Book Reviews.

THE VALLEY OF DECISION. Edith Wharton. Cloth, $2. Charles Scribner's Sons.

For sale here by the Bell Book and Stationery Company.

Mrs. Wharton's new story is not one which could by any possibility deeply touch the popular heart. Its appeal is to the intellect rather than to the emotions, and the admiration it excites is a clear-eyed fine wonder at the perfections of its workmanship rather than any feeling of sympathy or of kinship with the men and women that it pictures. But, viewed in the light of an intellectual effort, it is seen to be a very remarkable achievement. The writer shows throughout the two volumes, which are necessary for the setting forth of her story, scholarly knowledge, sympathetic research, and an exquisitely pure and perfect style. She has pictured Italy of the later half of the eighteenth century, and has spread out in splendid panorama the rugged dark and vigorous beauty of the hills and mountains of Northern Italy, as well as the sun-bathed and langorous slopes of its southern parts, has painted the varying lights and shades of its characteristic cities—Turin, the Paris of Italian cities—Naples, warm and dreamy, given over to the study of antiquities; Venice, beauty-touched throughout and mystifying in its many contradictions, and Rome, magnificent in the grandeur of its memories—and has filled in the scenes with innumerable flashes of light and color. With such beauty as this as a setting for her study, she has presented in sympathetic detail of color, form, and motion, all the widely varying life of a country which time had brought within a stone's throw of modern days, and yet which still lay bound by a sense of feudal obligations, superstitious fears of the church, and, more than all else, by a strange and holding lethargy that weighted its people's brains and energies.

The story in the book is but one of its many carefully studied details, and, though it deals with the longing for freedom, with deep wrongs, treachery, love, disappointment, and disaster, it only serves to make more perfect the picture of the people, habits, and scenery of the day, rather than to add any vital throb of human interest to the work. Mrs. Wharton's book is to the Italy of the last century what "Kim" is to the India of to-day. It is a panorama of Italy's many beauties and wonders, a picture of exquisite color and form, of tragic shadows and tender, strange lights, a realization of age-old complaisance and luxury, and of newly vitalized selflessness and yearning, a blending of blighting and abominable social habits, with a national worship of beauty, of color, and sound, a sense of the dulling of fresh hopes and ideals by the shadow of tradition and overworn customs. It is the spreading out in vivid colors and varied outlines and shades of a peculiar people and time. And, while it is true that the work is less vital than in Kim, because Kipling wrote of that of which he himself had been a part, and to whose very heart he had penetrated, while Mrs. Wharton sees her picture by her mental vision alone, yet her vision is acute, full of sympathy and aptitude, of delicate fancy and quick imagination, and the discoveries she has made by her intimate scrutiny and far-searching sight, are set forth by so perfect an art of exquisite phrasing, finely turned sentences, and gracious wording, that her work becomes at once notable for the beauty and polish of its language, as well as for the poise of its several parts, its clearness of thought, and the historical worth of its details.

Notes.

The announcement has been made that Hallie Ermine Rives is soon to publish another book, and the further interesting statement is made that "the new story is to have ten climaxes." That the ten climaxes are easily possible to this erratic and irresponsible young writer is not difficult to believe, but that the story will be worthy of the name of literature, will contain within its pages any comfort, inspiration, instruction, or pleasure for its readers is a matter for sincere doubt. Judging by Miss Rives's previous work, the new story can but be both morbid and foolish. And judging also by her former methods and her aptness at being well advertised, it will be hard to pass it by with the silence which it will probably deserve.

However, it is unfair to judge her new work by the faults and follies of her old. We can only strive to steady our nerves and to hope for the best.

ANNE PENDLETON.

Clippings.

Mr. Edmund Gosse has added a volume on Scandinavian literature to the "Literature of the World" series which he is editing.

Anthony Hope's romance of Germany, "Rupert of Henzau"—although it is nearly four years since it was published by Henry Holt & Co.—has just been printed for the sixteenth time.

"The Courtship of Sweet Anne Page," by Ellen V. Talbot, is being published by the Funk & Wagnalls Company. Miss Talbot has filled a gap in Shakespeare's "Merry Wives of Windsor" with the romance of sweet Anne Page and her courtship by her three lovers.

