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Marion, N. C.

The Messenger.

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WORK OF THE CYCLONE.

Heavy Damage Throughout Illinois and Other Places.

BAPTIST CHURCH BLOWN DOWN

Searching for the Dead and Wounded --Cottages Blown Down and Great Havoc Reigned Generally.

Returns received from both the North and Western portions of Indiana indicate that last Thursday's storm, which did not cease until Friday morning, did much damage. A telegram from Green Castle says that reports from the country show that large quantities of valuable timber has been destroyed, huge trees being twisted off at their roots. Farm fencing and stock suffered severely and two large barns, valued at $1,000 each, were destroyed by lightning. One at Hamlrick's station, containing some valuable live stock, was destroyed. At Rochester, Brownsburg and Wabash the damage was heavy to farm property.

A special from Durham, N. C., of the 16th to the Charlotte Observer, says: About 6 o'clock this afternoon Durham was visited by a terrific rain, hail and thunder storm and at the same time a cyclone passed over west Durham, doing great damage. The Baptist Church was blown down and everything in the building demolished except the organ. It is a total loss, there being no insurance.

The storage warehouse of the Erwin Cotton Mill was also blown down and the loss will reach one into the thousands of dollars. When asked what the loss would be in cash, the president of the mills said it was impossible to tell yet, but he said he was fully covered by tornado insurance and would lose nothing. The warehouse was a two story structure, about 100 feet long, and was packed with fine cloths, and the rain which fell in torrents as the cyclone passed, wet all the goods. It is said there was between $75,000 and $100,000 worth of goods in the building at the time it was blown down.

At Trinity College both the smoke stacks at the lighthouse were blown down. Windows were blown out and numbers of glasses broken by the hail. Several trees in the lawn were broken and torn down. The damage to property is considerable. One dwelling house was unroofed and two chimneys blown down, near Trinity College, while the family was inside. No one was hurt. The chimneys of small houses were blown down in different parts of the city, but so far no one has been reported killed.

Telephone, telegraph and electric light wires are down all over the western part of the city and between here and West Durham, two miles distant.

A large plate glass window in the Morehead Bank was broken. The loss is about $200.

The cyclone came from the northwest and went southeast. Nothing has been heard from the country.

On Thursday, the 17th, Charlotte, Salisbury, High Point, Marshall and other points, in North Carolina, were visited by a fierce tornado.

At Salisbury a negro woman was killed by lightning and many trees and buildings were damaged. At Marshall a furniture factory was blown down.

Paris, June 18. (By Cable).—A cyclone swept over the villages of Begnoes and Colombes, near this city, this afternoon. Houses collapsed, trees were torn up, telegraph wires broken, several people injured and much general damage done.

At the time the cyclone struck Asnieres, a fair was in progress. In the distance the cyclone presented the appearance of a cloud of smoke. Roofs were soon flying in the air like kites. A May pole, 150 yards long, was carried over the houses contiguous to the fair grounds. Ambulances and forty carriages are now searching for the dead and wounded.

Madrid, June 18. (By Cable.)—Violent hail and rain storms have swept the Province of Savogia in the old Castile district. Crops have been ruined, houses have been flooded and cattle and goods have been carried away by floods. The people are panic stricken.

THE TARIFF ON TOBACCO.

A Compromise Rate of $1.75 Agreed Upon by the Republican Members of the Finance Committee.

The controversy over the rate of duty on a wrapper tobacco, which has been in progress ever since the tariff bill was taken up in the Senate, has been settled at last, as the Republican members of the finance committee could settle it, by agreeing upon the rate of $1.75 per pound. This is a compromise rate. The growers of wrapper leaf wanted a rate of $2, while the manufacturers asked that the rate should not exceed $1.50. The committee has held many meetings to consider the question, as both sides were very persistent in their views.

A Preacher Confesses.

A special from Paintsville, Ky., says Washington Craft, the Primitive Baptist minister, on trial in the Floyd Circuit Court for the murder of Lonsdell Biggins, fifteen years ago, was placed on the witness stand. He denied killing Biggins, claiming he was forty miles away when the deed was committed. On cross examination Craft broke down and admitted killing his uncle, Wesley Craft and Wm. Cook, fifteen years ago. Craft has long been suspected of killing these men.

Killed Her Brother.

At Paris, Texas, Miss Fannie Jackson shot at Ed Kilgore, missing him and killing her brother instantly. Two other brothers, aided by Miss Jackson, emptied nine shots into Kilgore. He slandered Miss Jackson.

Georgia Defeats Virginia.

The University of Georgia defeated the University of Virginia in a series of tennis games, winning the best two out of three, thereby giving them the intercollegiate championship of the South.

State Geologist Holmes left last week for Denver, Col., to represent the State at the International Gold Mining Convention. He will visit several Western States during the next thirty days.

