The Weekly Star.

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Editor and Proprietor.

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DEMOCRATIC DISSENSIONS IN NEW YORK.

The New York Democratic State convention will meet at Albany next Monday, and from now till then political affairs in that State will be watched with interest keener than ever. The Democracy of the country is looking to New York to name the party candidate for President, and as practically the whole country has settled upon Judge Parker, it it is hoped that the convention will act harmoniously.

We are prepared, however, for a protest from a large proportion of New York city Democrats against the action of leader McCarren, of Brooklyn, in carrying out his plan for the Kings county delegates to go up to Albany instructed for Judge Parker. As the STAR's press dispatches from New York stated yesterday morning, McCarren succeeded in getting a caucus of the county delegates to instruct and adopt the unit rule. A large element was opposed to this action and it is denounced as a "snap affair that violates party precedents." Heretofore the plan has been not to instruct but the adherents of Judge Parker saw proper to depart from the rule. It was announced that the caucus was not bolted by any one in it, but we infer from the New York papers that many delegates would not go into the caucus.

The action of the Kings county caucus makes the endorsement of Judge Parker inevitable next Monday or Tuesday at Albany, but if the fight by Tammany against Judge Parker's endorsement is bitter enough to endanger his carrying Kings and Queens counties next November, the St. Louis convention may be called upon to reject New York's selection. We rather think, however, that Judge Parker can carry New York despite the opposition of the Tammany leaders even should they carry out their old plan of "knifing" the presidential candidate at the polls. It is well enough to look into this situation of affairs, but we trust to the New York Democracy to give us a candidate who will not endanger the success of the party by losing New York next November. Judge Parker is a clean man, and if New York will unite on him, the balance of the country will be glad to accept their man.

Previous to the McCarren caucus on Tuesday night Senator McCarren had announced himself in favor of the old Democratic plan of sending up an uninstructed delegation. Speaking the day before the caucus, the Brooklyn *Eagle* of Monday says:

Senator McCarren has changed his mind in respect to the instruction of the local delegates to the Democratic State Convention. As late as Friday last, he was quoted in most of the newspapers as saying that there would be nothing done in the way of binding the delegates to any course of action until they reached Albany. * * * Why the Senator has come to this determination is not explained by him, but the reporters have an explanation that has the merit of being intelligible. What they say is, that the Senator wishes to place as many of the delegates as possible on record right away, so that it will not be possible for them to submit to temptation from Mr. Murphy, of Tammany, without compromising themselves in the eyes of the public. In other words, the Senator, fearing the seductive powers of Murphy, proposes to adopt the policy of fast bind fast find, while yet he is confident of his ability to control a majority.

Another, and upon the whole better, explanation is furnished from Albany, in the form of a dispatch to the effect that the Senator is acting under orders from ex-Senator Hill, who is managing the Parker forces throughout the State. Mr. Hill, according to the dispatch, fears the consequences of leaving a number of wavering brethren in the interior in a doubtful state of mind for another week. If assured that the bulk of the Kings county delegates will favor an instructed delegation for Parker, the wavering statesmen of the rural districts will at once conclude that there is nothing further to be gained by listening to the emissaries of Murphy, and hence will remove all uncertainty by frankly ranging themselves on the side of the instruction proposition.

This seems to us to be the correct explanation of the sudden change in Senator McCarren's programme. The Senator, if left to himself would, we think, have been rather inclined to the view that time would diminish opposition in Brooklyn to the giving of instructions for Parker, than to yield to the fear that men who are now in favor of that course would be won over to the opposition by what Murphy and his allies might do. We think so because the great majority of Brooklyn Democrats are unmistakably favorable to Parker, and will, if left undisturbed by outside meddlers, bring an increasing pressure upon the local delegates to act on the Parker question without reference to local factional troubles.

The *Citizen* has repeatedly said that the factional fights now in progress have no proper relation to the State question, and ought not to be allowed to cloud the judgment of any delegate concerning it. We repeat, therefore, that Senator McCarren would not, in our judgment, have concluded to call the caucus to be held to-morrow had he not been urged to do so by Senator Hill, who is thinking of affairs in the interior rather than in this county. * * * *

The *Citizen*, we need hardly remind our readers, believes that the State Convention ought to instruct the national delegates in favor of Judge Parker, but we do not believe that it will strengthen the cause of the Judge in Kings county to take any such snap judgment as the caucus in question contemplates. It is, of course, quite possible that the effect may be good in other parts of the State. Ex-Senator Hill is better able than the *Citizen* to judge of that. But here in Brooklyn it is morally certain that the effect will be to create dissension, when there was excellent reason for believing that another week of friendly discussion would have shown Kings county to be a practical unit on the side of the Parker movement. Beyond a doubt, there is nothing to be gained for the Judge in Brooklyn by departing from the original intention to hold no caucus until the delegates reached the State capital.

