THE VIRGINIAS AND CAROLINAS.

MERCEDES AT ANCHOR

Trophy of Spanish War Quarantined at Norfolk.

ATTRACTS CROWDS OF VISITORS

When Released from Quarantine She Will Go to Portsmouth Navy Yard for Repairs—Preparations at Newport News to Welcome Company K, Fourth Immunes—Widow Sues for $10,000 as Result of Her Husband's Violent Death.

Newport News, Va., May 21.—The Spanish cruiser Reina Mercedes arrived in Hampton Roads this afternoon at 2:30 o'clock in tow of the Merritt Wrecking Company's tugs I. J. Merritt and Rescue, and accompanied by the steamer S. T. Morgan. She is now at anchor nearly two miles off Old Point Comfort, where she will be held in quarantine for five days. National Quarantine Officer Pettus boarded the vessel this afternoon, but no one from the cruiser has come ashore. It was not deemed necessary to detain the cruiser at Fisherman's Island.

Large crowds from Newport News, Norfolk and Hampton went to Old Point this afternoon to see the cruiser, and hundreds went out to the vessel in launches. Excursion rates, which will be made by local transportation companies, will attract thousands of visitors to Old Point while the vessel is there. The Mercedes left Santiago a week ago yesterday, and reached Hampton Roads a good deal sooner than was expected. When she is released from quarantine, she will go to the Portsmouth Navy Yard for repairs.

Greeted by Boom of Cannon.

The voyage was uneventful with the exception of the very quick time made. There were no accidents nor incidents to mar the trip up. The expedition was in charge of Capt. Merritt, who was aboard the powerful tug Rescue, and it was due to her pulling ability that the cruiser was not delayed three or four days longer.

Astern of the Mercedes was the wrecking barge Sharp. The cruiser dropped anchor about 250 yards off the Old Point wharf, and W. J. Pettus, quarantine officer, at once boarded her. Her arrival was heralded by the boom of cannon on board the monitor Amphitrite, the training ships Essex and Alliance and the small cruiser Peoria, all of which were in the Roads. Aboard the Mercedes there are about twenty men of the Merritt wrecking crew, but Dr. Pettus would not allow any of these, nor in fact, anybody from either of the tugs or the barge to land, nor was she boarded by any one save himself.

Surgeon General Wyman, of the United States Marine Hospital Service, was at Old Point, but he did not go on board, nor did Assistant Secretary Vanderlip, who was also at Old Point. The tug Rescue left at once for New York, where permission to land crew was refused.

Two Flags Flying.

The cruiser will be held at quarantine five days. All the bedding and men's clothes will be thoroughly fumigated in the steam-room of the quarantine vessel Jamestown, while the inside of the vessel will be thoroughly washed out with bichloride of mercury. When the time is out the Mercedes will come up to the Norfolk Navy Yard.

Arrangements have already been made here to give a rousing maritime demonstration in her honor. When she came into the Roads she had flying from her stern two flags, one representing the country to which she now belongs and the other representing the company which saved her from the briny deep. On her bow there appears the only thing to indicate that she ever sailed under any other flag than that which floated over her captors. She carries a Spanish escutcheon. She will come up to the navy yard here Friday morning.

Widow Sues for $10,000.

Mrs. E. W. Rodgers, widow of the late J. W. Rodgers, who was mortally injured in the Opera House catastrophe of October 25, 1898, has entered suit in the Corporation Court for $10,000 against Contractor Thomas E. Stagg, of Richmond. Mr. Stagg was the contractor for the Opera House, and Mr. Rodgers had been invited by him to go to the building and figure on some finishing work inside. On the day he went the entire building collapsed, and a few minutes after Rodgers was taken from the ruins. Mrs. Rodgers was left with five girls and one small boy.

A telegram has been received here from Capt. C. C. Berkeley, commanding Company K, Fourth United States Immunes, which have just returned from Manzanilla and are now at Camp Meade, Pa., states that his company will be mustered out about June 5. The ladies of the city are making elaborate arrangements to welcome the returning soldiers, who saw the hard service in Cuba, and are the last to come back.

Big Deal Completed.

The deal for the purchase of the valuable elevator property, comprising twenty lots in the heart of the business section, was consummated yesterday. Councilman F. I. Ford purchased the property from the Chesapeake and Ohio Elevator Company for $150,000 on a thirty-day option. He has resold it to the Washington Avenue Investment Company for $125,000.

The barn and outbuildings of Mr. Jeff Crandall, a wealthy farmer of Elizabeth City County, was burned with all of their contents at an early hour this morning; loss, about $8,000.

The United States training ships Essex and Alliance arrived at Old Point to-night from Havana. Both ships carry a number of boys who have been on the water now for six months.

Decoration Day Exercises.

Special to The Post.

Fredericksburg, Va., May 21.—The exercises at the National Cemetery here on Decoration Day, May 30, will be of unusual interest. Speakers of national reputation will participate. There will be drills and recitations by school children and appropriate music. Representatives from different departments of the G. A. R., many camps of Confederate Veterans, and R. S. Ewell Camp, Sons of Confederate Veterans, will take part in the services.

