The Times-Dispatch

DAILY—WEEKLY—SUNDAY.

Business Office.....916 E. Main Street
Manchester Bureau.....1103 Hull Street
Petersburg Bureau.....109 N. Sycamore Street
Lynchburg Bureau.....215 Eighth Street

BY MAIL. POSTAGE PAID.	One Year.	Six Mos.	Three Mos.	One Mo.
Daily with Sunday	$6.00	$3.00	$1.50	.55
Daily without Sunday .	4.00	2.00	1.00	.35
Sunday edition only ...	2.00	1.00	.50	.25
Weekly (Wednesday) ..	1.00	.50	.25	...

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service in Richmond (and suburbs), Manchester and Petersburg—

	One Week.
Daily with Sunday.....	14 cents
Daily without Sunday.....	10 cents
Sunday only	5 cents

Entered January 27, 1903, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1909.

THE PRESIDENT.

Richmond wakes this morning to find a distinguished visitor within her gates. President Taft makes an easy capture of the city. He comes in amity and good will and is welcomed with our most bountiful and best.

No President since the war has gotten closer to the hearts of the South than William H. Taft. Probably not one has been so personally popular in the South. There is no accident about this. The South has drawn and interested Mr. Taft from the start. He has sincerely desired to understand our part of the country and be understood by it. He has gone to particular pains to make friends with us and to win our confidence. And the Southern people, the friendliest and most human people in the world, have responded with that quick cordiality which is so characteristic of them.

Has there been politics back of this frank wooing of our section of the country? No doubt. Mr. Taft is a party man of the staunchest sort. Pushing the tenets of his faith would naturally present itself to him as a national service. But we have instinctively believed that the message that Secretary Dickinson carried not long ago to his own Tennessee is true. There has been another and higher motive in these amiable overtures than a conscientious plugging for votes. For Mr. Taft, besides being a sturdy Republican, is a thoroughgoing nationalist. The spectacle of a solid group of States, members of the Union, yet still carrying reminders, faint but tangible, of their one-time separation from the Union, made a straight appeal to his sense of justice and deep-seated love of national harmony. The situation did not seem right to him, as it has not seemed right to us. Very earnestly has he desired to be, and to be considered, the President of the whole United States. And here the South, which has its feelings like any other section of the country, has been ready and willing to meet him more than half way.

The other part of Mr. Taft's program, the political part, is destined to carry through some day, too. In the nature of the case, the South will not remain a political unit forever. Here in Virginia, so far as the last test at the polls can show, the movement to break that solid front is making no headway just now. But probably the time is not far distant when one Southern State will be found to have voted with Mr. Taft's party, and then another and perhaps another. There will be no surrender of principle in this. Two large, natural and almost irresistible forces will be behind it.

One is the changing conditions in the South. With immense travail the South has at last delivered herself from the house of bondage. Politically, socially, industrially, she is free. The pains of the new birth are already fading from memory, and the generation that inflicted them is fast slipping into the past. The white man rules the South, definitely and finally, and now at length he can face the knowledge that his is a land of great plenty and enormous potential wealth. New thoughts, new ambitions, perhaps new political ideals, are occupying his mind.

And hand in hand with this change comes that other and still more significant change which has taken place in the public sentiment of the country, and so of the Republican party, toward the South. No one who has eyes to see and ears to hear can possibly question this change. By no possibility can Mr. Taft be confounded with the type of Republican which we knew here too well in 1868. He and hundreds of thousands like him belong to that newer type of the North, East and West which sincerely admires and respects the South; which knows that the South fought for what it believed to be the just cause and fought with a bravery which splendidly stood by it and guided it through the heavy days of reconstruction; which concludes that, after all, the South has known best how to meet its own peculiar problems; which approves the disfranchisement of the worthless negro and the enforcement of white rule; which welcomes the figure of Robert E. Lee into the company of great men in a national statuary hall. So, as happier conditions have insensibly shifted the point of view of the South, a changing sentiment in other parts of the country has advanced to meet it. And inevitably this meeting and merging foreshadow a time when Mason and Dixon's line will fade from the political map and the once fierce sectionalism will become no more than a softened reminiscence.

