

The Charlotte Observer.

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

EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR

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SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 1909.

WAIT FOR COL. FAIRBROTHER.

In speaking up for his home town of Durham from the bench at Durham Judge Higgs was doubtless pretty well within the facts. The city which made North Carolina smoking tobacco famous has long had its criminal record advertised disproportionately as criminal records go.

But Judge Higgs cannot deliver the final word, learned Judge and close observer though he be. Col. A. Fairbrother, now writing for The Observer from southern California, is the highest living authority upon the subject of Durham. We bid our readers wait expectantly to hear what he will say.

NO CAUSE FOR ALARM.

Report says there is an oil well in Texas which spouts hot oil. This will cause all the more alarm to those people who believe the finding of oil so near the surface of the earth in so many parts of the world is an indication that preparation is being rapidly made and, in fact, is drawing to completion, for the destruction of the world by fire.

But it remains unto The Petersburg Index-Appeal, which can never forgive North Carolina for being last at Appomattox, to quit company with such plodding historians as The Observer and butt in among the prophets. The Index-Appeal predicts that ere long North Carolinians will propose a ephemerical solution of the national Declaration of Independence at Philadelphia, proving in true Baconian style Jefferson's conscious indebtedness to the Mecklenburgers.

ONLY ONE FIRST DECLARATION.

There has lately been manifested a disposition to bring forward rivals to the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. Out in Tennessee they have what is known as the Watauga Declaration, which consists simply of plans for local self-government. It does not in the least contemplate separation from Great Britain.

The Danville Register, vocal in this same connection, puts forward Bacon's Rebellion as antedating the Mecklenburg Declaration by more than a century. But when on earth did Bacon and his followers ever declare their independence of Great Britain? So far from having too much British rule, they complained solely because they had too little. The royal authorities, as Bacon believed, were tacitly in league with Indian tribes which harassed the colony on the west.

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HOKE SMITH'S LAST SHOT.

Of course Gov. Hoke Smith could not go out of office—as he does to-day—without doing something sensational and giving somebody a parting shot. One of his last official acts was the removal from office of Chairman McLendon of the State Corporation Commission because the latter did not decide a freight rate case in accordance with the Governor's views.

At the time the decision was made it seemed to us to be a peculiar one, or rather, the reason given by the chairman for deciding as he did, seemed peculiar. But were the decision based on erroneous ideas of the powers of the State commission we cannot see how that was just cause for removal of the commissioner.

The Asheville Gazette-News thinks there ought to be a kind of Gary society to take charge of those American girls whose parents have not sense enough to keep their daughters from doing missionary work in the slums of the Chinese sections of our cities. It is hoped that the tragedy in New York's Chinatown will have good results in opening the eyes of those who are thus exposing themselves to danger.

In electing as its president Rev. J. O. Atkinson, editor of The Christian Sun, the North Carolina Press Association did something altogether admirable. It recognized the great part which the Church papers—edited with ability and devotion, all of them—play in the State's life; and it also recognized the great personal and journalistic worth of Mr. Atkinson.

BAD BREAK BY DR. HEMPHILL.

New L.L.D. Lays Himself Open to Severe Criticism by Writing "A Historical Myth."

To the Editor of The Observer: The sympathizer, Dr. Hemphill, referred to as the deprived honor conferred on the admired Dr. Caldwell speaks of the "Old Man" as a bright and shining light—"the mildest mannered man that ever scuttled ship or cut a throat, or—invented a historical myth."

I am about to burst with astonishment—not to say indignation! And, indeed, doctor, you will be greatly concerned to learn that, by actual measurement, my girth hath expanded not less than four inches and a half.

I shall not expatiate on Dr. Hemphill's natural and kindly reference to his former townsman, the accomplished and learned jurist, Chief Justice Trotter, had to warn the jury that "this being a gentleman did not excuse him"—and whose mild manners and polished gentility and elegant carriage made him an ornament of his profession.

And here, now, after the lapse of years, Dr. Hemphill breaks out in favor of "A Historical Myth," against another gentleman, who once graced the cultured and literary circles of Charleston, and although he absolutely refused to surrender, it was only, I trow, because of his plucky obstinacy.

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NEW THEORY ADVANCED.

Sam Peels the Onions in One Song and Polly Puts the Kettle On in the Other.

