The Times-Dispatch

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1906.

> The golden moments in the stream of life rush past us, and we see nothing but sand; the angels come to visit us, and we only know them when they are gone.—George Eliot.

Virginia's Interest in R., F. & P. Presidency.

When the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac stockholders meet on November 19th, whether the resignation of Judge Leake as president shall have been accepted or not by the board of directors, we trust and hope that Judge Leake will be re-elected president. It may be that the resignation of the judge will not be accepted, for The Times-Dispatch is reliably informed that in offering his resignation a misconception existed, which by November 19th may be entirely removed. In that event there should be no opposition on the part of Judge Leake to being re-elected, and there is every reason, on the part of the stockholders, why his re-election should be urged and desired.

A very unusual condition exists in the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad by reason of the fact that of the $2,500,500 of common stock, guaranteed stock and dividend obligations, only $1,001,300 has the right to vote. Of the stock that has the voting privilege a small fraction over one-half is owned in equal proportions by the Chesapeake and Ohio, the Southern, Atlantic Coast Line, Seaboard Air Line, Baltimore and Ohio and Pennsylvania. These roads have pooled their stock and have put the management of their interests in the hands of the Richmond-Washington Company, which company, though it actually owns less than one-third of the total stock and direct obligations of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac, is by reason of the concerted action of the six above named railroads enabled to elect four out of the five directors of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac. These directors at present are Rossell Robert, president of the Southern Railway; George W. Stevens, president of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway; Harry Walters, chairman of the board of directors of the Atlantic Coast Line Railway; Alfred Walter, president of the Seaboard Air Line Railway. Mr. J. Taylor Ellyson is appointed by the State Corporation Commission to represent the State of Virginia.

The Richmond-Washington Company, therefore, is able to dominate the policy and appoint the officers of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad Company, and also dominate the policy and appoint the officers for the Washington-Southern Railway, which runs between Quantico and Washington. The significance of this is the power that is thereby given to six railways, forming the Richmond-Washington Company, to apportion the charges for passenger and freight transportation as to direct and the just and unreasonable amount of profits to the Washington and Southern, and also by control of the Washington and Southern to control, or indirectly impede, the only route that the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac has to the North. There is no question but that the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, which is the property of several states, is, perhaps, within of the most careful consideration, and if it were the property of one man, forty times capitalized, great and far-reaching hardships would be wicked on the individual stockholders, and serious damage would be done the credit of the State of Virginia. The money comes from the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad stock which is annually received by the State to be used in purchase the outstanding bonds, and though Virginia has never received, nor one is so important a factor in the creation of the sinking fund for the certain retirement and extinction of the debt as this revenue from the State's holdings in the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad.

The bonds are bought and cancelled in such manner that may be re-issued, but no interest is allowed to accrue, and with the interest other bonds are purchased and cancelled. It has been calculated that by carrying this method the State will have provided for the retirement of every outstanding bond before the period of final maturity.

The control of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, therefore, affects almost every tax-payer in the State of Virginia. Apart from any question of justice or fair dealing between the majority and the minority stockholders, the State of Virginia is interested in some equal and straightforward fidelity shown to only one. It is from every standpoint, desirable that the president of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad be a man of unimpeachable integrity, patriotism, capacity, and, above all else, free from any potential railway influence. There are many men answering to these qualifications in the State of Virginia to-day, but there is no one who so fully complies with every requirement of the situation as Judge William J. Leake. In addition to his personal character and intelligence, which are sufficient of themselves to commend him most favorably for the position of president, he has the singular advantage of having for thirty years been closely identified with every detail of the management, growth and policy of this railroad. As general counsel of the road, Judge Leake was in constant conference with the late Major Myers. He has, during the period of his service, absorbed the traditions and the spirit of the railroad. He represents with impartial fidelity the welfare of the individual stockholder and the State of Virginia. Nor has there been the slightest complaint of his service from the railroads composing the Richmond-Washington Company. In view of these conditions, it is obviously in the best interest of all concerned that Judge Leake be not allowed to resign, and The Times-Dispatch earnestly hopes that both the directors and the stockholders will unite in urging the judge to continue as president.

