CENSUS OF PETERSBURG

Indications That the Returns Will Foot Up Twenty-five Thousand.

MR. GOULD IS COMING

Indicates That He May Build a New Hotel Near Ferndale Park—Hustings Court.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

PETERSBURG, VA., March 18.—The census enumerators are still at work, but the indications are that the returns will show Petersburg to have a population of 25,000 at the least. The last national census conceded the city a population of 21,810. In all the six wards the number of residents will show a decided increase over the figures given in the national census.

A letter received from George J. Gould, principal stockholder of the Virginia Passenger and Power Company, speaks of the prospects for substantial prosperity in Petersburg. Mr. Gould indicates his intention of visiting Petersburg within a few days with other capitalists, and says that it is probable that a hotel, to be used as a winter resort, may be erected in the neighborhood of Ferndale Park, where the Passenger and Power Company improvements are being carried on extensively.

FARMER ROBBED.

Wesley Gilliam, colored, was in the Mayor's Court this morning and sent to jail for six months on the charge of larceny. Last night a colored farmer, Sam Platt, of Amelia county, went to sleep at one of the tobacco warehouses. This morning he awoke to find his watch gone. Gilliam, who slept nearby, was arrested on the charge of stealing the timepiece. The watch was recovered.

It is not believed that the failure of the Sully Company and the slump in cotton will affect Petersburg to any extent, as there had been but little trading in cotton stock on the local market.

HUSTINGS COURT.

In the Hustings Court to-day Joe Hendricks, colored, was tried on the charge of feloniously assaulting William Moody, colored, with a singletree. The men were employed at a livery stable where the assault occurred. Hendricks was found guilty and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary.

John Pelham, charged with the murder of Cornelius Walker, was last night found guilty and given five years in the penitentiary.

St. Patrick's Catholic Beneficial Society held the annual meeting last night and elected officers as follows: President, M. M. Finn; vice-president, James Pearman; treasurer and chaplain, Rev. J. T. O'Ferrell; recording secretary, J. H. Bailey, sergeant-at-arms, M. Joyce; trustees, N. J. Francis, B. D. Akers, W. J. Rahily; investigating Committee, C. A. Bass, M. J. Rahily, J. T. Collins. Following the business session, the society attended the annual banquet at the Chesterfield Hotel.

Post C, Travelers' Protective Association, last night held its annual meeting, and elected the following officers: President, T. S. Beckwith; vice-president, R. E. Lunsford; secretary and treasurer, R. W. Pritchard; board of directors, R. S. Gill, J. H. Slater, E. A. Hartley, W. W. Warren, R. W. Collier, C. C. Alley, O. D. Andrews. Delegates to the State Convention, to be held in Lynchburg, are W. W. Warren, J. R. Jolly, R. A. Martin, Jr., L. P. Robertson, Homer Atkinson, O. D. Andrews, S. H. Shortt, F. D. D'Alton, J. H. Bailey, W. T. Baugh, T. M. Elmore, F. H. Heineman, J. H. Slater, T. J. Gills, R. W. Pritchard and T. S. Beckwith.

THE DEAL CONFIRMED.

Spencer and Gravely Combination Biggest Independent Manufactory

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

MARTINSVILLE, VA., March 18.—The report of the deal by which D. H. Spencer and Sons, Incorporated, of Martinsville, becomes the owner of the world famous brands and business of B. F. Gravely and Sons, tobacco manufacturers of Leatherwood, Henry county, is fully confirmed to-day, and becomes with the prestige of the consolidated firm, the leading independent tobacco manufacturing corporation of the world. This deal coming almost on the heels of the recent merger of the D. H. Spencer and Sons, J. D. Spencer, and Spencer Bros., interest under the corporate name of D. H. Spencer and Sons, Incorporated, will be stirring interest in tobacco circles everywhere. B. F. Gravely and Son, and D. H. Spencer and Sons, it is almost needless to say, are the oldest plug manufacturing concerns in the United States, and their brands have for almost time out of mind held the commanding place among plug tobaccos, both in celebrity and market prices. These two firms have long been considered as impregnable against the assaults of "the trust," and through this union of forces their position in this regard is still more strongly fortified.

