

# The Old Commonwealth.

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## MEMORIAL DAY.

Butter flowers, pure, fresh flowers,  
From lovely gardens and fragrant bowers,  
By the running brook, from the pleasant field,  
The brightest and purest earth may yield.  
Strew them lavishly over the graves  
Of those who yielded their lives to save  
Their country's honor—a nation's pride,  
For which all else is naught beside.  
And as the flowers are dying there,  
And the perfume is wafted in the air,  
The angel spirits of those beloved,  
Will be watching us from their homes above.  
Many a mourning one to-day  
Is silently weeping her life away,  
Two years have passed since she was left  
Of father, husband, or son bereft.  
And each of these utter an earnest prayer,  
That on these graves may blossom fair,  
By some kind hand be strewed that day—  
"Twice comfort the mourners far away."  
Of many an one there will be no trace,  
That may be found of their resting place;  
But let us hope, with a happy band,  
They're culling flowers in that brighter land.  
May all who hold their memory dear,  
Thus gather flowers year by year,  
For the graves of those who fought so well,  
And in the contest nobly fell.  
Democrat.

## THE BEST BED.

A COMEDY OF ERRORS.

The district school in the village of Hollythorn was taught by Miss Eva Stanley, who "boarded around" among the scholars and was considered the paragon of teachers.

The last week previous to the holiday vacation she had been boarding with a Mrs. Carpenter, who was making gigantic preparations for guests she expected from New York.

"You never met my brothers, Eva," she said. "There's Sam, and George, and Johnny, the youngest; and such times as they have when they get out here and rusticate, as they call it. But, dear me, I don't get much rest or peace, for they are like a lot of boys let out of school."

"The last time they visited me together, John and Sam actually cut a pane of glass from the window, and pelted George from my best room with snow!"

"You see, there is always a regular strife for that particular room, for the bed is a spring one, and they say they don't sleep on any other in the city. But they don't get it this time, that's certain, for I intend to give you that room, and so on the controversy."

"I had just as soon occupy some other room, Mrs. Carpenter, and do not wish to inconvenience your brothers."

"No you shan't, Eva," peremptorily exclaimed her hostess; "and what is the use of your going home vacation week? You can stay here just as well as not, and do your sewing on my machine."

The subject was dropped, and the entire household retired early, for on the morrow the brothers, young, ardent and full of life, were to be there. But without sending any word of their intention, they had concluded to take the train which would land them in Hollythorn about bed time. George and John did so, and when seated in the cars began to speculate upon the absence of Sam.

"No reason in the world why he should not have been here," said George. "I can't make it out unless he has taken the 5 o'clock train by mistake."

"Not a bit of it," laughed John, who fancied he understood the entire programme. "It is most likely he took that train on purpose to get into Hannah's parlor bed-room, and make us take up with straw ticks and featherers."

"I didn't think of that, but I reckon you are right. We must contrive to get him out somehow."

The brothers put their heads together and laughed heartily over some scheme for outwitting Sam, and accordingly, when the train reached Hollythorn, about 11 o'clock, they approached the home of their sister in a very stealthy manner.

Climbing the fence in the rear, they softly opened the window and obtained access to the partry, where they demolished a whole mince pie and a quantity of doughnuts. Then with appetites appeased, they removed their boots and prepared to investigate the "best room," stole along the hall, which was dimly lighted by the moon, ascended the stairs and unlocked the door. The faint rays of the moon disclosed a chair piled up with clothing, and they could distinctly trace the outlines of a form beneath the bed clothes. A few whispered words were exchanged, and then as lightly as if shod with down they drew near.

"All ready!" whispered George.

Quick as thought they seized upon the form of the sleeper, bed clothes and all, bore it swiftly down the stairs and out into the snow, and were about to deposit it in a huge drift when a shrill scream broke the stillness of the night, and, oh, horror! it was that of a woman! And in their consternation they dropped their burden plump into the middle of the drift.

"Good heavens!" exclaimed George, "it isn't Sam, but some woman, as I am a sinner, and she has fainted! Run and call Hannah!"

With admirable presence of mind, he lifted the limp form of Eva Stanley, and carried it into the house. But they had already been heard, and the inmates came rushing into the hall just as he appeared.

"George! John! for goodness sake what does this mean, and who have you there?" asked Mrs. Carpenter, in a breath.

"Blessed if I know," began George; "thought it was Sam, so we concluded to give him a dose in the snow for getting into the best bed and trying to enslave us. Quick! I believe she has fainted."

"Just like you," scolded Hannah, as

she assisted in depositing Eva once more in the bed from which she had been so unceremoniously taken; "beginning your tricks upon each other before you are fairly into the house. Clear out now!"

Long before she had finished her tirade her brothers had betaken themselves down stairs, where they went into hysterics over the joke.

"A pretty kettle of fish!" said George, rolling over on the floor, and letting off pent after pent of laughter.

"I should think it was," replied John, holding his sides. "Oh, my! But what is to be done about it; and who do you suppose she is, George?"

"Some guest of Hannah's, of course, and young and pretty at that. I don't know how it is with you, but I feel particularly small and cheap—would sell myself at a very low price."

"Cheap," roared John, "cheap! I would actually give myself away this blessed minute, and throw something in to boot. What are we to do? I can't say. I believe I shall dig out of this place and get back to the city before morning. I haven't got the courage to face the music."

He began hastily putting on his boots, and would have carried his threat into execution, but for the appearance of Hannah, who at once asserted her authority.

"You are not going a single step, John. I don't wonder you feel ashamed of yourselves. What on earth possessed you is more than I can tell."

"That's right, Han; pitch in, scold away; I'll take any amount of talking just now. I am as meek as a lamb. But who is it we've played so shabbily a trick on?" replied George.

"Trick! I should think it was—Why, it is Eva Stanley, our school teacher, and this is her week to board here. I don't believe the poor girl will ever get over her fright. It is too bad; I shouldn't wonder if she has taken her death, being dragged out of a warm bed this time of night and dropped into a snow drift in that fashion. No wonder she cried, poor thing."

"Cried, did she?" repeated George, with a groan.

"I should think she did. I just took her in my arms and let her have her cry out, while I explained to her how she happened to be mistaken for Sam and became the victim of your mad pranks."

"That was neat in you, Han," said George. "I am glad you hugged the poor little thing. Wish you had given her a brotherly squeeze for me—upon my honor I do."

"And how on earth do you expect us to stay and take the consequences?" asked John, beginning to look serious. "I am for taking myself off instantly. I had rather face a masked battery than this pretty teacher, after making such fools of ourselves."

"I don't care if you had," answered his sister, indignantly. "The only way to do is to stay and brave it out, both of you, and apologize for your rudeness."

"But Sam, how the deuce are we to get along with him? You know well enough, Han, we shall never hear the end of it from him."

"If you two can keep the secret, I'll find a way to silence Bridget, and it is a subject Eva will not care to have discussed, and fortunately my husband is away from home. So go to bed and rest contented."

She showed them to the bed she had intended them to occupy, and soon the house was once more hushed in slumber.

Meanwhile their brother Sam had reached the depot a few minutes too late. He found the train he was to have taken already gone, but on consulting a time table he found that another train started two hours later. He figured to himself, as he impatiently crowded into an empty seat, and was whistled along at a rapid rate, how snugly his brothers had ensconced themselves in the best bed, which by right belonged to him, he being the eldest, and consummated a plan to get even with them.

Sometime after midnight he was deposited in Hollythorn, and reaching his sister's house he scouted around till he found a way of entrance into the kitchen, where he deposited his luggage and removed his boots. Then he quickly stole up stairs and opened the door of the best room. "Sure enough," thought he, "my fine chaps you are in clover!" For there were not to be mistaken signs of the room being occupied.

To think of coping with their united strength by dragging them forth was not practicable, but there stood the pitcher of water, and he knew that a good dousing with the icy fluid would bring them out quick enough.

He lifted the pitcher, approached the bed, raised it and suddenly dashed the contents upon the sleepers.

Such a torrent of screams as he had never before heard rang through the house, and before Sam could collect his scattered senses the door opened, and Hannah, George and John rushed in, clothed in scanty apparel—Hannah with a frightened look upon her face, and a lamp in her hand that revealed the entire scene.

There, sitting in bed, with hair dripping like a mermaid, her night-dress deluged, was the young school mistress; and there was Sam, with the empty pitcher in his hand, the very picture of imbecility, staring around like an idiot at the havoc he had made. Hannah, George and John instantly understood the situation; and the latter, at the command of their sister, dragged Sam away, while she assisted the drenched and terrified girl to dry clothing, and then took her to her own room and bed, explaining for the second time the mishaps of the night.

"I'll keep you with me now, my poor child," said she, though with difficulty keeping back her laughter. "The boys

are nicely come up with at any rate, and if it were not for your being so terribly frightened, and the way my best bed has been used, I wouldn't care. But you are safe now."

Hannah kissed her charge, and went down to see the boys, who, as soon as they were finally shut in the regions below, began to appreciate the joke; and now that Sam was as deep in the mud as they were in the mire, gave no quarter.

"I'll be blamed if I know what it all means," said Sam, looking in confusion at his brothers, who were rolling and kicking in convulsions of laughter.

"Means?" said George, holding his sides. "It means that you have stolen like a thief into Miss Eva Stanley's bed-chamber, who is a young lady teacher boarding here; and that thing it was your humble servant and Johnny snuggled in bed, you attempted to drown us out, and made a grand mistake. How do you like it, Sam?"

"I confess I see the point, but I can't see the joke. It is a most outrageous shame."