The commencement exercises of the Southern Seminary, at Bowling Green, will begin Thursday, May 25, and continue until the 31st.

A meeting of ex-Confederates will be held at Stafford Court House at the June term of court to formulate plans for erecting a monument at the county seat to the memory of Stafford Confederates who fell in battle.

Seven Sent to Penitentiary.

Special to The Post.

Charleston, W. Va., May 21.—Judge Hall, of the Criminal Court of Kanawha County, yesterday sentenced the following prisoners to the penitentiary: Frank Ray, five years, for shooting John Williams; George Deskins, five years; Brady Vaught, two years; John Mitchell, two years, for larceny; John Flood, one year, for shooting Clifford Miggison, and Peter Jarvis, one year, for housebreaking.

Lost Bonds Found in a Box Car.

Special to The Post.

Piedmont, W. Va., May 21.—The tin box, containing $700 worth of Piedmont, W. Va., water bond coupons, uncanceled and negotiable, which disappeared from the town safe in 1895, was found in a Baltimore and Ohio box car, which was being repaired at Philadelphia. The box has been returned to the Piedmont authorities.

Newport News to Rotterdam.

Norfolk, Va., May 21.—The United States Shipping Company, with headquarters in New York, and a chartered steamship line from Norfolk to Amsterdam will on September 1 establish a line from Newport News to Rotterdam. This information was given out here last night by the company's representative on receipt of notice from the New York office.

TO ESTABLISH AN ABATTOIR.

Armour & Co. Negotiating for Tract of Land at Newport News.

Special to The Post.

Newport News, Va., May 17.—It is reported that Armour & Co., of Chicago, are negotiating for the purchase of a tract of twenty-two and a half acres of land, situated just above the Newport News Abattoir Company's plant. It is said that Armour & Co. will establish an immense abattoir plant, which will handle a large percentage of the product of the company for export to South and Central America and the West Indies.

E. C. Madison, of Warwick County, has announced himself a candidate for the House of Delegates, in opposition to Dr. J. H. Crafford, of the same county. Both are Democrats and are recognized leaders of two factions of the party.

The fight between the Peninsular Railroad Company and the Newport News and Old Point Railway and Electric Company for franchises in Hampton and Elizabeth City County goes merrily on. Yesterday afternoon the Peninsular Company obtained an injunction enjoining its rival from laying tracks in certain portions of Hampton and Phoebus. After securing the injunction the Peninsular Company set a large force of men to work on their line in Hampton. These men worked until a late hour last night, when they were stopped by an injunction which had been obtained by the Newport News and Old Point Railway and Electric Company. Both companies want to run tracks down the principal street of Hampton.

A game of baseball at Riverview Park this afternoon between the policemen of Newport News and Hampton resulted in a score of 22 to 19 in favor of the latter.

INSPECTED BY OFFICIALS.

Assistant Secretary Vanderlip and Surgeon General Wyman at Old Point.

Special to The Post.

Fort Monroe, Va., May 21.—Hon. Frank A. Vanderlip, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and Surgeon General Wyman, United States Marine Hospital Service, arrived here to-day and boarded the quarantine yacht Dagmar for an inspection of the detention stations of the lower Chesapeake. In view of the tremendous increase of trade with our tropical possessions, it is deemed of the greatest importance that every agency employed to check the introduction of contagion should be in perfect order, and the inspection showed that every precaution has been taken here. The distinguished gentlemen left for Washington to-night.

The United States refrigerating ship Glacier, at Lambert's Point, is coaling preparatory to her long voyage to Manila with fresh meat and other provisions. The ship will take on 1,000 tons of coal, about half of which is now on board. Much difficulty is encountered in "trimming" the Glacier, owing to her peculiar construction. An inspection board, of which Admiral Rodgers is the senior member, will inspect the Glacier to-morrow, and she will probably start on her voyage to the Pacific early this week. The auxiliary cruiser Vixen will not accompany her, but has cleared for Bluefields, Nicaragua.

MANY SUITORS BY MAIL.

Richmond Woman a Witness Against a Matrimonial Advertiser.

Special to The Post.

Richmond, Va., May 21.—Mrs. W. C. Gayle, of King and Queen County, will start, probably to-morrow, in company with United States Deputy Marshal Treat, for Milwaukee, where she has been summoned as a witness against Charles H. Rowan, who is charged in the United States District Court with using the mail to defraud. Mrs. Gayle, whose real name has not been made public, is said to be 2,007 in the list of Rowan's matrimonial advertisements.

Mrs. Gayle, who up to a few days ago had received letters from forty-five ardent suitors enamoured of the charms, described in advertisement No. 2,007, of the handsome widow "with thirty-five thousand in her own right," continues to get them, and her mail is quite an adjunct to the little post-office at Plain View, King and Queen County. Marshal Treat, who will accompany Mrs. Gayle to Milwaukee, will appear as a witness also in connection with letters he has received.

