

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH

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SUNDAY.....FEB. 2, 1902

THE RICHMOND POST-OFFICE.

The bill introduced by Congressman Lamb appropriating a million dollars to provide a new Federal building for Richmond ought to pass. As he states, more room is needed, and additions to the present building can only serve a temporary purpose.

The present arrangement of the office is confusing, and not much improvement can be made within the space at hand. Never can there be a modern, up-to-date, comfortable, and convenient post-office arrangement within those walls.

Double it will be said by some that the building can be remodelled and enlarged to meet the necessities of the case. We don't believe it. That has been tried once. So far as the public is concerned the changes then made were not for the better.

The suggestion has been thrown out that the court-rooms and revenue offices might be removed to a separate building erected especially for them, and the present building devoted wholly to post-office purposes.

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We conclude with the expression of our belief that bloodhounds are not so bloody as they are painted, and that as "detectives" they have records of as many failures as successes.

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BLOODHOUNDS AS DETECTIVES.

That weirdly picturesque quadruped known as the bloodhound is enjoying a revival of notoriety these days, and rarely does one pick up a newspaper without seeing him mentioned.

The editor of the Brunswick County Gazette, who evidently knows whereof he speaks, has just published a most interesting article on "The Bloodhound as a Detective." He thinks it would be a good thing if every county owned a couple of these dogs and kept them constantly ready for service.

And, then, speaking of the ability of a dog to track criminals, the editor of the Gazette says the bloodhound is not the only canine which can be utilized in that way. He thinks any dog—but preferably some kind of hound—with a "keen scent" and "cold nose" can acquire the accomplishment.

If the old saying, "Give a dog a bad name and hang him," counts for aught, the bloodhound has long since lost caste. His sins, real or imagined, were pictured in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and from the day that mischievous book appeared until the present hour, the bloodhound has borne a liberal share of the odium cast upon the South by Harriet Beecher Stowe.

The hounds now used on the Penitentiary Farm, although they probably are not representatives of a pure strain, on more than one occasion have run down escaped convicts and otherwise assisted the officers in capturing fugitives.

These dogs, if we mistake not—certainly the first pack the State had—came from a North Carolina convict farm.

The editor of the Brunswick Gazette states that the animals now kept by the North Carolina officials are not bloodhounds, but the ordinary fox-hound of the fine strain bred by William E. Brodnax, of Brunswick, and the late Thomas Goode Tucker, of Northampton county, N. C.

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THE RIXEY BILL.

It is understood that Pickett Camp, Confederate Veterans of this city, will have the Rixey bill under consideration again to-morrow night. We haven't the slightest idea what its action will be, but we reiterate our own opinion that if the United States Government wished to aid our poor, old soldiers, it could do so easily by distributing to the States from which it was collected the fund known as "the captured and abandoned property fund."

The southern people are averse to asking "aid" for their veterans from the Federal Government; but they ought not to hesitate to receive back what is their own.

Reciprocity with Cuba, says the New York Tribune, will rescue from distress a million people for whose welfare we were lately so solicitous that we went to war with Spain about it; it will save for disorder and anarchy that island for whose tranquillity we are responsible; and it will give to the United States a trade of \$30,000,000 or \$40,000,000 a year which now goes to Europe; it will, above all, vindicate the honor and maintain the good faith of the United States, and avert from us one of the gravest reproaches that can fall upon a nation.

THE PRESIDENT AND SCHLEY.

In the opinion of a good many of our contemporaries the call of President Roosevelt for comments from the Navy Department on the Schley appeal did not contribute anything to his reputation for independence. And we confess we share their opinion. As the Philadelphia Times says, the case was not one in which the department should have been consulted. It was closed as far as Long, Lemley & Co. were concerned. It was a matter between Schley and the President's sense of justice.

Whether it be for heart or soul, or for body, good, wholesome food and good digestion are the necessary conditions of well-developed, full, large, healthy, useful, and happy manhood. And simple and digestible diet is Nature's ordinance for the human stomach.

It seems to us that there is a crying need for reduction in costs of recording in the hands of the public. The following example which occurred right here in Charlottesville a short time since, a man sold a piece of property for \$4,800.

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COLLEGE EXPENSES.

The University and Other Institutions in Virginia. To the Editor of the Dispatch: "The University is a rich man's school, is a criticism not infrequently heard."

The higher cost of living at the University, when compared with the showing made by colleges of other institutions in the State.

Washington and Lee University offers meals, furnished rooms, and servants' attendance at \$13 per month, amounting in nine months to \$117, to which add for fuel, lights, towels, laundry, &c., exclusive of clothing or books, \$28, making a total of \$145.00.

History tells us that a bad stomach lost the battle of Waterloo, and a chronic complaint protracted the Crimean war. Among lower animals the ostrich, whose speed distances the race-horse, can almost digest rocks and rusty nails.

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FOOD FOR A YEAR.

Meats.....300 lbs. Milk.....240 qts. Butter.....100 lbs. Eggs.....27 doz. Vegetables.....50 lbs.

This represents a fair ration for one man for one year.

But some people eat and eat and yet grow thinner. This means a defective digestion and unsuitable food. To the notice of such persons we present Scott's Emulsion, famous for its tissue building. Your physician can tell you how it does it.

We'll send you a little to try if you like. SCOTT & BOWNE, 429 Pearl Street, New York.

with fish, and a State Fish Commissioner would receive much aid from the Federal Government.

I have before me the laws of New York, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Maryland and North Carolina, respecting the fish and oyster industries, and these laws are executed in the various States through fish commissioners.

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THE OPOSSUM AGAIN.

