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JACOB UMLAUF,

QUERIES & ANSWERS.

A SYNOPSIS OF THE KENTUCKY LAW AS TO DEBEQUEST LAWS.

THE VALUE OF CONFEDERATE NOTES.

John R. Thompson and His Poems—Enlistments in the Navy—Address of Colonel Henderson—Receipt for Making Whitewash—Etc.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: I saw in the Norfolk Landmark a card from your paper concerning a book entitled "The Life of Stonewall Jackson," by Professor Henderson. Will you please do me the kindness to send me his address? I want to write to him, M. E. H. Address him, "College G. F. R. Chamberlain, British Staff College, Camberley, Surrey county, England."

President Davis's Bad Eyesight.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: In which eye was it that President Jefferson Davis was blind? N. X. Mr. Davis suffered greatly from neuralgia, which attacked his eyes, principally. In one of these severe illnesses his left cornea became ulcerated and a film formed where the ulcer had been and obscured the sight of that eye, but disfigured it very little.

Two Questions.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: Will you oblige many of your readers by answering the following queries in your next Sunday's edition:

1. Is an internal revenue stamp required on a receipt for a bill of goods purchased from a merchant or manufacturer?

2. In a legalized primary election for this or any other city of the State in which the primary elections are legalized, who is required to bear the expense of such election—the State, the city (through ordinance of its City Council), or the party for which the election is held? N. X.

1. No.

2. The party, we presume. Certainly, the party pays for the primaries held in Richmond.

A Question About Taxes.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: If, from any cause, a trace of land should fall to appear on the assessor's books for a number of years (say fifteen), and no taxes be paid on it for that length of time, would the heirs of the original owner have to do in order to be able to give a good deed for the same, and would the State demand anything in the way of back taxes? INTERESTED.

The owner can pay two years of back taxes, and the State will demand no more.

A bona-fide purchaser of the land is in no way responsible.

Every owner of land ought to see that his property is assessed, and the taxes paid.

On patented lands on which taxes are in arrears the Commissioner must assess back taxes. See sections 479 and 480 of the Code.

Clay in the Succession.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: Please inform me through your Query column in the next Weekly Dispatch what is meant by the saying "Clay was in the succession," and settle a discussion. Very respectfully, L. A. Maunboro, Va.

We are not positively certain as to the answer that should be given to this query, but think the saying meant that Mr. Clay was in the line of succession to the presidency. Mr. Madison was Secretary of State under Mr. Jefferson, and succeeded him in the presidency. Mr. Monroe was Secretary of State under Mr. Madison, and succeeded him in the presidency. Mr. John Quincy Adams was Secretary of State under Mr. Monroe, and succeeded him in the presidency. Mr. Clay was Secretary of State under Mr. Adams, and his friends claimed that according to the precedents he should follow in the succession. It is proper to say, however, that Mr. Smith, of Maryland, was first appointed Secretary of State under Mr. Madison, but he resigned in 1811, and Mr. Monroe was then appointed.

Government "Whitewash."

In answer to a number of queries for a good white wash, the Baltimore Sun reprints the recipes most often used in and around government buildings.

"Take half a bushel of unslaked lime, slake it with boiling water, cover during the process to keep in steam, strain the liquid through the sieve or strainer, and add to it a peck of salt, previously dissolved in warm water, three pounds of ground rice, boiled to a thin paste and stirred in while hot, half a pound of powdered Spanish whiting, and one pound of clean glue, previously dissolved by soaking in cold water, and then hanging over a slow fire in a small pot, hung within a larger one filled with water. Add five gallons hot water to the mixture, stir well, and let it stand a few days, covered from dirt. It should be applied hot, for which purpose it can be kept in a kettle or a portable furnace.

Coloring matter may be added as desired. For cream color add yellow ochre; pearl or lead, add lamp or ivory black; brown, add proportionately four pounds of tumber to one pound of Indian red and one pound common lampblack; common stone color, add proportionately four pounds raw umber to two pounds lampblack. The cast end of the President's house at Washington is embellished by this brilliant white wash. It is used by the government to whitewash light-houses, etc."

