

THE MERCHANTS IN SEVERAL TOWNS and cities of this State have agreed to close their stores every day during this summer, except Saturdays, at sunset. This is not only right and proper, but is a simple act of humanity, and a law ought to be passed by the next Legislature requiring every merchant in the State to do the same.

THE TRIAL OF JACOB SHARP, at New York, attracting much attention and is creating quite a sensation. He is charged with having bribed the jurors of that city, in 1883, to give him the right to build a street railroad through Broadway. The trial began over three weeks ago, and the jury has not yet been selected. It seems an interminable undertaking.

THE DEATH OF WILLIAM A. WHEELER, a few days ago reminds the public of the great Presidential fraud in 1876, when Hayes and Wheeler were "counted in" as President and Vice-President. After Wheeler retired from the office fraudulently given him, he was completely lost sight of and few persons remembered that such a man was living, and now his death is barely noticed.

THE ANNUAL commencement exercises of the University of North Carolina were held last week, and were most creditable to that venerable institution. The graduating class consisted of twenty-three members, and their graduating speeches were unusually good.

OUR STATE lost a most valuable citizen in the death of Mr. Peter M. Hale, who died at Fayetteville on last Thursday, after a lingering sickness of many months. Like his father, the late E. J. Hale, Sr., he was one of the most influential leaders of public opinion in North Carolina, and had no superior as a journalist.

Our Washington Letter.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, June 3rd, 1887.

This year the city has not been permitted to relapse into an uninteresting dull condition, such as is usual upon the departure of the president, and all the representatives of public and private interests that are sure not to remain long, after his absence for a length of time has been determined upon.

The novelty of the National Drill has served to keep alive the public interest in the Capital, and the customary May excitement hitherward has enjoyed an additional reduction in his or her railroad fare—which seems to be the great end, after all, to be attained by this class of pleasure seekers. So, although the hotel man may have had his grievances, yet in this more ostentatious modes of entertainment, such as the boarding house and private house, almost quite a showing might be made in the number of strangers who have lately been among us, in a mainly our streets have been crowded with new faces and eager eyes, and many old scores have been settled by country visitors in the way of visits to city relatives, in return for similar honors received last summer, when fairs was a sign.

But not for long, I fear we will see the account reach closed for very soon the silly folk will send you toward the remaining members of the household who have not already accompanied their lately departed loved ones.

With regard to the drill and the distribution of prizes, less discussion has resulted than was naturally to be expected where so much jealous rivalry existed.

The successful attainment of the object of its purport could not be better shown than by quoting the words of Col. Black, the president of the board of judges composed of regular Army officers. Said he: "The drill has proved a complete success from a military standpoint, and both those who managed it, and those who participated in it are deserving of great credit. The different competing organizations showed themselves well versed in tactics, and many of them executed the program with remarkable success. The public was, doubtless, surprised at some of the awards, as some of the companies who were rated low, made the best impression upon the spectators, but they were all judged by a strict military interpretation of military tactics. Every movement was marked on a scale from zero to ten. In each instance the marks of the three judges were added together, and the sum divided by three, thus giving the average."

Among the last of the most prominent men to take flight was Senator John Sherman, against whose presidential aspirations certain indirect admissions of his brother, Gen. William T. Sherman, are taken to direct assaults.

The Weather and Crops.

WASHINGTON, June 5.—The following is the weather and crop bulletin issued to-day by the Signal Office, for the week ending June 4th.

During the week the weather has been cooler than the average in all of the agricultural districts east of the Rocky mountains. In the Ohio and lower Mississippi valleys, Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia and North Carolina, and the eastern portion of New England, the deficiency of temperature for the week ranged from 25 to 50 degrees, or a daily average of about five degrees cooler than usual. The temperature was slightly in excess of normal in Oregon and North California, while in Central and Southern California it was about the average. The temperature for the season, from January 1st to June 4th, 1887, differs but slightly from normal in the Northern States and in the Southern States bordering on the Atlantic coast, while the average daily excess in the cotton region ranged from one to two degrees.