The consolidated business will be conducted on a mammoth scale, and the output will be greater than that of any other independent concern or corporation now in existence.

The plant here will be at once greatly enlarged to meet the demands of the increased production.

The directors of the company are Messrs. D. W. Spencer, J. H. Spencer, J. D. Spencer, W. G. Lee and H. C. Gravely, the latter gentleman being prior to this deal sole owner of the business of B.

COL. WM. C. MILES

Of the Treasury Dept., Washington, D. C. Writes: "I was all run down—Father John's Medicine saved my life." Cures colds and all throat and lung troubles. Not a patent medicine.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

James F. Boyle, of Lowell, Mass., was cured of chronic bronchitis, by Father John's Medicine. "My family," he writes: "have used it ever since." Cures colds or money back. 50 years in use.

Father John's Medicine is for sale by Owens & Minor Drug Co., 1007 E. Main St.; City Drug Store, 1414 E. Main St.; People's Drug Store, 3900 Williamsburg Ave.; North Side Pharmacy, 901 N. Fifth St.; Pine Street Pharmacy, 334 S. Pine St.; East Pharmacy, 2601 Venable St.

Weak Nerves--Dyspepsia--Dizziness--Bad Blood

Easily Conquered—Quickly Cured—The Whole Country Has Awakened to the Marvelous Properties of the Celebrated Nerve Vitalizer and Tonic.

PAINE'S CELERY COMPOUND

MR. T. B. PETERSON.
Was Put on His Feet and Given Health by Paine's Celery Compound.

"I Was Sick—Dizzy—Worn Out."

North Weymouth, Mass., Dec. 14.—"Paine's Celery Compound is the best and most effective medicine I have ever taken. I was sick, dizzy and worn out for a long time and unable to attend to business. My blood was in troublesome condition. I was advised to try Paine's Celery Compound, which I did with pleasing results, and in a short time I was able to return to my business. My blood is greatly benefited. I would advise all who are run down by overwork or who need a blood tonic to take Paine's Celery Compound. They will find that it will be a great benefit to them."—T. B. Peterson.

Bad Blood—Neuralgia.

"I testify in regard to Paine's Celery Compound, that I had bad blood and was subject to neuralgia, was much bothered, having tried various specifics, but to no purpose; thought I would try Paine's Celery Compound, used three bottles and it cured me. I shall recommend it to all of my friends. I consider it the best medicine I ever met for nervous diseases."—John Erpenbach, 616 Putnam Ave., Eau Claire, Wis.

"Trace every disease, blood trouble or pain to the TRUE CAUSE. Pain is only the sign or symptom. It is idle to treat the pain itself. The only true cure for blood impurity or suffering is the cure that CURES THE TRUE CAUSE—Weakness of the INNER Nerves."—Prof. Edward E. Phelps, M. D., LL. D., of Dartmouth University—Famous Discoverer of Paine's Celery Compound.

The blood and all the organs of the body depend on the INNER NERVES, and Paine's Celery Compound gives the blood and the nerve system the strength to MAKE all the organs work in health and harmony.

BE WELL THIS SPRING.

Learn how much better you can feel—Go to your Druggist To-Day—Get one bottle—Feel just ONCE that abundant new nerve force made by Paine's Celery Compound—You will NEVER AGAIN be contented with low spirits and poor health.

DAMAGE SUITS.

Four Filed Against Southern Railway at Charlottesville.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., March 18.—Four suits will be instituted against the Southern Railway Company at the next term of the Seventeenth Circuit Court. In two cases local attorneys will represent the plaintiffs. The cases are as follows:

Mrs. Kate Carpenter, wife of Mr. Marshall Carpenter, of Red Hill, this county, for $15,000, for injuries sustained in a wreck at Covesville, on July 26th last. Attorney for the plaintiff, Daniel Harmor, of this city.