The following is especially recommended for interior work: "Slake a peck of lime till it is thick and creamy. While it is hot mix with a pint of linseed oil and one-quarter pound of glue, previously dissolved in water. Let the mixture stand several hours before applying it. A little lampblack dissolved in vinegar and mixed with white wash gives a grayish tinge, which may be preferable to pure white. A little umber gives a fawn color, and yellow a cream tint. Very little coloring matter should be used.

Second Marriages After Desertion.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: Will you kindly let me know through your Query column if one can be legally married after not knowing the whereabouts of his first wife for more than seven years? E. H. Smithfield, Va.

The best answer to your question can be found in sections 3781 and 3782 of the Code of 1857, which are as follows:

Section 3781. Person Marrying When Former Husband or Wife is Living—How Punished.—If any person, being married, shall during the life of a former husband or wife marry another person in this State, or if the marriage with such person take place out of the State, shall thereafter cohabit with such other person in this State, he shall be confined in the penitentiary not less than three nor more than eight years.

Section 3782. Qualification of the preceding section.—The preceding section shall not extend to a person whose former husband or wife shall have been continually absent from such person for seven years next before marriage of such person to another, and that he not have been known by such person to be living

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH-SUNDAY, MAY 21, 1899.

within that time; nor to a person who shall, at the time of a subsequent marriage, have been divorced from the bond of the former marriage, or whose former marriage shall at that time have been declared void by the sentence of a court of competent jurisdiction.

These two provisions are very ably discussed by Professor Raleigh C. Minor in Volume IV., page 71, of the Virginia Law Register under the head of "Dangers of Second Marriages."

As the law is construed very strictly, we would advise you, in order to be on the safe side, to first secure a divorce from the bond of matrimony, which may be decreed after desertion for three years. (Code of Virginia, section 2257.)

Valuable Confederate Notes.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: I noticed in an issue of the Baltimore News an article taken from your paper, about May 10, 1898, which says there are some Confederate bank notes that are worth their face value. If such is the case, I would like to know of what date or series of notes they are, and if they were made in Richmond or elsewhere.

I think there was a gentleman named Dabney, who had something to do with them. He was the same Mr. Dabney who joined the Richmond Light Infantry Blues and was killed near Richmond afterwards. JAMES LYSTON, No. 608 Oxford avenue, Baltimore city, Md.

It is a fact, we believe, that some of the notes issued by the Confederate States are worth their face value; some, indeed, are worth several times their face value. We are, however, unable to give the dates, denominations, or series of them. That is information which collectors keep to themselves. Such notes are bought only by collectors who wish to complete their files of Confederate currency. We are told that some of the notes in question were printed from steel plates in the North while the capital of the Confederacy was at Montgomery, while others were lithographed and printed here at Richmond. Of course, the high priced notes are very rare. If they were plentiful, they would not be dear.

Yes; Arthur Dabney was a lithographer. He had been at work for the Confederate Government in Columbia, S. C., and in May, 1864, he started to Richmond, where his family resided. Arriving in Petersburg he found that a part of Butler's army had made a lodgment on the turnpike between Richmond and Petersburg. A portion of Wise's Brigade was ordered to go forward and dislodge the enemy and open the road to Richmond. Young Dabney volunteered for the day in the action; killed, it was generally believed, by a fragment of a wooden socket attached to a shell fired from one of our own cannons. He lived but a few minutes. Death came to him whilst our men's shouts of victory were in the air.

Delinquent Lands in Kentucky.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: Please inform me, if possible, as to the Kentucky law regarding lands delinquent for taxes, either before or after the death of the owner. When does the right of redemption cease as to heirs of the deceased land-holder? I would also like to have such other information as to lands delinquent in that State as may be obtainable. WEST END, Richmond, Va., May 8, 1899.

We quote extracts from the Kentucky statutes as to the law now in force in regard to real estate sold for taxes:

Section 452. "The owner of such real estate, or his representative, heirs, or assigns, shall have the right to redeem the same from the State, or any other purchaser, at any time within two years after the day of sale, by paying the purchase money, with interest at the rate of 30 per cent. per annum, and in addition 15 per cent. upon the total amount of the purchase money, if any."

