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OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

A Bright, Newsworthy Letter From Our Regular Correspondent at the National Capital.

Washington, D. C., March 16th.—No man has received more sincere and earnest congratulations on his recent speech on the race problem in the Senate of the United States than has the Hon. Benjamin Riley Tillman, of South Carolina. He did just what he said he was going to do in that speech, viz: He surprised his friends and disappointed his enemies, not only by his moderation, but by the depth and statesmanlike utterances he delivered on that occasion. It was a speech worthy of any statesman of the present day, and the Democratic party will do well to make it one of the first and foremost campaign documents that it sends out to the thoughtful readers of the country. Mr. Tillman has grown wonderfully in the past two years in the estimation of his colleagues of the Senate. His greatest strength, however, lies in the knowledge by everybody who knows him, of his absolute and unswerving honesty.

Some people pretend to attach considerable importance to the fact that on the reorganization of the Senate, which occurred on the assembling of this extra session, that the Democrats elected Senator Gorman, of Maryland to the position just vacated by Senator Jones of Arkansas, the chairmanship of the Democratic caucus, which position carries with it the leadership of the minority on the floor of the Senate. Some say that it is a surrender of the new element of the Democratic party to the reorganizer element or old line gold wing of the party. Some say it is a distinct boom for Gorman for the Democratic nomination for the Presidency. It is neither. The young element of the party still controls the steering committee of the Senate, which maps out the programme of Democratic procedure and policy to be pursued. This element will work in harmony with Mr. Gorman and Senator Jones, but will not be dictated by him or his gold wing friends. His election was a courtesy extended to him as the man who had previously held the position with signal ability and a reputation for an adroit tactician. He is supposed to be the only man on the Democratic side who can hold down that oligarchic and smooth gentleman from Rhode Island, Senator Aldrich, the Republican leader on the Senate floor.

Everybody here is talking of the latest great cartoon by Homer Davison, which appeared in last Saturday's New York American. It dealt with the changes and alleged improvements in the White House which were made last summer at the enormous cost of \$600,000, and which, in the opinion of many, have forever spoiled the appearance of the historic old building both inside and out. Mr. Davison's cartoon showed the new state dining room. Arranged around the walls, instead of the pictures of former Presidents and their ladies, are a number of specimens of the taxidermist's art in the shape of bear heads, elk heads, moose heads, alligator heads, etc., and the only occupants of the room are a number of the human species who had originally from darkest Africa. Down in the corner of the page is another picture showing the portraits of Washington and Lincoln, and underneath the words: "A few pieces of rubbish in the basement."

In another corner of the page is the picture of the present occupant of the White House dressed in his rough rider suit of khaki, and is about the only picture of a President of the United States that greets the eye of the visitor to the White House nowadays, unless he makes diligent search in the basement or the out-of-the-way places in the building. This cartoon is true to nature and speaks in thunder tones of the colossal egotism of the man who is now the President of the United States. The fact that the President had removed all the portraits of animals that had at some time fallen victims to his rifle, was not generally known here, until this picture of Mr. Davison came out in Mr. Hearst's New York paper and some people are actually so shocked as to make unkind remarks about it. But, even this innovation, which was superintended by a bad case of megalomania, is nothing compared to some of the extraordinary things indulged in by this penurious and bizarre gentleman. If the good people of the West, where he is said to be so immensely popular, could know the real Roosevelt as he is known by the newspaper correspondents of Washington, they would rapidly retrace their opinions concerning him.

Senator Sangulilly of the Cuban Senate, has let the cat out of the bag and given the whole Cuban reciprocity snap dead away. In a speech in the Cuban Senate the other day he said that reciprocity with this country was not necessary for the well-being of the Cuban Republic, and that it would not enhance the prosperity of the Island Republic one whit. He said further, that the regulations in the tariff were not sufficient to help the Cubans and were designed solely in the interest of the great trusts of this country, and especially the sugar trust. This corroborates what the Democrats charged in their campaign, book last fall, and indorses the action of the democratic in the first session of the Fifty-ninth Congress in knocking off the differential on refined sugar in the

IN HIS NAME.

Only a Drummer, But One of The King's Sons.

An incident occurred on the train a few afternoons ago, that shows man's humanity to the weak and destitute, and that there is a bond of sympathy that unites all hearts in the presence of sorrow. When the train stopped at Grifton a sad faced woman, accompanied by six small children, got on the car and occupied the seats nearest the door. This of itself might be considered nothing unusual to be seen by persons accustomed to much traveling. But there was another, a young lady, who got on the train at the same station and took a seat farther down the car that was partly occupied by another passenger, too many people being on the car for each to occupy a whole seat. Soon after the train pulled out the person on the seat with the young lady made some inquiring remarks about the lady and the children up in front. She replied that it was one of the saddest cases she had ever known and upon being questioned further told a pitiful story that touched the hearts of all who sat near enough to overhear the conversation.