"A Damsel or Two," a new novel by F. Frankfort Moore, author of "The Jessamy Bride," etc., is to be published immediately by D. Appleton & Co.

Bismarck's letters, which recently appeared in two volumes and which aroused so much interest in the United States and other countries, are having a bad time in Russia. The censor there is not quite sure that the volumes do not contain matter which Russians ought not to read.

Booksellers, therefore, are waiting until he makes up his mind. The newspaper censors lately have been particularly active, blacking out whole columns of matter in English, German, and American journals dealing with Russian questions.

The ingeniously absurd attempts to prove by the cipher method that Bacon wrote the plays of Shakespeare have induced a correspondent of the London Telegraph to make a statistical use of that method to show that Bacon also wrote the Psalms of David. In Psalm xlvi. he found that by counting forty-six words from the beginning you arrive at the word "shake," and by counting forty-six from the end (omitting, of course, the exclamation "Selah") you come to the word "spear." These, conjoined, make up the name of the poet, and he asks whether they do not form a secret cryptogram?

A writer in a New York paper has made the following plea for the ephemeral in literature, and in his feeling he is doubtless not alone:

Those good people who hold that the functions of our public libraries are strictly educational will doubtless be gratified at the proposed exclusion from their shelves of those purely recreative works of fiction styled with varying degrees of justice "light novels" or "trash." The task of forming and elevating the literary taste of aspiring youth and plastic, if unlettered, middle age, would doubtless be simplified by the banishment of all temptation to err on the side of frivolity; but to such obstinate persons as may already have fixed their individual preferences and have no further mind for intellectual leading strings, this innovation might prove less gratifying. Those of us who, ungoaded by the librarian, have from early youth kept in touch with the best that literature affords, feel that we have earned the right to browse where we please among the fields of fiction, and that at the close of the strenuous day, which modern ethics require of us, we may own without shame to a predilection for the book which diverts and relaxes, rather than that which teaches, or preaches, or harrows. There are few enough nowadays, alas, of these books which divert. The superstrenuousness of both authors and critics does its best to put down frivolity with an iron hand, and the novelist is brave, indeed, who ventures to present that lighter side of life which, heaven be praised, still exists; but as the man of affairs unblushingly prefers Hoyt to Ibsen, so many people (even those who profess letters (turn with relief at the close of their labors to the comfortable, frivolous, purposeless tales of Rhoda Broughton, Mrs. Alexander, and John Strange Winter. Young persons who, in the pride of unwearied minds and bodies, have been taught to properly scorn the merely entertaining, may choose "Sir Richard Calmady" or "The House with Green Shutters" as the concomitant of dressnig gown and slippers, but mothers of families, tired men, and even literary persons themselves, guilty of lugubrious performances, turn with relief to the pleasant pages which dare to ignore the requirements of the hour, and secure in the range of their past reading, gloat over the froth and superficiality which are all too sparingly supplied to us. We buy large, solid books, but we look to our libraries for these novels of an evening, and if a well-meant paternalism is really to deprive us of our individual needs, let us trust that some sympathetic millionaire will endow a new institution for the preservation and encouragement of light literature; that those who in the fulness of knowledge read for their own pleasure and relaxation may still be supplied with that ephemeral 'trash,' through the pleasant pages of which the weary mind may idle, unharrowed and uninstructed, in the mere shameless pursuit of diversion and rest.

Notice of Other New Publications.

NAPOLEON. A Sketch of His Life, Character, Struggles, and Achievements. By Thomas E. Watson, Author of "The Story of France," etc. Illustrated with Portraits and Fac-Similes. New York: The Macmillan Company. London: Macmillan & Co., Limited. 1902. All Rights Reserved. Price, $2.25.

This is a book which has aroused widespread interest, and is regarded as one of the most readable of the many lives of Napoleon. True, the author speaks of it only as "a sketch," but it is a very comprehensive sketch. What he has to say fills more than seven hundred pages, and is written in a style that is snappy and vigorous, pithy and picturesque. It is a rapid survey of Napoleon's career, and while Mr. Watson sees grievous faults in the great Corsican, he presents him as a man of transcedant military genius with many ennobling traits of character. In short, he thinks Napoleon was as good a man as any of the other founders of empire.

