I don't believe it has ever found its parallel in this country, or, at all events, not so far as I know, but that it is of much interest in connection—the story of how Hyde raised the salary issue with his employers, the Mutual Life-Insurance Company, before he had matured in his own mind the idea of starting the Equitable. I suppose you have heard that there was a difference of opinion between Hyde and President Winston. But, whether the story on the inside of the difference of opinion was actually about the amount of Mr. Hyde's salary, he had become an active, a useful, a well-known figure in the life-insurance world. It was just before then that an up-town club to which he belonged objected to his talking about life insurance in its club-house, and intimated that a life insurance solicitor, as Mr. Hyde then was, should leave his business or profession behind him when he entered the club doors. Hyde heard of it and got out of the club. He looked the facts in mind, and in his active way, has since kept track of the movements and careers of some of the very men most instrumental in forcing him for his early devotion to business. He would have been more than human could he have failed to entertain something approaching resentment in his after life over applications made to him by those former members of his for assistance, which he generously and quietly extended, that that little incident has been the keynote of his own life. Insurance, business, insurance, has been the tonic of his waking and sleeping hours. For my part I believe this devotion to business is not only the way to get rich, but the very best known method of reaching a serene and vigorous old age with mind and body alike unimpaired.

THE DWIGHT CASE RECALLED.

"Did you ever hear the Dwight story? Well, I have heard Mr. Hyde say that it was the course his society took in that case which enabled it to take the risk in life insurance and to hold it. Some fifteen years ago Colonel Walton Dwight, of Binghamton, N. Y., a broad-shouldered, blonde giant, 6 feet 2 inches in height, bluff, hearty, and living up to his eyelids in affairs, died with his life insured for $256,000. Immediately what is now famous as the 'Dwight case' began in the courts and figured more or less in them ever since, although I believe that even the most of the recalcitrant companies finally paid.

"At that time a quarter of a million dollars of life insurance was simply astounding, the very existence of which was of sufficient interest to attract attention from Maine to San Francisco. Colonel Dwight's $256,000 had been placed in twenty-six companies, some of which for years attempted to prove all sorts of startling and romantic hypotheses to release them from their liabilities on the ground of his policy. Several of the companies actually formed a partnership and employed a detective almost as well known as Allan Pinkerton himself, by the terms of which they agreed to pay him $50,000 in cash for the production within six months of 'Walton Dwight alive,' or of evidence that Dwight had been alive one year subsequent to the 15th of November. This was one of the marvellous cases then freely discussed and which had not been recalled prominently to public attention by the Crandall case at Auburn, N. Y., in which the fact that the dead has actually been identified years after his death was apparently proven to the insurance companies. Colonel Dwight's death was sudden, just four days before the second quarterly premium on his life-insurance policies became due. It is known to be a fact that he had no money with which to pay those premiums at that time. At an autopsy held promptly a number of Colonel Dwight's friends and acquaintances were present as well as physicians representing the insurance company. Five months after the burial Colonel Dwight's body was exhumed and re-examined and the life-insurance doctors who then inspected it declared that a certain gun-shot wound which he was known to have received at the battle of Gettysburg was nowhere to be found.

THE TURNING POINT.

"These were the preliminary incidents of a contest in the courts which has had few parallels. But what my friend, Mr. Hyde, thinks was the turning point in the career of his company had already been reached by him and it in the Dwight case. Immediately on notification of Colonel Dwight's death Mr. Hyde dispatched one of the trustiest agents of his company to Binghamton, telling him to investigate the case thoroughly and report at once. Colonel Dwight held $40,000 insurance in the Equitable Company—a very large sum for any one company to hold at that time on any one man's life. While the other twenty-five companies were making their arrangements to litigate the Dwight case Mr. Hyde received word from his agent at Binghamton, a conscientious and intelligent man, that he could find no good reason why the Equitable Life Assurance Society shouldn't pay the claims without delay. Thereupon Mr. Hyde ordered the policies settled and the Equitable's check for $40,000 was within ten days sent to the beneficiary. So great was the public excitement over this case and so widespread and numerous were the publications made in regard to it that the fact that Mr. Hyde's company had so promptly paid such a large sum became known at once all over the civilized world and was of the greatest possible value to the company and to its president as an advertisement. Since then the prosperity of the company has been uninterrupted, and it is now writing policies within a few hundred of the 600,000 mark. Think of what the 600,000 men and women—mostly men—who hold these policies stand for in the life of the world to-day—the energy, the self-denial, the economy, the forethought, the love, and affection; indeed, all the best qualities of humanity which are so saliently presented in that phase of their character which prompts them to make these investments!"

