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Feb. 27, '74.

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Mr. Thomas Webb of this county has obtained from Judge Clarke an injunction restraining the R. & D. R. R. Co., from changing the gauge of the N. C. R. R. track. This is the ostensible object of the injunction, but it is really more comprehensive in its scope, looking forward to the cancellation of the lease, and a final test of its legality.

Mr. Webb sustains his complaint by a series of allegations to the number of eighteen. We have not the space to specify them. It is enough to say, that establishing the fact of the usurpation of powers and authority by a combination of defunct officials, which he does in the 8th allegation, he proceeds to show that this combination, illegal as it was, in conjunction with W. A. Smith, their President, and using the corporate seal of the Company secretly, and without the knowledge of the Stockholders generally, but with the connivance of some holding large numbers of shares, executed a deed of writing, denominated a lease, to the R. & D. R. R. This lease transferred to that Company for 30 years, all the property and rights of the N. C. R. R., at an annual rent of \$260,000. Mr. Webb contends that this lease is void, that neither a legitimate board of Directors, nor the Stockholders, can delegate such powers, and that the R. & D. R. R. Co., is a foreign corporation, and cannot receive as proprietor the property of the N. C. R. R. Co. That it is beyond the corporate power of the N. C. R. R. to grant the lease; that the rent stipulated is too small, and insufficiently secured; that the N. C. R. R., was designed as a grand trunk of internal improvements in the State, which idea has been so far carried out that a car from Wilmington or Newbern, may unload at the foot of the Blue Ridge; that the four foot eight inch gauge was adopted, which is the gauge of all roads north connecting, except the R. & D. R. R.; that the R. & D. R. R., propose to change the gauge from Greensboro to Charlotte to five feet to conform to the gauge of the R. & D. R. R. and the S. C. Roads, thus severing the N. C. system, and entailing heavy loss of business and increased expenses of transportation. The 14th allegation complains that the resources of the N. C. R. R. estimated at five million dollars are made subject to a debt of only four hundred thousand dollars to the interests of the R. & D. R. R. owing a track of 140 miles, and heavily burdened with debt, &c., &c.

The 16th allegation protests against the surrender of the property of the N. C. R. R. to the control of an irresponsible and foreign corporation, &c., &c.

Whereupon, Judge Clarke granted the injunction, restraining the defendants from changing the gauge of the road until the further order of the Court, and requiring the plaintiff to enter into bond in a sum not exceeding \$20,000.

We have made a synopsis as brief as possible, but it leaves us no room for comment in this issue. It is a measure concerted with deliberation, and framed with great ability, and is a formidable demonstration of the avowed sentiment of those stockholders who feel and believe that their rights have been bargained away, and their interests trifled with.

THE SALARY GRAB.

The New York World says the more the back-pay operation of the last Congress is examined the greater does its iniquity appear. It was formerly the custom to pay Senators and Representatives their salaries at the close of each year, the Sergeant-at-Arms of each House advancing money to members on their salary as their necessities required, but a full settlement was made only at the end of the year. In 1867 a law was passed providing that each member could draw his salary at the end of each month. The Sergeant-at-Arms draws from the Treasury each month the amount necessary to pay Congressional salaries, and at the end of the month the members are paid by him, taking their receipt in full for the month. Under the operation of the law of 1867 the Senators and Representatives in the last Congress had been paid for all but the last month of their term when the "back salary" was passed by them and had given their receipt in full, which receipt was held by the Government. Each Senator and member having given a receipt in full up to and including the last day of the preceding month they go to work and pass a bill under the pretense of giving themselves an increased pay for the past two years, when in fact they had given a receipt in full for all salary at the end of each month. Their action; therefore, was simply voting themselves \$5,000 each as extra compensation for the last month of the term for which they were elected. Under this rule, if they can vote themselves \$5,000 extra for one month under the pretense of back services, they can for every month of their term, and there will be no end to the "salary grab" in the future unless those who participated in it, be lastly repudiated and condemned by their constituents.

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May 22, 1y.

INJUNCTION.

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THE DANBURY NEWS MAN DISCUSSED.