THE INDIAN STILL GOING.

For years the Yaqui tribe of Indians in Mexico have made incessant warfare on the Mexicans. The Mexican troops have been engaged in a warfare of extermination against the Red Skins and a few days ago captured and shot Chief Gavesi, the head devil of the Yaqui. Another important chief, Mavarilla, was also caught and shot to death.

The Indian seems bent on making the white man blot him from the face of creation. If the Indian will not live in peace there seems to be no other alternative than to put him "at rest." It is about time for the "fool Injun" to learn some sense in order to save the remnant of his race.

The cantankerous Scott, the Republican Congressman from Kansas, repeated his slander against ex-President Cleveland in the House debates on Tuesday, and one Congressman Bartholdt, of Missouri, disturbed the repose of Thomas Jefferson by declaring that he had "honored a negro with a formal invitation to dinner at his family table." Cleveland has denied it, Jefferson is in a position where it makes no difference to him, and Roosevelt can't deny it. There's where the shoe pinches.

In view of the dissensions in New York, which appear to hurt the chances of Judge Parker as the Democratic nominee for President, it is refreshing to note that the fight between the State Republican bosses and local factional quarrels in that party are very bitter. On top of it here comes the New York *Press*, a Republican organ, which denounces the Republican legislature as "A Colossal Structure of Corruption." We feel it in our bones that this is a Democratic year in New York.

In the New York Republican State convention on Tuesday Roosevelt was endorsed, the platform approved his Panama canal policy, the principle of the tariff was up held, legislation for the development of American shipping was favored, and the freedom of the ballot without discrimination as to race was demanded.

In New York city early Sunday morning a dozen police reserves raided a cocking main and captured 36 sports, who had taken possession of the barn of Detective Pinkerton for the purpose of drinking wine and having a cock fight. The Pinkertons were away from home, and it is presumed that the watchman got up the affair.

It is now said Lieutenant Richmond Pearson Hobson will contest the result of the Alabama primaries held last Monday by which Congressman Jno. H. Bankhead defeated him for the nomination for Congress in the Sixth district by from 400 to 500 votes. He is yelling fraud.

The New York *Globe* has expressed astonishment that at least 50 horses have been stolen in New York city within ten days. Most people outside of New York are prepared to believe that horse stealing is an innocent amusement compared to other doings of the Gothamites.

A Philadelphia man has been arrested because he gave his wife only $3.50 with which to provide herself clothing for six months. Such incorrigle scamps as that should be taught a severe lesson for treating a woman in such a manner as to make her anxious for the fig-leaf season to hurry on.

Mme. Marie Paille, the autocrat of Parisian hair-dressers, announces that the chignon is to come again. An exchange denounces the chignon as hideous, but for one we are not worried, for the girl that wears it will go on being pretty forever and ever. Amen!

A report comes from Santiago de Chile that an American firm is still trying to buy Chilean warships for the United States government. Is the strenuous Roosevelt getting ready to give some of the world powers a big bluff?

There is a Mormon church in New York city and on Sunday night three young women were baptized into the church. There is a a little bit of everything going on in a large city.

A man who believes that he can discover the North pole wants to marry an heiress so she can help him out in his scheme. What heiress will fool with an airass like that?

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contains Mercury.

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free.

Sold by Druggists, Price 75c per bottle.
Hall's Family Pills are the best.

THE SENSATION GREW

Proprietor Clark, of Objectionable Minstrels, Fined $25, While Others Were Discharged.

IN NEWBERN LAST NIGHT.

Aggregation Proceeded After Trial Before Mayor Springer Yesterday at Noon. One Member Disappeared and Policemen Suspended.

[*Special Star Telegram.*]

NEWBERN, N. C., April 13.—Clark's Female Minstrels played to a good-sized house here to-night, but received no applause. The company had been notified by Mayor Ellis that any indecency would cause their arrest. There was nothing to cause the show here to be interrupted and a full performance was given. The company leaves for Greenville to-morrow.

