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SHEIRY & GRIM,
Harrisonburg, Rockingham County, Va.

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HARRISONBURG CHURCH, corner of Main Street and
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Sabbath School, 10 o'clock, A. M., and 7 o'clock, P. M., on
every alternate Sabbath. Prayers, singing every Tues-
day night.
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ery alternate Sabbath, at 7 o'clock, P. M. Sunday School every
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ANDREW CHURCH, German Street, near West Market.
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Sabbath School, 10 o'clock, A. M., every alternate Sab-
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ROCKINGHAM UNION LODGE, No. 27, F. & A. M., meets
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ROCKINGHAM CHAPTER, No. 1, R. A. M., meets on the
4th Saturday evening of each month, in Masonic Tem-
ple, Main Street.

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risonburg, Va.

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Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Provisions, Hats and
Caps, Boots and Shoes, etc. Corner of Public Square,
Harrisonburg, Va.

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Dealers in Clothing, Ladies' Dress Goods, Hats and
Caps, Boots and Shoes, Varieties, etc. Bank Building,
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ginia.

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lic Square, near Shacklett & Newman's Store, Har-
risonburg, Va.

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Photograph Gallery, Harrisonburg, Va.

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Warm Spring Turnpike, near Harrisonburg, Va.

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sonburg, Va.

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Main Street, Harrisonburg, Va. B. S. Van Pelt, Pro-
prietor.

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Main Street, Harrisonburg, Va. Capt. J. N. Hill, Pro-
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Masonic Temple, Harrisonburg, Va.

"OUR HOUSE."
Masonic Temple, Harrisonburg, Va.

"GENTLEMEN'S RESORT."
In Rear of American Hotel, Harrisonburg, Va.

"GOOD IDEA SALOON."
In Rear of Hill's Hotel, Harrisonburg, Va.

The Old Commonwealth.

SHEIRY & GRIM,
Publishers and Proprietors.

"IMPRIMATUR"

VOL. I.

HARRISONBURG, VALLEY OF VIRGINIA, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1866.

NO. 19.

POETRY.

I Do Not Like to Hear Him Pray.

I do not like to hear him pray
Who leans at twenty five percent,
For then I think the borrower may
Be pressed to pay for food and rent,
And in that case he should be dead.
Which says the lender shall be blessed,
As sure as I have eyes to read
It does not say "take interest."

I do not like to hear him pray,
On bended knees about an hour,
For grace to spend aright the day,
Who knows his neighbor has no door;
I'd rather see him go to mill
And buy the loaves and fishes bread,
And see his children eat their fill,
And laugh beneath their humble shed.

I do not like to hear him pray,
"Do blessings on my widow be!"
Who never sees his homeward way,
"If it were not for you, I am to see,"
I hate the prayer loud and long,
That's offered for the orphan's soul,
By him who sees him crushed by wrong,
And only with the lips doth fool.

I do not like to hear him pray,
With jeweled ear and silken dress,
Whose washer-woman toils all day,
And then is asked to "work for less."
Such pleas shew I despise;
With folded hands and face demure,
They lift to Heaven their "angel eyes,"
They steal the earnings of the poor.

I do not like such soulless prayers;
"I'm wrong I hope to be forgiven;
No angel's wing then upward bears—
They're lost a million miles from Heaven."
I cannot like long prayers at all,
And studied, from the lips depart;
Our Father bends a ready ear,
Let words be few—He hears the heart.

SELECT STORY.

EMILY WHARTON.

BY FANNY SMITH.

At eighteen, according to the diploma
of a fashionable boarding-school, Emily
Martin was fully qualified to marry—
Her music was of the most scientific de-
scription, far above the comprehension
of the common herd; her voice in the
highest state of cultivation; her French
as Puritan as Monsieur Gondon and a
provincial French nursery maid could
make it; her Italian so extensive that
she could sing it with but few mistakes,
and her embroidery and fancy work very
much better than her plain sewing.

So, as I said before, my friend Emily
considered herself fully competent for
the matrimonial state, and a certain Lou-
is Wharton thought so too.

After the flutter of bridal finery and
bridal parties was over, the young wife
was carried off to a distant village to
make acquaintance with her husband's
family, and she came home delighted
with everything and everybody she saw.
Such housekeeping, such clock work regu-
larity, such breakfasts and dinner, and
suppers; these were the themes of Emi-
ly's conversation for many a day, and
she had half a mind to try to rival
her mother-in-law and sister-in-law in
that respect.

But her old interests and occupations
soon superseded her new ones, the more
readily, as Biddy, her own servant, was
a faithful, thorough-going creature, who
performed having the work entirely un-
der her control.

It was four months after her mar-
riage, and with a gay heart and willing
hands Emily Wharton was putting her
frilled pillow-cases on the bed of her
sister, for her mother-in-law was
expected that day to make them a visit.

She was standing back to admire the
effect of her handy work, when Biddy
put her head in at the open door.

"If you please, mam," said she, "I must
go this minute to my sister's. Jemmy's
dead stairs, and he says the baby's
most dead intirely. The Virgin says
us!" and Biddy's tears flowed copiously.

Poor Emily stood bewildered. It was
a case in which she could not refuse to
let her servant go, but what was she to
do? Her mother-in-law, the queen of house-
keepers, coming and dinner to get. Had
it been a piece of intricate music to play
at sight, she would have laughed at the
difficulty, but chickens to prepare, and
dessert to make, and old Mrs. Wharton
to criticize! poor Emily felt as if her
sorrow was as great as Biddy's.

"But can't you run down and see the
child, Biddy, and then come back to get
dinner? You know my mother-in-law is
coming to-day. You shall go away
again as soon as possible. I guess the
baby isn't so very sick," said she, coax-
ingly as if her manner would have made
it as she wished.

But Biddy shook her head.

"It's ill just, you see, mam, I must
stay and help nurse it; and if it dies,
Margery will want me to wake with it.
But I'll come back, mam, as soon as I
can," and she left the room to put on
her things.

