

The Chinese Situation.

Charlotte Observer, 12th. The dispatches from the seat of trouble in China continue to be of an unsatisfactory character and are even confusing. It is significant that the government at Washington has at last practically admitted its belief that the Conger dispatches have been juggled with by the imperial government.

There has been a general concurrence on the part of the powers in the appointment of Count Von Waldersee as commander-in-chief of the forces in China, and his early arrival upon the scene is much to be desired.

Yellow "Niggers" to Match Butler.

On the subject of the recent controversy between Senator Butler and Congressman John D. Bellamy, The Wilmington Messenger publishes the following card from Mr. J. C. Stanly, of Marlville, Bladen county, for his tenants, addressed to Mr. Butler:

Secretary Long Wears His Coat.

The shirtwaist man has no chance in the navy department. The New York Sun relates that a natty department clerk of the male sex, properly and neatly attired in all respects save for the absence of his coat, stepped into one of the navy department elevators and said: "Third floor, please."

Crops in Kansas.

TOPEKA, Kan., Aug. 10.—The condition of the Kansas corn crop is given officially as 54 per cent. This estimate is based on returns from every school district in Kansas dated August 4. Since then the corn has suffered from the continued dry and hot weather so that "half a crop" is the best that can be reasonably expected.

There being some intimation in some of the papers that opposition to the holding of the primary for United States Senator on election day in November was developing, inquiry was made of State Chairman Simmons about the matter. He said in reply: "The State convention ordered a senatorial primary and we will have it. The executive committee will be called to meet at an early date to arrange the machinery for the primary."

The monthly report of the statistician of the Department of Agriculture shows the average condition of cotton on August 1st to have been 76, as compared with 75.8 on July 1st, 1900, 84 on August 1st, 1899, 91.2 on August 1, 1898, and 85.3 the mean of the August averages of the last ten years.

PIONEER PREACHING IN MISSOURI.

How a Service Was Interrupted by the Live Stock. St. Louis Republic.

Doubtless no pioneer had more vicissitudinous experiences in the early settlement of Missouri than the itinerant pioneer preacher, who labored, generally without pecuniary recompense, to spread the gospel among the inhabitants of the then sparsely settled country.

Perhaps among the many reminiscences of these days the following incident related by Judge Fagg, one of Pike County's prominent citizens, will illustrate the vicissitudes of the preacher and the period in which he lived.

One of the earliest settlements in Pike County was made by John Mackey, and was about one mile west of the line of bluffs near the Mississippi River, which marked the western boundary of the well-known Calumet Creek Valley.

The Mackey home was on the old trail from St. Louis to the Salt River settlements, along which all the "rangers" and settlers passed until the war of 1812-14.

"Aunt Nancy" Mackey, wife of the well-known pioneer, was a woman of extraordinary courage and inured to the hardships of the time. She was the first to reach the O'Neil cabin after the historic massacre of the household, and assisted in collecting the mutilated remains of the wife and children and prepared them for interment.

The house of "Brother John" and "Aunt Nancy" Mackey was a noted meeting place in those days for those religiously inclined, and nearly all the pioneers were. It was a characteristic dwelling place of the time. Built of logs, which were unbewn, the floors were made of "puncheons," and naturally the structure was well ventilated in the summer season, but which in the winter time afforded the entrance of chilling blasts that were uncomfortable to even those hardy folk.

On the afternoon of a bitterly cold day in 1821, a visiting brother came to the settlement, and "Aunt Nancy" prevailed upon him to preach at her cabin that evening. The preacher consented, and, despite the snowstorm that was raging, couriers went out through the sparsely settled neighborhood, inviting the settlers to assemble that night in the Mackey home, in order to worship.

All the hogs on the place were in attendance, too, having crawled under the "puncheon" floor to seek shelter from the storm, and when the preacher got up to read his text, the "jorkers" in their eagerness to congregate near the fireplace, fought, bit and squealed with such uproar as only twenty or more can produce, that the attempts of the preacher to make himself heard were for the time unavailing.