The rule against Mrs. Gayle has not yet arrived, but she decided to make the best of the matter, and consented to go without the fateful paper.

ROANOKE'S MANY VISITORS.

Fully 20,000 People Attended Services of German Baptist Conference.

Roanoke, Va., May 21.—Fully 20,000 people were on the grounds and in attendance at the services held to-day in the German Baptist Tabernacle, in connection with the German Baptist Church conferences. The seating capacity of the structure was overtaxed, and large crowds were unable to gain admittance. Four thousand Sunday-school scholars gathered at the tabernacle this morning.

Three services were held during the day. Prof. M. G. Brumbaugh, of the University of Pennsylvania, preached at the tabernacle this afternoon. Delegates to the conference occupied pulpits in various churches morning and night.

The police authorities and private detectives have been on the lookout for pickpockets, and since yesterday morning have arrested fourteen suspects, all of whom are in jail awaiting a hearing.

Twelve Head of Cattle Killed.

Special to The Post.

Clarksburg, W. Va., May 17.—A terrific thunder-storm passed over this county last night. Hail, the size of marbles, fell for fifteen minutes. There are some reports that the apple crop has been seriously injured. Twelve head of two-year-old cattle, belonging to Taylor Ward, were destroyed by lightning on the waters of Katy Lick.

Johnstown, Pa., May 17.—The storm that swept over the Conemaugh Valley this afternoon was one of the most severe in its history, although its prevalence was not accompanied by a great deal of damage. Rain fell in great quantities and was accompanied by a high wind and sharp lightning. Many of the streets in the central part of the city were flooded.

At Ebensburg much damage was done to property, but there was no loss of life.

Altoona, Pa., May 17.—The most severe rainfall Altoona ever experienced burst upon the city at 1 o'clock this afternoon and continued for an hour and a half with unprecedented violence. Streets in the lower portions of the city were submerged and many cellars and basements were flooded. Merchants suffered severely. The Pennsylvania Railway locomotive and car shops were flooded for the first time in their history, and most of them were obliged to shut down. One house, the La Pierre Hotel, was struck by lightning.

Dr. William Scott Southgate Dead.

Special to The Post.

Annapolis, Md., May 21.—Rev. Dr. William Scott Southgate, who had been rector of St. Anne's Protestant Episcopal Church here since October, 1869, died suddenly here this afternoon. He had been ill, but was much improved to-day. About 5 o'clock this afternoon Mrs. Edwin D. Pusey, the doctor's daughter, was answering the inquiry of a friend as to the condition of her father, when she heard a fall, and going upstairs found her father dead. Dr. Southgate came from Maine, was a graduate of Bowdoin College, and was sixty-four years old. He was a man of great cultivation, and was beloved by the entire community.

Farmers Gather at College Park.

Special to The Post.

Hyattsville, May 21.—There was a large gathering of farmers at the Maryland Agricultural College and Experiment Station yesterday. Representatives from ten of the leading farmers' clubs in the State accepted the hospitality of the college officials. Several granges were also represented. A pleasing feature of the occasion was the large number of ladies in attendance. Upon the arrival of the visitors from Baltimore carriages conveyed them to the experimental station, where Director H. J. Patterson welcomed them. A thorough inspection was made of the buildings and the practical experiments being conducted at the station.

NO VERDICT IN TOWSON CASE.

A Witness for Defense Arrested on Charge of Perjury.

Special to The Post.

Hagerstown, Md., May 21.—The jury in the case of Harold Richardson, charged with shooting at Arthur Towson, which was locked up yesterday afternoon, has not reached a verdict, and the belief is there will be a disagreement. Calvin Byrum, a witness for defense, was arrested, charged with perjury.

Miss Edith Kaplin and Mr. Abram Klatz were remarried to-night at the Baltimore street synagogue, by Rabbi Harrison. A few weeks ago they were married by Rev. A. H. Irvine, a Protestant minister. The relatives of the couple made vigorous protest against the marriage being performed outside of the Jewish church, and threatened to renounce the couple.

Charles, the six-year-old son of John Tracey, near Burkittsville, was killed yesterday afternoon by falling through a trap door in Ahalt's distillery into a vat full of mash.

The ten-year-old son of William Jennings, of Brunswick, was perhaps fatally injured yesterday by falling from a freight car. He received a fracture of the skull.

Gov. Lowndes has been asked to pardon Francis Watson, the young Pennsylvania school teacher, sentenced to the penitentiary for stealing a bicycle. Gov. Stone, of Pennsylvania, and the entire Gettysburg bar have signed the petition.

NORFOLK AND THE ANTILLES.

Are Soon to Be Connected by Big Steamers Sailing Weekly.

Special to The Post.