In this chain of events, present and to come, the Republican party in the South is the vital link. No Republican leader has ever shown anything like the desire to cleanse and strengthen his own party in the South that Mr. Taft has shown from the beginning. With this ambition every Southerner should be big enough to feel the heartiest sympathy. A clean, vigorous opposition would be of much benefit to the Southern States. The Democratic party is not maintained as an instrument to land the offices and draw the salaries. It is maintained as a great organization devoted to serving the people as honestly, intelligently and progressively as possible. When it ceases to do that, it deserves to be defeated. As long as it does that, it has nothing to fear from opposition, whose only effect will be constantly to inspire it to do its best. Has the Democratic party done well or ill by Virginia? Compare the State to-day with the State of forty years ago. The President finds himself this morning in a smiling, busy and prosperous city, one of many thriving centres in a State which is now making a name among States for wholesome and vigorous progress. If he seeks a monument to the party which has managed Virginia's affairs for so many uninterrupted years, he has only to look about him.

But, bless you, this is no day for politics. Our distinguished guest comes to us on no vote-catching tour, but on the nobler mission of national unification. This is a day for good will and fellowship and hospitality and due homage to great office and pride in our great country. These things Richmond has in plenty, and she is proud and happy to offer them to-day to the President of the whole United States.

INDORSED FOR THE SUPREME COURT.

The Richmond Bar Association met yesterday and indorsed Erskine Mayo Ross, at present judge in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals for the Ninth District, for the existing vacancy in the United States Supreme Court. Judge Ross is a Virginian by birth, was educated in the schools of this State, and read law in Richmond. His rapid rise in his profession since his removal to the Pacific coast has been particularly gratifying to his friends and fellow-lawyers here. Nor did his distinguished services on the Circuit Court bench leave any room for doubt that he is distinctly fitted to sit in the higher tribunal.

Many great constitutional lawyers will be urged for the place in the Supreme Court left vacant by the death of Associate Justice Peckham. But we venture to say that few or none of them will have more substantial claims to the distinction than this learned Virginian-Californian, whom President Cleveland marked for just this honor many years ago.

MR. TAFT ON NATIONAL HEALTH.

President Taft hit a bull's eye in his Augusta speech when he advocated the establishment of a national bureau of health. Perhaps no suggestion made during his entire tour dealt with a topic that more concerns the welfare of the whole people, or more affects the happiness of everyday life.

Such a bureau is a legitimate field of congressional legislation, since it concerns a subject above the range of party or faction, section or State. It represents, also, a field into which the Federal government has as yet ventured but slightly. Yet the results achieved by cities and States, working with limited resources and scanty appropriations, indicate the vast benefits that might result from wise and far-seeing legislation.

Indeed, the work which might come within the purview of such a bureau is almost unlimited. What Federal quarantine does for our ports, Federal health inspection might do for every State. When plague swept San Francisco, and when yellow fever threatened New Orleans, prompt and immediate Federal oversight saved many lives and protected an entire section. The eradication of the same yellow peril from Havana and from the canal zone, to say nothing of the conquest of smallpox in the Philippines, were further tributes to the possibilities of national health work.

The establishment of such a bureau, effectually organized and adequately equipped, would greatly simplify the health problems of the government. At present there are at least five bureaus which directly or indirectly concern the bodily welfare of the people. The Life-Saving Service, the Bureau of Animal Industry, the Surgeon-Generals' offices, naval and military, and the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service tackle the same problem from different points of view. In many instances there is a useless duplication of work, as for example, in the tuberculosis sanatoria maintained by the army and by the navy.

All of these departments might be consolidated to make a Bureau of Health that should be national in its scope and preventive in its methods. The work of such a bureau would be a vast saving of life and a steady augmentation of the dynamic energies of the nation.

THE ALDERMEN MEET THE ISSUE.

In voting to investigate fully all the points raised by City Accountant Crenshaw's report on the Collector's office, the Aldermen did their clear duty last night. Conflicting statements have raised doubts in the public mind over certain important points here. No doubts should ever exist in connection with the handling of public moneys, and it is necessary that those raised in the present case should be fully cleared away. Official investigations are never welcome or pleasant, but a conscientious legislative body cannot dodge them when they naturally arise and present themselves.

The Aldermen discharged a responsibility to the Collector as well as to the city. Captain Cunningham has expressed himself as confident that he can explain any doubtful matters to the satisfaction of the Council, the Mayor, and the public. Apparently this language is a tacit request for an investigation. At any rate, it is clear that an investigation will give Captain Cunningham the fairest possible opportunity to make the explanation which he is evidently ready for. There is no one in the city who does not desire to see his confidence in his own statement of the case abundantly justified.