It was this: Earlier in the year a man with his wife and six children had moved from near Winston and came to the eastern section of the State. He had rented a farm near Grifton and settled there to try and make a support for himself and family. Some days ago while the man was out doing his work he was suddenly seized with some trouble, fell over into a ditch and was drowned. In the short time they had been there they had become acquainted with very few people, so that the mother and children had been left comparatively among strangers and almost penniless. Kind people in the neighborhood had buried the husband and father and made up something for the mother, and now she and the children had started as best they could to make their way back to relatives at her old home.

Sitting on the opposite side of the aisle from the young woman as she softly told this sad story, was a drummer—a man who was not only large in stature but also had a great heart within his breast. He had reared his head on his hand and listened quietly. When she had finished he put his hand into his pocket and taking it out held it toward a companion on the seat with him. This hand was not empty, and his companion, quickly taking the hint, added liberally to what it contained. The large drummer then arose from his seat, and walking through the car held out his hand to first one and then another, never speaking a word. Nor was a word necessary, for in not an instance did the hand fail to meet a generous response. He then walked up to the front of the car where he sat the sad-faced mother with her back to the other, knowing nothing of what had been said or done, where he gently laid the offering in her lap and returned in silence to his seat. The act was done so gently, and unobtrusively, as to make it beautiful and touching.

When the Reflector was told of this incident no names were learned, and possibly it is best so. But the Recording Angel in Heaven knows the names, and doubtless opposite that of the drummer and those who joined him in the offering is written: "Inasmuch as ye did it unto Me"—Greenville Reflector.

Bombay Items.

(Received too late for last week.)

Rev Hales preached an excellent sermon at Silam Sunday.

Miss Florence Miller is very ill we are sorry to note.

Mr Wade Birkhead and sister visited at Mr J N Kouras last week.

Mrs Martha Ingram and her grandson, Byron, visited at Mr John Dalk's last week.

Mrs Howard and daughter are visiting Mrs E A Cox.

Mrs Agnes McLeod, accompanied by Miss Burgess, is visiting Miss Lois Cranford.

Mr Gurney Cox hurt his hand right badly at the saw mill last Friday.

Mrs Lewis Cranford and children visited in this community Sunday.

MURDER ON THE INCREASE.

The figures given by the report of the Attorney-General show plainly that the crime of murder is increasing in North Carolina.

The report gives two-year periods from January 1st, 1880, to 1903 making seven such periods. In the first there were 80 murder trials, in the second 124, in the third 170, in the fourth 186, in the fifth 188, in the sixth 189, in the seventh 204. Trials for manslaughter have increased from 15 for the first period to 60 for the last, and trials for murder in the second degree which during the first two years were only 49 are now 84. Arson is the crime in which there is less average increase. During the first period there were only 14 trials, for this crime. During one period 47 trials were had, but now it is dropped back to 13. The high water mark for all crimes was reached during the years 1901 and 1902, when there were 18,541 trials, as against 16,437 during 1889-1890.

The Scab of the Irish Potato.

The potato scab is readily recognized by all growers of the potato by the scabby depression in the normally smooth skin of the potato. These scabs may be single or scattered, but are often so abundant as to involve nearly the whole surface of the potato. To the consumer they are of considerable importance, since they necessitate very thick peeling, and consequent loss of the edible portion of the potato. To the farmer who wishes to sell his potatoes, the loss is even greater, as the scabby tubers command in the market a much less price than clean, healthy potatoes.

The scab is due to fungus which grows in the skin of the potato. This fungus on old fields, which have been used repeatedly for potatoes, may be thoroughly distributed through the soil. In ground which has not been used for potatoes so much, the scab causing fungus may be absent. If, however, scabby potatoes are planted in a clean soil the scab will be carried to this soil by such planting, and a scabby crop will result.

One method then by which the scab gains access to the field is through the seed. This means of entrance is under the control of the farmer and may be readily cut off, by soaking the seed in a chemical which will kill the fungus adhering to the surface of the potato, and yet not injure the potato itself. Such a chemical is formalin.

To treat your seed potatoes mix eight ounces of formalin with fifteen gallons of water and soak the seed in this solution for two hours. Then cut and plant them. This solution may be used repeatedly, but it is well after it has been used two or three times to either lengthen the time of immersion or add a little more formalin. Formalin is a harmless non-poisonous substance (when used externally) which can be used with safety any time. It can be purchased at any drug store for about 50 cents per pint.

In many cases the value of the crop has been doubled by this treatment, and yet the treatment itself, including both material and labor, costs only a few cents per acre.

If you are troubled with the scab do not neglect treatment.

E. L. STEVENS, Biologist.

Died Drunk

Frank Foster, who lived at Cooke's, was found dead in the woods near that place a month ago. Foster had been drinking for several days and one morning left home which was the last seen of him until found three days afterward. When found he was sitting by the side of a tree with his hand on one jug and another was near him, both empty. The coroner and a jury decided that whiskey caused his death. The deceased was 35 years old and leaves a wife and seven children.

Franklin Items.

(Received too late for last week.)

Several of our young people attended the closing exercises of Fair Grove school last Tuesday night and report an excellent time.