Emily seated herself on the foot of the
bed which she had been at so much
trouble to prepare, and looked as if stun-
ned by some unexpected blow.

She could not collect her ideas, and it
was not till she heard the hall door
close, that she recollected how much she
might have learned from Biddy, had she
but had her wits about her sufficiently to
have asked.

There was a mine of energy in Emi-
ly's character which had never been
worked for want of necessity, so without
stopping to dwell the unfortunate cir-
cumstances any longer, she proceeded at
once to the kitchen. There upon the
large waiter, which Biddy always used
for such purposes, lay a pair of fine
chickens, with amputated legs, and in
the half prepared state in which they
were when she had received the news.

The poor, little housekeeper gazed at
them for a moment, no more knowing
what to do with them than the Indian
did with the syllabus, till a happy
thought flashed across her bewildered
brain, and with something like a smile,
she got her cook book. But, alas! there
were "chicken patties," and "chicken gum-

bo," and "chicken fricasees," but never a
word about preparing and roasting chick-
ens. She took the book up, and studied
their anatomy as attentively as ever
Cuvier did that of some precious, un-
known animal, but it was of no use;
dress them she could not, and with a
sigh, and a hearty inclination to cry, she
sat down to reflect upon what was to be
done.

She picked up the waiter and carried it
to the cellar, and during her explo-
sions in the safe, she discovered a fine
roasting piece of beef, which she had
sent home with the marketing. She
could almost have danced for joy. A
nugget of gold gleaming upon the eye of
a California adventurer was never half so
welcome. Here at least there could be
no difficulty; no preparation nor filling
was necessary here. She was uncertain
however, how long it should roast, so she
again applied to her cook book. But
with no better success than before—
There was "beef a la mode," and "beef
bouilli," "French beef," and "beef olin"
but never a word about a plain, old-fash-
ioned roast. Still as there was a chance
of getting something for dinner, Emily
would not be totally discouraged, so she
hunted up a pan, and put the beef in the
oven, determined it should be done
enough; but knew nothing of the neces-
sity of seasoning.

The potatoes were her next trouble—
Were they to be put in hot water or
cold? And secretly thinking that wash-
ing them was about as dirty work, as she
ever did, she dropped them into a large
bowl or hot water.

The mental debate then was, "Spin-
nach versus cold ham." The former car-
ried the day, but as she looked at the
basket full of crisp, dark-green leaves,
she wondered if Louis, when he market-
ed, had intended they should live on spin-
nach for the next week. So she threw
a couple of handfuls into a pot of water,
and wondered how long it took eggs to
boil hard enough to eat with it.

"The dinner will look somewhat frugal,
to be sure," but mother Wharton
will excuse it under the circumstances,
I know," thought Emily, as she gazed at
the clock, and found it was just twelve.
They dined at two, and the dessert was
yet to be made. But what was it to be?
She did not know what Biddy had in-
tended doing with all the milk which
she saw in the cellar, but she was so out
of patience with her cook book, that she
never thought of consulting it again—
Here, however, she defied circumstances.
She had some fine preserves which her
mother had put up for her, and cheese,
and almonds, and raisins, and the dessert
for this day should consist of these.

With a mind very much relieved, she
proceeded to arrange the dinner-table,
and after a dozen unnecessary excursions
to the pantry, it was completed with the
exception of spoons for the vegetable,
and the castor.

Emily thought it was now time to see
how her dinner was coming on. She
opened the door of the range, and to her
dismay she found that the splendid piece
of beef had a whitish, sticky look,
and that the oven was as cold as charity.

With tears in her eyes she tried the po-
tatoes. They lay snugly huddled to-
gether fast down in a gallon of water, as
hard as when they were put in. The
two handfuls of spinach had diminished
frantically, and as a climax to the dis-
aster, she now for the first time, noticed
that the bright fire in the range had be-
come dusky white ashes, which gave
forth no heat.

Her previous anxiety had made her
nervous, and now she took a hearty cry.
But she soon went to work again right
bravely. She applied the poker vigor-
ously to the grate, but nothing except
her own dust and cinders, which nearly choked
her, followed. She lifted the lid from the
range and looked in. There was still a
little fire left, and determining to
have a good one when she made it, she
threw on a whole scuttle full of coal—
went on raking away, covering herself
with fine white ashes, the tears coming
occasionally in spite of herself, when the
door-bell rang.

With a half terrified "oh dear, there
they are," and another burst of tears,
which she hastily wiped away, Emily
proceeded to open the front door, never
thinking of her appearance.

Louis was handing his mother out of
the carriage, and she stood like a culprit
half hidden by the door.

"Here, Biddy, take this basket," said
he, handing a small travelling satchel, as
he spoke, without looking up.

Oh, Louis! was the answer of the
suppressed Biddy.

The young husband started in astun-
ishment. That that blackened, tear-
stained, ashes covered figure could be
his neat, smiling, pretty wife, was almost
inconceivable.

"Biddy's left me, Louis! How d'you
mean, but the kiss on old Mrs. What-
ton's face was accompanied by such a
burst of tears as shocked the mother-in-law.
The good, thrifty soul, could not compre-
hend such a sorrow.

"They all went into the parlor, where
Emily, with a broken voice, recounted
her troubles.

It would be untrue to say that Louis
was not disappointed; he was so anxious
that Emily should continue the favora-
ble impression which he knew that she
had at first made on his mother. In his
own mind he had determined that she
should sing herself like a merrymaid in
old Mrs. Wharton's affection, and he
just now discovered that there were other
accomplishments, which he suspected
his mother valued more highly than mu-
sic, singing, French or Italian.

The good lady smiled, but not un-
kindly, on her daughter-in-law, for she
saw how anxious she was to do her duty.

"No matter, Emily, about your din-
ner," said she. "If your kettle boils, give
us some bread and butter and preserves,
and a cup of tea, and we will do famously.
Wait till I get out my things, and I will
see what I can do with your refractory

fire. I can generally coax up one like a
charm."

