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VOL. II. NO. 30. MARION, N C., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1897. Price$1 Per Year, in Advance.

JUDGE DICK THREATENED.

He Receives An Anonymous Letter Abusing Him

FOR REDUCING THE BONDS

And Postponing the Trial of the First National Bank Officials of Asheville

A special to the Charlotte (N. C.) Observer from Asheville says: Judge Dick has received a long anonymous letter breathing abuse and threats of violence for his action in reducing the bonds and continuing the cases of Breese, Pennell and Dickerson, the indicted First National bank officers. The anonymous correspondent said:

"My Christian brother, this is what makes lynchings in our country so hot to-just what is going to happen to this case. If you don't before you take the bench in Asheville raise the bonds and set a special term of court for a speedy trial, you will be a party to the crime by your leniency to these criminals.

Judge Dick referred to the letter in court saying that if counsel for the defendants discover any spirit such as the letter indicates, there would better be a change of venue. District Attorney Hilliard said the court did right in continuing the cases. "I had the suggestion made," he added, "from the Comptroller of the Currency at Washington that the cases should be continued to the May term. This was made by the Comptroller upon the suggestion from these bank officers that they would make up the depositors.

Notwithstanding the letter, Judge Dick then told counsel for the defense that if at any time there was any sign of violence they should surrender the defendants to the officers of the United States and the whole power of the government would be used for their protection.

Not Till Congress Meets.

A Washington special says: In order to avoid recess appointments, no action will be taken, it is said, in North Carolina matters until Congress meets. It is practically settled that F. C. Duncan will be appointed collector of the eastern district, and that some new man, whose name is not mentioned in that connection, will be appointed district attorney.

Judge Dick's early retirement is confidently expected here, and either Capt. Free, Associate Justice Douglas or Judge Ewart, it is said, will succeed him. Assistant Attorney General Boyd it is understood, will not be an applicant for the place.

GEN. HAMPTON'S LAST REPORT.

His View on the Union Pacific Matter and Government Ownership.

Gen. Wade Hampton, who has just been succeeded by General Longstreet as commissioner of railroads, has submitted to the Interior Department his report for the past fiscal year. He says that the year reached the low water mark of railway construction. During the year thirty-four companies with 1,127 miles of roads, passed into the hands of the courts, and fifty-eight others, previously placed in receivers' hands, were sold at foreclosure. A steady improvement in railroad earnings during the first six months of the current year is noted, an improvement particularly apparent in the bond-aided Pacific railroads.

The outlook in the West generally, for the past year, is reported very encouraging. General Hampton, though disclaiming any attempt to criticise the course of the government in the Union Pacific matter, says he always has believed that a settlement more advantageous to the government could be obtained if all the companies, particularly the Union and Central Pacific, could be negotiated with at the same time through a commission, to be appointed by the President and possibly all in the same way, than by selling at different times and on a different basis. Government ownership, or operation under government supervision, he says, would be not only a doubtful, but a dangerous experiment, which probably would result disastrously to the government.

Married in a Lion's Den.

At Boston, Arthur C. Standrassy and Charlotte Wiberg were married in a den of lions at the "zoo," in the presence of 5,000 people. Four clergymen were prepared to successfully officiate in case the lions devoured them. A quartette of giant lion-tamers guarded the brave beasts while Rev. Geo. Hinder, of Ohio, tied the knot.

An Advance in Wages.

The employes at the Andrew Bros', Company's blast furnace, at Youngstown, O., have been given notice of a 10 per cent. advance in wages, to go into effect Dec. 1. It is understood that other blast furnace companies will soon advance the wages of their employes.

Waylaid the School Teacher.

James Allen, a school teacher of Wheatland, Hickory county, Mo., kept several boys after school. They waylaid and assaulted him with stones and clubs, fracturing his skull, which resulted in his death.

Killed in Church.

Milton Hickman, the most notorious outlaw in the two Virginias, was shot and killed while kneeling in prayer at a church beside his prospective bride. His followers, who were in church, all gave up to the authorities after their leader was shot.

Appointments by the President.

The President has appointed Dwight Harris appraiser of merchandise in the district of Tampa, Fla.; Eugene A. Webster, collector of internal revenue for the district of South Carolina.

Held for Murder.

At Atlanta, Ga., L. Steineau and other members of the firm of Steineau, whiskey dealers, have been arrested, charged with the murder of Policeman Fender while he was endeavoring to protect the store from supposed burglars. They tried to rob the firm's safe.

Fire in an Asylum.

The negro section of the Georgia Insane Asylum, at Milledgeville, has been burned. All the 700 occupants were taken out safely. The loss is $[illegible] with 50 per cent. insurance.

TOLD IN A PARAGRAPH.

The South.

A negro colony has been formed near Decatur, Ala.

