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MODERN SURPRISES.

Charlotte Observer.

It is as true today as it was in the 6,000 years of history of the world that "we know not what a day may bring forth." We cannot certainly anticipate events. We live in a day of surprises.

The whole world was amazed when in the Spanish-American war the Americans sent two Spanish navies to Davie Jones' locker with hardly the loss by death of a single American soldier. Again the world whistled in wonder to see 50,000 Boer farmers, or even less, not only holding at bay the mighty power of Great Britain, but for a time actually winning great victories from, or hemming up and besieging, British armies, until England poured into South Africa a Mississippi flood of 250,000 soldiers.

The next great surprises have come from China. The Japapese whipped the Chinese so easily a few years ago that the Western world believed a handful of Occidental troops could easily go against hundreds and hundreds of the Oriental hordes. Accordingly Admiral Seymour, with 2,000 men, tried to cut his way to Pekin through 100,000 Chinese soldiers. He was hurled back and but for speedy relief would have been annihilated. The surprise came in the fact that in three years China had learned the art of modern war and had acquired vast stores of modern arms.

The second surprise came in the statement that all the envoys of the great powers at the Chinese capital—envoys sacred in person for what they represent—had been massacred. a thing, if true, unparalleled in all time. The third surprise came in the utter failure to verify the statement as to the massacre. A ray of hope once or twice broke from the black mystery of gloom at Pekin and the optimists began to assert that the ministers were safe. Although a formidable army of some 10,000 or 20,000 men are only 75 miles distant from Pekin, neither England, Russia, France, Germany, the United States, Japan, Austria nor Itlay have been able to hear for a long, weary month of the certain safety or the certain fate of their respective ministers. Within the great square walls of the Chinese capital, for nigh 30 days, has been locked the awful secret which a waiting world is in an agony to know.

What next?

Ransom at Mooresville.

Charlotte Observer.

It is to be doubted if there was ever a more splendid political demonstration in the State than at Mooresville Wednesday. Certainly there is no finer population in the State than that of Mooresville and the country around it—south Iredell, upper Rowan and Cabarrus and Mecklenburg. And the people were there by thousands—men and women and children. It was said by citizens that no other man in the State except the old man eloquent, the last of the Romans, could have attracted such an audience. It was certainly a profound compliment to him, and certainly he was equal to the occasion. His speech was that of a Senator and a statesman, and the people who heard him hung upon his every word. Mooresville—to be specific, Dr. J. R. McLelland—brought Gen. Ranson into the present campaign, and the whole State is debtor to this community and this gentleman for having done so.

Ransom Declares Negroes Fired Barn.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., July 25.—Former Senator Ransom, who was here last night, stated to a Journal correspondent that after a thorough investigation of the conditions surrounding the burning of his barn in Northampton county, he was forced to conclude that it was the work of negroes who have become incensed at his taking the stump in favor of the amendment.

After he spoke here last week it was generally reported that "Ransome spoke for three hours, and was hard on the negroes," and intimations were made that his speech should be revenged.

The barn, Ransom stated, was situated remote from any buildings but those occupied by negroes, and after a thorough investigation he was sure that his speech caused the barn to be fired.

Red Shirts After Butler.

Charlotte Observer.

Red Shirts along the line of the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad are reported to have been looking for Mr. Marion Butler, who had an appointment to speak at Willard, on that road, Wednesday. We are glad he broke his appointment and that they did not find him. At the same time it is to be confessed that his speeches in this campaign have been of such character as to attract a good deal of attention to himself and cause him to be a good deal sought after. If he is to continue to reside in North Carolina it is hoped for his own sake and for the reputation of the State as a law-abiding community, that in his future campaigns he will moderate himself a little. There is a point, in his speech and in conduct, where liberty ceases and license begins.

According to the Associated Press, which cannot be accused of prejudice, 100,000 soldiers are needed to keep the Filipinos in subjection.

BILL ARP'S LETTER.

