The Times-Dispatch

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1906.

The end of man is an action, and not a thought, though it were the noblest.—Carlyle.

Death of Mrs. Davis.

With the passing of Mrs. Varina Howell Davis, America loses one of its most notable and most noble women and the South sheds its last remaining link with the Confederate government. A woman of Mrs. Davis's capabilities was never surely predestined, but she was prominent as well for her misfortunes, for her intelligence, her culture and her charm and attractive personality.

She was born in Mississippi but slightly west of, and it is a curious coincidence that her length of days was almost exactly the same as that of her illustrious husband. She came of distinguished parentage and the best blood of the country flowed in her veins. She was reared in the atmosphere of the South, in that charmed environment within which every true woman was held as a sacred personality. She received a liberal education from instructors at home and later in a Quaker school at the North, and she was well qualified, even at maiden years of age, to become the wife of Jefferson Davis, who was already a public man of national reputation. Shortly after the marriage Mr. Davis went to the Mexican War, from which he returned severely wounded but soon recovered, and in 1847 went to Washington as United States Senator in Congress. He was in official life at the National capital until 1861, when he resigned his seat in the Senate to become President of the Confederacy. Mrs. Davis was with her husband during all these years, and necessarily saw much of Washington society, contributing to social functions and in turn adding to her own accomplishments and graces.

When she came to Richmond to be mistress of the White House of the Confederacy, she was in the flower of matronly womanhood and one of the most attractive women which this city of lovely women had ever claimed. She was extremely a leader in society, but before she left Richmond there was more serious work for her to do, and she met every responsibility with Confederate courage. First of all she ministered to her husband, giving him the support and comfort—nay, the inspiration—that only a loving wife can give, cheering him in his moments of depression and laying most when love was most required. But that was not all. She led the Confederate women in all works of charity and patriotism, and was in all respects worthy to be the first lady of the Confederacy. It was a difficult role, but difficulties in her path were the means of development. Finally she was compelled by the troubles foreign to her with her husband to flee Southward, and she was called upon to endure both hardship and poverty, but her courage and fortitude never failed her. She followed her husband even to Fort Monroe, and her courage and fortitude were tested to the last. But, better than all, she has turned away from her royal estate and given herself as an unpretentious helpmate in the diplomatic service who had won her heart years ago, not a title, but in a fairy tale she would have been the Princess Beautiful, and in America she would have been numbered among our "first families."

Hearst's Chances.

Mr. John J. Mahon, a well-known Democratic politician of Baltimore, has recently returned from New York, where he spent ten days and took a survey of the political situation. He tells the Baltimore Sun that as a result of his observations and inquiries, he is absolutely convinced that Mr. Hearst will be overwhelmingly defeated in his race for the governorship. He predicts that thousands upon thousands of Democrats, who never before scratched a ticket will vote directly for Hughes; that Hearst may carry New York City, but will be badly beaten in Brooklyn, which was his stronghold in the fight for Mayor, and that up the State he will be "snowed under."

On the other hand, the New York Evening Post says that while the candidate has lost in the State at large, in New York City, as in Albany, Buffalo and other cities, the members of the labor unions are breaking over their party lines for Hearst. Union labor in the large cities, says the Evening Post, are, in great part, Democrats, but in the up-State cities they are at least equally divided between the two parties nominally. Now, however, the best evidence obtainable in New York, as in Albany, indicates that if the election took place to-day a very large percentage of the labor vote would go solidly for Hearst.

The whole situation is a puzzle. In ordinary contests where the two parties are lined up against each other, forecasts may be made with some degree of confidence; but Mr. Hearst is a free lance, and while he is the regular nominee of the Democratic party he is also the nominee, primarily, of an independent organization composed of both Democrats and Republicans, and there is no doubt, as the Evening Post points out, that union labor is for him. Party lines in many instances will be ignored. Some Democrats will refuse to support Hearst, while, on the other hand, some Republicans and independents will give him their vote. The puzzle is in determining how far this defection exists, not in one party merely, but in both. Mr. Hearst is certainly making a very strong canvass, and while he may be "snowed under" and forever retired, as the Baltimore politician predicts, he may give the politicians and the spectators a polling surprise.

Baltimore's Campaign.

