

Dr. Times-Dispatch
DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY
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Washington Bureau... 1102 Hull Street
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Lynchburg Bureau... 215 Eighth St.

official title did not hint at the extent of his confidential relations with the Chinese government, which gave him in his own province the free hand of a dictator. So we find this capable Irishman thoroughly identifying himself with the most intimate phases of China's progress, administering some of her most delicate affairs—even negotiating some of her treaties, as that with France in 1855. Meanwhile, he had reorganized the Chinese customs, eliminated the graft and corruption with which it was honeycombed, installed honesty and efficiency as working principles, and paved the way for a fine new era in foreign trade. In thirty-two years the value of Chinese imports jumped from \$100,000,000 to \$35,000,000.

Rhymes for To-Day

THE DOTTY DIALOGUES.
The Messes Epidemic! Heldeberg.
H E cried: "Well! Let the gobline
I ain't a-scared of bogey!"
But she sat on, death-gray and dumb,
And smoked her box of stogies.

STATE PRESS

Honesty Vindicated.
Despite the fact that the Rev. Dr. W. MacCallough, pastor of the First Baptist Church, of Middletown, N. Y., condemned a gambling, and called upon the police to arrest members if they persisted in carrying on a farrow pot, he has been elected president of the Young Men's Association of the city, held his first meeting Saturday afternoon. Nearly 100 members were present, and the meeting was a success, they say, largely due to the advertising Pastor MacCallough gave it. MacCallough has resigned—Alexandria Gazette.

Voice of the People

The Necessity of a Thorough Preparation for the College.
Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir.—Right at the beginning we have the whole thing in a nutshell, well expressed, by that old maxim, "Well begun is half done."

THE Packard SHOE FOR MEN
Overflowing with style and comfort, durable in the extreme, Packard Shoes please particular persons who desire dressy effects at medium cost. See our new Spring Oxfords. They will surely please you.
Sold at \$3.50, \$4.00 and \$5.00 in all styles
WM. A. SORG & CO.,
326 E. Broad St. Richmond, Va.

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1908.

OHIO DEMOCRATS.

That nomination of Judson Harmon, a Cleveland Democrat, for Governor, despite the bitter fight of Thomas L. Johnson, is a significant fact. Judson Harmon was a Gold Democrat; he was a member of the Cabinet of Cleveland, that arch-enemy of democracy; he has even been a corporation lawyer, and is at present the receiver of a bankrupt railroad. Despite this long catalogue of high crimes and misdemeanors, he has been nominated for Governor, and has more than a fighting chance of election.

THE GIFT OF BEAUTY.

A Montclair, N. J., girl killed herself one day last week because she feared that a threatened facial operation would spoil her good looks, with which she seems, she was richly endowed. Here was, patently, the fatal gift of beauty, though hardly in the sense which Byron had in mind. She made, poor girl, an irreparable mistake. Why was not some wise counselor at hand to remind her that beauty is no more than skin-deep, and that something else, after all, is the thing to make and keep friends with?

ROYAL RICHMOND AND OLD VIRGINIA.

JUST what verbal fits our Richmond, Washington, Houston and other contemporary names throw over such weathered names as the Marquis de Lafayette is difficult to imagine. It is a fact that the Richmond and Norfolk papers roar a bit. We will mention the presence of roan-hairs in the Houston market. Every bird has its name. To visit Houston first—Houston Post.

MAKING A FLOWER BED.

Valuable and Timely Hints for the Flower Lover.
In making a flower bed consider where you put it and what you put in it. If you want to grow flowers for the flowers' sake the bed may be in the rear of your yard or in one side and laid out like a vegetable garden. The bed is to be part of a landscape picture, and the flowers should be freely distributed among the border shrubs as edging. It is seldom advised to make formal beds on the lawn. The place for a flower bed is in a park or public square, which is devoted to that particular purpose. Masses of one variety are more effective than a mixture of different kinds. Plants are grown in the middle of the lawn have little relation to other planting and background to show them off to good advantage. They are exposed to the sun and wind and the grass roots absorb food and moisture, making it hard for the flowers to flourish. Every bed should be bordered with a low, well-drained, that the land is in a mellow and friable condition and is rich. Each fall it should have a mulch of horse manure or cow manure, which should be packed under the soil in the spring. Make the bed as broad as possible so that the grass roots from either side will not meet beneath the flowers and rob them of the moisture.—Milwaukee Journal.

THE STAKE IN THE GAME

The stake in the great game of world politics which Japan is playing against the power of the Occident is China. The Celestial empire, the oldest, the biggest and the slowest of the nations, also potentially the richest. Its awakening means that a half billion people will demand Occidental wares, and the nations of supplying this trade will make great nations large. But once before in the history of the world has anything of like importance to commerce taken place, and that was when Columbus sailed into the unknown West and multiplied the world by two. To compare that with the present human beings, to control their affairs and to act in all things as an intermediary between them and the Occident, is what Japan aspires to do. Japan plays a desperate game. It has at least the justification that the stake is worth taking chances for. For a variety of reasons the United States of America is also in this game, and it is for the whole stake. The American idea is that China shall be opened to the whole world and free competition permitted to all merchants, no matter what flag they sail under. The United States in 1900 obtained the pledges of the powers that the "open door" policy should be carried up. The Chinese knew that the United States is the only nation that has not shared the spoils of the world. The Chinese also know that every other power has attempted to take some territory, and that Japan wants it all. The Chinese are saying among themselves that when the American fleet comes to the Pacific there need be no fear of the United States. Japan, brought to its present state by the aid and counsel of the Western powers, and for a long time the pet of the world, has now become the despised of most of them. If this displeasure should grow into hostility, and impatience into hostility, the great world will be divided. Japan, Japanese diplomatists promise to stop emigration to the United States, and emigration goes on. Japanese diplomatists promise to stop emigration to the United States, and emigration goes on. Japanese diplomatists promise to stop emigration to the United States, and emigration goes on.

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SCHOOLS, \$175,000; PLAYGROUNDS, NOTHING.

Last year Richmond appropriated \$119,154.41 for school purposes. In addition Richmond received \$57,611.71 from the State of Virginia, making a total of nearly \$175,000. For the session just ended there were 14,257 children enrolled in all departments of the Richmond schools, making an average cost of about \$12.32 per pupil. So much for the education of the read. During the year 1907 the city of Richmond spent for all purposes \$3,254,812.21. Yet, in all these disbursements an examination of the Auditor's report discloses that not one cent was appropriated for the creation and maintenance of a public playground in the city of Richmond. Suppose every child in town goes to school, even so there were 14,257 children last year digging in the gutters or trying to play in the narrow limits of the city parks or romping in the street at the imminent risk of their lives, while the city looked on and spent nearly \$3,000,000 without being able to find \$100 with which to heap up a little sand that the children might be happy, healthy and off the streets. Playgrounds are not luxuries; they are necessities. The children of Richmond have as much right to demand the price of educating their bodies as the price of educating their minds. It is disproportionate for the city to appropriate \$175,000 in acquiring and maintaining great schools, where the children at best can only be about five hours of the day, and refuse to take into account the safeguarding of the hours when the children must be outside. The playground exhibit in the Mechanics' Institute is at once a reproach and a promise of better things for the city of Richmond.

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