

# The Lenoir Times

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## WHAT IS GOING ON ABROAD.

### The War Suspense in England—The Bosphore-Egyptian Affair.

The suspense regarding peace of war, which is sickening and maddening everybody in England, continues, the only break being the new difficulty with France. For many days past Englishmen have been left absolutely without news of any kind. The secrecy of the Gladstone government is more complete and prolonged than ever was that of Beaconsfield's administration, even when Mr. Gladstone was howling about Lord Beaconsfield's ignoring of the rights of Parliament. Only a portion of Sir Peter Lumsden's dispatches have been published, and none from M. de Giers except those obtained by journalistic enterprise. Thus the country is kept in ignorance of vital facts which will possibly eventuate in war. The general impression from the published dispatches is that the frontier question has been left behind in the progress of the negotiations. Even the London Daily News now insists that there is to be war, while the Telegraph declares that there is nothing in the territory at issue to justify a fight; that Russia might get much of what she wants without particular harm, and that the question is really one of national pride on both sides. England declares that the attack on the Afghans was cruel and deliberate; Russia laughs at the idea of censuring Komaroff. From this dilemma there is apparently no escape but war. It is believed that Turkey had already given her option in favor of England, on the promise of the latter's assistance in floating a new Turkish loan. The opinion in England is still virtually unanimous for war.

It is exceedingly difficult to obtain news from Russia respecting the war preparations going on there, owing to the stringent orders regulating admission to the various arsenals, dock yards, &c., and the extreme precautions taken to prevent the outside public from obtaining a knowledge of what is going on in the government work shops. It has been learned on good authority that by the end of April the Russian authorities will have at least fifty-three men-of-war, all armor-plated, six of them being heavy iron-clads, after the pattern of the Peter the Great, and 100 torpedo boats and rams, ready at Cronstadt for active service.

Vanity Fair does not believe that Russia and England will come to blows over the Afghan question. That paper boldly declares that the whole squabble with Russia is fictitious and insincere, and has been gotten up for no other purpose than to cover the retreat of the government from the Sudan and to turn away public attention from the extravagant expense of that insane business.

The whole town of Cronstadt on Saturday was aroused by a series of tremendous explosions in the port. All sorts of sinister rumors prevailed, but it was soon found that the explosions were caused by engineer officers blowing up the ice with gun powder to open passage for the iron-clad Peter Weliky, which, with six torpedo boats, stemmed slowly out of the harbor to Sveborg, near the mouth of the Gulf of Finland, where they will lay torpedoes and take up their station to await action with the British fleet. The sight was very impressive, twenty tons of gunpowder being used. Enormous blocks of snow-white ice rose fifty feet into the air. Ten thousand Russian sailors who were looking at the departure of the huge iron-clad burst out into the wildest cheering. The feeling there is thoroughly warlike. Officers and men being convinced that this is the greatest opportunity that the Russian navy ever had to distinguish herself, are burning with eagerness to show the world what they can do upon the sea.

THE BOSPHORE-EGYPTIAN AFFAIR. There can hardly be doubt that the misunderstanding between England, France and Egypt over the Khedive's suppression of the French newspaper, Le Bosphore-Egyptien, at Cairo, has been adjusted. Nubar Pasha, the Egyptian prime minister, who ordered the act of suppression, was without doubt badly frightened by the vigor with which France made her command for the rehabilitation of the Bosphore. The withdrawal of the order to the French charge d' affaires to leave Egypt was only made, it is said, by M. de Freycinet after Nubar Pasha had satisfied France of his thorough willingness to make all the amends required. The first proposal of Egypt to make an apology for the suppression, and to admit that she had violated the rights of domicile of the publishers, provided France allowed the apology to go on record without any reference to the seizure of the Bosphore, provoked much sarcastic comment in the French cabinet. One of the ministers thus described it: "Egypt will apologize. She will admit her crime by avowing the burglary and ignoring the robbery. She says: 'If you allow me to keep the goods, I will admit that I broke into your house to get them, providing you say nothing about the stealing.'" The

French charge d' affaires at Cairo has not been ordered to resume his relations with the Egyptian government. He has been simply ordered to remain in Egypt until he receives further instructions. In the meantime, it is generally believed, the continental powers interested in the Egyptian financial convention will utilize the Bosphore incident to force the Khedive to improve the sanitary arrangements within his dominions before they will conclude the convention.

## CONFEDERATE HOME ASSOCIATION.

### Call for Annual Meeting.

RALEIGH, N. C., April 26.

COMRADES:—The annual meeting of the Confederate Home Association will take place May 20th, 1885, in this city, and it is earnestly desired that every section of the State be represented.

