

The Free Lance

Devoted to the Agricultural, Commercial and Manufacturing Interests of Fredericksburg and the Tidewater and Piedmont Country.

FREDERICKSBURG VA. THURSDAY MARCH 30, 1899.

Price 3 cents

VOL. 15.—No. 36

Spring Exposition of NEW FABRICS

STEARNS' TO-DAY.

We think we have outdone and surpassed even our best efforts of past seasons and are showing the most beautiful line of

New Dress Materials of Wool and Silk and Cotton Wash Goods

that we have ever shown. The best and prettiest are not too good for this store, and we can always show you something prettier than you'll see elsewhere. Come today. Come again tomorrow. Every day from now on, and you will be seeing new arrivals. We opened these goods yesterday, and at night some of them were sold. Details later of description and prices. Come and see this beautiful exposition of NEW DRESS GOODS, SILKS, and COTTON WASH GOODS at

E. W. STEARNS'

Opera House Dry Goods Store.

1899 UP-TO-DATE SPRING OPENING AT S. C. WALLACE'S.

DRY GOODS & NOTIONS

In this city. The markets North, South, East and West have vied with each other in contributing to this marvelous display of beautiful goods, comprising the latest designs in Dress Goods and Silks and everything in White Goods you can desire. Elegant Percales at 6 cents. Huge lots of Calicoes, Ginghams, Satteens, Lawns, and anything else you want in Wash Fabrics. Ask to see the 3 cent Brown Cotton. Ladies', Men's and Children's Underwear in all grades. Trunks, Umbrellas, Corsets, Shirts, Shirt Waists and Ladies' Skirts deserve your attention. Everything you want in the Notion Line WALLACE has it. Country Merchants can get just what they want, and how they want it, at the lowest prices, if they will buy from

S. G. Wallace,

Fredericksburg, Va.

Have Just Received Two Cars of POTATOES,

One of Early Rose and one of Burbank.

This is first-class Northern Seed, and you will save money by getting my prices before purchasing.

Have also on hand two new two-horse Wagons and a young Bay Horse for sale cheap.

B. J. MARSHALL,

Our Spring Goods Now Received,

And are unsurpassed by any stock ever shown in Fredericksburg.

Everything New and Novel,

—BOTH WHOLESALE AND RETAIL—

J. T. Lowery & Co.

Cheapest Dry Goods and Notion House in Virginia.

JOHN M. GRIFFIN,

—DEALER IN—

Staple and Fancy Groceries, Fine Liquors, Tobacco and Cigars.

Agency Pabst Milwaukee Lager Beer and best tonic. We also have in stock Ales, Porter, Stout, etc. 600 B Street.

Spring Opening of MILLINERY.

MRS. D. E. SMITH & CO.,

LANCASTER.

Marrried in a Buggy The Mormons Again Store II uso and Barn Burned Other Interesting Items From "Gleaner"

(Correspondence of The Free Lance.)

Lancaster, Va., March 27, 1899.

The farmers are busy, not at work, but at their daily grubbing. The ground is two wet for them to make much headway, and being more than usually behind-hand causes an intense feeling of disquietude. But the Frost King was a foe to all disease germs, and these farmers have much cause for gratitude, for our entire community seems at this time to be free from the ailments which afflicted us so sorely during the warm, wet autumn months. The doctors have had but little to do, and Dr. Barnum has left for the North earlier than he has been in the habit of going. One reason, however, for his hasty departure was to attend the golden wedding of his aged parents in the State of New York.

Our regular County Court has continued nearly a week, and a smaller number than is customary in March convened in the court-house. But few lawyers besides the local attorneys, and these few are not so much engrossed as to hinder them from occasional arguments with the Mormons, some of them even rushing to the gate of the Methodist parsonage in order to witness a romantic marriage. This last event created quite a wave of enthusiasm throughout the village of Lancaster, as it was an unexpected denouement of a hasty courtship.