Mr. Watson's work is complete. Few readers will ask for any more than he gives; few will fall short of being fascinated by the story that he tells. There is not a dull page in it, and it is brimful of enlightening criticism and appropriate anecdote.

Mr. Watson is the author of a book on the French revolution, which has been very favorably reviewed. He was at one time a member of Congress from Georgia.

KATE BONNET; The Romance of a Pirate's Daughter. By Frank R. Stockton. Illustrated by A. J. Keller and H. S. Potter. New York. D. Appleton & Co.

Mr. Stockton's name on the title page of a novel is always a guarantee of pleasure for the reader, and what is better still in these days of imitativeness, he can always be counted upon for something original. There is no reading the first few pages of his stories and thus forseeing what will follow. Verily he keeps one guessing, and just when you think you have anticipated the finale of his plot, the cunning author flies off at a tangent and fools you into a mad anxiety to know just how things will end.

In the story under review one unfamiliar with Mr. Stockton's literary trickery expects to find something very conventional and prosaic, for 50 per cent. of our latter day heroines are named Kate, and 25 per cent. of them get mixed up with pirates in some way or the other. But not so with this novel. It is, in sooth, an odd and whimsical creation, entirely out of the beaten track and so full of ingenuity and sly humor that its effect is positively startling.

In the first place, one has to read many a page before he really knows whether Steve Bonnet is a pirate or not, and when at last it is as certain that he belongs to that class of evil-minded mortals, we realize that he is unlike any other pirate ever immortalized in history or fiction.

And then, too, Ben Greenway, the honest Scotchman who accompanies Master Bonnet on his voyages is equally as odd, though assuredly he is a very likeable individual.

We should like to hear more of this worthy some day.

Kate Bonnet, the "leading lady" in the stirring drama, is a charming girl with all the good qualities and all the sweethearts a wholesome, healthy novel heroine requires. She keeps two young men dancing for several years, and demands conspicuous activity on the part of one Dickory Charter, who spurred on by love undergoes some remarkable adventures.

The scene of the story is laid partly in the Barbadoes and partly in Jamaica, though we are also called upon to traverse many seas, in following the dramatis personae.

The time is the early Colonial period when pirates infested the southern waters and terrorized the merchant marine.

In some chapters, the style of the story slips almost into the opera bouffe, which is, we fancy, quite at variance with purist methods of novel writing, but for our part we are quite willing to forgive Mr. Stockton for this fault, if fault it be. And how else could one apologize for a pirate and make the villain's daughter eligible among respectable people?

It is not our purpose to give the public even an inkling of the plot. It would be sheer brutality to synopsize it, and then, too, the complications of the story would make our task as intricate as if we were undertaking to synopsize a dictionary. Suffice it to say that the author has written a very, very sprightly story, and in a style calculated to suit any taste.

THE COURTSHIP OF SWEET ANNE PAGE. By Ellen V. Talbot. Illustrations by Sewell Collins. Small 12mo., Cloth. Price 40 cents, net. Postage, 5 cents. New York and London: Funk & Wagnalls Company.

Bold, indeed, is the spirit that undertakes to imitate Shakespeare or to amplify the products of his inimitable pen. And yet we find in Ellen V. Talbot a woman who has essayed to make this audacious attempt, and what is more, she has succeeded admirably. Indeed, we write under no abnormal glow of fleeting enthusiasm when we say that her "Courtship of Sweet Anne Page" is the product of a master hand—a hand trained in a peculiar cunning which cannot fail to please.

The little book before us, despite all its merits, can be read in an hour. Therein lies its charm—the same charm which has given Charles and Mary Lamb the standing they won in their "Tales from Shakespeare."

Miss Talbot's story, loosely speaking, is a supplement to "The Merry Wives of Windsor," but in it we see no touches of that gross vulgarity which mars the unexpurgated edition of the immortal bard. True, she touches on the two "merry wives," and also on sly Falstaff and the plots in which he was so sadly outwitted, but it is mainly with that little baggage, Nan Page, that we deal. The very work itself purports to be Nan's diary, and in this she unfolds to us her secret love for the "gallant Fenton" and the scheme by which she tricked both her parents and secured her lover for a husband.