The rainfall during the week has generally been in excess in States east of the Mississippi river, and in Louisiana, Eastern Texas, southern Missouri and eastern Kansas. Slight deficiencies in the rainfall for the week are reported in the upper Mississippi Valley, Minnesota, Iowa, Dakota and Nebraska, but numerous and well-distributed showers occurred throughout the grain regions of the Northwest, which appear to have benefited the crops in those sections favorably. The cotton region has been favored during the week by an excess of rainfall, ranging from one to two inches in northern Louisiana, Mississippi, northern Alabama, North and South Carolina and Georgia. Although there is a large seasonal deficiency of precipitation in these States, these recent rains appear to have been very beneficial to the growing crops owing to their timely occurrence and favorable distribution.

The weather during the week up to yesterday proved generally favorable for the growing crops. North Texas has received throughout the week and some rain in the opening of portions of Illinois, Missouri and Iowa, where light showers occurred, and telegraphic reports received this morning (Sunday) show that showers have been falling during the past eight hours and are likely to continue into the next forty-eight hours in the States above named.

General rains and cool weather in the bay and tobacco regions in the States on the Atlantic coast, and in the Ohio Valley, are reported as favorable for those crops. The weather was apparently favorable for all the crops throughout the South, although reports from some of the cotton States and Mississippi show that the crops were injured by late and excessive rains in those States.

Gov. Hill and a Lunatic.

ALBANY, N. Y., June 1. While Gov. Hill was seated at his desk in the executive chamber this morning a stalwart man, over six feet high, and dressed in an expensive, high priced, and well made suit, entered the room, and, without any introduction, proceeded to address the governor. He said he was a lunatic, and that he had been unjustly imprisoned in a lunatic asylum by his brother. He told a rambling story and finally worked himself into a state of excitement, and, after making a grand gesture, he rushed toward the governor's desk, and, with a loud cry, threw himself upon the floor.

Shot While Gambling.

CHICAGO, June 4.—The Times special correspondent, writing from Chicago, says that a man named Willie, who was shot and killed while gambling, was a well-known gambler and had been playing for some time in the city. He was shot while playing in a saloon, and the bullet entered his chest. He died shortly after he was taken to the hospital.

A Woman for Sale.

CHICAGO, June 3.—A Times special correspondent, writing from Chicago, says that a woman named Mary, who was for sale, was a well-known gambler and had been playing for some time in the city. She was shot while playing in a saloon, and the bullet entered her chest. She died shortly after she was taken to the hospital.

Killed by Dynamite.

ALTOONA, Pa., June 4.—Nine men were drilling a hole at the Cambria Iron Company's stone quarries at Altoona, in this county, this afternoon, when an explosion of dynamite occurred close to them. Eight out of the nine were instantly killed. The ninth man was badly hurt, but may survive. One of the killed was an Italian, the others were Americans.

Texas Train Robbery.

FOUR WOMEN, TEXAS, June 5.—The Texas and Pacific east-bound mail and express train was robbed by highwaymen last night near Brooksville, a siding, ten miles west of this place. Express Messenger Marsh says that at 7:45 o'clock the train was stopped suddenly on a trestle at Brooksville. He threw open the door, and found four armed men standing guard over the engine and fireman. They advanced to his car and called him to throw up his hands. This he did, and the leader of the gang jumped into the car and seized the contents of the safe, some \$1,400, into a bag. Upon leaving the express car and entering the mail car, and in handing the check, took possession of the package of registered letters. The men then leaped from the car and ordered the engineer and fireman to throw their pieces, telling them to "put out quick," which they did. One shot was fired by one of the robbers, but it was not aimed at any one. No attempt was made to molest any of the passengers on the train, neither was there any resistance whatever offered to the robbers.

When news of the outrage reached the city, Sheriff Slapp and a strong posse started in pursuit of the robbers, and among them after pined in the bank. The robbers are said to look like countrymen, and were remarked upon carrying out their scheme of robbery. One of them after calling the express car driver asked the messenger if he had a sign. The train came from El Paso. The United States authorities are supplementing the efforts of the Sheriff to capture the gang.

Lightning's Pranks.

