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GENERAL SOUTHERN NEWS

W. Va., Nov. 20.—An attempt to burn this town was made early yesterday morning, and property to the extent of \$10,000 was burned. An unknown person was driven from a livery stable. If the negro is caught he will be hanged.

Ky., Nov. 21.—East bound train No. 4 Thursday caught a buggy at the First crossing and instantly killed the occupants, Mr. Al Pollock, a young man, and Misses Lulu and Lizzie Land. The proprietor of the land where this place. The young people were taken from an evening party.

GA., Nov. 17.—Alexander, Mayor of Cobb county, chairman of the Democratic state executive committee and ex-president of the state senate, was nominated for United States senator by the Democratic caucus yesterday. The vote was: Clay, 95; Howland, 18; Norwood, 5; Walsh, 3.

N. C., Nov. 20.—Mr. J. B. Richardson, a prominent lawyer of Wilkesboro, disappeared from his home a few days ago and some unpleasant rumors have since been made. A warrant has been issued for his arrest. He is charged with forgery and embezzlement. He signed the certificates of the board clerk and register upon a man dead, by which he obtained \$10,000 from A. L. Richardson, of New York.

Nov. 17.—The Republican executive committee is in session in Raleigh and a number of prominent Republicans are also present. While the meeting is secret one, it is understood that the purpose is to discuss the best method for exposing the frauds practiced by the Democratic election officers in the recent election. It is claimed that if a fair election could be secured in five west Tennessee counties it would give the state to the Republicans.

Ky., Nov. 18.—Last Saturday white-cappers dragged Harry Harrison and his housekeeper, Mrs. Alice Harrison, from their bed and whipped the victims were charged with disorderly house. The white-cappers were dressed in women's attire and were recognized, among them being the former husband of Mrs. Harrison. The white-cappers were sworn out, but the only one named thus far are James Meyers and Shelaher.

W. Va., Nov. 21.—Detective Clark is here in jail across the "Cap" Hatfield, whom he captured a few days ago. He had succeeded in escaping the pursuit by the Anderson Mounts, whom he had killed at De-

formed. The Mounts and McCoys now join forces and threaten to take both the detectives and Hatfield from the jail and lynch them. The Hatfields, however, in case such an effort is made, will defend the jail.

SALESBURY N. C., Nov. 19.—A disastrous wreck occurred Tuesday night at Old Fort, on the Western North Carolina division of the Southern railway. The Chattanooga and Norfolk vestibule limited collided with a helper engine, which was backing down the mountain. John Howard, fireman, and Engineer William A. James, of the limited, were killed. Postal Clerk William Henderson (colored) had his leg cut off. The accident was caused by Engineer Terrell, of the helper, disregarding an order.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Nov. 17.—The Democratic legislative caucus last night on the first ballot nominated General E. W. Pettus for United States senator, to succeed Senator Pugh. The vote stood: Pettus, 67; Oates, 26. General Pettus is now 74 years of age, but is still vigorous mentally and physically. He has served as circuit judge, and had a distinguished war record in the Confederate army, coming out a brigadier general. In 1874 he was offered the United States senatorship, but declined. He is an ardent free silver man.

LOUISVILLE, Nov. 20.—Secretary Gus Richardson, of the state Democratic committee, announces that his party has definitely decided to contest the election of the eleven McKinley electors in Kentucky. The Democrats concede the election of the foremost McKinley elector, S. H. Kash, who ran 24 votes ahead of W. H. Smith, the leading Bryan elector, who in turn ran ahead of his associates by over 2,000 votes, the other eleven McKinley electors receiving a greater number of votes than the other Bryan electors. The grounds of contest are given as irregularity and fraud in a large number of counties.

MACON, Ga., Nov. 20.—Thirty people, 30,000 bales of cotton and hundreds of tons of heavy timber all went down in one loud crash at 7:30 o'clock last night at the Central Railroad compress in this city. Fourteen injured people, all employees of the compress, have been removed from the wreckage, but it is thought others are beneath the cotton and lumber, and if so they are dead, or will be before they can be extricated. The wrecked platform covers several acres of ground, and presents an appalling sight. The hunt for the dead bodies supposed to be buried beneath the wreckage was begun this forenoon.