Some Pleasant Reminiscences at the Penitentiary Farm in Days Gone By. To the Editor of the Dispatch:

The article in the Dispatch on the above curious and interesting lover of permissims, contains one dith of an appropriate song. Here is another: "Pussum up de gum-tree; Raccoon in de hollow; Martingale and collar."

When I was a school-boy, there was in Fredericksburg a very remarkable African citizen called Dudley. He was a great scholar and had a faculty for coining new words which were intelligible and expressive.

In the same Town Hall Carus had his dancing school and balls and cotton parties were held. At all these "pussum up de gum-tree" was a favorite tune and how it did ring out on the streets of a bustling academy.

Buddy was a very useful hand all along port, and an accommodating. He was, too, something of an orator, and for a negro, his language was correct, and when he interlarded it with his newly-coined terms they were still intelligible from the context.

One day, in a store, he saw a jug nicely corked, and supposed it contained good drinking water. He asked the clerk to open it for him to approach the contents of that jug.

He did it tell you, on the last occasion of my calling, that I loved you and only you? "Sic? You certainly did, Harold."

He: That's all right. I knew I'd expressed such a sentiment to some girl or other, but I wasn't quite certain who it was.

Married a Clabman. Miss Withers: Tell me, Mrs. Flasher. Was it, in your experience, so awful difficult to find a husband?

Mrs. Flasher: Not before marriage, my dear.

Concerning Trusts. "What do you think of that statement in the paper about the Steel Trust having earned \$84,000,000 in the last nine months?"

"I think it will require a good deal harder trust to make the people believe that the corporation spells its name right."

A Timely Suggestion. Boaster: Talk about ancestry! There is no one in this town that can trace his family farther back than I can.

Sharp: Then it would surely make you feel quite at home to "go way back and sit down."

Now and Then. Since I did realm of manhood gain, With arts at my command, I've tried and tried, though all in vain, To win fair woman's hand.

Yet when I was a little "tot," And ma the bent wood catch, Fair woman's hand I often got With neatness and dispatch.

How He Helped to Put Conviction Upon a Radical.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: The following incident in the life of a setter dog actually occurred, away back in the seventies, when this old Commonwealth was sorely troubled by a political faction known as "Radicals," a combination of carpet-baggers, negroes, and renegade Virginians—the latter known as scalawags.

The proprietor also had a setter, and like most owners of a dog, was very proud of "Cato," and quickly resented any adverse criticism of his action or intelligence.

Now, it so happened that when "Cato" was passing the days of his old age as a retriever, in fetching an old glove or a rubber ball, he was also taught to fetch a dog's collar.

Little did he dream that in after years this accomplishment would establish his going to the dog society.

For several days the three sportsmen, with the three dogs, tramped over hill and vale with varying success in bagging game, and the dogs behaved as well-bred animals should.

On returning, one afternoon, from a fairly successful day's sport, the team seated by the office stove a new arrival, who proved to be a United States gusger of liquids.

It might have been inferred from his sultry manner that he had become a dog, but he was not so. He was a man, and he was a man of some prominence.

His owner listened patiently, yet his wrath was rising to a boiling point. Finally endurance ceased to be a virtue, and the proprietor controverted the charge, and the "gusger" was in error.

To clinch the argument, he called "Cato" to testify in his own behalf, by asking the question heretofore mentioned. The dog, after a moment's promptness, he immediately dropped, as if shot, closed his eyes, gave a deep sigh, and finally ceased to wag his tail.

There he lay, apparently, stiff and cold in death, preferring to be a dead dog than to be of the same political faith as his calumniator.

What followed is not for print. Suffice it to say, the two Baltimore sportsmen were intensely amused at the sudden turn "Cato" had made on his traidner.

Censors of public events take pleasure in occasionally wiping their feet on diplomats.

The Only Kind. "Your family seems to be very limited, Mr. Jowhar; have you no blood relations?" "Blood relations? That's the only kind I have got; they are bleeding me all the time."

It Worried Him. Here Kruegel's daughter, Gretchen, had been serving as domestic about two weeks in the household of Judge Vaughan, when father and employer met on the village street.

"Well, Yoodge," said Kruegel, "how you like dot Gretchen by dis dime a retty?" "Like her?" returned the Judge in his blunt way, "why she's just great! We never had any one in the house in her line that entered into work with so much spirit; she's full of snap all the time."

Kruegel turned pondering away, and meeting his frau at their home port he sorrowfully said: "Teresa, something must goe wrong mit dot Gretchen; I yaid dot metted Yoodge Vorgan, and she yaid dot she was vull of schnapps all de time."

Japan to Be Represented at St. Louis. WASHINGTON, D. C., February 1.—A cablegram received at the State Department from Minister Buck, at Tokio, is to the effect that the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs has assured him that there would be an official representation of Japan by a commission at the St. Louis Exposition.

All the elements necessary for building up body, brain, and brawn are contained in MALTA-VITA FOOD. At all grocers.

AMUSEMENTS. MONDAY, Academy, February 3. ONE NIGHT ONLY. SOUSA AND HIS BAND. THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, MATINEE FRIDAY. The 4 Cohans. The Governor's Son. MASQUERADE BALL. SCHILLER LODGE, No. 13, I. O. O. F. Tickets—Gentlemen, 50c; Ladies, 25c. Four fine prizes will be awarded. Ja. 25-Sing.

The Confederate Museum. TWELFTH AND CLAY STREETS. Open daily from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. Admission, 25 cents. Free on Saturdays & 15c.

THE VALENTINE MUSEUM. ELEVENTH AND CLAY STREETS. Open daily from 10 A. M. to 6 P. M. Admission, 10 cents. Free on Saturdays.