The Poll Tax Requirement.

The election law of Virginia contains the following provision:

"The treasurer of each county and city shall, at least five months before each regular election, file with the Circuit Court of his county, or of the Corporation Court of his city, a list of all persons in his county or city who have paid not later than six months prior to such election the State poll taxes required by the Constitution of this State during the three years next preceding that in which such election is held, which list shall be arranged alphabetically by magisterial districts or wards, shall state the white and colored persons separately, and shall be verified by the oath of the treasurer. The clerk, within ten days from the receipt of the list, shall make and certify a sufficient number of copies thereof, and shall deliver one copy for each voting place in his county or city to the sheriff of the county or sergeant of the city, whose duty it shall be to post one copy, without delay, at each of the voting places, and, within ten days from the receipt thereof, to make return on oath to the clerk as to the places where and dates at which said copies were respectively posted; which return, the clerk shall record in a book kept in his office for the purpose; and he shall keep in his office for public inspection, for at least sixty days after receiving the list, not less than ten certified copies thereof.

"Within thirty days after the list has been so posted any person who shall have paid his capitation tax, but whose name is omitted from the certified list, may, after five days' written notice to the treasurer, apply to the Circuit Court of his county, or Corporation Court of his city, or to the judge thereof in vacation, to have the same corrected and his name entered thereon, which application the court or judge shall promptly hear and decide.

"The clerk shall deliver, or cause to be delivered, with the poll-books, at a reasonable time before every election, to one of the judges of election of each precinct in his county or city, a like certified copy of the list, which shall be conclusive evidence of the facts therein stated for the purpose of voting."

This is a most important provision of the election law, and it should be executed to the letter and with the greatest possible care. The list thus furnished the judges of election must be their guide to determine whether or not a voter has paid his tax according to law, and if by any error a voter who has paid his tax is not listed, the judges cannot vote him unless he produces his tax receipts to show that he has complied with the law. It is not always easy for a taxpayer to lay his hands upon his tax receipts for three years back, and it may sometimes happen that he would have no time to go and fetch such receipts before the polls should close. In any event, it is a hardship on him to put him to this trouble, and it is a greater hardship and injustice if he should through clerical error be deprived of his vote. The Times-Dispatch has reason to believe that errors of that sort are made every year, and if ever there is a close contest in Virginia, such errors are going to make no end of trouble.

But voters themselves should take care to protect their own interests. Before election day, each and every voter should take the trouble to see that his poll-taxes are all paid up and that he has the credit on the books of the treasurer.

Roosevelt's Supreme Court.

President Roosevelt has named Hon. William H. Moody, Attorney-General, to be a member of the United States Supreme Court, and it is well understood that Mr. Moody is in entire sympathy with the President's view that the Constitution may be stretched on occasion to accommodate the demands of the Federal government. Moreover, it is probable that before his term of office shall have expired President Roosevelt will have appointed other men to the Supreme Court bench to fill vacancies. Justice Harlan is now seventy-three years of age, his health is not good, and he has been talking of retiring. Chief Justice Fuller is of equal age with Justice Harlan, and he is also in poor health. He is a Democrat and will not retire during Mr. Roosevelt's administration, if he is able to hold out.

Justice Brewer is sixty-nine years of age, but is a little deaf, and it is said is not relishing his seventieth birthday. He will retire from the bench. Justice Peckham is sixty-eight years of age, and report has it that he also wants to withdraw on account of poor health. President Roosevelt has already appointed three members of the court, including Mr. Moody, and the outlook now is that before his term shall have ended a majority of the justices will be of his appointment.

Mr. Roosevelt is an honest man, and it is not meant to disclose or to intimate that he would "pack the court," as that term is offensively used. But Mr. Roosevelt is a strong partisan and by making his appointments he will be very apt to take such men as are in sympathy and sympathy with his knowledge views. It is an irresistible conclusion, therefore, that when we get a Supreme Court of Mr. Roosevelt's making, we shall have a court that will construe the Constitution as liberally as possible whenever the powers of the Federal government shall be involved, and put the screws upon States' rights.