The groom, a Mr. Kearns, from Philadelphia, is a machinist by trade, and has been residing near Kilmarnock but a short time. The bride, Miss Clayton, is young living near the same place, was accompanied by her father and sister, the occupants of the two buggies retaining their seats, while the pastor, Rev. J. O. Babcock, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Ware, united the happy couple at the gate of the parsonage. A very sensible proceeding these hard times.

The Mormon elders asked Judge Ewell for his permission to allow them to preach in the court-house, but the Judge said he would leave it to the majority of the people.

We are sure that if the ladies are included in this majority business these elders will not only be silenced, but would be ordered to "March away" in short time.

Consistency is such a jewel. The idea of men calling themselves "Virginia gentlemen" wasting their breath in converse, or in combatting, with such blasphemous of God's word. Our men are a "miscellaneous assortment" anyhow. We have men among us who call themselves "dry men," who love to drink the dry liquid whenever they have the opportunity. Then we have the "wet men," who, it is said, do not even like the stuff, and a few men who seem to have a leaning to the Mormon principles, and cannot buy one pair of shoes a year for even one wife. It is singularly funny, but most of the monstrosities, who would make considerable show in a dime museum, speak favorably of such characters, and profess a desire to own several wives, when they fail to win the love and admiration of even one wife.

Mr. M. F. Thomas, a merchant of Lancaster, takes the boat today for Baltimore, and idle rumor asserts it is for the purpose of getting married, and that his intended has already preceded him. They will be happy, because they are both industrious. The most miserable are the lazy and restless. There are many young couples in this and in adjoining counties who might get married, but for the "bug bear" of hard work confronting them. If they could learn to be less restless, work leisurely yet steadily, "learning in all things to be content," happiness will surely follow. Several of our fair maidens have averred their intention of not being home-abiding slaves, the sequel of which would be "a spoiled husband." Contact with the outside world enlarges one's sympathies, while too much seclusion produces a morbidness. Shun either extreme, my darling girls.

We have two unique characters in our midst. One, Mr. Arthur Hutchinson, formerly of New York, is a strict temperance man, and never touches a morsel of flesh, one of the most consistent vegetarians, yet seems to enjoy both mental and physical strength and endurance. The other, Mr. Wat Sheay, of White Marsh neighborhood, loves to differ, and enjoys controversies with any and everybody.

Rev. J. O. Babcock, whose initials indicate patience, is also full of humor, but forgot the sort of antagonist he had to deal with, when in his presence at the post office, he complained of this section being so isolated; no railroad or other facilities, completely cut off from the real world; the worst roads, etc., etc.

"Yes," said Mr. Sheay, "and they send us the worst preachers too."

If Mr. Babcock had not known he was considered a good preacher he might have taken umbrage, but one look into the good natured countenance of Mr. S. and they laughed in unison. The Aegis Reading Club meets Friday night at Capt. Wm. Lee's. They will miss the presence of Miss Alice Pierce, who has left for Fredericksburg.

Mrs. R. T. Pierce, who suffered from

grip last fall, we are glad to learn has entirely recovered.

Since the "backbone" of winter is broken, the Trinity Aid Society will reorganize, and for this purpose met on Friday 24th, at the rectory, Lancaster village.

The fire-fund still is busy among us. Last night the store house and barn of Mr. T. Treake, near Millenbeck, were destroyed. We have not learned particulars, except that he was partially insured.

Mr. James McKenney has just started store keeping near White Marsh Church.

Miss Lu Hall, of Midway, called last Monday to see Miss Mary Norma Graham, of Plain View. She continued down to Bay View in the afternoon to see her grandmother, Mrs. Louise Hall, who has been an invalid for several months.

This lady, the mother of Capt. Thos. Hall and Mr. Warner Bell, has been, for one of her years, remarkably energetic. In physique, as tall and handsomeness as were the Roman Matrons of old.

We have just learned that Judge Ewell adjourned court this morning.

The odor of the fresh painted walls made several sick, besides the Judge.