The simple tale, told in the quaint language of the Elizabethan period, is a wonderful interpretation of Shakespeare's play, nor does it take a single liberty with the original comedy.

The publishers, in their prospectus of the story, use the following language, which well expresses our views:

"Indeed, if Shakespeare had written 'The Merry Wives of Windsor' to suit his own refined taste, instead of that of the coarse 'Virgin Queen,' he would have developed into the main plot of the comedy the very story that is told so charmingly by Miss Talbot. She has, therefore, accomplished a task second in value only to the discovery of a lost play of Shakespeare, and every book-lover should add the dainty volume to his Shakespeariana."

DAUDET'S TARTARIN DE TARASCON. Edited, with Notes and Vocabulary, by C. Fontaine B. es L., L. en D., De Witt Clinton High School, New York City; Late Director of Romance Language Instruction in the High Schools of Washington, D. C. Cloth, 12mo. 145 Pages. Price, 45 cents. American Book Company, New York, Cincinnati, and Chicago.

This edition of one of the most popular and widely known of Daudet's delightful stories, presents the adventures of the illustrious Tartarin in attractive form for school use. All the passages that did not seem suitable for the class-room have been eliminated, and the needs of teachers and pupils have been kept constantly in view. The reading of the story is sure to prove interesting as well as useful. The notes supply explanations of all difficult points, and a complete vocabulary, containing all irregular forms of verbs, has been added.

BY THE HIGHER LAW.—By Julia Helen Twell, Jr., Author of "A Triumph or Destiny, Illustrated. Henry T. Coates & Company. Philadelphia.

The publishers in their advertisement of this work, say "It is a very dramatic novel of New York society life, written by one who is entirely familiar with the life of 'the smart set.'"

We hadn't known before that one had to be familiar with the life of "the smart set" to write entertainingly about it—an inference we draw from the advertisement—but we admit that the story is "dramatic" and not without interest. Indeed, it makes good, though not "classical" reading, and is in no chapter boring.

A question of conscience is involved in the novel—a rather delicate question, too, which concerns a homicide—and for a long time it keeps a charming widow from a very fascinating lover.

Strong human emotions accompany the development of the plot and the reader is at a loss to know how things can end satisfactorily. And indeed they do not end altogether so, though "finis" comes at a rather unexpected moment, and leaves a good load of unfinished work for the imagination.

Such stories as "By the Higher Law," belong to the hammock literature of the commonwealth of letters. One can read and enjoy them—and forget them without any pangs of conscience. But for all that, it takes a clever author to produce such works.

New Magazines.

THE SMART SET. A Magazine of Cleverness. Ess Ess Publishing Company: New York, London, Paris. April No.

Contents: The Ambition of the Baron, Marvin Dana; The Moon and the City, Clinton Scollard; Red Rose of Margaret, Richard Le Gallienne; The Pilgrimage of Lucy, Gertrude F. Lynch; "My Lady Plays With Hearts," Theodore Roberts; Under the Rose, Madison Cowein; Love Unuttered, Edith M. Thomas; A Morning Shower, H. E. Hepner; Sanctuary, Charlotte Becker; The Word of the Ground People, Bliss Carman; In Arcadia, Ruth Parsons Milne; A Lover's Song, Frank Dempster Sherman; Truffles and Tokay, Edgar Saltus; Illusion, George W. Shipman; Extravagant, Clinton Burgess; The Role of Helen, Elizabeth McCracken; A Universal Error, Carolyn Wells; Wisdom, Charles Hanson Towne; Miss Perfume, Onoto Watanna; Inertia, Theodosia Garrison; An Enchantment, Edwin L. Sabin; In the Place of Another, Tom Hall; The Time to Woo, Samuel Minturn Peck; A Ballade of Many Loves, Edward W. Barnard; "Willowwood," Baroness von Hutten; To a Modern David, Elsa Barker; The Turning of the Worm, Tom P. Morgan; Appreciated, Felix Carmen; The Science of the Sea, Prince Albert of Monaco; My Wilderness, Mabel Greenwood; His Delicate Mission, Cecil Charles; Resurrection, John Winwood; The Ring in the Box, Ralph Henry Barbour; Good-Night, Sweetheart! Myrtle Reed; Somebody, Venita Seibert; Exile, Albert Bigelow Paine; The Vanishing Millionaire, James Hazelton Willard; Dreamer's Land, Clarence Urmy; Corrected Proverbs, John Eliot; A Glimpse of the Garden, Mary L. Pendered; Once More, Julia C. Walsh; "Time Lost in Sleep," Clinton Dangerfield; Une Nouvelle Maladie, E. Osmont; The Prodigal, E. Pauline Johnson; The Maxims of Nizam, Albert Lee; My Share of All the World, Nannie Byrd Turner; At the Army and Navy Club, M. T. Maltby; A Willing Prize, Roy Farrell Greene; Miles Standish, of Arizona, J. Frederic Thorne; Getting Her Divorce, William F. Kirk.