The willing voice and manner relieved
Emily indescribably, and with a lightened
heart she led the way to the kitchen.

Mrs. Wharton rolled up her sleeves,
tied her handkerchief over her cap, and
pinned up her gown, (Emily did not
possess a cooking apron, for which she
inquired) then with an ease which did
really seem like a charm, she kindled a
fire with the splints which Emily had
brought at her request from the cellar.

A suspicious twinkle flitted about the
corners of her mouth, as she peered over
her spectacles at the beef, the potatoes,
and the spinach, but she told Emily so
kindly how she ought to have done, and
made it all appear so easy, and the poor,
little wife gave her a hearty kiss, and
took another good cry.

Biddy did not return till the next day,
and to her astonishment she found that
the "cold lady," as she called her, was
constantly invading her domain with
young Mrs. Wharton, and after some
unintelligible mutterings about "two mis-
takes," she quietly yielded to the
presence and the help of the two, when
she was preparing meals, and in conse-
quence, Emily Wharton now adds good
cooking to the list of her other accom-
plishments, as we would advise all young
ladies, whether married or not, to do.

It is well known that a auction of an
married ladies used to take place annu-
ally in Babylon. "In every district they
assembled on a certain day of every year
all the virgins of marriageable age."—
The most beautiful were first put up,
and the man who bid the largest sum of
money gained possession of her. The
second in personal appearance followed,
and the bidders gratified themselves with
handsome wives according to the depth
of their purses. But, alas! it seemed
that there were in Babylon some ladies
for which no money was likely to be of-
fered; yet these also were disposed of,
so provident were the Babylonians—
When all the beautiful virgins were sold,
the orator ordered the most deformed to
stand up, and after he had openly de-
manded who would marry her for a small
sum, she was at length adjudged to the
man who was to be satisfied with the
least; and in this manner the money
arising from the sale of the handsome
served as a portion those who were either
disagreeable looks or that had any im-
perfection. This custom prevailed about
five hundred years before Christ.

An honest farmer in the State of Penn-
sylvania married a miss from a fashion-
able boarding-school for his second wife.
He was struck dumb with her eloquence,
and gaped with wonder at his wife's
learning. "You might," said he, "bore a
hole through the solid earth," and chuck
in a millstone, and she'll tell you to a sha-
vin' how long the stone will be gone clean
through. I used for to think that it was
air that I sucked in every time that I ex-
pired; howsoever, she told me that I
knew better—she told me that I
had been sucking in two kinds of gin—
ox gin and pig gin! My stars! I'm a tem-
perance man, and yet have been drinking
ox gin and pig gin all my life!"

The old proverb that "many a true
word is spoken in jest," was forcibly il-
lustrated a few Sundays since. A minis-
ter gave out as the morning lesson the
fourth section of the one hundred and
nineteenth Psalm, and while the con-
gregation were looking out the place in
their bibles, he took out his mill, and
seizing a hasty pinch with finger and
thumb, regulated his nose with snuff; he
then began lesson, "My soul cleaveth into
the dust." The titter that rang around
the church, and the confusion of the poor
man showed that the congregation and he
felt the Psalmist's "pinch."

A few days ago a young schoolmistress
was taking down the names and ages of
her scholars at the commencement of the
term. She asked a little white-headed
boy: "Bub, how old are you?" "My
name ain't Bub, it's John," "Well," said
the schoolmistress, "what is the rest of
your name?" "You needn't put pap's
name down, he ain't comin' to school
any; he's too big to go school." "Well,
how old are you?" "I ain't old at all, I'm
young!"

"Have the jury agreed?" asked the
bailliff of a looked up set of twelve, whom
he had left under the care of his man,
Denny Garry, and whom he had met
upon the stairs with a pall in his hand.

"Oh, yes," replied Denny, "they have
agreed to send out for another half gal-
lon."

"How rapidly they build houses now,"
said a gentleman to a acquaintance, as he
pointed to a neat two-story house; "they
commenced that building only last week
and they are already putting in the
lights." Yes, rejoined his friend, and
the next week they will put in the liver."

The Opinion of a Petersburg Darkey.
"Wish Mass Lincoln had done kep his
freedom. It's just like Confederik mon-
ey—more you get on it, the less count is
it."—INDEX.

Daniel Bryan's Oath.

Daniel Bryan had been a lawyer of emi-
nence, but had fallen, through intoxication,
to beggary, and a dying condition. Bryan
had married in his better days the sister
of Moses Feltton, a wealthy farmer.

At length all hopes were given up. Week
after week would the fallen man lie drunk
on the floor, and not a day of real sobriety
marked his course. He was too low for con-
viviality, for those whom he would have as-
sociated with would not drink with him.

All alone in his chamber, and, even his very
life seemed the offering of his jug.

In early spring Moses Feltton had a call
to go to Ohio. Before he set out he visited
his sister. He offered to take her with him,
but she would not go.

"But why have you urged the brother."
"You are fading away, and disease is upon
you. Why should you live with such a
brute?"

"Hush, Moses, speak not," answered the
wife, keeping back her tears. "I will not
leave him now, but he will soon leave me—
he cannot live much longer."

At length Moses Feltton entered the apart-
ment. He looked like a wanderer from the
tomb. He had his hat on and his jug in his
hand. "Ah, Moses, how are you?" he gasped,
for he could not speak plainly.

The visitor looked at him a few moments
in silence. Then as his features assumed a
calm, he said to the sister of the dying man,
"You are a good woman, and I am glad to
emphatically tell you."

"Daniel Bryan I have been your best friend
but one. My sister is an angel, though
matched with a demon. I have loved you,
Daniel, as I never loved man before; you
were generous, noble and kind; but I hate
you now, for you are a perfect devil incarnate.
Look at that woman! She is my sister—
she might now live with me in comfort,
only that she will not do it, and you are
alive; when you die she will come to me—
thus do I pray that God will soon give her
joy to my keeping." Now, Daniel, I disem-
powerfully hope that the first intelligence that
reaches me from my native place shall be
that you have reached my new home by the
"YOU-ARE-DEAD!"