The main object of this association is to erect in North Carolina a suitable home for her unfortunate and dependent old soldiers.

The passage of the pension bill by the last general assembly must not be allowed to cause a cessation of labor in behalf of the patriotic work undertaken by this association. That bill only provides to a very limited extent for the disabled by wounds.

It does not meet the necessities of those who by disease and misfortune resulting from serving their State, are in need of our bounty and kindness. While aid extended dependent and penniless soldiers by legislation may satisfy their physical wants, it can never bring to them that precious peace of mind and those pure and patriotic heart-beats of gratitude which voluntary gifts in their behalf always inspire.

Nothing could possibly be more humiliating and mortifying to our maimed or homeless comrades than hearing tax-payers complain at being forced to contribute toward their support; hence this association seeks to raise the means it requires from friends who, appreciating their services and necessities, are willing to voluntarily donate a part of their substance that North Carolina's dependent veterans may end their days in comfort and peace.

From those who think poor-houses are good enough for friendless and homeless old soldiers this association neither expects nor desires aid. We seek only such contributions as will purify our cause and inspire those great and sublime sentiments circumscribed by "our duty to North Carolina's heroes."

This being our aim, we cannot do otherwise than hope for success, for surely the people of North Carolina will never permit the stainless record of her matchless soldiery to be marred by their refusal to aid a movement calculated to lighten and make happy the pathway of her veterans as they march to the camp beyond the river.

W. F. BEASLEY, President.

## Wake Forest College.

News and Observer.

Yesterday Prof. W. G. Simmons, of Wake Forest, was in the city and was interviewed by a reporter. Professor Simmons says that there are at present 120 students at the college. They are making preparations now for the observance of memorial day on May 11th. J. N. Holding, Esq., of this city, by special invitation, delivers the address. The exercises will be held at the cemetery, wherein rest the remains of several Confederate soldiers. The last legislature passed an act incorporating the Wake Forest cemetery association. Under the provisions of this the cemetery has been extended and now contains eleven acres. It is being rapidly beautified, and in it the people of Wake Forest take much interest. The commencement at the college is to be held June 11th. The address before the graduating class will be delivered by Hon. R. F. Armfield, of Statesville, the alumni address by Rev. George W. Sanderlin, the valedictory sermon by Rev. C. D. Ellis, D. D., of Baltimore. The music at commencement will as usual be furnished by Kessnich's excellent band, of Richmond, Va. On Wednesday of commencement week the students aid association of the college will hold its first meeting.

## How Many Will There be?

News and Observer.

There have been many inquiries as to the probable number of disabled soldiers and of soldiers' widows who are entitled to pensions. The estimates run all the way from 1,000 to 2,000. Yesterday auditor Roberts received a letter from the authorities of Burke county, asking for more blank applications for pensions. The letter stated that in Burke county thus far there have been discovered 52 widows of soldiers and 28 disabled soldiers entitled to pensions. At this rate there will be over 8,000 pensioners. As \$30,000 only is appropriated, the pensions will be small.

The rice crops in Georgia are looking splendid.

## THE BRITISH AND RUSSIAN EMPIRES.

In the event of war between the British and Russian empires it will be of interest to consider upon what circumstances each power will base its hopes of success. It is to be observed, the first place, that while the British empire vastly exceeds the Russian in wealth, which with England's large command of skilled industry can be rapidly converted into military and naval power when occasion arises, there is no great power more exposed to attack should its enemy once firmly establish itself upon the sea. Russia, on the other hand, being a continental, and not a maritime power, has this advantage, in applying her smaller financial means, that she needs to expend them upon fewer points, being open to assault only upon a limited portion of her frontier. On the shores of the Baltic and the Black sea, and at Vladivostok, on the Pacific, she is within reach of British fleets; but elsewhere she must be assaulted by means of large armies, against which in a contest with England she would not find it difficult in any case to pit larger ones. The area of the British empire is 9,000,000 square miles; its population, 310,000,000; its revenue, \$1,040,000,000; its debt, \$5,355,000,000. In 1884-'85 its army numbered 130,114 men at home, in the colonies and in Egypt, but not including the force in India. The army reserve numbered 47,250; the militia, 141,982; yeomanry, 14,404; volunteers, 249,422; total 583,162. The regular army is to be increased by 15,000 during the present year. A very recent blue-book puts the effective strength of the British regular army at 188,000, including the English troops in India; that of the reserves at 47,000 men; and that of the militia at 125,000 men. The navy consists of 46 effective armorclads, 21 obsolete ironclads and 181 unarmored vessels, costing in 1885-'86 \$65,452,220. Of British shipping other than war vessels there were, in 1882, of sailing vessels, 14,585; of steamers, 4,381, the total tonnage being about 6,740,000 tons and the number of men employed 195,937. The Russian empire has 8,325,393 square miles of area; a population of 100,038,000; a revenue of \$622,815,000, and a national debt of \$2,080,500,000. The Russian army on its peace footings numbers 780,081 men; on the war footing, 2,300,000. The navy consists of 14 armorclads, 27 obsolete ironclads and 48 unarmored vessels. The impending war would probably cost more than the Crimean war, the expense of which to Great Britain was \$346,250,000. Afghanistan, the apparent bone of contention at present—Constantinople being doubtless the real objective of Russia—has an area of 325,000 square miles and a population estimated at 5,000,000, chiefly Mohammedans. India, on whose aid England largely relies, has a population of 258,000,000, a revenue of \$400,000,000, a debt of \$800,000,000, an army consisting of 63,071 European and 127,405 natives, and a police force of 142,707 men.

