LEAP-YEAR GERMAN.

ENTERTAINMENT BY RICHMOND LADIES TO GENTLEMEN FRIENDS.

Promenade at the Temple Converted into a Bower of Plants and Lounging Chairs—Guests at the Dance—The Chaperons.

A brilliant and delightful entertainment was given at the Temple last night. It was the first of a series of leap year dances to be tendered by the young ladies of Richmond to their gentlemen friends. Fully 100 couples were in attendance, and the affair was most enjoyable. The large promenade of the Temple had been transformed in a lovers'-room, and was beautifully and inspiringly decorated with palms and ferns, and there were here and there tables and stand lamps, settees, lounging chairs, etc., and it was here that the young couples enjoyed an occasional tete-e-tete between the figures of the german, which was gracefully led by Mr. Dolph Blair. An orchestra of eight pieces, hidden behind a hedge of palms and ferns, furnished delightful music. The entertainment lasted until about 1:30 A. M.

THE GUESTS PRESENT.

Among those present were: Misses Kizzy Drewry, Anne Bell Jenkins, Eva Howe, Julia Morton, Nellie Boykin, Mabel Walker, Delia Stringfellow, Meade Burwell, Annie Gray, Lelia Gray, Helen Lee, Lilian Deblois, Mary Binford, Lucy Wormley, Empsie Pegram, Lucy Pegram, Kate McIntire, Anna Lee Aitriend, Mabel Todd, ——— Scott, Mary Saunders, Maud Kent, Judith Deane, Mary McCaw, Kate Montague, Ella Jackson, Claudia Palmer, Miss Tayloe, Boxie Scott, Mary Dennon; Miss Huxton, of North Carolina; Sallie Talbott.

Chaperons—Mesdames Harry Williams, Frank W. Christian, Levin Joynes, Mann Valentine, Scott Parish, Charles Davenport, Christopher Tompkins, Charles Ruffin, Frank Powers, Frank H. Deane, and Robert Reynolds.

THE GENTLEMEN.

John Curry, Ben. Stacy, Jordan Leake, George Gibson, George Reed, Willie Mayo, John Rutherfoord, Edward Robertson, Dick Gwathmey, Richard Pegram, Joseph Rutherfoord, Sam. Wortham, Otis Allegend, Edgard Poaers, Blair Stringfellow, James Stringfellow, Montey Wortham, Hunt. Ned Vaughan, Victor Williams, Robert Harrison, Charles Williams, H. L. Cabell, Frank Blankenship, Dolph Blair, Harrison, Blair, Frank Powers, St. George Bridges, Henry Williams, Willie Ferguson, Champ Pleasants, Harry Dayton, George Bidgood, Fairley Cocke, Robert Croxton, Pelham Blackford, Churchill Young, Arthur Pleasants, Scott Parish, Guy Davis, Courtney Pinckney, Joe Jackson; John Freeland, of New York; Dr. Cliff Miller, Granville Gray, Henry Williams, J. A. Wheat, Carlton McKenney, Robert Marye, Mann S. Valentine, Ran Carrington.

THIRTY-DAY RACING LAW.

Riding and Driving Association Declare for This.

The annual meeting of the Richmond Riding and Driving Association was held in the parlors of the Exchange Hotel last night. A large attendance of members was present and President George McD. Blake occupied the chair. After the disposal of some routine business the election of officers took place. President Blake, Vice-Presidents W. G. Bryan and G. B. Hobson, and Secretary and Treasurer A. W. Archer were all re-elected by acclamation. Hon. Joseph T. Lawless was elected solicitor and the following Board of Directors was chosen:

E. H. Savage, S. B. Nelson, George F. Newell, T. M. Hiltzhimer, George B. Gaines, W. J. Carter, W. C. Gregory, M. H. Garnett, C. A. Allen, I. G. Corley, C. O. Campbell, A. W. Bennett, and P. A. S. Brine.

The affairs of the association are in a flourishing condition and Mr. Archer's report showed a good cash balance in the treasury.

The present method of conducting racing during the winter months at Alexander Island was discussed and condemned. The following resolution was then adopted:

"Whereas, we have learned with regret of the ill effects of the race meetings held near Alexandria during recent years, irrespective of the season and regardless of good order and morals; therefore be it

Resolved, "That we, the Richmond Riding and Driving Association, do enter our solemn protest against winter racing, and we declare ourselves in favor of a thirty-day law permitting racing."

The matter of holding a spring race-meeting was discussed and favorably received. It was decided to hold one, and a committee was appointed to confer with other associations as to dates.

INQUIRING INTO THE ACCIDENT.

Investigation of the Killing of the Messrs. Quarles—Their Funerals.

An agent of the Chesapeake and Ohio railway has for the past two days been at Ellerson's inquiring into the accident which occurred there Tuesday afternoon, by which Messrs. Henry T. and David B. Quarles lost their lives.