Such a change in the complexion of the Supreme Court would be the natural and inevitable reflection of Mr. Roosevelt's strong personality. Behind Mr. Roosevelt stands at present the great majority of American voters, and if the Supreme Court lessens its insistence on the doctrine of States' rights, it will be following its invariable precedent. For in no great crisis and upon no great question has the Supreme Court been opposed to the majority.

The Poe Memorial.

At a meeting of the Council last night Mr. H. R. Pollard, Jr., subchairman of the Finance Committee, introduced a resolution that "the Finance Committee of the Council be and are hereby instructed to provide a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars ($5,000), to be appropriated for, and subject to the order of, the Poe Memorial Association, to be used for the purpose of erecting a suitable monument to the memory of Edgar Allan Poe, provided the said Poe Memorial Association shall raise the sum of five thousand dollars ($5,000), to be placed with the amount appropriated by the city to be used for the above named purpose."

Poe is recognized abroad as America's greatest literary genius, but there is no monument to his memory, and the Northern doctors did not deem that he was worthy of a tablet in the "Hall of Fame." He was once a citizen of Richmond, and some of the most eventful years of his life were spent here. Richmond owes it to Poe and to her own fame to erect a memorial in marble to Edgar Allan Poe, and it should be one of our proudest exhibits to visitors who will come during the year of the Jamestown celebration.

The Charlotte Plan.

The city of Charlotte is jam up against the Immigration problem. A number of English girls arrived some time ago to work in the cotton mills, but they have been arrested by Immigration Inspector McLaughlin and incarcerated in the Charlotte Hotel with the ultimate view of "deporting" them. But Charlotte is striving to prevent the outrage, and the Mayor has gone to Washington to intercede with the President. The meaning is that Charlotte has fallen very much in love with the English damsels and will not give them up without a fight. A correspondent says that they are good workers, and in addition to their pay have been entertained socially in various ways since their arrival, several dances having been given in their honor, to say nothing of the Observer's Pink Tea.

The Times-Dispatch hopes that Mayor McNinch's efforts in behalf of the fair captives may prove successful, for Charlotte is setting a noble example. The South needs immigrants and the way to get and retain them is to offer peculiar inducements. Let us show them our sweetest hospitality and make them feel at home. Let us give an entertainment—tea parties and dances for the English, wakes for the Irish, vendettas for the Italian, and so on throughout the list. The Charlotte plan is lovely, and we commend it to Commissioner Keiner.

The Fusionists gained one Congressman in Nebraska, but otherwise the Republicans swept the State, electing the entire State ticket and George L. Sheldon, Republican nominee for Governor, by a plurality of 15,000. In 1904 Mickey, Republican, was elected Governor by a plurality of 9,143. The Republicans also retain control of the Legislature and will elect a man of their party to the Senate. The choice of the Republican State Convention for United States Senate is Norris Brown.

Jerome Hazen Hyde is spending his time in Paris writing articles to prove that this country thinks a lot of Molière. Jimmy does not claim that we ever thought much of him, however.

In the contest for State Treasurer in Illinois, Mr. Smulski, Republican, won over Piotrowski, Democrat. It is understood that some Americans also ran.

The New York American might give its readers some snappy reading at the moment by printing Mr. Hearst's candid opinion of Mr. Roosevelt.

English papers say that the vote in New York indicates a state of great unrest. So far as Mr. Hearst is concerned that is strictly true.

This Havana soldier who is to be court-martialed for writing bad verse will, no doubt, claim that he isn't any worse than Alfred Austin anyway.

Japan might have stolen a few of our Pacific islands if, in trying to look unconscious, we had not gone and overdone the thing.

Moreover, Mr. Harriman engineered the coup entirely without the assistance of his friend, Edward Rex.

Illinois' new treasurer, Hon. Smulski, strongly suggests a cod liver oil. The kind you have always used.

All the Kaiser's children are left-handed except the Crown Prince, who is pigeon-toed.

If Castellane is not the biggest cad in France, we feel very sorry indeed for France.

The elevated cost of false teeth may deal a heavy blow to the chewing gum trust.

There was no bigger Fish in the I. C. however. Hen has already been yanked out.

Hearst and Mayor for 1908 would match the Eugene V. Debs record all right.

