

THE NEWS FROM VIRGINIA CONTINUED FROM PAGE SEVEN

PETERSBURG.

A Pretty Marriage at Oakland, King George County.

A White Partridge Killed—Labor Needed in Mills—Slaughter of Birds—Arranging for Joint Masonic Celebration.

Petersburg, Va., Oct. 5.—Oakland Church, Prince George county, was the scene this afternoon at 3 o'clock of a very pretty marriage. The parties to this union were Mr. William Horace Smith and Miss Susie Rives Hobbs.

A GENTLEMAN of this city shot and killed yesterday, in Prince George county, a white partridge. The bird was brought here and given to a bank official, who will send it on to New York to be stuffed.

Petersburg Lodge of Elks installed five new members last night. This lodge is rapidly increasing its membership.

LABOR NEEDED. The cotton factories in and around Petersburg give employment to about one thousand operatives. An officer of one of the large cotton manufacturing companies here told me this morning that about two hundred or more hands could find employment here in the cotton factories.

SLAUGHTER OF BIRDS. Last Spring some two or three gentlemen of Petersburg purchased in North Carolina about two hundred young partridges, which were turned loose in Prince George county. It is said that parties are now shooting and killing these birds and that pretty much the whole number has been killed.

Mrs. J. S. Wade, of Baltimore, who has been on a visit to her husband, who has charge of the construction of the street electric railway wires, left for home this morning.

MASONIC CELEBRATION. Major Mann Page, who has been spending some time at Cape May, N. J., arrived here to-day from Lower Brandon, and to-morrow he will leave here for Washington, whither he goes to meet the Masonic committee of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, which will hold a joint session with the Masonic committee of the Grand Lodge of Washington, with reference to making the final arrangements for the celebration of the memorial services to George Washington that are to take place on the 14th of December.

The services at Mt. Vernon, it is anticipated, will be followed by a very hospitable reception to representatives by all the Grand Masonic Lodges in the United States, with the exception of Pennsylvania.

NEWPORT NEWS.

ABOUT THE NEW BATTLESHIP—HYMENEAL—FOOTBALL. Newport News, Va., Oct. 5.—The last eight-inch gun for the battleship Kentucky has arrived at the shipyard and now her main battery is complete. The work of fitting the guns in the turrets has been started and it is probable that the four thirteen-inch and four eight-inch guns of the main battery will be in place in the superposed turrets before the battleship goes out on her builders' trial trip.

It is expected that this trial will take place in about two weeks. A large force of men has been put to work on the ship in order to get her as nearly completed as possible before she goes out. Captain Chester, who will command the Kentucky, has been here for some time and has been a careful observer of the excellent manner in which the finishing touches to his ship are being put on.

The battleship Kearsarge is being dressed up and will soon be ready to go in commission. The fourteen 5-inch rapid-fire rifles have not yet arrived at the shipyard for this ship. As soon as they come the vessel will be complete. When the shipyard is ready to turn the Kearsarge over to Captain Folger, her commander, a crew will be sent here to man the vessel, but there still remains a number of officers to be attached to the Kearsarge. Her complement, including officers and crew, will number 520 men.

HYMENEAL. Mr. and Mrs. George W. Pifer, of Frederick county, Va., have issued invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Miss Katherine Pifer, to Rev. E. Ashby Shenk, Wednesday evening, October 18th, at 5 o'clock, at Gravel Springs Church, Frederick county.

Mr. Shenk is the popular pastor of the Lutheran Church, which has enjoyed rapid growth since he came here some months ago and took charge. FOOTBALL POSTPONED. Manager John Yostley, of the local football team, yesterday notified Manager Gerke, of the Portsmouth eleven, that the game between the two teams in this city next Saturday would have to be called off, as the eleven here has not been thoroughly organized. It is probable, however, that the locals will give Portsmouth's eleven a game in the next two weeks.

LYNCHBURG.

YOUNG MAN CHARGED WITH EMBEZZLEMENT. Lynchburg, Va., Oct. 5.—Charles Owen has been brought here from the Western State Hospital, at Staunton, by Dr. DeJarnett and was turned over to the authorities of the city court. Owen is under the indictment for the embezzlement of sums amounting to \$4,546. The complainants are the

Plantation Packing Company, of Wisconsin, and the National Linsed Oil Company, of Illinois. Owen has been in the hospital at Staunton ever since the development of his troubles. He was bailed to-day in the sum of \$2,000, with N. C. Manson surety.

UNVEILING OF THE BUST OF POE.

University of Virginia, Oct. 5.—Saturday, October 7th, has been set for the unveiling of the bust of Edgar Allan Poe, one of the greatest of the University's alumni.