At this juncture Hannah came in, and began rating them soundly, thereby letting out the whole story. It was now Sam's turn to laugh.

Miss Eva was not visible the next morning, and Hannah announced that she was sick with a severe cold. Hannah had her unruly crew under her thumb for once in her life, and had the satisfaction of seeing them behave with some dignity. They appeared never to forget that there was an invalid in the house, and went on tip-toe about Sam, who seemed to take the entire responsibility on his own shoulders, sent off slyly to the city for choice fruits and flowers, which he induced his sister to convey to the young lady with the most abject apologies and regrets.

In a couple of days Eva was able to come down stairs. She was looking quite pale, but lovely, and of course divinely, when presented by Mrs. Carpenter to the three brothers, who behaved quite well considering the unpleasantness of the situation.

But Sam, who had broken the ice by means of his presents, was most at ease, and by virtue of his age and experience, constituted himself the proprietor, and was constantly on hand to offer Miss Eva a thousand nameless attentions; and before the week was out John declared that Sam was "done for."

"Come under completely!" said George with one of his dismal groans. Hannah, singing Eva's praises, commended Sam's choice, and recommended marriage to all of them as the only sobering process she was acquainted with. It was a piece of advice, however, that they did not appear inclined to follow, notwithstanding Sam's happy lot with the school-mistress of Hollythorn.

She often reminds her brothers-in-law of her unceremonious introduction to a snow-drift at the dead of night, and they retort with the shower-bath given her by Sam.

## Great Books.

The study of the most famous authors, even in minute detail—line by line and word by word—is amongst the most nourishing of intellectual repasts. Insist on reading the great books, on marking the great events of the world, and the little books may be left to take care of themselves, and the trivial incidents of passing politics and diplomacy may perish with the using. Above all, endeavor to grasp the distinction between the great primary ideas and the small secondary ideas which jostle each other in the turmoil of thought. Remember those ideas which reach far and wide, and which can be expressed in terms plain, intelligible, persuasive, to all educated men, claim at once a superiority above the technicalities of controversial or professional circles. We do not say that this largeness of thought and of language is a necessary test of truth. It may be that fine philosophy or poetical inspirations have come into the world wrapped in the swaddling-clothes of an enigma, or in the obscure corner of a sect. No doubt there is a ray of light inherent in the words and in the ideas of each particular country—no doubt there are local institutions which cannot be transplanted to other regions without perishing. But as a general rule, it is one of the best safe guards against narrow, impracticable, fantastic doctrines to test them by contrast and comparison with the lofty thoughts which belong to the literature of all times and all countries.—Dean Stanley.

## American Wonders.

The greatest cataract in the world is the Falls of Niagara.

The greatest cave in the world is the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky.

The greatest river in the world is the Mississippi, 4,100 miles long.

The largest valley in the world is the Mississippi Valley.

The largest lake in the world is Lake Superior, which is truly an inland sea, being four hundred and thirty miles long and one thousand feet deep.

The largest railroad in the world is the Pacific Railroad, which is over three thousand miles in length.

The greatest natural bridge in the world is the Natural Bridge over Cedar Creek, in Virginia.

The greatest mass of solid iron in the world is the great Iron Mountain in Missouri.

This from the Burlington Hawk Eye: "An intelligent foreigner, passing thro' the streets of Philadelphia, took out his note book at the end of a walk, and made a memorandum to the effect that 'eighty per cent. of the population of Philadelphia are members of the powerful family of Roomstolet.'"

## A True Story.

One cold day in winter, a lad stood at the outer door of a cottage in Scotland. The snow had been falling very fast, and the poor boy looked very cold and hungry.

"Mayn't I stay, ma'am?" he said to the woman who had opened the door. "I'll work, cut wood, go for water, and do all your errands."

"You may come in at any rate, until my husband comes home," the woman said. "There, sit down by the fire; you look perishing with the cold;" then, suspiciously glancing at the boy from the corners of her eyes, she continued setting the table for supper.

Presently came the tramp of heavy boots, and the door was swung open with a quick jerk, and the husband entered, wearied with his day's work.

A look of intelligence passed between his wife and himself. He had looked at the boy, but did not seem very well pleased; he nevertheless made him come to the table, and was glad to see how heartily he ate his supper.

Day after day passed, and the boy begged to be kept "until to-morrow," so the good couple, after due consideration, concluded that, as long as he was such a good boy, and worked so willingly, they would keep him.

One day, in the middle of winter, a peddler, who often traded at the cottage, called, and, after disposing of some of his goods, was preparing to go, when he said to the woman:

"You have a boy out there, splitting wood, I see," pointing to the yard.

"Yes; do you know him?"

"I have seen him," replied the peddler.

"Where? Who is he? What is he?"

"A full bird," and then the peddler swung his pack over his shoulder.

"That boy, young as he looks, I saw in court myself, and heard him sentenced, 'ten months.' You'd do well to look carefully after him."

Oh! there was something so dreadful in the word "full bird." The poor woman trembled as she laid away the things she had bought of the peddler; nor could she be easy till she called the boy in and assured him that she knew that dark part of his history.

Ashamed and distressed, the boy hung down his head. His cheeks seemed bursting with the hot blood, and his lip quivered.

"Well," he muttered, his frame shaking, "there's no use in my trying to do better; everybody hates and despises me; nobody cares about me."

"Tell me," said the woman, "how came you to go, so young, to that dreadful place? Where is your mother?"

"Oh!" exclaimed the boy with a burst of grief that was terrible to behold—"oh! I hadn't no mother since I was a baby! If I only had a mother," he continued, while tears gushed from his eyes, "I wouldn't have been bound out and kicked and cuffed, and horse-whipped. I wouldn't have been saucy and got knocked down, and run away, and then stole because I was hungry. Oh! if I'd only had a mother."

The strength was all gone from the poor boy, and he sank on his knees, sobbing great choking sobs, and rubbing the hot tears away with the sleeve of his jacket.

The woman was a mother, and, tho' all her children slept under the cold soil in the church-yard, she was a mother still. She put her hand kindly on the head of the boy, and told him to look up, and said from that time he should find in her mother. Yes, even put her arms around the neck of that forsaken, deserted child. She poured from her mother's heart sweet, kind words—words of counsel and of tenderness. Oh! how sweet was her sleep that night—how soft her pillow! She had plucked some thorns from the path of a little sinning but striving mortal.

That poor boy is now a promising man. His foster-father is dead. His foster-mother is aged and sickly, but she knows no want. The "poor outcast" is her support. Nobly does he repay the trust reposed in him.

"When my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up."—The Standard Bearer.

A GOOD REPLY.—A lady had written on a card, and placed on the top of an hour-glass in her garden house, the following simple verse from the poems of J. Clare. It was when the flowers were in their highest glory:

"To think of summer yet to come,  
To think of autumn's golden gleam,  
To think of winter yet to bloom  
From dust that fell be I!"

The next morning she found the following lines in pencil, on the back of the same card. Well would it be if all would ponder upon the question, not in view of, and make preparation for an unknown state of existence:

"To think what heaven and earth are fled  
And times and seasons o'er,  
When all that can die shall be dead,  
That I can die no more!  
Oh, where with then my portion be?  
Where shall I spend eternity?"

The following is said to be as admirable recipe for making a pleasant summer beverage. It will cost very little, because strawberries are now quite cheap: Twelve pounds fruit, cover with two quarts of water, to which add five ounces tartaric acid. Let all remain forty-eight hours, then strain through a flannel bag without bruising the fruit, and to each pint of juice add one and a quarter pounds of white sugar. Stir until dissolved, and then leave it a few days. Bottle it, and, if inclined to ferment, leave the corks out for a few days or more.

A down-east editor says: "The ladies' spring hats are pretty, and worn on the upper edge of the left ear, which makes one look arch and piquant, like a chicken looking through a crack in a fence."

## Pre-Historic Man in Virginia.

Information has just been received at the Smithsonian Institution of some important and interesting discoveries in the drift or gravel beds on the banks of the James river, in Virginia, relating to pre-historic man. A scientific gentleman who has been at work making excavations for these relics of the early man, has brought to light worked flints in the lower beds of gravel, similar in most respects to those which are contained in the drift of the old world. At this point on the James river was found in the drift a quaint, long-rotted and well-worn spear head or scraper of the early man. The character of the formation and exact locality from which these interesting relics have been taken, is on the north side of the James river. There is a bluff which was anciently washed by the spring freshets and which serves at present the purpose of a wall of the R. and Y. Railroad Company. It has been laid open by excavation for a road-way on its surface, and for a yard or over on its exposed flank. The brick which has been topped off, and the wall of bluff pushed back, so to speak, as much as fifty feet or more. The depth of these antiquities is about thirty feet below the ground level of the river valley. Some of the flints were obtained from a seam of gravel about fifteen feet above the ordinary flood tide, and about four feet above the highest freshets. These implements appear to be worked entirely from bluish looking pebbles that lie so conspicuously in one of the beds. After they are washed and dried, they assume that glassiness of exterior which is said to belong exclusively to implements from the drifts. That they are probably of the like age as those derived from the quarternary gravels of Europe, which may be inferred from the general correspondence of form, and from the somewhat similar character of the beds from which they are obtained. There is no doubt that all the gravels adjacent to the James river, and those of the Appomattox, also contain in differing numbers and forms deposits of worked flints and pebbles. The gravel of Gamble's Hill, overlooking the rapids, is pitched at an elevation of sixty or more feet above the river. Even they contain most convincing evidences of man's antiquity. Worked pebbles have been taken from this section which correspond in form and general character with those found in the excavated Powhatan terraces. These relics present strong evidences that the quarternary man had advanced in America, by long steps, from the rudest beginnings to the more recent ages of smooth stone and bronze. It is to be hoped that the labors of the enthusiastic searchers for these curious and interesting links in the history of the past may be encouraged in their worthy labors, for they throw a flood of light on the history of those that preceded us.—Washington Chronicle.