The March number of the Ladies' Home Journal is an admirable example of a real "home" magazine. From the beautiful cover, by Mr. W. L. Taylor, to the very last page, it is replete with delightful fiction and interesting articles. The number opens with the unique story of "The Sexton Who Ruled New York Society," by William Perrine, and then comes a real treat, another "Lady or the Tiger" story, by the same Stockton who gave us that remarkable tale of mystery. This one is called "My Balloon Hunt." Neltje Blanchan begins a series of unusual articles about birds and their "personalities," and "The Dominie" tells an amusing story of his journeyings in Europe with two companions. Then there is the second installment of Miss Porter's "Those Days in Old Virginia," and a page of pictures of "Pretty Country homes from $400 to $3,200." "His Mother" is a touching story by Kate Whiting Patcht, and the fourth part of "The Russells in Chicago" shows us some more of the odd customs and characteristics of the "Windy City." Mr. Bok's editorial is written under the title "She Dasn't," and deals fearlessly with the woman who is afraid to come out and do things as she thinks they should be done. The special feature of the editorial section is Mr. Hamilton W. Mabie's first "Literary Talk." These talks will appear monthly hereafter. Other valuable articles in the magazine outside of the regular departments are: "How to Have a Home Wedding," "Animated Silhouettes and other Games," and "The Literary Beginner," a column of advice to young writers by Franklin B. Wiley. The illustrations include another of the popular double pages of college girls—this time "At Her Full and In Her Room." By the Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia. One dollar a year, ten cents a copy.

Agents for the Celebrated Knox Hats.

Of Interest to Small and Very Large Men.

Suits and Overcoat

Which sold at $13.50 $15, and $16.50, TO-MORROW (Monday) ONLY—

$6.75.

By actual count, we have one hundred and eight Winter Suits and ninety-four Overcoats, in sizes 33, 34, 35, 40, 42, and 44, (you will notice that the medium sizes are missing.) These are considered by us the leavings of the season.

If you can wear either of these sizes you may take your choice to-morrow—and TO-MORROW only—

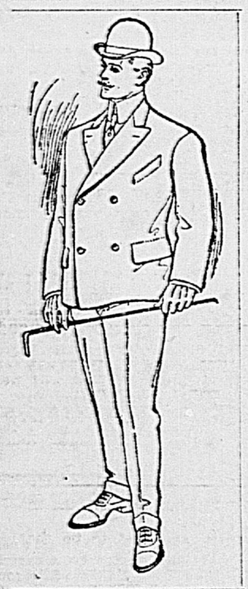
At $6.75 Each.

The garments are excellent, are of our own make, and the sacrifice of the prices is only accounted by the scarcity of sizes and quantity.

Gans-Rady Company

Tyler's, Corner First and Broad Sts.

About Your Spring Suit.



Our Assortment in the Clothing Line

is complete with the LATEST and MOST FASHIONABLE COMBINATIONS that fashion has decreed shall be the

Reigning Styles This Spring in Men's and Young Men's Wear.

The predominating styles are handsomer than ever before—very neat, but very chic. The Tyler Store can always be depended on for NEWNESS, ORIGINALITY, UNCOMMONNESS, VARIETY, and HIGHEST QUALITIES.