The story of the arrest of Clark's minstrels here as they were about to leave for Newbern and the subsequent arrangement of their bond Tuesday afternoon, provided they remain aboard their car under the strict surveillance of detailed officers of the police department until they could appear before the Mayor for preliminary trial at noon the day following, was fully told in these columns yesterday morning with a reference to the sensation the incident had caused. There was no abatement of the interest yesterday and when the hour for the trial had arrived, the court room in the City Hall was literally jammed and packed by persons led thither by a morbid curiosity and some fifteen or twenty others, whose names would not look well in print in this connection, and who had been served with subpoenas to appear as witnesses. Respect for womankind was shown by the officers through it all and the female members of the company were allowed to have seats in the office of the chief of police while the hearing was in progress. There they were shut off temporarily from the morbid gaze of an unsympathetic crowd, while Proprietor Clark and Business Manager Murphy, of the company, sat inside the railing with their counsel, Herbert McClammy and Marsden Bellamy, Esqs. The city attorney being engaged in the Superior Court, Iredell Meares, Esq., appeared as special counsel for the city. The cases were called and counsel for the defendants waived the formal calling of names and reading of the indictment. It then became known that at a previous conference of counsel an agreement for the disposition of the cases had been reached. Mr. Bellamy arose and entered a submission as to all the defendants. Mr. Meares, representing the city, then arose and made a brief talk, outlining the policy of the prosecution. He said that he considered the ends of justice would be fully met by the imposition of a reasonable fine upon the proprietor of the show and the suspension of judgment upon payment of costs in all the other cases, inasmuch as the detention of the company had already virtually amounted to a heavy penalty anyway. He also said the indictment would serve as a warning to the company not to attempt such exhibitions in the future and it would be a warning to all other companies which might come this way. Mr. Meares also stated that it would be difficult to define the violation, as much of the objectionable talk on the stage was by suggestion, which to the innocent mind would have meant nothing.

Mayor Springer prefaced his judgment by stating that his views coincided very nearly with those of Mr. Meares and he gave warning that no such exhibitions as those complained of would ever be tolerated in Wilmington. The fine imposed was $25 upon Proprietor Clark and the costs in eight other cases, the whole amounting to $37.70 which was promptly paid by Business Manager Murphy. The company then filed out of the court, went aboard the car and at 2:25 P. M. left for Newbern where the exhibition was given last night.

ONE MEMBER ESCAPED.

When the "roll call" was made when the hour for court came and the defendants were disembarking from the car for the march to the City Hall, it was discovered that Harry Wolf, a male end man in the company who was said to be responsible for the most of the objectionable jokes, had mysteriously disappeared. Policemen E. J. Grimsley and A. D. Smith had guarded the car until 5:45 o'clock yesterday morning when they were relieved by Policemen J. R. Hardee and E. Skipper. Later at 8 o'clock, Messrs. Hardee and Skipper were relieved by Policeman Frank George and M. E. Guy, who remained on duty at the car until the defendants were marched into court at noon. Chief of Police Furlong immediately instituted an investigation and pending further inquiry, Messrs. Hardee and Skipper were suspended from the force. However, they have witnesses among workmen on the A. C. L. yards to prove that the man did not escape during the brief time which they were on guard and those witnesses will be produced at a later hearing before the Police Committee. In the meantime the escape of the man remains a mystery and friends of the suspended officers believe that they will show at the proper time that Messrs. Hardee and Skipper are only victims of circumstances.

Under the caption "The City is Saved From the Necessity of Harboring the Duncan Clark Minstrels Even for a Night," the Newbern *Journal* of yesterday says of the expected engagement of the minstrels in that city Tuesday night, which was delayed by the arrest here:

"It is probable that the great majority of the people of Newbern are inclined to-day to arise and call Mayor Springer, of Wilmington, blessed, for in the act which he committed in behalf of his own city he also performed a deed of kindness for Newbern. He ordered the arrest of the entire Duncan Clark's Female minstrel aggregation, thus preventing their coming here.

"It seems that the troupe was at the depot awaiting the departure of the train when they got in a fuss among themselves and the disturbance was sufficient to attract the attention of the police which resulted as above. The car was not attached, so Wilmingtonis doomed to have the company as residents until all the arrearages are paid. sympathy is due the city of Wilmington for her burden.

"Manager Green received a telegram from Duncan Clark that the troupe had been arrested and therefore they could not appear as per announcement. In the face of the facts the people of Newbern will say with one accord "for this relief much thanks."

IMPORTANT SALOON DECISION.

Matter of Issuing License Discretionary With Board of County Commissioners.