## He Went by the Almanac.

All the street lamps in a suburban village are lighted by one man, John Bones. It was observed, recently, that whenever there were bright moonlight nights, Mr. Bones would have all the lamps burning from early in the evening until dawn, while upon the nights when there was no moon he would not light them at all, and the streets would be as dark as tar. At last people began to complain about it, and one day Supervisor Thomas called to see Mr. Bones about it. He remarked to him: "Mr. Bones, people are finding fault because you light up on moonlight nights, and don't light the lamps when it is dark. I'd like you to manage the thing a little better."

"I struck me as being singular, too, but I can't help it. I've got instructions to follow the almanac, and I'm going to follow it."

"Did the almanac say there'd be no moon last night?"

"Yes, it did."

"Well, the moon was shining though, and at its full."

"I know," said Mr. Bones, "and that's what gets me. How in the thunder the moon kin shine when the almanac says it won't be out. Perhaps there's something the matter with the moon."

"I guess not."

"Well, it's changed off somehow, and I've got to have something regular to go by. I'm going by what the almanac says, and if the moon's going to saunter around kinder loose, I won't follow the almanac, that's it's looking."

If the almanac says no moon, then I'm bound to light these lamps if there's millions of moons shining in the sky. Them's my orders, and I'll mind 'em."

"How'd you know that the almanac is not wrong?"

"Because I know it ain't. It was always right before."

"Let's look at it."

"There it is. Look here, now. Don't it say 'full moon on the 20th,' and this yer's the 9th, and it's full moon now."

"That's so, and—er—er, less see—er. Mr. Bones, do you know what year this almanac is for?"

"Why, 1876, of course."

"No, it isn't; it's for 1866. It's ten years old."

"Oh, no! 1866! Well, now, it is, by George, 1866! Why, merciful Moses! I got the wrong one off the shelf, and I've been depending on it for three months! No wonder the lamps was wrong! Well, that beats Banzhger!"

Then Mr. Bones tore up the almanac, and got one for 1876, and ever since that time the lamp-lighting department has given satisfaction.—Philadelphia Bulletin.

Blessed are they that don't advertise, for they shall not be troubled with many customers.

## An Incident of the War.

On the 12th day of June, 1863, I witnessed a duel between Captain Jones, commanding a Federal scout, and Captain Fry, commanding a Rebel scout, in Greene county, East Tennessee. These two men had been fighting each other for six months, with the fortunes of battle in favor of one and then the other. Their commands were camped on either side of Lick creek, a large and sluggish stream, too deep to ford and too shallow for a ferry boat; but there a bridge spanned the stream for the convenience of the traveling public. Each of them guarded this bridge, that communication should go neither north or south, as the railroad track had been broken up months before. After fighting each other for several months, and contesting the point as to which should hold the bridge, they agreed to fight a duel, the conqueror to hold the bridge undisputed for the time being. Jones gave the challenge, and Fry accepted. The terms were that they should fight with navy pistols at twenty yards apart, deliberately walking towards each other, and firing until the last chamber of their pistols was discharged, unless one or the other fell before all the discharges were made. They chose their seconds, and agreed upon a rebel surgeon (as he was the only one in either command) to attend them in case of danger.

Jones was certainly a fine-looking fellow, with light hair and blue eyes, five feet ten inches in height, looking every inch the military chieftain. He was a man that soldiers would admire and ladies regard with admiration. I never saw a man more cool, determined, and heroic under the circumstances. I have read of the deeds of chivalry and knight-errantry in the middle ages, and of brave men embalmed in modern poetry; but, when I saw the man Jones come to the duel's arena, fighting not for gold or supposed wrongs to himself, but, as he honestly thought, for his country and the glory of the flag, I could not help admiring the man, notwithstanding he fought for the freedom of the negro, which I was opposed to.

Fry was a man fully six feet high, slender, with long, wavy, curling hair, jet black eyes, wearing a slouch hat and gray suit, and looking rather the demon than the man. There was nothing ferocious about him; but he had that self-sufficient non-chalance that said "I will kill you." Without a doubt, he was brave, cool, and collected, and although suffering from a terrible flesh wound in his left arm, received a week before, he manifested no symptoms of distress, but seemed ready for the fight.

The ground was stepped off by the seconds, pistols loaded and exchanged, and the principals brought face to face. I shall never forget that meeting. Jones, in his military, boyish mood, as they shook hands, remarked that—

A soldier braves death for a fanciful wealth,  
When in glory's romantic career,  
Fry caught up the rest of the sentence, and answered by saying:

Yet he bends o'er the foe when in battle low,  
And bathes every wound with a tear.

They turned and walked back to the point designated. Jones' second had the word "Fire," and as he slowly said "One—two—three—fire!" they simultaneously turned at the word "one," and instantly fired. Nothing was hurt. They cocked their pistols and deliberately walked towards each other, firing as they went. At the fifth shot Jones threw up his right hand, and firing his pistol in the air, sank down. Fry was in the act of firing his last shot, but seeing Jones fall, silently lowered his pistol, dropped it to the ground, and sprang to Jones' side, taking his head in his lap as he sat down, and asked him if he was hurt.

I discovered that Jones was shot through the region of the stomach, the bullet glancing around that organ, and coming out to the left of the spinal column; besides, he had received three other frightful flesh wounds in other portions of his body. I dressed his wounds, and gave him such stimulants as I had. He afterwards got well.

Fry received three wounds—one breaking his left arm, one in the left and one in the right side. After months of suffering he got well. Neither of them asked for a discharge, but both resumed their commands when they got well, and fought the war out to the bitter end, and to-day are partners in a wholesale business down South, doing a good business, and verifying the sentiments of Byron that "A soldier braves death," etc.

Trusting that the above fragmentary narrative will be a lesson to some people North and South, that stayed on the outside and yelled "Shut Dog!" and still not satisfied with the results of the war, let me subscribe myself a reconstructed.

## CONFEDERATE SURGEON.

### He was Delayed.

A Detroit lady purchased a jacket at a Woodward avenue store the other day and the clerk said he would send it right home inside of an hour. In about four hours a package boy appeared with the garment and the impatient lady exclaimed:

"You boys are the greatest nuisance in town; I suppose you stopped to play nubbles, or hunt up a lost dog!"

"Indeed I didn't," he replied. "I went up home to change hats and ma she had to try on the jacket and parade before the glass. Then Emily she put it on to make a call and when she got back ma was determined to walk over on Woodward avenue to stow it off and I got here as quick as I could."

Poetry is truth dwelling in beauty.—Gifford.

## Vanity.

There is a class of people whom we meet occasionally, as we travel along life's path, who are by nature so much "smarter" and "nicer" than ordinary common folks, that their nose has a decidedly unbeautiful rising, as though there were a continuous dinner in that organ. Perhaps there is. In this magnificent class, who are so elevated above ordinary people as to always look down upon them, only know the actual amount of common sense which some of those vulgar ones possess, to say nothing of their good sense and positive learning, we think they might, without manifesting a weakness of mind on their part, descend to a common footing with their "inferiors." Indeed their coming down a little would add to them a higher tone of respect and take the unbecoming wrinkles out of their nose.

What sin has a person committed in having been born poor? Whose respect has he forfeited in commencing early in life by hard work? Thousands of our most honored and wealthy citizens beg the life thus; and they look back on their early life with proper pride. Laziness and ignorance are considered by luxury, not by poverty. The young man who begins life humbly, but who, by diligent application to work, and to books in his leisure moments, rises to a standard of deserved respectability, should not be held aloof as the same boy who started in life so poor, but should be admitted in refined society to the place which he has earned by exemplary acts.

We are acquainted with a respected young man who began first in life by driving a meat cart. Not there only in the beautiful sunny days, but faithful when the wind howled and the blinding sleet was dashed into his face; nor did the drenching rain storms make him shrink from his duty. Never unfaithful to his calling, which has in it more dignity, when honestly pursued, than the fastidious part of humanity can deign to admit, he had his own ideas of learning, which he gratified by nocturnal application to instructive books. Soon, therefore, our hero was raised to a higher and more remunerative position, and finally gained high honors in the commercial world.

Young men, for who are now in the beginning of life's struggles, don't be put out of countenance or discouraged by those who affect to despise you for toiling; for by-and-by, as you grow older, and your judgment keener, you will find that class as easy to fathom as tissue paper is to pierce, and you will smile at your own superiority to them.

## How Girls are made Pretty.

The Hindoo girls are gracefully and exquisitely formed. From their earliest childhood they are accustomed to carry burdens on their heads. The water for family use is always brought by the girls in earthen jars, carefully poised in this way. The exercise is said to strengthen the muscles of the back, while the chest is thrown forward. No crooked backs are seen in Hindostan. Dr. Henry Spry, one of the company's medical officers, says that "this exercise of carrying all vessels of water on the head might be advantageously introduced into our boarding-schools and private families, and that it might entirely supersede the present machinery of dumb-bells, backboards, skipping ropes, &c. The young lady ought to be taught to carry the jar, as these Hindoo women do, without ever touching it with their hands." The same practice of carrying water leads to precisely the same results in the south of Spain and in the south of Italy as in India. A Neapolitan female peasant will carry on her head a vessel full of water to the very brink of a rough road and not spill a drop of it, and the acquisition of this art or knack gives her the same erect and elastic gait, and the same expanded chest and well formed back and shoulders.