Finally the hogs settled down to some degree of quietude, and the sermon progressed. A little later, however, the door, which was insecurely fastened, was blown down by a gust of wind, and a large sow walked in with that nonchalance that indicated her familiarity with the premises. Before she had reached the fireplace, a small boy, a member of the family, in joyful welcome of some opportunity to break the monotony of the tedious sermon, seized the opportunity—and the sow by the ear—jumped on her back, and, holding to her ears, rode the swine, which was squealing vociferously all the while, around the room, through the congregation, creating consternation in general, particularly among the female contingent of the assembly.

In the meantime, a flock of geese had walked in the open door, which had not been closed. Unlike the sow, they were obstinate, and, standing in the middle of the floor, stretched forth their necks and kept up a din of constant chattering. "Aunt Nancy," with rare tact and diplomacy, contrived to get rid of her uninvited guests. From the "jamb" she took an ear of corn. Then, walking backwards, shelled the corn, tolling the geese along and calling to them in the gentlest and most persuasive of tones. The flock outside, the door was closed, while the geese were fighting over the remnants of the corn ear left in the snow.

There was no littering on the part of the audience over the interruption. They accepted the situation as a matter of course. The preacher's equanimity was undisturbed, while "Aunt Nancy" folded her arms complacently, as if such occurrences were nothing out of the usual routine of affairs—and the sermon went on.

NEW YORK, Aug. 11.—The hot wave continues. The thermometer was 84 at 8 o'clock this morning. 14 died yesterday from the direct effect of heat. Today promises to equal yesterday's record of 94. Eight persons died this morning from the effect of the heat.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON IX, THIRD QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, AUG. 26.

Text of the Lesson, John v. 1-16. Memory Verses, 9-11—Golden Text, John v. 11—Commentary Prepared by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

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1-6. The parable of the Good Shepherd. He begins with one of His 25 double verities in this gospel. It is literally amen, amen, reminding us that He is the Amen, the faithful and true witness (Rev. iii, 14; Isa. lxxv, 16). "I say unto you" is equal to the "Thus saith the Lord," which the Spirit uses so many hundreds of times in the Old Testament, for the Lord God of the holy prophets is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ of the New Testament (Rev. xxii, 6, 16). He contrasts the true shepherd with the false shepherds, who are only thieves and robbers. In Jer. xxiii, 1, 2; Ezek. xxxiv, 1-10, and Zech. xi, 17, we have some strong words against the false shepherds or pastors who care more for themselves than for their flocks. Paul describes them in Phil. ii, 21, as "Seeking their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's." We are not to seek honor from men, nor great things for ourselves, but only that He may be magnified in us (John v, 41; Jer. xlv, 5; Phil. i, 20). A believer is a person on earth for God, redeemed by His great price that he may live unto God (1 Pet. i, 18, 19; II Cor. v, 15). In the tabernacle there was but one entrance, and that was by the altar where the blood was shed; but then, as now, there were many who did not like the blood, though God had taught and said that it was the only way (Gen. iii, 21; Lev. xvii, 11). Those who attempt to obtain God's gifts in any way but His way are thieves and robbers. Having obtained redemption by His blood, we are then to be careful to follow, but not run before Him; this we will do only as we listen attentively to His voice.

7, 8. There is no way to the Father and no way to know the Father but through the Lord Jesus (John xiv, 6; I S. Math. xi, 27). When He says "All that ever came before Me are thieves and robbers," He did not mean all who came before Him in point of time, as Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, etc., but the words "before Me" have evidently the same meaning as "before Me" in Ex. xx, 3, and those referred to are such as are described in Jer. xliii, 21, 22; Acts xx, 9; I John iv, 3; II John 7.

9. He is the sacrifice, and He is the door, and He is the Shepherd. Every type and symbol has its fulfillment in Him, and He is the substance of every shadow. How grand is the assurance that "any man" may enter in by Him! Compare "Him that cometh" and "whosoever" in John vi, 37, 40; Rev. xxi, 17. But notice that to be saved one must "enter in," as truly as Noah and his family and the creatures entered into the ark. Safety is found only "in Christ," but, being in Him, it is impossible then to perish (verses 28, 29), and the whole daily life, described both here and in Ps. cxxi, 8, as "going in and out," will be a life of "abiding satisfied" (Prov. xix, 23), because of the good pasture, even Himself (John vi, 57).