During the thunder storm which passed over the city yesterday afternoon, between 2 and 3 o'clock, lightning struck the telegraph office and the North Carolina Postoffice, and did a strip about twenty feet long out of the roof of the latter building, but did no damage to either telegraph or Postoffice. Work on repairing the damage will begin this morning. Several men who were sitting near the telegraph office and Postoffice were knocked flat on the ground, and when they got up they were alarmed at the extent of the damage. It is reported that he was killed. A shovel was knocked out of another man's hand, and was sent flying several feet. Strange to say the man was not a telegraph office man, and he was not injured.

The lightning also played a number of pranks on the telegraph and telephone wires. At Taylor's telegraph office, at its residence, was demolished. In the central office was heard a noise that resembled the firing of a newly drilled company of infantry, and many telegraph offices in the city. A regular stampede was excited in the telegraph office. The operators seemed to be in a hurry for the wild pranks played there. At one time there was an outbreak, and a number of telegraph offices were destroyed. A considerable number of the telegraph offices in the city were destroyed, and the telegraph office in the city was destroyed.

A Lost Child.

It is said that a child was lost in the city of New York, and the child was found in the city of New York. The child was found in the city of New York, and the child was found in the city of New York.

Whiskey's Work.

NEW YORK, June 6.—A frightful sight met the gaze of Coroner Small yesterday in responding to a call for an inquest over the body of John Lyons, 25 years of age. Lyons lay on the floor where he had died the day before while intoxicated. Near by his aged wife in a drunken stupor and in a small room by was found the ten-year-old grandchild lying in a prison. The child had been sick several days and in the evening had eaten a poisonous weed that grew near the shed. The guard had been fishing in an excursions cave of a heavy dose of whiskey. The mother of the child was in jail at the time on a charge of drunkenness.

Marry by all the Family.

NEW YORK, June 5.—A young man named Hamby, of Fayetteville, married last Friday with the daughter of Farmer Stanes. Four brothers of Hamby had previously married for daughters of Stanes, although the father had objected to some of the marriages. When he heard of his last single daughter's elopement he was very angry, but after thinking the matter over he said: "Hang it, if they want the whole family all right, I'll marry the old woman myself." He accordingly rode to the house of Mrs. Hamby, whose husband had died recently, proposed, was accepted, and the nuptial knot was soon tied.

Teachers' Assembly.

From the Raleigh News and Observer. Instructions to Assembly tickets to Morehead City will be issued to all railroad agents in the State this week. The special train will be on June 14th—regular schedule time. Persons who cannot leave may use the tickets up to June 29th, and all tickets are good to return until July 31st (seven weeks).

The Teachers' Assembly now has its own brass band and orchestra, and it is thus allowed of any other educational organization in America. It is the regular band of the Davis Military School at LaGrange, North Carolina, and is composed of twelve students of that institution. The band will meet the teachers at Goldsboro on June 14th, welcome them by a serenade and then accompany them to Morehead City.

The Atlantic Hotel at Morehead is so much improved that it is hardly recognizable. It is thoroughly repaired and repainted in beautiful colors, and two pretty fountains are playing just in front of the building. All the pleasure boats are repainted, with new suits of white sails and are in readiness for the enjoyment of the teachers and their friends.

Nearly double the number of assembly certificates have already been issued than at any previous session, and from fifty to sixty are applied for every day. Among the number who will be present are teachers from Virginia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, Iowa, Mississippi, and other States. The organization is growing in magnitude daily, and it will bring together at Morehead the largest and complete company of educators ever seen in the Southern States. It is pleasant to know that there is comfortable accommodations for all in the magnificent Atlantic Hotel and others at Morehead.

Two Indians Executed.

LEWIS ROCK, ARK., June 5.—In formation was received today of a double execution near the Semmole Agency, I. T. of two Semmole, convicted of murdering a comrade three weeks ago. The murderers were sentenced to be shot to death between sunrise and sunset. The Indians were large, robust fellows and showed supreme indifference to their fate. After brief religious exercises they made a short speech, dwelling upon the crime and attributing it to a too free use of liquor.