## A Warning to Bathers.

It has long been known that if we injudiciously run any one to go into the water to bathe just after eating a full meal, but it is not so well known that the practice may result in death. This latter fact seems to have been demonstrated by the recent death in a bath in Bristol England, of a boy thirteen years old. He had never had a fit, and is believed to have been in perfect health. When found in the water the crown of his head was just above the surface, and he was standing in a stooping position with his face just under the water. At the place where he was the water was only three feet four inches deep, while the boy's height was four feet nine inches. The temperature of the water was seventy six degrees. The medical testimony disclosed the fact that the deceased had eaten heartily before entering the water, or at least he had not given his food time to digest. He had vomited a large quantity of food, and when found his mouth and throat were full. The opinion was expressed by the medical testimony, and endorsed by the verdict of the jury, that death resulted from epilepsy, brought on by the dangerous practice of entering the water immediately after eating a meal.

A little boy had a colt and a dog, and his generosity was tried by visitors asking him—just to see what he would say—to give him one or both his pets. One day he told a gentleman present he might have his colt—reserving the dog, much to the surprise of his mother, who asked: "Why, Jacky, why didn't you give him the dog? Say nothing, say nothing, mother; when he goes to get the colt, I'll set the dog on him!"

# OLD COMMONWEALTH.

HARRISONBURG, VA.

C. H. VANDERFORD, Editor.

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 8, 1876.

## THE OLD COMMONWEALTH FOR THE CAMPAIGN.

The Democratic and Conservative party of the country is just entering upon the most important political campaign which has ever occurred in this country. The good or ill which is to result from this contest is of greater importance than the casual observer is aware of, and depends to a great extent upon the force and perpetuity with which the issues are presented to the public mind. In order that none shall have cause for not having a paper during the campaign we will send the COMMONWEALTH to any address from now, or July 1st, until December 1st, [for the campaign] for fifty cents.

The COMMONWEALTH will discuss carefully the issues involved in the contest and keep its readers posted upon the important events of the day. It will also give a summary of the news, besides a large amount of other reading matter, whilst its local columns will contain all news in this and adjoining counties.

Let each subscriber get us another, and let those who are able subscribe for at least one who is not able to take a paper. Send in orders at once.

Minnesota Democrats have declared gold and silver as the only legal tender contemplated in the constitution, and endorsed Gov. Tilden for President.

The Republican National Convention will be held at Cincinnati on Wednesday next. Blaine, it is said, has three hundred and two delegates pledged to him—necessary for a choice three hundred and seventy-nine.

The Washington Chronicle complains that Washington's grave was not decorated on "Decoration Day." The Alexandria Gazette says: "Perhaps it was thought that the decoration of 'rebel' graves on that day was still forbidden."

The Eastern Virginian, whilst paying a high tribute to several of the gentlemen being urged for the Democratic nomination for President, places Bayard a little ahead of all, and tells the delegation to St. Louis to remember that he is honest, able and tried.

The Baltimorean of Saturday last contained a portrait of Hon. John Randolph Tucker, of Virginia, and a short biographical sketch of his life. The latter contains a few errors, one of which is that he represents the "Winchester or Seventh Congressional District." Mr. Tucker represents the 6th district.

The war clouds are gathering in Europe and threaten a general disturbance. The old question of the Bosphorus and the Black Sea is the cause. England, Turkey and Austria are united, and of course France will join them. This will leave the German Empire and Russia on the other side. Should war ensue a new map of Europe will have to be made.

The New York Herald gives a terrible account of Lewis Rorrer, the witness against Speaker Kerr. It says he has been the associate of the lowest characters, the brother-in-law of a bank robber and a sneak thief, and indicates that these and other matters to his great discredit will be brought before the committee investigating the charges against Speaker Kerr.

Since the election in Alexandria several weeks ago, in which the Independents were successful over the regular Conservative nominees, the Gazette and Sentinel still keep up the contest. No good can result from the discussion of the issues, and great harm may follow. The breach is being widened, and if the agitation is continued the Independents will be so far alienated as to vote the Radical ticket in the fall election. Better far would it be if the Gazette and Sentinel would cease their strife, and work together to root out Radicalism.

The Richmond Whig expressed its satisfaction at the results of the State Convention. In its issue of Saturday it says: "We said simply, we were entirely satisfied with the delegates chosen. Since, however, this silence has been by many construed into an admission that we, as advocates of Governor Tilden, were disappointed in the selection of delegates, because we did not boast of a victory, we will now say our conviction is, that Senator Bayard is, without doubt, the first choice of all of the delegates for President, and it may be some of them consider him available as a candidate."

A wonderful feat in railroading has just been accomplished. A special train, with about thirty passengers, left New York on Thursday, and arrived in San Francisco, a distance of 3,314 miles, on Sunday. It was expected to make the trip in eighty-four hours, but when the excursionists arrived at their destination they had twenty-six minutes to spare. The slowest speed was twenty-five miles and the fastest seventy-two miles an hour. The average speed was about forty-four miles an hour, not including stoppages. The first run was a continuous one of upwards of 400 miles, from New York to Pittsburgh.

The National Nominating Convention will have 756 votes each. In the Democratic Convention the two-thirds rule makes it necessary for the nominee to receive 504 votes to 252 for all others. In the Republican Convention the majority will determine who is the nominee, which is but 376 votes. It will thus be seen that it is a much easier to effect a nomination in the Republican Convention than in the Democratic. When the Democratic Convention meets at St. Louis the first thing it ought to do is to repeal that obnoxious two-thirds rule, which has killed off all the popular favorites in the party from the time of its adoption until now, and unless repealed is likely to do a similar disservice for the party at St. Louis.

That it is the duty of the House of Representatives to investigate the charges against Blaine, as it has regarding those against Pendleton and Kerr, no one will deny. But, we believe it is partaking of the nature of a persecution, not from the Democratic committee, but from his opponents in the Republican party. The committee is obliged to hear all evidence bearing upon the charges, and Blaine's party enemies have been industrious in hunting it up. His Republican enemies would like to defeat him at Cincinnati next week, and to that end will scruple at nothing. We scarcely believe they will accomplish their purpose, though it is stated at Washington that Blaine is out of the race. We want Blaine nominated, for he is our weakest opponent. We regard him as a blatherkite—a compound of small amount of brains and a large proportion of impudence and ignorance.

The Democratic Conventions of Maryland and Virginia have done nobly. Both States can be counted on for Senator Bayard at St. Louis, provided he exhibits any considerable strength elsewhere.

Bayard is very popular in Virginia. At the Convention last week, had a vote been taken upon the personal choice of the delegates for President, he would have received the votes of nine-tenths of them. Many, however, regarded him as not available, and Tilden and Hancock both had a number of friends present.

But, as above stated, Virginia's vote can be counted for Bayard at St. Louis should he develop much strength elsewhere. After a few complimentary votes at the National Convention, it is probable that New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and the whole South will unite on him. That will nominate him, and the people in November will elect him.

Who was the first? The last Charlottesville Chronicle, in an article setting forth Senator Bayard's claims to the Democratic nomination, states that it was among the first, if not the very first, to declare a preference for the gallant Delaware Senator. Now, Mr. Chronicle, we are under the impression that the COMMONWEALTH was the very first paper in Virginia to proclaim Bayard as the best man for President. In its issue of February 10th last, it devoted its leading editorial to his fitness and availability, and ever since has never neglected to put in a good word for him.

However, we will divide honors and spoils with you. After Bayard is elected and we get the position of Secretary of War, you shall have a first class post trader's position, and we shall only charge you 10 per cent. on sales. Belknap, we believe, usually charged 50 per cent.

We again say to the Harrisonburg Commonwealth that we have never said one word in disparagement of Mr. Bayard. We would prefer him to Tilden if he stood any chance of election.

How do you like the delegates from your district? Which one is for Bayard?—Rich. Dispatch.

Just so, and you will stick to it, no matter what the proof against you is. The Petersburg Post copied the Commonwealth's charge against you, and confirmed it, and the Richmond Enquirer confirms the COMMONWEALTH's statement, also. For further proof we cite you to the following extract from your leading editorial of May 19th, the italics being ours:

"But, as we have said before, to nominate Bayard would be to invite defeat and to render it inevitable."

The Dispatch has repeated that assertion, and from its advocacy of Gov. Tilden must still hold the same opinion. Suppose Bayard should receive the nomination, which is not at all improbable, what sort of support can the Dispatch give him, when it has proclaimed in advance that his nomination means certain defeat? Had it not expressed its opinion it would not have been hampered in the campaign. But what influence will the Dispatch have in that event: only to make Conservatives leeward, for it has declared to them that Bayard cannot be elected and their votes will be wasted.

As to the delegates from this District, we like them, and in the seventh district caucus voted for both of them. That is not all: we like the whole delegation. We believe it will do what will be for the best, and we have implicit confidence in them. If the delegates were left to their personal choice, Bay-

ard would receive their solid vote.—But, they will cast their strength with the strongest man, and will be governed by the delegations from New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. If Gov. Tilden should not have any chance of being nominated, those States will cast their votes for Bayard, and will be joined by the whole South.

## BLAINE ON THE RAMPAPE.

The proceedings in the House of Representatives on Monday were of an exciting character. Mr. Blaine, who has been undergoing an investigation by a sub-committee in relation to some bond transactions, arose to a "personal explanation." He played the role of a bully, martyr and braggart, and then under the assurance from Mr. Knott, of Tennessee, that no insinuations against his integrity would be permitted if given evidence, assumed the meekness of a lamb.