Section 454. "If the land be not redeemed within the two years allowed for that purpose, the fee-simple title shall vest absolutely in the State, and the lands purchased by individuals be not redeemed within the two years allowed for that purpose, the fee-simple title shall at once vest in such individual."

Section 456. "Any minor, or other person laboring under legal disability except a lunatic, or married woman, at the date of sale, shall have one year after the date of sale to redeem the same, which may be done by paying the purchase money, with 15 per centum on the amount thereof, and interest at the rate of 30 per cent. per annum from the date of sale, and the costs of the sale, if any."

If the lands of a lunatic or married woman be not redeemed within five years from the date of the sale, the sale shall become absolute."

The "notice" above referred to is the notice to any other purchaser than the State. It must be given to husband and wife, in case the purchase is of land of a married woman, or to committee of a lunatic or person having a lunatic in charge. If the purchase be of the land of a lunatic, within six months after the Sheriff shall have delivered to him a certificate of purchase, and a certificate of purchase to be delivered by the Sheriff to purchaser within thirty days after the sale.

Enlisting in the Navy.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: 1. Will you kindly inform me if they are recruiting any men for sea duty at present on the U. S. S. Frankin, Norfolk navy-yard?

2. Are they re-enlisting honorably discharged men?

Men holding honorable discharges from the navy for service during the late war will be enlisted on the Franklin if they are required in the following ratings—viz: Machinists, first- and second-class; electricians, first- and second-class; seamen, and ordinary seamen. No other ratings are enlisted, except honorably discharged men, who have served three years' general service.

We quote below, from a circular issued by Secretary John D. Long, of the Navy Department, though we cannot undertake to give all the literatures on this subject. If you intend enlisting you had better get your information from the officials at Washington:

1. Men physically and otherwise qualified are enlisted in the navy as follows:

Seamen, pay per month, \$1; ordinary seamen, pay per month, \$1.50; landsmen, pay per month, \$1.50; shipwrights, pay per month, \$2; blacksmiths, pay per month, \$2; plumbers and fitters, pay per month, \$2; sailmakers, pay per month, \$2; painters, pay per month, \$2; machinists (first-class), pay per month, \$5; machinists (second-class), pay per month, \$4; boiler-makers, pay per month, \$3; cooper-smiths, pay per month, \$3; firemen (first-class), pay per month, \$3; firemen (second-class), pay per month, \$2; apothecaries, \$3; ship's cooks (fourth-class), \$3; musicians (first-class), \$2; musicians (second-class), \$1.50.

Each enlisted person also receives one ration per day while on board of a ship.

2. The term of enlistment is for four years.

3. Persons enlisted for the naval service must be of robust frame, intelligent, of perfect body and healthy constitution, free from any physical defects of malformation, and not subject to fits.

4. Physical examinations are made by a

naval surgeon at the place of enlistment.

5. Persons are not enlisted as landsmen unless they are of 25, unless they possess some mechanical trade, nor after 35, even though possessing a trade.

6. No person will be enlisted who does not understand and speak the English language.

7. No allowance will be made for traveling expenses, whether accepted or not.

8. Applications for enlistment can be made to the commanding officer of the U. S. S. Wabash, navy-yard, Boston, Mass.; U. S. S. Vermont, navy-yard, New York; U. S. S. Richmond, navy-yard, League Island, Pa.; U. S. S. Franklin, navy-yard, Norfolk, Va., and the U. S. S. Independence, navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.

Thompson's "Death of Stuart."

To the Editor of the Dispatch: "Only one question," you say. Then please let that include all that you can tell me about the author and authorship of a poem I find in what my sister calls her "War Scrap-Book." It is entitled "The Death of Stuart," and the opening stanza runs:

"We could not pause while yet the noon-tide air Shook with the cannonade's incessant pealing."

The funeral pageant duty to prepare "A nation's grief revealing."

I think it appeared in the Richmond Whig, about a score of verses, and to my mind the finest poem relating to the war I have read.