"Stop, Moses; I can reform yet."
"You cannot. It is beyond your power—
You have had indecent enough to have
reformed all the sinners of creation, and
you are lower than ever before. Go and die,
as soon as you can, for the moment that
sees you thus will find me among the
mourning."

Bryan's eyes flashed, and he drew himself
proudly up. "Go to Ohio, in the tone of the
old sarcasm," he said, "and I'll send you
back, and you'll be a better man. I will
not make you take back your words."

"Never, Daniel Bryan, never."
"You shall! I swear it!"
With these words Daniel Bryan hurled
the jug into the fire place, and while yet a thou-
sand fragments were flying over the floor,
he fled from the house.

Mary sat fainting on the floor. Moses
bore her to the bed, and then, having called
in a neighbor, he hurried away, for the stage
was waiting.

For a month Daniel moved over the brink
of the grave, but he did not die.

"One gill of brandy will save you," said the
doctor, who saw that the abrupt removal of
stimulants from a system that for long years
had almost subsisted on nothing else was
nearly sure to prove fatal. "You can surely
take a gill and not any more."

"Aye," gasped the poor man, "take a gill
and break my oath. Moses Feltton shall not
hear that brandy and rum killed me! If
the want of it can kill me, then let me die;
but I won't die—I'll live till Moses Feltton
shall ext his words."

He did live. An iron will conquered the
seemingly death sent—Daniel Bryan lived.
For one month he could not walk without
help. Mary helped him.

A year passed away, and Moses Feltton
returned to Vermont. He entered the court-
house at Burlington, and Daniel Bryan was
on the floor pleading for a young man who
had been indicted for forgery. Feltton started
in surprise. Never before had such a torments
sequence poured from his lips.

The case was given to the jury, and the youth was
acquitted. The successful counsel turned
from the court-room and met Moses Feltton.
They shook hands but did not speak—
When they reached a spot where none others
could hear them, Bryan stopped.



Wednesday Morning, Feb. 14, 1866.

J. C. WOODSON, Editor.

Governor's Message.—Governor Francis H. Pierpont, in a special message to the Legislature of Virginia, solemnly protests against granting charters to the Lynchburg and Danville and the Valley Railroads.

The Governor says that "on the refusal of these two grants depends the future prosperity of Virginia. Once granted, no new road can be built. Once granted, \$20,000,000 of Virginia appropriations are paralyzed and rendered worthless to the State. Grant them, and Richmond, Petersburg, and Norfolk are paralyzed for the future, and Alexandria deprived of her interests in the Manassas Gap road; you drive active capital out of the State, and prevent all sensible men, with capital, from coming in. You destroy your cities and commercial and manufacturing interests and thereby cut off the vast revenue derived from those sources, and throw the burden of taxation on the rural districts."

This is a gloomy picture to present to the immigrant when you are inviting to the State. Look well to the consequences of these acts; once granted, they cannot be revoked; like Esau's birthright, when sold, could not be redeemed, though sought in tears. Grant them, and for all time, the inhabitants of the State will mourn the fully in the destruction of your commercial centers, and the consequences attending the same.

The New Market Shenandoah Valley says: "A gentleman named Scott, from Port Republic, reports that he was robbed of \$4,000 near the Tunker Church, four miles below this place, on Friday night last. Two men rode up to him, one of whom struck him on the head with a club, which brought him to the ground. He was then robbed, and the robbers went off leaving him lying insensible in the road. One of the men was riding a donkey. Mr. S. had been in the lower part of the county, endeavoring to purchase a site for a woolen factory, and supposes that he was followed by the two men from that section."

The Alexandria Gazette says: "We understand that seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars is the estimated cost of the Manassas Gap and Winchester and Potomac Railroad connection, and that the sum is to be subscribed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company. Of this amount, it is said, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company has subscribed one hundred and fifty thousand dollars to be expended in rebuilding the Manassas Gap Railroad."

The Petersburg Index advises its readers who want to see the biggest thing in the way of trouble work anywhere about these parts should take a trip up the South-Side. Mr. Bird has just finished a piece of wood work at the first river crossing, which bears the Venetian Bridge of Sighs, no matter what its title. It only took two thousand trees, "thar or tharabouts," which is two-thirds of all that the armies left east of the Blue Ridge.

We see by the proceedings of the Baltimore Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, now in session at Alexandria, that that body has, without a dissenting voice, joined the Methodist Church South, and Bishop Early of the latter Church, recognized the body, and took his seat as President of the Conference.

Persons mailing letters are warned, that if they put an insufficient number of stamps on them, they will not be forwarded, except to the dead letter office. Hereafter the deficient postage has been charged and collected at the delivery office; but postage will henceforth be required in full at the point of mailing.

Mrs. Stonewall Jackson has written a letter, stating that the contributions that are called for in her behalf, are given under a false impression, and it is unjust to her ideas of rectitude and honor to receive them. She begs that all efforts made to raise funds for her "relief" will be immediately stopped.

Brigham Young says he has "hell, muskets, pistols, cannon and ammunition, and men to use them, and that he will use them if the Gentiles come and try to interfere with polygamy. He threatens the government, and declares that he will be the Governor of Utah for ever."

There is a powerful movement on foot throughout the Northwest in favor of free trade and a modification of the protective tariff to a revenue basis. Free trade leagues are being organized in the leading towns and cities.

A movement is on foot at Washington to unite the Union Democrats and Conservative Republicans of the country into a new party to be called the National Union party, and to support the President's policy.

It is stated by New York that at least fifty thousand Southern men have been added to the population of New York city since the close of the war.

Under the head of valuable to miscegenation, an exchange announces that spirits of ammonia will remove the odor of perspiration.