Mr. Henry B. Hyde's life is insured for, I believe, $165,000. John B. Stetson has $360,000. Pierre Lorillard, John Wanamaker, Cyrus W. Field, and John V. Farwell have $250,000 apiece. George M. Pullman has $100,000, and Cyrus W. Field at one time had $240,000. An acquaintance of Jay Gould says that the "Little Wizard" can produce, on an emergency, policies for $415,000 on his life. William H. Vanderbilt was at one time insured for $620,000. I believe the heaviest life insurance ever paid was to the heirs of Sir Robert Clifton, of England, who received $1,250,000 at his death. The Duke of Newcastle, the Marquis of Anglesea, and the Earl of Fife at one time carried $6,200,000 life insurance between them. The Empress Eugenie is now living, I believe, on the interest of the $600,000 life insurance which Napoleon III. left her.

THE SON-IN-LAW ERA.

This appears to be the era of the son-in-law. It seems to me there are more sons-in-law just now than are absolutely needed, and yet the list grows with amazing rapidity. I refer to the sons-in-law who are that and nothing else. Mr. Whitelaw Reid, having succeeded to the position and business left him by Horace Greeley, would have made something out of his talents and his opportunities, but the fact that he soon became a son-in-law at once insured his success. The most conspicuous son-in-law that this country affords is Colonel Elliott F. Shepard. In this field of endeavor he has achieved the most pronounced success, while all around him thousands have utterly failed. Shepard was a very poor lawyer, with hardly one case to rub against another, as it were, when he met and loved the daughter of a Vanderbilt. From that moment he gave up all thoughts of becoming a great lawyer and bent all his wonderful energies to becoming the greatest son-in-law the American republic has ever produced. In this connection I point to Colonel Shepard with pride. Had he been nominated for Vice-President in Minneapolis his declaration of principles might have matched that of David Bennett Hill for brevity and beauty. "I am a Democrat," quoth Mr. Hill; while Mr. Shepard could have said, "I am a son-in-law." I have always thought that Mr. Vanderbilt was unjust in his characterization of son-in-law Shepard when he said—but never mind what he said. It was unjust and undeserved, and should not appear in a family newspaper anyhow.

A very interesting son-in-law, and one who might have made a great success of it, is Mr. J. Coleman Drayton. Having married an Astor one would have imagined that he had already accomplished his object all sublime; but the mere marriage ceremony does not constitute everything. A man who cannot maintain himself in a son-in-law ship after he has achieved it might almost as well not have achieved it at all. It would not surprise me if Mr. Drayton proved to be a better man as an ex-son-in-law—for he is practically an ex now—than he was as a son-in-law. If he doesn't, he will never accomplish a great deal in this world.

There are sons-in-law who deserve to be in better company. William C. Whitney married Henry B. Payne's daughter, and a charming woman she is; but he would no doubt have got into the Cabinet and have been mentioned for the presidency had he married the daughter of anyone else. My esteemed friend, Mr. J. H. Patterson, editor of the Chicago *Tribune*, won honors before he won a wife. But as the son-in-law of Mr. Joseph Medill, the owner of the *Tribune*, I expect to hear of his continued success in journalism. Mr. Howard Carroll was a good and very well-known newspaper correspondent, but as a son-in-law of the rich Mr. Starin he is sinking his identity in the steamboat business. There have been great opportunities in journalism since Mr. Carroll forsook it for steamboats, and had he remained true and steadfast to his profession he might now be editing a daily newspaper instead of frittering away a valuable career on board a yacht.

A DEPLORABLE CASE.

A melancholy and almost deplorable case of son-in-law is that of Mr. McKee, who married the President's daughter and is the father of Baby McKee. Mr. McKee's progeny is a factor in the republic, and would be recognized making mud pies on any roadside in this country—particularly if grandpa was in the vicinity—but who would recognize Mr. McKee, Sr., if he met him in the big road? Baby McKee might, but it is not certain that he would care to.

The son-in-law who does not materialize is another sad phase of this subject. He is almost as sad as the son-in-law who does materialize and the old man wishes he hadn't. I was told the other day that Broker Giovanni Morosini had a very promising young man picked out for a husband for his handsome daughter Victoria, when she interfered with the arrangements by eloping with Ernest Schilling, the family coachman. The young man was George Gould. Mr. Morosini had not, it seems, taken his daughter into his confidence in the matter any more than he had Mr. Gould, so it is not claimed that the elopement was intended as an expression of disapproval of her father's choice.

Roswell P. Flower's son-in-law is a young man named J. B. Taylor. He comes from Watertown, and is still content to live there and plod along regardless of the attractions of city life, which he could have for the asking. Mr. Taylor is in the mercantile business, and at the time he married Miss Flower he was employed as a book-keeper. This did not make any difference either to the bride-elect or her father. The fact that the young man was not wealthy was no objection to Governor Flower, who said at the time that his son-in-law was a worthy young man and that the lack of money was no detriment whatever. Mr. Taylor is well regarded by his friends and neighbors in Watertown, and they say of him that he would have made his mark in the world had he never been so fortunate as to wed the daughter of a plain millionaire.