The fellow who was lynched the other day in Mississippi is supposed to have been the agent for an artesian well drilling apparatus.

Tom Delk was hanged at Zebulon, Ga.

IMPROVEMENT CONTINUES.

More Establishments Have Been Set at Work and More Hands Employed.

R. G. Dun & Co's weekly review of trade says in part:

"The retarding influence of cold and unseasonable weather has passed. The gain in business in spite of it, which was seen a week ago, has become clearer to all, as no genuine improvement ever begins with an uplifting of prices before the producing force has become fairly employed. And the buying of 7,000 bales Australian wool by one Boston house and 100,000 tons pig iron by a Wall street operator and advancing prices for stocks is only proof that the actual conditions are understood by some capable men.

"There is evidence of gradually enlarging business in every important department. More establishments have been set at work and more hands employed, and while prudence still hinders speculative excesses, the progress toward better things is unchecked.

"Reports from the various cities this week show a very general progress and a continued large distribution through retail trade. The proof is clearer, as it should be, in the industrial than in the trading field. Contracts providing for the consumption of several million tons of iron ore have already been made, two million within the past fornight, it is believed, though last year's contracts only terminated about two months ago.

"In the produce markets the year draws toward a close, with slightly stronger prices for corn, owing to heavy foreign buying, and in cotton owing to a better foreign demand, notwithstanding the encouraging crop reports. Nobody can count bales in June, but the outlook is so far favorable that few make large ventures against the yield exceeding 9,000,000 bales.

"Wheat was hoisted nearly 2c., but fell about as much, closing at ¼c. higher for the week, in spite of reduced western receipts and Atlantic exports. For the two weeks of June, Atlantic exports of wheat and flour have been equal to 4,977,633 bushels, against 6,210,823 last year.

"Failures for the week have been 198 in the United States, against 276 last year, and 36 in Canada, against 26 last year."

OUR COMMERCE WITH CUBA.

How it Has Been Effected by the War in That Island.

A significent report on our trade with Cuba from 1887 to 1897, prepared by Chief Hitchcock, of the foreign markets section of the agricultural department, has been promulgated by Secretary of Agriculture Wilson. The statistics show very clearly the effect of present hostilities in Cuba upon the commercial intercourse of the United States with that island.

During the last fiscal year, 1896, the total value of our Cuban trade amounted to only $47,548,610, as compared with $102,864,204 in 1893, the year preceding the breaking out of the war. This was a falling off of more than 50 per cent. in three years. Returns already available for the current fiscal year, indicate a still further decline, the records for the nine months, ending March 31, 1897, placing the total value of the trade for that period as low as $34,926,817. At this rate the figures for the fiscal year 1897 will hardly reach $50,000,000, or less than one-fifth the value recorded for 1893.

During the early years of the present decade our Cuban trade had received a material impetus, the years 1887-1893 inclusive showing uninterrupted gains and but for the opening of the war a still greater expansion, it is predicted, probably would have followed. As it is, however, commercial interchange between the United States and Cuba has been very largely abridged.

ITS CHARTER NOT IN DANGER.

Judge Christian Makes a Statement About the Jefferson Davis Monument Association.

Concerning the question raised as to whether the Jefferson Davis Monument Association has "lived up to" the terms of its charter, and has now any legal existence, ex Judge George L. Christian a leading lawyer of Richmond, Va., and for a long time president of the Richmond chamber of commerce, writes to one of the evening papers as follows:

"I am one of the corporators and directors named in the charter and feel the deepest interest in the accomplishment of the purpose for which the association was organized. There is no such provision in it about an annual meeting, and the election of officers, as stated in your paper. The association has held frequent meetings every year, since it was organized, and I believe that all of its proceedings have been as legal and as regularly conducted as those of any corporation of a similar character ever chartered under the laws of this, or any other State.

"Respectfully,
"GEO. L. CHRISTIAN."

Secret Meeting of Cotton Seed Oil Men.

At Chattanooga, Tenn., a secret meeting of cotton seed oil men has just been held at Lookout Inn, the proceedings of which the attending members have declined to give out. Enough has been learned, however, to state that the question of prices and production was considered and that a quasi trust was discussed. Whether it was formed or not is not definitely known.

To Sell as a Whole.

Judge Simonton of the United States Circuit Court, has re-affirmed his decree in the case of the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, of New York, against the Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railroad Company, et al. This decision is that the railroad shall be sold as a whole, not in divisions, as contended by the plaintiffs.

To Run Shorter Time.

Several cotton mills of Lowell, Mass., will close down for a week and then run on short time.

To Consolidate the Railroad Unions.

A union meeting of five great railroad unions, engineers, firemen, conductors, trainmen and telegraphers, was held at New Castle, Pa. The object of the meeting is the amalgamation of all the railroad unions into one.

Thirty-Eight Successful.

Of the 103 cadets who applied for admission to West Point, only thirty-eight have been successful, three being from North Carolina.