[*Special Star Telegram.*]

RALEIGH, N. C., April 13.—The Supreme Court handed down an opinion to day reversing the lower court in cases of A. L. Barnes and others against the commissioners of Wilson county, in which it was sought to have a mandamus issue, compelling the commissioners to issue license to plaintiffs to run saloons at Black Creek, where the town authorities had granted them licenses. The lower court allowed the mandamus, but the Supreme Court says this was an error; that the commissioners have discretionary power and that if they decide that license shall not issue there is an end of it, no matter whether the good character of the applicant and proper location for the saloon is shown or not. Black Creek had voted for saloons under the Watts law and issued license but the Wilson county commissioners declined, thus forcing the saloons out of the place. This new ruling of the Supreme Court is expected to have a radical effect on the saloon question the State over.

EX-ALDERMAN'S MIND IMPAIRED.

Wm. E. Mann, Formerly of This City, Detained at Newbern—Notice Received.

Sheriff Stedman on Tuesday night received a telegram from Clerk of the Court Watson, of Craven county, stating that ex-Alderman W. E. Mann, formerly of this city, had been detained there until his sanity could be inquired into. The telegram also asked Sheriff Stedman about the return of Mr. Mann to this city. Sheriff Stedman yesterday conferred with Mr. Mann's brother-in-law, Policeman H. W. Howell, and was informed that Mr. Mann had been a resident of Newbern for eight months past and the clerk of the court was so notified. Mr. Mann was formerly an employe of the Atlantic Coast Line shops in this city but went to Newbern last year and took employment there. It is not likely that he will be returned to Wilmington, though he has a brother and two sisters here. Friends of the young man will regret to learn that the condition of his mind has become impaired and hope that the trouble will be only temporary, as is believed it is.

"Coons" Had Street Duel.

The story of a duel in the streets between Frank Jones and another negro, nick-named "Blackie," both of ebony hue, and in which both participants ran from each other as fast as their legs would carry them while each emptied his revolver at the other, developed in Justice Fowler's court day before yesterday during the trial of the first named for disorderly conduct. Yesterday Jones was given trial on a double charge of carrying concealed weapons and assault with a deadly weapon and was sent to jail in default of bond for his appearance at the next term of Superior Court. "Blackie," who is a porter at one of the local confectionery stores, got wind of the developments in the Jones case and caught the bumpers of the first freight train out of the city before he could be arrested.

Clerk of the Court Dead.

News reached the city last Monday of the death of Mr. J. W. Robinson, clerk of the Superior Court of Brunswick county, which occurred Friday at his home at Bivin, N. C., after a long illness with consumption. Mr. Robinson was about 20 years of age and had lately been confined to his home, the duties of his office being left in the hands of an experienced deputy, Mr. Samuel P. Thorp, who was formerly clerk of the court. Mr. Robinson was an exemplary young man and leaves a father and several brothers.

Satterwhite in Jail.

A. L. Satterwhite, a young insurance man who spent some time at The Orton here about two weeks ago, has been arrested and placed in jail at Washington, N.C., on a warrant from Florence, S.C., charging him with obtaining money under false pretences. Sheriff Burch went to Washington and caused the arrest of Satterwhite, but returned to Florence to arrange for requisition papers. In the meantime Satterwhite is suing for habeas corpus and hopes to get his liberty in that way.

Death of Mrs. Darden.

Friends of Mrs. Mary J. Darden, the devoted wife of Mr. W. H. Darden, will regret to learn of her death which occurred at the family residence, No. 7½ Queen street, yesterday morning at 5 o'clock after long and patient suffering with cancer of the face. The funeral will be held at 3 o'clock this afternoon and the remains will be laid to rest in Bellevue.

Robbed the Grave.

A startling incident is narrated by John Oliver, of Philadelphia, as follows: "I was in an awful condition. My skin was almost yellow, eyes sunken, tongue coated, pain continually in the back and sides, no appetite, and growing weaker day by day. Three physicians had given me up. Then I was advised to use Electric Bitters, and to my great joy the first bottle made a decided improvement. I continued their use for three weeks, and am now a well man. I know they robbed the grave of another victim." No one should fail to try them. Only 50c, guaranteed, at R. R. BELLAMY'S drug store. †

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher. The Kind You Have Always Bought

ALL ON FIRE.

A Wilmington Citizen Tells How Relief Came.