The accompanying illustration shows our NEW TWO-BUTTON, DOUBLE BREASTED SUIT. They are both stylish and serviceable, especially adapted for early spring wear, made up in Black Thibet, Unfinished Worsteds, and Fancy Cassimeres—fabrics that are best adapted to this style of suit.

$10, $12.50, $15.

Special in the Boys' Department.

Children's Pure Wool, Double-Breasted Suits, in sizes 5 to 16 years, Blue, Black, and Fancy Cheviots. **$1.48**

Julian W. Tyler,

Corner First and Broad Sts,

FERGUSSON BROTHERS.

CHICKERING,
EVERETT,
LESTER,
BRAUMULLER,
DAVENPORT AND TREACY,
HARVARD,
HUNTINGTON.

THE ANGELUS.

Full Orchestra Piano Player, the only player can be used without the piano. It's easy to play any piece of music.

The Only Piano Makers in Richmond.

This has been our profession from youth, having spent many years in the knowledge of piano construction in the largest factories in New York city.

Warning to Piano Buyers.

Are you aware of the fact when you buy a piano from agents going from house to house you pay $50 to $75 more than you would by calling on FERGUSSON BROTHERS? We don't claim to sell you a $400 piano at $200 on terms of $5 per month, as high-grade pianos cannot be sold on such terms, but we do claim that our $200 piano is equal to any $300 piano in the country. We are not controlled by factories like other houses.

We pay cash for our pianos and get them as cheap as any house in the country. When you buy from us you are dealing direct with the firm, thus giving you the advantage of the salesman's commission. Our expenses are small; we do our own work; hence we do not ask fancy prices to compensate.

OUR PIANOS ARE THE LEADERS IN SUPERIORITY.
OUR PRICES ARE ALWAYS THE LOWEST.
We also sell on easy terms if desired.

Tuning, Repairing, and Making Old Pianos Over Like New. All Work Guaranteed.

FERGUSSON BROTHERS,

NO. 813 EAST BROAD STREET.
(Next Building to Murphy's Hotel).

JOHN DUNNAVANT FOUND.

Escaped Lunatic Was Arrested at Chester—A Pathetic Scene.

CHESTER, VA., March 15.—(Special.)—John Buyan Dunnavant, the lunatic who escaped from Williamsburg Asylum some time ago, was captured here this morning.

Dunnavant has been staying with some fishermen friends on James river near here for the past ten or twelve days. At times he has been seen in this community peddling fish.

On Tuesday or Wednesday of this week he secured employment on the transfer tracks of the Atlantic-Coast Line and Farmville and Powhatan roads. Friday afternoon it was learned that he was the escaped lunatic.

Dr. R. T. McNair wired the Chief of Police of Richmond, who refused the message, on the ground that he knew nothing of the case. A message was then sent to Chief-of-Police Lipscomb of Manchester, who came here on the evening train, but not until Dunnavant had quit work and gone to the river. Captain Lipscomb returned to Manchester, and came back here this morning.

It was arranged for Dunnavant to be at work in a box-car when the officer arrived, in order that there would be no chance of escape.

When the lunatic saw the officer he said: "Good morning, Captain Lipscomb; I am very much surprised to see you here; I did not know you were coming."

Dunnavant told the officer that he was not crazy, and was not troubling any one, though working hard to make some money to send his dear old mother in Manchester. He beged the officer not to handcuff and take him away.

After pleading with the officer some time he broke down and wept like a child. Then he became enraged, and abused the officer so much that it was found necessary to use the club to subdue him.

It was a sad scene to witness this.

On leaving Dunnavant requested his employer to send his money to his mother. He saved all he earned, and begged his meals at different houses, and occasionally would ask for a Bible.

He has been very quiet while working here, and it was hard to detect that his mind was unbalanced.

HARRY RUBIN ASSAULTED.

Information has been received here that on last Sunday Mr. Harry J. Rubin, who conducts a general merchandise store at the old "half-way house," near here, had some words with a negro in regard to settling his account, and the negro struck Mr. Rubin and bruised his face quite badly.

The negro was arrested, brought before a justice of the peace, examined, and fined.

Mr. R. D. Boyd has the contract for erecting Dr. Drewry's residence at Minelo, instead of Boyd Brothers, as mentioned in these columns on Thursday.