Mr. Joseph Wylie, of Chester, S. C., has presented Erskine College with $40,000.

Morganton, N. C., votes bonds to the amount of $20,000 to the Shelby railroad.

The fine San Marco hotel, at St. Augustine, Fla., has been burned by firebugs. Loss $250,000

Louisville, Ky., recently suffered a $150,000 fire in the wholesale district. Covered by insurance.

The annual conference of the Methodist Protestant church will be held at High Point, N. C., on the 24th.

A bale of cotton—the first—was raised in McDowell county, North Carolina, near Dysartsville, this year.—Charlotte Observer.

At Charlotte, N. C., Henry Stafford, colored, was crushed to death at the Ada cotton mill by a falling wall caving in on him.

The "Can't Get Away Club" of Norfolk, Va., has made a donation of $800 to the yellow fever sufferers at Mobile and Biloxi.

At the Jacksonville, Fla., bicycle meet Tom Cooper won in the two professional events; Bald was second. Cooper's time was 2:08.

The Middlesboro Foundry and Machine Works at Middlesboro, Ky., has been burned Loss, $300,000; insurance, held in London, $100,000.

At public auction, in Atlanta, Ga., a few days ago, a lot fronting sixty feet on Decatur street was sold for $60,000, being $1,000 a front foot.

The firm of J. R. Reid & Co., of Macon, Ga., has been placed in the hands of a receiver. The liabilities are about $30,000; assets not known.

One hundred and forty-eight bales of cotton were set on fire at Fort Mill, S. C., it is supposed by a small boy and a cigarette. About forty were damaged; seventy-five were insured.

At Goldsboro, N. C., Sam Wright, whose real name was Wiley Vaughn, the negro who murdered Mr. W. A. Carr, was hanged privately in the jail. He confessed to three murders in all.

The postoffice at Mocksville, N. C., has been blown open by thieves and robbed of $300—half that amount in money, and the other half in stamps. The thieves rode off on a hand car and cut the telegraph wires.

Wilmington, N. C., has just organized a paid fire department modeled after that of Atlanta, which is one of the best in the South. An Atlanta fireman will go to Wilmington to train the members of the new department.

At Ripley, W. Va., John F. Morgan, who murdered Mrs. Alice Green and her two grown children, James and Matilda, was indicted for the crime, tried and found guilty, and sentenced in four days. He said he killed them in self-defense.

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The North.

On the 10th Plymouth church, Brooklyn, celebrated the semi centenary of Henry Ward Beecher's ordination as its pastor.

The Central Coal, Coke and Lumber Company's plant at Texarkana, Texas, has been destroyed by fire, loss $100,000.

John G. Koerner has been caught after stealing 108 horses and buggies from the streets of Indianapolis, Ind.

Organized labor of Chicago, Ill., demands that $1,200,000 worth of stone cutting for Chicago's postoffice be done in that city.

At Philadelphia, Pa., Charles Gerbach, a mad cigar-maker, shot his father-in-law and the latter's son, and then killed himself.

Judge Grosscup, of Chicago, has held the World's Columbian Exposition Co. responsible for the $75,000 losses to the French exhibitors by reason of fire.

The beet sugar manufacturers of Nebraska have asked Assistant Secretary Howell for a hearing before he gives his decision on the countervailing duty on Dutch sugar.

At Carson City, Nev., in revenge for an alleged wrong to his sister, Julian Guinan, aged 16 years shot and killed Charles Jones, United States district attorney. Guinan surrendered himself at the sheriff's office.

At Cleveland, Ohio, J. J. Shipherd has been arrested on a charge of embezzling nearly $200,000 from F. D. Robinson and a receiver has been asked for his firm, which is alleged to be insolvent and owing $2,000,000.

Richard W. Merrick, John A. Merrick and Eugene Lindsay, Federal Court clerks in Philadelphia, have been arrested on charge of issuing fraudulent naturalization papers at $17 a head.

A court of inquiry has been ordered to convene at the New York Navy Yard to ascertain the causes of the grounding of the United States tugboat Nina, off the Southern coast.

A band of missionaries connected with the Bowery Mission, in New York, have started out on foot to go to the Klondike from San Francisco. They will hold services and take up collections en route, and will conduct a rescue mission, and do a little mining on their own hook. They expect to reach San Francisco March 15.

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Miscellaneous.

Ex-United States Senator Nathan Fellows is dead.

At Hot Springs, Ark., three people were were burned to death.

Twenty-seven steamers are under charter at Philadelphia to load grain for Europe.

A stringent immigration bill is expected to be passed by Congress this winter.

Senators Quay and Vest are at St. Lucie, Fla., where they will remain until Congress convenes.

The name of Grover Cleveland's son is to be Richard Folsom Cleveland, in honor of Mrs. Cleveland's father.

Edouard Marie Ernest Deldenez, the well-known composer of operas and ballads, died in Paris, aged 80 years.

