

THE GRADUATING BALL AT THE V. M. I.

Gymnasium Decorated in Brilliant Colors, and the Scene Entrancing. OPENED BY FIRING A CANNON. Elegant Costumes and Ingenious Figures That Called Forth Applause.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) LEXINGTON, VA., June 30.—The final graduating ball took place at the Virginia Military Institute Wednesday night and brought to an end the commencement exercises, which had been in progress during the past four days. The gymnasium, where the ball took place, was decorated in brilliant colors and lighted with electrical lights of many colors, lending an enchanting scene to the many spectators present. The opening of the ball was heralded by the firing of a cannon by Miss Margaret Perkins, of Dallas, Texas, who, with the final ball president, Cadet-Captain Hickman Beckner, opened the brilliant function.

The opening figure was led by them and executed by twenty-one other couples, all the ladies carrying bouquets of American Beauty roses and the cadets wearing full military costumes, with sword-belts, marching and counter-marching. The couples formed the number 97 to 06 with great exactness, which elicited round after round of applause from the spectators.

After the opening figure, the floor was thronged with many couples until supper was announced by the firing of the cannon at 2 A. M. The dance only ended with the rising of the sun the next morning, many being loth to quit. The music was by Schroeder's Orchestra of Washington, D. C.

Those in the opening couples were: Miss Margaret Perkins, of Dallas, Tex., gown in white net with sequins, diamonds and pearls, with final ball president Cadet-Captain Hickman Beckner, of Winchester, Ky.

ENTIRE FAMILY CURED ELIXIR BABEK The One Sure Cure for Malaria. Myself and whole household had suffered very much for some time with Malarial Fever. 'Elixir Babek' has cured us perfectly, so that we enjoy at present the best of health, and are feeling stronger than before.

Walker, Mrs. A. J. O'Reilly, Mrs. Harry Rankin, Mrs. C. J. Pintard, Mrs. J. H. Laird, Mrs. A. A. Blow, Mrs. W. H. Moore, Mrs. C. G. Ford, Mrs. R. D. Dixon, Mrs. H. B. Byatt, Mrs. L. G. Bogart, Mrs. P. P. Nash, Miss Florence DuVal, Mrs. A. M. Ghent, Mrs. S. M. Cline, Mrs. E. Morgan Pendleton, Mrs. C. M. Pletcher, Mrs. Bon. Huger, Mrs. Francis Mallory.

SMITTEN CONSCIENCE.

Farmville Riding and Driving Association Elects Officers. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) FAIRMVILLE, VA., June 30.—Mayor W. T. Blanton received a brief letter this week, containing two \$100 notes. The letter read as follows: "This money belongs to the community, please see that it goes to the treasury." The letter bore neither date nor signature. Its postmark was Farmville. Mayor Blanton has delivered this \$200 to the treasurer of Farmville.

The Farmville baseball team, with Captain R. H. Hunt, manager, has played this season with great success. The baseball grounds of Farmville have been nicely enclosed, a substantial grandstand erected, and now it is a pleasure to witness the games.

PEOPLE IN LANCASTER. Temperance Rally at Whitestone and Celebration at Urbanna. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) IRVINGTON, VA., June 30.—There will be a grand temperance rally at Whitestone, M. E. Church, July 1. An interesting program has been prepared by the committee. Rev. E. J. Richardson, office secretary of the Virginia Anti-Saloon League of Richmond, Va., will be among the speakers from a distance.

Telephones Rapid Strides. PHILADELPHIA, PA., June 30.—Just thirty years ago, at the Centennial Exhibition in this city, the telephone was first introduced to the public. A few months before Alexander Graham Bell had perfected his invention in Boston, but it was not until a month after the opening of the Centennial that it occurred to him to exhibit his wonderful working device at the great fair. The managers, regarding it as rather more interesting than useful, gave the telephone an inconspicuous place. As a matter of fact, but for the interest taken in it by Dom Pedro, the Emperor of Brazil, the telephone might not have attracted the popular attention during the Centennial. Afterward, until the exhibition closed, the telephone shared with the then celebrated Corliss engine the distinction of being the center of attraction. For Dom Pedro's benefit, Dr. Bell recited over the telephone Hamlet's soliloquy, and this is said to have been the first public demonstration of the practical value of the telephone.

Arbitration Displacing War. Any one who has carefully followed the arbitration movement during the decade since 1895, including the work and results of the Hague conference, to say nothing of the nearly 200 cases of dispute settled by this means in the previous eighty years knows that arbitration can no longer fairly be spoken of as an experiment. Arbitration is not any longer an experiment, nor even a series of experiments. It is now the settled practice of nations, as it was a century ago, when serious disputes arose between them, is no longer resorted to except in rare instances; and in most of these instances the causes run far back into the past and have created deep prejudices and deeply-rooted feelings of distrust and animosity which do not readily yield to peace treaties.