IF YOU HAVE BOOKS

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Rhymes for To-Day

Belinda.

BELINDA is the dearest little person
A poet ever piped to in his lays.
I'd gladly sit and write a page of verse on
Her each day.

Her eyes are like the heaven when it's bluest,
Her lips are like the rose-leaf, dewy-pearled,
Her laugh is just the sweetest and the truest
In the world.

Her hair is like the golden sunshine when it
First gleams across the dawning, newly ris;
Her face—but there, I couldn't hope to pen it
As it is.

My love for her is boundless as the ocean,
She's practically clawless, as I've said;
Although I'll say she hasn't got a notion
In her head.

A lovely lacquered box this poet dreamt be
Picked up, one night—how recollection stirs!—
It might have held such jewels! .....
But 'twas empty .....
So is hers.

She hasn't got a thoughtlet in her noddle—
There's vacuum beneath that lovely hair;
But shucks! She talks such fascinating twaddle
You don't care.

A lady needn't care for matters mental
If she's a face that sets your heart awhirl;
What lies beneath her locks is incidental
When they curl.

H. S. H.

MERELY JOKING.

What He Left.

Jenks: "What did that rich old miser of yours leave?" Hijks: "Nothing but a lot of disappointed relatives."—A Jokesmith copy sober, whom we had never heard of before.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

The Candidate.

"He's a popular man," said the observer of politics, "but he never seems to be lucky." "No," answered Senator Sorghum, "he is one of the people who always have our adoration before election and our sympathies after."—Washington Star.

A Ruse.

Mrs. Knicker: "How did you get the steam turned in?" Mrs. Bunker: "I pretended I was a poor sick woman."—New York Sun.

Not Very Thick.

Mrs. McCall: "They say Mary and that Mr. Lovett seem to be pretty thick, don't they?" Little Tommy: "Yes, and sister Mary is, too, but Mr. Lovett isn't as thick as he can be."—Philadelphia Press.

Time For It.

"How do you like your new servant?" asked Mrs. Wise. "Why, I prefer Mrs. Horne, though. How did you make it hold a servant?" "Why, she was a week when I was not at home."—Philadelphia Press.

To Meet the Demand.

"Do these nails contain really strong enough, mama?" asked Tommy. "Yes," replied his mother, "they must contain enough a way to make them strong enough way." "Mamma, I'll bet if they didn't they had a way to make children strong enough to withstand a spanking."—Philadelphia Press.

POINTS FROM PARAGRAPHERS.

THE tree rolling kit and all that sort of thing.—The New York American. Mr. Bob Wilson, Jake Hamlin seem to be Washington Herald.

* * *

One of the first acts of a millionaire on leaving the penitentiary is to make up for a time that he has spent in jail.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

* * *

The New York American might inform us when a nothing sermon is to be given in the park.—The Washington Herald.

* * *

Another sermon dodge has been discovered in the New Orleans police. The sermons can now be fired.—New York World.

* * *

The Japanese believe that the Mt. Vesuvius eruption was the Californian shock in the reverse order.—Washington Post.

* * *

Horse racetracks at Paris will be supplied with electricity, the breakage of numerous horses to be used, thus with the hope of the end of horse.—Baltimore Sun.

* * *

Mr. Stevens calls the Maine election as a victory for Cannon. Another reason why we don't want it.—Atlanta Constitution. Cannon in March will go to the board.—Detroit (Mich.) Press.

SOUTHERN COMMENT.

Bryan's Part.

[illegible] there was good reason to expect that yesterday's election would result in an avalanche sweeping Democratic Kansas. At bottom of the conspiracy were assist in these [illegible] and their influence was felt in the Democratic ranks. [illegible] that Bryan's influence was felt in the Democratic ranks.—Atlanta Constitution.

Hearst Still in the Ring.

The question will be asked whether Mr. Hearst will very again seek a high political office. It is pretty certain he will. He is a comparatively young man, in the prime of life, and his heart is set on being President. He was candidate for Governor of New York and failed to get the office. He was candidate for Mayor of New York and failed to get the office. He was elected in one of the Congressional districts of New York and failed to get the office. He has been defeated for Governor. His defeat yesterday strengthens the prospects of seating the Democratic nominee for President in 1908. And it is probable that the influence of his newspapers, with the strong energy that he has reached his early years, Mr. Hearst is as determined and persistent as ever, and it is likely that he will attribute his defeat to the ended his political career.—Savannah News.