ROADS NEAR AND FAR.

The roads movement is forging steadily ahead. Spotsylvania county voted a bond issue of $100,000 on election day. In Washington county the question of a $300,000 issue is beginning to take tangible form. At Rustburg day before yesterday Campbell county tax-payers met to discuss the issue of $200,000 worth of road bonds. County after county is thus falling in line. Every day more Virginia taxpayers are realizing the wisdom of large immediate expenditures for road improvements by which the coming generation will largely benefit and for which it should help to pay.

In another column, Thomas H. Harris, of Fredericksburg, tells in detail how the movement for a bond issue in Spotsylvania was worked up and successfully put through. His letter will repay a reading. A postal card canvass, after due advertisement of the issue, showed "about 25 per cent. of the people interested." A notable point about these preliminary returns was that the men favorable to road improvement, though only 60 per cent. of the total number, were paying $4 in taxes for every dollar paid by those opposed to the movement. Systematic agitation continued with excellent results. Though several earlier attempts to have a roads-bonds election had failed, the election last Tuesday drew out almost the entire electorate. Out of 765 qualified voters in the county, all but eleven actually went to the polls and voted. Certainly there was no sign of apathy here.

Henrico is almost the only, if not the only, county in the State where a bond issue for better roads has been defeated in the last twelvemonth. The Times-Dispatch has refused to believe that the tax-payers of Henrico are any less hard-headed or progressive than those of other counties. Two points must be remembered in connection with the voting down of the issue. One is that the Henrico roads are well above the county average already, and far better than many counties can boast. The other is the presence of this city on the edge of the county. Many Henrico tax-payers felt, with reason, that Richmond should contribute in some way to an expenditure from which she would benefit. They are entirely right. We have no doubt that Henrico would vote a liberal issue of bonds provided that Richmond agreed to contribute a fair amount toward the roads near the city, which Richmond people largely use. It would be a most welcome thing to see the county and the city get together on those terms.

We note that work on the Petersburg Pike, between that city and Richmond, has been stopped on account of lack of funds, and that Mr. Lewis C. Williams, one of the leaders in the roads cause here, is making an appeal for contributions in Richmond to help complete it. There is every reason why this appeal should be answered liberally. The improvement of the roads leading into this city is of very great and practical benefit to us, in the same sort of way that a good bridge to Manchester is a benefit, and the municipality should be prepared to spend money freely to accomplish it.

It is our pleasure this morning, Mr. President, to offer you the freedom of the finest city in the U. S.

If it should rain to-day, we can only conclude that Mr. Taft has not inherited any of the famous Roosevelt luck. A rainy day here, Sir, is as rare as snow in Tallahassee. The Richmond rain, soft, balmy and enriching, nearly always falls between the hours of 1 and 4 A. M., when everybody is asleep but policemen and editors.

The Washington Herald editorially considers "The Ideal Wife." We note that it is a short article.

Our noble Jeems River has a bad hump in it, Mr. President, but we shall say never a word about it to-day.

The Harvard professor who thinks that blasphemy should not be considered a great sin seems to think that he has discovered something. Why not take a crack at him, Mr. Peary?

The startling report comes from China that Mr. Fairbanks has shaved off his whiskers. His true friends are confident, however, that he can clear himself of the charge.

Cook has not wholly ruined the market, Peary's first magazine article brings him a little honorarium of $1.20 per word.

It is usually the happiest day of a President's life, when he finds himself at last sitting down to a breakfast of genuine Henrico county sausage with the gold-brown Sally Lunn sitting demurely on the side.

As he has not yet finished his course at Yale, we think it for the best that Bob Taft is not with his distinguished father to-day. Young men who are not yet ready to marry should never be introduced to any of our little star-eyed blondes.

Spreckels, of San Francisco, is planning a national organization to fight municipal graft. The idea is a worthy one, but wouldn't it be best to try it out fully on the mote first?

If she scolded more and was more catty, no power on earth could keep the paragraphers from referring to her as Mrs. Spankhurst.

As a resourceful and marvelous actorine, the Steinhell has the Bernhardt securely spliced to the mizzenmast.

And what will ye call the New Theatre—when it is old, messieurs?