Norfolk, Va., May 21.—Norfolk will shortly have a direct steamship line to Cuba and Porto Rico. The Antilles Transportation Company, which is operating a regular line between New York, Florida points, and Cuba and Porto Rico, Saturday perfected arrangements whereby they have secured terminal facilities here, and the first steamer is expected about June 10.

Mr. George E. Caton, jr., attorney for the company, has been here for some time past negotiating for property which he considered desirable for the uses of his company. Meantime he appointed Mr. C. Richard Taylor Virginia agent for the company, with headquarters in Norfolk.

The Reed wharf, a fine piece of deep-water terminal property, situated on the Belt Line Railroad, near East Burton's Point, has been secured, and there the Antilles Company will locate terminals for the big steamships they propose to employ. The company will begin as soon as possible the erection of iron warehouses to accommodate their traffic. The ships to be employed by the company will be big freighters of from 2,300 to 4,000 tons, and they will be secured by either charter or purchase. They will sail weekly from both termini. The ships will make stops at Charleston and Jacksonville.

ATTORNEY DARR A CANDIDATE.

Washington Practitioner May Seek Election to Maryland House of Delegates.

Special to The Post.

Laurel, Md., May 21.—Mr. Charles W. Darr, a practitioner at the Washington bar, is being talked of as a candidate for the nomination for the House of Delegates in the General Assembly of Maryland on the Democratic ticket in Prince George's County this fall. One candidate is already announced, Mr. Frederick Dallam. There is a likelihood of a warm fight in the primaries in Laurel district for the control of the delegation. Since the municipal election in Baltimore interest in matters political in Prince George's has been intense. Fourteen offices are to be filled, and each party will have scores of candidates from the fifteen districts of the county for places on the tickets.

The name of the Laurel Athletic Association has been changed to the Laurel Outing Club, and Mr. Frederick Dezendorf, of the Department of Justice in Washington, has been elected President. M. W. W. Billard is the Vice President and Mr. Roy Roseberry Treasurer. The club has a large membership and is awakening interest in athletics in this vicinity.

CRAZED BY GYPSY'S PROPHECY

Mrs. Callahan's Husband Died as Predicted, and She Is Insane.

Special to The Post.

Morgantown, W. Va., May 21.—Superintendent Stathers, of the State Hospital for the Insane, at Weston, received an application this morning for the admission of Mrs. Mary Callahan, whose home is in Berkeley County. Her insanity is due to a strange cause.

About a year ago a band of gypsies camped near her home. One day one of the gypsy women went to the house and asked permission to tell the fortunes of several members of the family. Mrs. Callahan refused to let her come in the house. The gypsy departed, but as she was leaving declared that Mrs. Callahan's husband would die in two months. Just two months afterward Mr. Callahan did die. Mrs. Callahan conceived the idea that her treatment of the gypsy had something to do with her husband's death, and brooded so over it that she became violently insane.

ORDER FOR PROJECTILES.

A Small Number in Course of Manufacture at Cumberland.

Special to The Post.

Cumberland, Md., May 21.—The order of the United States government placed with the Cumberland Steel and Tin Plate Company for projectiles calls for 100 10-inch, 100 12-inch, and 1,100 13-inch, all of which must be completed in two years. The 10-inch are almost completed.

The ladies' auxiliary committee of the Schley testimonial fund has written Admiral Schley asking him to name the date when the presentation of the silver service can be made.

The court has indicated to the counsel that May 31 will be named as the date for the retrial of the pulp mill case at Hagerstown. The attorneys are satisfied, and it is believed this date will be fixed to-morrow. Parties interested attempted to compromise the case without result.

Accused of Brutal Crime.

Special to The Post.

Cumberland, Md., May 21.—Jacob Hirschberger, aged about twenty-one years, has been arrested charged with attempted felonious assault on Elsie McHenry, aged eleven years. He is in the lock-up at Westernport, and will be brought to jail here to-morrow. Hirschberger drives a delivery wagon. The little girl with others had been in the habit of riding on delivery wagons. She jumped on Hirschberger's wagon. He drove to a secluded spot and, it is charged, attempted assault. There is talk of lynching.

Fatal Accident at a Crossing.

Special to The Post.

Lynchburg, Va., May 21.—William Rucker, colored, was killed at 10:30 o'clock this morning, at Hanson's Crossing, just below Lynchburg, by a stock train on the Southern Railroad. Rucker was driving a surry, in company with Paul Taylor, another colored man, and attempted to cross the track just as the train emerged from a cut fifty yards distant. Rucker was instantly killed and Taylor had a leg and an arm broken and was otherwise badly injured.

To Prevent Reconstruction of Bridge.

Special to The Post.

Martinsburg, W. Va., May 21.—Joseph H. Gaines, United States District Attorney, has, by direction of Attorney General Griggs, asked for an injunction against the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company to restrain the company from reconstructing the railroad bridge at Belleaire. The bridge at present has a channel span of 322 feet. The rivermen want the bridge constructed so that the channel span will be 800 feet in width. The railroad company is making an effort to reconstruct the bridge under the old bridge laws.