To the Editor of The Observer: Are not you gentlemen of the press mixing up two entirely different stories. One is a song which runs as follows: "Now Sam you peel the onions, And wash and fix the taters, We'll serve them in those 'Chiny' plates, Put on your new boots, And those trousers with the straps, Cousin Jedidiah will take a shine to you, For Jedidiah and Aunt Sophia and Azariah, Are coming here to tea, We won't have a jolly time, We'll all take tea."

The other is a sort of nursery jingle which goes as follows: "Polly put the kettle on, Polly put the kettle on, We'll all take tea, Sukey take it off again, Sukey take it off again, We've all had enough."

Perhaps a separation of the two stories as above will simplify the argument. The first is New England, the latter of no particular locality. HELEN L.

Good Roads.

The people of Gaston county, North Carolina, have recently voted a tax upon themselves of \$300,000 for the building of good roads in that county. They have taken knowledge of Mecklenburg county in which 180 miles of macadam roads have been built within the last fifteen years. In the county of Charleston, as we have said before, which was established one hundred years before Mecklenburg county was discovered, we have to-day only about ten miles, short measure, of that good road, and we do not think that anything could be added to the force of this statement. One of these days there will be some other people coming who will possibly do for us what we ought to have done for ourselves long ago. Surely, in a town of about 25,000 white people, most of whom are in fairly good circumstances, it ought not to be a difficult matter to raise by private subscription a sufficient amount of money to build twenty-five miles of good road.

Quite Beside the Question.

Norfolk Landmark: "The Norfolk Landmark is wrong again, as it is not a question of rank between the two of whom it speaks. There is no rank in sincere friendship, although it is probably wrong noting that we got it first."

So far as the readers of The News and Courier are concerned this is like throwing a kiss in the dark. The fellow who throws it knows what he means, but no one else does. We did not ask anything about the rank in the ranking degree, Litt. D. or LL. D. One man may be made a lieutenant before another is made general, so we can't see what the matter of time has to do with it.

Pickens County, S. C., Farmer Struck by Freight Train.

Special to The Observer: Greenville, S. C., June 25.—Thomas O. Jameson, a Pickens county farmer, 57 years of age, was struck by a freight train on the Southern a few miles from this city this morning. His skull was fractured and his arm broken in two places. He was brought here to a hospital for treatment. His condition is critical.

Misses Pemberton and Haigh Won First Prize.

To the Editor of The Observer: There seems to have been a mistake as to the prizes in our recent floral parade. Misses Jean Pemberton and Lilia Haigh, who drove a tandem, received first prize. X. Fayetteville, June 25, 1909.

Unquestionably!

Savannah News: "If 'fighting insanity' justifies homicide, as has been pleaded in a case at Charlotte, N. C., then every murder is justifiable except when it is committed for the purpose of robbery or lust. No man kills for revenge or vindication until he becomes fighting mad."

SOME OF ELSIE'S PREDECESSORS.

The Yellow Attraction in the Sunday School and Its Varied Endings.

There have been several cases in this city in which attachments to the yellow grass in Chinese Sunday school "boys" and their young white teachers have resulted in marriage. The first match of this sort, made in Brooklyn twenty years ago, caused a stir, but that was because of its novelty. In 1903 three Chinese married their teachers in Brooklyn and no noticeable protest was made.

There is a Chinese interpreter in the New York courts whose wife taught in a Sunday school. He is Chan K. Kew. He came to America when he was 14 years old, attended the Moody school at Mount Hermon, Mass., and went into church work. Eventually he joined the Central Congregational church in Brooklyn and there he met Miss Mae A. Voorhees. They were married at the home of Miss Voorhees' mother at 291 Monroe street on September 23, 1903.

The superior attainments of Mr. Kew won over the bride's relatives, and after the ceremony the orthodox shower of rice was not omitted. Kew presented his wife with the deed to an apartment house at 1,229 DeGraff street. He had studied law, but being barred from practice here because he was an alien, he became an interpreter in Chinese cases.

On the evening of October 1, 1903, a young woman missionary called at the Gates avenue station in Brooklyn and asked to see Charley Shue. "I am his Sunday school teacher," she said. "My name is Tod Livingston."

Captain Buchanan told her that Charley had been charged with a serious offense against a fourteen-year-old girl. "The police ought to have spanked her instead of paying any attention to the charge," said Miss Livingston.