It will be remembered that the two young men, who were cousins, were returning from a Christmas entertainment, in a light wagon, and when crossing the track near Ellerson's Station they were run into by a train bound for Richmond, and both were instantly killed. It is said that none of the train crew knew anything of the accident until they reached this city.

The young men were the sons of farmers who reside in Henrico county, David B. being a son of Mr. T. L. Quarles, and Henry F. the son of L. T. Quarles.

The funerals of both young men took place Wednesday, the remains of David B. Quarles being interred at the graveyard at Emanuel church, Henrico county; while Henry F. Quarles was laid to rest at the home of his parents, near Ellerson's Station. The services, which were attended by a very large congregation, were conducted by Rev. Dr. Charles H. Ryland, assisted by Rev. Mr. Brander.

PRESS CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS.

Mr. Frank Baldwin Chosen as President—New Members Admitted.

The annual meeting of the Old Dominion Press Club was held at the club-rooms last night, and the following officers were chosen for the ensuing twelve months: Frank Baldwin, president; J. G. Winston, first vice-president; R. E. Golden, second vice-president; Carter D. Johnson, third vice-president; James P. Wood, treasurer; L. H. Siegel, secretary; and P. R. Noel, W. R. Harwood, and J. G. Hankins, governors.

Messrs. B. M. Bushong, Elmore Nelson, Clarence Werner, and L. A. Conrad were elected active members; and W. H. Cullingworth, V. C. Scriven, M. L. Dawson, T. T. Runmer, Dr. W. T. Oppenhimer, A. J. Bradley, Green Raleigh, and Charles W. Rex, associate members.

After the meeting refreshments were served.

THE MAGDALEN HOME.

Annual Meeting of the Association in Charge of This Institution.

The annual meeting of this well-established institution was held yesterday at the home, 601 Spring street. This unostentatious charity, like the hand that giveth unseen, is quietly doing its work, not as much as it would like to do, because of lack of opportunity. As the years go by the steadfastness of many of its former inmates is proof of the faithful work done, which will not be fully known till the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed. The old officers were re-elected, as follows: W. W. Parker, president; Judge B. R. Wellford, vice-president; Josiah Ryland, treasurer; Dr. J. Hall Moore, secretary; Mr. Thomas Potts, chairman of the Executive Committee.

The board found the home in excellent condition, under the management of the Lady Board of Managers, and its faithful and sensible matron, Miss Wentworth. It is well furnished in all its departments, and its doors stand wide open to all girls who earnestly desire to lead a new life. No words but those of true sympathy await all such, who seek shelter here from the cold charities of the world.

The Board of Directors passed a vote of thanks to the Lady Board of Managers for the faithful work of the past year. The members of the board were highly gratified at the restored health of its faithful secretary, Dr. J. Hall Moore, long an invalid. New plans were adopted, looking to an enlargement of the work of the board.

On motion, the thanks of the Board of Directors were tendered Mr. Hilley for a barrel of flour and one of apples, and two gallons of cream, as a Christmas offering.

Mother-Goose Tea Party.

The "Mother Goose tea-party," given last night at Belvidere Hall by Miss Mary Beecher, was quite a success, and the little folks taking part in it acquitted themselves handsomely. The characters in the famous nursery rhymes were represented by children, and Little Jack Horner, Bo-Peep, Little Boy Blue, Old King Cole, and all the rest of the merry tribe were very much in evidence, and looked as if they had just stepped out of the book and for this one night were endowed with life. After the entertainment dancing was indulged in, Mr. Toney Thurston's orchestra furnishing the music.

Iron-Moulders' Anniversary.

The Iron-Moulders' Union last night celebrated their seventh anniversary at Wilkinson's Hall, and elected officers for the ensuing year. Addresses were made by Messrs. James B. Doherty, Alexander H. McCulloch, and William H. Mullen, after which an interesting musical programme was rendered. Dancing was also indulged in, and quite a delightful evening was spent by the members of the union and their lady friends.

Brief Manchester Items.

Preparatory services for the Lord's Supper, which will be celebrated in the Manchester Presbyterian church Sunday, will be held in the lecture-room of that church to-night.

Last night about 8 o'clock, while Mr. H. H. Pollock was walking up Hull street, a vicious dog ran at him and bit him on the leg. Mr. Pollock summoned a physician to dress the wound, and reported the occurrence to the police.

Mrs. Pacetti Improving.

Mrs. Maria Pacetti, who was shot in the left arm by her husband Wednesday morning, at No. 521 west Broad street, is rapidly recovering from the effects of the bullet-wound, and will, no doubt, be able to appear in court when the case is called to-morrow. The Dispatch was in error in saying yesterday that the shooting occurred at 519 west Broad. Mrs. Pacetti was employed at the restaurant at which she was shot.

Mr. Carter at the Y. M. C. A.