Ever have eczema?
Have any itching skin disease?
Itching almost drives you crazy;
You feel "all on fire."
Doan's Ointment brings quick relief;
Cures Eczema, Itching Piles,
And all itchiness of the skin.

H. Cronenberg, photographer, of 119½ Market street, says: "I used Doan's Ointment and it did its work promptly and permanently. I had a rash all over me, and no one knows how I suffered. It was like being in the infernal region and I could get no relief. I did not dare scratch because that made it worse. I tried everything but only to be disappointed. Some one told me about Doan's Ointment and I procured a box at R. R. Bellamy's drug store. I went home and applied some of the ointment, and I can say it brought the first relief I had had for a long time. I can only add that it is a preparation of great merit."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo. N. Y., sole agents for the United States.

Remember the name—Doan's—and take no other.

THE RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.

Full Text of Emergency Measure Under Which Wilmington Hopes to Profit.

Chairman H. W. Malloy, of the Harbor and Shipping and Commerce Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, is in receipt of a copy of the full text of the bill entitled "A Bill providing for the restoration or maintenance of channels, or of river and harbor improvements, and for other purposes." It is as follows:

"*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the sum of three milion dollars be, and the same hereby, appropriated, to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to be immediately available and to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of War and the supervision of the Chief of Engineers, for the following purposes and under the limitations herein set forth, to wit: For the restoration or maintenance of channels, or of river and harbor improvements, established or made by the government, where the usual depth of such channels or customary use of such improvement has become, or may be, impaired and there is no sufficient fund available for such restoration or maintenance with a view to preserve in their normal condition of efficiency existing channels and improvements: *Provided*, That allotments from the amount herein named shall be made by the Secretary of War, and no such allotment shall be made unless the necessity for such restoration or maintenance shall have arisen since the passage of the river and harbor act of June 13th, 1902, and the same shall be recommended by the local engineer having such channel of improvement in charge and the Chief of Engineers, respectively: *Provided, further*, That no single channel or improvement shall be allowed a sum greater than $50,000, nor any portion of the said appropriation, unless the same is necessary in the interest of navigation.

"Sec. 2. That in all cases in which appropriations or authorizations have heretofore been made for the completion of river and harbor works the Secretary of War may, in his discretion, on the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, apply such amounts as have been appropriated or authorized for the prosecution of such work."

PROMINENT CAPITALISTS HERE.

President and Directors of Cape Fear Lumber Company Here on a Visit.

President E. M. Wiley, of New York, Secretary and Treasurer C. C. Vaughan, Jr., of Franklin, Va., Mr. Bradley L. Eaton, of New York, Mr. M. W. Wiley, of Baltimore, Mr. R. J. Camp, Mr. J. L. Camp and Mr. P. D. Camp, of Franklin, Va., all officers and directors of the Cape Fear Lumber Company, arrived in the city yesterday and are guests at The Orton of Vice President and General Manager Jno. A. Arringdale, of this city. President Wiley and party came down upon the invitation of Mr. Arringdale to look over the splendid properties of the company in Wilmington and vicinity and to discuss on the spot some contemplated improvements to the big plant here. Mr. Arringdale has been after the officers and directors of the mill to come to Wilmington for the past five years and a few weeks ago, after the annual meeting in Norfolk, they promised the general manager a visit and they are now here. Mr. Arringdale said last night that there was nothing of public interest in connection with the visit of the officials here. The visitors are men of brains and money and it is not often that so distinguished a party may be claimed as guests in the city.

— Charlotte Chronicle, April 12: In the *Chronicle's* market gossip yesterday it was said that "the news about weevils is closely watched by spinners abroad. To them the spread of the pest means permanent small crop and higher prices. Weevil reports will help to wipe out discounts on winter months." There has been little of this boll weevil news here so far, but some of the Northern papers are full of it. This is to the effect that "the boll weevil has already appeared." Correspondents of one or two Texas papers give their authority for the reliability of the reports, and state that the insect has already made its appearance and a visit to the open fields will show the true facts in the case. Should this prove to be true, it is likely that the damage by the insect inflicted in the Southwest this year may prove even more extensive than that suffered during the seasons of 1902 and 1903.

IN REPLY TO INQUIRIES we have pleasure in announcing that Ely's Liquid Cream Balm is like the solid preparation of that admirable remedy in that it cleanses and heals membranes affected by nasal catarrh. There is no drying or sneezing. The Liquid Cream Balm is adapted to use by patients who have trouble in inhaling through the nose and prefer spraying. The price, including spraying tube, is 75 cents. Sold by druggists or mailed by Ely Brothers, 56 Warren Street, New York. †

THE SUPERIOR COURT.