Miss Livingston was one of many well-dressed women who appeared at the station house with a box of cigars, cigarettes, roses and sympathy for twenty Chinese laundrymen who had been arrested on the edges of Brooklyn because of stories told by young girls. The missionaries overran the station house and argued that the girls should be sent to the orphanage. He had attended Sunday school, and even if they were the blame should be on the girls for overtempting them. Said Captain Buchanan finally: "I believe that you folks ought to keep out of this case. It is disgraceful to see the police station upped as a suggestion from their superintendent that they had been indiscreet and should be looking after the girls under arrest instead of carrying solace to the Chinese, but they swarmed into the police court a few days later. The evidence presented there moved Magistrate Farling to say:

"The Chinese Sunday school is simply a makeshift for these fellows to acquire a knowledge of English. I haven't any patience with this maudlin sentimentality which induces missions and Sunday schools to send their young women teachers with fruits, flowers and cigarettes to these accused Mongolians, and I deplore the sickly condition of American womanhood that permits itself to be led into such folly and to place itself in so false a position."

Some of the prisoners were discharged.

HAS KILLED 90 BEARS.

Son of "Big Tom" Wilson, Also Expert Trapper, Visits Wilmington.

An interesting visitor, Mr. A. G. Wilson, son of the late "Big Tom" Wilson, of Mount Mitchell, Yancey county, the latter being known as the most daring mountaineer of his time in this State, has been spending a few days here and like his father has made a phenomenal record as a trapper and hunter in the Black mountains, where he has spent practically his whole life and has killed 90 grizzlies in his time.

Mr. Wilson lives within five and a quarter miles of Mount Mitchell, the highest peak east of the Rockies, and his father, it will be recalled, found the body of Dr. Mitchell, who lost his life while exploring on the mountain, which now bears his name. "Big Tom" died about two years ago with the grizzlies and record of 147 bears, which he killed in the Black mountains. His son is fast climbing up to that fine record, and as it is his equal in this State, Mr. Wilson killed his last bear last fall and since he arrived in Wilmington he has won from home that another big one which he had been after for some time, had been killed by one of his relatives. In his travels in the mountains, he has been successful, and strange to say he has always been fortunate enough to keep out of reach of these dangerous beasts. He can well be called the "king" of the western trappers and bear hunters.

For a number of years he has been in charge of the Murphree timber land, or Green Pond land, which contains 13,000 acres and is owned by eastern North Carolina capitalists. The grant forestry is a new industry and contains unusually large specimens of trees, one of which Mr. Wilson says measures 33 feet and 3 inches in circumference. Mr. Wilson has been visiting Mr. J. N. Grainger, Mr. Clayton Giles Sr. and other friends in Wilmington, and with his son, Ewart Wilson and nephew, Theodore Wilson, have enjoyed their stay on the seacoast. They left last night for Murphree.

The Klamath Project.

National Geographic Magazine: In the land of "Burnt Out Fires" the region which will long be remembered as the last stronghold of the Modoc Indians—is a remarkable agricultural district known as the Klamath Basin, which lies partly in California and partly in Oregon and embraces several hundred thousand acres.

The first unit of the important national irrigation work at this point is completed and several thousand acres of fertile land are now receiving water from the government canals.

Of all the Federal works the Klamath project is perhaps the most unusual by reason of the fact that it involves irrigation and drainage in unusual combination. A considerable portion of the lands to be irrigated is to-day covered with the waters of navigable lakes. These waters are to be drawn off and the exposed lake beds are then to be subdivided into farms and irrigated by the government canals.

Not Very Flattering.

Louisville Courier Journal: The Georgia notion that the only way to keep the white race up is to keep the black race down does not flatter the Caucasians.

YOUNG MAN DISAPPEARS.

Foy Curlee, of Statesville, Leaves Home Yesterday to Go to His Work, But Mysteriously Disappears—Had Had Trouble With Some Negroes and Foul Play is Feared.

Special to The Observer: Statesville, June 25.—The disappearance of Foy Curlee, the 15-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Curlee, whose whereabouts has been unknown since Tuesday, is causing his parents much distress. The boy had for some time held a position at the Statesville Safe and Table Company and left home Tuesday morning, wearing his work clothes, presumably to go to the factory to work. He called at the factory a short while later for what money was due him, having previously informed the foreman that he was going to give up his job, and left the factory immediately afterward. He had said nothing to his parents about giving up his job or going away and when he failed to come home Tuesday night they became uneasy, but did not begin an active search for him until yesterday, when Mr. Curlee solicited the aid of the local officers.

It was learned yesterday that a boy answering the description of Foy boarded the Charlotte train at Barlum Tuesday and it is thought that he went to Charlotte, although his father says he is very backward, has never been away from home and being easily embarrassed could not be induced to go to strange places.