Judge Barnard was a conspicuous son-in-law during the Tweed dynasty. He married into the Anderson tobacco millions and assisted in dissipating some of this fortune. The story which has been related of Judge Barnard in his capacity as a son-in-law is worth recalling. One day the Judge was entertaining a friend, when one of the young Barnards, a boy not then old enough to realize the delicate position in which a son-in-law is sometimes placed came into the room and said to his father: "Gimme $10." After this demand had been several time repeated the Judge told him to run along about his business. The boy did so, came back in a few minutes and repeated his demand with this supplemental statement: "Gimme $10." Ma says it isn't your money anyhow." Judge Barnard looked helplessly into the face of his friend and inquired: "Would the mines of Solomon compensate a son-in-law for that?"

### A FIGHT WITH CACTUS.

A Risky Story of Western Misadventure Told by the Colonel.

[Louisville Courier-Journal.]

"Halt! What's that?" said our leader in a sharp whisper.

It was a clear moonlight night in the extreme southwest of Mexico.

I was visiting a friend who conducted a large ranch and hacienda there.

A local revolt had just been quelled in the neighborhood and a spirit of lawlessness still pervaded the atmosphere. Only the night before my friend had been fired upon and one of his storehouses robbed by a band of Indians some fifteen or twenty strong. Early in the morning four of us, under the leadership of our host, had set upon the track of the robbers.

We were well mounted, and, resting only a few hours at noon, had followed hard after them till nearly midnight. If we met them in a fair field we could drive them into quarters like cows to a pen, but we had no mind to run into a trap in the dark with five against fifteen, hence caution.

THE THIEVES.

"Halt! What's that?" our leader had whispered. We had come to the edge of a dense woods and across an open space, upon the brow of a low sandhill, clearly outlined in the moonlight against the sky, we had discovered a dozen or more half-naked fellows, with their arms extended in every direction, engaged in some sort of a weird, fantastic dance.

We could not see their legs, for the tops of the trees beyond the hill rose waist-high, making a black background, but their arms moved slowly to and fro and we could easily imagine their legs keeping company.

"Those are the thieves," our host muttered. "I know them even at night. You fellows just come to the edge of the wood, where they can see you without knowing how many there are of you, and I'll have them down here in no time."

"He rode out alone to the foot of the hill.

It required no little courage, and we watched him with proportionate admiration.

The figures did not cease their dance or notice him. Suddenly, with his rifle at his shoulder, he called to them, "I have you there! If one of you move I'll shoot him dead!"

The wind had been blowing through the trees, so that we could not have heard their response, but, fortunately, at that moment it ceased, and in the deep silence which settled down upon the forest it, such a momentary lull we waited for the result.

Every Indian suddenly ceased his dancing and stood like a statue outlined against the sky.

"Come down here, now," shouted our host. "Come quietly, too, for the first man who makes any trouble drops dead."

We could hear a sound as of a hurried consultation of some sort going on upon the hill for a moment, but the wind sprung up again before we could distinguish a single voice, and to our utter astonishment the fellows actually began their solemn dance again.

A COMMOTION.

"Come down or I'll shoot!" roared our host, but they kept on dancing, and he did shoot.

Then there was commotion enough. A wild cry, followed by a cloud of dust, rose from the brow of the hill.

"Fire!" yelled our host, and we responded with a well-aimed volley, while he whipped out his heavy revolver and gave them another peppering.

There was a perfect bedlam of screams from the hill, and the dust hid everything from view. They were either coming down upon us in an unexpected horde or running for their lives.

For us it was either fly or follow. We waited irresolutely for the word of our leader, when the dust settled and there stood the Indians silently going on with their fantastic dance as though we were a hundred miles away.

With a fierce ejaculation our host put spurs to his horse and dashed up the hill. We followed without command to find him upon the summit, sitting on the ground beneath a line of gaunt and ghostly-like prickly-pears—the ungainly cactus of Mexico.

They extended along the brow of the hill, their naked, skeleton branches spreading out in every unaccountable way and swaying solemnly in the breeze.

Among the roots a multitude of burrows in the dry dust showed where the sand-birds had been lying, half buried, and quietly sleeping; and it was their noisy yelp we heard when they were frightened away by our host's duel with the cactus.