Betrayed By His Friends.

Clemens was told in forty-five states voted for twenty-three Governors, were elected, and in all, except three, sided had been successful. Congressmen were elected in proportion of fact that more Republican votes fell in the New York election than any other. It was a clear fight from beginning to end, and practically alignment was not disturbed by reason of the strange [illegible] in the state of New York that the old party [illegible] gives us assurance [illegible] it shows that even in the [illegible] friends he was more loyal to [illegible].—Memphis Commercial Advertiser.

Yellow Journalism Rebuked.

[illegible] keep Mr. Hearst from running for office [illegible] as he has the money to [illegible] a campaign. As long as people support the sensational journals in the manner they do, [illegible] recipe of publicity which [illegible] country as a dangerous [illegible] But the voters of New York have given a rebuke to yellow journalism [illegible] will seriously damage his [illegible] the beginning of the end.—Norfolk Landmark.

The Lesson of It.

The lesson of last Tuesday's elections is [illegible] and impressively suggestive. The Republican party must get running after the masses and deserving and [illegible] further to the masses and classes, [illegible] to graduate and capitalists [illegible] it would retain the confidence of the people which it so recklessly forfeited in 1896.—Indianapolis Press.

Voice of the People.

John Brown's Monument.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—A correspondent to The Times-Dispatch recently asked the query editor "if any monument had been erected to John Brown," who referred the matter to some one who might be posted.

Brown was buried near North Elba, on top of the Adirondacks Mountains, in a most recluse, unbroken solitude sort of a place. Nearby the old John Brown farmhouse is the big rock and the grave. This unhewn rock or bendstone was brought from Massachusetts, although Brown was born in Connecticut. This stone marks the head of his grave. Five names of the family are on the stone. John Brown's name is second. "Captain" John Brown's name heads the list. The residents of the place say that "Cap'n" John Brown was the father of the untaught, ill-balanced champion of bleeding Kansas—"the old man of Ossawatomie."

If the "captain" was his father, John Brown must have been born an orphan, as the captain died (per his epitaph) over twenty-three years before young John was born. The latter saw the light of day May 9, 1800. The captain died September 2, 1776.

It is said that Kansas has placed a statue of him in the National Capital? This man of long series of deeds of violence and wrong, which wrought mutual hatred and fratricidal war between the two sections of our common country, should be eternally relegated and forgotten, especially by the stricken mothers of the land; and equally so of Theodore Parker, Gerrit Smith and one Dr. S. G. Howe, who gave countenance, moral support and tangible aid to Brown's projects, and before the bar of the country their responsibility for devilment is greater than his. Brown was the tool of these men and their ilk. Emerson's assertion to the contrary that he was "a specimen of the best stock of New England."

Some time after the trial and execution of John Brown at Charlestown, Va., Oliver Johnston, William Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips, Oliver Wendell Holmes, John C. Fremont, Henry Ward Beecher, etc., who had been the strong sympathizers in the abolition movement, said that Brown was a fanatic, and went further than was consistent with the desire of his friends, and largely went back on him.

Rev. Jenkin Young, of Groton, Mass., who presided John Brown's funeral some forty-seven years ago, and who was afterwards driven from his parish in Burlington for his connection with the funeral, said that a monument would be erected over the grave, but what the outcome was is difficult to say.

At the same time of the seven men who fought with John Brown in the attack on peaceful Harper's Ferry at midnight in October of 1859 at North Elba, near the grave of the leader, Bishop Potter, of New York, spoke briefly, and then followed Wendell Phillips, who spoke of the raid at Harper's Ferry, etc., but not one word said in reference to a monument being erected. This was the date of the forty-third anniversary of the battle of Chancellorsville. The United States Troops, Twenty-sixth Infantry, of Platteburg, fired a military salute over the graves of the seven men, and the crowd dispersed.