One hundred representative young men of Baltimore have just started out on a campaign to raise $200,000 in thirty days for the erection of a building for the Central Y. M. C. A. They have thoroughly organized for the campaign, and the canvassers go out with all the enthusiasm of youthful disciples. These young men have little to give in the way of money, but they are giving their services and giving them willingly. The free-will service is the best service that any man can render. It is not to be bought with a price, for it comes from the heart.

The Times-Dispatch sincerely hopes that these noble young men will have abundant success in their undertaking, for if they succeed it will be an inspiration and a stimulus to a similar campaign which is soon to be inaugurated in Richmond. Baltimore has recently suffered from one of the most disastrous fires of history, and if she is now able to erect an association building costing half a million dollars, Richmond can better afford to erect one costing one-fourth as much. But what we need here is the service, not only of the young men, but of those of ripe years, men of means and local influence, whose activities in such a campaign will carry with it the weight of prestige. If a few of such men in Richmond will give a few days of their time to this work, the necessary money will be raised.

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Grover Cleveland, shoulders William Richmond Hearst, the regular Democratic nominee for Governor, "effective." So he is to the Wall Street crowd, but that is not the issue. Where did the Sage of Princeton find that word? Webster may have it, but no one else has.—Birmingham Age-Herald.

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A New York constable, attempting to arrest an automobile, had his whiskers painfully pulled by one of the lady occupants. Automobile speedways are no place nowadays for Populist constables.

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The editor wrote of the nuisance of dust; For statement he stoutly maintained; He stirred up a cyclone of public disrust, And the very next day—why, it rained.

While the Democrats are squabbling over who stole whose clothes and why, the Republicans are busily maintaining their reputation as expert wood-sawyers.

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Cuba may as well remember that it takes horse-sense to run a stable government.

But at least it wasn't a big gun that Miss Krupp married.

The MONTAGUE Mfg. Co.,
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The Light Question and the Council.

The action of the Passenger and Power Company in declining to accept a bid for furnishing the current for an arc lamp for the city gives an interesting turn to the discussion over a municipal electric light plant. So far from concerning the failure of the Passenger and Power Company to make a definite bid as an attempt, it seems to this paper rather the course of wisdom and good business, and by no means an intentional obstruction to the work of the Council.

It must be remembered that there has been an aggressive effort for a long time in the Council to establish a municipal electric lighting plant, and the Passenger and Power Company might with propriety say:

"As some of you gentlemen of the Council are preparing to install your own electric light plant as soon as you can, why should we give you a bid which can be used as a club to break our backs?"

Along with this refusal to make a bid the Passenger and Power Company, through its receivers, stated that it would continue to supply the necessary current, and the cost for lighting 800 arc lamps would not be more, and might be less, than $1 present; so there is no immediate prospect of Egyptian darkness enshrouding Richmond.

There is, however, every prospect of a continued fog surrounding the debates and deliberations of the Council on the whole problem of light for the city.

The gas Works should be constructed at once. Every member of both branches knows this, and yet an interminable wrangle over the choice of the men employed to carry out this work has been going on for nearly a year.

For more than that length of time Alderman W. T. Delaney has urged the erection of a municipal electric light plant on the site of the Old Pump House, and has supported his position by a formidable array of figures, and yet his arguments have been as ineffectual as if they were palpably unsound.

Now, it may be that Alderman Delaney has some sinister motive, it may be that Engineer Trabaud has omitted some important item of cost, or it may be that the Council deems it unwise to embark in further municipal operation, even if it is shown to be more efficient and more economical. But all of these possible explanations are more specious. All that the people know is that the Council, for the Gas Works, fell into great disrepute, and are now inclined to scorn any plan for rehabilitation, and that the Council for every a year has been playing around a municipal light plant, with the result that now it has neither the plant nor the contract for the street and municipal electric lighting. Such methods and such everlasting delay are discomforting and distressing as they are to the great body of citizens and many members of the Council itself, are the inevitable outcome of our present form of city government, and will continue as long as Richmond is compelled to operate its business affairs under its present charter, through the instrumentality of thirty-five Councilmen and twenty-one Aldermen.

The Times-Dispatch believes that when the people once understand how seriously the growth and prosperity of the city is hampered by its charter limitations, an irresistible demand for a more serviceable administration will be made. But in the meantime we, as a city, will have to endure continued and exasperating repetitions of just such unnecessary and avoidable delays as those that are now retarding the dealings with the Gas Works and the question of municipal electric lights.