On this day the famous author of "The Raven" will be honored by his alma mater, who welcomes all to the ceremonies, which will accompany the unveiling.

The following list of distinguished names intend to be present: Prof. Henry E. Shepherd, Baltimore, Md.; Mr. George H. Saxe, Literary Editor Charleston News and Courier, Charleston, S. C.; Mr. A. C. Gordon, Staunton, Va.; Mr. Wm. Fearing Gill, New York; Chevalier Reynolds, Washington, D. C.; Herbert Burns Wilson, Frankfort, Ky.; H. J. Stockard, Locust Dale, Va.; Katherine Pearson Wood, Baltimore, Md.; Miss Woods, Baltimore, Md.; W. Scott, State Librarian, Richmond, Va.; F. P. Brent, Richmond, Va.; W. H. H. Moran, Manassas, Va.; Gen. Marcus J. Wright, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Charles W. Dabney, president of University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn.; W. A. Read, Alexandria; E. C. Mead, Keswick; Dr. George S. Duncan, Washington, D. C.; Senator John W. Daniels, Washington, D. C.; Andrew Downing, Washington, D. C.; Miss Maud Howard Peterson, New York; A. K. McClure, Philadelphia (of the Philadelphia Times); Robert Frazer, Farmville, Va.; Miss Maria Blair, Richmond, Va.; Eugene Didier, Baltimore, Md.; E. M. Davis, New Orleans; Mr. C. E. Davis, Editor-in-Chief of New Orleans Picayune of New Orleans; Dr. Albert Shaw, New York, Editor of Review of Reviews; Miss Coleman, Washington, D. C.; R. A. Brocks, Richmond, Va.; Richard Wightman, Washington, Staff Editor Washington Post; J. W. Southall, Richmond, Superintendent of Schools; Hamilton W. Mable, New York.

It would be very gratifying if some representatives of the Norfolk Alumni of the University would be present.

THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

INTERESTING ITEMS FROM THE WIVES AND MAILS.

Ex-Senator and Mrs. C. J. Faulkner announce the engagement to their eldest daughter, Miss Jane Winn, to Dr. William White, a prominent banker of Nashville, Tenn.

Robert Steele, Winchester's oldest resident, celebrated his 98th birthday to-day.

The corner-stone of the new Methodist Episcopal Church at White Post, Clarke county, was laid with appropriate ceremonies Tuesday. Rev. Dr. S. K. Cox, Rev. Dr. B. W. Bond and other clergymen officiated.

Miss Elizabeth Tunstall Hickson, second daughter of Mr. William Hickson, was married at Danville Wednesday to Mr. Armistead Ragland Long, a prominent Lynchburg lawyer, at the residence of her sister, Mrs. D. J. Holcomb, on Paxton street. Rev. J. Cleveland Hall officiated.

Robert Longwood, who died Monday night, is the third victim of the terrible fire at Curtis, Bedford county, which, as previously reported, occurred on September 15th, when the home of Mr. J. E. Longwood was burned, and two of his sons perished in the flames. Robert, a boy of 9 or 10 years of age, was so seriously injured in the fire that he died Tuesday night from the effects.

"Thurmenasmeire," in Clarke county, the estate of General Charles Thurman, formerly of Nashville, Tenn., which he bought a few years ago, has been sold to Mr. James Graham, of Wilkesbarre, Pa., for \$22,500. This property is one of the prettiest homes and finest farms in this section of the State.

The Williamsburg football eleven will be organized in a few days, or as soon as the old members return. Mr. Walter Burke, who will attend college from Hampton, will be in charge of the team.

The residence of J. M. Chaddock, near Waterloo, was destroyed by fire yesterday on account of a defective flue. Loss heavy. Insurance small.

Marriage licenses were issued in Washington yesterday to Charles L. Todd and Pattle R. Cudlipp, De Witt Vaughan and Carrie Vivian Floyd, all of Richmond.

Revenue officers operating in Culpeper county against illicit distilling, returned again yesterday afternoon with another "still" and more "moonshine," making the third capture in two days.

Thirty thousand dollars of Virginia coupon bonds were received at the office of the Auditor Thursday. They were forwarded by New York parties, who desire to exchange them for registered bonds. The details of the exchange were executed promptly.

The announcement of Mr. Warren H. Whitmore, of Rushville, Rockingham county, as a candidate for the lower branch of the Virginia Legislature, has put a new aspect on the political situation there. He is running as an independent Democrat. His battle cry is "down with the machine," and his platform, "Tyler for the Senate."

HOW THE LITTLE BIRDS TALK.