John Reuben Thompson was the author of the poem in question. He was born in Richmond, Va., October 23, 1823; died in New York city April 30, 1873. He was graduated at the University in 1844, and afterward studied law there, and settled in Richmond with every prospect of success in his profession. But he had always been a lover of literature and a keen student of it and these proclivities became more dominant after he had completed his education. Accordingly, in 1847, he accepted the editorship of the Southern Literary Messenger. This magazine was a power in its day, and did no little to foster a literary spirit among the younger race of southern men. Mr. Thompson brought a great deal of zeal and energy into the editorial chair, and during the twelve years in which he successfully carried forward his literary work in connection with the monthly, he imparted to it such a character as no southern magazine has ever had before or since. He did much to bring southern talent to light, and in the pages of the Southern Messenger Donald G. Mitchell first published his "Reveries of a Bachelor" and "Dream Life."

In 1851 Mr. Thompson went to Europe in search of health. During this absence he wrote papers for the Southern Messenger, which long afterwards he collected in book form.

In 1859 he resigned his editorship in Richmond and went to Augusta, Ga., where he edited the Southern Field and Fireside. In 1863 he again went abroad, and choosing London as his residence, became regularly engaged on the London Index, and contributed to Blackwood's Magazine. After this civil war he returned to America and became literary editor of the New York Evening Post.

Many of his lyrics are household words in the South, and among his most admired poems are "The Burial of Latham," "The Death of Stuart," and "The Battle Rainbow."

Notice to Correspondents.

No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

In answering queries our first attention will be given to the letters of those correspondents who ask but one question each.

We cannot publish copyrighted songs and poems without the permission of the owner of the copyrights.

This column is not an advertising medium. No query will receive attention the answer to which would necessitate the advertising of any person's business or wares.

We will give any attention to long "strings" of questions. Every week numbers of correspondents ignore this rule of ours, and afterwards wonder why their queries are not answered.

Many queries are not answered because similar ones have been recently answered.

We are overwhelmed with inquiries as to the addresses of millionaire philanthropists, and cannot undertake to answer them.

We cannot undertake to ascertain the value of old coins. For that information write to some dealer in them.

We cannot undertake to answer queries by mail; we can only answer them through this column.

Queries recently called upon to republish poems and songs, but we will not undertake to do so, except where the production called for has some historical or peculiar literary merit, and not of easy access to every reader.

Address "Query Editor, Dispatch Office, Richmond, Va."

N. B.—We do not read unsigned letters.

Notices of New Books.

HAMPTON AND HIS CAVALRY IN 1864. By Edward L. Wells, Charleston, S. C. Richmond: B. F. Johnson Publishing Company, 1899. Cloth, pp. 42. With illustrations and an index.

This neat work is highly creditable to every one who has had a hand in its production. Wade Hampton is admirably portrayed as a cavalry leader by a writer of his native State, and the account of his gallant exploits is handsomely presented in print by a publishing house in Richmond, the capital of the Southern Confederacy, which he served so valiantly.

General Hampton was a high-born gentleman, and yet was not spoiled, but only incited by his hereditary advantages.

After the death of J. E. B. Stuart, Hampton was advanced to the chief command of the cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia, and had the full confidence of the incomparable Lee, of whom the author, Mr. Wells, shows the highest appreciation. With the resources at his command, and the heavy odds against him, Hampton rendered splendid services in the great campaign of 1864, and richly deserves the eulogium which the work before us is designed to give him. We bespeak for it a very extensive patronage.

LOVE PINE. The Story of a Lost Mine. By R. B. Townsend, G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London. The Knickerbocker Press, 1899.

"Love Pine" is 1899's first addition to the already long list of Indian stories. Mr. Townsend has chosen a hackneyed subject, but he has used his material to good advantage and made a very pretty story out of his old bricks. The characters of "Love Pine" are our old familiar friends of the western romance, Indians without it, of course. An Indian story without Indians would certainly be an odd way to tell a story. And there are the usual set pieces, cowboys, rancheros, Mexicans, pretty squaws and senoritas, and a villain to make the tale of bricks complete. Out of this well-worn material Mr. Townsend has made a first-rate story. The plot of "Love Pine" is good, the action is vigorous and stirring, and our old friends are as good as new in their new clothes, although the hero is perhaps a little too plainly our time.