Gleaner

Deafness Cannot be Cured by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed for ever, unless cases out of ten are cured by the use of Dr. J. C. Cheney's Ear Cure. Send for circulars, free.

Dr. J. C. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, Etc.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

SENATORIAL PRIMARIES

Full Text of the Call for a Meeting in Richmond to Consider the Question.

The following is the full text of the letter issued by Hon. J. F. Rixey and others, calling for a meeting in Richmond on May 11, to consider the question of a primary, to express a preference for the next U. S. Senate to succeed Senator Martin.

"To the Democratic Voters of Virginia:

"The demand for a change in the method of electing United States Senators is so widespread and so imperative that the issue thereby raised cannot be wisely or safely avoided by the Democrats of Virginia. The sentiment in favor of the election of Senators by direct vote of the people is not of recent origin; but its growth in its present decade is unequalled in our entire history. That it has been quickened immensely by the shocking disclosures of the legislative scandals which have disgraced many of the States of the Union is painfully apparent, and their effect upon the public conscience cannot have escaped the most indifferent observer of passing events. Indeed, the situation has become well-nigh intolerable in many of the States. The people of Virginia cannot remain insensible to conditions so fraught with peril to our constitution.

"Too often Senators of the United States do not represent the body of the people of the several States, but very frequently represent special corporate interests or special classes. Mortifying as this fact must be to every lover of our government, it is no recent discovery, although the evil consequences and bitter degradation involved in it have of late been presented with frequent and impressive emphasis.

VICE IN EXISTING METHODS

"The vice in the existing method of electing Senators was detected by many of the wisest of the founders of the republic, at the very beginning of their great test, among them, the Virginia patriots, whose opinions at this date are accepted as the most valuable political legacies that have come down to us from all the past. These men have an inherited and instinctive love of liberty, abhorrence of tyranny in any form, which armed them with a power of genius to carry out their high resolve to have for themselves and to bequeath to their descendants an enduring free government, resting upon the free will of a free people. The argument for the present system was made that day frankly and without disguise. One of the most prominent advocates of the legislative method of electing Senators, Mr. Gerry, of Massachusetts, insisted that the commercial and moneyed interests would be more secure in the hands of the State Legislature than of the people at large."

"James Madison, on the other hand, declared that the great fabric to be raised would be more stable and enduring if it should rest upon the solid foundation of the people themselves. The declaration of Thomas Jefferson—'I am not among those who fear the people'—need not have been preserved to assure us where the judgment and sympathies of the founders of Democracy were placed on this question; nor can it be doubted that Patrick Henry, the matchless defender of pop-

ular rights, approved the judgment of Washington, Madison, Randolph, Mason and Blair, who cast the influence and vote of Virginia against the election of Senators by the Legislature, and over whose better judgment that provision was incorporated in the Federal Constitution. The sentiment of the great Virginians of that day, without regard to party, approved the election of Senators by the people, and it may be affirmed without hesitation that confidence in and reliance upon the people to govern themselves is inherent in the plan upon which God built Virginia manhood.

SERIES OF HIDEOUS SCANDALS.

"It is not to be denied that the Senate of the United States contains statesmen of high ability and character, but it must be conceded that the average intellectual and moral stature of its members is growing less and less, while the intellectual cultivation of the masses of the people attains daily higher and higher stages. Who does not know that in many of the States the influence of great corporations is more potent in the election of Senators than the sentiments of the mass of voters? And how often have the Legislatures chosen those who were scarcely known to the people and defeated those whose election the people had decreed? The Senatorial elections and contests of the past and passing year in Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Utah, Nevada, California, Maryland, and Montana present a close series of hideous scandals such as shock the moral sense of the country, while at the same time furnishing new and indisputable testimony against the wisdom of a plan capable of such desecration and abuse.