## A LOW-DOWN TRICK.

News and Observer.

The New York World is very unsafe authority on subjects where it has any degree of prejudice. At present it is seeking to make Mr. Bayard unpopular and nothing is too absurd for the World to do, if it has the appearance of striking a blow at Mr. Cleveland's secretary of state. The other day a South Carolinian named James M. Morgan was appointed consul to Melbourne and the World forsooth discovered that Mr. Morgan was a Republican whose appointment Mr. Bayard had secured by a kind of fraud on the President. After Mr. Bayard had been roundly denounced and roundly berated, it came out that the appointment had not been made by the secretary, but by the President himself, at the particular instance of the editor of the Charleston News and Courier, who is a member of the national Democratic committee, and upon the endorsement of Senators Hampton and Butler.

The pretended facts in the case were then varied and Mr. Morgan was alleged to have written a pamphlet advocating the election of Mr. Blaine.

On Thursday Mr. Morgan called on the President and stated to him that he had always been a Democrat, and supported Tilden, Hancock and Cleveland; that he had when Blaine was secretary of state—under Garfield—written a pamphlet about Mexico and South America in connection with railroads in these countries and had incidentally spoken well of Blaine's policy in regard to those countries, and that was the whole basis for the cock and bull story.

Mr. Morgan, we believe, is the brother-in-law of editor Dawson, and we think he was an officer with Admiral Semmes when he was roaming around the world in the Alabama making the ocean lurid with the lights of burning ships, for all of which England has since paid handsomely.

The water in the flooded Comstock mines ebbs and flows with the regularity of the ocean tides.

## The Working of High License.

Winston Leader.

The high license law, known as the Harper law, has now been on trial in Illinois long enough to enable us to see how such a system of regulating the liquor traffic works practically in a great and populous State. That law, passed in 1883, fixes the minimum license fee for dram shops at \$500, and for malt liquors at \$150 only in cities, towns and villages, and authorizes county Boards to grant license on like terms upon petition of the legal voters of any town or precinct.

We have reports of the working of the new system in half the counties of the State, obtained by the Chicago Tribune. In Cook county, in which Chicago is situated, the liquor men are most able to prevent the execution of the law, and yet even the number of saloons has been diminished by from 500 to 1,000, and the city revenue has been increased by more than a million dollars. In nineteen other cities and towns there were, before the enforcement of high license, 733 saloons, yielding a revenue of \$89,950. There are now in these places only 468 saloons, but the revenue has been increased to \$253,000.

The high license fee has had the effect to shut up the low grogeries in towns and their suburbs, which were always the resorts of vile characters, and the consequence is less crimes and less drunkenness. The number of arrests has fallen off, and drunkenness has decreased in the larger cities by thirty per cent. There is also an improvement in the quality of the men who keep the saloons, for the business has grown to be more decent and respectable, so that even those who sell liquor acknowledge that the law is working beneficently.

No other method of regulating the liquor traffic and diminishing the evils caused by it has been so effective as high license. The taxes of the communities are lessened and their expenses for maintaining public order are decreased.

## He Holds the Helm.

Suffolk Herald.