10. There is the destroyer and the life giver, the adversary and the Saviour, the anti-Christ and the Christ—both are seen in Cain and Abel, and in all men ever since, for every man is either with Christ or against Him (Luke xi, 23). As there must be the entering in to be saved, there must be the possession of Christ to have life. "As many as received Him," "He that hath the Son" (John i, 12; I John v, 12). Every saved soul has life, and with this many are satisfied, but the Lord is not satisfied, for He came to give life more abundantly. Sick people, however sick they may be, have life, but it is very unusual to find a sick person willing to remain so.

11, 14. "I am the Good Shepherd." He is also the Great Shepherd and the Chief Shepherd (Heb. xiii, 20; I Pet. v, 4). As the Good Shepherd He provides life for us by laying down His life. He laid it down voluntarily; no one took it from Him; and He took it again, for He had power to do so (verses 17, 18). He was delivered for our offenses and raised again for our justification, and by faith in Him we are justified and have peace with God (Rom. iv, 25; v, 1). As the Great Shepherd He works in us the things that are pleasing to God. As the Chief Shepherd He will reward us with the crown or crowns which He may give us at His coming (Luke xiv, 14; Rev. xxi, 12).

12, 13. He who is only a hireling careth not for the sheep, but only for himself, his own safety and his own comfort. The hireling is one who has not upon his heart the interests of his master, but only that which he can get from the master whom he appears to be serving, for service too often but poorly rendered. Not such was David when he rescued part of his flock from a lion and a bear (I Sam. xvii, 34, 35). Our Lord Jesus never lived to please Himself, nor to seek His own will, nor His own glory (Rom. xv, 3; John vi, 38; viii, 50). His life was to do the will of the Father who sent Him.

15. The Father and He were perfectly one and knew and understood each other thoroughly. He testified that He did always those things that were pleasing to the Father, and the Father said of Him, "This is My Beloved Son in whom I am well pleased" (John viii, 29; Math. iii, 17; xvii, 5). As the Father loves Him, so He loves us, and He would have us abide in His love, manifesting it by a willingness to lay down our lives for others as He laid down His life for us (John xv, 9; I John iii, 16).

16. "Them also I must bring." Those other sheep not of Israel, but gathered out of all nations, who are to reign with Him (Rev. v, 9, 10). He says He must bring them, for every purpose of the Lord shall be performed, and these called out ones shall be a glorious church, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing (Eph. v, 27), and Israel shall be all righteous (Isa. lx, 21). Then there shall be not only one nation in the land with one king over all (Ezek. xxxvii, 22), but under the united government of the heavenly and earthly bodies, the church and Israel, there shall indeed be one fold and one Shepherd, and all the earth filled with His glory. He invites all His redeemed ones to share with Him the honor of gathering out these other sheep by giving to all nations and to every creature as quickly as possible the knowledge of His salvation, which is so freely given to all who will receive Him. If Christians had the same zeal for the kingdom that loyal soldiers have for their country, how soon it might be done!

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Much sympathy is expressed by the Republican organs in Pennsylvania for the illiterate negroes who are about to lose the elective suffrage in North Carolina. The Republican leaders in Pennsylvania are, in fact, so partial to illiterates that they have provided by law for an assistant to accompany the ignorant voter into the election booth in order to facilitate the deposit of his ballot and witness its sale, says the Philadelphia Record.

The Textile Excelsior, of this city, has an interesting editorial in its issue of the 11th, going to show the unsuitability of colored labor in cotton mills. It cites the case of the Vesta Mill, of Charleston, and says this should be a sufficient warning. The Observer has heard it said that the trouble with black people in cotton mills is that the monotonous whirr of the machinery adds to the natural tendency to go to sleep, and that this is the principal reason why they have proved failures in this capacity. Whether this is the only reason or not, it appears clear, in the light of experience, that colored people will not do for factory hands. The conclusion reached by The Textile Excelsior seems, in the face of the facts, irresistible—Charlotte Observer.

