

The Charlotte Observer.

J. F. CALDWELL, D. A. TOMPKINS, Publishers.

Every Day in the Year.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:

Daily One year \$3.00, Six months \$1.80, Three months \$1.00. Semi-Weekly One year \$1.00, Six months \$0.60, Three months \$0.35.

PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT.

No. 14 South Tryon street. Telephone numbers: Business office, Bell phone 184; news editor's office, Bell phone 224. A subscriber in ordering the address of his paper changed, will please indicate the address to which it is going at the time he asks for the change to be made.

MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 1908.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY STOCK.

There was what is called "a persistent report" in New York last week that the Southern Railway was about to go into the hands of a receiver, and The Wall Street Summary of Saturday, discussing this in connection with a discussion of last week's slump in general stocks, said:

"To be specific, the reactionary tendency which developed in connection with persistent rumors that the Southern Railway Company's finances were in such shape as to compel its liquidation to follow the example of another road operating in the South, and seek the protection of the courts, has been exaggerated. The fact is that the company was given to Southern Railway issues, the common stock falling over 2 points to 27, and the preferred dropping over 3 points to 27, while the 5 per cent. bonds sold at 86, as compared with 90, at which they were offered on the Chicago market. The dividends of the company have been falling off sharply for the past fourteen months, though the decline has been particularly severe within the last half-year. The dividend on the preferred stock in August was reduced from a 6 to a 5 per cent. annual basis, and it is no longer a matter of doubt that the company will be compelled to suspend payments altogether on the preferred stock for the current half-year, if it is not found necessary to resort to some more drastic measure toward financial rehabilitation. The possibility of such a thing being done by this system quite naturally found speedy reflection in the stock market list as a whole, and also gave rise to adverse rumors bearing upon one or two other corporations which are suspected of being rather weak financially."

It looks not infrequently as if the enemies of the Southern will get their wish. It is certain that it has no money else it would not be taking off trains after having suspended its double tracking, and would not have permitted its track between Charlotte and Washington to have lapsed into the condition in which it is now found, in addition to having suspended the payment of dividends. The truth is that both its passenger and freight traffic have been largely reduced, attended, of course, by a corresponding reduction in its revenues.

PAY OF EXPERT WITNESSES.

It pays to be an "expert." It is stated that "Chicago is threatened with a famine in expert witnesses because of the insistence of Cook county officials that a fee of \$100 per day is excessive pay for men who render service of this sort." At the same time there comes from New York the statement that the comptroller of that city has caused a flutter by lopping off some of the items from an insanity "expert's" bill against the district attorney's office. "Mr. Jerome had arranged with this particular alienist to testify at the first Thaw trial for \$100 a day whenever he was on the witness stand and \$15 an hour for all the other times that he might give to the case. The bill amounted to \$5,315, the witness having charged for the time allegedly consumed daily in going to and from his home in Nineteenth street to the criminal court building, three-quarters of an hour each way—one and a half hours, \$22.50. The comptroller had some experiments made and found that the round trip could not consume over forty minutes—which would mean only \$10; so he lopped \$292 off the bill; the witness protests and threatens to sue the city." It does look as if \$100 a day whenever a witness is on the stand and \$15 an hour additional whenever he is thinking about the case ought to be regarded as pretty good pay for a gentleman in any line of business. It is surprising, therefore, to read that the New York expert is dissatisfied with this compensation because the time he consumed in getting to and from the court house is not paid for additionally, while not surprising to learn that the Cook county officials think \$100 a day rather excessive.

It is interesting and reassuring to read in The Wall Street Journal that because the New York clearing house "issued over \$90,000,000 loan certificates valued at \$95,000,000 gold and found the bonds which it secured upwards of \$50,000,000 of government deposits," therefore "panic has been driven from the field in utter rout." Glad to hear it, though in these ends of the earth there remain some signs of it.

TROUBLE WITH JAPAN.