Fraulein Krupp.

Fräulein Miss Krupp, "the richest girl in the world," made a blunder in not to be born in the United States, for she is democratic to the heart. Her grandfather was an honest blacksmith, but in her higher condition she is not ashamed of him. To the contrary she exhibits and celebrates the fact in a statue, representing the old man at the anvil.

Her wedding was democratic simplicity itself, and it is said that her trousseau cost the paltry sum of five hundred dollars. She used the money which might have gone into silks and satins in making gifts to her numerous workmen, numbering some 6,000. It is further related that she has given much of her time and surplus money to providing more comfortable homes, sanitary dwellings, hospitals and insurance for her army of employes. She seems to regard her enormous fortune as a trust fund.

But, better than all, she has turned away from her royal suitors and given herself as an unpretentious helpmate in the diplomatic service who had won her heart years ago, not a title, but in a fairy tale she would have been the Princess Beautiful, and in America she would have been numbered among our "first families."

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Rhymes for To-Day

"Hoco-Poco."

[London, Eng., papers please copy.]

SOME poets that we wot of—
I hate to treat 'em rough—
But gosh! They sing a lot of
Real vapid stuff and guff:
They pile on mystic phrases
About some mythic queen,
They sing tears, kisses, praises,
But don't know what they mean.

Space yields just one example:
"Take Swinburne on Juliette,
And this recurrent sample—
"The day that I forget."
Forget, forgot, forgotten—
"Twas thus the queer lines went;
I think that they are rotten—
Do you know what he meant?

What was it, Algy Swinburne,
That you and she forgot?
Didst let the muffin-tin burn,
Or overboil the pot?
You pipe in lovers' match-key,
But I'm not tricked like that—
Didst find, too late, the latch-key
Was locked up in the flat?

"Remembering and forgetting"—
'Tis thus the poet does—
And you'd be safe in betting
He don't know what it was.
I'd stake this good write-member
That Swinburne just could not
Tell WHAT he don't remember
And Juliette forgot.

H. S. H.

MERELY JOKING.

An Insignificant Affair.

"Is the 'Commoner' the official organ of the Democracy?" "Not at all. It's simply Bryan's organ." "Oh! I see, what you might call a mouth-organ."—Philadelphia Press.

The Under Dog.

"Archie is fairly going crazy over his new automobile." "That's strange. Every time I've seen him he has been going crazy under it."—Chicago Tribune.

His Idea of It.

"You ought to know something about horticulture," remarked Citman. "Tell me what is a forget-me-not?" "Why," replied Subtune, "it's a piece of string your wife ties around your finger when you go to town all on errand."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Not a Tempest.

A young gentleman with an numerical name recited upon singing at a social gathering. "What does he call that?" inquired a Sagacious guest. "The Tempest, I think," answered another. "Don't be impertinent," said an old sea captain present. "What's the tempest? It's only a squall, and will soon be over."—Brooklyn Citizen.

An Obvious Truth.

Walter: "Say! Fred, I've been to see the doctor and he says I can't play golf." Fred (very unfeeling husband): "Indeed! But you might have saved half the fee by coming to me. For I could have told you that long ago."—Brooklyn Eagle.

A Difference in Kisses.

Miss: "The professor tells me that kissing is most injurious." He: "Oh it would be to kiss the professor."—Topeka Journal.

POINTS FROM PARAGRAPHERS.

FROM the way things are going now, it will soon be impossible for New York Democrats to refer to the race other in the presence of ladies.—Louisville Times.

* * *

When a man takes whiskey for a cold he doesn't care whether he gets over it or not.—Detroit News.

* * *

The president of Ohio University says "slang is the element of a vigorous mind." But George Ade will continue to draw his royalties the salaries of ten college presidents.—New York Herald.

* * *

Four thousand eight hundred and sixty-five people were killed while walking on the tracks of American railways in 1905. It must have been an exceptionally bad year in the theatrical business.—Chicago Record-Herald.

* * *

Candidate Hughes says that the issue in New York is decency. Safe commentary on any state that such a thing should be in dispute.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

* * *

The professor at Oxford has no doubt finds that he has again returned behind on his hands to read all the poured words coming to the office.—Washington Post.