On Seeing Miss Annie S— With Veil on at Church.

Fair Annie, do not veil away
The charms that all delight to see;
Withdraw not from the light of day
The sparkle of thy laughing "ee."

Oh! hide not e'en in seeming now
The poetry of thy charming face,
Nor outlines of thy classic brow,
Nor lips so ripe in wit and grace.

Tall and erect thy figure stands,
Symmetrical in ev'ry line,
As if some Grecian sculptor's hands
Had chiseled it with art divine.

No need to veil—you stand the test
At church, at home, aye, anywhere;
Among the brightest and the best
Not one will e'er surpass you there.

DUVAL PORTER.

Borrowed Jingles

A BACHELOR'S PLAINT.

She left her babe with me and went
To shop in town a while,
And I, before the day was spent,
Was much too sad to smile;
For e'en before she passed from view,
And left a lonely man,
It acted just as if it knew,
And then the fun began.

It wept and wailed; it roared and squalled;
It kicked; it's face turned red;
It squawked and blatted, howled and bawled
Enough to wake the dead.
It yowled and screeched as lustily
As forty cats in fight—
I never thought such lungs could be
In such a tiny mite.

I heaved a sigh and settled down
To make the best of it;
And just before she came from town
The darling cherub quit.
Would she believe the little cuss
Had made such awful noise?
Ah, no! She e'en addressed it thus:
"Oo bestest 'haved of boys!"

—Chicago News.

MERELY JOKING.

The Wrong Nerve.

"I was down to the milliner's and she had just been to the dentist's and had a nerve killed."

"Well, from the prices she asks for hats, I should say the dentist must have killed the wrong one."—Kansas City Journal.

Keep It Quiet.

Mamma: "Did you tell God how very naughty you were?"

Mary: "No, mamma; I thought it hadn't better get out of the family."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Heard on the Corner.

"I see a college professor claims that Chaucer will outlive Shakespeare."

"Well, of all the ignorance! Both of them fellers have been dead for 300 years."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

That's the Reason.

The Teacher: "All your arithmetic problems are wrong. If this happens again I'll tell your father."

The Pupil: "But pa did 'em for me!"—Comic Cuts.

In the Stores.

"I never thought these department store restaurants would catch on like they have."

"Why not?"

"I feared people would make trouble wanting sample sections of steak or trying to match a piece of pie like the one they bought last week."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

PERTINENT POINTS.

PERHAPS it is true, as some one says, that Speaker Cannon is more of a humorist than a statesman. And the Speaker isn't very funny, either.—Boston Globe.

* * *

Mr. Hill will please note that Secretary Wilson pooh-poohs the idea of our starving to death.—Omaha Bee.

* * *

Senator Aldrich's incursion into the West promises to be the most interesting political Odyssey of recent times.—New York Post.

* * *

Part of the real Southern cooking for Mr. Taft was sent down from Chicago, so you may know it was good.—Chicago News.

* * *

Already Mayor-elect Gaynor is receiving mention for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1912. If he and former Governor Pennypacker, of Pennsylvania, were of the same political complexion they might go before the voters on an anti-newspaper platform.—Springfield Union.

* * *

The report of Tom Taggart's loss of influence must have been exaggerated. The fact that he was for the Democratic candidate for Mayor of Indianapolis is said to have elected the Republican nominee.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

STATE PRESS

Republican Buncombe.

It was announced in Washington on Saturday by Representative Slemp, of Virginia, chairman of the Republican State Committee, that headquarters would be opened at Roanoke, with George L. Hart in charge, and that they will remain open permanently. Candidates, he says, will be run by that party in each of the ten districts in the State for Congress next summer. He should learn new tricks. In the last campaign he said he would put a candidate in the field for the House of Delegates in every district in the State, but, in fact, he put up but twenty-two.—Alexandria Gazette.

Dr. T. S. Dunaway, a Veteran Cleric.

Rev. T. S. Dunaway, D. D., reached the ripe age of eighty years last Friday. Forty-three of those years have been spent as a citizen of Fredericksburg and thirty-two of them as the pastor of the Baptist Church. During his life in our midst he has endeared himself to our people by his upright, pious example, and no one has contributed more to the elevation of our citizens in morals and religion than he. His name will live and his noble life will influence succeeding generations for good. The large gathering at the Baptist Church Sunday to hear him preach attested his strong hold upon their affections and their great desire to hear what he stated might be his last message. His introductory was reminiscent and carried his auditors back to the days of his coming among us, but very few of his church members or visitors were present at that time to greet him. His congregation was made up mostly of the children of those people, of blessed memory, who had received their spiritual birth under his able ministry, and the occasion reminded one of the happy occasions of other years.—Fredericksburg Star.