A good many things improbable per se and wholly unnecessary can be brought about by constant talk about them. Here is this alleged friction, for instance, between the United States and Japan and bearing upon it is this statement from The Washington Post of Saturday:

"Official denial was made at the State Department yesterday of the report carried from Tokyo that Ambassador O'Brien had demanded from the Japanese government an agreement in writing recognizing to a certain annual number the withdrawal of Japanese to the United States. It may be stated on absolute authority that the United States has not and will not make any such demand on Japan, and the diplomatic exchanges which have taken place and are still going on do not contemplate in any way such a character on the representations of this government as would force Japan to make an unequivocal refusal of our requests, which would be the inevitable result of any demand for a written agreement of any sort."

Here is the "official denial." It is true, but preceding it was the "report." In an address in Washington Friday night Justice Harlan, of the Supreme Court, prophesied war between the United States and Japan and pleaded for a larger year—for an appropriation of \$500,000,000 for its enlargement. Congressman Hobson and others are constantly busy with such prophecies. The recent "San Francisco incident" gives color to this talk, and many people who are not jingoes regard the sending of the Atlantic fleet to Pacific waters as a threat to Japan and a menace to the peace of the two countries. A war between them would be a crime against civilization and idle talk of the probability of such a calamity is criminal.

CALL FOR AN INVESTIGATION.

Representative Clark, of Florida, is greatly outraged on account of Attorney General Bonaparte's dealing with the so-called "peonage" cases in the South, especially in his State, and has introduced in the House a resolution calling for an investigation, citing a number of charges in newspapers and magazines of "alleged inhuman treatment of the alleged slaves" and charging that "the Department of Justice in numbers of instances has ignored the United States district attorneys in many jurisdictions, and has practically committed to one Mrs. Quackenbush the prosecution of all the cases of 'peonage' in the South." The Washington correspondent of The Charleston News and Courier says that "Mr. Clark thinks that the sending of Mrs. Quackenbush to the Southern States to work up alleged cases of 'peonage' was disgraceful and outrageous, and places that section in a false light before the entire civilized world. Reports which have gone out, as a result of the sending of Mrs. Quackenbush South, have greatly injured the cause of immigration, and will continue to do so until a fair investigation has been had."

This is of a piece with the child labor business. When any of the Departments at Washington wants to unearth anything particularly discreditable to a section, as immigration, child labor, peonage or what not, it sends its emissaries and begins its investigations in the South.

The Washington Post says that "Something like 500,000 immigrants came over to our shores last year, paid us a pleasant visit, recouped their fortunes, and then went back to their own dear native lands. They were practically broke when they left themselves to accept of our hospitality, but when they left us they took with them more than \$10,000,000 of our good American gold. One wonders what they left with us so valuable in exchange for that goodly sum, and the whole incident has led to the remark that the United States seems to be run, in these days, for the benefit of everybody but us." Which goes to show, as a good many things do, that there is a class of immigrants which does more harm than good.

There is little prospect of the passage by Congress of a bill to stop the shipment of liquor from a State in which prohibition does not prevail to one in which it does, though there is considerable if not a majority sentiment in the House, at least, in favor of it, because Speaker Cannon is opposed to it; and for like reason there is equally little prospect of prohibition in the District of Columbia though there is a large sentiment in Congress in favor of this also. What the Speaker of the House says goes.

It is stated from Raleigh that enough members of the Legislature have signified their views as to the rate matter to make it certain that a large majority are in favor of the settlement on the lines mapped out by the Governor and council of State. If the Legislature authorizes this compromise, takes up no other matter of legislation, turns its back upon the monstrous proposition to tax the railroads with a part of the cost of the meeting, and adjourns, it will assuredly win the plaudits of the people.

"If Grover Cleveland were ten years younger," said Mr. Lawrence Maxwell, Jr., of Cincinnati, to a reporter in Washington last Friday night, "he would be nominated and elected President. There is no man the Republicans could nominate who could defeat him." All of which is entirely true; but alas! these ten years.