At Washington, D. C., Col. Achilles de Vecchi died from the effects of eating toadstools, which he bought for mushrooms.

Consul General Lee has returned to Cuba.

When Judge Van Wyck becomes mayor of Greater New York he will remove from office all the present city officials.

The first crop reaped by St. Louis capitalists from a coffee plantation they are working in Mexico is a $80,000 libel suit.

The Ohio National Bank, at Washington, D. C., will voluntarily liquidate and reorganize as a savings institution.

Denver Col., has imposed a $1,000 tax on dealers in cigarettes.

The management of the Virginia penitentiary report that the institution made a profit this year of $34,184.84.

RECONSTRUCTION OF CUBA.

Blanco Opens Up All the Fields to Agriculture.

ORDERS SUGAR GRINDERS

To Be Protected by Military Forces. Suggests That the Authorities Help Pay the Taxes.

Havana, Cuba, (By Cable.)—Captain-General Blanco has issued a circular announcing that he has decided to furnish all the protection necessary to bring about a resumption of general planting, harvesting and reconstruction throughout the country, especially in the case of the sugar crop. He further decrees that all authorities of the island are to lend unconditional support to the proprietors of farms in the efforts of the latter to gather their crops and tend their cattle. The civil authorities are instructed to encourage to the utmost those who are apprehensive of grinding sugar cane, and to offer them assurances and the necessary military forces to protect them and their property. The regions where agriculture is more extended will be specially provided for by and the authorities of all ranks. The latter are authorized to assist even those who are behind in their taxes, and to do their utmost to increase the commercial facilities of the planters. All war measures are abrogated in regard to agricultural implements, machinery, etc., and the right of the railroads to charge 20 per cent. on all freight carried is also done away with.

The government officials throughout the island are instructed to faithfully comply with these instructions and they are notified that if they show themselves deserving they will be rewarded in accordance with the degree of zeal they have manifested in pushing the work of bringing about a "reconstruction" of the island of Cuba.

Marshal Blanco has abrogated the orders of his predecessor as to the destruction of the fields and huts of the insurgents. He has also cancelled the prohibitions by which the Spanish soldiery have been prevented from camping in the towns. The new orders direct that the soldiers shall be provided with blankets and water-proof coats, and that when in camp they shall always be sheltered as far as possible from the rains and dew. No fewer than 35,000 sick soldiers are now in the hospitals of the island. On the 11th the steamer Isla de Panay, which left Havanna for Spain, carried sixty eight officers and 500 sick soldiers.

THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

Virginia Ruled Out on Account of a Paucity of Subordinate Granges.

At the meeting of the National Grange at Harrisburg, Pa., some minor reports were submitted, and the report of the committee on credentials was adopted. Virginia was ruled out on the ground that there are not enough subordinate grangers in that State to entitle it to representation in the national body. The State masters made encouraging reports.

A public reception was held at the opera house in honor of the visiting grangers. Governor Hastings delivered an address of welcome. Among the other speakers were: H. O. Devries, of Maryland; J. H. Brigham and Sarah Baird, of Minnesota, and S. L. Wilson, of Mississippi.

WORLD'S LARGEST CANNON.

It Weighs 126 Tons and Sends a Projectile Sixteen Miles.

The Philadelphia Times says: The largest gun ever built in the world is now being constructed at the Bethlehem Iron Works. The enormous piece of ordnance will weigh when completed 126 tons. It will exceed by six tons' weight the monster gun which Krupp, of Germany, exhibited at the World's Fair in Chicago, and in length it will be nearly five feet longer than the German gun.

The monster weapon is being fabricated under the orders of the War Department. It is the biggest order ever given to any establishment in the world.

Free Importation of Cattle Into Cuba.

Vice-Consul Springer has sent to the State Department the Governor General's decree permitting from the 10th inst. the importation of all horned cattle into the island of Cuba, free of import of other duties. This decree will remain in force until January 10th inst. The actual importation of cattle at this time is 1,000 head per week.

A Prohibition Law Unconstitutional.

The criminal court of appeals of Texas has declared that the cold storage law passed by the last legislature is unconstitutional. The law prohibited the storing of any intoxicating liquors for others in local option district, or taking orders for liquors for others, the penalty for its violation being a fine of $100 to $500 dollars and 100 days in jail. The law effectually prohibited beer clubs in prohibition towns.

Dedication Postponed.

Owing to the yellow fever the dedication of the Mary Stearns Agricultural hall, an addition to the Alabama Normal Institute at Tuscegee, has been postponed till the 30th. Governor Johnson and Dr. Curry will attend.

Embezzler Caught in Petersburg.