On account of the large numbers which he killed this season, Box J F Alford has pulled down his old smoke-house and built a greater, which adds much to the appearance of his premises.

Mr C G Pepper and family, of Aberdeen, are visiting Mr and Mrs John W Craven, of this place.

Mr Chas Weeding, of High Point, was in our city last week inspecting shuttle blocks for Mr Bascom Cox, who operates a saw mill not far from town.

Mrs J W Elliott and daughter, Miss Louie, are visiting relatives in High Point this week.

Miss Callie Wright went to Liberty last Monday to visit her parents and to get her lawn carver mended.

Mrs I E Curilla and Mrs T J Fruley, of Chapel Hill, are visiting relatives and friends in town this week. We are always glad to see them in our city.

The grocery store of Mr J W Tippett was broken into early Monday morning and some flour, cane-corn, and peaches were stolen. The thief was seen to enter the store and it is likely he will be overtaken.

Mr James Bain, one of our ingenious gardeners informs us that he planted one box of Irish potatoes last spring and now since they were harvested has fed his family on them and still has a fine lot of seed to dispose of.

We are glad to see that the citizens around Needmore Street have made considerable improvements on their side walks, and we think that several more of our streets need working.

Secretary Cortisoy has sent a man to Japan to import terrapins. Mr Cortisoy will at least make certain of the unanimous support of the well restaurants but the Maryland monopolists will oppose him.

Fourteen weeks pointless debate on the Statehood bill was proper, but two days debate on the Aldrich and Philippine tariff bills was ill-watering.

Senator Gorman received more applause and more flowers than any other Senator sworn in on March 4.

Have you noticed that the Republican party is fast losing the support of the leading Republican newspapers?

Judge Parker, of New York, is maintaining the most discreet silence yet recorded.

SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, 409 Pearl St., N. Y.

IT PAYS TO BE POLITE.

You Have Nothing to Lose, But Much to Gain, Perhaps—An Example That Illustrates.

Honesty, according to the trite and rather cynical proverb, is the best policy. It now appears that manners also may be regulated on the principle that it is good policy to be polite. In 1901 a street car conductor in Buffalo had among his passengers a woman who was unable to pay her fare. Somebody had stolen her purse or she had lost her pocketbook and she was penniless. This conductor was not an opulent person, and, as a rule, he was not in the habit of treating impudic passengers with exceptional consideration. But in this particular case the woman's embarrassment was so palpable and her distress so great that he generously paid her fare out of his own slender means. He expected no reward, of course, except the consciousness that he had befriended an unfortunate female. Now, mark the sequel. The conductor had forgotten all about this incident until a few days ago when he received an anonymous letter from Philadelphia enclosing a thousand-dollar bill. The writer of the epistle in question and the giver of this generous and most acceptable gift reminded the conductor of his courtesy on a past occasion, thanked him for his kindness and asked him to accept the money which she enclosed as an expression of her gratitude as well as a recognition of his chivalrous courtesy.

This is a very pretty story and it points a moral. If the Buffalo conductor had been a brutal sort of skeptic and blustered the unfortunate woman with language expressive of scornful incredulity when she told of her sad plight, he would have saved five cents, but he would have lost \$1,000. There is no evidence to show that he is a mind reader and that his knowledge of occult art enables him to tell at a glance whether a passenger in financial straits has the bump of gratitude largely developed, and thus likely to display this gratitude in concrete form. Perhaps he is one of those impressionable persons who cannot resist a woman in tears and who would part with his last dime rather than prolong a painful scene. Whatever his motive may have been, he seems to have acted not only with admirable chivalry, but also with commendable discretion. His nickel has returned to him increased twenty thousandfold. He has demonstrated that in the street railway business, as in other pursuits, politeness is the best policy and that it sometimes pays handsomely.

Probably it may be many years before another street car conductor receives a thousand-dollar bill from a grateful passenger. Women rich enough to reward chivalrous street railway employees in such generous fashion are not often found in the penniless condition on street cars. Friendless and fearful women who cannot pay fare may not always be angels—in fact some of them may be unworthy creatures not unwilling to travel at the expense of tender-hearted and sympathetic railway employes. In view of the Buffalo man's experience, however, it is plain that conductors cannot be too careful in the future when they refuse to aid beauty in distress. They may, if they are not discreet as well as gallant, eject almost any day a woman who, if considered tenderhearted, would send a thousand-dollar bill to the man who believed her "hard luck" story and paid her fare.—Baltimore Sun.

Reducing Our Stock!

We are reducing our stock of Hardware, Cutlery, Etc., preparatory to moving into our new building the first of the year and we are offering some

Real Bargains in all Shelf Hardware.

If in need of anything in the Hardware line, we advise you to call and see us while this reduction sale is on. Many articles are being disposed of at less than cost.

McCrary - Reddin

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Dress Goods, &c. Shoes, Pants, &c.

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We have on hand a full line of shoes for men, women and children. Also a nice line of men's pants.

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Miller & Wood.

Asheboro, July 30, 1902. Successors to W. J. Fuller.

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