We believe, and have ever done so, that Mr. Blaine is innocent of the charges brought against him, but his performances on Monday were not of a character to further his cause. He charged, for the sake of political capital, that two of the committee investigating him—Huntton, of Virginia, and Mr. Ashe, of North Carolina—were ex-rebels. He did not state that his personal and political friend, Mr. Frye, was offered a place and refused. The matter was brought out, however, by Mr. Knott, who assured him that Messrs. Huntton and Ashe were his supporters.

Mr. Blaine's course was unparalleled and unprecedented, as was shown by the calm rejoinder of Mr. Huntton, who also stated that every delay in the investigation was caused by Mr. Blaine himself. Mr. Blaine endeavored to cast reproach upon the whole committee, and to take the matter out of its hands before the testimony was all in and a report made. In this last procedure, however, notwithstanding his great professions of injured innocence, he had but seven backers in the whole house.

Yet the proceeding was Blaine, and Blaine only, for in the entire body he has no equal as a braggart. He never makes a speech without lugging in personalities, and it would seem, as Mr. Tucker once said of him, that the most of his time was spent in hunting up the records of his fellow-members in order that he might say disagreeable things. The Southern members he seems to despise, and never neglects to characterize them as rebels, &c. So far they have borne with him, but forbearance has ceased to be a virtue. Mr. Knott has warned him against casting his insinuations, and it is to be hoped that if he does not get an opportunity, that some member will, of impressing upon his hide a lesson his head seems not to heed.

STATE CONSERVATIVE CONVENTION. HARMONIOUS SESSION. QUICK WORK AND GOOD RESULTS.

The State Conservative Convention met in Richmond on Wednesday last week. A large number of delegates were present, and every county was represented. Many of the members were armed with impromptu speeches—prepared several weeks in advance—but as there was a general desire to complete the work without delay, the most of the eloquence was wasted.

Judge Meredith, chairman of the State Executive Committee, announced that the committee had selected Gen. E. R. Bagwell, Accomac, as temporary chairman, and upon submitting it to the convention Gen. Bagwell was unanimously elected. He made a short address upon taking the chair and then announced the Convention as ready for business.

Gen. W. B. Taliaferro introduced a resolution that the members of the various congressional districts consult together and name its members for committee men and delegates and electors. He said he thought that would be the proper plan, would expedite business and relieve the Chairman of much embarrassment. A resolution was passed unanimously. A recess was taken, and upon the reassembling of the Convention the districts reported the following as a committee on permanent organization:

First District—Gen. Fitz Lee, Dr. A. N. Wellford, B. F. Bland.  
Second District—John T. Hill, Arthur Segar, H. H. Harrison.  
Third District—J. H. Guy, S. Brooks, S. A. Swann.  
Fourth District—Stith Bolling, W. R. Gaines, Wm. H. Mann.  
Fifth District—H. H. Hart, Walter Coles, Garland Hale.  
Sixth District—R. A. Coghill, T. D. Houston, J. A. Early.  
Seventh District—F. M. McMullen, J. L. Eubank, C. H. Vanderford.  
Eighth District—Thos. Smith, W. R. Taliaferro, G. W. Ward.  
Ninth District—Colonel Wm. Watts, Major J. C. Taylor, H. C. Wood.

The committee retired to arrange for the permanent organization, and during their absence the convention was entertained by speeches from Hon. John Goode, Mayor Keiley and Baker P. Lee.

The committee concluded its labors in about half an hour, and submitted through General Fitzguth Lee, chairman of the committee, the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

For President:  
Hon. John L. Marye.  
For Vice Presidents:  
First district—General William B. Taliaferro.  
Second district—Colonel William Lamb.  
Third district—James H. Cox.  
Fourth district—Nathaniel McNeaws.  
Fifth district—Langhorne Scruggs.

Sixth district—Hon. Thomas Whitehead.  
Seventh district—E. J. Armstrong.  
Eighth district—General W. H. F. Lee.  
Ninth district—General James A. Walker.

Secretary:  
A. Q. Holladay.  
Assistant Secretaries:  
Such as the Secretary may select.  
The Convention here adjourned until 4 o'clock, and upon re-assembling the Chair called for the nominations of the different delegations for delegates and alternates to St. Louis, district electors, and members of the State Central Committee, which were reported as follows, and confirmed by the Convention:

FIRST DISTRICT.  
Electors—B. F. Bland, of Middlesex.  
Delegates—C. E. Sinclair, of Prince William, B. F. Gunter, of Accomac.  
State Committee—J. L. Marye, of Fredericksburg; A. N. Wellford, of Richmond county; W. C. Taliaferro, of Gloucester.

SECOND DISTRICT.  
Electors—Thomas Tabb, of Elizabeth City county.  
Delegates—William Lamb, of Norfolk; J. B. Prince, of Southampton. Alternates—V. D. Groner, of Norfolk; Sidney Smith, of Williamsburg.

THIRD DISTRICT.  
Electors—A. M. Keiley, of Richmond.  
Delegates—John A. Meredith, of Richmond; T. O'Brien, of Chesterfield. Alternates—J. B. Young, of Henrico; E. C. Moncure, of Caroline.

FOURTH DISTRICT.  
Electors—W. T. Chandler, of Caroline; C. C. Baker, of Hanover; M. P. Handy, of Richmond.  
FIFTH DISTRICT.  
Electors—E. K. Harris, of Mecklenburg.

SIXTH DISTRICT.  
Electors—W. E. Hinton, of Petersburg; W. H. Mann, of Nottoway. Alternates—F. N. Watkins, of Prince Edward; R. H. Glass, of Petersburg.

SEVENTH DISTRICT.  
Electors—William Mahone, of Petersburg; F. R. Farrar, of Amelia; S. T. Coleman, of Cumberland.  
Eighth District.  
Electors—John S. Penn, of Patrick.

NINTH DISTRICT.  
Electors—Thomas S. Flournoy, of Danville; W. H. Sutherland, of Carroll. Alternates—G. W. B. Hale, of Franklin; James S. Tompkins, of Floyd.

COMMITTEE—H. H. Riddlebarger, of Shenandoah.  
Delegates—S. V. Southall, of Albemarle; G. H. Harman, of Augusta. Alternates—C. A. Yancey, of Rockingham; R. S. Beasley.

COMMITTEE—P. B. Borst, of Page; W. A. Burke, of Augusta; R. T. W. Duke, of Albemarle.

COMMITTEE—H. E. Peyton, of Loudoun; S. C. Neal, of Alexandria. Alternates—J. Y. Meunier, of Rappahannock; J. T. Fannellory, of Frederick.

COMMITTEE—John T. Lovell, of Warren; A. D. Payne, of Loudoun; J. R. Strother, of Culpeper.

COMMITTEE—S. M. Pierce, of Wythe.  
Delegates—W. M. Watts, of Rappahannock; W. B. Aston, of Russell. Alternates—J. H. Tyler, of Pulaski; M. B. Tate, of Smyth.

COMMITTEE—H. C. Wood, of Scott; J. C. Taylor, of Montgomery; A. B. Fulkerson, of Washington.

Hon. W. A. J. Sparks, Member of Congress from Illinois being present, was called upon, and addressed the Convention. His speech was one of the happiest we have heard for a long time, and elicited hearty applause. He was followed by ex Gov. Walker, who did neither credit to himself or party.

Nominations for delegates-at-large were next in order, and many bombastic speeches were made. A recess until eight o'clock was then taken. Upon the meeting of the Convention again the work resulted as follows:

DELEGATES-AT-LARGE.  
Gen. James A. Walker, of Palaski.  
Col. D. J. Godwin, of Portsmouth.  
General Fitzguth Lee, of Stafford.

Rev. P. Fletcher and R. C. Walker.—The following from the Randolph Enterprise of the 29th ult., published at Beverly, Randolph county, W. Va., will be read with pleasure by our readers in this county:

"We have had a series of very able and well-timed sermons from Rev. Fletcher, an Evangelist sent out by the Lexington Presbytery. At a meeting of the congregation on Sunday afternoon there was service by Rev. Walker, Chairman of the Committee on Home Missions. Mr. Walker made some very interesting remarks. He made this proposition to this church: that if they would raise \$300 for Mr. Fletcher, we could have his services twice in each month, or if they would raise \$600 they could have his services all the time. The three hundred dollar proposition was taken up and the amount has been subscribed we believe. Mr. Fletcher will preach at Huttonsville and Mingo, the other two Sundays in each month if they will raise him \$150 each. He is a gentleman of fine intellect and an excellent preacher."

MEETING OF THE STATE CONSERVATIVE COMMITTEE.—The Conservative State Committee organized Thursday by electing General W. B. Taliaferro chairman and James W. Fisher secretary. The following executive committee was appointed: N. B. Meredith, A. M. Keiley and John Guy.

The committee proceeded to elect nine members at large for the State with the following: B. W. Lacy, New Kent; John Neasey, Accomac; William S. Gilman, Richmond city; W. W. Berry, Bedford; W. R. Berkeley, Prince Edward; A. A. Phlegor, Montgomery; A. B. Cochran, Augusta; Henry Edmunds, Halifax, and General James Field, Culpeper.

The time for calling Congressional conventions was left to the members of the committee from each district.—It was determined that a convention shall be held in every district.

The New York Herald states that there is a regularly organized campaign club in that city, composed of prominent merchants, formed for the purpose of urging Gen. Hancock's claims for the presidential nomination at St. Louis.