SHOT BY WIFE'S FATHER.

Coroner's Jury Returned Verdict of Justifiable Manslaughter.

Special to The Post.

Winchester, Va., May 16.—Intelligence was received here to-day of a tragedy just across the Frederick County line in Warren County on Saturday evening. John W. Brown, colored, was shot and killed by his father-in-law, Gabriel Slow, while endeavoring to kill his own wife. Brown's wife had left her husband because of ill-treatment, and went to her father's house. On Saturday evening he rode up to the house on horseback and calling his wife out asked her to return to him. Upon her refusal he pulled out a revolver and threatened to shoot her. She screamed and ran toward the house, pursued by Brown, who endeavored to shoot her. Slow, the father-in-law, appeared at the front door with a double-barreled shotgun and ordered Brown to halt. Upon his refusal the old man emptied a load of shot into Brown, which tore out his left side, killing him instantly. The murderer gave himself up and was committed to jail.

Coroner J. D. Forsythe summoned a jury, and after hearing evidence brought in a verdict of justifiable manslaughter, and Slow was discharged from custody.

Mr. Joseph M. Barton, one of Frederick County's leading citizens, and Miss Frankie B. Jones, of Carey's Brook, this county, were quietly married at the bride's home at 4 o'clock this afternoon. Rev. Dr. James Grantman, rector of Christ Episcopal Church, this city, officiated. Only a few friends were in attendance. The bride is a daughter of Maj. Francis B. Jones, of the Second Virginia Infantry, who was killed during the civil war, and belongs to one of Virginia's oldest families. After the wedding ceremonies Mr. and Mrs. Barton left on a trip North.

HON. W. L. WILSON'S MISSION.

Will Represent Smithsonian Institution at Celebration in London.

Special to The Post.

Lexington, Va., May 17.—Hon. William L. Wilson, President of Washington and Lee University, has been selected by the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, of Washington, D. C., to represent that institution at the centenary celebration of the Royal Institute of Great Britain, which will be observed in London, beginning June 5 next. Mr. Wilson is one of three delegates who will represent the United States on that occasion.

Gen. Scott Shipp, Superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute, has been notified by the United States Fish Commissioner that he will furnish to Gen. Shipp young bass to be put in North and James Rivers, of Rockbridge County.

Mr. Joseph Luke Strider, of Washington, D. C., has presented to Washington and Lee University an oil portrait of his brother, the late Rev. Dr. John Philip Strider, a distinguished graduate of the university, and at one time professor of moral philosophy and belles lettres at Washington and Lee.

Wednesday, June 21, will be observed at the Virginia Military Institute as alumni day. The Alumni Association was organized five years ago for the purpose of bringing about stated fraternal gatherings and to afford the pleasant return trips to the V. M. I. during commencement.

CADETS ARE HAPPY.

To Visit Their Homes This Week for First Time in Two Years.

Special to The Post.

Annapolis, Md., May 21.—The examination of the six-year cadets will be concluded this week. This class came on as cadets of the line division and cadets of the engineer division. Under the personnel bill the class will be merged into the line, according to the order of merit in which the several members of the class pass. The cadets have not been at home for two years, and as soon as the examinations are over the members of it will hurry to their homes.

The shortest line of railroad, probably, ever incorporated in the State, has had its certificate of incorporation filed for record at the Executive Department. It is the Annapolis and Chesapeake Railroad, and runs from Annapolis depot of the Short Line into the Naval Academy. The capital stock is $7,000.

A party of pupils from the Women's College, under charge of Dr. William H. Hopkins, and accompanied by Rev. Dr. Van Meter and several ladies of the faculty, arrived here yesterday morning. At the State House they were addressed by Daniel R. Randall, Assistant United States District Attorney. Gov. Lowndes came in and was received with applause. The Governor made a few remarks, and welcomed the visitors to Annapolis. They returned to Baltimore in the evening

FIRE DESTROYS A STORE.

Lightning Believed to Have Struck Establishment of J. W. Sprint.

Special to The Post.

Winchester, Va., May 17.—Fire, about 3 o'clock this morning, totally destroyed the building occupied by J. W. Sprint as a store, at Boyce, near here, together with a large stock of merchandise. It is thought the building was struck by lightning. Neighboring buildings were also damaged by the fire. The loss is over $2,000. The building was owned by J. T. Sprint, and was insured for $1,000, and the stock for $900.

Miss Katherine Williams, of Bristol, Tenn., and Mr. Claude C. Giles, a prominent young member of the Reidsville, Ga., bar, were married here at 4 o'clock this afternoon, at the residence of the bride's sister, Mrs. Daniel B. Andrews, on West Water street. The bride was attended by Miss Venora Davidson, of this city, and the groom by Mr. H. S. McMillan, of Atlanta, Ga. Rev. E. Olin Eldridge, pastor of the Market Street M. E. Church, officiated.

Shot His Rival from Ambush.

Special to The Post.