Music for Roanoke.

There are a good lot of music-loving people in Roanoke. It is unfortunate that there are factions in our music circle, if circle it may be called. The modern method in almost every line of activity is closer association, exchange of ideas, friendliness. Why not have it that way with music in Roanoke? Let us really have a music circle, unbroken by discord. Let us get together, music lovers of Roanoke, in harmony. There is a power for good that is not generally recognized because of the lack of unanimity or harmony. By attuning ourselves to the common good, which means betterment for every one, master or pupil or simple auditor, much might be accomplished. Concerts by home talent might be developed. There are many good vocalists in Roanoke, and they should not be permitted to waste their efforts merely on the desert air. There is much good being done by music in churches and schools and homes here to-day, but it could be bettered far by giving the co-operative attention that should be given. A musical organization that would be the envy of scores of cities might be built up right here in Roanoke. Why not do it?—Roanoke Evening World.

Better Roads for Lunenburg.

There is nothing in Lunenburg county of so great importance as her highways. Every one knows the condition of our roads during the winter and spring, and it becomes us to take some steps to improve them. What we must do is to devise some way to fix our roads that is not too expensive, and the writer believes this can be done. Take the road from Victoria to the courthouse for instance. This road has been worked this summer and a good deal of good work was done on it, but it is not finished; it has been left too rough, too many places to hold water, and every place the water stands will make a rut and mudhole, for which this road has been noted. If this road was smoothed up, harrowed and rolled and then topdressed with the sandy, gravelly surface soil, which can be gotten from both sides of it, and crowned with a wearing surface of at least eight inches of this material, and a man kept on the road during the good weather to fill up the little ruts and keep the ditches open, we believe we would have as good a road in a year's time as the sand and clay roads that are being built under the supervision of the State, and at a very much less cost.—Lunenburg Times.

Local merchants of the "progressive" type seek our services in the writing and illustrating of their advertising copy.

Richmond Advertising Agency, Inc.
Mutual Building,
Richmond, Virginia.
Established 1904.

EUROPEAN TITLES CANNOT BE SOLD

German Emperor Waging War on Swindlers Who Advertise Sale of Nobility.

WEYLER AGAIN IN LIMELIGHT

Chosen by Spanish King to Bring Order Out of Chaos at Barcelona.

BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENOY.

AT the instance of the Kaiser, the German authorities are inaugurating measures with a view to bringing to justice the swindlers responsible for the advertisements which are to be found in such numbers in German and Austrian papers, either offering for sale a "rittergut" (estate), carrying with it a title of nobility, or else undertaking to secure legal adoption by some nobleman, with the right of succession to his title and name. Now, in the first place, there is to-day no castle or estate, either in Germany or in Austria, the possession of which carries with it, ipse facto, a title of nobility. Therefore the advertisements offering to sell an estate thus endowed are fraudulent, and consequently criminal.

With regard to the acquisition of a title of nobility through adoption, that is equally impossible in Germany, in Austria, in France, England and Spain; in fact, everywhere in Europe. A man, after going through a number of formalities, can bequeath his name and also his estates to an adopted son or daughter, but cannot transmit any nobiliary dignity which he may have in this fashion. Occasionally the sovereign of the country, who, as "the fountain of honor," alone has the right to bestow titles, may specifically authorize a man, by means of a patent, to revive in his own person the titular honors of his adopted father, the patent being equivalent to a new creation of the title. But monarchs are very chary about moving in matters of this kind, and while they have sometimes consented to grant petitions for the continuation of a title to an adopted son related to the testator, with the object of preventing the extinction of the family honors, the crown would certainly refuse to do anything of the kind in instances where the adopted son had no ties of kinsmanship with his adopted father, and where the relations between them were based solely and entirely on a financial transaction.

Weyler's Olive Branch.