* * *

According to one of those curious contradictions possible in the English language, the men who are hailing Hearst are just the ones that called Swallow Mike.—Providence Journal.

SOUTHERN DRIFT.

Foreign Labor in the South.

English operatives in a North Carolina mill say they were induced to go there by promises that were exaggerated and the manufacturers who employed them say they are pleased. The English operatives are foreign labor, but does not seem to get along as well with it as without it.—Florida Times-Union.

Hazing in Congress.

A regular organized movement is said to have been formed in the Senate to punish Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin, for the violent and seditious speech he made and for which he has disgraced himself during his first year in the Senate. According to tradition and unwritten "courtesy" he should have been good during his first term and not so "perfidiously active." Congress succeeded in stamping out hazing at West Point, but that in the Senate is more firmly and securely well established.—Charlotte Observer.

The Roosevelt Theory.

The old-time democrat believes on the other hand, that what he needed is a return to the constitutional government of our fathers, providing home rule and forbidding invasions of State jurisdiction by the Washington government.—Macon Telegraph.

Occasion for Thanks.

With all of the many disasters and dangers through which the people of the South have passed during the present year, the storms, floods, earthquakes, actual and threatened, we can give rule our voices in thankfulness and not hearts in praise that this country has escaped a visitation of the fractious terrors which follow upon the remote threatening of a yellow fever epidemic; and that, too, without the sacrifice of commercial interests to unreasonable and burdensome quarantine restrictions.—Mobile Register.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

Among forty-three persons charged with drunkenness in London on one day in September, twenty-two of them were women.

The projected steamship service between Nagin Japan and Vladivostok will make it possible to travel around the world in forty days.

Henry Phillips, a full-blooded Indian of the Chilkat tribe, is a compositor on the White Horse (Alaska) Star. He learned the printers trade in the Indian School at Carlisle.

The housekeeper of Lady Campbell Bannerman, the wife of Great Britain's premier, succeeded her mistress but a few weeks. She had lived in the family of the prime minister for twenty-five years.

Eugene Zimmerman, of Cincinnati, one of the country's leading railroad men, is a man of even temper as a rule, but rebels vigorously when referred to as "the father-in-law of the Duke of Manchester."

A new law of the London County Council has just gone into operation whereby any person throwing a banana skin on the pavement is liable to a fine of two pounds or one month's imprisonment.

M. Cambon, formerly French Ambassador to the United States and now at Madrid, has arrived at San Sebastian, the Spanish watering place on the Bay of Biscay, where there is a royal summer residence.

Charles Edward Magoon, who has been made Provisional Governor of Cuba, was born in Minnesota in 1861, and after a farm bringing up in that State worked his way through the University of Nebraska, graduating in 1885.

It is rather odd reading in this county, where that people expect to be paid when they work, that the Dresden jury in the British engine wrecked at Grantham was a gentleman apprentice, who paid a premium for the privilege of shoveling coal.

A negro agricultural fair, the first of the kind ever heard of in that part of the United States of America, was held lately at Kingsville, Texas, where there were more than 200 exhibits in the main hall, among them being heirlooms ranging from 45 to 184 years old.

E. H. R. Green, of Terrell, Tex., president of the Texas Midland Railroad, and son of Mrs. Hetty Green, has withdrawn as the Republican nominee for Governor of Texas, for which Acheson being named by the executive committee to take his place. Dr. Acheson is a brother of Congressman Acheson, of Pennsylvania.

A FOURTH BANK IN PETERSBURG

The Appomattox Trust Company Opens a Savings Department.

SEEKING GOVERNMENT AID

Committee Goes to Norfolk to Secure Service of Dredge in Cleaning Harbor.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

PETERSBURG, VA., October 16.—A fourth bank was added to Petersburg's financial institutions to-day, when the Appomattox Trust Company opened a regular banking business in temporary quarters in the Mechanics' Building, where the company will remain for a few weeks, until its permanent banking house in the Young Men's Christian Association Building is ready for occupancy.

The new bank begins business with a paid in capital of over $150,000, surplus of over $25,000, and certificates of deposit of over $200,000.