Frederick Fisher, alias Pinkey Fisher, who is wanted in New York on the charge of embezzling $19,000 from Alexander Ullman, of the Morris Park race course, was arrested in Petersburg, Va. He had been in that city about a week and represented himself as a liquor merchant, though as far as known he did not attempt to do any business. He went under the name of J. Baum. He confessed to having taken the money, but said he had squandered it all.

Surgical and Gynecological Officers.

The Southern Surgical and Gynecological Association, which has been in session at St. Louis, Mo., elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, Richard Douglass, of Nashville, Tenn.; vice-presidents, H. H. Mudd, of St. Louis; J. A. Goggans, of Alabama; secretary, W. E. B. Davis, of Birmingham, Ala.; treasurer, A. M. Cartledge, of Louisville; council, L. M. Tiffany, of Baltimore; George Ben Johnson, of Richmond, Va.; Lewis S. McMurty, of Louisville; Geo. G. Engleman, of Boston; Ernest S. Lewis, of New Orleans.

TO CUT WAGES.

Massachusetts Mills Will Have to Have a Decided Reduction or Shut Down.

A Fall River dispatch says: It is announced here that all but one or possibly two cotton manufacturing corporations have signed an agreement to abide by the recommendations of a special committee of the Manufacturers' Association, which has been appointed to take some steps for an improvement in the condition of the local cotton industry. It is expected that a shut down or a decided reduction of wages will be advised.

Some manufacturers are opposed to a shut down, urging that it will not improve affairs. They point out that Fall River no longer controls the markets, and that it would simply allow mills in other States to meet the improved demand by running over-time.

This is particularly possible in the South, and the only remedy is believed to be in securing a national law governing hours of labor.

Some of the advocates of a cut-down who are represented on the committee favor a cut, beginning with the treasurer, which will apply to every employe.

THE WEATHER FOR NOVEMBER

Weather Prophet Irl R. Hicks Makes His Predictions.

Weather Prophet Hicks makes the following forecast for this month:

"The month enters warm, with return of storm conditions and rain, turning to sleet and snow far north, storm period, at the close of which will transpire over much of the country from 1st to 3d. It will be much cooler about 3d to 6th, after which it will grow warmer, and regular low barometer leading to active storms, will pass over the continent from 7th to 8th. Barometer will rise, and cold northerly gales will follow behind the low atmosphere area. Dangerous disturbances about the seas and lakes will be natural at time and at other periods of the month. The 13th and 14th comprise a reactionary center of higher temperature, low pressure and storms. The 18th to 21st is a regular storm period, at the close of which expect change to much colder. The center at a critical conjunction of 24th to 26th, inclusive, is a reactionary storm cause. Gales, blizzards and cold wave following. Month ends with storm brewing."

ALL LABOR AFFECTED

By Decision of Supreme Court of Arkansas.

The Supreme Court of Arkansas has handed down a decision which is of the greatest interest to the public in general as well as to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers in particular.

It is well known that locomotive engineers are all employed under a contract by which seniority of service gives priority of right to employment, so that when slackness of business demands that one or more engineers shall be discharged, the last engineer employed shall be the first dismissed.

One of the senior engineers having been discharged he brought suit on the ground that he was discharged without cause and in violation of his contract of employment. It was conceded that his contract wave him the right to quit at pleasure and the court denied his right to recover on the ground that no contract can be valid that gives only one party the right to terminate it.

The court holds that the right to rescind or terminate a contract must be mutual. The decision is far-reaching, affecting, as it does, organized labor of all classes working under contract agreements.

CHINESE MINERS

To Take Place of Strikers in Northern Illinois.

The Chicago Times-Herald says: Chinese coal miners are to take the place of Americans in the northern Illinois district. An attempt will be made to break the strike that exists and 800 skilled Celestials have been picked for the work. They will all bear arms, live inside a gatling gun equipped stockade and be body guarded by 100 former Chicago policemen.

An agent of the Chinese Six Companies was in charge last week and made a contract with the General Wilmington Coal company to deliver the 800 Chinamen at the mines of the Wilmington-Braidwood district. The first consignment of 200 will arrive next Tuesday and the others will be on hand as soon as provisions can be made to take care of them. Arrangements for an additional 1,000 Chinese miners have been made conditional on the success of the first venture.

Elaborate preparations have been completed to take care of the first 800 Chinamen and to give them ample protection.

AGAINST FOOTBALL.

The Bill Passes the House of the Georgia Legislature.

Representative Cole's football bill, prohibiting match or prize games of football or games of football where admission fees are charged, came up in the Georgia House with a favorable report from the general judiciary committee, with an amendment striking out "games of like character." This was adopted and the bill passed without discussion by a vote of 91 to 8.

Booth-Tucker's Colony.

A Denver (Col.) Dispatch says: Commander Booth-Tucker, of the Salvation Army, has signed a contract for 4,000 acres of land at Holly, Col. He is now in New York, raising money to make the first payment upon it.