Lillian A. Golladay, an infant, daughter of I. M. Gollaway, for $5,000, for damages received in the same wreck. Attorney for the plaintiff, Caskie and Coleman, of Lynchburg.

Ethel Hughes, an infant, daughter of Edmund Hughes, for $15,000, for injuries sustained in same wreck. Attorneys for the plaintiff, Caskie and Coleman, of Lynchburg.

Walter W. Massey's administrators, for $10,000. Mr. Massey, it will be remembered, was killed at a railway crossing south of Charlottesville on November 23d last. Attorneys for the plaintiff, John W. Fishburne and D. Harmon, both of this city.

ROUND-HOUSE BURNED

Chesapeake & Ohio Structure at Gladstone in Ashes.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

GLADSTONE, VA., March 18.—The large round-house of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway Company at Gladstone, Va., was completely destroyed by fire early yesterday morning. Only the east and west walls of the building were left standing.

Gladstone is the terminal of the Rivanna district of the Richmond division and of the James River district of the Clifton Forge division, and the round-house was necessarily a large one, in order to accommodate the number of engines used on these two divisions of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway.

The exact amount of damage caused by the fire could not be ascertained yesterday, but it will be several thousand dollars.

MYSTERY THICKENS.

The Wabash Denies Any Connection With the Tidewater.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

BRISTOL, VA., March 18.—The secretary of the Bristol Board of Trade has just received communications from the president and chief engineer, respectively, of the Wabash Railway Company, in which they deny any knowledge of the project to construct a new line of railway through Virginia to Tidewater, in accordance with a survey now in progress near Roanoke and at other points in Virginia and West Virginia.

The general impression has been that the Wabash was backing the scheme, but, if so, it must be in an indirect way, judging from the denials received here.

The matter is one in which the people of Southwest Virginia are very much interested.

TAZEWELL TRAGEDY.

Hoge Crockett, a Well-Known Young Man, Killed.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

TAZEWELL, VA., March 18.—Hoge Crockett, a well known young man of this county, was shot and instantly killed near his home, in Crockett's Cove, last night by Tom Sayers.

Sayers and Crockett had a falling out over Crockett whipping Sayers's boy, and came to blows.

COURTHOUSE FOR LOUISA

Judge Grimsley Stirs Up Supervisors With a Sharp Stick.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

LOUISA, VA., March 18.—Judge D. A. Grimsley issued a rule against the board of supervisors of this county to-day in regard to a new courthouse.

Court is now in session in the Louisa town hall.

Miss Frances Booker.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

LYNCHBURG, VA., March 18.—Miss Frances Booker, daughter of the late Rev. George E. Booker, of the Methodist Church, died last night at the Randolph-Macon Woman's College of consumption, aged eighteen years. Miss Booker was a graduate of the Blackstone Institute and was finishing her education at the Woman's College. She was a sister of Rev. George E. Booker, Jr., of High Street Church, Petersburg.

FEW CHANGES LIKELY.

School Board Will Not Make Expense Greater Than Necessary.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

BOYDTON, VA., March 18.—The meeting of the County School Committee to select text books for the public schools of Mecklenburg has been held, and laid off the work for each committeeman, who will report at an adjourned meeting to be held on the 16th of April, at which time the series of books will be adopted.

The committee will make no changes except what are absolutely necessary.

The Home Telephone Company, with headquarters at Henderson, N. C., which has an office in this place, has sold out to the Bell Telephone Company.

Mr. Dodson, who has recently leased the Hotel Southern in this place, reached here last night. He will open up for business next week.

HUSBAND DEAD, WIFE ILL.

Sergeant Marshall, of Fort Monroe Band, Victim Pneumonia.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., March 18.—Sergeant Marshall, aged forty-five, a member of the band at Fort Monroe, died to-day with pneumonia.