Early after the death of Colonel Bob Ingersoll the National Association of Colored Women of America, in Chicago (August 12th), with the dear departed his death, they were grateful for the one thousand dollars he had bequeathed to them in behalf of the John Brown Monument Fund. It was known that night was the closing day of the convention, and by further consideration of the monument was held.

T. W. LIVELY.

Contempt of Court.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I have noticed with interest the discussion both editorially and in your correspondence in regard to contempt of court. There is one point which, while it has been mentioned, has not been very sharply put forth in your paper. It is this: The constitutionality of the Virginia statute regulating the exercise by individuals of the right to punish for contempt, has never been directly decided by the Court of Appeals. The decisions, indeed, seem to affirm the constitutionality. The opinion, as quoted by your correspondent in your issue of November 1st, reaffirming the court's decision in the Carter case, but inferentially is the constitutionality of the statute taking away the right to punish for contempt from the court by providing trial by jury.

The opinion in question says:

"There is an inherent power of self-preservation in the court of this State created by the Constitution, which, while it may be regulated by the Legislature, cannot be destroyed or so far diminished as to be rendered inoperative by it."

Now, even if the common law as embodied in court decisions could be invoked in defense of Judge Christian's position, will statute law has precedence over common law, and until the statute has been held by the courts to be unconstitutional and the decision in the Hudgets case reaffirming the opinion in the Carter case, which opinion was given before the new Constitution was passed, did not, as we have shown, touch on this point, for the statute in question seems not even to have been invoked, that statute must stand. The point, therefore, seems to be this:

The Constitution gives the Assembly "power to regulate."

The Assembly's statute "regulates" and does not attempt "to take away" the right of the court to punish "for contempt."

The Court of Appeals has not declared that statute unconstitutional. (It was not called in question in the opinion in the Hudgets case). Therefore, Judge Christian's decision cannot stand, unless this particular statute is declared unconstitutional.

When this question of constitutionality of the statute comes before the court, it seems to me, there can possibly be only one outcome in view of the clearness of the Constitution itself.

I would deem it a favor if you would publish in your excellent paper this view of the question, since such view has not (to my knowledge) been clearly set forth in your columns.

A. J. WILLIAMS.

Danville, Va.

Wild Turkeys.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Our turkey hunters will not be satisfied with the statement in The Times-Dispatch of Monday of how Mr. Roosevelt, under the guidance of Mr. Jim Bishop and his trusty turkey dog, brought down "the pride of the American forest." I quote from your columns: "The fine gobbler was shot by the President late yesterday afternoon on Green Mountain, six miles west of 'Pine Knot.' Bishop's fine turkey dog flushed the bird, and when it wandered back to the blind the President brought it down with a well-directed shot."

If there is any old mountain scout that detects the presence of man, and whose eye and ear is on the alert for danger, it is the gobbler. No gobbler, after the flock has been scattered, ever wanders back to a "blind" from which he was frightened—not even when the blind is close to a turkey roost. Knowing turkey hunters, who make use of blinds, never build a blind near to a turkey roost. These particularly shy and wary birds never return to a roost where they have once been assailed. Mark you, I am not writing of so-called wild turkeys, whose range and habit is so close to the home of man that such quasi flock will occasionally come home with the barnyard turkeys. Of such Selkirk has said: "Their tameness is shocking to me."

I have seen a gang produced from repeated crossings between the birds of the woods and they of the farmyard regularly roost in the lofty tops of their home lawn trees and from which they had to be shot because they would not come down and be driven into a turkey-house convenient to kitchen demands. I have witnessed an uncrossed quasi-wild turkey's magnificent flight from where it was filling its crop with grain beside a barnyard corn crib (and nigh the living house) to the forest not too distant for a single effort.

Such birds frequenting the home must should never be treated as wild birds. Every farm should be a "city of refuge" for deer, turkey and other game that are seen to entrust their lives to mankind. The smoke from every chimney top should be always an inviolable flag of truce to such creatures and be religiously respected by every human being.