Mr. George A. Carter, the "mosquito-man," entertained a large audience at the Young Men's Christian Association last night. His humorous lecture provoked roars of laughter, as he described the much-abused insect, and the part it took it "history, science, literature, and art." Mr. Carter is a humorist and impersonator of marked ability, and is well known to Richmond audiences.

The Fire This Morning.

An alarm of fire was turned in shortly after 1 o'clock this morning from Box 32, corner of Twenty-fifth and Main streets, occasioned by the burning of some woodwork on the second floor of the building occupied by the Richmond Stove Company. The department responded promptly, and the flames were quickly quenched, ere any great damage had been done.

Locating Its Poles.

The Standard Telephone Company has located 238 of its poles, and hands will be put to work to-day preparing the poles ready to be put up.

FIGHT ON THE MIDWAY.

Dahomeyans Attack Their Concessionaire—Latter's Wife Engaged.

ATLANTA, GA., January 2.—The Dahomeyans in the village on the Midway became enraged to-day and attacked Major Pene, the concessionaire. There were fifty savages and only six whites in the enclosure. Mrs. Penru Pene rushed to her husband's assistance, struck the chief of the village in the face, and her husband drew a pistol. One of the whites rushed to the gate and gave an alarm. Police and spielers ran in with drawn pistols and drove the Dahomeyans back, and quiet was restored.

Destructive Fire in Florida.

WEST PALM BEACH, FLA., January 2.—A destructive fire here this afternoon destroyed over half the business portion of the town. The fire broke out about 1:30 o'clock in Hewitt's saloon and restaurant building, on Bayou street, and before it could be checked the entire block, including the Seminole Hotel, valued at $25,000, was burned. The fire was checked at the Stowers building at 4 o'clock. Several persons were badly injured by the explosion of dynamite to save other buildings. The loss is estimated at $250,000.

Southerner Commits Suicide.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., January 2.—Charles Rogers committed suicide here last night by opium poisoning. Rogers had recently arrived from the Southern States, and was well-dressed, 28 years old, and apparently wealthy. His brother C. A. Rogers, lives in Atlanta, Ga. The suicide had a gold watch and chain and some valuables, but only 85 cents in money.

The Dry-Goods Market.

NEW YORK, January 2.—There was no expectation of the dry-goods market showing any material change from previously-prevailing conditions in any department; nor has there been any alteration. Spot business has ruled extremely quiet throughout, whilst the orders by mail showed the usual year-end restrictive influences. The general tone is also without material alteration.

Estate of Eugene Field.

CHICAGO, ILL., January 2.—The estate of the late Eugene Field was brought into the Probate Court to-day, on a petition of the widow for letters of administration. The estate is valued at $25,000, all in personal property. Besides this, there is the poet's home, valued at $10,000 to $20,000, which he had conveyed to his wife some time before his death.

Will There Be a Duel?

ATLANTA, GA., January 2.—The Germaine-Rountree affair is at a standstill. Members of the Capital City Club say that if Germaine is a gentleman there should be a duel. He is still demanding satisfaction for the withdrawal of his card to the club. Mr. Rountree, who gave him the card, and afterward recalled it, will not discuss the matter.

Mediation for Zeitoun Accepted.

LONDON, January 2.—A dispatch from Constantinople says that the Porte has consented to accept the offer of the foreign representatives at Constantinople that the foreign consuls at Aleppo mediate between the Turks who are besieging Zeitoun, and the Armenians who hold the town, for the surrender of the latter.

Mayoralty Contest in Kentucky.

LEXINGTON, KY., January 2.—Mayor H. T. Duncan will probably refuse to turn his office over to Mayor-elect J. B. Simrall, next Monday, claiming he was elected for four instead of two years. Some of Simrall's friends threaten to take the office by force.

Bradley Not for Anything.

FRANKFORT, KY., January 2.—Governor Bradley denies emphatically the story printed in Louisville papers that he had started his campaign for President. He says he is not a candidate for senator.

Assignment in Illinois.

PEORIA, ILL., January 2.—Peter Schertz, banker and lumber merchant, at Metamora, who was also in the grain business at Low Point and Casanovia, made an assignment to-day. His liabilities are $100,000 and assets $150,000.

SORES, Ulcers, chronic breaking out, and other annoying manifestations of impure blood, yield readily to the curative powers of S. S. S., which wipes out all taint, and thoroughly cleanses the system. It permanently cures cases of long standing, even though all else has failed. A record of half a century is its seal of merit. SSS

ON THE PENINSULA.

A VERY BOLD ROBBERY AT LEE HALL STATION.

A Section-Master's House Entered—The Thief Arrested and the Stolen Articles Recovered—Williamsburg Social and Personal Notes.