Will Restore Walls Old Fort.

Major Mac Murry, commanding the First Artillery at Fort Barrancas, has been instructed by General Wilson, the chief of engineers, to restore the walls of old Fort San Carlos, near Barrancas, Fla.

This is the oldest and most interesting old fortress in the United States. It was originally built by the Spaniards and was several times captured by the American army under General Jackson in 1821. It will now probably be supplied with rapid-fire guns.

Gold Standard for China.

According to a special from Shanghai, the Emperor of China and the board of revenue have approved a memorial presented in favor of establishing a gold standard and prohibiting the export of gold. It is doubtful, however, whether this will have any practical result.

A Book on the Pen.

Sam Haden, who recently returned to Salisbury from the penitentiary at Raleigh, is out in a card in the Winston (N. C.) Republican complaining of the treatment accorded the prisoners. He will shortly write a book in which the cruelty of the guards will be "exposed."

NORTH CAROLINA CULLINGS.

Governor Daniel Russell's First Thanksgiving Proclamation.

A LARGE GRAPHITE MINE.

Life Certificates for Teachers—Second Crop of Green Pease—Winston to Have Another Tobacco Fair.

The following is Governor Russell's Thanksgiving proclamation:

"The signal and abundant blessings of the Sovereign Ruler of Nations throughout the year now closing declare the liberty and impose the duty of setting apart a special day for praise and thanksgiving.

"In addition to His many mercies our State has been spared strikes, disasters, contagious and internal strifes; our people have been blessed with bountiful harvests, many of them with peaceful and happy homes, and they have been vouchsafed progress in the promotion of education and the full preservation of their religious freedom, and, to some extent, the retention of their civil and political liberties as citizens of the republic.

"Therefore I, Daniel L. Russell, Governor of the State of North Carolina, in conformity to a time-honored custom, do designate and appoint Thursday, the 25th day of November, 1897, as a day of public thanksgiving, and I do exhort all good citizens to assemble on that day around their firesides or at their usual place of worship and there remember the 'Giver of every good and perfect gift,' and render unto Him their praise and gratitude for 'His goodness and mercy,' which 'endureth forever,' and beseech of Him an oversight and guidance that will enable us to be more worthy of the manifold blessings already enjoyed and of those which, through His loving kindness He hath in store for us; not forgetting the poor and the needy, the sick and the afflicted, and those who may be oppressed or deprived of equal opportunities by such of their fellow-men as may be in possession of privileges and prerogatives that are not consistent with the fundamental principles of free government, and are sanctioned by the laws of God.

"Done at our city of Raleigh, on this the 9th day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, and in the one hundred and twenty-seventh year of our American independence

"DANIEL L. RUSSELL.

"By the Governor:

"JOE E. ALEXANDER,
"Private Secretary."

Another tobacco fair will be held in Winston next fall. This was the authentic and unanimous decision of the Tobacco Fair Association at its meeting. The treasurer's report of last week's fair showed receipts $1,934.25 and disbursements $1,658.44. The permanency of the fair was considered and it was decided that next year's fair should determine that. An election of officers was gone into, resulting in the unanimous re-election of the following: President, Col. A. B. Gorrell; secretary, Col. G. E. Webb; treasurer, T. L. Vaughn; executive committee: G. A. Follin, chairman; F. A. Coleman, W. J. Carter, W. U. Reynolds, M. D. Bailey. The executive committee was enlarged to seven and S. E. Allen and N. E. Fries were elected to complete the committee.

The North Carolina State board of public school examiners has decided upon the following form for life certificates for teachers:

"—— has passed the examination prescribed by this board and in testimony thereof this first grade life certificate is granted. —— is therefore entitled, without further examination to teach in the public schools in any county in accordance with section 3, chapter 108, laws of 1897." (Signed by the State Superintendent and State board of examiners.)

There is to be quite a change in the uniforms of the State guard; the trousers to be dark blue, like the coat; the dress coat to be done away with and the blouse lengthened two inches to replace it; all-metal buttons to be no longer used, but buttons of horn, covered by a flap, to take their place; the helmet to be abolished and the present forage cap, stiffened and with a pompon, to be used for full dress occasions. The new drill regulations for the manual of arms will be issued the State guard December 1st.

The Asheville Gazette says that a fine graphite mine has been discovered in McDowell county which contains 10,000,000 tons easily accessible. Twenty million pounds of graphite is used in the United States annually, over 19,000,000 being imported. A company will soon develop it. The mine is within five miles of the Western North Carolina Railroad.

The trucking section immediately around Newbern is a remarkably fine one. Last spring it missed the freeze. Now the truckers are shipping the second crop of green pease. There is a fine second crop of Irish potatoes. It is expected that about 9,000 barrels of these will be shipped and prices are high. Shipments of green pease have, strange to say, continued for three weeks.