Sergeant Marshall's wife, Mrs. Anna Marshall, sued the street railroad for damages as a result of being struck by a car on the reservation about one year ago. Mrs. Marshall is now in Baltimore Hospital, and her three children are in an orphanage.

The United States monitor Nevada was given a gun test yesterday by the Navy Board of Inspection, and returned to Hampton Roads last evening. According to Captain Train, president of the board, the test was a most successful one.

Only One Plant.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

DANVILLE, VA., March 18.—A special appearing in to-day's Times-Dispatch, emanating from this city, relative to the purchase of the Gravely Tobacco business by Spencer Brothers, of Martinsville, should have stated that this purchase embraced only the B. F. Gravely's Sons' plant, at Leatherwood.

The F. B. Gravely Tobacco Company, of this city, whose business was founded in 1831 and which is probably the oldest factory in the country, has no connection whatever with the Spencer, or any other combination.

Surprise Marriage.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

CLIFTON FORGE, VA., March 18.—Mr. E. T. Rule and Miss Stella Kale were married in Covington Thursday evening at four o'clock by Rev. J. R. Vanhorn. The marriage was a surprise to their friends here, where they reside.

DELIGHTFUL BANQUET.

Life Insurance Conference Winds Up Happily.

The conference of the superintendents of the Life Insurance Company of Virginia, which has been in session here for several days, ended up happily with a banquet at Murphy's last night, and the affair was a most enjoyable and delightful one in every detail.

Covers were laid for about thirty, and the menu was characteristic of the popular hostelry.

When the cigars were reached there were a number of appropriate speeches, Mr. John G. Walker, president, acting as toastmaster.

Following were some of the regular toasts responded to: The Life Insurance Company of Virginia, J. G. Walker, president; Reputation, T. William Pemberton, first vice-president; The Home Office, J. W. Pegram, second vice-president; The Dignity of Life Insurance As An Occupation, John A. Coke, Jr.; The Field, W. L. T. Rogerson, secretary; The Medical Department, Dr. H. Cabell Tabb, medical director; The Actuarial Department, J. S. Davenport, actuary; The Audit Department, A. S. Hurt, auditor; The Power of Printers' Ink, W. W. Archer, editor.

The session has been a most successful one and has resulted in much good to the company.

Improved Postal Service.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

WASHINGTON, March 18.—The Postoffice Department has had an additional mail clerk put on the Baltimore and Ohio between Harrisonburg and Lexington, which will be a great accommodation to the citizens of the two towns, as it will greatly improve the mail facilities. The department was induced to make this improvement through the representations of Representatives Hay and Flood and Senator Martin.

Richmonders in New York.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

NEW YORK, March 18.—Waldorf, H. T. Wickham, D. Axtell; Marlborough, J. G. Sizer; St. Denis, A. T. Miller; Broadway Central, C. S. Garrett.

CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT

Small Majority in State Democratic Committee for Parker.

CLEVELAND SECOND CHOICE

A Receiver Named for the Cumnock Railroad—Suit Against Western Union Dismissed.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

RALEIGH, N. C., March 18.—There was a conference here to-day between General Passenger Agent C. B. Ryan, of the Seaboard Air Line, and his assistants at various points along the system for the discussion of summer rates, and special excursions and getting ready for the campaign for business during the season soon to open.

Those in the conference were: Chief Clerk C. F. Wayne, Private Secretary Philip Barbour, Assistant General Passenger Agents C. F. Stewart, of Savannah; A. O. McDonald, of Jacksonville, Fla.; W. E. Christian, of Atlanta; H. S. Leard, division passenger agent at Richmond.

CHOICE FOR PRESIDENT.

A canvass of the choice of the members of the North Carolina Democratic Executive Committee shows that a small plurality favor Parker, of New York, and that Grover Cleveland is a close second to him. Out of about fifty who consented to be interviewed, nineteen were for Parker and twelve for Cleveland. Five were for Gorman, of Maryland, and the others were various congressmen and others, being scattered about one each. Only one favored Hearst.