"But this question has now passed beyond the argumentative stage. Upon it the minds of the people are firmly made up. The House of Representatives of the United States has repeatedly, and by an almost unanimous vote passed resolutions to amend the Constitution so as to give the people the right to choose their Senators, but the Senate has as often stilled those resolutions in committee, not daring to discuss them in open session, well knowing that to do so would be to sign the death warrant of many of its members aspiring to re-election. This sullen and defiant silence on the part of the beneficiaries of the vicious system is in itself a convincing argument that the remedy has been too long delayed. Many of the states of the Union have, through their Legislatures, called upon Congress to submit to the people of the States an amendment to the Constitution, giving to them the right to elect their Senators by direct vote. In California, more than nine-tenths of the voters of the State, at a recent popular election, voted in favor of a change; and within the past few weeks the Legislatures of North Carolina and Missouri unanimously passed resolutions instructing their Senators to support a resolution to so amend the Constitution.

SUPPORTED BY BRYAN.

"In the Fifty-second Congress, the Hon. William J. Bryan, then a Representative from the State of Nebraska, introduced and earnestly supported a resolution to accomplish this great reform, and within the past few weeks the National Chairman of the Democratic Party, himself a United States Senator, has said: 'I am in favor of the election of Senators by the direct vote of the people. I have changed my views upon this subject within the last year or two. The whole people cannot be deluded by money or otherwise. It is safe to put all the power we can in their hands.'"

"The doom of this relic of a dark past, of the age when the people were not trusted with the custody of their own rights and liberties, is already written. The question of the hour is: Shall the Democrats of Virginia refuse to participate in a great movement destined to restore to the people where it rightly belongs the right to elect their Senators as they now do their Representatives and their Governors.

"In South Carolina, Georgia, Illinois and other States the people, despairing of any action of the Senate itself, have discovered a remedy for the evil, and have not hesitated to apply it. They have adopted Senatorial primary systems, by means of which they virtually elect their Senators. In no single instance where such primaries have been resorted to has the result been disappointing to them: Of course the trusts, the rings, and the political bosses have opposed; but whenever and wherever the people have once taken this power into their own hands they never have been known to relinquish it.

"It is vain and misleading to say that this question has been decided by the party organization in Virginia. Nothing is ever decided which is not decided right, or which is decided against the irresistible course of events. It is true that a resolution providing for Senatorial primaries failed of passage at the Roanoke convention of 1897, but it is also true that it was not considered until a late hour in the deliberations of that body, and until many of its members had departed for their homes.

AN ENCOURAGING TOTE.

"The principal argument urged against its passage was not directed against its merits, but was based upon the contention that the convention—not having been called for that, but, on the contrary, for an entirely different purpose, namely, the nomination of a

State ticket—ought not hastily and inconsiderately to take action so important. As it was, and in spite of the fact that many of the votes against the proposition were cast by proxies, untrusting upon that subject, it received 650 votes.

"The Legislature of Virginia has always contained men of a high order of character and ability, and many of the Senators from this State have been most distinguished for wisdom and public and private virtue. And yet it cannot be successfully denied that 140 men assembled at the State Capital, subjected to the powerful and insidious influence of corporations and combinations of corporations, controlling hundreds of millions of money, and employing hundreds of thousands of trained agents and professional men, have not the resisting force of half a million of voters, each entrenched in the fortress of his own home and the affections of his own household, whose sole protection is his freeman's vote.

"In the light of recent events it cannot be gainsaid that 'legislative elections are a prolific source of legislative corruption.' That in many recent and well-known instances they have resulted in prolonged deadlocks and entailed great cost upon the unfortunate commonwealths where they have existed, is an additional argument against the present method of electing United States Senators. Within a few days past the Legislatures of Delaware and Utah, after frittering away their entire terms in fruitless efforts to elect United States Senators, have adjourned finally, and for two years to come each of those States will be deprived of one-half of its representation in the Senate. The indications all are that the legislative deadlock in Pennsylvania will not be broken, and that it also will lose a Senator for at least two years.

CALL FOR A MEETING.