China Dinner Sets at Reduced Prices. Cleaning Up Our Stock Before Mid-Summer. We're making preparations now for fall business, and it's always our policy to clean up one season's merchandise before another comes in. First-class Dinner Sets are thrusting themselves forward at reduced prices for your consideration.

Thin Imported China Dinner Set, 102 pieces, gold lined; was \$18, now \$10.89. Hayland Dinner Set, 102 pieces, green decorations; was \$35, now \$27.

50c Laundry Bags, each 25c. Beginning Monday, July 2d, our Store Closes at 5 P. M. Daily, Except Saturday. Saturday, 6 P. M. Miller & Rhoads Store Closed All Day, Wednesday, July 4th. Two New \$1.00 Books, 50c. Each. "The Man Between" and "A Rock in the Battle."

Vacation Time Means Trunk Time. Our Trunk Store Will Offer Some Wonderfully Good Values During the Coming Week. We've gone somewhat into detail to-day as regards a dozen or so of our special values in Trunks. You will be well repaid for a careful reading of each item, as the entire list represents the very best values in Trunks, at the various prices, to be found in the city of Richmond.

Bleached Linen Table Damask, 75c and \$1 yd. Special Values at These Prices. There's been a big advance in the prices of Linens. We'd advise buying now for future as well as present needs, as this 72-inch Bleached Irish Damask at 75c will undoubtedly go up to a dollar, and our present \$1 Damask will be \$1.25 in the near future.

Yesterday's Sale of Toilet Articles Was a Big Success. Remember that the Special Prices Hold Good for Two Days More—Monday and Tuesday. The articles in this sale are all staple and will be sold much under their regular price during the next two days.

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Bargains in Basement Cottons on Monday. 25c Hemstitched Pillow Cases, 19c. Made of the best grade bleached cotton, with spoke-stitch ends. We only have 300 of them for this sale—10c each, or \$2.25 per dozen.

A Dressing Sacque is a Hot Weather Necessity. Might as well be comfortable, especially when it costs so little, and you can look neat at the same time. Kimono Jackets, in White Lawn with colored border, or in Figured Lawn with white border; good quality lawn and well made, 50c.

A Nice Wrap for Trolley or Any Outdoor Vacation Wear. is a Pretty Jacket made of fine imported wool, in white with pink, light or red borders, also blue with white border. It's cheap at \$2.50. Thin, Light-Weight Trolley Shawls. Don't weigh but three ounces, and you can fold the shawl up in a hand-bag. Big enough, however, to protect the head, shoulders and chest. Fine, soft material, \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50 up to \$3.

\$6.50 to \$10 Values in Linen Suits. Eton, Pony, and Frock and Frill styles, in white, blue and pink linen. The trimming is in various styles of lace and embroidery—all neat effects. All sizes up to 44. These suits have been very popular this season at from \$6.50 to \$10—but closing out time has come. Your choice to-morrow, \$4.95 each. Some Additional Good Values Added to the Wash Suits, at Many a woman went away from here last week the happy possessor of a high-grade Wash Suit at a very low price. \$6.75

Wash Coats of Cannon Cloth and Linen \$1.98 and \$2.98. Actually worth more than that, but they happen to be odd coats for which we have no skirts, and of course must suffer in price. All this season's styles in Eton, bolero and pony styles. Some have a velvet collar, and a light blue rep collar, while others are trimmed with lace and fancy braid.

Short Pieces of 25c White Nainsook 12 1/2c Yard. Six hundred yards of Fine, Soft-finish White English Nainsook, 40 inches wide, in short pieces of from 5 to 12 yards each. The regular price was 25c yard—the remnant price, 12 1/2c.

White Lawns (4 1/2c, 6 1/2c, 10c, 15c) Per Yard (5c, 8 1/2c, 12 1/2c, 20c) All Under Price. The mills can't make the goods to-day to sell at the same prices. Cotton has been going higher and higher for months. These goods were contracted for long ago.

45-inch White French Lawns, 15c Yd. We consider ourselves fortunate in securing another case of the Fine Sheer Quality French Lawn, 45 inches wide, that we've been selling at 15c yard, though it's practically a 25c quality. Come early on Monday. 10c and 12 1-2c Batiste Lawns, 6 1/2c and 7 1/2c yd. About 4,000 yards for the coming week's selling. All this season's goods. We secured them at low prices by taking all the goods the jobber had. We make a profit—so do you. Don't fall to avail yourself of the opportunity on Monday morning. Fine Printed Organdie, 12 1-2c yd. Great values these—the latest floral designs and colorings, printed on an extra fine cloth. Looks very much like the French Organdie, except in price. New arrivals every day keep our stock complete.