The social given at the home of Mr. George E. Robertson Thursday night, under the auspices of the Lee Y's, was a grand success. The host and hostess received the guests in their usual hospitable manner, and every one was made to feel perfectly at home. The entertainment for the evening was furnished by Richmond talent, assisted by Miss Eula Clement, of Centralia. The quartette, composed of Messrs. Wilbur Montgomery, Robert Forrest, Eugene Blanton, and I. D. Briggs, rendered several selections in their usual elegant style.

Misses Virginia Talbott and Mozelle Gregory, and Mr. Montgomery sang very touching solos, while the whistling solo by Miss Talbot was one of the hits of the evening. The reading by Miss Le Cato, and the recitations by Mrs. C. G. Burton and Miss Eula Clement, were enjoyed to their fullest extent. The "Sermon on Apples" completely captivated the audience.

THE SICK FOLKS.

Mrs. J. C. Kabler is quite sick at her home, on Church street.

Mrs. Lucy C. Cogbill, who was taken sick quite suddenly Thursday evening, is improving.

Mrs. Gus Winfree, who has been very ill, is improving slowly.

Miss Nona Burton is out again, after being confined to her home by sickness for the past week.

Mrs. George E. Robertson is able to be out again, after a short spell of sickness.

Miss Mary Hatcher, of the county, is quite sick at her home, near the "Half-way House."

Mr. Thomas H. Friend, the well-known huntsman, has been indisposed for several days as a result of a severe cold contracted while fixing a culvert during the recent bad weather.

WARSHIPS AT YORKTOWN.

Many of the Sailors Are Deserting—Town Notes.

YORKTOWN, VA., March 15.—(Special.) On the docket of the coming term of the York County Court, which convenes Monday, the case of Henry Walker will be called for trial.

Walker is a negro, hailing from West Point, and is charged with felonious assault on a small boy, the child of Mr. Wesley Mills.

Rev. R. E. Steele, of Hampton, a Presbyterian minister, conducted revival services aboard the cruiser Olympia, and at the court-house, several days this week.

The cruiser Olympia has had considerable trouble with deserters among her crew since her arrival, and her officers have adopted stringent measures to prevent being left short-handed. The crew have not been given liberty for some times past.

The training-ship Essex, with naval apprentices aboard, is expected to arrive either to-day or to-morrow from Bermuda.

Our people as a rule regret the resignation of Hon. John D. Long from the secretaryship of the naval portfolio. He was the first official of the Navy Department to discover Yorktown as a practice-ground for small ordnance and rifle fire, manoevring with small boats, and battalion drill ashore.

Since he instituted this station, it is seldom without one of the white war-dogs lying in the roadstead.

Mr. J. W. Rogers, a prominent man of affairs in this vicinity, has been commissioned by Governor Montague a delegate to the State Good-Roads Convention, which meets in Richmond on the 20th and 21st of the month.

Mr. and Mrs. John Cruikshank and daughter, Miss Marguerite, arrived home this morning, after spending the week in the Monumental City.

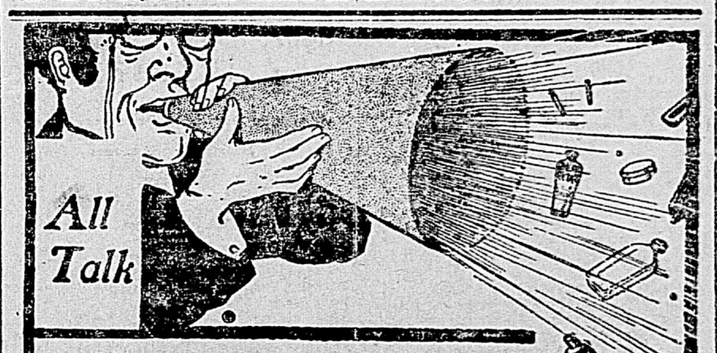
Mr. T. P. Newsome, of Emporia, was a visitor here to-day.

Mrs. H. Ford Brown and the little son, wife, and child of First-Lieutenant Brown, of Essex, are registered at Hotel Yorktown.

Superintendent of National Cemetery Willam Van Dill and wife spent to-day in Hampton.

Our fishermen are very much discouraged over the poor run of fish this season. Shad are especially scarce.