The President went far a-field when going six miles from "Pine Knot" into the heart of the Albemarle Green Mountain, and it is fair to conclude that stalking his game in sturdy woodsman fashion, after the manner of Daniel Boone, Mr. Roosevelt, a lover of true sport, winged his game as the bronzed bird at eventide rose through the limbs of the autumn-stripped trees.

VIRGINIAN.

An Eyesore.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Now that the Capitol Square is being reformed and, it is to be hoped, beautified, it seems a fit time to call attention to a blemish of long standing. It is in the form of the pole which supports the electric light on the eastern side of the monument. This obstacle intervenes between the spectator on that side and inevitably cuts across the face of the monument, unless a point of view is taken between the railing and the post, which brings the onlooker too near to get the proper effect. Truly is no such important work of art in the world which is thus marred. Moreover, the lighting at night is only from one side, the other, the western side, being only faintly illuminated. Neat iron poles, inconspicuously placed diagonally, would secure proper light effect. The cost could not be great, and the deliberate destruction of the view of one of the finest works of art in existence would be obviated.

S.

Richmond, Va.

Another Sufferer.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I notice in your issue of this day a communication from a "A Long-Suffering Tax-payer." I do not know this particular "Sufferer," but there is no danger that he will ever feel lonesome, as similar companions in distress can be found in many portions of the city.

I certify to all said by "Sufferer," and will add that the cotton-wood trees cut down and carried away were paid for and put in place by myself, but if the city was in need of the wood perhaps I should not find fault. In reference to the brick sidewalk that was replaced by the city, the material composing the same was paid for and put in place by several upper year ago, but, like the wood from the trees, the bricks from the sidewalk were carried away by the city, whether for use at some other point or to find a resting place on the dump, I am unable to say.

T. WILEY DAVIS.

Richmond, Va.

The Early-Closing Movement.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I am in hearty sympathy with the effort being made by your valuable paper and that of many other good people to close the saloons of this city at 11, or even 10 o'clock, and not to open before 6 in the morning.

If the ordinance proposed by Alderman Ellett, of Lee Ward, can be enacted, it would do more for the improvement of the liquor question and all its evils than anything that has ever been done. Limit the saloons to one hundred, and that would give a saloon to every thousand inhabitants. Make the license $1,000 for the city, and this would bring in more revenue than the city receives from the two hundred and thirty which it has now. While this seems a high license, it would be profitable to the saloonkeepers. Then [illegible] no screens nor screens, no painting doors or windows; let everything be done in the open day. This, in my judgment, is better than local option, which breeds blind tigers and other subterfuges.

R. L. P.

Why Hennessy Lied.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—It does not require a Sherlock Holmes to diagnose the case of this state of sanitary mental condition. In the first place, Hennessy is an exponent of the cause of cheap whisky. In the second place, we would infer he was of Irish descent. Thirdly, he is of that religious belief most antagonistic to demonstrable truth as employed by Christian Science. If it were true that Mr. Eddy was nearing the end (which is absolutely false), is it not inhuman for this bleeding for so much per column to cast reflections upon one who has given so much harmony and peace to the world without the aid of the [illegible] profession? In Christian Science, the purity of thought is the only guarantee for right living, as our lives are but thoughts executed.

HOWARD M. SMITH, M. D.

The Election and Its Meaning.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—One of your regular, constant readers wishes to tell you he is greatly pleased with your leading editorial in today's issue on the political result in the State of New York; in fact, he is so much pleased he pronounces your views like Webster's "Bunker Hill" or "Saw." You covered the situation, the result, most completely—much the same as a large blanket would enfold a small child.

I am tempted to analyze, and comment on your editorial, and the lesson it should impress on an "unterrified Democracy," but I forbear and only heartily thank you for your honest, clear, suggestive statement of the situation with its results.

C. A. R.

Richmond, Va., Nov. 7.

The World's Wheat Crop.

The world's cereal harvest of 1906 cannot fail to prove one of the greatest ever produced. The wheat crop is above the average in the North of France, but it has suffered from drought in the South and West. France will need to import very little if any wheat. Spain has reaped a good harvest generally, while Germany has good crops of barley and oats, as well as of wheat and rye. Austria-Hungary will produce a much larger wheat crop this year than last. In Russia the winter wheat crop has been officially reported to be a good one, while the more important spring wheat crop is poor in all but a few provinces. Roumania is now expected to produce a record wheat crop, and Servia and Bulgaria have good crops. The Canadian wheat harvest will not prove very abundant. India's wheat crop, harvested last spring, was the greatest but one ever known.—London Economist.