### An Example to be Followed.

*To the Editor of the Dispatch:*

I was an anti-Cleveland man, but now I am a strong Cleveland man, and shall join a Cleveland club as early as possible. Why? Because he is the nominee of our party, and it should behoove every true Democrat to not only vote for him, but work for his election. I say, Hurrah for Cleveland! let the fire of enthusiasm be kindled at once, and may the millions of Democrats of our common country eschew all dissensions and stand shoulder to shoulder in the coming contest, having in view one grand purpose—the election of our standard-bearer by a large majority. He is a modern Cincinnatus, and if we want the sunshine of victory to perch upon the banner of Democracy next November let us be united and firm, and manifest our fealty by exerting our influence to heal all differences and concentrate all our powers against the election of Harrison. Let our motto be "This way, freeman." G. B. D.

*Richmond, Va.*, June 23, 1892.

### Better Late Than Never.

[Texas Siftings.]

"What do you mean by disturbing me at this hour of the night?" said an Austin doctor, angrily, to a darky who woke him up at 3 o'clock in the morning.

"I jess allowed, boss, dat yer was so busy yer didn't hab time ter tend ter poor folks in de day time, so I 'lowed I'd jess drap in after supper."

### Useful in Brooklyn.

[Washington Star.]

Assistant: We can't execute that criminal to-day.

Sheriff: Why not?

"The electrical apparatus is out of order."

"Then there's only one thing to do."

"What's that?"

"Take him out and run him up against a trolley-wire."

### What It Is.

[Life.]

Just a little melancholy,
Just a tear or two;
Just a word that's naughty,
Just a spiteful "Pooh!"

Just an extra cocktail,
Just a flower bill due;
Just another ring to take
Unto my friend, the Jew.

That is what it is to be rejected,
Miss, by you.

## BATTLE-SHIP TEXAS.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE LAUNCH ON TUESDAY NEXT COMPLETE.

Overboard at 11 o'Clock A. M.—High-Tide Gates Open at 9 A. M.—Description—Magazines and Engines.

[Special telegram to the Dispatch.]

NORFOLK, June 25.—The battle-ship Texas is to be launched on Tuesday next, and on that day there will be from fifteen to twenty thousand visitors at the navy-yard, including the Secretary of the Navy and many official and distinguished people from Washington. The receiving-ship Franklin has been moved from her moorings and carried alongside the south wharf, so that she will be out of the way of the Texas, and all the preparations are finished for launching the ship. She will go overboard precisely at 11 o'clock, that being high water, and it will be necessary to take every advantage of the tide. The gates will not be opened to the public until 9 o'clock in order to prevent the workmen around the ship from being interfered with. Only the officers of the yard and visiting dignitaries will be admitted to the grand-stand. Others having tickets will be admitted to the spacious sail- and rigging-lofts.

DESCRIPTION OF THE VESSEL.

The designs of the Texas, as is well-known, were prepared by the Barrow Ship-Building Company, of Barrow, Eng., and were accepted by the Secretary of the Navy, and received the prize of $15,000 offered by the goverament. The vessel is 294 feet in length, 61 feet beam, and has a mean draught of 26½ feet. When fully equipped and at her normal draught, her total displacement or weight will be 6,300 tons. She will be propelled by twin-screws, actuated by two independent sets of machinery, which when developing 8,600 indicated horse-power will give the vessel a speed of seventeen knots per hour, or a measured mile. The vessel is a twin-screw, double-turret ship, with an armored redoubt enclosing the lower parts of the turrets, the hydraulic machinery for moving the turrets and cleaning the guns and the funnel casings of the boilers.

THE GUNS.

The upper deck is 18 feet above the water, and upon it are two turrets of 12-inch steel armor, each containing a 12-inch gun, the forward one on the port side and the other one on the starboard side, so that each of the 12-inch guns may be brought to bear right ahead or right astern, as well as on both broadsides. Two 6-inch guns are placed upon the central-pivot mountings forward and aft upon this deck for bow and stern chasers.

A light superstructure, forming a bridge-deck, is built upon this deck, providing a clear space for the navigation of the vessel, for the storage of boats, and for the mounting of a few light machine guns and search-lights. A chart-house and flying-bridge, carrying two one-pounder rapid-firing guns and two search-lights are provided. A heavy armored coursing-tower 12-inches thick is placed well forward on a level with the bridge-deck.

The communications with the coursing tower for navigating the vessel are protected by an armored tube 3 inches thick. Four 6-inch guns are arranged on sponsons on the main deck—the one next below the upper deck, two commanding a range from right forward to twenty-five degrees abaft the beam, and two others similarly aft. Four 6-pounders, four 3-pounders, Hotchkiss rapid-firing guns, and forty-seven revolting cannons are fought on the main deck, the whole of the guns on this deck being protected by side-plating 1½ inches thick, and the guns disposed to secure a heavy bow and stern fire and a good defence against torpedo-boat attack. Elaborate provisions are made for the use of torpedoes. Means are provided for ejecting through tubes in six positions—one forward (through the bow), one aft (through the stern), and four through the sides.