Jury Awards $293 Damages in the Bagley Suit Against the City of Wilmington.

THE PROCEEDINGS YESTERDAY

Several Unimportant Matters Disposed Of. Williams Telephone Case Comes Up To-day—Talesmen Drawn for the Session—Other Notes.

Practically all of yesterday's session of the Superior Court was taken up with the completion of the Bagley damage suit against the city of Wilmington, the jury in which at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon rendered a verdict awarding the plaintiff $293. Neither side recognizes a victory in the verdict and neither will appeal to the Supreme Court, as would have been the case had the amount been less favorable to either side. The city will now make settlement with Mr. Bagley for the amount stated and thus will end a controversy which has given more or less trouble to the municipal authorities for five years. The amount sued for was $700.

Court met at 9 o'clock yesterday morning and the sheriff returned the talesmen drawn for the day with the exception of W. H. Branch, who was not found. As the Bagley suit was about to be resumed, Mr. Robert Witherington Herring, of the firm of Grady, Herring & Ward, came forward and was duly sworn as an attorney to practice in the Superior Courts of the State, the oath having been duly administered by J. O. Carr, Esq. Mr. Herring is a promising young attorney of Duplin county and will have charge of the Wallace and Kenansville offices of the firm of which he is a member.

The Bagley suit was resumed with the introduction of Capt. Jno. H. Hanby as a witness for the plaintiff. Capt. Hanby was a member of the Streets and Wharves Committee of the city at the time of the damage to Mr. Bagley's property and testified to the same. Mr. Bagley, the plaintiff, was also recalled and testified at more length. Capt. J. A. Perry, who was superintendent of streets for the city in 1889, also testified in Mr. Bagley's behalf. The plaintiff rested and the defendant introduced City Engineer S. P. Adams to prove the construction of drains, etc., in the locality complained of. At the request of Juror J. A. Montgomery, Mr. J. W. Smith, one of of the defendant's witnesses the day before, was recalled and asked about the size of the drain on Second street.

Counsel then addressed the jury at some length and following Judge Justice's charge, the issues were submitted at 1:30 o'clock. Half an hour later during the dinner recess, the jury came out answering them as follows:

Did defendant wrongfully and negligently injure plaintiff's property? "Yes."

What damage is plaintiff entitled to recover of defendant? $293.

Upon the reconvening of court at 3 P. M. judgment according to the verdict was rendered and there was argument by counsel in an uninteresting case entitled Virginia-Carolina Chemical Co. vs. McNair & Pearsall, et al., the attorneys appearing being Maxcy L. John, Esq., of Laurinburg, and Rountree & Carr, of Wilmington, for plaintiff, and ex Judge E. K. Bryan, of Wilmington, and Jno. D. Shaw, Jr., Esq., of Laurinburg, for defendants. It was agreed to let the case go to a referee to find the facts.

In case of M. J. Corbett & Co. vs. A. J. McKinnon, both sides were allowed to file affidavits and to furnish each other with copy. Case of F. T. Mills vs. J. W. H. Fuchs went over to next term.

This morning the trial of the damage suit of T. G. Williams, admr., vs. the Inter-State Telephone & Telegraph Co., in which the plaintiff sues for damages for the killing of his son by lightning in East Wilmington several years ago, will take place. It is alleged that a wire of the company was carelessly left hanging in the yard of a place in East Wilmington and that the lightning was conducted to the place by same. Messrs. Russell & Gore and Iredell Meares appear for the plaintiff; Messrs. Rountree & Carr, E. K. Bryan and Bellamy & Bellamy for the defendant.

The following talesmen are being summoned for to-day: J. C. McCartney, A. G. Martin, J. G. Ittner, Jno. Millinor, H. L. Hunt, J. B. Newkirk, W. H. McEachern, R. McDougal, E. A. Nelson, Hiram Southerland, J. W. Murchison, Geo. D. Crow, I. B. Rhodes, W. D. George, G. E. Leftwich, Jno. W. Reilly, A. O. McEachern, D. J. George, W. L. Willeford and Jno. McEntee.