When the death warrant was read the murderers walked calmly to a ladder stretched on the ground, where they took leave of their friends and were hanged. They then threw their heads back to the Sheriff and his deputy, who advanced with revolvers and dropped on their knees in prayer. At the first discharge both captives fell on their faces. They were placed on their backs and pronounced dead in a few minutes. The spectators numbered nearly two hundred, many of whom were women and children. The faint gasps and sobs of the murderers were among the number. There was no disturbance, and when the bodies of the dead men were carried away the crowd quietly dispersed.

Debt Reduction or Tax Reduction.

THE PUBLIC DEBT STATEMENT for May shows a debt reduction of \$8,888,977 for the month. The cash in the Treasury is now \$50,000,000. Since the close of the war, twenty-two years ago, the public debt has been reduced by \$1,000,000,000. The debt is now only a trifle over 40 per cent of what it was at its highest point.

The amount of taxes collected by the Government in 1865 was \$122,000,000. The amount collected last year was \$240,000,000. So that the people are now taxed \$118,000,000 a year more than they were in the year that the war ended. There can be no more legitimate "debt reduction" after this month, unless the operations of the Sinking Fund. What appears to be a reduction will be merely an increase of the cash balance in the Treasury. Why should the people be taxed to pile up money in the Treasury? Why should they be taxed to anticipate the payment of an unimpaired debt which will be met at maturity, irrespectively to them, by the operations of the Sinking Fund?

O. I. C. W. L. LONDON has returned from the Northern Markets with the LARGEST, CHEAPEST and BEST STOCK of GOODS ever brought to this county. These goods have been bought for cash, thereby saving all discounts, and will be sold to cash customers as cheap, if not cheaper than they can be had in any market, North, South, East or West.

THE DURHAM MARBLE, GRANITE AND BROWN STONE WORKS, DURHAM, N. C. R. I. ROGERS, DEALER IN American, Italian and Granite Monuments, Tablets, Tombstones, Statuary, &c. BROWN STONE FOR CURBING, DOOR AND WINDOW SILLS AND BUILDING PURPOSES. CEMETERY LOTS ENCLOSED. BEST DESIGNS AND ESTIMATES FURNISHED ON APPLICATION.

THE CHATHAM HOUSE! WYATT & TAYLOR, GROCERS AND General Commission Merchants, RALEIGH, N. C. Call on them or send them your orders, if you wish square dealing. July 29, 1887.

POMONA HILL NURSERIES, POMONA, N. C. Two and a half miles west of Greensboro, N. C. The main line of the R. & D. R. R. passes through the grounds and within 100 feet of the office. Salem trains make regular stops twice daily each way. This is interested in Fruit and Plant growing are cordially invited to inspect this, the largest nursery in the State and one among the largest in the South. The proprietor has for many years stocked the leading nurseries North and West and corresponded with some of the best growers, gathering every form that was cultivated in the South, both native and foreign. The reputation of Pomona Hill Nurseries is such that many rights are being sold from Greensboro, representing other nurseries, try to leave the impression that they are representing these nurseries. Why do they do it? Let the public answer. I have in stock growing (and can show visitors the same) the largest and best stock of trees, &c., ever shown or seen in any two nurseries in North Carolina, consisting of Japanese pines, pear, cherry, plum, grape, apple, peach, persimmon, Japanese plum, apricot, nectarine, Russian apricot, mulberry, quince, Small fruits: Strawberry, raspberry, currants, peaches, English walnuts, rhubarb, asparagus, evergreens, shade trees, roses, &c. Give your order to my authorized agent or order direct from the nursery. Correspondence solicited. Descriptive catalogues free to applicants. Address: J. VAN LINDLEY, Proprietor, Guilford county, N. C.

THE STAR A Newspaper supporting the Principles of a Democratic Administration. Published in the City of New York. WILLIAM DORRHEIMER, Editor and Proprietor. Daily, Sunday, and Weekly Editions. THE WEEKLY STAR, A Sixteen-page Newspaper, issued every Wednesday. A clean, pure, bright and interesting FAMILY PAPER. To contain the latest news, down to the hour of publication. Agricultural, Market, Fashion, Household, Political, Financial and Commercial, Practical, Numerous and Editorial Departments. All under the direction of trained journalists of the highest ability. In addition to the regular staff, we are provided with good things from the pen of our distinguished American and foreign writers of the day.

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