

FRANKLIN STREET THING OF BEAUTY

Richmond's Famous Fifth Avenue Has Not Had Laurels Plucked.

MONUMENT AVENUE IS A CLOSE RIVAL

The Two to Be Loveliest Thoroughfares of All the South—Handsome Residences Wall in These Streets for More Than Mile.

"Old Franklin Street hasn't gone anywhere." So said a prominent citizen the other day when a party of gentlemen were discussing the beauties of Lee District and the West End as places of residence.

Beginning at Foushee Street, and with the handsome residence of Mr. John P. Branch, who wants to look upon a loyer block than from these to Adams Street. The beautiful residences on both sides always attract the attention of visitors and everybody, be they visitors or home folk, will stop a moment to look at the magnificent Second Baptist Church, lately completed, at the corner of Adams and Franklin.

The ten residences from Jefferson to Madison are as handsome as handsome can be, as are also the twenty-one homes from Madison to Monroe. In addition to these the All Saints Episcopal Church in this block is an architectural beauty that always attracts the attention of the stranger within the gates.

From Laurel to Shafter and on to Harrison Street the visitor will behold two as lovely blocks of residences as are to be found in any city in the country. Among them the Ginter home, the home of John S. Taylor, the home of Mr. M. B. Langford, Isaac Davenport and A. T. Harris. Then from Belvidere to Eastwood one side is taken up with the beautiful Monroe Park and the other side with magnificent residences of the most modern and strictly modern and the Park Place Methodist Episcopal Church.

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Beautiful New Homes. Among the handsome homes recently erected along the avenue are now in the course of construction may be mentioned those of Edgar D. Taylor, Mrs. Cottrell, G. T. Freely, B. H. Ellington, D. H. Tunstun, R. Z. Thornton, J. B. Glenn, H. H. George, George Cole Scott, L. W. Pizzini, G. B. Wall, E. M. Hoadley, Williamson Talley, Joseph H. Esten, W. J. Whitehurst, S. T. Beveridge, Col. T. H. Thompson, G. J. Smith, Henry Taylor, Dr. H. C. Tabb, D. C. Richardson, W. A. Chesterman and others.

Chatham's Ice Plant. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) CHATHAM, VA., April 7.—The ice plant for Chatham is assured. William Minor, one of the promoters of the enterprise, recently returned from purchasing the machinery, which will be installed in the town in order to supply the demand. J. H. Pigg and John M. Jones, of Mr. Minor, comprise the firm.

REAL ESTATE AND BUILDING NEWS

Recent Large Investments in Richmond Property Have Changed Drift of Things.

WILL ERECT GREAT PLANT

W. S. Forbes Buys Whole Block of Small Dwellings on East Byrd Street.

The people who watch closely the real estate market and the building operations in the city with an eye to keeping it, the swim and making a good hit where the tide seems to be most favorable have been kept guessing during the past week. That some big deals for ground room and for sites for business houses and handsome residences are on the string and liable to be closed at any moment, everybody believes but just where on the map they are is a matter about which very few are informed.

The talk of a ten story apartment house near the corner of Main and Third Streets, has had several good people guessing and speculating for ten days past, and then the sale of the old Bijou Theatre property and its certain conversion to uses not looked for, has had the effect to upset some well laid plans and to throw some traders into a mild state of confusion. Sometimes when a man thinks he has a dead straight tip and wakes up to find that he has been away off the track all the time he is liable to lose confidence in his own power of mind reading or whatever he calls his supposed second sight.

Several lookers-on and possible traders have been thrown off their guard lately by the stolid silence of other traders and the real estate men, who have been engineering deals, but they trim their sticks and go right on guessing again and there is no end to trading in confusion. Sometimes when a man thinks he has a dead straight tip and wakes up to find that he has been away off the track all the time he is liable to lose confidence in his own power of mind reading or whatever he calls his supposed second sight.

North of Broad Street.

Their is more inquiry for Clay, Leigh and Marshall Street property than there was some time back, and one very astute real estate man was heard to say the other day that he believed the time is not far distant when business sites in that quarter will be sought after with as much energy as they are now being hunted up by the business men. "Business has got to go somewhere," he said, "and Broad and Main are now overflowing. The volume of business keeps growing, new men are coming in and where are they going? They will hardly go to the West End or to the East End to do business. They are just bound to get on the other side of Broad and over to Clay, Marshall and Leigh. Business can't remain in its present narrow territory."