Local prices are very low. The oyster-man, who makes his daily living by working the natural rocks, is faring pretty badly just at this time.



No cures to report, no long record of testing, nothing to give you confidence—but talk, all talk. That's the truth about nearly all cough medicines.

But there's a record of 60 years of cures back of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. And physicians endorse it, prescribe it for colds, bronchitis, and coughs of all kinds. Probably your own doctor does. Ask him. He knows all about it—has the formula.

"I know from personal experience that Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is the best medicine in the world for quickly breaking up a heavy cold that has settled on the lungs."—D. C. SNEDEKER, Pine Hill, N. Y.

25c., 50c., $1.00. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

REPUBLICANS DIFFER.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.)

substitute for the resolution introduced by Mr. Richardson, of Tennessee.

INTERESTING READING.

Mr. Richardson remarked that if Congress got the facts relative to the transport service, he believed the country would receive a chapter of very interesting reading.

Later in the day, Mr. Minor, of Washington, rising to a question of personal privilege, denounced a published statement that he had changed his attitude on the Cuban reciprocity and ship subsidy questions in return for a favor from the Speaker.

Speaker Henderson also stated that there was not a shadow of truth in the article.

HEARD IN WARRENTON.

Real Estate Transactions—People Favor Dispensary System.

WARRENTON, VA., March 15.—(Special.)—The prospective large real estate deals mentioned in your issue of last Sunday were closed this week.

Mr. A. T. Ward, of Tazewell county, bought the E. T. Patterson farm, containing 288 acres, for $9,000. This amount was paid in cash, and the sale was effected through the agency of C. W. Smith.

Gaines & Maddux sold for Fletcher & Brother, the Bowie farm to J. S. Hutton for $4,000. It contains 195 acres.

The series of meetings in the Warrenton Baptist church will not commence the third Sunday as first announced.

By request of Dr. Hatcher, who will conduct the meeting, the commencement of the services will be on the fourth Sunday. A called meeting of the church was held last night, and a programme mapped out to be used during its progress.

The dispensary system has taken a firm hold upon this community and it is said that a movement is on foot to petition the Legislature to grant a change from the existing conditions.

The Upperville Colt and Horse Club will have its annual meet on June 11th and 12th. Entries will close June 1st. This will be the 57th annual exhibit.

It was organized in 1845. Colonel R. H. Dulaney, who was its first president, has been accorded that honor each consecutive year, up to the present time.

John R. Townsend, of the Orange County Hunt Club, of New York, has offered a handsome silver cup to the winner of the Farmers' race, which is to be run at the annual point-to-point race of the Warrenton Hunt Club during the second week in April.

Rev. and Mrs. H. S. Coe have announced the marriage of their daughter, Annie Clinton, to Mr. Harry Hamilton Moler, of Hedgesville, W. Va., Wednesday, March 19th at the bride's home.

Mrs. W. B. Oden is visiting her sister, Mrs. J. T. Preston, in Alexandria.

Colonel Thomas Smith will leave on a business-trip in a few days for the Pacific coast.

Miss Margaret Morson, who has been spending the winter in Washington, has returned to her home in this place.

Mrs. L. C. Vass, of Schenectady, N. Y., is here on a brief visit to friends.

Miss Lizzie Fair, formerly of this place, but now of Washington, is visiting Mrs. M. D. Douglas.

Captain and Mrs. Randolph, of Clarke county, are visiting their daughter, Mrs. P. W. Charington.

Miss Mary Forbes, after a prolonged absence visiting friends in Baltimore, has returned to her home on Winchester street.

The Rixey house on Culpeper street, has been leased by Mrs. William H. Payne, and will be occupied by her in the near future. The fracture of the arm that Mrs. Payne sustained early in the week, will prevent her from taking possession of this pleasant home as early as expected.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS WEDNESDAY

To Consider Party Policy With Reference to Boer War.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 15.—The chairman of the House Democratic Caucus Committee, Representative Hay, of Virginia, issued to-day a call for a caucus for next Wednesday night in the Hall of the House, to consider the policy of the Democratic party with reference to the Boer war.

The petition for the caucus presented to Mr. Hay contained the names of forty Democratic members.