Judge H. R. Bryan has named W. J. Tally as receiver for the Cumnock Railroad, extending eight miles from Cumnock mines, and for the Raleigh and Western, which has about twelve miles of road graded in Chatham county. Both are connected indirectly with the Cumnock mine receivership ordered Monday.

NEW CHARTERS.

The Secretary of State chartered the Mayers-Green Furnishing Company, of Thomasville, with $20,000 capital for the purpose of making all kinds of furniture, coffins, etc. J. R. Myers is one of the principal incorporators.

Another charter was to the Ashboro Wheelbarrow Company, which has $30,000 capital, and the privilege of manufacturing all kinds of vehicles, operating machine shops, furniture factory, etc. E. L. Moffitt is one of the principal incorporators.

Judge Simonton has signed the final decree dismissing the suit of the State treasurer against the Western Union Telegraph Company for the collection of the privilege tax of 25 cents per mile on each wire miles of lines operated in this State. The tax as levied by the last Legislature, it will be remembered, was declared to be in violation of interstate commerce laws.

GENEROUS GIFT.

Wilmington Man Donates Handsome Sum for Negro Hospital.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

WILMINGTON, N. C., March 18.—Mr. William H. Sprunt, an influential citizen and prominent business man, member of the cotton exporting firm of Alexander Sprunt and Son, to-day made a gift of ten thousand dollars to the James Walker Memorial Hospital, for the purpose of building an annex to be used as the nurses' headquarters and for the care of the negro race.

In 1898 Wilmington's white citizens held a revolution against the negroes and overthrew their power and influence in the community. To-day a prominent citizens donates a handsome sum of money for the erection of a building to be used in caring for the sick and afflicted of the race, and the generous act of Mr. Sprunt is applauded by the entire community.

VALENTINE IS THE MAN WANTED IN NEW YORK

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

WINSTON SALEM, N. C., March 18.—A telegram was received here this afternoon from the Colonial Bank, in New York, stating that George William Valentine, who surrendered to the police here yesterday, was the man wanted for stealing money from that institution in December, 1902.

Valentine was locked up and will be held for further instructions from the bank.

Valentine says he is anxious to get back to New York.

Shooting Cases at Wilson.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

WILSON, N. C., March 18.—The preliminary trial of Saleon Ellis and sons, charged with shooting Seth Tyson, Jr., at Saratoga Monday, which was set for to-day, was postponed until Tyson is able to appear in court.

Tyson was thought fatally wounded, but his condition is now favorable to recovery.

Judge Fred Moore will to-morrow hear motion by counsel for bail of aSm and Richard Stanelli, charged with killing W. T. Harrison. The Stanellis are now in jail here, bail being refused them by the magistrate.

Not Guilty.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

CHARLOTTE, N. C., March 18.—The jury in the case against H. M. Eubank, charged with killing J. E. Wilhelm at Monroe, rendered a verdict of not guilty to-day.

Sunday School Institute.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

LYNCHBURG, VA., March 18.—The Sunday school institute for the Lynchburg district and adjacent charges of the Met.....st Church, which began yesterday at Centenary Church, adjourned to-night. The institute was conducted by Professor H. H. Hamill, superintendent of training work, of Nashville, Tenn., assisted by Mrs. Hamill.

Among the speakers who participated in the programme were Rev. Dr. G. C. Kelly, of Court Street Church; Colonel James B. Gregory, Rev. Joseph W. Shackford, Rev. B. E. Ledbetter and Rev. C. C. Wertenbaker.

IN ALL WALKS OF LIFE.

Herpicide is Used to Cure Dandruff.

E. H. Lyon, New York, N. Y., says: "I am very fond of Herpicide and enjoy using it. It is refreshing."

Dr. J. H. Bush, Toledo, Ohio, writes: "Newbro's Herpicide has given better satisfaction than anything I have ever used."

Mrs. Borkey, of Chadron, Neb., says of Herpicide:

"It cleaned my head of dandruff and stopped my hair from falling out. It is the best remedy for dandruff I ever used, and I have used a great many."