STEEL ARMOR.

The protection of the vital parts of the ship consists of a steel armor belt 12 inches thick, extending forward and aft over a length of 159 feet, terminating at each end with an armored breast-work 6 inches thick extending diagonally across the centre of the vessel. The same belt is backed with 6 inches of wood, two thicknesses of steel plating ¾ of an inch thick, and rigid framing and girders. An armored protective deck 3 inches thick extends over the engines, boilers, and magazines, sloping down forward and aft to the extremities of the vessel, protecting the steering-gear aft and meeting the bow at the point of the ram. The stern is formed in a powerful ram and is heavily strengthened. The redoubt upon the main deck, enclosing the base of the turrets and their gear, is 12 inches thick and covered with 1-inch plating over the space not occupied by the turrets.

THE CELLULAR SYSTEM.

The hull is built entirely of steel on the cellular system. The double bottom extends under the engines, boilers, and magazines for a length of 160 feet, and is divided both longitudinally and transversely into numerous water-tight compartments, fitted for water ballast, so that the vessel may be trimmed when coal and stores are consumed. Great steength is given to the structure by the bulkheads and decks, the bulkheads dividing the hull into a great number of water-tight compartments.

ENGINES.

The engines are placed in two compartments and the boilers in four, and the magazines are in a series of central midshipments, extending through the boiler-rooms, thus bringing the amunition directly under the guns and in the most thoroughly protected part of the ship. The vessel is entirely without sails and spars, being fitted with two steel military masts, carrying four machine-guns in their top. The weight of the armor in the vessel is 1,200 tons, made by the Bethlehem Iron Company, of Bethlehem, Pa., and will cost about $670,000. The weight of other steel material in the hull is about 2,300 tons. The amount expended in labor upon the hull alone will not be far from $1,000,000.

### THE MACHINERY MADE HERE.

A Mammoth Undertaking Successfully Acplished by the Locomotive-Works.

The boilers and machinery of the Texas were built by the Richmond Locomotive-Works. The undertaking was a gigantic one, but has been eminently successful, despite the drawback of having had a part of the work destroyed by fire about a year ago. There are four double-ended boilers 18 feet long and 14 feet in diameter, and weighing 53 tons each. They are made of steel throughout, and each is heated with three furnaces at each end.

There are two independent propelling engines, whose whole duty is to revolve the propellers, The starboard one works the starboard propeller, and the port one the port propeller. They are of the vertical inverted, direct-acting, triple-expansion type, with three cylinders of 36, 51 and 78 inches diameter respectively, and a common stroke of 39 inches. Each engine should develop about 4,200 horse-power, at 123 revolutions, and the speed of the ship should be about 17½ knots.

Among the auxiliary machinery are two air-pumps for the condensers, each worked by an independent compressed engine; eight feed-pumps, pumping 100 gallons per minute, against 150 pounds pressure per square inch; two ventilating fan-engines; eight fan-engines for forced draught; four pumps, furnishing 325 gallons of water per minute to the turret-engines, at a pressure of 1,000 pounds per square inch; an engine for turning each main engine; an engine for working the reverse-gear of each main engine; four three-cylinder hydraulic-engines for turning the turrets; one independent engine for working the tools in the machine-shop. Besides the above there are a number of small pumping-, steering-, anchor-, and electric-light engines. A summary of the machinery is four boilers, two mammoth propelling-engines, and forty-five auxiliary engines.

### QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

Measles—Noun, Singular.

*To the Editor of the Dispatch:*

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C., June 16, 1892.

The question being asked "Have you had the measles," would you reply "I have had it" or "I have had *them*?"

Very respectfully, D. T. B.

"I have had it"—that is, measles, not necessarily *the* measles.—Century Dictionary; which says, among other things, "The singular *measle* appears to have been developed from the plural (*which is now used as singular*). See also Webster's International Dictionary and the American Cyclopedia. Shakespeare, however, says *them*, as for example:

——"so shall my lungs
Coin words till their decay against those measles
Which we disdain should tetter us, yet sought
The very way to catch *them*."—Cor. iii, 1, 78.

Line-Fence Question.

ASTONIA, VA.

*To the Editor of the Dispatch:*

If two persons owning adjoining farms have a difficulty has either the right to move the best portion of the line-fence six feet back from the line without giving the other party a legal notice? L. B.

We know of no law governing the case, but if the line-fence was built at the joint expense of the coterminous owners, then neither of them has the right to remove it without the consent of the other; but if it was put up entirely by one of them, then he can remove it without the other's consent.

The Word Fice.

*To the Editor of the Dispatch:*

Please inform me in your query column how the word frequently spelled "Fice," a small dog, is spelled, and oblige,

CONSTANT READER.

