

AMONG PUBLIC MEN.

What Legislators Say About

R. F. & P. Railroad Stock.

SHALL VIRGINIA SELL IT?

Many Different Answers to This Very Interesting Question.

AS TO SUBMISSION TO THE PEOPLE.

Shall All the Voters Pass Upon the

Constitution?—Senator Daniel's

Visit to Richmond—Politics in Al-

bemarle.

What must the State do about her

holdings in the Richmond, Fredericksburg

and Potomac railroad? That is still the

burning question which revolves in the

brains of our legislators.

Senator Morris, who opened up the

whole matter by his resolution providing

that the status of affairs should be in-

vestigated, has lucidly explained his mo-

tives and frankly intimated that in his

opinion Virginia should not part with her

stock in the prosperous corporation. He

is a man in whom all the legislators re-

pose confidence, and yet many of his col-

leagues dissent from his views.

Last night a very able and active sen-

ator declared that either the three bills

repealing last session's

acts of the Legislature in regard to the

Richmond and Washington Air-Line, and

the Seaboard magnate, was not to be

felt for not building the new line. He

expressed the opinion that if the Rich-

mond, Fredericksburg and Potomac rail-

road stock was so valuable as some peo-

ple said, he would not have been so

adamant when it is placed on the market.

Why shouldn't everybody scramble for

it, he said, if it's such a good thing.

I think the State is getting rid of it.

Moreover, I think every penny of that

forfeit money ought to be paid.

Senator Flood is still pondering over

the advisability of introducing a resolu-

tion providing that the stock of the

possible members of the convention and

propagating that so and so will be sent

by his county.

The situation in Albemarle is exciting a

great deal of comment, and there are

many predictions about its outcome. It

is remarkably acute—the choice of the

pipkin-growing county will be Hon. W.

Doan and Hon. John E. Massey. In

this pair the public recognizes two ex-

ceptionally able men. Everybody con-

ceded that Delegate Boardman was

passed for good, sound sense and in-

tegrity. And as for Mr. Massey—well,

the person who questions his men-

tal power has yet to be found. Mr. Mas-

sey is well advanced in years, and has

enemies in politics, but he nothing it

so "scrappy" and energetic in the face

of opposition.

And by the way, speaking of Albemarle

recalls a remark that Senator Martin may

take a trip abroad after Congress ad-

journs.

Senator Daniel paid a flying visit to

Richmond Friday night, and met a good

many of the members of the Jefferson. He

left yesterday morning at nearly four

most before the public realized he was

here. The Senator did not come to Rich-

mond to middle with or confer about the

convention. His visit was of a legal na-

ture. He is counsel for the executor of

Mrs. India A. Williams, the decedent who

left a huge sum of money for the estab-

lishment of the Sweetbrier Female Insti-

tute in Albemarle. This matter has been

before the Legislature, and the commis-

sions concerning the will were settled

in committee before the Senator reached

town, hence his trip was useless and he

departed for Lynchburg.

Senator Glass and Delegate Featherston

have already told the Legislature about

Major Daniel's attitude in regard to the

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Clay-Ward Activates Express Them-

selves on Convention Plans.

IMPORTANT RESOLUTION.

It Calls Upon Senators Munford and

Sands to Reconsider.

CHARGE MADE AGAINST SENATE.

It Blocked Legislation Favored by

the People Through Corporation

Representatives—A Spirited Debate.

Mr. Carter Chosen President.

The meeting of the Clay-Ward Activates

last night at Belvidere Hall was largely

unexpected and contrary to expectations,

as the spirited debate was indulged.

The resolution was adopted, and a resolu-

tion calling on Messrs. Sands & Mun-

ford, in the Senate, to vote for the House

resolution in the constitutional conven-

tion. It is true that finally a resolu-

tion was tabled, but the meeting was a

deeply interesting one, being the very

first expression from the people of how

they feel as to the convention plans and

what they want. The speakers gave

names and called what they conceived to

be a spade a spade.

The meeting was held to elect a succes-

sor to the late president, Mr. Evan Sneed,

deceased.

MR. H. L. CARTER, PRESIDENT.

The selection of Mr. Sneed's successor

was at once gone into, when, at 8 o'clock,

the club assembled. Mr. H. L. Carter,

the first vice-president, was unanimously

chosen president. Mr. J. H. Carter was

elect first vice-president, and Mr. R. L.

Winston, second vice-president.