W. H. Deaver, of Asheville, who was convicted of embezzlement as a magistrate, gets a position as a gauger in the revenue service.

There are now 430 patients in the insane asylum in Raleigh. The percentage of cures to admission is as large as ever in the history of the asylum. Much progress in all lines is being made. The grounds were never so attractive. They are being reseeded in grass. This year 20,000 barrels of pork will be put up, or four-fifths of all required for twelve months. The farm and garden have yielded heavily. A very large crop of oats is sown

On December 1st the Raleigh News and Observer will begin publication of its evening edition.

Of the 212 gold mines in the State 44 are now reported to be in active operation. Stanley county leads in production. It is ascertained that the actual weight of the biggest nugget ever found in the State, known as the Reed nugget, actually weighed 24 pounds troy. It was weighed by avordupois weight.

There is a movement for the establishment of a State textile school. A committee is raised to press the matter, and will correspond with all cotton mill owners and editors in North Carolina. It will urge the Legislature to make the appropriation.—Charlotte Observer.

THE CROP CONDITIONS.

Government Report on Corn, Tobacco, Potatoes and Hay.

ALL SHORT EXCEPT HAY.

Favorable Conditions for the Sowing of the Fall Crops From Most Parts of Europe.

The November report of the statistician of the Department of Agriculture gives 23.7 bushels as the average yield per acre of corn, according to the preliminary returns of the department's correspondents. The corresponding preliminary estimate last year was 27.3 bushels, and that of 1895 was 26.6 bushels. The average yield in the principal corn States is as follows: New York 32.5, Pennsylvania 33.0, Ohio 32.5, Indiana 28.0, Illinois 31.5; Iowa 29.0; Missouri 25.0, Kansas 19.0, Nebraska 22.0. The average per cent. of quality is 86.3, as compared with 94.7 in November of last year.

The average yield per acre of tobacco is 646 pounds against 659 pounds per acre last year, and 743 pounds in 1895.

The estimated average yield per acre of potatoes is 64.6 bushels, as compared with 86.8 bushels last year, and 100.7 bushels in November, 1895. The average per cent. of quality is 81.3, against 89.2 in November last, and 94.8 in November in 1895.

The average yield of hay is 1.42 tons per acre, against an average of 1.31 tons per acre for the last fifteen years. In point of quality the average is 92.8 per cent. as compared with 92.9 per cent. in November, 1896, and 91.2 per cent. in 1895.

Favorable conditions for the sowing of the fall crops are reported from most parts of Europe, and the condition of the crops so far as sown is likewise favorable. The opinion is freely expressed that an increased area has been sown in wheat. The crop reports from India continue favorable, and on the whole this is true as to those from Argentina and Australia, but in all these countries the harvest is too remote to permit any very confident prediction as to the final outcome. In the case of Argentine, it may prove that more damage has been done by the locusts and the spring frosts than is yet apparent. There is nothing to indicate that the wheat shortage in Europe is any less than has been supposed, while the crop of Manitoba is now reported to be much below the official estimate issued in August.

DECIDED IN CALDWELL'S FAVOR

Judge Coble Decides the Railroad Commission Act Constitutional.

A special to the Charlotte (N. C.) Observer from Statesville, says: After the exceedingly able arguments of the distinguished counsel employed in the case of Caldwell vs. Wilson, Judge Coble rendered his decision in favor of the plaintiff, L. C. Caldwell. The judgment of the court was embraced under three heads, viz: 1st. That the act of the Legislature creating the railway commission and giving the Governor power to remove, etc., was constitutional; 2d. The court refused to submit the issues presented to a jury for trial; 3d. The court finds on the issue presented in favor of the plaintiff, L. C. Caldwell, as above stated.

Maj. Wilson's counsel made a motion for a new trial, which being overruled, they appealed to the Supreme Court. Mr. Caldwell naturally feels gratified at his first victory in this cause. The opinion is that the whole matter rests on the constitutionality of the railroad commission.

NEWBOLD KILLS A PREACHER.

Bloody Deed of a South Carolina Constable--Fled to Escape Lynching.

A special from Columbia, S. C., says: Detective W. H. Newbold, of the State force, looking after violators of the whiskey law, shot and killed Rev. J. M. Turner, a Baptist preacher. Turner was in a buggy, driving to this city, and was commanded by the detective to halt. He did not stop promptly, and was shot. The detective has fled to escape being lynched.

Industrial School Burned.

Information from Charleston, S. C., says fire destroyed the Frederick Deming Industrial School at Maryville, S. C. The school was established by a Northern philanthropist for the advancement of the colored race. William White, a negro, who was assisting in the efforts to get the fire under control, was probably fatally injured by falling timbers. The school was insured for about $2,000. It will be rebuilt.

Perished in the Flames.