A paragraph in a New York paper asks: "Is there a charm in the letter N?" and all's well that N's (ends) well, so the writer tells us that the names of ten Presidents of the United States ended in N. He might have gone further and said that no presidential candidate whose name ended with N and whose running mate ended in N had ever generally been laid on the political shelf as back numbers and under the ban. It has been said that this was the reason why Roosevelt did not wish to be nominated. But this is a mistake. Jefferson was a vice-president and so were Jackson and Van Buren. But it is astonishing how little is generally known of vice-presidents. How soon they are forgotten. Even the best histories of the United States fail to mention them in any table or order or index. Indeed, the defeated candidates for president are equally ignored. Who did Taylor run against? Who did William Henry Harrison? Who Van Buren, who Madison? Who was J. Q. Adams' vice-president, who Jefferson's and Jackson's, Monroe's and Madison's? You can't find answers to these in any school history, and I found them only after much research in Appleton's biographies; and who ran against Jefferson for his second term? who against Monroe and Taylor and Pierce? Nobody knows hardly. Now here is a table of reference that lovers of history may look over and paste in a book for reference:

Washington and Adams, Washington and Adams, Adams and Jefferson, Jefferson and Burr, Jefferson and George Clinton, Madison and George Clinton, Madison and Elbridge Gerry, Monroe and Daniel Tompkins, Monroe and Daniel Tompkins, J. Q. Adams and Calhoun, Jackson and Calhoun, Jackson and Van Buren, Van Buren and R. M. Johnson, Harrison and Tyler, Polk and Dallas, Taylor and Filmore, Pierce and Willian R. King, Buchanan and Breckenridge, Lincoln and Hamlin, Lincoln and Johnson, Grant and Colfax, Grant and Colfax Hayes and Wheeler, Garfield and Arthur, Cleveland and Hendricks, Harrison and Morton, Cleveland and Stevenson.

Jefferson ran against C. C. Pickney.
Madison ran againt DeWitt Clinton.
Monroe ran against Rufus King.
J. Q. Adams ran against Jackson.
Jackson ran against Clay.
Van Buren ran against Harrison.
Harrison ran against Van Buren.
Polk ran against Clay.
Taylor ran against Cass,
Pierce ran against Scott.
Buchanan ran against Freemont.
Lincoln ran against Breckenridge and Bell.
Grant and Seymour.
Grant ran against Seymour.
Hays ran against Tilden.
Garfield ran against Hancock.
Cleveland ran against Blaine.
Harrison ran against Van Buren.
Cleveland ran against Harrison.

Now pick out those successful candidates whose names, presidents and vice presidents end in N.

Jefferson and Clinton, Madison and Clinton, Jackson and Calhoun, Jackson and Van Buren, Van Buren and R. M. Johnson, Lincoln and Hamlin, Lincoln and Johnson, Harrison and Morton.

And now if there is any charm in the letter N look out for a ground-swell that will roll Bryan and Stevenson into office next November. Look out, I say, and have as much faith as you do in seeing the new moon in a clear sky over your right shoulder. Bryan was defeated the last time because the name of his running mate ended in L. That's why the wise men wouldent take Hill this time—too much L (hell) in it they said. But all's well that N's (ends) well, so Mr. Shakespeare says. Bryan and Stevenson will sweep the country, for the double N's have never been defeated.

And there is another shameful neglect in our histories. They tell us nothing scarcely of the mothers or wives of the presidents; nothing of their children nor who was born in the white house. Of course we know about Washington's mother and his wife, and about Dorothy or Dolly Madison who was a widow Todd, and maybe was kin to Mrs. Lincoln, for she was a Todd. We know something about General Jackson's wife and about Mrs. Eaton for there was a scandal about her, and because Mrs. Calhoun and others wouldent visit her in the white house, Jackson broke up his cabinet and took a new one. We know that Jefferson had no sons, but that his daughter married a Mr. Eppes, and her descendants are quite numerous. One of her grandsons was my classmate in college. We know something about Mrs. Polk and Harriett Lane, who kept the white house for Buchanan and about Julia Dent Grant and Miss Folsom, whom Cleveland married, but this is about all. The mother of a great man deserves the highest consideration of the historian, but they have not had it. With the few exceptions that I have named our people know nothing of the mothers, wives or children of the presidents. How many New England people know who was Daniel Webster's wife or mother? How many Carolinians know of Calhouns's, how many Kentuckians know of Henry Clay's? But the women are at last coming to the front, and will hereafter occupy a higher place. We are impatiently waiting for the coming of the promised volume by Mrs. Sarah Butts, giving the biography of notable southern women. A woman ought not to lose her name when she marries. My wife ought to sign her name Octavia Hutchins Smith instead of Mary Octavia Smith and every woman preserve her father's name in this way.