The evening did not bid fair to be pro-

ductive of anything exciting at this stage

of the proceedings. The gentlemen named

above were chosen heartily, and some

members, anxious to get home, was to

"move" that the meeting do now ad-

journal, when Mr. R. L. Winston intro-

thers as a cork factory, was completely

destroyed by fire to-day, together with

foundry and machine-shops of the Tot-

ten-Hogg Foundry and Machine Shop

Company, on Twelfth street, adjoining

the Armstrong factory, where the

fire originated, spread with astonishing

rapidity, and five alarms were sounded

in quick succession, calling all the en-

gines in the lower part of the city to

the scene. Great excitement prevailed

because the employees of the cork fac-

tory, numbering 1,500, were all at work,

and it is feared that many of the girls

and boys in the building would not be

able to escape. Fortunately the several

escapes and the firemen's ladders

provided ample means for the safety of

all.

In spite of the firemen's good work,

the flames jumped across the street and

blew their way into the Totten & Hogg

foundry, which was also destroyed, and

the Armstrong factory, which was not

checked. The Armstrong cork fac-

tory was the largest plant of its kind in

the country, and the company has offices

in the principal cities. All of the

valuable machinery was destroyed,

but the books and papers in the offices

were saved.

NEW YORK HARBOR ICE-LOCKED.

Snow—Storm Increases—Trouble—

Traffic Greatly Impeded.

NEW YORK, February 9.—The New

York harbor was still ice-locked to-day,

and all traffic afloat in the bays and

tributaries was completely stopped. Not

in many years has so much shipping men,

and all traffic afloat in the bays and

tributaries been so completely stopped.

Even the Atlantic liners are delayed and

bothered by the ice. Even the Atlantic

liners are delayed and bothered by the

ice. Even the Atlantic liners are delayed

BRITAIN'S OUTLOOK.

Improved Prospects for Euro-

pean Peace and Harmony.

EFFECT OF QUEEN'S DEATH.

Position of Her Realm Strengthened

Rather Than Weakened.

KAISER NOW DOMINATING FIGURE.

To This the British Isles Have No

Objection—They Have Made It Pos-

sible, and Hope to Profit by

It.

LONDON, February 9.—A compre-

hensive view of the international situation

reveals only improved prospects for con-

tinued peace and harmony. From the

British standpoint, Queen Victoria's death

appears to have strengthened, more than

weakened, Great Britain's position among

the nations of Europe. The late Empress

since Victoria ceased to reign for the

Foreign Office to feel the political pulse

of the capitals of Europe, and the brief

examination, commenced in no spirit of

coarseness, resulted in a feeling of sat-

isfaction and security in Downing street.

The foremost factor in this, naturally,

is Emperor William's attitude. Responsi-

ble officials here make no attempt to

conceal their elation at the circumstances

attending his Majesty's visit. They do

not shut their eyes to the dissatisfaction

the Emperor has caused among certain

sections of his subjects, but rely impli-

cantly on the Emperor's declaration of

his readiness to do anything for the

benefit of his subjects, and the fact that

the Emperor's attitude is a symptom of

the Emperor's confidence in the British

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ptom of the Emperor's confidence in the

peror to feel wroth with them, when they

are preparing to defeat the canal bill

and a prohibition of duties for their bene-

fit, says it cannot doubt that the Em-

peror's behavior in England, based on the

idea of closer Anglo-German friendship,

is intensely unpopular with the vast ma-

jority of the nation.

COMMENT CAUTIOUS, THOUGH.

Whatever comment is made, however,

is in cautious terms.

The Berliner Neueste Nachrichten (Con-

servative) to-day reprints the Kreuz-

zeitung's remarks, saying there is "a

difference between the Emperor's personal

acts and words in England, and German

policy."

"ENGLAND WEAKENED."

Regarding the latter, the paper says:

"England is incapacitated from alliances

of any sort, because she has been tre-

mendously weakened by the South African

war, and the way the matter was handled

is worthy of serious re-consideration. It

therefore, will not pursue an aggressive

policy, under any circumstances. An en-

emy between England and Russia in the

near future is more likely than not, espe-

cially as Russia is more likely than not

to be blocked by English vessels in the

English money market, and is economi-

cally and militarily unable to enter into

a struggle with England. For a time, it is

English naval superiority remains,

and the way the matter was handled is

worthy of serious re-consideration. It

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policy, under any circumstances. An en-

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cally and militarily unable to enter into

a struggle with England. For a time, it is

OUR LEAVING CUBA.

Impossible, Administration Thinks

Before Next Fall, at Earliest.

CONSTITUTION BY APRIL 1.

This Must Be Situation to Secure With-

drawal in Autumn.

RETIRE WHEN ASKED TO DO SO.

Provided Always It is Clearly Ap-

parent That the Government is