T. B. Baker, a Graves county (Ky.) farmer, killed his wife and himself because she refused to live with him.

R. Oshina, of Japan, is at Scranton, Pa., studying methods of mining coal for application in the Island Empire.

In a fight at Jonestown, Pa., Morris Spuey chewed off the upper lip of Jacob Swanger and escaped to the mountains

Impersonating Ministers.

One of the most peculiar cases in the history of our State has been recently decided by the Supreme Court. The case comes from Pender county, where a man, Brown by name, was indicted for impersonating a minister. Brown impersonated a minister of the Missionary Baptist Church and united in marriage Joseph Smith and Mary Newkirk. The happy couple, not being aware of the game played upon them and believing that they had been legally married are at present living peacefully together.

Brown was tried before a jury in Pender county and convicted, but the case was taken to the Supreme Court and the verdict of the lower court was reversed. Judge Faircloth in course of the opinion said:

"Assuming, every fact alleged to be true, we are unable to discover any criminal offence known to the law. We are referred to no authority for the position of the State. We were referred to Code Section 1812, which only prescribes what is a valid marriage; also to Code Section 1112 which imposes a penalty and declares it to be a misdemeanor for any officer to fail to return process, &c., or for any person, or for any person, who is not authorized by law, to presume to act as any such officer.

"So the case is that of a private citizen, unofficial, celebrating a marriage between a man and woman with their consent and they are not complaining, and are presumably satisfied and enjoying their new relation. We are not aware of any statute or principle of the common law declaring the action of the defendant a criminal offence. We are not considering the validity or invalidity or effect of the action of the several parties. Affirmed."

The court did not pass on the validity of the marriage but asserted that Brown had done nothing punishable by the laws of the State. Until the Legislature passes a law covering such cases the joker may have his fun performing marriages. It would appear that such a law is necessary as such performances tend to lessen the sacredness of the marriage tie. The Legislature which soon comes together in Raleigh, among its many law makings, might give its attention to this fact.

Dr. Winston in North Carolina.

Asheville, N. C., Nov. 20.—Dr. George T. Winston, late of our University, and promoted last summer to the Presidency of the University of Texas on a salary of \$5,000 a year, has been sent by the Regents of the Texas University to inspect the leading institutions in the East. He spent Monday at Bingham School, and went on Tuesday to Columbia College, South Carolina, for the special purpose of interviewing Dr. F. C. Woodward about a professor of English for the University of Texas. If Prof. Woodward is movable, which is probably not the case, he will perhaps have the position offered to him, as Dr. Winston is looking for the best teacher of English in the South for the vacancy in the Texas University. Dr. Winston was promoted last summer to his present very prominent position over a large number of applicants for the place from half the States in the Union, and is perhaps the most progressive College President in the South today of the progressive University. And it had to come to us for a man for the place and they got one. We predict a great impetus to education in Texas through Dr. Winston's instrumentality.—News and Observer.

FROM CURRITUCK TO CHEROKEE.

REVIEW OF RECENT HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

Palmer and Buckner, the McKinley decoy ducks, got only 575 votes in North Carolina. Their vote was not as large as that of the Prohibition candidates.

Latham, Alexander and Co., the well known cotton merchants, have made out an estimate of the cotton crop for this year. The number of bales for the South is 9,022,000; 434,000 of these being given to North Carolina.

Governor Carr has issued a proclamation appointing a new election day in Jackson county, as the last election resulted in a tie between the Democratic and Republican candidates. This is an occurrence which happens very seldom.

Dr. Eben Alexander, of North Carolina, Minister to Greece, who has been home on a short visit has returned to his post. He was formerly Professor of Greek at the University and will probably fill that position after his return to the United States.

Southern Pines, in Moore county, probably the most noted winter resort for Northerners in North Carolina, has been formally opened for the season. A northern capitalist has spent millions in fitting up the place. It now has the appearance of a normal town.