Activity in residence property continues without abatement and as the new homes that are being built in the Lee District, in the West End and in the suburbs are bound to rise up in the air other home-makers are catching the quick building fever, and as a result the real estate agents report increased inquiry for this character of property.

The architects, too, report great activity and the contractors are kept busy figuring on handsome and cozy homes that must be built this year if possible. The strike of the workmen in the sash, blind and door factories has not yet affected the building boom, and it is (Continued on Seventh Page.)

BIG ADVANCE IN LOTS IN DANVILLE

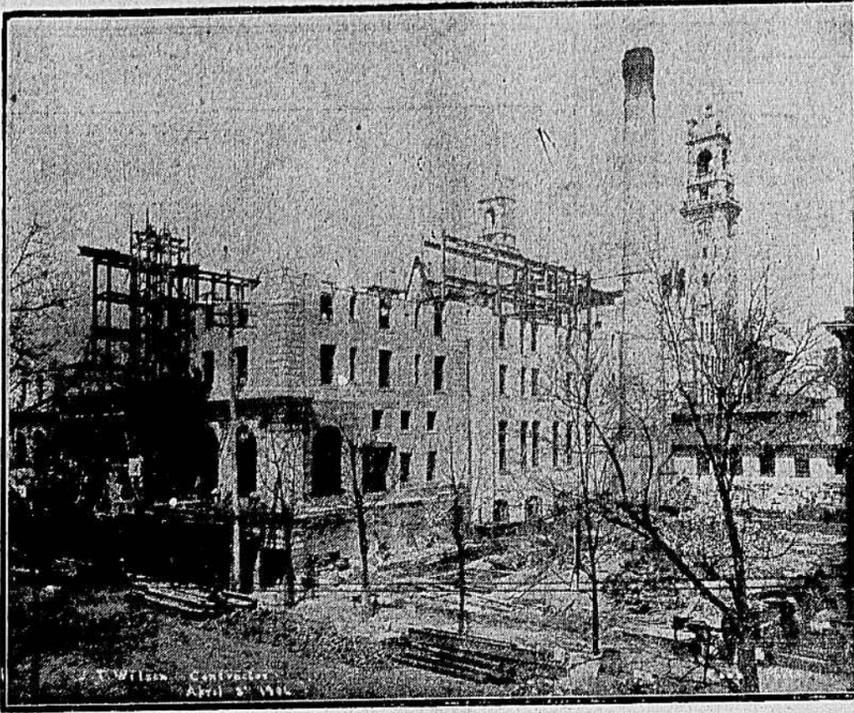
More Transactions in Last Three Months Than for Years Before.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) DANVILLE, VA., April 7.—There has been a steady upward tendency in real estate values in this city during the past two years, and in spite of the increased cost of building material, a larger number of dwellings have been erected the past year than in any two years before. In the principal residence section lots that were offered two years ago at \$20 and \$30 per foot, are selling now at \$50 and \$70 per foot, and not many desirable ones left at that price.

In the business section, there has also been a marked increase in values. Messrs. Williamson & Temple, Real Estate Agents, have made several large sales lately of business property at prices considerably in excess of what the same properties were being offered at eighteen months ago. In fact, the increase in value, and the demand for property in almost all sections of the city, from the small cottage to the substantial building in the commercial section is so marked as to cause no little comment.

There has been probably more transactions in real estate by the agents here since January 1st, than in any twelve months of their experience, and in nearly every instance at prices considerably in advance of what the same properties would have brought a year and a half ago.

PROGRESS IN REBUILDING THE JEFFERSON.



This picture was taken last Tuesday. Another story of the steel work has been gotten up since then.

STAUNTON LIGHT AND POWER PLANT

Large Additions That Will Make It One of the Largest in the State.

HIGH REACHING SMOKESTACK

The Splendid Chesapeake and Ohio Passenger Station Just Opened.

STAUNTON, VA., April 7.—The Blue Ridge Light and Power Company is engaged at present in making its plant one of the largest and most modern in the State. In addition to the large new alternating generator recently installed, two tremendous new boilers have arrived, and the machinery is being placed, and will soon be in operation, when the plant will be fully able to furnish all the power necessary for the street cars and for lighting purposes, even if Staunton should increase to double its present size.