Danville, Va., May 21.—Thomas Easley, a young colored man, while returning home about midnight from a social function, was fired upon from ambush and dangerously wounded. Three shots were fired, one of which took effect. While somewhat improved to-day, Easley is not yet out of danger. William Harris was arrested on suspicion. He coolly admitted that he fired the shots from a twenty-two caliber Winchester rifle, and that he laid in wait for Easley. He says, however, that his purpose was only to frighten and punish Easley severely. Harris declares he can show to the satisfaction of any intelligent and chivalric Virginia jury that his great grievance against Easley was sufficient to fully justify his act. An accomplished colored belle is the cause of the tragedy.

Gold Medal for the Prize Orator.

Special to The Post.

Charlottesville, Va., May 16.—The Southern Interstate Oratorical Association will hold its ninth annual contest in the public hall, at the University of Virginia, to-morrow evening. Each year the association gives a $50 gold medal to its best orator. This is decided by a committee of three judges. The judges for the contest this year are Senator John W. Daniel, of Lynchburg; Dr. Edward N. Calisch, of Richmond, and Gen. Thomas L. Rosser, of Charlottesville.

The following are the officers of the association for this year: President, C. C. Wright, University of Virginia; Vice President, E. A. Cox, Vanderbilt University; Secretary and Treasurer, W. L. Shannonhouse, University of Virginia.

Girl Students in Debate.

Special to The Post.

Manassas, Va., May 18.—The annual commencement exercises of the Brentsville Normal School began last evening and will conclude to-morrow morning. The literary society of that institution held its exercises last evening, and the feature of the occasion was the debate, "Resolved, That monopolies and trusts are a menace to free institutions." The affirmative side was sustained by Miss Sadie Colvin, of Virginia, and Mr. E. H. Hoon, of Pennsylvania, while the negative was discussed by Miss Lizzie Thomas and Mr. W. C. Read, of Virginia. The debate this evening was "Resolved that capital punishment should be abolished."

STRUCK CHURCH TOWER.

Lightning Also Sets Fire to Cornhouse Near Fredericksburg.

Special to The Post.

Fredericksburg, Va., May 17.—During a storm last night lightning struck the bell tower of Trinity Episcopal Church, causing a damage of about $100. Lightning also struck and set on fire the cornhouse of Mr. C. L. Payne, near this city, and killed an ox under an adjoining shed.

Thursday, June 1, has been selected for Confederate Memorial Day here, and elaborate preparations are being made for it and also for the National Decoration Day.

Mrs. Frances Perry died to-day at the home of her son-in-law, Mr. James S. Pates, in the country, after a short illness, aged seventy-two years.

The Fredericksburg Mary Washington Monument Association, the Society for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, Daughters of the Revolution, and Colonial Dames have all united in making preparations for the entertainment of the national Washington Monument Association, which meets here the latter part of this month.

United States Senator-elect James P. Taliaferro, of Jacksonville, Fla., has donated $25 to the fund for erecting a Confederate monument at Orange Court House. The Senator is a native of Orange.

BURGLARS WORKED HARD.

A Dozen Houses Robbed in One Night by An Organized Gang.

Special to The Post.

Morgantown, W. Va., May 17.—Upon rising this morning a dozen families discovered that during the night their houses had been burglarized, and others found that attempts had been made to rob theirs. Developments show the work to have been done by an organized gang. Postmaster Fitch and Prof. L. C. Corbett are the heaviest losers. The Presbyterian Church, Peabody Hotel, and Mrs. C. F. Naret lost valuables. The officials have a clew to the gang.

Word was received here to-day of the death of Burke Wilson, a popular law student of the university. He was taken ill with typhoid fever several weeks ago and removed to his home in Cabell County, where he died.

Charles Findley and Miss Flora Haymond, two prominent society people of Clarksburg, were married in Christ Church there this evening.

The body of Dr. F. C. Hum was found dead in an open field near McKeesport, Pa., yesterday. Until three months ago he practiced dentistry in Morgantown.

HIS REMAINS RECOVERED.

Body of Capt. Knudsen, Who Fell Overboard, Sent to His Home.

Special to The Post.

Newport News, Va., May 18.—The body of Capt. J. G. Knudsen, who was drowned last Thursday night while attempting to go aboard a small boat, was found floating in Hampton Roads, just off Old Point, this morning. Coroner Jones deemed an inquest unnecessary. The body was shipped to the family of the deceased in Brooklyn, N. Y., this afternoon. The sum of $38.06 was found in one of the pockets of the dead man. Capt. Knudsen was one of the most popular fishing captains that came to Hampton Roads.

It is understood that the movement started some time ago to build a hospital here will be revived shortly. Already there is quite a snug little sum in bank to the credit of the hospital fund, and it will be a good working nucleus. It has been suggested that the physicians of the city play the lawyers a game of baseball at East End Park, the receipts to be turned into the hospital fund.

FOUND HIS DEAD BODY.