NEWS ITEMS.

Southern Pencil Pointers.

The Western Union office at Monigomery, Ala., has been burned.

On the streets of Portsmouth, Va., James McAlpin was shot and instantly killed by William Boon.

Several North Carolinians win scholarships at Johns Hopkins' University.

At Old Point Comfort, Va., the citizens of Richmond presented a loving-cup to the battleship Texas.

At Bogart, Ga., Walter Norris is killed by lightning; he had a baby in his arms which was not injured.

A South Carolina man has forty acres of tea plants. The shrubs are about three feet high and planted in rows six feet apart.

The 17th was Virginia Day at the Nashville Centennial Exposition. The Fourth Regiment escorted Gov. O'Ferrall to the grounds.

Lightning killed four negroes in a tenement house on the plantation of John M. Strickland, six miles south of Senoia, Ga.

A machine shop at Lincolnton, N. C., has begun the manufacture of printing presses.

Five women and children have been killed by a negro in Kemper county, Kentucky.

William Peagues, a negro Baptist preacher of Chesterfield, S. C., is the proud father of forty-three children.

In Virginia a negro shoots a constable and then defies the authorities; his cabin is set on fire and he is captured as he runs out.

June 23d has been fixed as North Carolina Day at the Nashville Centennial, instead of the 24th as previously announced.

The Raleigh (N. C.) Press-Visitor learns that the Tribune is to resume publication about July 1st. It is to be published as a four-page morning daily with an eight-page Sunday edition. Col. W. W. Hayward will continue as editor.

Near St. Louis, Martin Ensley beat into insensibility C. D. Collins, of Tennessee and robbed him of $6,000; the men had been acquaintances all their lives and intimate friends for six years. Ensley has been captured and identified by Collins.

A Maysville, Ky., dispatch says: Tollgate raiders, thirty-eight in number, tore down the gate beyond Blue Lick. They captured the guards, James Dawson, Harrison Green and Charles Dawson. The raiders placed a rope around Dawson's neck, but released him on condition that he would collect no more toll.

Rear Admiral Samuel Phillips Lee, U. S. N., retired, the last of the commanders of the great squadron during the civil war, died at his home at Silver Springs, near Washington, D. C., after a short illness, of a stroke of paralysis. He was a Virginian by birth, and a direct descendant of Light Horse Harry Lee, of Revolutionary fame. Admiral Lee's war record was one of the brightest in American naval annals.

All About the North.

Maine Populists declare against any more fusion.

The allied printing trades of New York State have entered a formal protest against the State printing being done by convicts.

An anti-lynch law society has been formed in Columbus, Ohio. It will establish branches all over the country.

A northbound suburban train on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul road ran into the Chicago river at Kinzie street; six men being hurt.

Georgetown, a mining town in California, has been visited by a fierce fire, which resulted in the burning of fifteen business houses, and the loss entailed will amount to $175,000. One person was killed and several others seriously injured.

The United States government immigration station on Ellis Island in New York, has been burned. No loss of lives. The 200 immigrants were safely transferred from the island to the barge office at the battery.

Governor Tanner, of Illinois, signed the bill preventing the coloring of butterine or imitations of butter.

The Ohio Republicans will hold their State election in Toledo the last of this month.

Albert Benson and Thomas Olsen got into a friendly wrestling match in Brooklyn, N. Y. Olsen got an advantageous hold on his opponent, lifted him off his feet and threw him backward breaking his neck, which resulted in his death.

The President has appointed John G. Brady to be governor of Alaska.

Miscellaneous.

The annual session of the World's Lodge of Knights Templar, has selected Toronto, for the meeting of 1898.

On the 16th severe earthquakes were felt in Mexico.

At Alguiza, a Cuban town of 3,000 inhabitants, 178 died of hunger and destitution last month.

The degree of LL. D. has been conferred upon ex-President Cleveland by the Princeton (N. J.) University.

Several towns in India have been entirely destroyed by earthquakes.

An attempt was made at Paris, France, to assassinate Felix Faure, president of the French Republic, while he was en route to Long Champs to witness the grand prix.

Washington Echoes.

The President has appointed Stewart L. Woodford, of New York minister to Spain, and he has accepted.

President McKinley will be unable to attend the International Gold Mining convention at Denver, Col.

The Universal Postal Congress, the fifth convention of the kind in the world, closed at Washington on the 15th after a closed session lasting several hours. The next of the congresses, the sixth sexteunial one, will be held at Rome, Italy, in February, 1903.

A Fine of $5,000.

At a meeting of the Georgia Banker's Association at Warm Springs on the 15th, the Legislative committee suggested a resolution that a fine of $5,000, or not less than one year in the penitentiary, be the penalty for receiving deposits in an insolvent bank. It proposes to improve on the present order of the bank examiner, giving the State officers more authority. The resolution has been tabled until the next meeting, which will be at Tybee Island.