A run of 8,000 pants was made by a billiard player in Michigan, a few days since, and sold for a small sum.

CONGRESS REFUSES TO RECOGNIZE THE VALIDITY OF THE RESTORED GOVERNMENT.—When the resolution giving the consent of Congress to the transfer of the counties of Berkeley and Jefferson from Virginia to West Virginia came up in order, a question as to the validity of the "Restored Government of Virginia" was naturally raised, since the Constitution of the United States forbids a State to be divided into two without the consent of the Legislature of such State, and since the consent thus required had been given by the Legislature while in session at Alexandria during the war. Now, Thad. Stevens contends that the Southern States were out of the Union, and consequently Virginia could not have consented to the transfer of its territory. Let us note the action of the House:

Mr. Rogers, of New Jersey, opposed the resolution at length, elaborating the ground that the constitutional consent of Virginia to the transfer had not been obtained.

Mr. Lawrence, of Ohio, sustained the measure, and urged its passage as it came from the committee.

Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, said he should vote against the resolution, but against its preamble declaring that the Legislature of Virginia had given its consent to the transfer. He denied that the States were out of the Union, and that no Legislature as such in Virginia had given its consent to this proposition.

Mr. Dawes, of Massachusetts, said there were a hundred and one thousand eight hundred men of those counties here against this transfer.

Mr. Bingham, of Ohio, declared that the consent of West Virginia, of the counties of Berkeley and Jefferson, and that of Congress, was only required to make the transfer legal and proper.

The preamble was stricken out, and the resolution was then passed—yeas, 113; nays, 26.

It will be seen that Mr. Stevens expressly declared that he "recognized no such Legislature as that in Virginia which had given its consent to this proposition," and that for this reason he was opposed to the preamble. So that the sense of the House of Representatives at Washington is, that the restored government of Virginia ought not to be recognized. What next?

STAMPS.—It is not generally understood, perhaps, that a person signing his name to a subscription paper, whereby he contracts to pay a sum of money, is required by the internal revenue law to fix a stamp to the same. But it is true, nevertheless, as appears by the following decision of the commissioners:

"In the case of a subscription list, where the heading involves a promise to pay the sum annexed, the person signing it is liable to the stamp duty required on promissory notes, unless he pay the amount annexed to his name at the time of signature; in which case the time of signing his name should be regarded as a mere part of a memorandum."

"Where the heading of a list involves a condition on which the subscribers will pay the sum annexed to their names, then each signature is held to create an agreement subject to duty five cents."

This decision applies to persons who subscribe for books sold by canvassers, and to subscriptions to charitable purposes.

BUTLER SENDS GEN. GRANT.—Lt. Gen. Grant having removed into his new house, in Washington, gave a house-warming. A card was sent to Gen. Butler, who returned it suitably endorsed as follows:

"I have the honor to receive your card of invitation. I beg to decline it as politely as I may; and I further state, that in no event would I be willing to hold personal intercourse with yourself or any member of your family."

B. F. BUTLER.

The Philadelphia Age, in commenting upon this rather tart missive, remarks that "this lucky non-acceptance had some positive and substantial advantage attendant on it—it saved Mrs. Grant the anxiety of watching her plate while the Imp was present, and the labor of counting her spoons after he had left."

DIRECT TAXES.—In another column will be found a "notice to the Tax-payers of Rockingham County." The law has been so modified that but one year's tax will be collected. SPEAKER A. COX, Esq., will have his office open at Hill's Hotel, during the next sixty days, for the collection of this tax.

It is rumored in Washington that if the Freedmen's Bureau bill, which has just passed the Senate, passes the House, the President will restore the writ of *habeas corpus* in the Southern States.

Excavations among the ruins of the Confederate Post-office Department, on the corner of Eleventh and Bank streets in Richmond, have discovered a vault of coal, which has been open since the 24th of April 1865.

A lunatic was arrested in Washington the other day for pelting the Senators with peanuts from the galleries. The poor fellow seems to have had a fair appreciation of the importance and dignity of that grave body.

A strong influence is being brought to bear upon the President in favor of the restoration of the Arlington estate to Mrs. Robert T. Lee, and some think the effort will be successful.

The Danville Times says that the Virginians are snake rot or "star grass," is a strong antidote against the bite of the rattlesnake and will cause that reptile to turn his head in disgust.

SOUTHERN GENERALS.—Brigadier General Joseph Finnegun, "the hero of Olanstown," is a native of Ireland, but has been a resident of Fernandina, Florida, for some years, and owns a plantation near that place. He has not received a pardon, neither has his house and lands been turned over to him, which have been converted into a Freedmen's Asylum. He is living with a friend at Fernandina. Before the war General Finnegun was engaged in the railroad business with the Hon. D. L. Yulee. Major General Howell Cobb is comfortably fixed on a plantation near Mason, General W. L. Brandon is at his home in Wilkinson county, Mississippi. General S. G. French is on his plantation in Washington county. General S. J. Gholson is practicing law in Aberdeen and General E. C. Walthall in Grenada, Mississippi. Brigadier General N. G. Evans, John K. Jackson and Henry R. Jackson are practicing law in Augusta, Georgia. General T. Martin is practicing law in Holly Springs, General Robert Lowery in Brandon, General N. H. Harris in Vicksburg.

Virginia Delegation—Interview with the President.—Address of the Delegation—The President's Reply—He desires the restoration of the Union in its original purity.

The Virginia Delegation, consisting of Messrs. Keady, Gray, Carter, Baldwin, Marshall, Gratton, Pendleton and Joynes, departed by the State Legislature to convey to President Johnson the resolutions approving his reconstruction policy, were received by him at the White House on Saturday morning.

Mr. Baldwin, Speaker of the House of Delegates, as Chairman of the Committee, presented the resolutions, and delivered the following address on behalf of the committee:

ADDRESS OF MR. BALDWIN.
Mr. President—We are a Committee of Senators and Delegates sent to present to you in person certain resolutions which have received the unanimous approval of the General Assembly of Virginia.