WILLIAMSBURG, VA., January 2.—(Special.)—Night before last one of the boldest of robberies was committed at Lee Hall, which is in the upper end of Warwick county, and is a station on the Chesapeake and Ohio road. The section-master, Mr. Sergeant, resides a little below the depot, and some time during the night his house was entered through a back window and a large quantity of clothes and other articles of value carried off. Yesterday morning the robbery was discovered, and telegrams of notice were sent up and down the road. The result was that Night-Operator Houchins, at the depot here, arrested a suspicious-looking man near the station, who had a bundle and two extra suits of clothes. Yesterday the section-master came up and identified the prisoner as J. S. Harden, a man who had been employed around Lee Hall Depot. He then examined the clothes and other articles, all of which he recognized as having been stolen from his residence. The prisoner is still in jail here, awaiting the arrival of a Newport News officer.

PRETTY ENTERTAINMENT.

A very pretty entertainment was given last night at the Colonial Inn, by the younger set. The chaperons were Mrs. T. H. Geddy, Mrs. R. L. Henley, and Mrs. George A. Hankins. Professor Robert Rose furnished the music.

Mr. Arthur Denmead is back from Baltimore, and is a guest at the Colonial Inn. Mr. Denmead will attend tomorrow night the reception given by Mr. and Mrs. John Spencer, leaving for Baltimore the next day.

PERSONAL.

Professor Lyman B. Wharton, of the college faculty, is in Bedford City, where he went to attend the funeral of his aged mother. He is expected home Monday.

Professor Van F. Garrett has returned from a delightful trip to Atlanta.

Miss Jennie Wise has returned from a visit to Richmond.

Miss Eddie Turner, of New Kent, and Miss Blanche Balsom, of Norfolk, are the guests of Miss Burgess Johnson, daughter of our esteemed citizen, Mr. J. P. Johnson.

WED IN STAUNTON.

Miss Ogg Becomes the Bride of Mr. Henry Hyer.

STAUNTON, VA., January 2.—(Special.) Lewis-Street Methodist church was packed this evening by friends of the couple to witness the marriage of Miss Edna Earl Ogg, daughter of Mr. C. S. Ogg, to Mr. William Henry Hyer. At half-past 8 o'clock the bridal party entered the church and went to the chancel. The bride, with her maid of honor, Miss Nellie Mallory, of Memphis, was preceded down the left aisle by two of the ushers, Mr. Thomas Hogshead and Mr. John B. Locke, while down the right aisle came the groom and his best man, following the other two ushers, Mr. Clarke Worthington and Mr. Edward S. Boyd, of Louisa. The ceremony was conducted with impressiveness by the Rev. Dr. J. H. B[illegible], pastor of the church. The bride's gown was of figured silk, the bodice and sleeves being of green velvet. Miss Mallory's gown was a handsome Nile-green silk. Bouquets of bride's roses were carried by the bride and her maid of honor. Mr. Dorsey Ogg, of Richmond, was best man. As the bridal party stood about the chancel, which was elaborately decorated with potted palms, ferns, and cut-flowers, they presented a picturesque scene.

The bride is a beautiful woman of splendid presence, and has a wealth of chestnut hair. Mr. Hyer is a prosperous and leading merchant of Staunton. Mr. Frank R. Webb played the wedding march.

After the ceremony a reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ogg, on "Sears Hill," where was served a sumptuous supper. Mr. and Mrs. Hyer received numerous elegant presents. To-night the bride and groom leave via the Chesapeake and Ohio route for New York city. Thence their wedding journey is across the continent to California.

DICKENSON COUNTY.

Ran Over the Jailer and Escaped—Improving.

CLINTWOOD, VA., January 2.—(Special.)—Some of the prisoners who were confined in jail here made their escape Tuesday night. The jailer, Abednego Kiser, who is an elderly man, went into the jail to wait on the inmates, when two or three of the most athletic ran over him and passed out. It will be remembered that James Rose and some others played the same trick on Mr. Kiser last fall, by which means they effected their temporary freedom.

The killing of Wells and Salyer at the Kenady school-house on Christmas-Day seems to have created something of a sensation throughout the whole county. It is now charged that the killing was uncalled for, and that Powers and Kenady are guilty under the law. I hear that the feeling is so strong against them that Powers has gone to Wise county for protection.

Deputy-Marshal B. B. Colley, who was shot near Clintwood, as noticed in this correspondence a few days ago, is improving. Doctors Banner and Wolf, from Coeburn, Va., have been attending Mr. Colley, and it is thought that he is in a fair way to recover.

It seems that chicken-thieves are getting to be quite numerous in this community. A day or two since warrants were sworn out before the Mayor for Walker Rose and Milburn Mullins, in which they were charged with stealing chickens. These parties, with some others, were caught in the act of stealing corn a short time since, and are now under bond for their appearance at court to answer the charge.

MAJOR GEORGE S. SMITH.

Death of This Aged Man at Marion Yesterday.