A large force of workmen are now engaged in installing the new boilers. The work is under the management of Mr. W. H. Smith and Mr. Joseph Smith, of New York, who has charge of the work for the Home Safety Boiler Company, of Phoenixville, Pa. The new boilers weigh 34 tons.

There has been considerable complaint recently about the smoke in the city owing to the short smoke stacks, and the Power Company has decided to erect a smoke stack about 120 feet high and five feet in circumference, which will be the largest in this section of the State.

Owing to a break in the machinery, the street cars have not been in operation for several months, but will start running about the 15th instant.

The handsome and commodious new Chesapeake and Ohio depot has just been opened. The splendid appearance of the new building with its modern equipments commend it to the traveling public as one of the best depots on the road. In fact, it is the best depot on the line with the exception of Richmond, Stonehill, Jackson, Camp, Confederate Veterans at its last meeting adopted resolutions on the death of three comrades, Messrs. W. L. Oliver, E. G. Fishburne and Captain J. M. Ogle.

A large crowd gathered at the Corporation Courtroom Thursday night on the invitation of Mayor W. H. Landes, to hear Mr. Wellington E. Loucks, organizer of the National Good Roads Association. Mr. Loucks is a fine speaker and is thoroughly informed on the road-building subject. He gave the history of the organization he represents, stated the great good it had done in the past, and said that his association has taken hold of the subject in a practical way. He proposes to bring Hon. W. H. Moore, president of the organization, here on April 21st, to deliver an address, at which time there will be made an exhibit of what is doing in the world in road-building.

Upon motion of Mr. H. B. Sprout, the representatives of the association were invited to visit Staunton, and steps were taken to raise the necessary money to pay the expense, which is estimated at about \$250, for the convention.

STATION LIGHT AND POWER PLANT

Large Additions That Will Make It One of the Largest in the State.

HIGH REACHING SMOKESTACK

The Splendid Chesapeake and Ohio Passenger Station Just Opened.

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RICHMOND'S SHOE BUSINESS GROWS

Market Now Stands Fifth on List of Country's Jobbing Points.

MANUFACTORIES ARE COMING

Richmond Soon to Be As Great Shoe-Making Centre As Wholesaling Point.

Is Richmond to be a great shoe manufacturing center? It begins to look that way. It has already become the largest jobbing point in the South for shoes, standing fifth on the list among the wholesale firms of the country. As a whole shoe market, New York leads the country, St. Louis comes second, Chicago third, Baltimore fourth and Richmond fifth. Then come Philadelphia and Lynchburg, and so on down the list.

There are seven wholesale shoe houses here, as follows: Fishburne, Morris and Company, M. Hessberg, W. H. Miles and Company, Roberts and Wigo, Stephen Putney Shoe Company, Stern and Company and Wingo, Ellett and Crump Shoe Company. Of these the Putney Shoe Company and the Wingo, Ellett and Crump Shoe Company conduct factories of their own, and the Davis Shoe Company manufactures and sells exclusively to the jobbing trade. The last named have for years been manufacturing shoes at the Virginia penitentiary factory, and will soon open a new factory at the foot of Twelfth Street, where they will employ free labor altogether and manufacture for the jobbing trade all styles of shoes, giving special attention to the better grades of footgear. But to return to the jobbing trade.

Millions of Shoes. For the year ending March 31st the seven houses mentioned above have bought and sold in round numbers, three hundred thousand cases of shoes. Men's shoes are packed in cases, a dozen pairs to the case; women's shoes run eighteen to thirty-six pairs to the case, while children's shoes go anywhere from forty-eight to a hundred and forty-four pairs to the case. Thus it will be seen that the Richmond jobbers have handled within the year between six and seven million pairs of shoes that were bought from New England factories. That means about \$6,000,000. Add to this (Continued on Tenth Page.)

ROANOKE'S LAST TOBACCO FACTORY

A Remarkable Enterprise and the Oldest One in the City.

LAST ACCOUNT COLLECTED

Enterprising Citizens to Build a New Market-House Near the Old One.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) ROANOKE, VA., April 7.—During the past week the last account of Roanoke's last tobacco enterprise was closed up. The last enterprise was the R. J. Fishburne Tobacco Company, manufacturers of smoking tobacco. It was a remarkable enterprise and its ending had also a remarkable feature. The remarkable feature was that of collecting the last account. Mr. Blair Fishburne, the treasurer, and son of R. H. Fishburne, collected the last account and closed the books.