We come as representatives sent by one of the States of this Union to confer with you on the subject of the restoration of the Union, and to express the common sentiment of the people of interest to all the States and all the people.

We come to you, Mr. President, for the reason that you recognize our common interests in the Government under which we live, and because thus far we have been denied all Governmental recognition by the action of which other States and other people make known their opinions, purposes and feelings in the councils of the nation.

In declaring that the people of Virginia and their representatives accept and abide by the results of the late contest, and that they intend in good faith to meet all the obligations thereby incurred, the General Assembly expresses a sentiment and a purpose which have been uniformly recognized by our people individually and in masses, and in regard to which there is no hesitation or division in all Virginia.

Chief among the results thus accepted is the universal conviction that the Union of these States is an established and enduring fact, and that the whole future of our people is inseparably bound up for weal or woe, with the success or the failure of the Government of the United States. We recognize that Government as our Government, its Constitution as our Constitution, and the laws which it requires as our duties, and the rights which it promises as our rights.

Another great result accepted by our people is the final overthrow of the institution of slavery. This has been completed by a Constitutional amendment, the binding force of which is as absolute as any law that can be done. It will be done; and I think at no very distant day, if the effort is fairly and fully made, with forbearance, prudence and discretion.

I would further say in this connection, that it seems to me that the best policy that could be adopted to present to the people of these States upon correct principles, and to the people of these States, is to announce to them that the Union of these States is again complete, and that we have resumed our career of prosperity and power, that very instant will these foreign difficulties be settled, and we will have never for one moment been divided by the war.

We are not without our foreign difficulties; but the very moment that it can be announced that the Union of these States is again complete, and that we have resumed our career of prosperity and power, that very instant will these foreign difficulties be settled, and we will have never for one moment been divided by the war.

I will furthermore state that, if this was done, that which must in a short time be the currency of the United States—which is thought by some to be inflated, and which is not so, but which is restored, the area for the circulation enlarged, the number of persons increased, through whose hands it is to pass, the amount, or the quantity of commerce enlarged and increased in which it is to be employed, it will begin to approximate to what we all desire—a specie standard.

It is a great relief to the people of these States as being essential to all our greatness. If the States were restored to their former position, and peace and order once more caused to reign throughout the land, all the industrial pursuits renewed, all the avocations of peace again resumed, the day would not be far distant when the world would be put into the commerce of the world, and two hundred and fifty or three hundred millions worth of cotton and tobacco and the various other products of the Southern States, which would constitute in part a basis for this currency which I repeat, is thought by some to be inflated, and which is not so, but which is restored, the area for the circulation enlarged, the number of persons increased, through whose hands it is to pass, the amount, or the quantity of commerce enlarged and increased in which it is to be employed, it will begin to approximate to what we all desire—a specie standard.

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one of those who have confidence in the judgment, the integrity, the intelligence, and in the virtue of the great mass of the American people, and in their willingness to trust them, and I thank God that we have not lost all confidence in each other. It is only by having confidence in one another that the Government can be preserved, and we soon become a happy and prosperous people.

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LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

We will thank our readers for all local occurrences in their immediate localities. If they do not desire to write a communication for the public eye, let them send us a brief statement of everything of interest in their respective communities. A list of marriages, deaths, accidents, &c. We will put them in form. The more facts of this kind we can get, the better it will suit us and our readers.

Rags Wanted!

We will pay the highest price, in CASH or good clean linen and cotton rags. Bring them at once to this office.

AN APPEAL.—A lady friend and neighbor has handed us the following appeal "To the people of the South," which we publish with great pleasure now, and which we intend to have published sooner. We are sure that our people who have already done and suffered so much for our lost cause, will feel it to be a great privilege and a sacred duty to contribute their mite to the object proposed in this brief appeal. The war has left the most of us, as far as worldly goods are concerned very poor, but we can almost all of us spare a mite to gather together the sacred ashes of our dead heroes who fell in defence of our native and beloved Valley. A subscription of even ten cents to this object will be gratefully received.—Register.

To the People of the South:

The frequent battles around Winchester, Va., have left their traces in the many graves scattered broadcast over an area of twelve miles radius. The dead were generally buried where they fell, and their rule graves are fast disappearing beneath the feet of men and beasts, free from the want of enclosures, to go where they will.

Those who died in the hospitals were mostly buried in the old Episcopal graveyard, but its enclosure has long been destroyed and cattle graze over it to this day.

The farming operations of next season, the wear of the winter, and the disappearance by removal and death of those who were present at their burials, will in a few months leave no knowledge of the resting-places of many martyrs dead.

Impelled by these considerations, some of the citizens of Winchester and its vicinity have determined to endeavor to collect these scattered remains in the cemetery and surround them by a substantial enclosure. This, of course, will require a considerable amount of money. The needs of our citizens are much diminished by the late war and its results; we are therefore induced to appeal to you for aid in this matter, encouraged by the belief that you will feel it a privilege as well as a duty to pay this tribute of respect to the memory of those who fell in your cause.

Every Southern State has its representative among these fallen heroes; we ask all then for such contributions as they feel able to give.

Should we succeed in raising the necessary funds, it is proposed to remove the remains on the first of April, 1866, and we would respectfully request all whose friends lie under these battle-fields, to disinter them before that time if they wish to do so.

In the removal every precaution will be taken to preserve all identification, and an accessible record will be prepared of every grave.

All subscriptions may be sent to Mrs. Philip Williams, or Mrs. Dr. A. H. Boyd, Winchester, or handed to Mrs. G. M. Effinger, or Mrs. J. H. Wattman, Harrisonburg, when they will be transmitted to the Committee of ladies at Winchester having charge of this subject.

INSURANCE AGAINST ACCIDENTS.—As time courses onward, novelties develop themselves with a rapidity. Among the latest and we add the best, is the introduction into the U. S. of Accidental Insurance Companies. This is something new in this country, at least, and insurance against accidents is worthy of consideration certainly.