"*Fice (fyce* or *phyce)* is the name used everywhere in the South, and in some parts of the West, for a small, worthless cur."—*Trans. Amer. Philol. Asso.*, xvii., 39. *Fise* [also written *fice, fyce, phyce* (the origin being forgotten); abbreviation of *fise-dog*.—CENTURY DICTIONARY.

General P. B. Starke's Family.

*To the Editor of the Dispatch:*

Can you ascertain through your widely-circulated and valuable paper the address of any of the family of our Confederate Generals P. B. Starke and T. M. Jones?

Respectfully, W. W. DAVIES.

General P. B. Starke died at Lawrenceville, Brunswick county, several years ago. His widow, Mrs. B. J. Starke, and son Edwin live there now. Their address is Lawrenceville, Va.

Man's Wants Here Below.

ASHLAND, VA., June 23, 1892.

*To the Editor of the Dispatch:*

Please give me the name of the author of the following lines:

"Man wants but little here below,
Nor wants that little long."

Was it John Q. Adams or Oliver Goldsmith? R. S. V.

Goldsmith, in the Hermit.

Warwick Park.

RICHMOND, VA., June 22, 1892.

*To the Editor of the Dispatch:*

Please say in Sunday's DISPATCH which side of the James Warwick Park is on, the Richmond or the Manchester side, and oblige A READER.

The Richmond side.

Castleton, Maryland.

PETERSBURG, VA.

*To the Editor of the Dispatch:*

In what State is Castleton, Hartford county? J. B. Q.

Maryland. The county is Harford, not Hartford.

World's-Fair Notes.

The food-fish of Wisconsin, which is one of the best fishing-grounds in the Union, are to be shown in a fine exhibit at the World's Fair. The State Commissioners have appropriated $3,000 to defray the expense of preparation of the exhibit.

A cablegram from London says that the original portrait of Pocahontas, painted in 1612, has been secured for exhibition at the World's Fair. The portrait is owned by Eustace Neville Rolfe, of Leacham Hall, Norfolk, who is a descendant of John Rolfe, whom Pocahontas married.

Chief Samuels, of the horticultural department, has already received donations of plants and flowers for the Exposition valued at more than $50,000. All preparations for the care of tender plants have been made, and large consignments are expected soon from tropical countries.

The World's Fair authorities have decided to bear the expense of transportation of such works of American artists abroad as may be offered for exhibition at the Exposition, and are accepted as exhibits. This action was taken with a view of securing as complete and representative collection as possible from American artists.

A miniature model of a typical western farm, complete in every detail, will be exhibited in the Washington State building at the World's Fair. Among other exhibits will be a collection of specimens of all the species of birds, fish, and animals to be found in the State. The interior of the building will be decorated in large part by the women of the State.

Yacht clubs and yacht-owners both on the lakes and seacoast are to be invited to be represented at Chicago by their boats during the World's Fair. The invitations are to be official, and will be accompanied by detailed information concerning the depth of water in the various canals, the size of locks, etc. It is believed that several hundred yachts will accept this invitation.

George Wilson, secretary of the World's Fair Bureau of Music, has returned from a two months' tour of Europe in the interests of the bureau. He visited leading musicians at London, Paris, Munich, Milan, Genoa, Rome, Vienna, Prague, Dresden, Brussels, and a number of other places. Mr. Wilson received assurances from musicians in all these places of cordial co-operation at the Fair.

Exhibits from the Pacific-Coast States for the World's Fair will be charged only half regular freight rates each way. The Transcontinental Association has made a decision recently to that effect. Full tariff on the forward journey and free return are the best terms thus far offered by the other great traffic associations. California's exhibits will be fruits largely, and will not be returned, hence it was deemed reasonable that a reduction should be made on the forward journey.

The Wisconsin World's-Fair Board has decided to exhibit at the Exposition two statues typifying the culture, energy, and progress of the women of the State. It was the intention at first to have only one statue, but two designs were submitted which are not only of superior excellence but of merit so nearly equal that no decision between them could well be made. It was, therefore, decided to make use of both. The designers are, respectively, Miss Miner, of Madison, and Miss Mears, of Oshkosh.

An exhibit showing the press resources and accomplishments of Michigan is contemplated by the World's Fair Board of that State, and it is believed that the Michigan Press Association will undertake the preparation of it. It is proposed to procure copies of all the papers published in the State and bind them—the dailies in one volume, the weeklies in another, and the monthlies in still another. It is also proposed to have photographs of many of the best-known editors in the State and of newspaper-offices, equipments, etc.