Well, I am away down here in Montgomery county basking in the sunshine of Mount Vernon, an old time unpretending village, beautifully situated on perhaps the highest plateau in the county. It is my first visit and I was pleased to be invited here, for to me it is classic and venerated ground. Eighty two years ago my father taught school here, an old-field school, and there are a few persons still living who remember the old log school house. But it has long since passed away and not a patron is alive, and so far as I can learn, not one of his pupils is living. All gone. Many a time did he tell us of his experience while teaching here and how rude boys rebelled against his discipline, and for a month he had to fight his way, but finally subjugated them and became famous with the patrons, for those boys had run off three teachers before he came and the community rejoiced when they got a teacher who was game enough to conquer them. This is a quiet, delightful place to rest. Even the signs of antiquity are pleasing to the eye. Beautiful legistremia in full bloom ornament the front yard of my hotel. They are not bushes or shrubbery, but large trees, and I reverence them, for they were my mother's favorites away back in my childhood, and there are still sweet memories clustering around them. I am here right in the midst of flowers and fruits. Oh the fruits that everywhere abound. Indeed, this is a blessed country to live in and be happy, and as for that, I have not suffered at all nor found any difference between this region and North Georgia provided you keep in the shade. The nights are cool and pleasant.

BILL ARP.

Red Shirts in Politics.

RICHMOND, Va., July 25.—Red shirts are likely to be introduced in Virginia politics. They originated in North Carolina in 1898. Virginia has called a constitutional convention for the purpose of eliminating the negro vote from politics. The Virginia blacks have called a state convention of their race to meet at Charlottesville on August 22 to take steps to protect their franchises.

The red shirt movement originated at Laurinburg, N.C., in October, 1898. That section of North Carolina was over unwith negro officeholders, and the whites determined to carry the election. The red shirt scheme was adopted. The whites, or most of them, had red shirts made and wore them on public occasions.

The shirts were as a rule very plain. They were worn with trousers and belt, but vest and coat were discarded.

Women followed the idea adopted by the men and donned red ribbons. These were worne as emblems of white supremacy. Soon all of white North Carolina put on red. Wherever one goes in that state red shirts will be found. Soon they will be worn in Virginia. The negro convention will encourage the introduction of the shirts in this state.

80,000 Men Needed in China.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—Sixty thousand men for the march to Pekin and twenty thousand more to keep open the lines of communication and if necessary to defend the bases operation at Tien Tsin and Taku is the estimate of the number of troops that will be required in the Chinese campaign. Upon the basis of these figures, which is said are those held by the commanders of the allied forces in China, this Government will furnish between ten and twelve thousand soldiers. This number is thought by the officials to be all we should furnish in the present emergency. Indeed it is more than was estimated should be our share, as this was stated to be about an even 10,000.

The recent arrival home of a battalion of an infantry regiment at San Francisco has given an opportunity to the War Department to utilize several batteries of artillery now on the coast for the China service, their place to be filled for the time being by the men of the home coming regiments. Today's orders also contemplate the sending of a siege battery of artillery now at Fort Rilley, Kansas, for the China service.

The Dismal Swamp Burning.

The destructive fire in the Dismal Swamp is still burning on the southern side of the great wilderness, where none of Sunday's storm was felt. The heavy rain put out that portion of the fire on this side of the swamp, though it is probable that the fire and the heat on the surface and below the ground is still burning and will probably continue to do so until the fall rains set in. There was no rain on the Comden side, consequently the flames are still devouring the timber and everything inflammable on that side of the swamp. Lumbermen are not the only sufferers by the fire. The railroads have lost heavily also. Last week four cars of the Camden Railroad were burned up and about 170 yards of their roadway.

THE SITUATION IN CHINA.

Baltimore Sun, 24th.

European papers are beginning to attack the policy of President McKinley. Berlin semi-official organs see in it a triumph of the cunning diplomacy of the Chinese. The London Times says: "President McKinley has been asked to mediate, and the request is facilitated by the care which has been taken in Washingtbn not to commit the United States to any very thorough-going policy."

Sheng, Director of Posts and Taotai of Shanghai, has sent through the Chinese Minister at London a story that the Pekin legations were heard from July 18, when they were safe and sound.

President McKinley has decided to use his good offices with the powers to effect a settlement between them and China. This is in reply to an appeal by Minister Wu. The President makes as a condition precedent the establishing of order in China and the protection of foreigners.

Baltimore Sun, 26th.