General Weyler's appointment to the office of Captain-General of Catalonia, while disconcerting to those who had looked for a policy of conciliation on the part of the new government in Spain, cannot fail to bring about a restoration of law and order at Barcelona, which has always been the headquarters of every revolutionary movement in the Peninsula. The general, who bears the title of Marquis of Teneriffe, bestowed upon him for military services, announced on his arrival at Barcelona last Thursday to assume office, that he brought an olive branch in one hand and military law in the other, and that he would tolerate no insult to Spain and no insults to the army. He may be relied upon to carry out his pledges, and certainly will brook no disorder, and will crush all trouble with a heavy hand. While Weyler has the reputation, won in Cuba, of being ruthlessly severe, there is no doubt that he possesses to a far greater degree than any other officer of his rank in the Spanish army the spirit of discipline, of administrative order and powers of organization. In fact, he is an extremely able officer, who is respected by the people of Spain and exercises an enormous influence with the non-commissioned officers of the army, as also with the inferior ranks of the commissioned officers, but whose rough manners, brusquerie and lack of polish have made for him many enemies in Madrilene society and in the political world.

Few people at Washington nowadays recall the fact that he was military attache of the Spanish legation there throughout the presidency of Lincoln and that he was in attendance in that capacity both on Sherman and on Sheridan during a considerable portion of the Civil War, while there are no military leaders for whom he entertains a warmer regard and a greater admiration than for General Grant. He is of Teuton origin, the grandson of one of the South German army contractors who followed Joseph Bonaparte and Marshal Soult into Spain in the early part of the last century. After they were driven out of the country he went over to the enemy, that is to say, to the Spaniards, and adopted their nationality, though retaining his name.

Weyler, in spite of his gruffness and hot temper, has a keen sense of humor, and among the treasures of his library are a collection of scrap books containing all the caricatures published of him in this country at the time he was Governor-General of Cuba, and stigmatized by Amos Cummings on the floor of Congress at Washington as "the Gila monster of Spanish tyranny, fouling with his breath the atmosphere of civilization."

While the Queen mother resents his blunt manners, yet both she and the young King, who is fond of him, appreciate not only his qualities as a commander and as an administrator, but also his loyalty to the crown, for there is no doubt that during the past ten or fifteen years it has been repeatedly within his power to use his influence with the army, either to seize upon the military dictatorship of the country or else to carry through a successful coup d'etat in favor of either a republic or of a Carlist regime. That he has received temptations in these directions, and has been repeatedly approached by the foes of the dynasty, is a matter of common notoriety, and it is to his credit that he should have turned his back upon all such manoeuvres and have remained unswervingly true and devoted to Alfonso XIII.

It is somewhat strange to find him figuring as one of the principal supporters of the Cabinet of Premier Moret; for when the latter came into office just before the outbreak of the war between this country and Spain, eleven years ago, one of the very first things he did was to recall Weyler in quasi-disgrace from the governor-generalship of Cuba, and to supersede him by Blanco, thus rendering nugatory all the careful and elaborate plans which he had made for the suppression of the insurrection.

Mayors Who Are Peers.

Among the hundreds of British Mayors and Lord Mayor who entered upon their term of office yesterday are a number of peers of the realm. They include the Duke of Marlborough, who is to serve another twelve months as Mayor of Eastbourne, while the Earl Fitzwilliam is the new Lord Mayor of Sheffield, among his predecessors in that office having been the Duke of Norfolk. The Duke of Bedford has been Mayor of Holborn, Cardiff has had as its Mayor a Marquis of Bute, while Liverpool has elected as its chief magistrate an Earl of Derby. Lord Cheylesmore, who has an American wife, has filled two terms as Mayor of Westminster; Lord De La Warr has been Mayor of Bexhill, and the Earl of Dudley has put in a term as Mayor of Worcester, in which office he was succeeded by Lord Beauchamp.

Lord Fitzwilliam was born on this side of the Atlantic, namely, in Canada; a fact which was brought to the attention of the public shortly after his accession to the earldom, through the striking off the rolls, that is to say, the disbarring, of a lawyer for having obtained by fraud a considerable sum of money in connection with researches into the circumstances of the earl's birth, certain members of the Fitzwilliam family having raised, altogether without justification, a question as to his right to the succession.