The officers are: President, Charles Hall Davis; Vice-President, Harvey Seward; Secretary and Teller, W. A. Wurth; Cashier, Carter B. Bishop.

A committee of four well known citizens, appointed at a meeting of the board of governors of the Chamber of Commerce, and other representative business men, went to Norfolk this morning to lay before United States Engineer Winslow the great importance and necessity for the use of the government dredge in clearing the sand bars from the harbor here, which is now practically closed by these heavy deposits of sand brought down during recent freshets.

Major P. B. Lassiter, Charles Hall Davis, Homes Atkinson and W. A. Bond composed the committee. The government dredge, which is now working on the diversion scheme, channel for the river, could clear the harbor in about half the time the city's dredge would take, and it is earnestly hoped that Major Winslow, who is the government engineer in charge of the work on the diversion cut, will grant the use of the dredge.

The Petersburg Grays have decided to accept the invitation to attend the Emporia Fair on Thursday, October 25th, provided a sufficient number of men will go.

The following appointments have been made in the company: First Sergeant, Kenneth W. Ledbetter; Second Sergeant, H. C. Marks; Third Sergeant, Sidney B. Gill; Fourth Sergeant, Robert Gilliam, Jr.; Fifth Sergeant, Louis L. Kidd; Quartermaster, Grover C. Rodgers; First Corporal, Wesley M. Sykes; Second Corporal, Randolph Madison; Third Corporal, Devereux M. Myers; Fourth Corporal, Richard C. Scott; Cook, Charles C. Hudson; Artificer, Robert A. Goodwyn; Musician, Maurice Green.

Fire from a defective flue did some damage this morning in a room over the kitchen at the house on Bollingbrook Street now owned and occupied by J. H. Dodson, formerly of Emporia. Water caused most of the loss, which is covered by insurance.

Mr. Thomas B. Ivey, of this city, who has just been reelected State secretary of the Junior Order United American Mechanics by the State Council, in session at Elkton, Va., will have held that office for twenty-one years when he completes the term to which he has been elected. Mr. Ivey is a past State counselor, and is said to be the oldest past State counselor in Virginia, as well as the oldest member of the order in Petersburg. He belongs to Washington Council, No. 17.

REPUBLICANS ACTIVE OVER SCOTT COUNTY

Small Crowds Attend Speakings, However, and Enthusiasm Was Lacking.

GATE CITY, VA., October 16.—The Republicans have been exceedingly active in Scott county the past week. They had speaking in every section of the county and made strenuous efforts to rouse their party. It is noticeable, however, that their week's work has been far from satisfactory. Their crowds were exceedingly small, and the enthusiasm created was anything but inspiring. Colonel Slemp himself was at Nickelsville Saturday, where a barbecue and big rally had been planned. Other speakers present were Congressman N. W. Hale, of the Second District of Tennessee, and ex-Senator D. F. Bailey, of Bristol. Nickelsville is the Republican stronghold of the county, yet the meeting was very tame and far below what even the Democrats expected it to be. That it was disappointing to the Slemp people is unquestioned.

Congressman Hale is a native of Scott county, his father, Captain D. S. Hale, residing a few miles from Nickelsville. The Congressman has many personal friends in that community, both Republicans and Democrats, and to this fact may be attributed largely what little degree of success the meeting met with.

There is much dissatisfaction among the Republicans over the rural free delivery routes going out from Nickelsville, a former Republican boldly charging in the Gate City Herald that one of the routes was secured by misrepresentation, and proving his charge by a large number of affidavits, a majority of the affiants being Republicans. Many hitherto ardent and uncompromising Republicans are refusing to support Slemp, because, they allege, he was notified of the fraud, but went ahead and had the route established. The rally Saturday failed of its purpose to heal this trouble.

The friends of Mr. Bruce, the Democratic candidate, are more than pleased with the week's work, and find in it nothing but encouragement. All the present signs indicate that the county is preparing to give Slempism the hardest kind of a blow. So many of the Slemp speakers have so glaringly and wilfully misrepresented the issues that intelligent Republicans cannot but be disgusted.

MECKLENBURG COURT.