Heart Failure Given as Cause of Boyce, Va., Merchant's Death.

Special to The Post.

Winchester, Va., May 18.—John M. Jolliffe, a leading merchant of Boyce, near here, was found in an unconscious condition at his store this morning, and died soon after without regaining consciousness. Several empty laudanum bottles were found lying near the cot on which Mr. Jolliffe was lying, but the physician gave heart failure as the cause of death.

Mr. Jolliffe had been missing since yesterday and had locked up his store. A search was instituted for him, and an entrance was effected through a window of the store, where he was found lying on a cot. The deceased was fifty-five years of age, and is survived by a widow and six children. During the civil war he served in the Confederate Army as a member of the Clark County Cavalry, and was severely wounded at the battle of Cross Keys.

FARMER'S LOSS BY FIRE.

Pittsburg Firm to Establish Steel Plant at Burkeville.

Special to The Post.

Petersburg, Va., May 18.—The barn and stables of J. J. Picardat, in Chesterfield County, one mile from Petersburg, were destroyed by fire this morning. In the barn was stored a large quantity of corn and other grain. Mr. Picardat lost all of his farming implements. His loss is about $500. No insurance.

The laying of rails and sills for the new street electric railway was begun to-day. The road is expected to be completed within the next three months.

About 10,000,000 pounds of loose tobacco have been sold in Petersburg so far this season which brought in the aggregate about $750,000.

A Pittsburg firm is to establish a large steel plant at Burkeville, Va.

VOTED FOR BOND ISSUE.

The Sum of $100,000 to Be Used in Paving Danville Streets.

Special to The Post.

Danville, Va., May 18.—An important special election was held here to-day. The question submitted to the people was, Shall the city of Danville issue $100,000 in 4 per cent. bonds for paving the streets? The bond issue was carried by more than two-third of the popular vote and a handsome majority of the registered free-holders; total vote, 1,305 to 56. These bonds are already spoken for at a small premium, and the work of paving Main street with Belgian block will be commenced almost immediately. The material taken up from Main street to make room for Belgian block will be used in paving other streets.

Rappahannock Valley Fair Dates.

Special to The Post.

Fredericksburg, Va., May 16.—The Board of Directors of the Rappahannock Valley Agricultural and Mechanical Society, at a meeting to-day, selected September 26, 27, and 28, as dates for the next annual fair to be held here. The schedule of races was decided upon, and larger purses are offered than heretofore. The prizes were also increased in several departments and arrangements made for securing a number of attractions.

Messrs. Daniel C. Gilman, Ira Remsen, Christopher Johnston, Samuel Keyser, William Keyser and Dr. Remsen, of Baltimore; R. S. Keyser, and E. W. Cuggershall, of New York, were here to-day viewing the Mary Washington Monument and visiting other historical points, having come up the Rappahannock on the yacht Kaleda.

The National Mary Washington Monument Association will meet in this city Thursday, May 27.

Sale of Valuable Timber Tract.

Special to The Post.

Elkins, W. Va., May 16.—Dewing & Son have sold their extensive timber tract to a syndicate, the consideration being nearly $1,000,000. The land holdings of Dewing & Son consisted of 70,000 acres on Shafer's Fork of Cheat River, in this county. They will move their plant to a point on a new road to be built into their lands from the nearest point on the Chesapeake and Ohio road, but not until 3,000 logs now in the river at Port Marion are sawed.

TRAINING SHIPS IN PORT.

Apprentices to Be Furloughed After Inspection To-morrow.

Special to The Post.

Norfolk, Va., May 22.—There is a squadron of three ships of the old navy now anchored in Hampton Roads. The old Essex, with 140 apprentice boys aboard, is back from the West Indies, and the Alliance has returned from Europe with apprentices aboard. The gunnery training ship Lancaster arrived this morning from a long practice cruise. The apprentices will go on furlough after being inspected Wednesday. Many of them will not afterward return to the service.

The union plumbers of Norfolk are on strike. About twelve establishments are without the services of their employes, who walked out this morning because of the refusal of an employer to require one of his men to join the union. This employer stated that his reason for not acquiescing to the request of the union was that he had information that the plumbers contemplated striking on the 1st of June for an increase of pay, from $2.50 to $3 per diem.

The employing plumbers have an organization similar to the journeymen, and the clash at once became general.

In the United States Court Mary Steward, colored, has entered suit against the Old Dominion Steamship Company for $10,000, for the loss of her husband's life. James H. Steward was steward of the steamer Northampton, and was burned to death when that vessel was destroyed by fire at her wharf in Norfolk one year ago.

The announcement has just been made of the marriage of Mr. J. I. Turner, jr., and Miss Susan Lee Milligan, although the nuptials were solemnized last fall. They were married in Shiloh, N. C., September 14. The bride is the youngest daughter of the late Maj. J. F. Milligan. Mr. and Mrs. Turner are now visiting relatives of the groom in Southampton County.

DISSOLVED THE INJUNCTION.