He's Better Than She Thinks.

Every man has his faults, but no man has as many as his wife thinks he has.—Chicago Record-Herald.

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3 lbs. Washing Soda 5c
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Comment on Hearst's Defeat

Decency's Triumph.

The election of Charles E. Hughes to be Governor of New York over William Hearst by a substantial majority is simply a triumph of public decency. It was a spectacular, intensely interesting contest, in which the intelligent and sane forces of both parties in the Empire state were arrayed on one side and the sinister forces of the other side of Hearst.—Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Worth the Cost.

Hearst is thrown out, not at much loss of what he protested to stand for, in this campaign as because of the record he made in years when he was not a candidate. His defeat affords no encouragement to anything public-spirited. Men may think that they can get up a popular movement against corporations and be rewarded by public office, and, in saving the character of their country, the people have shown capacity to discriminate, and the demonstration is worth all the effort that it has cost.—New York Times.

Hearstism Rebuked in Other States.

It is not in this state alone that Hearstism was yesterday rebuked. In Massachusetts the Hearst candidate, Moran, was buried under the adverse vote in the independent strongholds, and in Chicago the Hearstites ran a poor third. Americans are proud of the fact that in this country we have no "classes," and that distinctions of public opinion are based on substantial. Mr. Hearst's offers to split the Democratic party in two, and his tirades against "plutocrats" and those from with malice, envy and mutual hatreds, have been repudiated in the clear assertion of the good sense of the American people.—New York Herald.

Still At Its Old Tricks.

"The journal" blame the more than Hearst force alone behind the leader in Greater New York, and then contradicts its reality, as they intended it to do, by blaming it.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

To Be Heard From Again.

Had the figures been more before the state and the nation, would the majority have been cleared in earlier consideration? As it is, the fellow-Democrats may say with truth that nearly half the voters of the state have supported his unbearable pretensions. He is a man formidable candidate for further honors than if he had been elected, nevertheless, he is still too formidable for the safety of society.—Louisville Journal.

A Defeat for Hearst.

Nothing could be clearer than that any honest Democrat could have been elected Governor of New York this year, and that the failure was mostly due to Democratic dislike of Mr. Hearst individually, resentment against the shameful bargain by which he obtained the nomination and dismay with the demagogic and mud-slinging campaign.—New York Herald.

A Republican Prophecy.

On the whole, it may be said that Hearst is still to be accounted for in politics, that Hearst and Bryan stand for all there is in demagogy, and one or both of them will be the whole thing to fight in 1908. It is cheerful to say that in a year when republican is about equal to set up the Democrats have for nothing. The ranks are still firm.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Hearst's Disaster.

The Democratic disaster in New York has been accomplished by Hearst and Murphy, and the sordid and petty bosses whose cooperation Hearst's wealth enabled the two leaders to command. A strongly man at the head of the ticket would have been elected Governor of New York this year by a plurality of more than a quarter of a million of votes.—Hartford Times.

A Significant Defeat.

It is a misfortune that the defeat of Hearst, his methods and the dangerous elements set into activity by his serious propaganda could not have been more overwhelming. But it could hardly have been more pointed in its significance.—Rochester Herald.

Hearst Not to Be Discouraged.

Apparently there are almost 80,000 persons in New York who think that Mr. Hearst is fit to be Governor. It is true that a larger number of persons in the State think he is unfit. But a man of Mr. Hearst's stamp, who has been able in so short a time to rally so many voters around him, will not be discouraged by one reverse. He will keep up the campaign steadily after election, and unless his opponents do likewise they may find that this year's victory has availed them little.—Chicago Tribune.

Important Proviso.

Congressman General Grosvenor, of Ohio, says that "no man who has ever been elected to the office of President has a moral right to refuse a re-election if the people demand it." That settles it, provided that satisfactory evidence can be produced that General Grosvenor is an authority on moral rights.—Harper's Weekly.