R. S. Coleman, Ann Arbor, Mich., says: "I have used two bottles of Herpicide and derived benefit therefrom."

Sold by leading druggists. Send 10c. in stamps for sample to The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich. Owens & Minor Drug Co., Special Agents.

BON AIR STIRS.

Little Residence Town Awakes From Its Winter Lethargy.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

BON AIR, VA., March 18.—With the return of sunshine and soft south winds, Bon Air begins to look around for its new spring bonnet, with its flowers and ferns and fruit blossoms on a framework of green lawns and growing gardens.

Some few of the cottages were left alone for a couple of months, but their occupants are beginning to return, and the quiet of winter is beginning to yield to the more energetic out-of-doors social life.

The Chautauqua Circle held its usual weekly session last Tuesday evening and was largely attended.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Harvie Blair, who have been spending the week in Richmond, have been very much missed by their friends, and especially by the Glee Club, of which Mr. Blair is the efficient conductor.

Mr. A. L. Adamson has returned to his cottage, after spending a month or two in Richmond.

Mrs. Adamson is in Birmingham, Ala., whither she went to the bedside of her daughter, Miss Bertha, who has been ill with typhoid fever, but is now convalescent.

Colonel T. M. R. Talcott and family are expected to return to their home here in a few days. Their cottage has been closed since Christmas.

Rev. Benjamin Dennis, rector of Meade Memorial Church, of Manchester, called together the Episcopal people of Bon Air Thursday afternoon and organized the St. James Episcopal Church of Bon Air, and now the plans for a new church at Bon Air for this branch of the Christian family are being zealously discussed.

WANT A DECISION.

Norfolk School Board in Doubt as to Their Term of Office.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

NORFOLK, VA., March 18.—The school board of Norfolk to-night appointed a special committee of one to wait on Attorney-General Anderson and have him construe the new constitutional provision regarding the terms of office of members of the school board.

The board appears to think that the attorney-general varied slightly in his first decision on this point.

A Boy Killed.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., March 18.—Roy Wade, the eight-year-old son of Mr. Joseph Wade, of Covesville, this county, was accidentally shot and killed Wednesday afternoon at 5 o'clock on his father's farm.

Young Wade, who was a deaf mute, was shooting at a target in company with a companion, Willie Carver, and a negro named Jasper, none of the boys being over eleven years old. In some unaccountable manner the shotgun which the boys were using was discharged, the entire load entering Wade's left breast and killing him instantly. Each of the survivors claims that the other did the shooting.

Gravity Water for Bristol.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

BRISTOL, VA., March 18.—Bristol is now seriously considering the matter of a new water supply, and will probably invest from $300,000 to $400,000 in a gravity system in the near future. The proposed system would afford water sufficient for a population of a hundred thousand or more, and the water would be from a mountain freestone stream. The councils will be urged to join hands and bring such a supply here for the use of the two Bristols.

Fire in Bedford.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

BEDFORD CITY, VA., March 18.—Yesterday morning the residence of Mr. John S. Riley, near Otterville, was burned to the ground, with heavy loss. About half-past nine o'clock Mr. Overstreet, the rural delivery carrier, noticed smoke issuing from the roof above the kitchen, and went to the house to give the alarm. A defective flue caused the fire, which had gotten under such headway that it could not be controlled.