The factory was not only the last tobacco enterprise but it was the oldest manufacturing plant in the city. It was started in 1858 by Isham Ferguson, who was succeeded in 1879 by Fishburne Brothers. One of the brothers became a successful banker, and in the meanwhile the son of the other brother became a man, and a fine business man at that, and eight years ago the business was made a joint stock company, with R. H. Fishburne, as president, and his son as treasurer. Mr. T. J. Phelps, who had grown up in the business, became secretary, and looked after the interests of the company on the road. He was an able second to the splendid business management at home. He became one of the best traveling men on the road. He was a match for the Trust people, and the Fishburne Yellow Rose and Natural Leaf smoking tobaccos held their own. The business became a thorn in the flesh of the trust, and Mr. R. H. Fishburne, having a plentitude of the world's goods, and having been a hard worker, decided that he would retire from business when an offer came.

It was one of the coldest days of the winter that the Times-Dispatch correspondent climbed the hill to the Fishburne factory, and attended the funeral of the last tobacco enterprise of the city. "Nobody wanted to have it said that the last was gone, and that was left unsaid." When the Yellow Rose was transplanted to Danville, "it is not known, but there it can be found." Before Big Dick became Roanoke there were a half dozen tobacco factories and several warehouses here. One by one they disappeared, but for twenty years in full blast, and in that it was a remarkable enterprise.

Shortly after the sale of the business, Mr. R. H. Fishburne left for California, and for two months has been on a pleasure trip. He was last seen from in Honolulu.

The fine old gentleman, as plain in his ways as an old shoe, and when his factory was in operation no laborer worked harder. He is going in to enjoy life now.

The city of Roanoke having shown no disposition to improve the present market-house, private citizens have organized a company to build an up-to-date market-house near the present one. As viewed the Times-Dispatch several days ago, the contract was awarded to E. Patterson, of Norfolk. It will cost \$47,000.

Dr. Joseph Gale, the chief surgeon of the Norfolk and Western, who owns a large amount of valuable city property, has lately caught the spirit of improvement. He has remodelled several buildings owned by him, and in one of which he has his offices. He has also spent several thousand dollars, fixing up his office. He lately bought a large building on Commerce Street, and will erect a handsome business house on the site. On the opposite corner the Roanoke Street Railway will erect an office building, and the Telephone Company will shortly award a contract for the erection of an office building on the same street. This is the street over which Hon. J. M. T. saw slaves driven when he was a boy.

The new City National Bank expects to begin business about May 1st. The location class of Virginia College presented "Ingram" at the college to-night. All the roles were taken by young girls, and the play was beautifully staged and splendidly interpreted.

LYNCHBURG'S WAY; TIDE OF PROSPERITY FLOWS STRONG IN BUSINESS VIEWS OF CITY.

HER NEW BUILDINGS OF MASSIVE BUILD

IMMENSE SHOE FACTORIES AND OTHER SUBSTANTIAL STRUCTURES.

Not a Vacant Store in the City—Great Activity in Real Estate.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) LYNCHBURG, VA., April 7.—Lynchburg and "Lynchburg's way" is what you are struck with on every hand. "Attend to your own business and you succeed," everybody busy, with an energetic and prosperous air, and no time to hear or make complaints.

The real estate market is about on a par with the lumber market; it is not a question of price, but of obtaining what you want at any price. The real estate men all report a good business for March, with a better outlook for April.

One is particularly struck with the massive, substantial appearance of new buildings, and of those under construction in the jobbing district. No expense is spared to obtain "nothing but the best," with every latest improvement for conducting the wholesale business at the least cost. These buildings being fitted with every fire extinguishing apparatus to get the lowest rate of insurance, have an insurance rate of twenty-five cents on one hundred dollars.

New Shoe Factories. There are four immense new shoe factories under construction, all to be mill construction, to be equipped with the latest and most modern machinery, and fitted with every fire apparatus to reduce the chance of fire to a minimum risk. These have an insurance rate of twenty cents. Geo. D. Witt Shoe Co. is constructing one of these immense shoe factories on Jefferson and Thirteenth Streets; Smith, Briscoe & Co., one on Jefferson and Twelfth Streets; and Craddock, Terry & Co., the pioneer firm for the manufacture of shoes in Lynchburg, two mammoth factories—one on Commerce and Horatio Streets, and the other in the West End. This firm, as usual, is making a new history in the shoe world, having bought, through the well-known real estate firm of Walker & Mosby, a four-acre tract (about two city blocks) of the most beautiful residential property in the West End, and are now erecting on it their enormous West End factory for the manufacture of men's fine shoes. The building is to be 50 by 250 feet, mill construction, four stories and basement, with a capacity of 4,000 pairs of men's shoes per day. The property is to be laid off by a landscape gardener into a park for the benefit and pleasure of their employees, as they claim the better they serve their employees the better their employees serve them. They are sparing no expense or labor to get the very best results for the least cost in manufacturing fine shoes.