The latest news about the legations in Pekin from other than Chinese sources has come through the British Consul in Tientsin, who has received a letter from Sir Claude MacDonald dated July 4. According to that letter the foreigners in Pekin were sustaining a continued assault. Forty-four of the inmates of the British Legation had been killed and twice that number wounded. Provisions for two weeks were at hand, but the Minister had no hope of holding out unless relief came quickly. This message, which is regarded by Chinese as confirming their stories of the safety of the legations, is looked upon in London as a forerunner of an official confirmation of a general massacre in Pekin. Li Hung Chang intimates that a march by the allies on Pekin might result disastrously to the diplomats imprisoned there. He also says that the people of China would not tolerate giving the powers Chinese territory, and China is unable to pay indemnities. Friction is reported between commanders at Tientsin. British and Russians are at odds about the Pekin railway. The United States and the powers seem to be drifting apart as to their views on the situation in China. While President McKinley, in a reply to a Chinese appeal for mediation of the United States in settling Chinese difficulties with the powers, agreed to act only on condition that China should do its part, Germany, to which the same appeal was made, refused to entertain it at all. Washington officials, at least in their communications with China, take it for granted that the diplomats in Pekin are alive. Lord Salisbury told the Chinese Minister bluntly that confirmation must come from Sir Claude MacDonald before it would be given weight.

There are indications that China is preparing for a war with the powers.

An alleged Imperial edict has been made public in Canton calling upon Viceroys to prepare for the defense of the territory under their protection. The decree calls attention to the treaty obligations of China not to kill foreign diplomats. It refers to the murder of Von Ketteler and says the rest of the ministers are safe.

European Governments have been approached by the Chinese with a request for mediation similar to that directed to Presiden t McKinley. None have entertained the requests.

European papers generally comment adversely on President McKinley's attitude toward Chia. They look upon it as an indication that America is not in harmony with the powers in regard to Cnina. It is generally said that the United States Government is the victim of Chinese diplomacy, intended to divide the powers to the advantage of China. Germany is most outspoken, but England takes the same view.

There are stories of fighting in Manchuria between Russians and Chinese. These accounts are very general, but indicate a Russian advance.

Lost His Identity.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., July 28.—A strange freak of forgetfulness seized a middle-aged man while in bathing today. He came out of the surf and approached Policeman Cassedy, asking if he knew who he was. He said he had been dazed by the sunlight while in the water and had forgotten his name, his home, city and also the name of his hotel or his relatives. The officer sent him to police headquarters, where he said he thought that his name might be Campbell, Condelor, Connelly and perhaps Jessup but he was not certain which. In his pocket was found a ticket from Washington.

The Democratic leaders decided yesterday not to adjourn the Legislature sine die. They do well. It is best to keep a string tied to the Legislature as long as the fusion conspirators are plotting in every concervable and inconceivable way to defeat white supremacy.—Charlotte Observer.

The Kentucky Democratic State Convention renominated Governor John W. C. Beckham and declared in favor of a revision of the Goebel election law.

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WHOLESALER.

ST. LOUIS, MO., Feb, 6, 1899.

PARIS MEDICINE CO., City.

Gentlemen:—We wish to congratulate you on the increased sales we are having on your Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic. On examining our record of inventory under date of Jan. 1st, we find that we sold during the Chill season of 1898, 2880 dozen Grove's Tonic. We also find that our sales on your Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets have been something enormous: having sold during the late Cold and Grip season 4,320 dozen.

Please rush down order enclosed herewith, and oblige, Yours truly,

MEYER BROS. DRUG CO.

RETAILER.

KEDRON, ILLS.

PARIS MEDICINE CO.,

Gentlemen:—I handle seven or eight different kinds of Chill Tonics but I sell ten bottles of Grove's to where I sell one of the others. I sold 33 bottles of Grove's Chill Tonic in one day and could have sold more if I had had it on hand. Mr. Dave Woods cured five cases of chills with one bottle.

Respectfully,

JOHN T. VINYARD.

CONSUMER.

WHITESBORO, Tex., Sep. 13, 1898.

PARIS MEDICINE CO., St. Louis, Mo.

Gentlemen:—I write you a few lines of gratitude. I think your Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic is one of the best medicines in the world for Chills and Fever. I have three children that have been down with malarial fever for 18 mon'he and have bought Chill medicines of all kinds and Doctor's bills coming in all the time until I sent to town and got three bottles of Grove's Tonic. My children are all well now and it was your Tasteless Chill Tonic that did it. I cannot say too much in its behalf.

Yours truly,

JAMES D. ROBERTS.

A Turn of the Valve