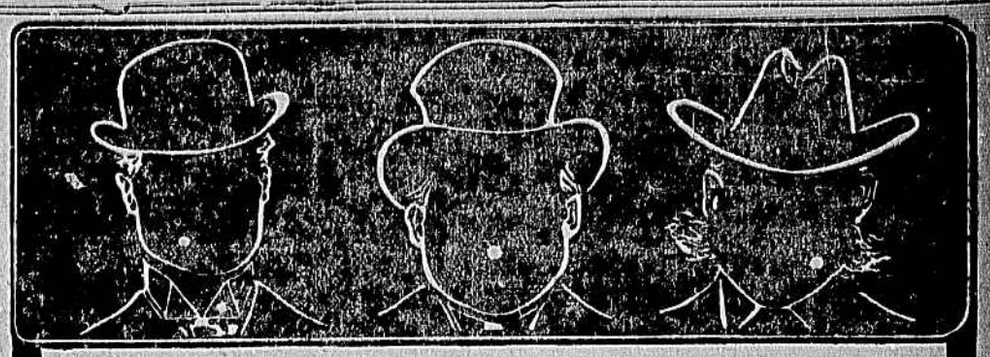
Mr. Riley saved some of the furniture from two lower roms, but everything else was completely destroyed. The loss is only partially covered by insurance.

Miller, 7; V. M. I., 4.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

LEXI.....VA., March 18.—Miller's School defeated Virginia Military Institute this afternoon 7 to 4, thus winning their second game in Lexington. The cadets excelled at the bat, while the visitors put up a good game on bases and infield. The star plays were a catch of long fly in left field by Cadet Johnson and home-run by Woodson for visitors.

Batteries: Cadets, Parker and Goodloe; Visitors, Jones and Woodson. Umpires, Mr. Trundle, Washington and Lee; Captain Friton, V. M. I.



Headlights of the Cremo

You see them everywhere—the signal of enjoyment and satisfaction that shines brightly from the face of every Cremo Smoker—5c.

Largest Seller in the World.

The Band is the Smoker's Protection.

MR. JAS. R. GORDON IN RACE FOR MAYOR

(Continued From First Page.)

for his services would he consent to permit the use of his name.

When called upon yesterday by a representative of The Times-Dispatch and asked if he had any formal announcement to make on the subject, Mr. Gordon replied in the negative, and added simply that if he were left to consult his own wishes in the matter, he should infinitely prefer to remain in private life, and that the only consideration which could induce him to enter the race was the flattering and persistent call which had been made upon him by his fellow-citizens, for which he felt profoundly grateful, and which, as a citizen of the community, he did not feel he had a right to ignore.

There is no cleaner or higher man in Richmond to-day than James R. Gordon, nor is there one who has or deserves a fuller measure of the public confidence. He has no acquaintance with the modern arts or devices of the political demagogue, but is a plain, honest, high-toned, Christian gentleman, who, having made a success of his own business affairs, has demonstrated by his splendid service in the Council a keen insight into municipal government, and an earnest desire to place the affairs of his city upon as strong business basis and to lend honor and dignity to her every department.

His Recompense.

Those who have been instrumental in bringing Mr. Gordon into the race—and they are confined to no class or section of the voters—believe that so earnest and business-like would be his administration of the high office of Mayor that the returns through the channel of betterments in the various departments would so gratify the citizens at large as to compensate him for any sacrifice he may have made in leaving the paths of quiet, business life for public preferment. That he will be a most formidable candidate in the primary is demonstrated by the almost universal satisfaction with which the merest mention of his name in this connection has been received, and it is the better opinion that he will be strongly backed in every section of the city.

Mr. Gordon is fifty-nine years of age, and is a native of Essex county, Va., having been born in the town of Tappahannock in 1845. In February, 1862, he entered the Confederate States army and served gallantly until the close of the war as a private in the Ninth Virginia Regiment of Cavalry. When the war was over, he returned to his native county and entered the mercantile business, in which he continued until 1873, when he came to this city and accepted the position of book-keeper and confidential clerk with the late Charles E. Whitlock, who was engaged in the wholesale lumber business. He held this place until January 1, 1880, when he was admitted to partnership with Mr. Whitlock, the style of the firm being changed to James R. Gordon and Company. Mr. Whitlock died in 1895, and the business was continued by Mr. Gordon until 1902.

Has Handled the Estate.