BILL ARP'S WEEKLY LETTER

BARTOW'S PHILOSOPHER STATES BETTER TIMES ARE COMING.

PATIENCE IS A GOOD MEDICINE.

Time Discounts Doctors or Politicians In Bringing All Things Around Right Side Up.

"Watchman tell us of the night."

It has been often said that "old father time is a good doctor." I believe that he is about to cure the country of hard times. Certain it is that neither politicians nor legislation has done any good. The disease was not even diagnosed, but the patient is getting well. Neither Cleveland nor anti-Cleveland nor McKinley nor the tariff nor Populism has had anything to do with it. Time is the medicine, and when time cures a patient he stays cured a good, long period. I had rheumatism several years, and the doctors worked on me until they got tired and quit, but old Doctor Time came along, and after a while the rheumatism just quit me and went away of its own accord. For six years we have all been cussin' and fussin' and discussin' about the disease that afflicted the country. Every politician had a remedy, but somehow the people have lost confidence in our so-called statesmen and their medicine won't stay on the stomach. A first-class politician can argue the leg off an iron pot or the spots off a leopard. I heard Aleck Stephens make a great speech away back in the 40's and he proved that the Democratic party was responsible for all the calamities that had befallen the country for twenty years, even to the high price of coffee and the low price of cotton and the yellow fever in Savannah.

I was ruminating about this because I have been traveling around a good deal of late, and if the times are not better then all signs deceive me. Farming is claimed to be the foundation of all prosperity—the mudsills of the building—and if so, then I know the times are improving, for the diligent farmer is prospering everywhere in the sunny south outside of floods and cyclones. The crops in South Carolina are well advanced and promising. Harvest is at hand in north Georgia and Tennessee, and was never better. Everything the farmer grows commands a fair price, and everything he has to buy is cheap. The price of wheat and corn and hay is better than it was from 1880 to 1890—wheat at $1 per bushel, hay at $1 a hundred, corn at 50 cents, sweet potatoes at 75 cents, Irish potatoes at 60, chickens from 15 to 20 cents, and wood at $1.50 a cord. What is the matter with the farmer? Suppose his cotton is down to 7 cents, he can make money on it at that. A man at Union, S. C., told me he made last year 800 bales on 800 acres, and cleared $8,000. How is that? When I was a young merchant cotton averaged about 8 cents a pound; corn 40 cents a bushel; wheat 75 cents, potatoes 25, wood $1 a cord. Shirting and calico were 12½ cents a yard, sugar and coffee 12½ cents a pound. Iron was 5 cents, and steel 75 cents and nails 8 cents. Now all these things except coffee are half price, and all that the farmer grows for sale is 25 per cent higher, except cotton. But still he is not happy. Up north, of course, it is different, for it takes all they make in six months' summer to support them the six winter months.

I am sorry for those people, that is for all the clever ones, and wish they could sell out to the fanatics and fools and come down here to this blessed land. Their laboring class who have no land and work about for wages say they are not coming, for they can get $25 a mouth up there and we pay our negroes only $10. That's so. That's the way it is put down in the last census. But the census don't tell how the farm laborer up there is only wanted three months and the other nine he jobs it around for little or nothing, and it takes his last nickel to keep from freezing to death. And the census don't tell how our negro laborers on the farms get their wages all the year round and get a comfortable cabin rent free and have no firewood to buy and every family has a garden and they raise chickens and eggs and a pig or two and have scraps enough from their table to support two hound dogs and a flea. Besides all this, they bait holes in the creek and catch suckers by night and hunt rabbits on Sunday. Talk about our cheap labor. There isn't a respectable negro man in Bartow county who isn't better off and happier than the average farm laborer at the north. That is one good thing the negro has done for the south. He has intimidated the northern scurf and the foreign scurf and kept them away. I saw in the columns of The Constitution not long ago a statement in figures that was taken from a Boston paper showing that since 1890 the foreign population, inclusive of their children born since their arrival, has increased 78 per cent in New England, while the natives have increased but 6 per cent in all that time. The exact figures were given. Isn't that awful? New England had just as well give up their time-honored and historic country religion and all to these foreigners.

When I was in Nashville the other day I looked with pride at the exhibits of our southern industry that greeted me everywhere. In a former letter I made special mention of the magnificent display of the Nashville and Chattanooga railroad; that includes the Western and Atlantic railroad of our state. But our other southern roads are emulating Major Thomas's example, especially the Georgia railroad, whose exhibit makes every Georgian feel proud. Besides the beautiful show of grain, fresh from the harvest fields, there are minerals of almost every kind from the granite of Stone Mountain to the gold and precious stones of Hall county. Just imagine a solid granite obelisk split out in the rough and unhewn that is forty feet high and five feet square at the base and that weighs 70,000 pounds. Then there is the Louisville and Nashville, and the Plant system, and the Seaboard Air Line that the wondering visitor will not fail to see.