MARION, VA., January 2.—(Special.)—Major George S. Smith died at his home here last night at 12 o'clock, at the advanced age of more than 83 years. Major Smith was born at Northwood, New Hampshire, August 1, 1812. He removed to Culpeper, Va., when a young man, and built the dams and docks of the Slackwater canal, on the Rappahannock river, some fifty years ago. He was the first Secretary of State for West Virginia. He removed to Marion in 1856. He had been an assessor of internal revenue in Southwest Virginia, and was State proxy for what is now the Norfolk and Western railroad, and in the latter capacity was instrumental in bringing about the consolidation of the eastern and western ends of the present Norfolk and Western railroad, as against the consolidation with the Baltimore and Ohio. He had been a Union man and a Republican. Abigail Adams (nee Smith), wife of the first President Adams and mother of John Q. Adams, was his father's aunt. He withdrew from a contest for the nomination for the Legislature in favor of Hannibal Hamlin, which resulted in that gentleman's election to his first office, and as a token of gratitude Mr. Hamlin secured Major Smith the postmastership of Marion under Harrison. He will be buried to-morrow in the cemetery here.

Young Vanderbilt Hunting in Virginia.

ORANGE, January 2.—(Special.)—W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., accompanied by his tutor, Mr. H. T. Flecthner, arrived at the residence of John G. Williams, Esq., of Orange, on Monday, the 30th ultime. A fox-hunt was arranged for him on Tuesday, but owing to a high wind, which prevailed all day, the dogs were unable to keep the trail of the fox continuously. Young Vanderbilt will remain several days in Virginia. His mother, Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, is a near relative of Mrs. John G. Williams.

THE COCKADE CITY.

Tobacco Statistics—Coming Murder Trials—Briefs.

PETERSBURG, VA., January 2.—(Special.)—The internal-revenue collections at the office in this city during the past year amounted to $202,334.92—a slight increase over the previous year. The exports of tobacco for the year aggregated 6,730,985 pounds, an increase of nearly half a million pounds over the large record of 1894. The exports during the month of December were 759,804 pounds.

INTERESTING CRIMINAL CASES.

The session of the Hustings Court next week and the week following will be of unusual interest. On Monday the trial of Lewis Oliver (colored), as an accomplice in the brutal murder of Coleman Toran (colored) on the night of November 23d, will be taken up. The principal in this case fled the city, and has not yet been caught. While Oliver did not strike the fatal blow, it is claimed that he instigated it, and that he took part in the disturbance which resulted in the murder. The Commonwealth will probably endeavor to convict him of murder in the second degree.

On the 13th the case of the Commonwealth vs. R. T. Harris, for the murder of William F. Mallory, will be taken up for trial, and will probably consume the greater part of the week. Although there were no actual witnesses of the last meeting between these two men, it is yet understood that a number of persons will be put on the stand by both sides. By reason of the well-known character and connections of both the accused and the dead this case will excite very general interest. Senator W. B. Mellwaine and Mr. Alexander Hamilton will appear for the defence, and Commonwealth's-Attorney W. H. Jones and Judge D. A. Hinton for the prosecution. The great ability and experience of these lawyers will add interest to the trial of this case.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

Rev. O. S. Bunting, of Trenton, N. J., who has been called to the rectorship of St. Paul's Episcopal church, in this city, to succeed Rev. Dr. C. R. Hains, resigned, arrived in town this morning, and is the guest of Mr. W. T. Plummer, a member of the vestry. It is understood that he visited and inspected St. Paul's church, and was introduced to the several members of the vestry, as well as to other members of the church, and that there was mutual pleasure in the meetings. An informal meeting of the vestry was held this afternoon, at which Mr. Bunting was present, and at which there was a very pleasant interchange of views. The two members of the vestry who were in Trenton last Sunday, and who twice attended services at Mr. Bunting's church, were greatly pleased with him, and the hope is expressed that he will accept the call to Petersburg.

Pending the question of the right of appointment or election of the vestry of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Blandford, it is understood that that church has been temporarily closed for worship until the decision of Bishop Randolph, who has the matter under consideration, has been rendered. The congregation desire and claim the right to elect their own vestrymen.

The cash receipts in the City Treasury during the month of December were $57,296, and the expenditures during the month were $49,205—including interest on bonds.

The report of the post-mortem shows that during the quarter just ended 208 vessels arrived at this port, with a total tonnage of 25,612; value of inward freight, $107,355; of outward freight, $84,618.

At a meeting of the Police Commissioners, held last evening, William Crichton and R. S. Chandler were re-elected sergeants of police—a worthy compliment to worthy officers.

DESPERATE SHOOTING AFFRAY.

Between Two Portsmouth Young Men—Both Wounded.

NORFOLK, VA., January 2.—(Special.) About 9 o'clock to-night a desperate shooting affray occurred in Portsmouth between Bud Savage and Clenny Culpeper, both well-known young residents, in which the former received a bullet in the back and the later one in the back of the head. Savage had been looking for Culpeper all day, and when he found him began the assault. Culpeper drew his pistol and fired, and Savage at once returned the fire, with the result above stated. The men were at once taken to their respective residences and doctors summoned. Both wounds are of a serious nature, and may prove fatal. The excitement in the neighborhood for a short time was intense.