The libelous statement of a clerical correspondent of The Literary Digest, that children under 12 years are worked all night in North Carolina cotton mills for 10 cents a night, is on its travels. It was specifically denied in a recent issue of The Observer, it being explained that what was probably meant was 10 cents a side, which is equivalent to 30, 40 or 50 cents a night, according to the skill of the operative. But a lie like this is never overtaken, and this particular one will always stand to the discredit of North Carolina—Charlotte Observer.

Butler Up to the Highest Bidder.

A part of the Populist national committee met last week and consulted as to their probable course with reference to a vice presidential candidate, their nominee, Mr. Towne, having withdrawn. Senator Butler, the chairman of the committee, was not present and could not be communicated with, he having hid himself in the wilds of Sampson county, surrounded by an armed guard of the faithful to keep off the red-shirts. So much of the committee as was present seemed to be of the opinion that the Populists would support Stevenson for Vice President, but a meeting of the full committee is called for the 27th to take final action. Whether Mr. Butler will support Bryan and Stevenson or McKinley will depend on the price. If Mr. Bryan will promise to do him right and he thinks Mr. Bryan has a show of winning, he will be found on the stump this fall talking about free silver and our principles. But if he can make a better deal with the McKinley managers he will go with them—and the latter we think more probable.

End of a Remarkable Life Insurance Suit in Kansas.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Aug. 7.—After six trials in the United States Circuit Court and a delay of 21 years and 4 months the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York today settled its case with Mrs. Sallie E. Hillmon-Smith, this city, by paying her \$22,000 in cash. This amount, with interest, was decided by a jury to be due her on a policy held by Hillmon when he disappeared in 1879.

The Mutual Life of New York is the second of the three original insurance companies to settle. The Connecticut Mutual is still holding out, with a judgment of \$11,054 against it.

Not One of Them Will Vote for Him.

CHICAGO, Aug. 13.—This afternoon William J. Bryan had a conference with a delegation of colored men headed by J. Milton Turner, of St. Louis, former Minister to Liberia. They represented that there was much dissatisfaction among the members of their race with the present administration, and assured Mr. Bryan that he would receive the votes of many of them. They urged the importance of the organization of Bryan Democratic clubs.

Ex-United States Senator Lee Mantle, of Montana, who has been a Silver Republican, has returned to his first love—the straight Republican party.

The Senatorial Primaries.

Mr. R. R. Clark of the Statesville Landmark, and member of the Democratic platform committee, gives the following information as to senatorial primaries:

"The platform committee of the last Democratic State convention, April 11, adopted the following in the platform, which was subsequently adopted by the convention: "We hereby instruct the State executive committee to make provisions for the holding of a primary on the first Tuesday of next November for the selection of a United States Senator by the Democratic voters of the State, at which every elector who has voted the Democratic ticket in the State election shall be entitled to cast one vote for one man for United States Senator, and the candidate who receives the majority of the votes so cast in the whole State shall receive the support of the Democratic members of the Legislature; and if no candidate shall receive a majority then the committee shall hold a second primary at which only the two highest candidates shall be balloted for, and the one receiving a majority of the votes so cast shall receive the support of the Democratic members of the Legislature."

"Provided That if any third candidate shall receive at the first primary so held within 2,500 votes of the second highest candidate, then in that event the three candidates shall be balloted for at the second primary, and the one of the three receiving the highest number of votes shall receive the support of the Democratic members of the Legislature for United States Senator."

"Every man, then, who voted the Democratic ticket in the August election is entitled to express his preference for Senator in the primary at the November election, no matter how he votes in November, or whether he votes at all. "These are the facts as they were understood by the platform committee of the Democratic State convention."

People Not Sorry for Butler.

Trojan in Charlotte Observer. The teaching of Christianity and the article on charity by Mr. Longfellow do not appear as being easily applied in the case of Mr. Butler. Mr. Longfellow says that we should learn to look on the errors of others in sorrow and not in anger. Well, Butler created a grievous error and grievously must he answer for it. His policy would have disrupted the State and perhaps caused blood to flow like water in every county. It is hard to be sorry for him. Can he make reparation? Can he atone for his designs? Is it possible for his people to forgive him? And was desire for reelection to the United States Senate his only motive? What would a man give exchange for his life? It is certain his life in one sense is ruined? And how can he be delivered from that death which clings to him? No man in North Carolina was ever before the object of so much hatred. Is it right? Can he not have forgiveness? He certainly is defeated; a banished man in his own State. His very body drops into the grave of oblivion and there is not one mourner. He will not receive pity or sympathy from his Republican allies. If sympathy or mercy be accorded him it must go from the party of which he was once a member—the Democratic. Will it show mercy? The party may claim it has lost its jurisdiction in the case.