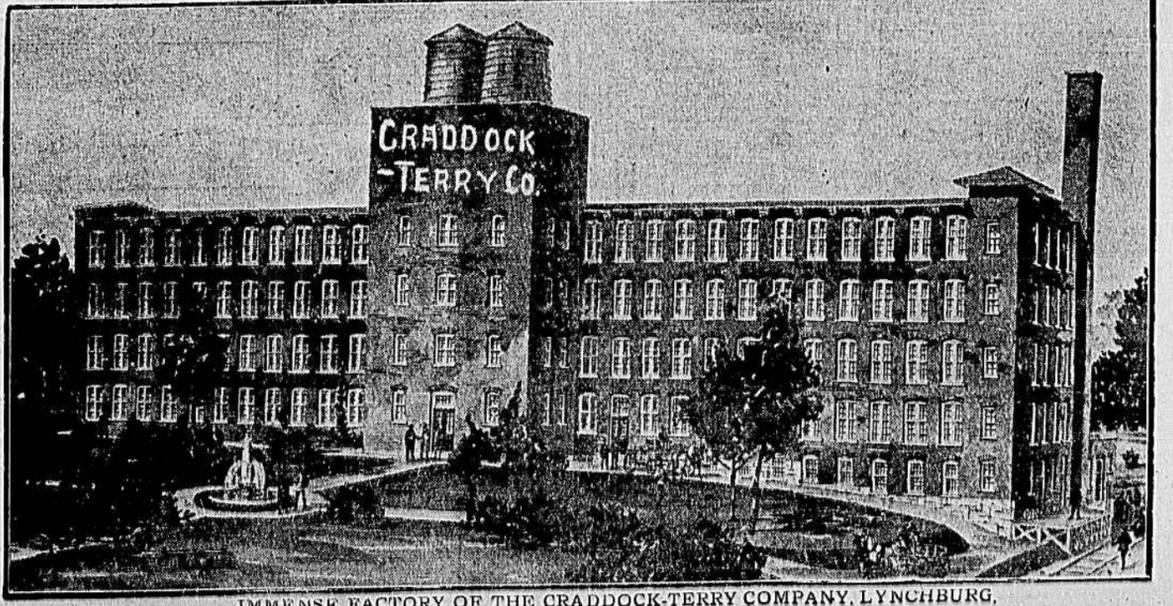
Not a Store Vacant. There is not a vacant store in the business section, notwithstanding the number of new ones that have been built and are going up. The only kick you hear is, there are not sufficient stores or dwellings to anywhere near fill the demand. This is hard to understand when on every hand you see so many new buildings being completed or under construction. When you take the streets for the suburbs you find the same thing there.

As the prominent real estate firm of Walker & Mosby put it, "We are selling real estate in transit." And when asked how that was, they said they sold lots now, and before they could deliver the deeds the lots were made into houses and occupied.

Most real estate changing hands is for improvement, and many large deals are being negotiated. One for a large flat and two commercial houses, and another for a large grocery hotel.

The following well-known real estate firms report these sales as having been made recently: Venable & Ford, four villa sites in the popular Warwick Addition to Rivermont; a new residence on Bedford Avenue, and a residence on Pierce Street. J. C. Woodson reports a brisk demand and many sales at satisfactory prices in Rivermont. Want of time precludes getting detailed reports from the others, but all are doing the business of their days preparing for a large crop of real estate.

A NEW FURNACE. Railroad Work Being Pushed With Great Energy. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) HISTO, TENN., April 7.—Active preparations are being made for the operation of the big plant is finished, and a force of men has been working for several days preparing for the operating work. The plant will give employment to upwards of 20 men, many of whom will be saved through the business of their day.



IMMENSE FACTORY OF THE CRADDOCK-TERRY COMPANY, LYNCHBURG.