Lassiter Canvasses, Though He Has No Opposition.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

BOYDTON, VA., October 16.—Mecklenburg Circuit Court began here yesterday, Judge Barksdale presiding. Several important cases are to come up at this term of the court. Judge Barksdale's son-in-law, Mr. Tucker C. Watkins, who was accidentally shot in the eye by a friend a few days since, while out hunting, is much improved, and the physicians attending him are confident that he will not lose his eye.

Major Francis R. Lassiter, the Democratic candidate for Congress from this district, was here yesterday. He is exceedingly anxious to have all his party friends come to the polls and vote, thus showing his popularity with the people.

Among the prominent members of the bar of the State attending court are ex-Congressman R. T. Thorp, Messrs. W. J. Williams, Robert H. Tunstall of the Norfolk bar; George C. Gregory, of Richmond; Hon. E. P. Buford, of Brunswick, and Thomas E. Watkins, Esq., of Charlotte Courthouse.

NEW SUPPLY COMPANY.

The Tomato Crop on the Rappahannock Is Short.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

FREDERICKSBURG, VA., October 16.—Messrs. R. S. Dickson, W. L. Dempsey, of this city, and S. Gregory, of Baltimore, have filed a certificate of incorporation in the Corporation Court here under the corporate name of the Fredericksburg Supply Company, capitalizing at $20,000 with R. S. Dickson, president, W. L. Dempsey, vice-president, and S. Gregory, secretary and treasurer. They will conduct a general supply store business on a large scale.

The tomato crop in this section, while not a failure, was short of the usual production, and the canneries, which are numerous in the Northern Neck, turned out a smaller supply than usual. This reduction of output has caused a rise in prices. Some of the factories on the lower Rappahannock sold their season's product before the advance in prices. Others will reap the benefits of the advance.

GRAND TOURNAMENT

The Casino at Cape Charles Scene of a Brilliant Gathering.

CAPE CHARLES, VA., October 16.—A tournament was held on the grounds of the Northampton Country Club Friday, and proved a great success. The marshals and knights were as follows: Chief Marshal, Dr. Charles Smith, with W. B. Fitzhugh, J. C. P. Kellam, Dr. G. P. Mears, assistants.

The successful knight was Allen Thompson, who crowned Miss Maddux queen of love and beauty. Clarence Thompson crowned Miss Virginia Nottingham first maid of honor, Mr. H. D. Travis crowned Miss Prickett second maid of honor, and Sterling Nottingham crowned Miss Foster third maid of honor.

A charge to the knights was delivered by Mr. Otho E. Mears, of Eastville, Va. A ball and coronation ceremonies were held at the Casino in the evening, which were attended by a large audience.

The coronation address was delivered by Dr. Garland P. Moore, of this city.

SWINE SHOW.

Large Gathering of Stockmen at the W. H. Coffman Farm.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

BLUEFIELD, W. VA., October 16.—The three days' show of fine pedigreed hogs at the W. H. Coffman Stock Farm is in progress here. The herd of Berkshires is the finest in the world, valued at fifty thousand dollars. The Naval Gun Factory Band, of Washington, D. C., is in attendance, and stockmen from all sections are here.

A NEW BOOK.

Miss Mary Foster, Authoress of The Colonial Capitals of Virginia.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

WILLIAMSBURG, VA., October 16.—A new historical work, "The Colonial Capitals of Virginia," written by Miss Mary Foster, of this city, has just come out. The book is handsomely printed and bound, and contains interesting historical sketches and traditions of Jamestown, Williamsburg, Yorktown and their vicinities.

Miss Foster, the author of the book, is a daughter of Dr. L. S. Foster, superintendent of the Eastern State Hospital. Miss Foster is a very attractive young lady, and is one of the favorites in Williamsburg society.

ESSEX COURT.

Congressman Jones Speaks—The Steamboat Tie-Up Is Broken.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

TAPPAHANNOCK, VA., October 16.—Congressman W. A. Jones addressed a large and enthusiastic crowd in the courthouse here yesterday in behalf of his campaign.

The grand jury was sitting all day.

The Maryland, Delaware and Virginia Railway Company have resumed all trips with their steamers, and the people are rejoicing that the tie-up is over.

Colonial House Burns.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

LURAY, VA., October 16.—The large brick mansion belonging to R. M. C. Conn, situated near Rileyville, this county, was destroyed by fire yesterday, with all its contents. The loss is a heavy one, covered by partial insurance.

