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GRAHAM, N. C. Feb. 14, 1901.

An impression seems to prevail among government employees throughout the country that Senator Lodge has introduced a bill to pay for overtime all those who have worked more than eight hours every since their appointment.

The editors of the News and Observer and the Charlotte Observer are at the Rubicon. Each has said his say. What next? Without going into matters, which would be long and somewhat tedious, which have brought them to their present status, we can but regret the turn things have taken.

What will come of the impeachment proceedings before the Legislature does not yet appear. It is a serious matter from any aspect, but the fact that a man holds a high and responsible position by the partiality of his friends should not absolve him from a proper regard for the majesty of the law.

Ambassador Choate may return from Great Britain and enter President McKinley's Cabinet as Attorney-General. The President would much prefer having Mr. Choate in his Cabinet, to having him remain abroad, and the fact that his appointment would give New York two Cabinet positions would not figure at this time.

Burglars tried to rob the post-office at Emma, Buncombe county, and shot Postmaster Samuel Alexander. The four burglars are in jail and Alexander is in a critical condition, and should he die it is believed it will be impossible to prevent a lynching.

Monday was a hot day in the lower House of Congress. Mahon, of Pa., and Sulzer, of N. Y., quarreled over Boer matters. The latter is a Boer sympathizer and he made some home thrusts at Mahon that went to the mark.

Marcus Hanna is still at work on his ship subsidy bill, which has been denominated a great scheme to steal millions from the government—the people, and put it into the coffers of the bloated trust promoters.

St. Louis had an election riot Monday in which a policeman and two negroes were shot, and St. Louis is not in that section of this country known as the South either.

Our Raleigh correspondent has covered the ground so well that it leaves us little or nothing to say about the proceedings of the Legislature in general.

Senator Scott is right in his contention that none but practical farmers should manage the agricultural affairs of the State.

The public school law will be amended—it needs to be.

At a mass meeting held in Tarboro Tuesday night a week it was decided to hold a white primary to decide whether a dispensary shall be established. The vote will be taken February 20.

Washington News Notes

President McKinley has decided to give probably only two state dinners this season, one to the Diplomatic Corps and one to the Justices of the Supreme Court. These he considers necessary, and the invitations will be issued at once, now that the official period of mourning for Queen Victoria has expired.

In the struggle now going on at night sessions in the Senate over the subsidy bill, the opponents of that measure have the advantage, because its advocates—the plutocrats of the Senate—have to give up their dinner parties and other social pleasures, which makes a big part of their lives.

With the approval of the Secretary of War, Surgeon-General Sternberg has arranged for the immediate appointment of the contract dental surgeons for service in the army, in accordance with the provisions of the new Army law.

Justice Brewer of the Supreme Court is telling a good story on himself. When one of the justices goes on circuit, it has been customary for the marshal of each district to meet him with a carriage, for which no bill has ever been submitted.

The Navy Department is contemplating a novel sort of recruiting station. It will consist of a miniature warship which will navigate inland waters of the country, especially the interior West, where much excellent material is believed to be available.

Much comment was caused in this city by the appearance of the official carriage of the members of the Cabinet when they assembled the other day in order to attend the exercises in honor of Chief Justice Marshall.

People who visit the Navy Department will no longer see the huge picture of Admiral Dewey which has been conspicuous there since the battle of Manila. The Admiral desired to provide the Department with what he regarded as a better likeness and requested Rear-Admiral Bradford, the present Chief of the Navigation Bureau, to permit him to make the change.

The division of insular affairs of the War Department has just published a translation of the law of civil procedure in force in Cuba and Porto Rico, with extensive annotations and explanatory notes, as well as the amendments made there since the American occupation.

Junior officers in the regular service have felt much anxiety over the prospect of being "jumped" by the flood of newcomers into the regular service under the reorganization. This announcement from the War Department will be of some comfort to those officers.

The House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds has unanimously agreed to recommend the passage of a bill appropriating \$7,000,000 to erect what is called a "Temple of Justice," to correspond in dimensions and general design with the Congressional Library and to occupy a similar area opposite the Capitol.

Our Raleigh Letter

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 11.—The Judiciary Committee of the House has voted for the impeachment of Justices Furches and Douglas, and the resolution has been made the special order in the House for Thursday of this week.

Washington Letter

Washington, D. C., Feb. 8.—The latest scheme of the republican leaders is to take advantage of the popularity of the Nicaragua Canal project to push the Ship Subsidy bill offered by Senator Clay, of Ga., providing for the construction by this government of the Nicaragua canal project to push the Ship Subsidy bill offered by Senator Clay, of Ga., providing for the construction by this government of the Nicaragua canal project.

It is necessary, of course, for the House to adopt the resolution before further steps can be taken. Will it do it? That seems to be the question. It is conceded that the step is generally disapproved by the people at large, the newspapers of the State being largely against it.

The Legislature decided to abolish the two criminal courts and to create four additional Supreme Court districts, making sixteen in all. The bill, drawn up on Saturday by the special committee, will be passed by the Senate this week.

The word "insurance" has been stricken from the Craig law wherever it occurred, and so insurance companies are no longer required to "domesticate." The Commissioner of Insurance is given power to revoke the license of any company seeking to transfer a case from the State to Federal courts.

A half dozen or more of the largest and strongest life companies in the word will now return to business in this State, and add thereby a revenue of some \$15,000 annually, which the State has been deprived of for the last two years.

Among the companies to return is the big and popular "Mutual Benefit," represented by Mr. John C. Drewry in North Carolina and Virginia, and which did probably the largest business of any company in this state up to two years ago, when the Craig law went into effect.

The rural free mail delivery has proved a great success in Wake county and elsewhere, and other counties should adopt it. The postmaster at Raleigh furnishes the following suggestive facts in this connection.

In January there were handled 11,939 pieces, or nearly 1,900 more than in January, 1900. The increase month by month is constant. He soon expected to see the aggregate reach 15,000 pieces a month.

Looks as though there will be no "labor legislation" to regulate the operation of cotton mills and prevent the employment of children under a certain age, by statute. Reason: The desired results are to be accomplished without the enactment of laws on the subject, it seems.

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