Appeal to Be Taken in Case of Warwick County Election Judges.

Special to The Post.

Newport News, Va., May 22.—The injunction granted by Judge Wellford, of Richmond, and continued by Judge Mason, of Prince George, restraining the electoral board of Warwick County from removing two Judges of Election from office was dissolved to-day by Judge Prentiss, who held that the court had no jurisdiction. An appeal was noted and the matter will be taken to a higher court.

Judge Blackstone, of the Circuit Court, to-day granted a charter to the Old Point Comfort Beach Line and Improvement Company, the principal object of which is to buy and sell land, erect buildings, &c. The capital is to be not less than $15,000 or more than $50,000. The officers are Francis Seymour, of Phoebus, President; George M. Compere, of Norfolk, Vice President; George H. Lancer, of Phoebus, Secretary, and Anthony Peinikle, of Phoebus, Treasurer.

Oyster Inspector F. C. Madison, of the Twenty-eighth District, has just made his report to the State Auditor for the season of 1898-'99. His total receipts for rent of State oyster grounds and tonging licenses were $3,821.45. He turned in to the Auditor $710.09 over the amount reported last year.

WEEK OF WEDDED LIFE.

Then Aged Farmer Applies for Divorce from Youthful Bride.

Special to The Post.

Frederick, Md., May 22.—John Fox, the eighty-six-year-old farmer, who one week ago married Kittie Zimmerman, aged twenty-one years, at Walkersville, this county, to-day filed application for divorce from his young bride, who has been in Hagerstown, Md., visiting her mother since Saturday. The old man names, as responsible for the trouble, Roy Anderson. When the match was made the bride got $150 cash and other consideration, one of which was that Anderson should be given employment on Fox's farm. It is on statutory grounds that the divorce is asked.

This is Fox's third matrimonial venture within a year. Two fair damsels previously wheedled money out of him on promise of marriage. One got $150 to prepare for the wedding, and, instead, took a trip to Atlantic City. The other, was an escaped inmate of the House of Refuge in Baltimore, got over a hundred dollars and then jilted the man, after he had procured the marriage license. Fox intimated to-day that he would try again if he got a divorce soon.

Pushing Work on Railroad.

Special to The Post.

Petersburg, Va., May 22.—The Richmond, Petersburg and Carolina Railroad has organized its engineer corps and will now push to completion its road from Ridgeway, N. C., to Richmond with all possible speed.

A large silk mill is to be built at Roanoke Rapids, about five miles from Weldon, N. C., which will cost in the neighborhood of $150,000.

The south-bound passenger train which left here this morning had among its passengers a young eloping couple from Petersburg. They were Mr. W. C. Gates and Miss Ethel Lee Bourdon. The couple went to Halifax, N. C., and were married. They returned to the city to-night.

There are fifteen schooners at the wharf in this city loading with lumber for different Northern cities.

Rossburgh Club Ball.

Special to The Post.

Hyattsville, Md., May 22.—The Rossburgh Club, of the Maryland Agricultural College, gave its final hop of the season in the college hall to-night. The dance was in the nature of a reception tendered the graduating class by the members of the junior class, who had complete charge of the arrangements, and was a brilliant success in every particular. Guests numbering several hundred, from Baltimore, Washington, and the contiguous counties, were present.

The chaperons were Mrs. Richard W. Silvester, Mrs. Alvey, Mrs. Taliaferro, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Fitzhugh, Mrs. Blundon, Mrs. Tise, and Mrs. Van Loan. The arrangements for the ball in June, which ushers out the present scholastic year, have been placed in charge of an organization of the cadets.

Not Guilty of Perjury.

Special to The Post.

Hagerstown, Md., May 22.—The State this afternoon confessed a plea of not guilty in the case of Stephen Grimes, indicted for perjury. Grimes, it was charged, got a marriage license for Martin V. Marshall and Mary Jane Kefoot, swearing the latter was eighteen years old. The girl's parents talk of instituting proceedings to annul the marriage.

A Western Maryland Railroad engine boiler exploded yesterday near Shippensburg, perhaps fatally injuring Fireman Fleet Harbaugh, of Hagerstown.

Former Sheriff Benjamin F. Richard suffered a paralytic stroke and died today.

His Secret Offered for Sale.

Special to The Post.

Parsons, W. Va., May 22.—It now appears that the great embalming method of G. W. Hamrick, of near Philippi, will be made public. It was thought to have been lost with his death recently, but the administrator now offers the patent for sale, it being in the possession of Hamrick's wife. Hamrick left the bodies of two women and numerous animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, which he had for years kept in a perfect state of preservation. He had often been offered large sums for the secret.

Accused of Embezzlement.

Richmond, Va., May 22.—John J. Hippenstill, a former tax collector of Burlington County, N. J., was arrested in Northumberland County, in this State, Saturday night, on the charge of embezzlement. He assented to return to New Jersey without a requisition.

ACCUSED BY CHILD WIFE

Domestic