"To the Democratic Party of Virginia this note of admonition and warning is sounded. Upon it has been laid the solemn responsibility of the government of our beloved Commonwealth in the visible future, and the election of the next United States Senator to be chosen from this State. With the people of Virginia it is the 'white man's burden' which he may not refuse to lift, and, therefore, with a view to carrying into practical effect the principles herein set forth, this address is now issued.

"To such Democrats as hold to the principle that the people are fully capable of choosing their Senators, and who are willing to unit with us in an effort to secure to them that cherished right, the invitation is hereby extended to assemble in the city of Richmond on Thursday, the 11th day of May, 1899, for the purpose of adopting such measures as may be deemed best to promote the election of Senators of the United States by the direct vote of the people, and, until that result is accomplished, the selection of party Senatorial candidates by some popular method."

Many Dying of Starvation.

At present no taxes can be collected in Cartagena, Cuba, as there is no currency of any account in the municipality. The town has no telegraph or

Ayer's Hair Vigor

What does it do? It causes the oil glands in the skin to become more active, making the hair soft and glossy, precisely as nature intended. It cleanses the scalp from dandruff and thus removes one of the great causes of baldness. It makes a better circulation in the scalp and stops the hair from coming out. It prevents and it cures baldness.

Ayer's Hair Vigor will surely make hair grow on bald heads, provided only there is any life remaining in the hair bulbs. It restores color to gray or white hair. It does not do this in a moment, as will a hair dye; but in a short time the gray color of age gradually disappears and the darker color of youth takes its place. Would you like a copy of our book on the Hair and Scalp? It is free.

If you do not obtain all the benefits you expect from the use of the Vigor, write this Doctor about it.

J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

ABSOLUTELY PURE
Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

There seems to be no work whatever for the people. Many of the people are starving. The military official who made a trip through Cuba states that he saw several families of five to eight people who had not had a mouthful of food for two or three days and he also states that he saw one woman lying in bed dying of starvation. The relief stores on hand had been ordered distributed only to those who could show a certificate of having gone to work.

Food is very badly needed at Cartagena. Before the war the municipality had a population of 9,000 people. The death rate has been enormous reaching ten or twelve daily. At present the deaths are about forty a month. The first meat seen in the town for over a year was that brought by the United States troops a portion of their rations while passing through the district. The salaries of the mayor and city clerk have not been paid in forty months. There was no doctor in the place when the town was visited.

During the reconcentration 902 people died in the town of starvation. The present postmaster has held his position twenty years, when he was first appointed Cartagena was a post office of the first class. It is now an office of the fourth class. Only about two letters are mailed and received each week. The town has three mails a week.

There is a great deal of brigandage along the western boundary of the province and it is especially prevalent along the Yaguarunas and Corralito districts. The country between Cartagena and Santa Domingo is a fine grazing region during the dry season, but the land gets very boggy when the spring rains commence.

My wife has used Chamberlain's Pain Balm for Rheumatism with great relief, and I can recommend it as a splendid liniment for rheumatism and other household uses for which we have found it valuable.—W. J. Cuyler, Red Creek, N. Y.

Mr. Cuyler is one of the leading merchants of this village and one of the most prominent men of this vicinity.—W. G. Phippen, Editor Red Creek Herald. For sale by M. M. Lewis, druggist.

GOOLRICK'S Garden Seed

We are headquarters for LANDRETH'S AND FERRY'S

Special Prices to Farmers and Market Gardeners.

GOOLRICK'S PAIN-KILLER

A Medicine Chest in Itself. Simple, Safe and Quick Cure for CRAMPS, DIARRHOEA, COUGHS, COLDS, RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA.

25 and 50 cent Bottles. BEWARE OF IMITATIONS. BUY ONLY THE GENUINE. PERRY DAVIS' M. M. LEWIS.

DID YOU EVER GET LEFT?

Whereas, the time is or near at hand to sow Grass Seeds, and to that end we call attention of farmers to the following resolutions:

First Resolved—We have Red Top and Mammoth Clover Seed.