The New York World Almanac for 1908 is out and is a marvelous store house of information. It is a history, an encyclopedia, a volume of biography, a book of statistics, a work of reference upon almost every imaginable subject. It is of 1000 pages—larger than ever before—and the price is only 25 cents.

THE FLEET ARRIVES AT RIO

(Continued from Page One.)

a ladder on the side of the vessel, fell into the sea and was drowned.

THE CITY OF RIO JANEIRO.

One of the Most Beautiful and Progressive Municipalities in the World—Its Population Nearly at the Million Mark—A Few Interesting Facts.

In view of the interest in the progress of the American fleet around South America and its presence in the harbor of Rio Janeiro, a city about which little is generally known in the United States, the director of the International Bureau of American Republics, Mr. John Harriott, who has visited Rio Janeiro many times while minister to different South American countries, has prepared the following statement:

Rio Janeiro, where our fleet is spending ten days, is one of the most beautiful, interesting, and progressive cities of the world. It has a population of about 1,000,000, and is the first rank as a capital and metropolis. Its great size, its varied attractions, and its modern characteristics are not the only facts which make it interesting. It is the largest city in the usual route of travel abroad.

The thousands of American officers and sailors, who are aboard our ships and who have not before visited South America, will be surprised at the magnitude and progress of this Brazilian city and will be deeply pleased with the splendid hospitality of the Brazilian government and people.

The city of Rio Janeiro is situated on a narrow strip of land, the foot of the mountains and creeping up on their sides, lies the city itself, with an appearance of solidity and strength worthy of the powerful republic of which it is the capital.

Within the limits of Rio Janeiro are nearly 800,000 people and it is growing so rapidly that the million mark will be passed before this decade is ended. No city in the United States, with the exception of New York, is increasing its population more rapidly.

Its most striking features are the famous Avenida Central, its principal street, the boulevard system along the water front, the elegant buildings, houses and churches, and the presence on one side, of the magnificent bay and on the other of lofty mountain peaks, in its immediate suburbs, from which an incomparable view can be obtained.

The Avenida Central extends for a mile and a half through the very heart of the city and is as beautiful as the Champs Elysees in Paris or Unter den Linden in Berlin. It was constructed recently at a cost of \$35,000,000 and would put to shame anything corresponding to it in Washington, New York, or any other city.

The mountains back of and surrounding the city are rapidly being converted into parks, villas, and locations for handsome residences. Tramways run to their summits where a panorama spreads before the eyes not to be found in the immediate vicinity of any corresponding great city of the world. Rio Janeiro possesses a system of waterworks, sewerage, electric tramways, electric lights, and a telephone system equal to that in any city of North America. Automobiles abound and on every hand there are evidences of wealth. The city also has its commercial and manufacturing plants, its material growth, its libraries, colleges, schools and hospitals are conducted with up-to-date methods and are housed in spacious buildings with the latest facilities.

Brazil, of which Rio Janeiro is the capital, has a population of nearly 20,000,000. The most startling fact about the country is that it has a larger connected area than the United States proper, extending over 3,200,000 square miles. The total foreign trade of Brazil in 1906 amounted to \$420,000,000 of which exports were valued at \$255,000,000 and imports at \$165,000,000. The balance of trade was of \$160,000,000 in favor of Brazil. These totals, moreover, represent an advance of \$65,000,000 over the total trade of 1905, a positive indication of prosperity. That Rio Janeiro is a busy port is indicated by the fact that the total number of incoming and outgoing vessels in 1906 amounted to nearly 4,700, with a total tonnage of about 7,000,000. Although Rio Janeiro is often classed as a tropical city, being just north of the Tropic of Capricorn, it is situated so near the sea that it has the benefit of constant breezes. Close at hand, moreover, is the summer capital of Petropolis, at an elevation of several thousand feet, and resorts in the surrounding mountains where everybody can go to cool off if it gets too hot in town. The great attention to sanitation has minimized the danger from yellow fever and typhoid, which so long scourged Rio Janeiro, and gave it a bad name in the world. An unlimited supply of the purest water helps to promote the physical welfare

TWO SUBJECTS IN CONGRESS.