Why not, insure against personal injury as well as fire? We think it a very commendable institution and very soon accidental insurance, or insurance against the consequences of personal injury will become as common as insurance against fire. In another column will be found the advertisement of the New York Accidental Insurance Company, which speaks for itself, and we feel assured that the accredited Agent at this place, would not engage in the business if it was not an honest, safe concern, of practical utility.

In the Northern States, where "Accidental Insurance" has been in working operation for about a year, perhaps more, nearly every body, especially inland travellers, avail themselves of a policy of insurance to provide for their necessities in case of a disabling accident, which allows them a weekly compensation of \$25, which is perfectly adequate for their support in a respectable manner.

During the time they may be disabled, or in case of death by accident, \$5,000 to the family of the insured, which is a sufficient sum to save them from want or suffering.

Read the advertisement, reflect upon the matter, and if you need further information, call upon the Agent, who will be found at the Register Office, who will be happy to inform any one desiring to insure.

PREACHING.—We had the pleasure on Sunday evening last, of listening to the able and eloquent remarks of Revs. ISAAC LONG and B. F. BLAIR, of the Tunker Church. In their plain and candid style they explained the principles of Christianity, according to the Tunker belief. Their ideas—as set forth by these gentlemen—were in accordance with our own True Christianism (not "so-called") should embrace practice as well as precept. We were sorry Rev. Long was compelled to hasten through with his discourse, owing to the lateness of the hour. We could have been an attentive listener for a much longer time. Hope we may have the pleasure of hearing him at some future time.

NATIONAL EXPRESS OFFICE.—Capt. JOHN M. LOCKE the gentlemanly agent of the National Express Company at this place, having received the necessary books, labels, etc., is ready to forward by express anything that the public may desire. The office for the present will be at the store-room of Messrs. Locke & Compton, where the Captain may be found at all times.

NO MOON.—Some of our readers, perhaps, are not aware that February of the present year has been overlooked in the distribution of full Moons. There were two full Moons in January, but February has been declared February out of the (M.) canon.

We notice among the standing committees in Congress, one on "Ways and Means." We suggest one on "Mean Ways."

STRONG TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF STONEBRAKER'S BITTERS!

STONEBRAKER'S BITTERS!—Stonebraker's Preparation, for the cure of both man and beast, Cough Syrup, Horse and Cattle Powders, Rat Exterminator, Hair Restorative, &c., &c., have gained a wide and lasting fame; and now it seems that Stonebraker's Bitters is destined to enjoy as much popularity as either of the Preparations named. The proprietor is in daily receipt of certificates setting forth the virtues of these Bitters, and can show most conclusively that they are a great medicine. Particular attention is invited to the following certificate setting forth a remarkable cure, the authenticity of which will not be doubted. Read it, together with its additional endorsement:

McGAREYVILLE, ROCKINGHAM CO., VA.

Dr. STONEBRAKER, DEAR SIR:—This is to certify that Mrs. Cynthia Lee, has been afflicted with Hysterical affluents for fifteen years, the disease was so violent that every month it was attended with spasms, and sometimes two or three times a month. Every muscle seemed to be contracted lock-jaw, hands clinched, and her sufferings seemed to be excruciating and intense. I was frequently called on to attend her while thus afflicted. I have been told by the family that other physicians have attended her, without any good effect. After all the means employed by physicians failed "Stonebraker's Bitters," were recommended, she has used not quite two bottles, and has had no symptom of the disease since the commencement of using the Bitters which is seven months; and at this time seems to enjoy good health. Given under my hand this 8th day of Dec. 1865.

JAMES A. HARDING, M. D.

We the undersigned being personally acquainted with Mrs. Lee, certify that the above is a true statement of the case. Given under our hands this 8th day of Dec. 1865.

JAS. M. LARKINS, MRS. E. LARKINS, JOSHUA M. LARKINS, JAMES H. LEE, MISS E. DENNETT.

I could get one hundred names to endorse this certificate. J. W. LARKINS.

January 6, 1866.

THE SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN.—We are under obligations to Messrs. Munn & Co., for a copy of this valuable journal. We invite the attention of mechanics, inventors, manufacturers, farmers and others, to the fact that for \$3 they can get for a year the most useful and interesting journal ever published. Clubs of ten can get it at \$25.00. Think of it—a large volume of 832 pages, (conveniently arranged for binding, with illustrated title page) filled with costly engravings and valuable information for the small sum of \$2.50. Address, the publishers, 37 Park Row, N. Y.

We call attention to the advertisement of OSCAR G. MOORE & CO., headed "LIFE-HEALTH-STRENGTH."

See advertisement of SIR JAMES CLARKE's celebrated FEMALE PILLS.

Financial and Commercial.

THE MARKET REPORTS.

HARRISONBURG MARKETS.

CORRECTED WEEKLY.

HARRISONBURG, February 12, 1866.

WHEAT—Super... 1.50 BUTTER... 34

Extra... 1.40 Family... 1.30

WHEAT—(a) 1.30 LARD... 18

Howardville, (a) 1.20 Family... 1.10

WHEAT... 1.10 CORN... 10

WHEAT... 1.00 CORN... 9

WHEAT... .90 CORN... 8

WHEAT... .80 CORN... 7

WHEAT... .70 CORN... 6

WHEAT... .60 CORN... 5

WHEAT... .50 CORN... 4

WHEAT... .40 CORN... 3

WHEAT... .30 CORN... 2

WHEAT... .20 CORN... 1

WHEAT... .10 CORN... 0

WHEAT... 0 CORN... 0

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TO FARMERS, MILL-OWNERS AND OTHERS!

1866.

1866.

THE HARRISONBURG IRON FOUNDRY

IS NOW IN FULL AND SUCCESSFUL OPERATION

P. BRADLEY & CO.,

ARE prepared to furnish, at short notice, and on reasonable terms, as to price and time, CASTINGS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, usually made at Iron Foundries, of their own manufacture.