Mr. Curlee says he knows of no reason why his son should have run away from home and he feared at first that the boy might have met with foul play. He had recently had trouble with some negroes. The boy has been saving his money for some time and had \$50 or \$60 which he is thought to have taken with him.

OUR WONDERFUL CLIMATE.

Cotton and Tobacco Growing on Last Year's Stalks.

Wilmington Star: The Chronicle of Burgaw, N. C., mentions the interesting fact that on the farm of Mr. J. P. Wells, near Watha, Pender county, he has growing nicely about 100 hills of cotton sprouting from last year's stalks. The sprouts are in a field now planted in corn but the stalks in cotton last season. Mr. Wells attributes this unusual growth to the mild winter, during which the cold was not sufficient to kill the old cotton stalks from which a crop was gathered last fall.

He has fertilized his second growth cotton and is giving it every chance to do its best. The result seems to be promising, for the second growth cotton plants are higher and more vigorous than are the growing plants of this season.

The Chronicle also mentions that on Mr. A. J. Johnson's farm near Watha there is a stalk of tobacco which sprouted from the stem of last year's crop and is growing very luxuriantly. The stalk is near the garden fence, being somewhat protected. The sprouts came out on the stalk about two inches above the ground and are much larger than the tobacco plants of this year. He is saving the stalk and will gather the seed and try them next year.

New Cotton Mills.

The Caucasian: If all the rumors that are now afloat materialize as to the new cotton mills which are to be erected in this State, we will be ahead of any place in the world in the manufacture of the fleecy staple. Almost every week we read that new companies are being organized to operate mills in this State. The Daily Record announces that a \$750,000 mill will soon be erected at Mocksville, and it also states that New England capitalists are contemplating building a mill near Hickory that will employ between five and six thousand people.

Deaths Must Be Registered.

Statesville Landmark: The Landmark is publishing to-day the summary of an act passed by the last Legislature which requires the registration of deaths occurring in towns or cities having a population of 100 or over. The act is a proper and admirable one, is to provide for a State bureau of vital statistics. The act is now in force and as its enforcement is made compulsory on the towns to which it applies, it behooves our citizens which do not now require the registration of deaths—and few towns in the State do—to get busy and provide the machinery for its enforcement.

Want to Take It Back Now, Eh?

The Charlotte Observer tries to turn our suggestion that girls ought to be very careful about whom they marry to very good account by saying "Just so. We suggest that as many of them as possible marry North Carolina boys." There is some merit in this, our contemporary says. We do not know the "boys" of any State that need so much the refining influences of South Carolina educated young women as the boys of North Carolina. This would be consigning our girls, however, to missionary work, for which some of them are not especially fitted.

Nothing Wrong (With the Blackberries).

Monroe Enquirer: The distressing information is sent out from Louisiana that a number of negroes in that State have died from the effects of eating blackberries. Now, somebody is trying to scare somebody. If the negroes are dying in Louisiana from eating blackberries it is not because there's anything wrong with the berries, but simply because they ate too many of 'em, just as a man can kill himself drinking too much pure water.

A Tennessee Theory.

The Charlotte Observer is grateful that the doctors of North Carolina are going to give active attention to the "hookworm disease." We had suspected something to be the matter with our neighbors in the old North State, but we had never dreamed it was the "hookworm" we thought a superabundance of Glenn had something to do with it.

Evidently Up to Something.

Washington Herald: The North Carolina poet, The Charlotte Observer should beware. We do not know what the State is fishing for, but it is evidently playing desperately for something.

The Lincoln Lithia Inn, Lincolnton, N. C., now open to the public.

The best Lithia Water, First-class accommodations.

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

LAST DAYS

Remnants and odd lots will be closed out to-day. Added to these will be two special lots of belated laces. One table will be a great assortment of fine Valenciennes and Round Thread Laces, and the values are 8 and 10 cents, but we are selling them to-day for 60c per dozen yards—none cut.

Another lot of 15 and 25 cent Laces in great variety, all new meshes and patterns and the lot will be on bargain table at the mid-end price of 10c. yard.

This Sale Closes

as we close our doors to-night. has been most wonderfully patronized, and it's very gratifying to the management to know that there has not been one dissatisfied customer. Not being able to serve a promptly was unavoidable on account of the unusual crowd, and for your patience and consideration we are grateful.

Remember it closes To-Night

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