A demi-god, "Don Estevan," as the Mexicans call him, certainly is. Leg over as the dog went to Dover he goes in his victorious way. He rights wrong like

a knight-errant, punishes the wrong-doer, brings the parted lovers together, rescues the captive maiden, and whenever a freed slave or blacked blood is on his path, up goes his right hand to shoulder, a wild yell rings out over the prairie, and another painted redskin bites the dust. After such a stirring history one fears that Don Estevan will find life tame, now that he has found his mine, married his little Manuella, and settled down to domesticity. But Mr. Townsend does not say so, so we shake hands with him over his happiness with right good will, and immediately turn our backs on him until the curtain fall.

For sale by the publishers.

THE LOVES OF TWENTY AND ONE. By Gilson Willets, Author of "His Neighbor's Wife"; "Antia, the Cuban Spy"; "The Triumph of Yankee Doodle"; "Ball Fights of Havana," etc. F. Tennyson Neely, Publisher, London and New York.

"The Loves of Twenty and One" are twenty-one attempts at short-story writing by Mr. Gilson Willets; twenty-one hard licks upon the wind of the reading public; twenty-one consecutive blows, one right after the other, each one harder than its predecessor. Mr. Willets draws off a bit before the finish and lets Mrs. Willets slip in the last lick and make the victim with "The Toys of the Fates."

The book is a contradiction of the theory that it is hard to find a publisher for poor stuff. If it were not easy to get a book printed where would Mr. Willets' efforts have been? Gone, certainly, so far as the literary field is concerned, where the woodbine is said to twine. His tales have not one of the qualities that are generally supposed to be necessary to attract the attention of a story. They are not instructive, morally or intellectually, nor are they witty or entertaining. They have only one redeeming virtue—brevity. A glimpse at some of the titles is a sufficient gauge-mark of the whole collection: "She Was Older Than He," "Poisoned Rouge," "The Woman Who Wants to Be a Man," "The Princess and the Forbidden Cigarette," etc., etc. Enough. Come hither, Messieurs, and clap the "dead facts" on the sack and the garboglio for the man that could write such stuff.

For sale by the publishers.

CIVIL GOVERNMENT OF VIRGINIA. For the Use of Schools. By Royall Bascom Smithley, A. M., Professor of Mathematics, Randolph-Macon College, and Author of "The History of Virginia." Published by the American Book Company.

This work, though designed as a textbook, will make a useful volume for all those who take an interest in the governmental machinery of Virginia. Its matter is carefully prepared and includes a list of the judicial circuits, the colonial and post-revolutionary Governors, and the constitutions of the State and United States. There is a complete index, which enables the reader to readily find anything within the covers.

The book is only the first of a series of the following heads, though technical language has been carefully avoided:

Introduction; The County, Towns and Cities; The State Legislative Department; The State Executive Department; The State Judicial Department; Legal Proceedings; The Public School System; Elections; Political Parties; Taxation; The Government of Virginia in Outline; Relations of the State and the Nation; Appendix.

Professor Smithley was assisted in the compilation of his valuable book by Colonel Morton Marrye, Judge E. D. Newman, Hon. George S. Shackelford, and Messrs. E. L. C. Scott, Overton Howard, and Hill Carter, who give him the benefits of their observations.

THE LADDER OF FORTUNE. By Frances Conant Bayler, Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., the Riverside Press, Cambridge, 1899.

"The Ladder of Fortune" recounts the struggle of an ambitious woman up the hill of success, who raises herself from a milliner's shop in an obscure western town into the position of a society leader of two continents; and out of a vulgarian of the vulgarians, makes herself, if not into a lady, at least into an excellent illustration of one.