The earl, who almost lost his life some years ago in an attempt to recover the treasure of Sir Henry Morgan, the famous buccaneer, by blowing up with dynamite the whole side of a mountain in the Cocos Islands, can boast of owning the biggest country house in all England, known as Wentworth House. It is so huge that guests find it of advantage to bring with them treble the ordinary number of hats, which are kept at the various entrances, so as to save them the trouble of walking about a quarter of a mile from one entrance in order to fetch the hat which they may have left at another. It is asserted, moreover, that when Baron Liebig, the eminent German scientist, stayed there, he insisted on being provided, before he retired for the night, with a bag of wafers, so that by dropping them in a continuous line from the smoking-room to his bedroom, he might the next morning find his way back again.

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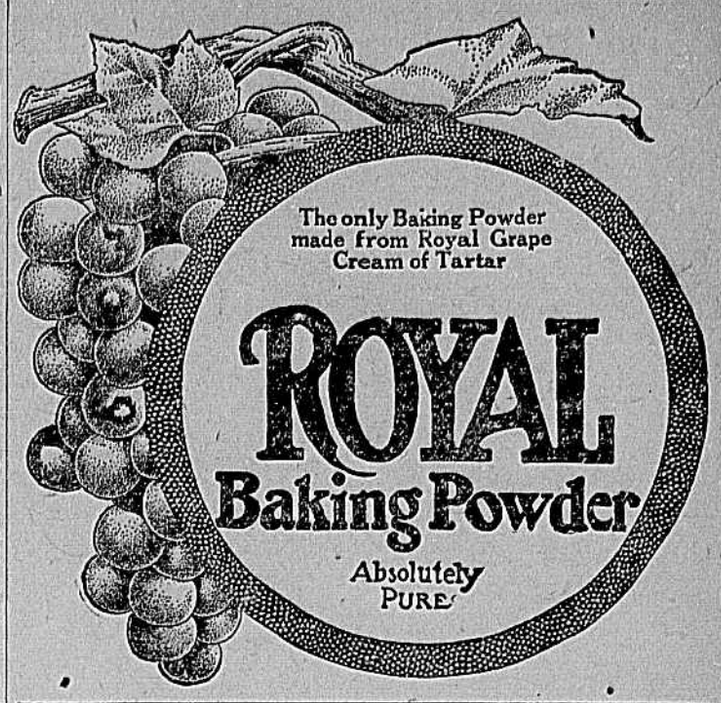

Daily Queries and Answers

Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins or stamps valued and no dealers' names will be given.

A City Chemist.

Has the city of Richmond a City Chemist? Was there not some talk of getting one? What man looks after such work for the city? CHEMIST.

Penn's Grove, N. J.

No, though the election of such a chemist was advocated in the Council during the present year. Chemical work for the Water Department and Health Department is done by the chemist in the employ of the two departments mentioned.

The University Law Course.

"Loyal Student" writes us that the University of Virginia has this year established a three-year course in law.

Facts About Charleston.

1. Did the great earthquake of Charleston, S. C., damage the churches of St. Philip and St. Michael, and to what extent? Has the damage been repaired?

2. Was the sinking of an artesian well at the corner of Meeting and Wentworth Streets, commenced in the "fifties" of the last century, ever completed? Was it a success?

3. From whence does the city of Charleston obtain its present water supply?

A FORMER CHARLESTONIAN.

If you will write to the Hon. R. G. Rhett, Mayor of Charleston, he can give you full information on these points.

Carnegie's Charities in 1908.

Kindly tell me what were the total gifts made by Andrew Carnegie in 1908. B. B. M.

$7,457,600.

Photograph Copyright.

Can I secure a copyright on a photograph I want to make of the Taft parade to-morrow? CITIZEN.

Certainly. You can secure full information regarding the copyright law at the State Library.

Petroleum Production.

To settle a bet, please tell me what percentage of the crude petroleum supply is produced in the United States? B. T. G.

63.12 per cent.

Fairbanks and Tariff Revision.

Please tell me if Vice-President Fairbanks was not the author of the resolution adopted by the Indiana Republicans last year calling for a revision of the tariff. P.

Such was the general impression at the time, though no official statement was made.

Senator R. L. Owen.

Please tell me if R. L. Owen, Democratic Senator from Oklahoma, is not a native of North Carolina. N. C.

No. He was born and raised in Lynchburg, Va.

What of Abdul Hamid?

What has become of Abdul Hamid? INQUIRER.

He is in retirement, under close guard, at Salonika. He will probably never play any further part in Turkish history.

"Typhoid Carriers."