The London Polytechnic has already booked more than 800 for the World's Fair tour which it has undertaken to manage for English artisans, and the number is being increased daily. These excursionists will visit the Exposition and incidentally see the sights of New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Chicago, and Niagara Falls, on a total expense, including transportation both ways, of about $125. They will be comfortably lodged, while in Chicago, in D. L. Moody's bible institute, and in barracks on a block of ground belonging to Marshall Field, the use of which accommodations has been donated by the gentlemen named.

## V. M. I. FINAL BALL.

A DAZZLING SCENE OF YOUTH AND BEAUTY IN THE MESS-HALL.

Nearly One Thousand Persons Present—Two Hundred Couples on the Floor—Dancers and the Costumes.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

LEXINGTON, VA., June 24.—The Virginia Military Institute last night presented the appearance of fairyland. The large and spacious grounds were decorated with Chinese lanterns while the old barracks appeared as though "Aurora" had touched it with her magic wand, the mess-hall being the fairy throne. The hall was decorated with banners of various colors along the walls between the windows, in each corner in figures of silver were the years '92, '93, '94, '95, representing the classes of the present corps. Opposite the entrances in glowing gas-jets were the ever-familiar words "Auld Lang Syne," while at either end in gas was "Class '92" and "V. M. I." Above each were draped large United States flags. Grotesque masks peered from every angle of the roof-truss. Perhaps that which attracted the most attention was the elegant *souvenir* dance-programme, in kid cover, with "V. M. I." in gold, below which was an eagle perched upon a shield, the inner card being in heavy bristol, with embossed letters "V. M. I." and crossed swords, below which was "Virginia Military Institute to the Class of 1892." "*Volantes Commendat Rarior Usus.*" On the reverse, "June 23, 1892." This enclosed the dance-programme of twenty dances.

There were between 900 and 1,000 persons present, and as many as 200 couples dancing. The ball was opened at 11 o'clock and continued, with an intermission for supper at 2, until 5 in the morning. An elegant supper in McCluer's best style was served at 2 o'clock in three different rooms. The music by the Virginia Military-Institute Band, under the leadership of Professor Herman Krause was such as only dancers can delight in.

"THE YELL."

An incident occurred at 2 A. M. which will never be forgotten by the "boys of '92." The "long roll" was sounded from the ball-room floor by Drummer Lanew, and in response the class of '92 formed in a semi-circle on the floor. The class roll was called by Baker P. Lee, Jr., and each responded to the call of his name, then gathering in the centre with joined hands, the walls were made to echo and reverberated the Virginia Military Institute yell "Hurrah-rah-rye, Hurrah-rah-rye, Rye-rye,—V. M. I.," while the orchestra played "Auld Lang Syne."

The chaperons were Mrs. L. L. Staton, North Carolina; Mrs. W. B. Lowe, Georgia; Mrs. J. S. Parke, Mrs. T. M. Semmes, Mrs. R. A. Marr, Mrs. W. H. Payne, Mrs. J. R. Lewis, Mrs. B. D. Spillman, Mrs. Fitzhugh Lee, and Mrs. T. R. Marshall, Virginia; Mrs. A. J. Orme, Georgia, and Mrs. Hunter Pendleton, Virginia. Honorary ball managers: General Scott Snipp, Virginia; Hon. E. A. Culberson, Texas; General W. H. Payne, Virginia; Hon. D. B. Cameron, North Carolina; Colonel R. A. Marr, Virginia; Hon. C. J. Faulkner, West Virginia; General W. H. Mabry, Texas; Colonel T. H. Semmes and Colonel E. W. Nichols, Virginia; Hon. Albert Howell, Georgia; Colonel T. R. Marshall and Colonel John L. Bridgers, Virginia.

MERRY DANCERS.

The ball was opened by Cadet Captain R. S. Spillman, president, with Miss Virginia Semmes Payne, of Warrenton, daugater of General W. H. Payne, and Cadet-Adjutant Thomas Alsop, chief marshal, and Miss Josie Spillman, of Fauquier, each couple starting at an entrance and waltzing around once, when they were joined by the marshals. Cadet Staton with Miss Thomas, of Nashville, Tenn.; Cadet A. J. Orme, Jr., with Miss Nelson; Cadet B. Huger, South Carolina, with Miss Lewis; Cadet P. St. G. Bridges with Miss Snipp; Cadet H. McLeod with Miss Stokes; Cadet S. W. H. Perton with Miss Rosalie Lewis. Among the many couples were:

Miss Mary Thomas, of Nashville, Tenn., dressed in white silk, with Cadet Staton.

Miss Charlotte Nelson, of Warrenton, dressed in white lace with gold ornaments, with Cadet Orme.

Mrs. R. A. Palmer, of Staunton, dressed in lavender silk and jewel trimmings and diamonds, with Mr. Cameron.

Miss Corinne Nichols, of Bedford City, dressed in white silk, with Cadet Twiggs.