At Charlotte, N. C., Mr. S. M. Davidson, aged about 50 years, was burned to death at his home on North Pine street. He was alone in the house when the fearful accident occurred. The cause of the fire is unknown, but it is thought that he in some way upset the lamp and it exploded; or that he had fallen asleep on the bed with a lighted cigar in his mouth and that it had fallen on the bed, setting it on fire. His aged father was painfully burned also, and he doesn't know his son is dead. Mr. Davidson was a school teacher by profession.

THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR

Will Cut a Figure in the Next National Campaign.

Chairman of the Press Committee Chamberlain of the Knights of Labor says that the Knights of Labor will cut a big figure in the next National election. "We are growing all the time," said he, "and we intend to vote against politicians who are in politics for office. We want men in office who will better the condition of the laboring man and who are right on the economic questions."

The Trial Begun.

At Rockingham, N. C., the trial of Evans, colored, the alleged assailant of Miss Lillie Cole, has begun. The prisoner is being guarded by the Maxton Guards. The people are willing to accord him afair trial.

Father and Son in Prison for Life.

Benjamin Nunn and Roy Nunn, father and son, have been sentenced to life imprisonment in the State penitentiary, at Jackson, Mich. Their crime was the murder of Curtis Wright.

BRADSTREET'S REPORT.

Farmers Favored and Demand From Interior Store Keepers Stimulated.

Bradstreet's commercial report for the past week says: Killing frosts South, the raising of quarantine embargoes at nearly all States invaded by yellow fever, the resumption of traffic and a prospective revival in demand for staple merchandise constitute the trade features of the week.

Rains in central Western and Western States, followed by colder weather, have favored farmers and stimulated demand from interior store-keepers. This has had a favorable effect at Louisville, St. Louis and Kansas City. Jobbers in Northwestern States are awaiting seasonable weather to stimulate the movement of heavy dry goods and winter clothing. Features at larger Pacific coast cities are confined to sales of merchandise and provisions for the Klondike, and the heavy foreign increase in the general merchandise movement. New England centres report that orders from the West exceed those from the South or East. Leading manufacturing industries continue fairly well employed. While there has been a moderate reaction in iron and steel, furnaces and mills continue well employed and the outlook for higher quotations next year is unchanged.

In addition to lower prices for Southern and Bessemer pig, and for steel billets, quotations for naval stores, wools, copper, coffee, pork, flour, oats and wheat are lower; while those for cotton, print cloths, sugar and beef are unchanged, and for Indian corn, lead and lard are a shade higher.

Exports of wheat flour included, from both coasts of the United States and from Montreal this week, aggregate 5,575,216 bushels, compared with 5,911,491 bushels last week.

There are 223 business failures reported throughout the United States this week, compared with 218 last week a year ago; 250 two years ago; 241 three years ago, and as compared with 333 in the first week of November, 1893.

THE FEVER DYING OUT.

The New Orleans Situation Much Better. Business Now Improving.

There is a big improvement in the yellow fever situation at New Orleans. The number of cases is comparatively small and the record of fatalities is considerably lighter. Many recovering from the disease are reported, and the people are convinced that the backbone of the fever has been broken and in a very short time the plague will be exterminated altogether. Business is improving. Total cases of fever to date, 1,729; total deaths, 228; cases under treatment, 585.

Epidemic Will Soon Be Over.

Although some portions of the country along the Gulf of Mexico have been visited by disease, physicians agree, that the first heavy frost will without doubt kill the germs of the disease and that the epidemic will be over in a few weeks. Apparently it has not affected the tide of travel to the South, and already many tourists from New England and other sections of the country are at Old Point Comfort, Virginia Beach and places in Carolinas. The mecca of New England people—Southern Pines and Pinehurst—promises to have the greatest winter population in the history of this resort. The Old Bay Line, which is the principal water route for Northern travelers on Chesapeake Bay to Old Point, Virginia Beach and the other resorts, is carrying large numbers of passengers, and staterooms have to be reserved in advance owing to the crowded condition of the boats.

General Weyler to be Court Martialed

The Spanish government, as a result of the deliberations of the ministers over the utterances of General Weyler, the former captain general of Cuba, has come to the decision to try him by court martial, no matter where he lands, if he confirms the accuracy of the press reports of his utterances. The commanding officers at all the ports of the Spanish kingdom have been instructed to demand of General Weyler the moment he can be communicated with, the exact terms of the speech which he delivered in reply to the manifestation at Havanna upon the occasion of his embarkation for Spain.

Winter Schedules for Southern Travel

A meeting of the officers of the Pennsylvania road, Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac railroad, Chesapeake and Ohio railway, Southern railway, Atlantic Coast Line, Florida East Coast railway, Florida Central and Peninsula railroad and Plant system was held in Washington, D. C., for the purpose of considering schedules for the winter season to the South. There was little or no change made in the schedules as now in effect. The question of extra Florida service during the winter season was the principal point of discussion.