Upon the death of Mr. Whitlock, Mr. Gordon was made co-executor of the estate, along with Mr. James G. Whitlock, but Mr. Gordon has all along been the acting executor and has handled the enormous estate to the utmost satisfaction of all concerned. Upon the organization of the Cardwell Machine Company in 1890, Mr. Gordon was made one of the directors of the company, and upon the death of President Samuel Freedley some years ago, he was chosen president, which position he now fills with marked success and ability.

While always a popular man, and enjoying the public confidence to a high degree, Mr. Gordon never had any aspirations for public office, and was placed in his first public position practically over his protest in 1900, when he was elected to the Board of Aldermen from Monroe Ward. It was in the Board that Mr. Gordon demonstrated his great familiarity with municipal affairs and that he enshrined himself more strongly in the hearts of his people. His chief committees were Finance and Water, perhaps the most important in the Council. It was not long before he was elevated to the head of the former, and it is a proverb now that he made one of the ablest and most clear-headed chairmen the committee ever had.

Fight for Clear Water.

His hand was in all the important work leading up to the clear water scheme, now so nearly consummated, and it was largely his brain that conceived the plan of financing it so as to make it bear least heavily upon the taxpayers of the city. Mr. Gordon enjoyed the absolute confidence of his colleagues, both as citizens and public servant, and this was never more clearly demonstrated than when he made repeated efforts to retire from the Board before his term ended, and was only kept in by the earnest entreaties of his associates. He finally did voluntarily retire, however, before the end of his term, but his resignation was upon the table of the Board by the unanimous vote of that body from April 14, 1903, until May 26 of the same year, when it was accepted with great reluctance.

Unprecedented Tribute.

On January 9th Mr. Gordon attended a meeting of the Board by special invitation of the body, and without the slightest intimation of what awaited him, and to his utter surprise and evident gratification, his colleagues presented him with a handsome loving cup, a proceeding entirely without precedent and parallel in the history of the City Council.

On that occasion President Turpin, speaking for himself and his colleagues, made a beautiful and scholarly address, which fairly bristled with praise and with words of confidence and affection for the recipient. Mr. Gordon was deeply touched, and made brief but fitting response, and he refers to the incident now as one of the proudest of his life.

For a number of years Mr. Gordon has been an active and valuable member of the Chamber of Commerce; has often been a member of the board of directors, and is now first vice-president of the Institution.

Early in life Mr. Gordon married a daughter of the late Thomas Croxton, of Essex, an eminent lawyer of Eastern Virginia, and representative in Congress from the First District, and they, with their three children, reside happily at No. 310 East Grace Street.

He is a gentleman of the old school; of mild demeanor, and yet of such fine business qualifications and intelligent ideas of government as to insure a most successful administration of the affairs of his city, if he shall be elected to the office for which he has been brought forward.

NEW TELEPHONE PLANT.

Company Formed in Northumberland to Build Marine Railway.

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., March 18.—The Southern Bell Telephone Company has completed its new telephone plant here, and the system was put in commission last night. Long distance connection can now be had to any point where Bell instruments are used, from any business or residence telephone in this city, and the system here now is equal to that of any city in the country.

Rev. H. J. Seaman, of Charlottesville, has been called to the pastorate of the Christian Church at Unionville, in Orange county.

The Smith-Coghill Shoe Company, one of the wholesale establishments in this city, has purchased from Mrs. Virginia B. Patton here the large store house on Main Street, which will be enlarged and extended, and will be made one of the best wholesale houses in the city.

A stock company is being formed at Lewisetta, on the Potomac River, in Northumberland county, to build a marine railway at that point, and it is stated that most of the stock has been subscribed.

Mr. Emmett Curtis, who was found in his room yesterday in an unconscious condition, caused by escaping gas, is rapidly improving.

Interesting Announcement.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

DANVILLE, VA., March 18.—Mr. and Mrs. John Harrell Schoolfield have issued invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Daisy, to Mr. Archibald Dickinson Keen, on the evening of Wednesday, the thirtieth of March, at 8 o'clock, at Mount Vernon M. E. Church, this city.

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