During the administration of Mr. Hayes a Northern man who had settled in the South came to Washington seeking office. He had been promised a good, fat office before he left home, but when he arrived in Washington he found that some influence had caused the President to hesitate in granting the appointment. Surprise was expressed by his friends, who desired to know the reason of his failure to secure the position when he had been ordered to Washington to receive his commission. He replied that the only cause he knew was that "the President didn't have enough influence with the Administration." This was doubtless true in this man's case, as it was true in the case of others. Mr. Hayes did not have influence with the Administration, and hence he did not hold the helm. But there is a Captain in Washington now who is at the helm, and says he is going to stay there. He has influence with the Administration, and this is the first lesson he intends the country to learn. We believe he can be trusted. Some think he is steering a crooked course, but he will prove the contrary if he is permitted to hold the helm to the end of the voyage. We have many a time stood at the stern of a steamer and thought the helmsman was steering a crooked course; but when we stood beside him in the pilot-house we saw our mistake. There are some wiseacres on board the Government ship, remote from the pilot-house, who say the ship is going in the wrong direction; but a visit to the pilot-house and a little attention to the helmsman will insure the presence of a skillful commander. Others are criticizing the slow progress of the Government ship, and are shouting, "More steam, more steam!" Better be cautious. There is such a thing as bursting the boiler. That is what has been the matter with the old ship for the last twenty years. A set of new, wild, run-mad hands and unskillful officers well nigh wrecked the grand old vessel. We have gotten rid of these, however, and we believe it to be the part of wisdom for the new hands to go slow until some of the damages are repaired. Let us hope that the present pilot will keep his hands on the helm.

## Colored People for Liberia.

A Raleigh dispatch says many colored people in that State are looking to Liberia for future homes. There are now 700 families, averaging six persons to a family, throughout the State who have paid into the treasury of the Emigration Society in Raleigh \$10 each. Fifteen dollars more is to be paid from each of these families, and with the additional aid to be furnished by societies in Washington and Philadelphia they will be able to reach Liberia with a full supply of clothing and all their tools of different kinds. The date of departure is early next year. In the meantime the number who are joining the society is increasing every day.

## Southern Railroad Operations.

Baltimore Sun.

SPARTANBURG, S. C., April 27.—The work of grading was begun a day or two ago at Forest City, N. C., on the Gaffney and Rutherford railroad, a link in the Atlantic and Northwestern line, which is to run from the Ohio river to Georgetown, S. C. Engineers are locating the route between Gaffney City, S. C., and Rutherfordton, N. C., and onwards to Marion, N. C. Beyond Marion the link has not been formulated. The surveyors are at work on the proposed route from Gaffney City in the direction of Georgetown, S. C. The whole is being done by the Massachusetts and Southern Construction company, composed of Boston and New York operators.

## New University Professorships.

News and Observer.

President K. P. Battle has notified all the leading universities and colleges of the Union of the expected election of professors and assistant professors, besides advertising in journals likely to reach scholars. As a consequence applications are coming in rapidly, averaging twenty per day, from Canada to Texas. Many of the applicants have distinguished records and the trustees will have a wide range of selection.

## A Female Moonshiner.

Atlanta Constitution.

Among the moonshiners now under arrest in Nashville is Miss Bettie Smith, of Fentress county. Miss Bettie is described by a reporter as "the very perfection of physical beauty." She is only twenty-one, but she is up to snuff. For several years she has been running a "blind tiger" in Fentress county. The blind tiger is a very simple arrangement. You walk into the hallway of Miss Betty's cottage and pull out a drawer neatly fitted into the wall. In the drawer you find the following words written on slips of paper pasted on the bottom of the drawer: "Beer, Whisky, Apple Brandy, Peach and Honey, Toddy, Sour." You put a dime on either of the words and push the drawer in. When you pull it out again you find in it a schooner of beer, or glass of liquor. The fair proprietress of the blind tiger is in danger of becoming quite a belle in Nashville. She has not been sent to jail, but remains in charge of a deputy marshal, who walks about the city with her. It would be a pity to lock this frolicsome damsel up for a year or so. Besides it would be rough on the blind tiger.

## Industrial Notes.

The Providence (R. I.) Journal says: "The steps so far as taken in the General Assembly looking toward the appointment of commissions in the present or near future to inquire into the condition of the factory operatives of the State with reference to legislation in their behalf, and to investigate the causes of river pollution, are in the right direction. They assume what is true, that there is a lack of definite information, which is both accessible and necessary for the proper and intelligent disposition of subjects involving the welfare of the community, and they indicate a wise course in which to obtain it."

The Dalton (Ga.) Citizen says: "The young man who knows how to lay off corn and cotton rows and to regulate the distances of the same so as to get the largest crops, is worth a cowpen full of nice kid-gloved, fancy-overcoated fellows, who may know how to lead the german or caper around at a fashionable waltz. Siding cotton, setting a plow just right and adjusting gears so that shoulders and backs of horses will never hurt, are worth a thousandfold more to the country than knowing how to pose in a parlor or to adjust the shade of a cravat to the complexion of the wearer."