Financial and Naval Personnel Bills Have the Right of Way in Both Houses Along With the Matter of the Codification of the Penal Laws—Probable Week's Work Outlined.

Washington, Jan. 12.—In Congress the two subjects which are attracting attention to the exclusion of almost everything else are the financial bill and the navy personnel bill, the former by Senator Aldrich and the latter by Senator Hale.

It is not believed that the Democrats will make any determined opposition to the bill in committee and the indications are that it will give a place on the Senate calendar sooner than even the Republican advocates of the measure expected. There will be some effort to amend it, both in committee and in the Senate, but whether amended or not, it will be debated in the Senate at length. Even though the Democrats themselves should favor the passage of the measure, they would not permit the session to go by without discussing the financial situation, and the bill will afford them the best opportunity for this. The Democrats will take advantage of every chance to make campaign matter out of the situation but in the end they will not stand in the way of legislation as the Republican leaders may agree upon.

Senator Hale's bill will receive its first attention at the hands of the Senate committee on naval affairs during the present week, but it will probably be some time before the bill can be reported to the Senate. There is little doubt that hearings will be ordered. It will be quite impossible to avoid touching upon the retirement of Admiral Brownson, and if the subject is once opened there is no telling how far it may be pursued. The general question of the reorganization of the navy is of itself very important, but the addition of the Brownson incident has added much to the general interest in the proposition.

Chairman Taft, of the House committee on appropriations, will be in his seat Monday morning and the committee will immediately proceed with the consideration of the appropriation bill.

The voluminous bill providing for the codification of the penal laws holds the right of way in both Houses. It has been under consideration in the House for two or three days, and has given the position of unadministered business on the Senate calendar before the Senate adjourned last Thursday.

The Senate will adjourn again on Thursday until the following Monday when the House will most likely continue its work until the end of the week.

CHICAGO BLIZZARD SWEPT.

Excess Snow and Wind Storm Rages For Hours—Car Lines Blocked and Other Public Utilities Crippled.

Chicago, Jan. 12.—Chicago and its environs were cut off for several hours to-day from wire communications from other points by a snow and wind storm which began before dawn and raged without a break all day. Snow continued to fall to-night. A north-easterly gale drove blinding masses of wet snow before it. The warmth of the sun caused the heavy flakes partly to melt and stick to whatever they touched. As a consequence overburdened wires and poles were put out of commission in all directions and communication was at a standstill for hours.

Electric car lines to suburbs were blocked and even the downtown quarter transportation was slow and uncertain. The fire alarm telegraph service of Chicago was so much crippled that half of the alarms received at the central station could not be communicated to the engine companies by the usual means and many delays in sending apparatus to a burning building were recorded. None of the fires resulted fatally, however, and the Milwaukee Free Effects of It.

Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 12.—A fierce blizzard swooped down on Milwaukee early to-day and to-night continued without abatement. Telegraph and telephone wires are down in all directions and street railway traffic is paralyzed. Steam railroads report trains only slightly delayed.

The Weather Bureau reported a fall of 16 inches of snow up to 7 o'clock to-night.

OBEYED AND WAS KILLED.

Father Tells His Son to Take Gun From Rack and in Obedience This Lad Loses His Life—Bids For Bonds Called For by Burlington.

Burlington, Jan. 12.—Leonard Terrell, aged 14, of Union Ridge, eight miles north of Burlington, was killed Friday by a bullet discharged by a gun. His father had asked him to get the gun from the rack for him, and in an attempt at obedience the gun slipped from his hand, falling to the floor, the hammer striking some obstruction in its downward course. The charge entered the boy's abdomen, passing through his body, and came out at his back. He died a few minutes after the accident occurred.