Fifty Thousand New Pensioners.

The first annual report of the commissioner of pensions, H. Clay Evans, to the secretary of the interior, has been made public. There were added to the rolls during the year 50,101 new pensioners. The amount disbursed for pensions by the pension agents during the years was $139,949,717.

200,000 Square Feet of Space.

Maj. Moses P. Handy, special commissioner from the United States to the Paris Exposition, which is to be held in 1900, has returned. He has secured two hundred thousand square feet of space in the buildings, all the American exhibitors wanted.

TOM DIXON'S CHOIR STRUCK.

Their Leader Was a Cuban and They Didn't Like Low.

Rev. Thomas Dixon, Jr., the noted New York preacher; has been in North Carolina for the past week. He had trouble in his church last Sunday morning when he returned to the city.

The chorus choir of the People's Church, of which he is pastor, consisting of about forty singers, refused to sing Sunday out of sympathy with Prof. Agramonte, their leader, because the pastor on last Sunday advocated the election of Seth Low for mayor. Prof. Agramonte is a Cuban and a member of the junta. His son has been in a Spanish prison on the island of Cuba for two years. The Cubans say that Seth Low was opposed to any intervention of this country in Cuban affairs and has stood against the cause of Cuban liberty since the outbreak of the last war. Mr. Dixon, in his sermon said that he sympathized with Prof. Agramonte and had advocated the voting for Low last Sunday only because he stood the best chance for election against Tammany. He was opposed to Low personally.

THE TENNESSEE EXPOSITION.

Drought and Yellow Fever Materially Affected It.

THE ATTENDANCE BY WEEKS.

The Three Days of the Confederate Re-Union Did Not Bring Such a Large Attendance.

While the attendance at the Tennessee Centennial exposition did not reach the figure of 2,000,000 that was predicted for it, still, considering the hot, dry summer, when the daily attendance averaged only 7,000 to 8,000 and the yellow fever scare that prevailed during the two months that were expected to make the exposition a success, and which unavoidably reduced the attendance by 250,000 to 300,000 the result from a business point of view, Had there been no drought and no yellow fever scare the cherished object of the Centennial company would undoubtedly been attained and that was to accumulate a fund sufficient to purchase the site of the exposition and give it to Nashville for a public park. But even as it is, the company succeeded in so managing affairs that it will be able to pay every dollar of indebtedness. Even this looked doubtful some weeks back, but the rush of the last week was unexpectedly great and the receipts placed the company in a solvent condition. No financial report has yet been prepared and no official report as to attendance has yet been made, but the daily records of the admissions department, unofficially added, show the attendance by weeks to be as follows:

Saturday, May 1	20,317
Week ending May 8	41,565
Week ending May 15	41,540
Week ending May 22	41,431
Week ending May 29	49,515
Week ending June 5	60,513
Week ending June 12	50,283
Week ending June 19	50,531
Week ending June 26	103,439
Week ending July 3	55,937
Week ending July 10	37,708
Week ending July 17	36,836
Week ending July 24	49,755
Week ending July 31	59,854
Week ending August 7	36,316
Week ending August 14	52,104
Week ending August 21	42,445
Week ending August 28	56,841
Week ending September 4	46,772
Week ending September 11	82,519
Week ending September 18	53,879
Week ending September 25	64,829
Week ending October 2	56,031
Week ending October 9	94,203
Week ending October 16	72,638
Week ending October 23	107,936
Week ending October 30	195,307
Total	1,682,305

No record was kept of the many thousands of soldiers and people in carriages who participated in parades and were passed through the carriage gate, and for some unexplained reason no record was kept of admissions through the terminal station the first two weeks of the exposition. How many these would foot up is problematical and attempts to estimate would be guess work. The yellow fever not only frightened away many northern people, but made it impossible for many Southern people to attend.

Starting out with 20,317 on the opening day, this figure was not passed until June 11th, when President McKinley visited the exposition. This was Ohio day and there were 25,214 people on the grounds. The three days of the Confederate reunion did not bring out as large an attendance as was anticipated, being only 19,151, 28,342 and 26,509. On Nashville day, September 11th, there were 41,558, the greatest day of the exposition up to that time. On Nebraska day, October 8th, when Hon. William Jennings Bryan spoke, there were 35,069 people present. Director general's day brought out 33,449. The second children's day, October 23d, had 29,334 in attendance, but it remained for October 28th, John W. Thomas day, to bring out a crowd more than double that of any previous day, there being 89,762 admissions on that day. On the last day of the exposition also there was a splendid attendance, 41,690, the second best of the season.

While the exposition company cannot buy the site for a park, they have ordered that the parthenon, the history building and the bridges be left intact and as public sentiment strongly favors establishing a public park on the site, there is but little