## MARRIED.

On June 1st, 1876, by Rev. Timothy Funk, at the residence of the bride's parents, at Tidewater, in this county, Samuel A. Mason, of Gen. W. Va., and Emma L. Funk, daughter of Wm. Funk.

In Winchester, Va., on the morning of June 1st, by Rev. A. B. Dolly, assisted by Dr. Saml. Rogers, Rev. R. D. Dolly, of the Baltimore Conference, N. E. Church, and Miss Mary C. Dolly, daughter of David Reddick, de'd., formerly of Woodstock, Va.

May 21st, 1876, by George Spitzer, Daniel Layman, and Amanda B. Layman, all of Rockingham county, Saml. H. Blosser and Emma C. Shiplett, all of the county.

At Burke's Mill, Augusta county, May 25th, by Rev. W. A. Whittever, Henry C. Early and Miss Mary Agnes Showalter, daughter of Matthias Showalter.

## DIED.

Suddenly, on Monday last, June 6th, at his residence in Dayton, this county, HENRY M. WILKINS, aged 75 years, 4 months and 25 days. He was born in Franklin county, Va., January 10, 1801. He spent the greater portion of his life in this county, and was well known and highly respected, though always occupying a humble station in the walks of life. He was at heart and earnest man, and his friendships were made with a purity and sincerity that were never broken. He was a man of deep piety, and his preparation for death which came so suddenly, his body was committed to the grave on Tuesday last, from Rockingham, Va., at 11 o'clock.

From the text, "I boast not myself of the occasion, a very appropriate funeral discourse on the occasion, and others besides the family of the deceased, accompanied the remains to the grave, testifying the esteem and respect in which he was held in the community. Peace to his ashes."

At his residence in this county, June 5, 1876, from the effects of paralysis, from which he had suffered for about a year, Isaac Watson, Esq., at an advanced age. Previous to the late war he was some years a Justice upon the bench of the County Court of Rockingham, and in every station he was called upon to discharge his duties faithfully, and was always accorded the profound distinction of being an honest man and a good citizen.

In this place, on Friday morning last, from paralysis, Mrs. FANNIE INK, consort of Peter Inks, de'd., late lived until June 6th, last, she would have been 80 years old, lacking but four days. She was the wife of a deceased, JACOB HANCOCK, in the 66th year of his age.

## HARRISONBURG MARKET.

CONVENTED BY LONG & HELLER.  
THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 8, 1876.  
Flour—Family, 48 00/100 25  
Do Extra, 48 00/100 25  
Super, 47 00/100 25  
Wheat, 47 00/100 25  
Oats, 46 00/100 25  
Corn, 45 00/100 25  
Rye, 44 00/100 25  
Barley, 43 00/100 25  
Potatoes, 42 00/100 25  
Beans, 41 00/100 25  
Lard, 40 00/100 25  
Butter, 39 00/100 25  
Eggs, 38 00/100 25  
Honey, 37 00/100 25  
Syrup, 36 00/100 25  
Molasses, 35 00/100 25  
Sugar, 34 00/100 25  
Coffee, 33 00/100 25  
Tea, 32 00/100 25  
Spices, 31 00/100 25  
Cocoa, 30 00/100 25  
Chocolate, 29 00/100 25  
Candy, 28 00/100 25  
Fruit, 27 00/100 25  
Vegetables, 26 00/100 25  
Meat, 25 00/100 25  
Poultry, 24 00/100 25  
Dairy, 23 00/100 25  
Fish, 22 00/100 25  
Game, 21 00/100 25  
Honey, 20 00/100 25  
Syrup, 19 00/100 25  
Molasses, 18 00/100 25  
Sugar, 17 00/100 25  
Coffee, 16 00/100 25  
Tea, 15 00/100 25  
Spices, 14 00/100 25  
Cocoa, 13 00/100 25  
Chocolate, 12 00/100 25  
Candy, 11 00/100 25  
Fruit, 10 00/100 25  
Vegetables, 9 00/100 25  
Meat, 8 00/100 25  
Poultry, 7 00/100 25  
Dairy, 6 00/100 25  
Fish, 5 00/100 25  
Game, 4 00/100 25  
Honey, 3 00/100 25  
Syrup, 2 00/100 25  
Molasses, 1 00/100 25  
Sugar, 0 00/100 25  
Coffee, 0 00/100 25  
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# OLD COMMONWEALTH.

HARRISBURG, VA., : : JUNE 8, 1876.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY  
C. H. VANDERFORD.

Office over the Store of LANE & HILL  
South of the Court-House.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:  
TWO DOLLARS PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

Advertising Rates:  
1 square, (ten lines of type), one insertion, \$1.00

1 " " each subsequent insertion, .50

1 " " one year, 10.00

1 " " six months, 6.00

YEARLY ADVERTISEMENTS \$10 for the first square and  
\$.50 for each additional square per year.

REPRODUCTION. Cards \$1.00 a line per year. For five  
lines a line \$5 per year.

LOCAL ADVERTISEMENTS the legal fee of \$5.00.  
SPECIAL OF LOCAL NOTICES 15 cents per line.

Large advertisements taken upon contract.  
All advertising bills due in advance. Yearly advertise-  
ments discounting before the close of the year, will be  
charged transient rates.

Job Printing.  
We are prepared to do Job Printing of all kinds at  
low rates, FOR CASH.

Baltimore & Ohio R. R. Valley Branch.  
PASSENGER AND MAIL—EAST—LEAVES AT 7:30 A. M.;  
arrives at Baltimore at 5:30 P. M.

WEST—LEAVES BALTIMORE AT 5:30 A. M.; arrives at  
HARRISBURG AT 5:45 P. M.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

SERENADE TO HON. WM. MILNES, PRES-  
IDENT OF THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY RAIL-  
ROAD—LEASE OF THE VALLEY R. R.—

WANT OF LIBERALITY OF THE B. & O. R. R. &c.—The lease of the Valley Rail-  
road has been the all-absorbing topic

of conversation in Harrisonburg for  
some weeks past, but especially since

the meeting of the Directory of that  
road last week.

Our readers are informed as to the  
rescinding of the contract between the

B. & O. and Valley roads, and also as  
to the negotiations between the Valley

and Shenandoah Valley roads. They  
are familiar, too, with the action of the

B. & O. R. R. toward the Valley and  
Shenandoah Valley roads, and it is not

necessary to here recount them.

The indignation of the people of the  
Valley at the action of the Baltimore &

Ohio road is great indeed, and Balti-  
more, too, we are pleased to note, has

learned to know where her interests  
lie. At the Valley Railroad Stockhold-  
er's meeting in Staunton last week a

committee was appointed to lease the  
road for fifteen years at \$20,000 per

year, the B. & O. alone opposing it.—  
These terms were almost the same upon

which the Shenandoah Valley road of-  
fered to lease the road in April last,

and it was generally considered that  
the Valley road desired to lease the

road to the Shenandoah Valley, or at  
least it was hoped the lease might be

consummated.

It was known to our citizens that  
Hon. Wm. Milnes, President of the

Shenandoah Valley R. R. had gone to  
Baltimore and Philadelphia for the

purpose of making the Valley road an-  
other offer, and his return was anxiously

awaited. Mr. Milnes came back on  
Tuesday evening and was besieged by

the citizens and interrogated as to the  
state of affairs. Desiring to learn more

and to show their appreciation of the  
man and his efforts in behalf of the in-  
terests of the rich and fertile Valley, a

serenade was tendered him at the  
Spotswood. The hour was quite late

before Prof. Eshman's Band could be  
secured, consequently not more than

seventy-five persons were present. Af-  
ter a couple of spirited airs by the

band Mr. Milnes was called for, and ap-  
peared on the upper porch of the hotel.

He expressed his appreciation of the  
compliment and stated that he sup-  
posed they would like to hear some-

thing regarding the lease of the Valley  
R. R. He said that he had made a

proposition to lease the Valley road be-  
tween Harrisonburg and Staunton for

fifteen years at \$20,000 per year and  
one-half of the net earnings, and that

payments were to be made monthly;  
that he proposed to put \$50,000 worth

of unencumbered rolling stock upon the  
road, which should be a guarantee

for the payment for the use of the road.  
This stock, he said, could be put up

and sold after thirty days notice  
in the event that payments were not

promptly made. Mr. Milnes said he  
could not state whether or not his

proposition would be accepted, but that  
all would be known in a few days, as

the Valley directory would be convened  
at once for action on the proposition.

He then went on to speak of the  
great undeveloped wealth of the lovely

Shenandoah Valley; of its immense de-  
posits of rich anthracite coal and inex-

haustable beds of superior iron ore;  
of the productiveness of the soil and vast

wealth in timber, &c., &c. The action  
of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad to-

ward the Valley was reviewed, and its  
illiberal policy was severely criticised.

He pictured out the great benefits,  
both to the road and the people, which

would have followed a more liberal  
course, his statements being based upon

the results in a similar region in  
Pennsylvania, where the Pa. Railroad

aided in developing the country. Allu-  
sion was made to the objections made

by Mr. Keyser to the security offered  
by him when he some weeks ago offer-

ed to lease the Valley railroad, and as-  
serted that his bond was given in good

faith and was as good as the Baltimore &  
Ohio's—that his bond was good for any

amount for which he should give it.—  
Loud cheers followed these remarks,

for all who knew the man knew they  
were true.