I saw some talk in the papers recently about persons carrying the germs of typhoid fever. What is meant by this? A READER.

You probably refer to "typhoid carriers," of which there are a number of cases on record. These persons contract typhoid fever, recover from its effects, gain immunity and yet keep the germs in their system. They are liable, therefore, to infect other persons.

Sir Henry Campbell-Bannermann.

Kindly inform me when Sir Henry Campbell-Bannermann died. Was he in office at the time of his death? A CONSTANT READER.

He died April 22, 1908, having retired April 5.

Blumenthal Not to Appear in America.

Is the distinguished pianist, Jacquer Blumenthal going to appear in America this winter? K. T.

No, Blumenthal died in May of last year.

The New Senate Offices.

Have the new offices for the Senate in Washington been completed? W.

Yes, and will be used at the next session of Congress.

"Blind Tom."

Is the negro pianist, "Blind Tom," still alive? What was his real musical ability? MUSICIAN.

"Blind Tom," whose real name was Thomas G. Bethune, died on June 15, 1908. Though almost an idiot, his musical imitative power baffled critics. He mastered more than 5,000 difficult musical compositions, though, of course, all that he played was by ear.

Mrs. E. H. Sothern.

Who is the wife of the actor Sothern? S.

Virginia Harned.

Voice of the People.

How They Carried the Bond Issue in Spotsylvania.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—In December, 1906, the following notice appeared in one of the local papers:

"The writer proposes to agitate the Spotsylvania road question, and will make a special request of every voter in the county as to how, when and where. Don't fail to reply promptly when your attention is asked for.

(Signed) —"ROADS."

On December 31, 1906, the following notice appeared in a local paper:

"Our subject is Spotsylvania roads, and we are asking twenty-five men who think, and will act, to contribute $1 each for a fund to get a postal card vote. We hope you will print all signed articles on the subject that you receive, and only those where the author signs his name to the article. I purpose leading this matter, unless some one else will do so.

"Respectfully,

(Signed) "THOS. H. HARRIS."

Seventeen dollars in money, $1 in printing, $1 in voter lists, were promptly contributed to the effort; $19.25 was spent. Postal cards were purchased, printed and mailed to the voters of the county. The cards were sent with reply paid, questions on one and answers to be filled in by the voter, and were as follows:

"Dear Sir,—You are cordially invited to join us in getting the sentiment of thinking people on the road question. Please fill in the answers to all questions on the reply card and mail the card at once, that we may get the data in hand for reference. Answer all questions, sign your name, make no delay, as we propose getting all the interest in this matter that can be done, and if you read our local papers, you will be kept informed as to the purpose and progress.

"Most earnestly yours for roads,
(Signed) "THOS. H. HARRIS.
"Sign your name. Mail the card."

On reply card was the following:

"Answer questions, sign name, mail card.

"Shall the county sell bonds? Ans.

"For how much money? Ans.

"Have you stone or gravel on your land? Ans.

"Will you sell for a reasonable price? Ans.

"Will you take a contract to deliver on road? Ans.

"How much taxes do you pay in the county? Ans.

"How much land do you own? Ans.

"Will you suggest some idea that will be helpful to us? Ans.

(Signed) "_____."

When these cards came back they showed about 25 per cent. of the people interested. Of this number 60 per cent. were favorable, and those favorable were paying $4 taxes to the $1 paid by those opposed to improvement of road conditions. This was considered as favorable for a forward movement, and since that time a line of accurate, progressive information has been offered the voters of the county. How well and with what effect the following will give a very fair idea. On several occasions an effort was made to hold a special road election, but each time it was found some further preparation was necessary. These were completed, and a road election was ordered for November 2, 1909. The qualified vote in the county numbered 765. All of these voted except eleven—402 for bond issue, 352 against bond issue, giving a majority of fifty for road improvement. This movement has been quiet and progressive from the beginning, and you are furnished this information because of your encouragement, influence and open-hearted efforts in the good roads cause, not only in this county, but over the State. Yours for good roads all over the State, THOS. H. HARRIS.

Fredericksburg, November 5, 1909.

BANKING BY MAIL

Our plan of Banking by Mail enables you to make deposits and withdrawals as easy and with as much security as if the business were transacted in person. The United States government will deliver your money or checks, and we will return your pass-book with all deposits duly credited. We allow 3 Per Cent. Compound Interest on all savings accounts.

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