Bids for the \$100,000 of 5 per cent. water and sewerage bonds for the city have been called for and will be received until February 1st, when if the bids are satisfactory, the bonds will be sold. Burlington at present has only \$30,000 bonded indebtedness and for this reason the fact that she has permanent improvements far in excess of this amount these bonds should be attractive to investors.

San Luis Bridge Burns.

San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 12.—A special to The Express from Monterey, Mex., says:

The San Luis bridge connecting the northern part of Monterey with the southern part burned yesterday, causing a heavy loss to the city and to business houses adjoining the bridge. The bridge was a very wide structure and the sides were lined with booths, all of which were occupied by merchants. Adjoining the bridge several blocks of frame business houses were destroyed, most of which were occupied. The loss will probably be between \$200,000 and \$400,000.

Mexican Gunboat Disabled in Storm. San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 12.—A special to The Express from Mexico City says:

The Mexican gunboat Bravo has been towed into Vera Cruz after being seriously disabled in a storm on the Gulf while returning from ports on the Yucatan coast. Water flooded the hold, putting all the machinery out of commission. The crew had to be removed to the training ship which picked the crew up.

Its inhabitants. The mortality rate is only 15.65 per thousand, which is lower than the average of Washington and many other leading American cities.

DAVIDSON'S CATALOGUE.

Special Feature to Be Announcement of Entrance Requirements—A Member of Sophomore Class Dies at His Home—Classes to Put Out Football Teams.

Special to The Observer. Davidson, Jan. 12.—One of the special features of interest that will mark the appearance of the catalogue for the current year, to come out now in a few weeks, is its announcements as to the requirements for college entrance. Such requirements are no new thing at Davidson, but the institution has been rather slow to fall into line with the colleges of like grade in having fixed requirements that must be lived up to on the part of the applicant with absolute conditions attached, these to the effect that the matriculate must work these conditions at some time during his course, else he will not be allowed to graduate.

Many instructors have always felt that such conditions amounted to little, if, no matter what the number of these conditions, a student can secure formal matriculation and entrance into college with the privilege, it may be, of working off conditions that apply to preparatory or secondary school studies, even in his junior and senior years. Certainly a man who had passed through several years of advanced English and Latin or Greek would have no difficulty in "making up" at the last date deadlines that characterized his work in applying for admission as a freshman.

The same news has reached the campus that Mr. J. T. Moore of Sanford, who was a member of the sophomore class, died at his home Friday after an illness of some length. The latest reports from him previous to this had intelligence was that he was recovering rapidly and would soon be well.

The Mooresville dramatic talent was not here last night as was expected. One of the players who had an important place in the cast was taken sick, and as no substitute was at hand the engagement had to be canceled for the present. Dr. H. H. H. has taken an office in the Flacks. He has secured most comfortable quarters and has fixed up his office in good style.

SHOT BY HIS WIFE.

W. E. Estes, Savannah Railroad Man, Probably Fatally Wounded—The Shooting an Accident.

Savannah, Ga., Jan. 12.—General Freight Agent W. E. Estes, of the Central of Georgia Railway, was perhaps fatally shot by his wife at an early hour this morning. He received the bullet in the temple, and surgeons are now unable to say whether or not he will survive.

The shooting was accidental. Mr. Estes had just arrived home. His wife said she heard a noise that made her think there was a burglar in the house and asked him to take a pistol she had placed on the table by her bedside. She was handing him the weapon when it was discharged. Surgeons say the bullet was badly fractured. They have extracted the bullet.

Eight Drowned in Mexican River.