There is not a trace of real plot in the book, and no great amount of action, but Mrs. Bayler manages to catch her reader's interest at the start and holds it to the end. The story is told in a way that is not only readable, but also instructive. The milliner's progress from the first. Disgust for the woman's unscrupulousness and vulgarity is almost lost sight of in admiration for her good sense and energy. The time being her success becomes the paramount consideration. At the same time, there is no lack of moral lesson conveyed. Although Mrs. Bayler administers to her readers no bitter taste, her teaching is plain enough, and at the end she points her bare fabled with no uncertain finger.

For sale by the publishers. Price, \$1.50.

YEAR-BOOK OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, 1898. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1899.

This is a book of nearly 700 pages, filled with matter of great interest to the agricultural people of this country. It gives the public a good idea of the excellent work the department is doing. Among the subjects treated in this volume are: the raising of silkworms, the raising of agricultural colleges, new work in the Weather Bureau, the preparation and use of tuberculin, principal insects affecting the tobacco plant, grasshopper locusts, notes on the farming, preparation and use of insecticides, crop statistics, &c.

KING WASHINGTON. A Romance of the Hudson Highlands. By Adelaide Skeel and William H. Brearley, J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1899.

This is a story connected with Washington's army when it was encamped near Newburg, N. Y., the year after the battle of Yorktown. It deals to some extent with a reputed attempt on the part of the British to capture Washington, to aspire to kingly honors. It also includes an alleged attempt on the part of certain British and Tories to entrap and abduct Washington. Throughout it runs a love story. Altogether, it is a readable book.

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE. By William Shakespeare. With "The Adventures of Glanville," and Other Illustrative Pieces. Cassell & Co. Limited, London, Paris, New York, and Melbourne, 1899.

This is Volume VI., No. 32, of Cassell's National Library, issued weekly, the subscription price of which is \$2 per annum. The editor is Professor Henry Morley. The book is of handy size and is printed on good paper and with large, clear type.

THE VIRGINIA LAW REGISTER FOR MAY. Volume V., No. 1. Edited by W. M. Lile. Published by the J. P. Bell Company, Lynchburg and Richmond. Price, 50 cents per number.

Contents:

I. Privileged Communications in Judicial Proceedings.

II. When Rights in Personam Give Rise to Rights in Rem.

III. Virginia Decisions Reported in Full—3. Supervisors of Montgomery County vs. Board of Commissioners of New York; Philadelphia and Norfolk Railway Company vs. Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad Company; 5) McCormick vs. Insurance Company (Circuit Court of Lynchburg).

IV. Editorial.

V. Notes of Cases.

VI. Miscellany.

VII. Correspondence.

VIII. Book Reviews.

IX. Books Received.

With this number the Register begins its fifth volume. The editor informs his patrons that his subscription list is larger than ever before, and he ventures to hope that he may serve his readers better as its years increase.

The leading article, which is on Privileged Communications, is a carefully-prepared paper, replete with information and valuable authorities. All the cases reported, or synopsized, are of interest to the profession.

Embalming and Immortalizing. (Observations of a Philosophical Friend.) "And they returned and prepared spices and ointments"—"sweet spices, that they might come and anoint Him."—Gospels.

"If I could chop time's wings I'd fold them all together."—Old Song.

The efforts of mankind away back in the past to enshrine and immortalize the great or loved ones of their time have not proved much of a success. Whenever we disregard a law of nature, or try to reverse it, we make fools of ourselves and throw away our time and money. The law of nature is: Dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return. The elements of our body are carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorus, silica, and may be a few other chemicals. When our souls return to the God that gave them, the mortal body that has been borrowed for awhile goes back to Mother Earth; it is disintegrated, and all its elements scatter for other terms of service. Our types are thrown into pits to make other vehicles for other souls. It is a pretty thing to think of our earth, at last, all made up of elements that have been the clothing of honorable souls on their way from time to eternity. Noble stuff indeed! It is not a pleasant thing to think of a body, after it has filled its honorable office, withheld from further service, its elements imprisoned and confined in corruption! Rather let the earth have back its lendings, and let the elements go on their mission and round to bless and beautify all nature.

Perhaps if the souls of the old Egyptian mummies could look down on (up) and see what has been done with their bodies, they would wish their devils had saved themselves their trouble.