The advantages of competing lines

up the Valley was plainly shown, and  
the idea that Baltimore was to be in-  
jured by the lease was successfully con-  
bated. He showed that by the traffic  
contracts between the Shenandoah Valley  
and Western Maryland roads that a  
continuous line to Baltimore would be  
formed between the Valley and Balti-  
more. Baltimore, he said, owned al-  
most entirely the W. Md. R. R., and  
said that that city was our natural  
trade centre. Being one hundred miles  
nearer than Philadelphia, and possess-  
ing superior advantages, and having  
two competing lines of railroads, she  
could offer great inducements, and  
would get all our trade.

The building of the Shenandoah Valley  
R. R., he said, was a fixed fact,  
whether or not it secured a lease of the  
Valley road.

His remarks were plain and practi-  
cal, and dealt in no ideal fancy. They  
were to the point and treated of facts  
and figures. He was frequently ap-  
plauded, and his interest in the devel-  
opment of the Valley of Virginia, as  
shown throughout his speech, has added  
to his popularity with our people  
if it were possible to increase it.

MEMORIAL DAY.—Tuesday last, June  
6th, was appropriately selected as  
memorial day, by the Ladies Memorial  
Association of this county, it being the  
anniversary of the death upon the field  
of Turner Ashby, as gallant a cavalier-  
man as ever bedrode a war-steed. It  
was well observed, and every incident  
in connection with the ceremonies of  
the day seemed to have been carefully  
studied and planned. At about 10  
o'clock, Prof. Eshman's Band, assisted  
by Prof. Steubgen and several members  
of the Rawley Springs Musical Corps,  
took position in the Court-yard and  
discoursed several beautiful and inspir-  
ing airs, which assembled a large con-  
course of people from both town and  
county, who repaired to the Court-  
room, where Chief Marshal, Capt. Jas.  
Kenney, called to order, and introduced  
Henry V. Strayer, Esq., as the orator  
of the occasion. The anticipations of  
those present were not disappointed in  
the effort of Mr. Strayer. It was elo-  
quent throughout, distinctly and hand-  
somely delivered, and full of allusions  
calling to mind scenes and incidents  
which touched the tenderest emotions  
of a large majority of those present.—  
Feelingly beautiful was it in reference  
to the marble shaft, recently erected by  
the Ladies Memorial Association, in the  
Soldiers' Cemetery, standing as a  
sentinel guarding the repose of the  
sleeping heroes around it.

At the conclusion of the oration the  
procession was formed in the Court-  
yard in the following order: The  
Band, Memorial Association, represen-  
tatives of the States, the Unknown  
Sons of Jonadab, Good Templars, Ju-  
venile Templars, (the handsome feature  
of the procession,) Citizens, all forming  
a line reaching nearly a mile in length.  
Besides these the sidewalks were lined  
on either side, and every one bearing  
flowers, wreaths, etc., to strew upon the  
graves. Such was the order in the line  
and along the line of march, that the  
Marshals had an easy task, and every  
one seemed delighted with the inci-  
dents of the day, and the manner of its  
celebration, showing clearly that Vir-  
ginians do not forget the dead heroes  
who repose in the bosom of the dear  
old State, whatever faults may be at-  
tributed to them in other regards.

A COLORED FEMALE CHILD FOUND IN A  
POND.—On Sunday evening last, sev-  
eral small boys from town, in passing  
the Rodeffer pond, one mile east of  
this place, noticed some object floating  
on the water near the centre. After  
speculating awhile as to what it was,  
one of them ventured in and brought  
it to the bank, and found it to be a  
colored child. The boys at once came  
to town and notified Mr. L. H. Ott,  
coroner, who, together with Dr. J. H.  
Neff, proceeded to the place and sum-  
moned a jury. Dr. Neff made a post  
mortem examination of the child, and  
found that it undoubtedly had lived a  
while before being destroyed. The child  
was probably in the water three or  
four days, as it had been eaten a  
good deal by turtles and decomposition  
had taken place. The jury's ver-  
dict was that the child came to its  
death by unnatural causes at the hands  
of some unknown person.

BELLIGERENT.—A threatening corre-  
spondence took place on Thursday last  
between H. C. Tinsley, of the Staunton  
Vindicator, and S. M. Yost, of the Val-  
ley Virginian. Mr. Tinsley made a  
statement in a letter to the Richmond  
Dispatch, of which he is a correspond-  
ent, which Maj. Yost characterized in  
the Virginian as a wilful falsehood—or  
words to that effect. After an inter-  
change of opinions as to the meaning  
of certain parts of the letter in the  
Dispatch, Maj. Yost withdrew the of-  
fensive language.

LAND SALES.—On Saturday last,  
James Steele, auctioneer, sold for J. S.  
Harnsberger, commissioner, a tract of  
land belonging to the Lawson estate,  
near Banger's Mill, in East Rocking-  
ham, to Asa Baugher for \$900.  
The same auctioneer sold on Monday  
for J. D. Scott, Deputy Sheriff, a tract  
of 100 acres, known as Rickettsville, in  
East Rockingham, to Mr. Phillips, of  
Staunton, for \$1225.

WHAT THE PAPERS DO.—An exchange  
combats with considerable vigor the  
argument that the city papers are  
cheaper and better than the county  
papers because they give more columns  
of reading for the money. Do the  
city papers, it asks, ever give you any  
home news? Never. Do they say any-  
thing in regard to your own county?  
Nothing. Do they contain notices of  
your schools, churches, improvements  
and hundreds of other local matters of  
interest, which your paper publishes  
without pay? Not an item. Do they  
say a word calculated to draw atten-  
tion to your county and its numerous  
thriving towns, and aid in their pro-  
gress and enterprise? Not a word.  
And yet there are men who take such  
contracted views of this matter that  
unless they are getting as many square  
inches of reading matter in their  
own paper as they do in a city  
paper, they think they are not getting  
the worth of their money. It reminds  
us of the person who took the largest  
pair of boots in the box, simply be-  
cause they cost the same as the pair  
much smaller that fitted him.

BASE-BALL.—On Tuesday, memorial  
day, quite a number of our citizens as-  
sembled on the grounds of the Inde-  
pendent Base Ball Club to witness a  
game of ball between the Lone Star  
club and the Mechanics. They played  
a game of nine innings, which resulted  
in favor of the Mechanics; score stand-  
ing Mechanics 26, Lone Star 18. This  
shows right bad for the Lone Star, as  
they are a regular organized club and  
have been playing for several seasons,  
while the Mechanics, consisting of five  
carpenters, two printers, one bricklayer  
and one tinner, are "green hands" and  
not base ball players by any means,  
who were chosen from among the  
crowd which had assembled to witness  
the game.

While this game was in progress  
several of the best players of the Inde-  
pendent club, the ex-champions of the  
State, got up a "picked nine," composed  
of what is considered the best players  
in the place, and at the close of the  
game proposed to play the victors a  
game of three innings, which also re-  
sulted in favor of the Mechanics.—  
Score: Mechanics 16, "Picked Nine" 4.

MAYOR'S COURT.—Mayor Hyde held a  
love yesterday morning, which was  
largely attended. Carter Jackson and  
John Henderson, both colored, had a  
discussion with their fists, and it tak-  
ing place upon the premises of Messrs.  
Staples & Kent, Mr. Kent who was  
present, being at home of course, had  
to be neutral in the affair, and put in  
several arguments with a cane, which  
were impressive upon both contestants.  
Chief-of-Police Kelley arrested the par-  
ties and took them before Mayor  
Hyde. Carter and John were fined \$5  
each, and Mr. Kent, who showed that  
he was simply attempting to conciliate  
matters, was not asked to contribute  
to the town finances.

CIRCUIT COURT.—Since our last issue  
the following cases have been disposed  
of:

R. P. Fletcher & Co., vs. John N.  
Hill's adm'r. This was a claim based  
on a bond executed by Herod Homan  
to R. P. Fletcher, with J. N. Hill as se-  
curity, in 1857. Defendant pleaded  
payment. Verdict for defendant. New  
trial asked for and refused.

John Paul assignee of J. H. Wart-  
mann vs. C. K. Davis Ex'r. Judgment  
for plaintiff.

A few other cases of minor impor-  
tance disposed of, a great many cases  
are also continued to the next term.—  
But little chancery business disposed  
of so far.

J. S. Harnsberger appointed commit-  
tee for James A. B. Hill.

The June No. of the American Far-  
mer, promptly at hand as usual, con-  
tains a large amount of useful and  
seasonable matter in every branch of  
rural life and work. Peculiarly adapted  
to the circumstances and crops of the  
agricultural class of this section; its  
contributors practical and successful men;  
its editors, by long experience, fully ap-  
prised of the demands and needs of our  
farmers; it maintains its high reputa-  
tion, and deserves the support it seems  
to so abundantly receive. The publish-  
ers are Sam'l Sands & Son, Baltimore,  
Md. Subscription, \$1.50 a year, or five  
copies for \$5.

LAND SALES.—J. D. Price, real estate  
agent of this place, has made the fol-  
lowing sales since our last issue: 22½  
acres of land belonging to M. Harvey  
Eiffinger, located in the north end of  
the corporation, to Wright Gatewood  
for \$50 per acre.

The house and lot belonging to Capt.  
J. M. Locke, situated on South Main  
street, to Mrs. Mary L. Harrison—  
price \$2,200.

A house and lot in Bridgewater, be-  
longing to Jonas A. Lowenbach, to  
Mrs. Bettie L. Covington for \$1,200.

ICE CREAM AND CAKE.—We are re-  
quested by the ladies of Emmanuel  
Episcopal Church to state that ice cream  
and cake can be had at the Seminary  
building on every Thursday evening,  
commencing this evening, until further  
notice. The proceeds are to be applied  
to the payment of the church debt.