PLOWS! PLOWS!

We have constantly on hand the well and favorably known "BRADLEY PLOWS" of several different sizes, for two and three horses, which we will sell for

Cash, Country Produce, or on Time to responsible customers.

At reasonable prices as they can be purchased in this State or elsewhere.

MILL-GEARING!

We especially invite the attention of Mill owners to our stock of Patterns for Mill Gearing, which we will furnish

AS PROMPTLY AND ON AS GOOD TERMS

as any other Foundry in the Valley.

Iron Castings

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION!

Having a general assortment of Patterns, we are prepared to do JOBBING WORK of all kinds, promptly, and on the "live and live" principle.

Jan. 24, 1866-ly

P. BRADLEY & CO.

AGENTS WANTED IN EVERY TOWN

VALUABLE SOUTHERN HISTORIES.

SOUTHERN HISTORY OF THE

WAR.

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2 Vols. 8vo., about 700 pages each. \$3.50 per Vol.

WITH 20 SPLENDID STYLISH PORTRAITS.

This is the only complete and authentic history of the Southern side published, extending as it does, from the beginning of the War to the final surrender of the Confederate armies.

Mr. POLLARD's prominent position in the Confederate army has enabled him to prepare a work unequalled in accuracy and interest, and which is everywhere acknowledged to be the best.

STANDARD SOUTHERN HISTORY.

It should find a place in every library.

SOUTHERN GENERALS:

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By CAPT. W. PARKER SNOW.

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Containing Biographies of the distinguished Southern leaders, with full and graphic accounts of the various campaigns in which they were engaged. It is a most important and interesting volume, and has been prepared with the utmost care and thoroughness.

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LIFE, SERVICES AND CAMPAIGNS OF

STONEWALL JACKSON.

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JACKSON, and his Successor ELLIOT, on Stonewall Jackson, which has been written. It has been prepared from Official Reports, contemporary narratives, and personal acquaintance, and is complete and full.

IV.

THE RAIDS AND ROMANCES OF

MORGAN AND HIS MEN.

By Mrs. RALPH ROBERTSON FORD.

WITH STEEL PORTRAIT OF GEN. MORGAN.

1 Vol., 12mo., 425 pages. \$1.75. A complete history of this daring officer, more thrilling and interesting than fiction.

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WOMAN OF THE SOUTH,

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Illustrated with Splendid Portraits, on Steel, of

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And containing full biographical sketches and specimen extracts from the most celebrated writings in prose and verse, of 50 distinguished literary WOMEN OF THE SOUTH.

All the above works are having an immense sale, and agents are doing splendidly everywhere. Many are making from \$10 to \$15 a day.

We want agents in every town in the Southern States. Returned Soldiers, Ladies, Teachers and others, will find this most profitable employment.

Exclusive territory given, and liberal inducements offered to canvassers.

For full particulars, apply to

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Jan. 31-41 540 BROADWAY, N. Y.

WINTER STRAINED SPERM OIL—For Machinery. For Sale at

Nov. 29 OTTS Drug Store.

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Nov. 8 Drug and Chemical Store.

IDE LAMPS AND SUSPENSION LAMPS.

Suitable for churches. For sale at

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JAMES H. HARRIS,

SURGEON DENTIST

GRADUATE OF THE BALTIMORE COLLEGE OF DENTAL SURGERY.

RESPECTFULLY informs his old patrons and the public generally, that he has resumed his practice, and is permanently located in Harrisonburg, Va.

He is prepared to perform all operations upon the mouth and natural teeth, and to insert artificial teeth from one side of the jaw to the other, Gold or Vulcanite Plate.

All operations warranted to compete with any performed in the cities or elsewhere.

TERMS INVARIABLY CASH.

Office at his residence, nearly opposite Hill's Hotel, Main Street, Harrisonburg, Va.

Oct. 11, 1865-ly

DISOLUTION.—The Co-partnership existing between Drs. Gordon and Moffett, as dissolved by mutual consent.

Dec. 11 1865 S. H. GORDON, S. H. MOFFETT.

MEDICAL NOTICE.

DRS. GORDON & WILLIAMS

Have again associated themselves, in the practice of Medicine.

Office in the building, formerly occupied by Joseph Shue, as a Book Store. (Dec. 13 1865.)

DR. T. Z. OFFUTT,

(3 YEARS A SURGEON OF THE U. S. A.)

Having located in Harrisonburg, Va., for the practice of the Law in the County of Rockingham, and especially offers his services to the public.

Office—Opposite Hill's Hotel, Main Street. Residence—Female Seminary.

DR. W. W. S. BUTLER.

PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

Offers his professional services to the citizens of Harrisonburg and vicinity. Office in rear of H. Heller & Son Store. Residence one door South of Stanton's Hotel. (Nov. 29-ly)

BRAYN, WOODSON & COMPTON.

HARRISONBURG, VA.

ALLAN C. BRAYN, JOHN C. WOODSON and W. B. COMPTON have associated themselves in the practice of Law in the County of Rockingham, and will also attend the Courts of Shenandoah, Page, Highland and Pendleton.

Dr. J. C. WOODSON will continue to practice in the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia. Nov. 22, 1865-ly

G. W. BERLIN, ATTORNEY AT LAW.

HARRISONBURG, VA.

Will practice in this and the adjoining counties. Office in Bank Row, North of the Court House. (Jan. 31, 1866-ly)

J. S. LIGHTS, CHAS. A. YANCY

LEGGOTT & YANCY.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW.

HARRISONBURG, VA. Office immediately opposite the American Hotel. (Nov. 30-ly)

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Every Implement or Machine

WANTED

BY THE FARMER OR MACHINIST,

CAN BE HAD

AT OUR HOUSE!

Every exertion is being made to furnish to our Farmers the most improved

LABOR-SAVING FARM IMPLEMENTS,

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The Most Reasonable Terms!

FARMERS,

LOOK TO YOUR INTERESTS!