The Haverhill (Mass.) Laborer says: "There is a world of wisdom in the advice often given working-men to emigrate or go West, but it generally happens that those to whom this advice is given have not the money to go a hundred miles with. When poverty gets its clutches on a man the margin between the pocket and the last meal is rarely such as will admit of an extended railway jaunt, to say nothing of the capital needed for the establishment of new homes in a strange country."

Advices from Warsaw report that early in March several hundred workmen proceeded to the Castle in the Gracow suburb, before which they made a demonstration demanding bread and work. Gen. Tolstoy, president of police, immediately ordered a detachment of police and mounted gendarmes to surround the men, over one hundred of whom were arrested without offering any resistance. Most of the prisoners were unable to produce a pass.

The outlook for carpenters and bricklayers in Anderson, S. C., is good, and the season promises to be a busy one. Several new stores, a \$25,000 hotel and quite a number of private residences are to be built before fall.

The London Labor News of March 28th reported the labor market as being unsettled, particularly in the colliery districts, where disputes as to wages were prevalent. The shipbuilding and marine engineering trades showed some improvement over previous reports. The iron trades were generally dull, and the low prices for the product prevented any great activity. In the textile trades dullness was prevalent in nearly all branches.

Great satisfaction is reported among the miners of Pennsylvania over the recent decision of a Pittsburgh court that they can only be paid legally in cash or cash orders that are redeemable in lawful money within thirty days and bear legal interest meanwhile.

An order for twenty-five thousand dozens of undershirts has been received from Russia by a knit goods manufacturer of Troy, N. Y. It is supposed that these are for army use. The order will tax the utmost capacity of the establishment for eight months.

After repeated trials, penny dinners in London and Birmingham are becoming successful, though it is admitted that, to a great extent, the children of the very poorest classes are not reached. Half-penny dinners are now being tried in Birmingham.

The recent attack of some 400 Polish laborers on fellow-laborers in East Buffalo seems to have originated from the fact that they received only \$1 a day for their services, while Irish and German laborers get \$1.50 a day for the same work.

According to careful estimates the agricultural lands of California are capable of sustaining 4,300,000 persons, providing the land was divided into 100-acre farms and allowing eight persons to each.

The experiment of raising amber sugar-cane has been tried in Yakima and Klickitat counties, W. T. It has been attended with satisfactory results. The syrup made from the cane is said to be of fine quality.

One mile from Saratoga, California, is a prune orchard containing 16,000 trees. It is said to be the largest in the world, and it was recently sold for \$72,000.

It is stated that over 400 sailing vessels are engaged in carrying wheat to Europe from California, Oregon and Washington Territory.

A Brooklyn (N. Y.) baker, boasts of manufacturing 450 barrels of flour into bread every week, and only employs nineteen bakers.

In Virginia peanuts are now ground into what proves a very fair flour for making pie-crust and other light pastries.

The new woolen mills at Salisbury, N. C., are progressing finely, and will soon begin the manufacture of goods.

Great Britain imported more leather from France during February than ever before in the same length of time.

The Legislature of California has passed a bill appropriating \$40,000 to build a hotel in the Yosemite Valley.

The lumber cut in Maine the past season was 135,000,000 feet, or about 10,000,000 less than that of 1884.

## Will North Carolina Take It?

News and Observer.

Any State that takes a census beginning on the first Monday of next June and makes due return thereof to the interior department will get aid from the government equal to half of the amount paid by the Federal government in doing the same work in 1880.

## An Able Body.

The Southern Baptist Convention meets in Augusta, Ga., on the 6th of May next. Dr. J. L. M. Curry preaches the annual sermon, and Dr. J. L. Burrows delivers an historical address. The convention will embrace most of the leading ministers of the Baptist Church in the Southern States.

## Babyhood.

Babyhood, the only periodical in the world devoted wholly to the care of young children, has succeeded in securing the services of eminent specialists in every subject with which it deals. The April number contains articles on "The Care of Children's Hair," by Prof. George H. Fox, M. D.; "Isolation in Contagious Diseases," by Dr. L. Emmett Holt; "True Croup," by Prof. John H. Ripley, M. D., etc. Under the title of "Domestic Disinfection," George M. Sternberg, major and surgeon, U. S. A., publishes some of the recent Government investigation into the properties of the best disinfectants. Among the miscellaneous articles is an especially entertaining and practical one, by an anonymous lady writer, entitled "Nurse's Day Out." Marion Harland's writing is as attractive as usual, and the "Baby's Wardrobe," "Nursery Problems," and other departments contain the accustomed variety of useful hints. [16 cents a number; \$1.50 a year. 18 Spruce Street, New York.]

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