Well, now, of course, everybody knows that every man and corporation and state will show up the very best they have got, for that is just human. An good old country woman will put the cleanest eggs and the finest apples on top of the basket when she goes to town. But if the average products of our industry and resources are nearly as good as those exhibits there we have a wonderful country. Let a stranger look from the car windows as he rides along and he will not be surprised when he gets to Nashville, for just now it is harvest time and the scenery is as pretty as a picture. I remember that I doubted the propriety of the Atlanta exposition, but it proved itself a wise educational measure and now the Tennessee Centennial is already a grand success and will grow into greater importance as the weeks roll on. Soon the farmers will have more leisure and at the low rates of travel will avail themselves of this great privilege—this kindergarten for their wives and children. And my faith is that of all classes, the farmer is the best able to go, and will reap the greatest profit from his visit. Just think what is thrown in free to delight the senses—what beautiful grounds and shady walks; what beauty of architecture, what wonderful paintings and works of the sculptor's art, and what grand fireworks by night, and what delicious music by day! Where else can he hear Sousa and Innes with their orchestras without going a thousand miles—and where that sweetest of all music, the piano, when it is touched by a master's hand? Away back in the forties I thought my wife could charm even the angels when she touched the chords of her old-fashioned piano, and subdued men to her will and wish with the power of music. But I was desperately in love with her then, and I reckon would have married her anyhow, music or no music—that is if she would have had me, and I reckon she would. Honors were easy. But "music hath charms to soothe the savage breast," and she soothed mine. "Oh, music! what is it and where does it dwell?" My wife still plays when feeling sad, and can't tell why. One of our daughters has recently bought a baby Grand, and my wife plays on it a good deal, for her fingers, though not as angelic as they used to be, have not lost their magic touch, and she declares that if she had one like that in the house it would renew her youth.

Well, it is comforting to feel assured that after all our troubles and apprehensions, the south is again on top. As my friend Colonel Killebrew says: "She is on top—and if there is any higher pinnacle, she will be on top of that."—BILL ARP in Atlanta Constitution.

NORTH STATE ITEMS.

Local option is carried at Dunn by a majority of 86.

The Bank of Lumberton has been opened for business.

By the re-classification of postoffices in this State, Statesville goes from second-class and Salem from third to second-class.

At Lumberton lightning struck the house of John Allen and killed two of his sons.

There is a remarkable scarcity of cotton in this State. All the mill men are talking about it. The heavy foreign shipments took much away. Of course the home mills have used more than ever before.—Wilmington Messenger.

There is much probability of the construction this year of an electric railway from Warrenton to Blowing Rock, Morganton and Baltimore people are interested.

The grand grove of United Ancient Order of Druids, of North Carolina and Virginia, met in session at Richmond, Va., last week. It will meet next year in Wilmington. A. J. Marshall was elected deputy grand arch.

A. F. T. Polk, of Goose Creek township, Union county, has sold sixty-seven bushels of onions from one acre this year.

Among the counties so far heard from that elected negroes on the educational boards are Craven, Richmond, Hertford, Warren and Wake.

At the election of the Board of Medical Examiners of the State of North Carolina, at Morehead City, out of the eighty-two applicants sixty-four were licensed to practice medicine.

The North Carolina Car Company has resumed the manufacture of car wheels at the plant in Raleigh, which is a plant of the Lobdell plant of Wilmington, Delaware.

STATE SHORT STOPS.

Crops in Pitt, Greene and Wilson—fine counties—are reported in bad condition.

The next meeting of the State Press Association will be held at Waynesville.

Hickory has increased the value of its taxable property $100,000 within a year.

The Sunday school of the Baptist Tabernracle in Raleigh is said to be the largest in the State.

Five new cotton mills are being built in Gaston ann Mecklenburg, the State Labor Commissioner finds.

A storm at Southern Pines is said to have damaged buildings, vineyards and orchards to the amount of $5,000.

The Governor appoints Julian S. Carr a delegate to the international gold-mining convention at Denver.

Two Bostonians contemplate the purchase of Gold View mountain near Asheville, and the erection of a hotel on it.

Sheriff Smith, of Richmond county, says during his sixteen years as sheriff he has taken 450 convicts to the State penitentiary.

Charles H. Turner, of Statesville, is commissioned second lieutenant of Company A, Fourth Regiment, North Carolina State Guard.

Gov. Russell is invited to attend the unveiling of a statute of Gen. John A. Logan at Chicago, July 22. He is notified that the President and cabinet will be there.

The county of Stanley issued $100,000 in bonds in aid of the Yadkin railway. It now asks the court to declare the bond null and void, and claims that the railway has failed to comply with its contract.

KNIGHTS PYTHIAS OFFICIALS.

A Movement on Foot for a State Bankers' Association.