Peculiar Notes and Cries Translated into English.

(From the Philadelphia Times.) Not their songs—who would try to repeat in words the songs of the hermit-thrush or of the mocking-bird?—but the calls by which birds express delight, surprise, anger, distress, warning, their characteristic notes, make what we term bird-talk. Some of these sounds seem to be common to all birds, as the sweet, twittering mother-talk in the nest; some common to certain families, as the cheeping note of the sparrows, and the similar calls of the orioles, the cardinals and various other whistling birds. But on the other hand, every bird has a great many different calls of its own. The Virginia quail's talk is limited to its name-note, Bob White, Bob White! which rings out so cheerily in the long grasses. The mother quail knows her baby-talk and she has also a call of three notes, a signal-call to her mate when she leaves the nest in the brooding season. The males use their "scatter calls" when they roam the country in flocks, and they signal to let each other know where they are

—Are you there? Are you there? besides other notes in time of trouble. As for the gold-winged woodpeckers, the males make the woods ring like a party of old fox hunters. Yarrup, yarrup! yip! yip! Mr. Chapman, who has especially studied what birds say, describes also a salute, loud and hearty, "kee-ye!" a military "cuh-cuh," and a sound "like the swishing of a willow wand," weechew, weechew. They also chuckle and complain, and the baby golden-wings call incessantly from their high-hole nursery.

The cardinal's calls are almost numberless, slow and querulous, quick and lively, full of joy and triumph, or anxious and troubled. The orioles are known by a gay and bold whistle, whit-tu, whit-tu! high among the branches, but they have also a harsh chack, chack! which they use freely when vexed; and they are very easily vexed or frightened, in spite of their brave show and their joyous songs. Cat-birds have two notes of warning; the first is a rather low, cluck, cluck! as if in a whisper; the second, in more imminent danger is loud, and shrill, and nasal. The cuckoos also cluck-cluck, and in addition have a rattling call, tut-tut-tut! or huk-huk! and cow, cow, not the distinct cuckoo-call that the European cuckoo gives, but one slightly resembling it.

The wood-thrush also has various calls. Sitting one sunset hour at the edge of a wood, I saw and heard a wood-thrush in turn gurgle, buzz, make a metallic, brassy note, a quick, chirping call, a chatter, the usual pit, pit, and interperse all these with its delicious and liquid a-o-l-l, or come to me, which is its characteristic song. I had heard these sounds before, but could not believe that they came from the thrush's golden throat until I caught him in the act.

Place has its influence over song. The melody of the Western meadow-lark is far sweeter and more subtle in suggestion than that of the Eastern, and there is a difference between the notes of the Northern and the Carolina chickadee.

There are a great many individual variations, and these are likely to occur in certain kinds of birds. The meadow-larks may have a nasal call, a rolling twitter, or a whistle, clear as a pipe, sweet as a flute, and subject to any changes that the caprice of the singers suggests.

The great Carolina wren has a multitude of calls, all hard to define, all marvelous in their sonorous, ringing quality from such a tiny throat. As for the chats and the mocking-birds, endowed with the double gift of mimicry and ventriloquism, one never knows what to expect. Mr. Burroughs compares the noises made by a yellow-breasted chat to those of a puppy, a duck, a kingfisher, a crow, a fox and a cat, besides others indescribable.

On the other hand, there are unexpected likenesses, as astonishing in widely different birds as the differences in birds of the same family, or the notes of the same birds. The tiny yellow-throated vireo has more than once deceived me into expecting the flashing orange and black of the Baltimore oriole. The hermit-thrush and the whip-poorwill, so unlike otherwise, have each a habit of softly chucking to themselves in the dusk. See your singers, is a counsel not to be neglected by even an experienced ornithologist.

Then, every human listener interprets according to his own mood and after his own fashion. A friend of mine insists that she has heard a bird call "Come here, right quick," with a ringing emphasis on the last word. The great crested fly-catcher says "What?" the red-eyed vireo, "Do you hear it? Do you believe it?" the white-eyed, "Who are you, eh?" the yellow-throated, "I'm here; where are you?" the cardinal calls "Quick, quick, hurry," the tanager, "Up, up, in the tree-top."

All these are bird-notes in man's words, but there are also for bird families an untranslatable language. Kingbirds have "a steely clatter;" waxwings hiss; bluejays scream; swallows twitter; humming birds squeak; woodpeckers rattle; grouse drum or beat a tattoo; owls snap their mandibles queerly, and flycatchers make sounds like a sneeze and like wings cutting swiftly through the air.

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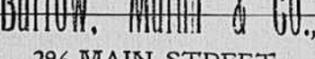
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