— Durham Herald, April 12th: Trying to beat a ride six miles on the Norfolk & Western train last night came very near costing John Grant, a negro boy, some 18 years of age, his life. He was dragged two miles, and while he will lose one foot it is probable that his fearful experience will cost him his life. When No. 35, which is due to reach here at 9:15 o'clock, pulled out of Woodsdale last night Grant caught the rear platform or truck with the intention of beating his way to Roxsboro, six miles distant. After the train had gone some distance Brakeman Foard heard some one calling for help and began to investigate. When he raised the window he thought the sound came from under the train, but once on the back platform he ascertained the cause of the distressing cries. Hanging to the air hose, with his feet dragging the ground, was the negro boy. The train was stopped quickly and when he was taken from the perilous position it was found that his left foot was beat into a jelly, that both shoes and both socks had been torn from his feet. The bones in his left foot were left protruding, where the flesh had been torn away by coming in contact with the ground. It is almost a miracle that he was not killed. In the fall, when he lost his hold on the trucks, his body slipped through the coil of the air hose and there he was held securely until released.

PROMINENT DEMOCRATS IN COUNCIL AT CHICAGO.

Discussed Ways and Means to Bring Success to the Party in the Presidential Campaign This Fall.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

CHICAGO, April 13.—Ways and means to bring success to the Democratic party in the Presidential campaign this Fall were discussed by prominent Democrats, representing every part of the country, who attended the Iroquois Club banquet at the Auditorium to-night, in celebration of Jefferson's birthday. Tariff reform, antagonism to trusts, independence for the Philippines and rigid economy in public expenditures were some of the suggestions offered by the speakers to bring about this result. A feature of the banquet was a letter from former President Grover Cleveland, who had been invited to attend but was unable to be present. In his letter Mr. Cleveland advised all Democrats to make a close study of Jefferson's career and patriotically seek the welfare of our country through the ascendancy of safe and sane Democracy.

When Stephen D. Gregory, the toastmaster of the evening, introduced General Nelson A. Miles, the 500 banqueters rose in a body and greeted the former head of the United States army with decided enthusiasm. General Miles, in his response to the toast, "Our Country," made a forcible argument against imperialism, and his words met the approval of the audience.

The next speaker introduced was United States Senator Edward W. Carmack, of Tennessee, who took for his theme "Thomas Jefferson."

"The Democratic Party," was the subject discussed by Adlai E. Stevenson, former vice president of the United States. Mr. Stevenson pleaded for a united party and the adoption of living issues in the platform at the St. Louis convention.

The next speaker was Governor Lucius F. C. Garvin, of Rhode Island, who responded to the toast, "Democratic Success."

When Governor Garvin had finished, Toastmaster Gregory read a letter from former President Grover Cleveland, who expressed regret at his inability to attend the banquet and said: "It is especially fitting at this time of confusion in political ideas and misapprehension as to the meaning of true Democracy, that the character of the great exemplar of Democracy should be fully appreciated and that his political opinions should be better interpreted and understood. His devotion to the interests of the people, his wise conservatism and his constant adherence to the public good, always the guiding star of his career, commend his acts and his beliefs to the careful study of those who in these days patriotically seek the welfare of our country through the ascendancy of safe and sane Democracy."

The next speaker, Martin W. Littleton, of New York, who took for his subject "The Empire State, the Hope of Democracy," declared that if a platform along the lines suggested by some of the other speakers was adopted and Judge Alton B. Parker selected as a leader, the Democratic party was bound to triumph in the coming election.

After Mr. Littleton had finished, a letter was read from John S. Williams, from Mississippi, Democratic leader of the National House of Representatives

"National Morality" was the subject discussed by United States Senator Charles A. Culberson, of Texas.

William F. Vilas, of Wisconsin, former postmaster general, responded to the toast, "Faith and Hope."

Mayor Carter H. Harrison, who was absent from the city, was represented at the banquet by Lawrence E. McGann, city comptroller.

JAPAN'S NAVAL VICTORY.

Believed in London That the Russian Battleship Was Sunk in an Engagement and Other Ships Damaged.

By Cable to the Morning Star.

LONDON, April 13.—No actual news has yet reached London beyond the Russian telegrams, but dispatches from Wei-Hai-Wei induce the confident belief here that a naval engagement occurred off Port Arthur of a severe character, and that later telegrams will show that the Russians suffered a more severe loss than is yet admitted. Nothing in the way of news has been received here from the Japanese side, but a rumor has reached Rome that Vice Admiral Makaroff's squadron was attacked by the whole Japanese fleet, concealed behind the Miaokato islands (Miaotao islands) and his retreat was cut off and he was forced to fight against odds, with the result that all his ships were damaged, while the Petropavlovsk was surrounded by torpedo boats, struck by five torpedoes and blown up.