San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 12.—A special to The Express from Tampico, Mex., says:

Eight men were drowned in the Eneuro river yesterday by the sinking of a barge. The barge belonged to E. M. Fowley and had been sent across the river with a gang of 20 men to load oyster shells. When in the middle of the river a large steam tug passed down the river so near the barge that the swell caused the barge to careen and sink. All 20 men were thrown into the water and Foreman Lucas and seven men were drowned. The responsibility for the accident will be investigated.

THE DEATH RECORD.

Mr. Oscar Thompson, of Salisbury. Special to The Observer.

Salisbury, Jan. 12.—Mr. Oscar Thompson died at his residence, 518 Long street, early this morning. The deceased had been in delicate health for a considerable time and contracted pulmonary tuberculosis from which he died. Mr. Thompson was the son of Mr. Robert H. Thompson, and about two years ago married Miss Annie Wellborn, of this city. A widow and one child survive him. The deceased of this gentleman in the prime of life (he was on the sunny side of 30) has cast quite a gloom over Salisbury, where he was so popular.

Mrs. Martha Presley, of Mooresville.

Special to The Observer.

Mooresville, Jan. 12.—Mrs. Martha Presley, widow of the late Rev. E. E. Presley, D. D., who for forty years was pastor of Coddie Creek and New Perth A. R. P. church, died this morning at the home of her son, Mr. H. W. Presley, where she has made her home for the past fifteen years since the death of her husband.

Mrs. Presley was 82 years of age and was truly a mother of Israel, a beautiful Christian character and one who had devoted her life to the cause of her Master, being a faithful worker in the vineyard where her presence has ever been one of hope and love. She has been in declining health for some time and of late had grown quite feeble, bearing her advanced age with difficulty. She is survived by four sons: H. W. Presley and S. J. Presley, of Mooresville; Rev. Nellie E. Presley, of Mexico, and Dr. Mason Presley, of Pennsylvania. The funeral services will be conducted Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock from the city A. R. P. church and the interment will be made in the Coddie Creek church cemetery beside her husband, who preceded her to the grave several years ago.

MARRIAGES.

The Orr-White Marriage Announced. Special to The Observer.

Rock Hill, S. C., Jan. 12.—Cards have been issued which read as follows: Mr. W. J. Orr announces the marriage of his daughter

Mary Gordon to Mr. Thomas Foy White on the evening of Thursday, February twenty-seventh.

First Presbyterian church, Rock Hill, South Carolina. Miss Orr is a very beautiful and popular young lady of this city, and has hosts of friends at home and abroad who will rejoice to hear of her happy marriage. Mr. White will lose one of her society belles. Mr. White is a prominent young business man of Statesville, N. C., and his friends in that city will learn with pleasure of his approaching marriage.

The Little-Long Co. DEPARTMENT STORES CHARLOTTE, N.C.

Stores Closed Tc-Day Preparatory to Mill-End Sale. THE GREATEST MONEY SAVER OF THE AGE

It brings prices down on all lines of merchandise to within the reach of any purse. It makes fine goods sell for the price of cheap ones.

Mill-Ends Does not necessarily mean that all goods offered in this sale are really mill-ends, but every article bearing the yellow ticket is marked down to MILL-END PRICES. Everything in our three big stores, except contract goods, will go at Mill-End prices. ABOUT TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS worth the best class of merchandise brought to the Carolinas.

AT 9 O'CLOCK TO-MORROW Mr. Lockhart will open the doors of the stores.

100 EXTRA PEOPLE Have been employed to wait on the customers. People will come here from all around Charlotte for a hundred miles on trains, buggies, wagons, or any old way, just so they get to this Gigantic Mill-End Sale.

RAILROAD FARE FREE We pay fare both ways within a radius of 50 miles on purchases of \$40.00 or more. No goods charged at Mill-End prices or sent on approval, but money will be refunded on any article not satisfactory, except goods cut.

Where Will You Be Tuesday Morning at 9 O'clock?

The Little-Long Co. DEPARTMENT STORES CHARLOTTE, N.C.