QUEEN CITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Shipment of Peaches--Improvements In Jails and County Homes--The Insurance Report.

The Charlotte Observer says that in 1882, the population of Charlotte was not quite 10,000. It had no street cars, no water works, no sewerage, no postoffice building, no park, no electric lights, no pants factory. It was a good stout country town, ready to put on city clothes. In 1897, the population of Charlotte is 20,000. It has the best equipped electric railway south of Richmond. It now has 11 cotton mills, 4 pants factories, a postoffice and federal court building, two new passenger depots, a new Lutheran college, a new city hall, new county court house, complete water works and sewerage system, two parks, a Y. M. C. A. building, every old church remodeled or built anew and many new ones erected, five four national banks, two cotton compresses, four building and loan associations, two big iron works, several supply and machine companies, a settlement of wood working and machine shops, a roller flouring mill, a leather belting factory, cash cord factory, two steam laundries, steam cotton gins, corn mills, and many other things expected to be found in a healty and growing city.

The Grand Lodge, Knights of Pythias, at their sessions in Charlotte, elected the following officers: Supreme Representative for four years, E. A. Ebert, Dinston; Supreme Representative for two years, C. A. Webb, Asheville; Grand Chancellor, R. H. Rickert, Statesville. Grand Vice Chancellor, T. S. Franklin, Charlotte; Grand Prelate, D. A. McMillan, Fayetteville; Grand Master of Exchequer, John Ward, Raleigh; Grand Keeper of the Records and Seal, W. T. Hollowell, Goldsboro; Grand Master-at-Arms, R. L. Cooper, Murphy; Grand Inner Guard, J. L. Scott, Graham. The grand lodge rank was conferred on a number of representatives and past chancellors. The report of the grand keeper of records and seal showed that there are now seventy-one active lodges in the State, eight having been instituted and two forfeiting their charters the past year. There is an active membership of 3,099—428 having been initiated the past year. The Knights were tendered a reception at the park, many of the young ladies and matrons of Charlotte society serving refreshments.

The insurance report for the State was issued on the 17th by the Secretary of State. It appears much earlier than heretofore. He says the last Legislature largely increased the number of companies exempt from the payment of insurance taxes and fees and operating without State supervision. These companies were given this exemption in consideration of their "benevolent" features. He adds: Without enquiring whether they are based upon benevolence or cold-blooded business, I desire to call attention to the fact, as a result of this legislative action, that a number of insurance companies in fact, though claiming to be only 'benevolent orders,' have seemed to think that all such organizations can operate in North Carolina without special legislative exemption. Already three such insurance companies have been reported to me as entering and operating in this State. In each instance I have called this violation of the law to the attention of the solicitor and requested the prosecution of the offenders."—Raleigh correspondence Charlotte Observer.

The Governor appoints as delegates to the "Homeseekers" Convention at Chicago, John T. Patrick, of Southern Pines; E. P. McKissick, of Asheville; M. V. Richards, of Washington, D. C.; Joseph Brown, of Chadbourn; George Z. French, of Wilmington; N. H. Smith, of Fayetteville; J. G. Dukes, of Long Creek; H. M. Butters, of Hub; B. S. Chadwick, of Charlotte, and A. M. Clark, of Southern Pines.

Judge McIver has issued an order to the board of commissioners of Cumberland county, the sheriff and dispensary board, to appear before him and show cause why they should not be enjoined from establishing a dispensary in Fayetteville. Fraud and unconstitutionality are alleged by the parties applying for an injunction.

Secretary C. B. Benson says that reports coming in to the State Board of Public Charities show a marked improvement in the condition of jails and county homes. On the county board good men of much influence are serving. The increase of public interest is is gratifying to the State board.

A movement has been started for the formation of a State Banker's Association to include all the bank officers in the State. The meeting for organization has just been called for July 24th, at Morehead City.

The shipment of peaches from Southern Pines to New York is in progress. For the Alexander variety, Van Lindley gets from $2.50 to $4.00 per crate in New York.

The Prohibitionist have carried the towns of Beaufort and Southport.

Alfred M. Waddell, master commissioner appointed by Judge Simonton in the foreclosure proceedings against the Wilmington, Newbern, and Norfolk railway, announces that he will sell it, together with franchises and equipments, at Wilmington, July 15th.

The State Funeral Directors Association met in annual session at Morehead City and elected T. H. Vogler, of Salem, president, and W. L. Bell, of Concord, secretary. The association meets next year at Wilmington, July 18th.

State Geologist Holmes left last week for Denver, Col., to represent the State at the International Gold Mining Convention. He will visit several Western States during the next thirty days.

The fellow who was lynched the other day in Mississippi is supposed to have been the agent for an artesian well drilling apparatus.

Tom Delk was hanged at Zebulon, Ga.

TENNESSEE'S EXPOSITION.