Another rumor is to the effect that Rear Admiral Moias is among those killed aboard the Petropavlovsk. No great attention is paid to these rumors, but the universal opinion here is that the official explanations of the disaster are unsatisfactory.

Outlook Gloomy for Russia.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 13.—Rear Admiral Prince Outomsky, who is in charge of the fleet at Port Arthur, is able to go to sea with four battleships, which it is not certain he can do, as Vice Admiral Togo could bring against him a greatly superior force. It is pointed out that all the Japanese admiral need now to do is to be outside Port Arthur and transports can pass with absolute impunity.

Amateur strategists work out numerous possibilities in the situation resulting from the loss of another battleship, and admit as every one does to-night that the outlook on the sea is decidedly gloomy for Russia.

— Johnson: I'se thinkin' ob ma'ayin de youngest Thompson gal Jackson: Don't do it, piggah. Don't do it. Dat gal can't keep a job more dan two weeks. Don't do it. – Albany Journal.

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PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE AND HOUSE.

Bill Providing for Government of Panama Canal Zone Considered—Railroad Franchises in Philippines.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—The Senate to-day began consideration of the bill providing for the government of the Panama canal zone. The greater part of the day was occupied by Mr. Morgan in support of amendments offered by himself, but none of them was accepted, and the reading of the bill was nearly half completed. Mr. Morgan attacked the new Panama Canal Company, and contended that the United States should proceed to carry into effect the provisions of the treaty with Panama regardless of the demands of that company.

Mr. Morgan spoke of the delay in paying the ten millions to Panama, and implored Republican senators to give the reason for it. "You know what the reason is," he said. "I do not. Give it to us." He accused the President of defying the law in yoking the payment of the ten millions to Panama with the payment to the new Panama Canal Company, and again referring to the difficulty of securing information, exclaimed: "In that nest of fraudulent speculators in Paris, or possibly in New York, if not still nearer home, is to be found the explanation of the mystery and delay. Somebody is going to profit by it. Who is it?"

Mr. Morgan read from an article giving an account of the British government sending a gunboat to Nicaragua for the protection of the "Mosquito" Indians. He suggested that the Mosquito Indians had been disturbed to disclose a plan on the part of Great Britain to bring about the building of a canal by the Costa Rica Nicaragua route.

The Senate adjourned until to-morrow.

House of Representatives.

Under a special rule which was adopted after two roll calls the House to-day devoted itself to the consideration of a bill amending the law relative to the Philippine islands. The provision in the bill in reference to the granting of railroad franchises and the guaranteeing of five per cent upon the capital invested in such railroads, was opposed by Mr. Jones, of Virginia, who alleged that English and Belgian capitalists were ready to build the roads without such guarantee.

Mr. Jones said that if it was passed, as now drawn, it would increase the bonded indebtedness of the Philippines by $6,000,000 making a total of $37,000,000. He said that as the result of the falling off in the customs receipts of the islands, the people were less able to-day to incur such indebtedness than they were a year ago. He denied, as Mr. Cooper claimed, that the only way to secure prosperity in the Philippines was to guarantee the interest on capital invested in railroads there, and said that the bill was not one prepared by the committee, but was the bill of the War Department, sent to Congress to be reported. He would rather, he said, see railroads in the Philippines built by English than by American capital if the Filipinos were to guarantee the interest. He believed that not only was the Philippine government under the provisions of the bill responsible for this interest, but that the United States government was legally, if not morally, responsible for it.

Mr. Jones was interrupted by Mr. Gaines, of Tennessee, who asked if it was not a fact that ex-Secretary of War Root was the attorney for the railroad company to be benefitted by the guarantee.

It did not, replied Mr. Jones, concern him, who was the attorney, but it was a fact, he said, that the Philippine commission was being urged to grant railroad franchises to English and Belgians capitalists, without the guarantee. Criticising other features of the bill, he declared it was Republican tariff reform in the most exaggerated shape, absolutely nonsensical, and protection run mad to admit in the Philippines the products of the Steel Trust free of duty when a tax is imposed on everything else.

Messrs. Cooper, of Wisconsin, and Crumpacker, of Indiana, in urging the passage of the bill declared that it properly safeguarded the interests of the Filipinos.

The House adjourned until to-morrow.

— Mr. Richard N. Hackett, of Wilkesboro, has decided to seek the the Democratic nomination for Congress in the 8th district. Many Republicans have promised to support him against Spencer Blackburn, the Republican nominee.

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