Miss Caroline Blundon, of Baltimore, dressed in pink silk mull, with Cadet Norton.

Miss Ellen Lee, of Lexington, in becoming dress of heavy white silk, trimmed with white chiffon, pearl ornaments, with G. B. Elliott, 1892.

Miss Dolores Collier, of New Orleans, in white silk and old lace, diamond and pearl ornaments, with J. I. Stephens, 1892.

Miss Lucy Pendleton, Wytheville, in white organdy, blue trimmings, with Cadet Blundon.

Miss Mary Williamson, Lexington, white organdie, with H. D. Dallas.

Miss Bessie Shipp, Lexington, in white mull and silk unique, with Cadet Bridges.

Miss Kate Mitchell, of Houston, Tex., in white silk, lace trimmings, pearl ornaments, with Cadet Kilbourne.

Mrs. R. A. Marr, of the Virginia Military institute, in becoming blue silk and crepe with blue figures, with Colonel R. A. Marr.

Mrs. Hunter Pendleton, of the Virginia Military Institute, attired in beautiful dress of white lace, with pearl ornaments, with Colonel Hunter Pendleton.

Mrs. Colonel Marshall, of the Virginia Military Institute, in handsome white satin and white lace, with diamond and pearl ornaments, with Colonel T. R. Marshall.

Mrs. William A. Anderson, of Lexington, in handsome old rose faille with diamond and pearl ornaments, with Hon. William A. Anderson.

Mrs. I. E. A Rose, of Lexington, in white silk and diamonds, with I. E. A. Rose.

Mrs. A. W. Harman, of Richland, in a becoming gray silk and point lace with diamonds, with Colonel Ash. W. Harman.

Mrs. W. M. Mitchell, of Houston Tex., in black silk duchess, silver trimmings, and diamonds, with Mr. W. M. Mitchell.

Mrs. E. L. Graham, of Lexington, in a handsome lavendar crepe de chine, with la France roses, with Mr. F. L. Graham.

Miss Mary Semmes, of Lexington, in white organdy and diamonds, with Mr. H. L. Jones, of Atlanta, Ga.

Miss Rosalie Lewis, of Virginia, in a striking costume of white crepe de chine, with trimmings of maiden-hair ferns and pearl ornaments, with Cadet Peyton.

Miss Maggie Cameron, of Staunton, in Nile-green silk and lace, with diamonds, with Mr. Wirt Tutwiler.

Miss Cavitt, of Texas, in handsome white silk and roses, with H. W. McCrum.

Miss Annie L. Patteson, of Staunton, very handsome cream silk and point lace, with diamonds and rubies, with Cadet Keith, of Texas.

Miss Carrie Fickles, of Virginia, in pink crepe de chien with roses and pearls, with Cadet Routh.

Miss Cocke, of Richmond, in a handsome white silk, with pearl ornaments, with Cadet Chambliss.

Miss Stegleton, of Washington, D. C., in white silk and mull, with Cadet Singleton.

Miss Emma Allen, of Botetourt county, in lovely white gauze and topaz cream, with topaz ornaments, with J. R. T. Carmichael.

Miss Mary Marrow, of Hampton, handsome Nile-green tulle chiffon, with Cadet Drew.

Miss Ellie Dickinson, of Caroline county, in lovely blue silk, with Cadet Boyce.

Miss Anne H. Maury, of Richmond, in white tulle, with Brussels lace and diamonds, with Cadet Colleen.

Miss Maggie Ott, of Lexington, in handsome cream and old rose pongee, with diamonds, with Mr. H. Coots.

Miss Nellie Cameron, of Augusta, in white silk and flowers, with Cadet Cameron, of *Blacksburg*.

Miss Cottraux, of New Orleans, in white organdie, with Cadet Jones.

Miss Louise Maury, of Nashville, Tenn., lovely in white silk and old lace, with diamond ornaments, with Cadet Mitchell.

Miss M. P. Stokes, of Goochland county, in white-cream silk and old lace, very handsome, with W. S. P. Mayo, Richmond.

Miss Helen Y. Polsley, of New York, lovely in white silk, point lace, and diamonds, with Mr. N. Burruss.

Miss S. B. Stokes, of Goochland county, in white silk, pink and green ribbons, with S. K. Perry, 1892.

Mrs. V. S. Payne, of Fauquier, very handsome in pink silk, pearl passementerie point lace, and diamonds, with Cadet Spillman.

Miss Josie Spillman, of Fauquier, in lovely cream crepe cowslips, with Cadet Alsop.

Miss Crampton, of Washington, D. C., in white India silk and Egyptian lace, with Mr. H. Cary, 1892.

Miss Flora Stokes, of Fredericksburg, white China silk and flowers, with C