THREE CANDIDATES.

For Superintendent of the Norfolk Public Schools.

NORFOLK, VA., January 2.—(Special.) For the unexpired term of Mr. K. C. Murray, late superintendent of public schools of this city, there are three applicants. These are Captain W. A. S. Taylor, president of the city school board, who during the illness of Mr. Murray acted in his place; Mr. R. A. Doble, and Major George W. Taylor, who was a candidate when Mr. Murray was last chosen. It is not known here when the State Board of Education, the appointing power, will meet, but in the mean time the friends of each candidate are working hard.

Emporia New-Year's Dance.

EMPORIA, VA., January 2.—(Special.) The young men of Emporia gave a delightful New-Year's dance last night at the Central Hotel. Dancing commenced promptly at 9:30 o'clock, and continued until a very late hour. Among those present were Mesdames Goodwyn, Powell, Schwartz, Deal, Newell, and Batte; Misses Mattie Hedges, of West Virginia; Sallie and Belle Powell, Maud and Dora Davis, Mary Turner, Minnie Lifsey, and Ruth Turner, and Messrs. John Weymouth, Vance and Willie Harding, J. B. Bailey, E. Peyton Turner; Gerald Stratton, of Petersburg; Barker and Maclin, of New York; Chan. Weaver, W. C. Davis, Nat. Vincent, W. M. Farmer, J. A. Hartley, P. C. Mills, James Raney, Joe Goodwyn, Peter Jones, Edgar Green, Harley Duane, E. A. Goodwyn, Wesley Peebles, and Howard Hall. Music was furnished by a Petersburg band, and all pronounced the occasion a most enjoyable one.

Mr. Willie Maclin and Mr. Barker, of New York, are the guests of Mr. W. M. Powell.

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BOOK AND JOB PRINTING NEATLY EXECUTED AT THE DISPATCH PRINTING-HOUSE.

A FATAL EXPLOSION.

MYSTERIOUS FIRE IN A HOUSE HEATED WITH NATURAL GAS.

Six Deaths in One Family the Terrible Result of Double Occurrence—Five Persons Escape—Two of These Injured.

COLUMBUS, O., January 2.—Six deaths, the result of a mysterious fire, occurred at 4:30 o'clock this morning at the residence of John H. Hibbard, 1398 east Long street. The dead are:

JOHN H. HIBBARD;

Mrs. JOHN H. HIBBARD,

Mrs. CHARLES LEE, aged 22; Barnesville, O.

Miss FAY HIBBARD, aged 19; Barnesville, O.

DOROTHY HIBBARD, aged 3 years.

ALLEN HIBBARD, aged 5 years.

Mrs. Lee and Miss Hibbard, of Barnesville, are sisters of Mr. Hibbard's, and were spending the holidays with their brother. Dorothy and Allen Hibbard were children of John H. Hibbard.

Besides these unfortunate people, there were in the house at the time Annie Bell, a colored servant, and four other children of the Hibbard family—viz., Webster, Walter, John, and Hinton, whose ages ranged from 8 to 14 years. They all escaped by jumping from a second-story window. Annie Bell suffered a fracture of one ankle, and Walter Hibbard sprained one of his ankles. The others were not injured.

The house is a large, modern frame, two stories and an attic high, and is heated with natural gas by means of a furnace. The fire probably resulted from an explosion of the natural gas, though the facts as to its origin will probably never be known. The house is not badly burned, but the interior woodwork is all badly scorched. Probably the gas in the furnace, which was turned low, flickered out, and then the whole house was gradually filled with gas, and when the air was sufficiently charged with it, it was ignited from a burning gas-jet. There does not seem to have been much explosive force, however, as the walls are not shattered in the least.

John H. Hibbard came here five years ago from Palatka, Fla., where he organized the Palatka Board of Trade and the Palatka Transfer Company, in which he was general manager. He left that place after the fire had devastated the city. He was 42 years old, and a native of Barnesville, O. He has two brothers living—one somewhere in the West, and the other at Barnesville. The latter is the father of Mrs. Lee. In 1880 John H. Hibbard married Miss Alice Beeson, stepdaughter of P. W. Huntington, of this city.

RALEIGH'S BUDGET.

The Business Outlook—Political—Highway Robbery.

RALEIGH, N. C., January 2.—(Special.)—The persons who have developed a fine water-power on Crabtree creek, three miles from here, are considering a plan of putting a paper mill there instead of a cotton-mill. In sixty days the decision will be made.

The business outlook is regarded as favorable here. The farmers are in good plight and in much better spirits than usual.