Second Resolved—We have Timothy, Red Top and Herd's Grass.

Third Resolved—We want to sell them.

Fourth Resolved—Now is a good time to buy.

Fifth Resolved—Don't fail to call on us when in want. Magrath & Chesley

The Weems Steamboat Co.

SPRING ARRANGEMENT, 1899

BALTIMORE, FREDERICKSBURG AND RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER ROUTE. On and after Friday, March 10th, steamer Richmond, westward, and East, will leave Pier 2, Light Street, Baltimore, every Tuesday and Friday at 6:30 p. m. For Fredericksburg and all wharves on the river. Returning, will leave Fredericksburg at 8:30 p. m. (the returning, Monday and Tuesday, Leodstown at 4:30 a. m., Tuesday and Friday for Baltimore.)

NORFOLK ROUTE. Will leave Tappanhook for Norfolk at 12 m. (noon) Friday stopping at all landings. Will leave Norfolk at 5 p. m., Saturday for Tappanhook, calling at all landings.

NO freight received for outgoing steamers after 4 p. m., on sailing days.

Freight received for all stations on Potomac, Fredericksburg, & Piedmont R. R.

POTOMAC RIVER ROUTE. Beginning Tuesday, December 7th, steamer Potomac, will leave Pier 2, Light Street, Baltimore, at 5 p. m., Tuesday and Saturday for the Potomac River, calling at Miller's Branch, Bacon's Branch, Lewistown, Bunkles, Cowart's, Walnut Point, Coan, Kin-sale, Muddy's Point, Lodge, Adams, Pine Point, Abell's, Leonardtown, Coburn's, How-ard's and Stone's, on Tuesday only for Lancaster, Bushwood, Riverside, Liverpool Point, Glymont, Alexandria and Washington.

Returning, will leave 7th Street Wharf, Washington, at 4 p. m., Thursday, calling at all of the above mentioned wharves, leaving Leonardtown 6 a. m., Monday, and Friday, Kin-sale, 12 m., Miller's 4 p. m., Bacon's at 5 p. m., Hacco's at 5 p. m., arriving in Baltimore early Tuesday and Saturday mornings.

Freight received daily at Pier 3, Light Street.

HENRY WILLIAMS, Agent, at Baltimore, Md. STEPHENSON & CO., Agents, at Washington, D. C. KEY COMPTON, Agent, at Norfolk, Va. W. D. SCOTT, Agent, at Fredericksburg, Va.

FOR SUPERIOR ARTICLE

POINTER MARYLAND RYE

OR—

Buckwalter Whiskey.

which on account of their age and even are specially advised for medicinal purposes. Sold and recommended by

CHAS. WALLACE, JOHN M. GRIFFIN, W. C. STRASBURGER, Fredericksburg, Va.

JOHN F. SCOTT

—DEALER IN— Hardware and Hardware Specialties, MAIN STREET, One door below Chas. Wallace & Bro. —FULL LINE OF—

General Hardware

Barb Wire, Guns, Pistols, Knives, etc., will be sold at reduced prices to suit the times. Money can be saved by purchasing at SCOTT'S Hardware Store.

LANDRETH'S AND FERRY'S

Seeds. Fresh 1899 Seeds. Let us fill your orders this year.

Johnston & Pearson, DRUGGISTS.

FROM THIS I WILL BEGIN TO SELL ALL THE Winter Stock of Millinery I have left on hand at cost, to make room for

SPRING GOODS.

Felt hats, fancy feathers, ostrich feathers, children's caps and bonnets and many other things at cost prices.

MRS. M. E. TOMPKINS, 816 B Street. W. B. COVINGTON, Cor. MAIN and MILFORD STREETS, BOWLING GREEN, VA. Feeds the Hungry, Clothes the naked, takes care of the sick, and buries the dead. Full line of Coffins and Caskets always on hand to be furnished at lowest prices. mr-3m W. B. COVINGTON.

PENNYROYAL PILLS