The building was built on the old Colonial style, and is said to have been the oldest dwelling house in Page county. Mr. Conn was absent from home when the fire occurred.

MORPHINA-CURA
$2.00 PER BOTTLE
An infallible remedy for the cure of Drug Habits of all kinds. Sent postpaid at $2 per bottle. Morphina-Cura is prepared for Hypodermic or internal use. Dell-Chem. Co., St. Louis
For sale by Owens & Minor Drug Co., 1007 E. Main Street.

Avoid alum and alum phosphate baking powders. The label law requires that all the ingredients be named on the labels. Look out for the alum compounds.

NOTE.—Safety lies in buying only Royal Baking Powder, which is a pure, cream of tartar baking powder, and the best that can be made.

THE THEATRES

"The Woman in the Case," the new play by Clyde Fitch, seen at the Academy last night, is the strongest story ever written by that versatile and prolific playwright.

The play has a future, and this was proved by the fact that it held the attention of the large audience from the moment the curtain arose until the final drop, and even then the delighted people declined to leave the theatre until they had one more look at Miss Walsh, and given her one last round of applause, a most unusual compliment on the part of a Richmond audience, famed for its coldness and critical position.

The play was a distinct surprise to those who thought to find it a sensational detective drama, for it is strong, clever and clean, with a moral in its every line.

A man happily married is arrested, charged with the murder of his best friend. This friend had been on the point of marrying a woman without character or caste, with whom the husband had once been friendly.

At the cost of his reputation, the husband exposes the woman's part, and the friend is found dead the same night. The police insist that the husband has killed his best friend through jealousy, and "the woman in the case," bitter with ideas of revenge, tells the same damaging story.

Arrested and within the shadow of the gallows, the husband is at his wife's end to prove his innocence. His wife, however, hits upon the plan of going to live in the same apartment house with "the woman in the case," of becoming her friend and of worming out the truth. After an April two months of a hideous life, the secret is disclosed. This is the climax, and it is hard to imagine a stronger one. In the last act, husband and wife are again together. Not a word is said; the man walks into the room, takes his wife in his arms and the curtain falls.

It is artistic to a degree, this finale; the very best thing that Clyde Fitch has ever done.

In less competent hands the play could easily be marred if not totally ruined, but there is no fear of such a casualty with the excellent cast that presented it last night.

Miss Walsh's Fine Work.

Miss Blanche Walsh, the star, who played the wife, was exceptionally strong, as, indeed, she always is, but not less so were Miss Helen Ware who played the adventuress with wonderful art, and Mr. George Sumner, who played Mr. Thompson, the lawyer, with a strength that was delightful.

These were easily the best, when all were Miss Helen Ware, who played the servant, a word of praise for her clever work, which a look, a turn of the wrist could have made utterly hopeless. In the third act, she was "The play," while the house was as quiet as only intense interest can make it—the silence of appreciation.

Mr. William Travers and Mr. William Wadsworth were both exceedingly clever, and, indeed, there was not a weak spot in the cast.

The play was well set, and was, in fact, one of the best attractions that has been seen this season—a clever play, cleverly played.

It should be said, however, that the first act was practically ruined for a large part of the audience by the noise and confusion made by late arrivals, who were seated despite the rule of the house printed in large type on the program—"No one seated during the first act."

Those who come in time should not be made uncomfortable by late arrivals, and the theatre should carry out its rules or discontinue to print them in the program.

The theatre was comfortably heated and there was no cause to complain of any chill of yesternight.

The Academy will remain dark all the rest of the week.

The attractions for next week are "Primrose Minstrels" on Monday and Tuesday nights, and matinee Tuesday, and the Mary Emerson Opera Company on Saturday matinee and night.

Among the attractions which will be seen at the Academy during the next two weeks are "The Vanderbilt Cup," with Elsie Jarvis and Otis Harland; Henrietta Crossman, in "All of a Sudden, Peggy"; May Irwin; Annie Russell, in "A Midsummer Night's Dream"; Joe Weber and his all-star company; Raymond Hitchcock, in "The Gallopers and Ben Greet," with his English company, in "Everyman" and "The Merchant of Venice," in "The Gallopers and Venice."

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Miss Annie Russell, who has made a hit at the Astor Theatre in New York, will be seen for the first time in her career through the South