A prominent Democrat, speaking of the despondency of so many Democrats in this State, says that he notices that those who manifest this feeling are the "tricky" ones. The "old reliables" are standing up and hoping for a great change in affairs before the next election.

The Populists are very busy in their work of endeavoring to ascertain whether their people in North Carolina really favor fusion with the Republicans.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

Two or three afternoons ago a negro halted Mr. J. Y. Thurston, an old white man of this county, widely known in this section as a buyer of country produce, and took $6.75 from him. Thurston was driving along near Garner when the negro pretended he wished to buy something. He then drew a revolver and demanded Thurston's money or his life. Thurston sprang out and the negro attacked him with a club. His pistol was unloaded. He and Thurston fought three quarters of an hour. Then he overpowered Thurston and took $6.75 from his trousers pocket. He then fled. Later some negroes saw the robber at a dance, spending money freely, and told officers of this fact. The result is that the man is in jail to-day. He is Charles Graham, an employee of the Southern railway. In one of Thurston's vest pockets was $262, which the highwayman failed to get.

Raleigh has been very fortunate in the matter of loss by fires in 1895. The total was not $2,000.

REQUISITION HONORED.

Governor Carr to-day honored the requisition of the Governor of Georgia for Henry Williams (colored), who is in jail at Fayetteville, and who is charged with a double murder in Glynn county, Ga.

One convict from Buncombe county arrived at the penitentiary to-day.

The Railway Commission will be in session to-morrow, for the first time in ten days.

The Mechanics' Dime-Savings Bank, of which B. R. Lacy is the president, opened its doors here to-day.

The Caucasian, Senator Butler's newspaper, to-day attacks Oscar J. Spears, who was the Republican nominee for Congress in the Third District, charging him with joining forces with Congressman Shaw (Democrat) to knock out the Populist nominee in that district, Cyrus Thompson, president of the State Farmers' Alliance.

The revenue collections in this district for the last six months were $587,023; an increase over the last half of 1894 of $43,624.

President Warren G. Elliott, of the Wilmington and Weldon railway, was here to-day.

The passenger-cars of the Southern railway are to-day running through from here to Norfolk.

FIRE IN SALISBURY.

A Large Tobacco-Factory Burned—Loss and Insurance.

SALISBURY, N. C., January 2.—(Special.)—A very disastrous fire occurred here at 3 o'clock this morning, destroying D. L. Gaskill's five-story brick tobacco-factory, with its contents. The fire originated in the fifth story and burned through, each floor falling on the other, and this made it impossible to put out the flames. All the doors were closed at night, and when the fire broke out it was discovered that several doors were open, so there must have been robbing, and possibly incendiarism.

Mr. Gaskill was away on a business trip. Over 200,000 pounds of manufactured tobacco and other stock, and fixtures, all said to be worth $60,000, were destroyed. Mr. Gaskill had only about $27,000 insurance. The building belonged to Mrs. Annie Gaskill, and was valued at about $10,000, and had $5,000 insurance on it. Mr. Gaskill is a popular young man and has the sympathy of the community.

A second fire occurred at noon to-day, this time in the residence of Mr. Edwin Threl, but was promptly extinguished.

Lewis W. Porter and bride, of Richmond, who were married Wednesday night, arrived this morning and will spend several days here.

NORTH CAROLINA R. R. LEASE.

Another Suit to Invalidate It—Brought by Stockholders.

RALEIGH, N. C., January 2.—Another suit is instituted to invalidate the lease of the North Carolina railroad to the Southern railway for ninety-nine years. This one is brought by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Cobb, of Guilford county, who are stockholders, and is to annul the lease, the contention being that even if the North Carolina Railroad Company had the power to lease its road it could only do so by the unanimous vote of all its stockholders.

The attorneys for the Farmers' State Alliance, who had instituted the other suit, which is to take away the charter of the road, wanted to induce some stockholder to sue to test the legality of the lease, and now have had this second suit brought.

FIRE AT RUTHERFORDTON.

A Number of Buildings Burned—Loss Upwards of $9,000.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., January 2.—A special to the Observer tells of a serious fire at Rutherfordton, the western terminus of the Carolina Central railroad. It began after 11 o'clock Wednesday night, and was finally checked at 4 this morning. The following buildings were burned: Cowan & Grayson's loss, $1,000; Washburn's storehouse, loss, $4,500; Davis's and Carson's storehouse, occupied by Whitley & Thompson, druggists, and T. B. Walker, groceryman (the drug firm's loss is $2,000); the law office of S. Gallert; the Hardin building, and one occupied by E. Love, besides a number of small wooden buildings belonging to Colonel C. L. Harris, whose loss is $1,500.

The cause of the fire is unknown. It began in a restaurant.

ROSEBORO' EXPRESS ROBBERY.

The Preliminary Investigation Begins—Agent Grier Testifies.