Commemorates the Centennial of the Founding of the State. The Best Routes to Nashville--Grand Scenery and Famous Resorts En Route.

The great Exposition, commemorative of the founding of the State of Tennessee, was opened May 1, under the most auspicious circumstances, at Nashville. This Expositiow marks a great epoch not only in the history of Tennessee, but of the whole South. It illustrates the wonderful transformation of the South, under the powerful stimulus of manufacturing industries, the consequent improvement of agricultural resources, and the development of railways. A striking object lesson in practical economics, this display of the garnered fruits of industry shows the effect of the magic touch of capital and energy in the development and enrichment of the South. It will afford a great practical lesson of priceless value, and prove an excellent stimulus to further effort.

The Tennessee Exposition is one of the finest ever attempted in the South. The situation is most admirable. Nashville, situated in the midst of a charming, fertile company, is one of the most beautiful and progressive cities of the South. The grounds are beautiful by nature, and have been improved by art. The large and handsome buildings are models of architectural skill, and exhibit a distinctly classic taste. Grouped within, and arranged in an artistic manner, are the richest resources of the earth, in the raw and finished state, costly fabrics, rare works of art, the products of skillful handicraft, wonderful specimens of nature's cabinet, valuable mineral wealth, and curious relics of bygone ages, all of which will afford a delightful and instructive experience to visitors. Great success has attended the Exposition from the outset.

Nashville is a fine old city exhibiting all the signs of modern improvement, and is rich in historic memories. The grand old State capitol, a classic model, crowns an eminence overlooking the handsome business houses and palatial homes which grace the city. The homes of two great men, Andrew Jackson and James K. Polk, are still extant. It is a most attractive city of cultured and hospitable people. There are several great educational institutions, of which Vanderbilt University is most prominent.

In order to see the South at its best, when its fertile fields and wonderful forests are resplendent with the beauties of nature, a visit should be made in the summer. Sweeping swiftly along through a country redolent with the sweet aroma of trees, fruits and flowers, the journey is most delifihtful, and the best is not at all unpleasant. The Tennessee Centennial affords a good opportunity to see the South in all its glory en route. To the people of the Atlantic or Middle States there are several famous routes, which take in the historic places and noted health resorts. These routes are: From New York or Boston, by rail to Washington, or a sea voyage to Old Point Comfort, Va. Old Point, at Fortress Monroe—overlooking Hampton Roads, scene of the naval battle between the Monitor and Merrimac, is the prince of watering places, has a fine and delicious climate, and grand hotels like the Chamberlin or Hygeia. Near by are Newport News, Norfolk, seat of the Navy-Yard, and the noted Virginia Beach, which has an excellent club hotel, the Princess Anne. From Norfolk, a pleasant sail may be made up the James River of wonderful memories, to Richmond. From Washington, Richmond and Norfolk, lines of the Southern Railway system converge at Salisbury, N. C., and from thence the route to Nashville is via Asheville and Chattanooga. Asheville, in the "Land of the Sky," the most fascinating all-the-year resort of the country, is the focal point of the tourists of the wild mountainous regions of North Carolina, in the Blue Ridge system. Around Asheville are the crowning glories of the creation—lofty mountain ranges, grand cathedral-like peaks, rich with pristine forest growth, and at its feet amid the yawning canons, the magnificent French Broad river uniting with the lovely Swannanoa wends its way through a veritable Garden of the Gods. Asheville, a stately little city, perched like a crow's eyrie high up the mountain slopes, is the scene of numerous palatial villas, and a score of high-class hotels and good boarding houses, and has all modern improvements and good spring water. The climate is superb, being pure, dry and bracing, and is deliciously cool in July or August. A great number of clear days, fine climate and rare scenery are the principal charms of Asheville as a resort. Its greatest hotel is the Battery Park, one of the best and most sumptuously equipped resort hotels in America. Another delightful place near Asheville is Hot Springs, located in a charming gorge in the midst of handsome tree-clad peaks. At this place is a fine hotel, the Mountain Park Hotel, which has excellent facilities for the entertainment of guests, and the administering of the very efficacious waters of the famed thermal springs.

New Asheville is Biltmore, the site of the magnificent Biltmore Castle, erected by Mr. George W. Vanderbilt at a cost of $6,000,000, situated on an eminence in the midst of a park of many thousand acres, on which is an extensive experimental farm. Not far from Biltmore Castle is a fine and famous hotel, the Kenilworth Inn, which is one of the most select and finely kept places in the land.

In the "Land of the Sky," also, are places like Cloudland Hotel, reached from Johnson City, Tenn.; Esseola Inn, Linnville, near Cranberry, N. C., and other noted resorts, at very high altitude, where life is rendered delightful by the pure and salubrious mountain air.