As Harrisonburg has no ice cream  
saloon, we doubt not the ladies of Em-  
manuel Church will be liberally pat-  
ronized,

## BREVETTES.

The Valley Railroad is still idle:

Ice cream and cake at the Seminary build-  
ing to-night.

The busy voice of the auctioneer proclaims  
"hard times" in this county.

The Courier reports the wheat crop con-  
siderably injured in Page county.

Locusts have made their appearance in  
great numbers in this section.

Rain on Saturday afternoon and on Sun-  
day. Vegetation refreshed, and gardeners  
particularly happy.

Visitors to Virginia summer resorts begin  
to arrive freely.

New Market has held its election for town  
officers and polled sixty-two votes. Geo. M.  
Tidler was elected Mayor.

The closing exercises of the Lacey Spring  
School—Prof. J. W. Taylor, principal—will  
take place on Friday, June 16th.

THE COMMONWEALTH will be sent to any  
address from now until December 1st—dur-  
ing the campaign—for fifty cents.

Dr. Claggett, of Baltimore, who is to be  
resident physician at Rawley Springs this  
year, arrived here on Tuesday evening.

"Little apples are hard to peel—  
If you don't believe it, come in the field."

is the name of a juvenile base ball club in  
this place. Next.

Mr. L. H. Ott, of this town, found on Fri-  
day last a pocket-book, containing a sum of  
money. He is anxious to find the owner now.

Col. J. E. Pennybacker, of the "Pendleton  
News" was in town last week. Got some  
advertisements and a few fresh items by so  
doing.

The commencement exercises of the Wes-  
leyan Institute, at Staunton, will commence  
on Sunday, the 18th day of June, and close on  
the 21st.

Prof. Steubgen's Quintette Club will give  
a concert in Masonic Hall on Monday even-  
ing. A rare musical entertainment. Go to  
hear it.

Dr. Bucher, Dentist of Bridgewater, has  
removed his office next to Barbee's Hotel,  
where he will always be happy to see the  
suffering.

G. C. Tanner, Esq., editor of the "Sunny  
South," a literary paper of considerable note  
published at Atlanta, Georgia, was in town  
yesterday.

Judge A. B. Cochran, of Augusta, has been  
appointed by the State Conservative Com-  
mittee, one of the nine canvassers at large  
for the State.

The Spotswood Hotel, in this place, is be-  
ing put in fine order by its energetic prop-  
rietor, Maj. Luck, for the accommodation of  
summer sojourners.

Has the "Pendleton News" yet heard of  
the assassination of Jim Fisk several years  
ago? The Democratic National Convention  
will be held in St. Louis.

Decoration or Memorial Day was appropri-  
ately observed here on Thursday last, 6th  
inst. The sleeping heroes are always re-  
membered by our people.

The State Conservative Committee has de-  
termined that a convention ought to be held  
in each congressional district this year to  
nominate candidates for Congress.

Prof. Eshman's Band, assisted by mem-  
bers of Prof. Steubgen's band, which is to  
play at Rawley this season, serenaded Mr.  
A. H. Heller and bride on Monday night.

The Strawberry Festival of the temper-  
ance people of Harrisonburg will be held in  
the post-office building on Friday and Sat-  
urday evenings next, 9th and 10th of June.

Quite a number of the girls, who have  
been attending the Augusta Female Insti-  
tute the past session, passed through Harri-  
burg yesterday morning on their way home.

A meeting of the Stockholders of the  
Rockingham Bank will be held at the Bank  
on Tuesday, June 20th, at 4 o'clock, for the  
purpose of electing Directors and other busi-  
ness.

The Local Correspondence of the OLD  
COMMONWEALTH has become a feature of  
this paper of no small importance. If you  
want the county news, subscribe. \$3 a year  
in advance.

Last Sunday, the seventh after Easter,  
was Whit Sunday. The festival commemorates  
the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pen-  
tostecost, and is observed in the Catholic Epis-  
copal and Lutheran churches.

The deposits at both of the Harrisonburg  
banks are increasing rapidly. We learn that  
\$20,000 was received in one day at the First  
National. The Rockingham Bank has a  
large deposit and is loaning liberally on first  
class paper.

W. S. Brathwaite & Sons, Carpenters and  
Builders, West Market Street, are prepared to  
do all kinds of carpenter work with neat-  
ness and dispatch. They are also the manu-  
facturers of Keller's Patent Clothes Rack.—  
See advertisement.

Prof. Steubgen's Orchestra, who will fur-  
nish the music at Rawley Springs this sea-  
son, as it did last year, arrived here on Mon-  
day evening last. Prof. Chas. Eshman, of  
this place, will be connected with the Raw-  
ley Springs musical corps again this season.

"Certain News of the Present Week,"  
printed by N. Butler, in London, 1632, (254  
years ago) was the first newspaper. In this  
respect, at least, we are in this day some-  
what ahead of our dear departed ancestors  
of two-and-a-half centuries ago.

A SHORT NOVEL.—  
Sweet Margaret Fans  
Came up the lane  
From picking the red berries,  
And met young Paul,  
Comely and tall,  
Going to market with cherries.

Stopping, she blushed,  
And he looked fushed—  
Perhaps 'twas the burden they carried.  
When they passed on,  
Their burdens were one,  
And at Christmas they'll be married.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—Rockingham  
Union Lodge, No. 27, A. F. A. M., of  
this place, elected officers on Saturday  
evening last, as follows: Jas. H. Dwyer,  
W. M.; James L. Aris, S. W.; G. F.  
Compton, J. W.; G. S. Christie, re-  
elected Treasurer; L. C. Myers, re-  
elected Secretary; P. Bryan, Sen. Dea-  
con; T. T. Rohr, Jr. Deacon.

ONE MORE UNFORTUNATE.—Ambrose  
Deal, of Culpeper county, who is under  
indictment in the United States Court  
for the Eastern District of Virginia,  
was arrested on Monday last in this  
county and lodged in jail here. Deal  
has been eluding the officers for some  
months past.

## LOCAL CORRESPONDENCE.

FROM DAYTON.

MR. EDITOR.—While every other part of  
our county is being heard from through your  
columns, our village says nothing. It should  
be known that Dayton is a pleasant town,  
situated in a beautiful locality and surround-  
ed by fine farms not to be surpassed in the  
Valley. Like every other place in these  
hard times, business is not the most active,  
yet there are evident signs of life. Mechan-  
ics generally are busily engaged. Recently  
two new shops have been erected, where the  
ring of the anvil may be heard "from morn-  
ing till night." The "Old Tavern" property has  
been bought by the United Brethren Church  
for parsonage property. A part of the lot  
will be occupied by a substantial brick  
Church, which is soon to be erected. And,  
with churches, stores, shops, mills, schools,  
and last, but not least, the Narrow Gauge  
R. R., Dayton should become a desirable  
home for any one wishing the advantages  
which a thriving little town can afford. We  
must speak more particularly of our schools;  
we have two—one taught by Dr. McFarland,  
the other by Mr. Funkhouser. Dr. McFarland's  
school is small, consisting mostly of small  
pupils; Mr. F.'s school is larger, he teach-  
ing the classics, and having a number of  
pupils from a distance. We have visited  
this school frequently during this term, and  
unhesitatingly pronounce it a success. For  
close attention, application to study and good  
moral character, we have never seen these  
students surpassed.

On the evening of June 15th, this school  
will close with an exhibition, or exposition,  
which promises to be very good, as we are  
sure these pupils can make it so. The exer-  
cises will consist in orations, essays, decla-  
mations and dialogues, interspersed with  
good music. It is to be hoped that it will  
be well patronized and the Church will be  
crowded. Reference to the printed pro-  
gramme will show the exercises in their  
proper order. We have a first-class school  
house, which should heretofore be occupied  
only by first-class teachers, and then Dayton  
may be proud of her educational advantages.

VIATOR.

DAYTON, June 1st, 1876.

FROM WAVEVILLE.

WAVEVILLE, June 5th, 1876.

EDITOR COMMONWEALTH.—Judging from  
my protracted silence and neutrality for  
many weeks, I suppose you have come to the  
conclusion that times are very monotonous  
and uninteresting little village.

Such is undoubtedly the case. However, by  
lose observation, I have collected a few  
notes, which, though seemingly unimportant  
to a great many, may be of interest to  
some of the readers of your worthy columns.

On the 26th ult. I witnessed the closing  
exercises of Prof. F. Huddle's school, on  
an examination the exercises consisted of  
an examination in the morning and an exhibi-  
tion in the evening, which was greatly en-  
livened by the Lurey Brass Band. After the  
usual exercises of declamations and recita-  
tions by the students, several very interest-  
ing addresses were delivered by the follow-  
ing gentlemen: Rev. L. Fox, Mr. Benj.  
Milnes and Maj. Jno. C. Walker. The pro-  
gramme was closed by a very appropriate  
address from Prof. Huddle to his pupils, af-  
ter which the large concourse of people, who  
had assembled on the occasion, dispersed to  
their respective homes.

Mr. M. L. Welfley, a talented young gen-  
tleman of Page, returned home from the  
University of Virginia last Thursday, the  
1st inst. His external appearance rather in-  
dicates the effect of hard study while at the  
University. However, he expects to remain  
at home until fall, which will give him am-  
ple time to recuperate and fit him to re-  
commence the study of law with renewed zeal  
and vigor.

Last Saturday evening the members of  
the Randolph Literary Society convened at  
Shenandoah Iron Works in the M. E. Church  
South, and had a very interesting debate on  
the following subject, to wit:

"Resolved, That Capital Punishment  
should be abolished."