WILMINGTON, N. C., January 2.—A special dispatch to the Star says the preliminary investigation of the express robbery at Roseboro' began to-day in a magistrate's court at Clinton, N. C. Express-Agent Grier was on the witness-stand all day, and his examination had not concluded when a recess was taken until to-morrow.

Grier testified that the robbery was a conspiracy entered into by himself, Dr. F. J. Cooper, and Redden Butler. Cooper acted the masked man, and got the money—$850. Cooper is the Coroner of the county, and Butler the Mayor of Roseboro. Both are of good families and widely connected.

Scotland Neck.

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., January 2.—(Special.)—The people generally through this section start out in the new year in much better condition financially than they have in many years. Good prices for cotton and peanuts have been the means of a considerable increase in the amount of money in circulation hereabouts. All the merchants here had a fine trade during the holidays, and some say they had not had such trade in years.

Mrs. Foster and her daughter, Mrs. Kibbee, who have been on a visit here to their sisters, Mesdames E. E. Hilliard and J. H. Lawrence, left yesterday for their home, in Bridgeport, Conn.

Miss Georgia Little, of Como, N. C., is visiting the family of Rev. R. T. Vann.

Misses Mary and Sallie Salisbury, of Hamilton, are visiting friends in the community.

Mr. C. J. Terrell has gone this week to Warren Plains, to visit his relatives there.

Miss Kate Fenner, who came home to spend the holidays, has returned to Baltimore.

Mrs. M. H. McDowell, of Murfreesboro', is here, visiting her sons, Dr. W. O. McDowell and A. McDowell.

Greenville Notes.

GREENVILLE, N. C., January 2.—(Special.)—This town is soon to have another bank. Higgs Brothers, merchants, announced to-day that they would close out their stock, and open a banking-business on the 15th.

The amount invested in new buildings in Greenville during the year 1895 footed up about $70,000.

In Pitt county, during the year just closed, 271 marriage licenses were issued, 66 of them in the month of December.

The tobacco warehouses resumed sales to-day, after being closed ten days for the holidays.

To-night the young ladies of the town gave a leap-year ball in the Opera-House. The attendance was quite large.

Congressman Harry Skinner came home from Washington this evening.

Mr. E. A. Buck, of Douglas, Ga., is here on a visit to his old home.

Rocky Mount Jottings.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C., January 2.—(Special.)—The increase for 1895 in the tax values of town lots in Nash county over 1894 is over $50,000. By far the greater part of this increase has been in Rocky Mount.

December 23d marked the biggest day's trade in the history of the town, and the following day very nearly equalled it in that respect.

The new market-house is completed, and was occupied January 1st. It presents quite a city-like appearance, and is a credit to the town.

The members of the Methodist church "pounded" their pastor, Rev. J. E. Underwood, last night. Quite a handsome donation was the result.

Virginia Peanut Association Dissolved.

NORFOLK, VA., January 2.—(Special.) The Virginia Peanut Association, an association which controlled the peanut output of this section for the two years of its existence, is no more. It was dissolved Monday afternoon because its members could not agree upon a future line of action. The association was of such a character as to require unanimity of opinion among its members, but all that was unanimous at the meeting held Monday was that dissolution was the only proper course, and each member will now take care of itself. The association was formed September 1, 1892, being composed of twelve companies. It controlled the peanut output of the State, and was a trust in its nature. It was dissolved because an agreement as to future prices could not be reached.

The Weather.

FAIR

WASHINGTON, January 2.—Forecast for Virginia: Fair weather; colder in western portion Friday; decidedly colder Friday night; southerly, shifting to northwesterly winds.

North Carolina and South Carolina: Fair weather; colder, southerly, shifting to northwesterly winds.

The pressure has risen throughout the Rocky Mountain districts, the Missouri and Upper Mississippi valleys, and the Upper Lake regions, and has fallen in the Lower Lake regions and South Atlantic and Gulf States. An area of unusually high pressure of great extent covers the region west of the Mississippi, and is now central in Assiniboia, where the pressure is 31.0 inches. The storm has moved easterly into Ontario and has not been accompanied by further snowfall.

The western cold wave has reached the Upper Lakes and extends down the Mississippi Valley as far as Missouri, embracing all the western regions as far as the Rocky Mountains.

Temperatures 10 to 20 degrees below zero are general throughout the Northwest.

The temperature will fall in the Lower Lake regions, the Ohio and Lower Mississippi valleys, and in Texas, and will remain low throughout the West.

THE WEATHER IN RICHMOND YESTERDAY was clear and fair.

State of thermometer:

6 A. M.	27
9 A. M.	38
12 M.	50
3 P. M.	52
6 P. M.	50
12 Midnight	43
Mean temperature	43½

SEINE THREAD.

SEINE THREAD, AND NETTING.—We would call the attention of all fishermen to the excellent quality of the goods offered by us. Call or write for any information about our stock. We will fill all orders for FRESH AND DESIRABLE SEINE THREAD, NETTING, AND TWINES at bottom prices.

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