At Chattanooga the tourist will observe the battlefields of Chattanooga, Chickamauga, grand Lookout Mountain, scene of the "Battle Above the Clouds," the National Military Park and Cemetery. Returning from Nashville a good route is via Birmingham, the "City of Iron," the centre of mighty blast furnaces; Atlanta or Augusta, the latter the most typical Southern city, where there is a great battery of cotton mills, operated by an extensive system of water works by which the waters of the Savannah river are harnessed.

The Southern Railway is a mighty trunk system ramifying the South, and reaches with its own rails all the great industrial and commercial centers and resorts, including the "Land of the Sky," through which fast Pullman trains are operated. It has a strongly constructed roadway, laid with heavy steel rails, carefully maintained and fully protected by all modern safety appliances. Its through trains are composed of elegant day coaches, handsome dining cars, palatial Pullman buffet sleepers and observation cars; its equipment is luxurious, its service admirable, and its schedules are fast and reliable. This is the great through vestibuled route from New York, Chicago, and leading Northern points to all Southern points, including the famous health resorts of the "Land of the Sky." It affords the best inducements, the most liberal rates and generous treatment to patrons. For interesting and instructive literature, finely illustrated and descriptive of the South and its resorts, or the Tennessee Centennial Exposition, application should be made to W. A. Turk, General Passenger Agent, Southern Railway, Washington, D. C.

COTTON DOING WELL.

Weather-Crop Bulletin Says Crops Are Grown Nicely.

The week ending Monday, June 14, has been very favorable. Fine rains occurred the first of the week and local showers throughout, followed by fair and much warmer weather, causing general improvement in crops. Some local damage by heavy rains and a severe hail storm was reported at Southern Pines. Cotton is forming squares in southern portions. Laying by corn has begun. The wheat harvest is in full blast, with excellent yield.

EASTERN DISTRICT.—A fine, favorable week, with nice showers the first three days and much warmer with abundant sunshine the latter half of the week. Crops are growing nicely, are clean and have good color; and, if the weather does not remain dry too long, the outlook will be encouraging. Cotton is doing well. Farmers are beginning to lay by corn; cut worms still doing a little damage. Rice is growing finely. Tobacco doing fairly well, but some buttoning is reported. Field pans are being planted. Still digging Irish potatoes; crop short; shipments from south portion are nearly over.

CENTRAL DISTRICT.—Fine rains occurred the first of the week (heavy and washing land in a few southern localities) and local showers during the latter part, which was very warm. A severe hail storm occurred on the 12th at Southern Pines, greatly damaging fruit. Crops are growing finely and getting a little grassy. Corn is improving and beginning to be layed by in southern counties. Cotton growing off and in southern portion taking on squares. Wheat, oats and rye good; much wheat cut the last three days of the week. Sowing peas in stubble begun. Sweet potatoes and tobacco about all set out. Tobacco improves some; wire worms doing some damage in a few localities. Blackberries are ripening. Considerable hay was saved this week.

WESTERN DISTRICT.—An abundance of rain occurred the first of the week, followed by warm, fair weather. Conditions have been very favorable, except over a few counties, where rain is still needed. Farmers are getting behind a little in their work. Cotton now doing very well and corn has improved, though worms are still doing some damage. Wheat harvest is in full blast and crop good; rust and chinch bugs seem not to have accomplished much injury. Planting field peas in stubble land has begun. Vegetables and potatoes doing well. Much hay has been saved. Blackberries are getting ripe.

Birds as Shepherds.

In Venezuela there is a species of crane, called by the natives the yakamik, which is easily tamed and trained to look after a flock of sheep or take care of the inmates of the poultry yard. When these are placed in charge of this bird, it may be implicitly trusted to take them to their feeding places in the morning and bring them safely home at night, not forgetting to hunt for and collect any stragglers. The yakamik displays all the traits of character usually associated with the faithful sheep dog. It can be amusing, too, for, while its usual gait is slow and sedate, it can execute the most fantastic waltzes and strike all sorts of absurd attitudes. A German agriculturist, Herr von Seyffert, had one of these cranes, which took charge of a herd of heifers, driving them to and from their pastures. It also kept order in the poultry yard, stopping all fighting and disorder.

OHIO RIVER & CHARLESTON RAILWAY CO.

— SCHEDULE. —

To take Effect May 5, 1897, 7:30 o'clock, a. m.

NORTHBOUND. 2nd. Class. 35 Tues. Thurs. Sat.	1st. Class. 33 Daily Ex. Sun.	EASTERN TIME.	SOUTHBOUND. 1st. Class. 32 Daily Ex. Sun.	2nd. Class. 34 Mon. Wed. Fri.
a. m.	p. m.		p. m.	a. m.
9 00	2 00	Camden	1 00	6 50
9 31	2 20	DeKalb	12 37	6 15
9 45	2 32	Westville	12 29	5 55
11 10	3 45	Kershaw	12 05	5 30
11 50	3 00	Heath Springs	11 50	4 35
11 55	3 05	Pleasant Hill	11 47	4