Revenue Officers in Rowan.

SALISBURY, N. C., August 10.—Since the election the red-legged grass-hoppers have swooped down on old Rowan in full force. Five new officials of the revenue department have been put on duty here in the past week. They openly state that since the Republicans did not carry the county and that every distiller in the county worked for the amendment, that they are going to give the whiskey men in Rowan something hot. They went on a raid yesterday and succeeded in capturing a good two-horse team with four barrels of whiskey prior to the election they would no have seized anything, but now since that is over and against the Republicans, so emphatically, they will seize anything from an empty ginger ale bottle to a pen of hogs that have been fed on still slop. Such acts as these respectable gentlemen are doing and the threats they are making scares no one and only serves to make our county more strongly Democratic.

Democracy Should be United.

Baltimore Sun.

The platform adopted by the Democratic National Convention in 1896 made the free coinage of silver the leading issue. If Mr. Bryan had been elected at that time and the House of Representatives had contained a majority pledged to silver, free coinage legislation could and probably would have been enacted. The platform adopted at Kansas City last month makes imperialism the paramount issue. It is true that the platform also contains a specific declaration for free coinage, but it is equally true that there can be no free coinage as long as the Senate is controlled by the Republicans. The highest authorities on finance in the Republican party have agreed that the currency legislation enacted at the last session of Congress will maintain the gold standard as long as the act remains on the statute books. The law cannot be repealed as long as the Republicans are in the Senate. Free coinage, therefore, in this campaign, is scarcely more than an academic question. It was a political blunder to put the silver declaration in the Kansas City platform, but its presence in the platform does not make it a live question. With a gold-standard Senate to hold a silver President and House in check free coinage is certainly not a practical issue for the time being. The platform of 1896 related exclusively to domestic questions. The platform of 1900 makes wars of conquest, forcible annexation of territory and imperial tendencies in government the paramount issue. There are, therefore, abundant reasons why Democrats who refused to go with their party in 1896 should make common cause with it this year on the new and important issues now before the people. "When," as that sturdy gold Democrat, General Collins, of Boston, recently said, "the integrity as well as the honor of the Republic is in peril all minor questions disappear or wait until the safety of the state is assured."

Butler Says He Is for Bryan.

Raleigh Cor. Charlotte Observer, 15th. Senator Marion Butler, national Populist chairman, seen in reference to the published report that he would support McKinley, said: "The report is unqualifiedly false. I am for Bryan and the People's party nominee for Vice President. I am in favor of the national committee nominating a candidate for Vice President, August 27th. I am not a Democrat; I am not a Republican; I am a Populist. I was not for Stevenson '92 and am not for him now."

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Best Prescription for Malaria, Chills and Fever, Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic. It is simply Iron and Quinine in a tasteless form. . . . Sold by every druggist in the malarial sections of the United States. . . . No cure, no pay. . . . Price, 50c. MAKES CHILDREN AND ADULTS AS FAT AS PIGS. They All Recommend Grove's. WHOLESALE: St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 6, 1909. 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 1908, 2500 dozen Grove's Tonic. We also find that our sales on your Tasteless Chill Tonic have been something enormous, having sold during the late Cold and Grip season 4200 dozen. Please rush down order enclosed herewith, and oblige. Yours truly, MEYER BROS. DRUG CO. RETAILER: Kewanee, Ill. PARIS MEDICINE CO., Kewanee, Ill. GENTLEMEN:—I handle seven or eight different kinds of Chill Tonics but I sell ten bottles of Grove's to whom I sell one of the others. I sold 25 bottles of Grove's Chill Tonic in one day and could have sold more if I had had it on hand. Mr. Dave Woodruff cured five cases of chills with one bottle. Respectfully, JOHN T. VINYARD. CONSUMER: Whitesboro, Tex., Sep. 13, 1908. 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 13 months 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.