The Caucasian, Mr. Butler's organ, has had some trouble during the last week. Judgments amounting to \$224.24 were obtained against it. This money could not be raised so the office was closed temporarily by the sheriff. When the news reached Mr. Butler that his paper was in distress he came to its rescue and paid off the bills.

A great many of the democrats of the State are sick and tired of the political influences which Raleigh exerts and want to see the convents and headquarters taken away from there. Of course we would like to see them brought to Charlotte, but Greensboro is more central and they should be taken there.—Observer.

It appears that there is a conflict as to the date of the meeting of the North Carolina electors to cast the vote for President and Vice-President. It is a conflict between State and Federal laws. The former named the first Wednesday in December as the date; the latter the second Tuesday in January. The electors will meet on the first named date, which is December 1st, is said.

Marion Butler in a recent letter says that Mr. Bryan will not be supported for anything by the Populists at the next election unless he disowns Democracy. It will be remembered that Butler will be old enough for the Populist nomination by that time. He has begun to kick early. The long pole always gets the simmons, and from the present outlook Butler is reaching for it.

Appropos of the section of the election law which requires statements under oath as to campaign expenses a prominent Democrat remarked today that it effected the Democrats injuriously; that they got all their funds from within the State, and that the tendency was to cut off contributions; while the Republicans got nearly all their funds from outside the State, and hence had to make no accounting for them.—Observer.

The reformatory for youthful criminals for this State is reasonably sure. The pressure which will be brought to bear on the next legislature along this line will be sufficient to cause them to take steps towards forming such an institution. This will eliminate a troublesome element in the execution of our legal codes. It will tend to make youthful criminals less because of the removal from a constant contact with those who have become hardened to crime.

The importance of one vote has been frequently illustrated in the elections in this state and in other states, and was illustrated in several instances in the late election in this state. In one county—Jackson—there was a tie on the legislative ticket and in another—Hyde—the successful candidate had only two majority. In thirty counties, nearly one-third of the counties in the state, the successful candidates had a majority of only fifty or less.—Kinston Free Press.

One man here in town, known to have been a Democrat, was slow about voting and an eye was kept on him. Finally a suspicious Republican was seen to take him to one side and have a long talk with him. When they at last came out on the street a Democrat approached the pair, but it was no good—the money had been paid—the Republican was seen to drop the money in the man's pocket. Plenty of these occurrences were noticeable but none so plain as this case.—Greensboro Record.

As the conclusion of an elaborate editorial expressing regret at the defeat of Mr. Bryan, the Watch Tower, the organ of the Disciple's church in North Carolina, says: "These are the leading causes of Mr. Bryan's defeat: Such a man can survive such a defeat. He is enthroned in the hearts of the people, and his sun is by no means set. The people will yet call him to guide the ship of State. There are not enough forces on earth to keep Mr. Bryan out of the White House. Be patient and the day will come.

Governor Carr has, at the request of the Governor of Florida, appointed the following delegates to attend a Congress to be held at Tampa, Fla. January 20th, for the purpose of discussing methods for the proper defense of the Gulf and South Atlantic seaports, and to devise means for their betterment, viz: Messrs. James Sprunt, Wilmington; Dr. W. G. Curtis, Southport; Jas L. Fowle, Washington; Maj A. J. Galloway, Goldsboro; Col R. B. Creech, Elizabeth City; W. S. Battle, Rocky Mount; J. E. Pogue, Raleigh; Peter D. Price, Greensboro; Dr. J. H. McAden, Charlotte; Wm. M. Cooke and Wm. E. Breese, Asheville.

A Big Land Sale.

Raleigh, N. C., Nov. 20.—Robert T. Gray, commissioneer, under the court, sold here today 167,000 acres of land in Dare county. This embraces the entire part, save what are known as the "banks" along the ocean shore, of Durants Island, and all of Roanoke Island, the latter being the one on which Sir Walter Raleigh's colonists made the first English settlement in this continent. The land was bid off by the trustee for the note holders who are New York bankers, the price paid being \$100,000. This is the greatest land sale ever made in North Carolina.

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