Frank Leslie's Weekly says: American humorists are a queer race. They are generally born on some country newspaper, and grow to be funny whenever they seek a broader field for the display of their talents. The first of them was Dostoevsky—we speak of him because he is forgotten—and the last is, we believe, the Danbury News Man. In his day, Dostoevsky was considered very funny, and people laughed immoderately at such fine things in his letters, as "and we took another glass of beer." Now it would be impossible to force a smile out of a laughing machine at such stupidity—unless some other favorite should say it. The new favorite—the Danbury News Man—can do all as he pleases while he lasts, and everything he says will be received as wise and witty. But he cannot last long. He has already taken the first step toward oblivion—he has published a book. By the time he has published as many books as Dostoevsky and the rest, he will be as completely forgotten.

We like this Danbury News Man as much as it is possible to like any Danbury man. He is a bright chap, and he has made Danbury as bright as he is himself. If he goes on, people may even learn where Danbury is situated. We shall like him all the more for so important an addition to geographical discovery. Even the school geographies will have a chapter something like this: "Danbury, a village on the — river, or basin, or bay, or sound, or something, in the State of Connecticut; population, the Danbury News Man; product, humor." Danbury will then be of as much importance as Ujjir or Uggoo, and the other places which Stanley discovered for the Herald; and the Danbury News Man will be as much a benefactor of mankind as the discoverer of Livingston.

POSTAL CARDS.

The Morgan Envelope Company, which holds the contract for the Government for the manufacture of postal cards, having increased their facilities to such an extent that they now turn out 600,000 postal cards per day. For some time past the company experienced difficulty in obtaining paper in sufficient quantities, but new arrangements have been made, and they will soon receive enough paper for 1,250,000 cards per day. The company will then increase their production to 800,000 cards per day, and the supply will be kept up until all demands are satisfied. The total number of cards ordered up to July 1 was 31,038,000, and over 3,000,000 have been called for since that time. Large orders are also held back at Washington. The total amount of orders ahead at the factory is about 14,000,000.

A RAILROAD RING CONVULSED.

A Great Highway Stolen and Destroyed.

HUNTSVILLE, ALA., July 13.—Not more than a year ago Tom Scott (sometimes called the Southern Railroad Security Company) leased the Memphis and Charleston road, three hundred miles long from Memphis to Chattanooga. It was stipulated in the lease that the road should be thoroughly repaired, and supplied with the rails and rolling-stock, and given at once a "first-class equipment." The road is in a wretched condition. The eating-houses are villainous, sleeping cars infested with vermin till they became insufferable and were taken off the road, passenger cars are villainously filthy, and the road, people say, is purposely destroyed, that it may never constitute a route competing with Scott's more costly lines through the Carolinas and Georgia to Vicksburg, Shreveport, New Orleans, Texas, and the Pacific. In other words, it is believed that Scott leased the road to destroy it, and the contract of lease defines no penalty for violation. It is also true that it was understood when the lease was made that Scott had contracted for the Memphis and Little Rock road, which was to be extended at once to Shreveport, and thence across Texas to the Pacific. New York Memphis thus became a point in the short-line from New York city to Marsal, Texas, the initial point of the Texas Southern Pacific. But Scott has utterly refused to have aught to do with the road in Arkansas, and is certainly destroying the road—valueless as managed—between Memphis and Chattanooga. In very truth it is generally believed that Tom Scott and Newcomb, of the Memphis and Louisville, and McComb—the three owning nearly all the railroads in the States—have combined to destroy Memphis and crush the Memphis and Little Rock road, and thus prevent the extension of the road from Memphis to Shreveport. The result of this state of facts and of this alleged fraudulent conduct on the part of Tom Scott is the preparation of a bill to be filed in the United States Court at Huntsville praying that the contract with Tom Scott's ring be set aside, and that Scott's agents—Saegues and others—be enjoined from the further destructive use of the road; and the prayer is that the whole property be placed in the hands of a receiver till the validity of the contract or lease be determined. The stockholders of the road, who leased to Scott, meet here on the 29th instant, and there will be a terrible struggle to control the action of the body by Scott's friends and enemies. I am persuaded that by the time this meeting occurs Scott will own a majority of the stock, and that an end of the road. The price of the stock, which is being quietly bought up by Scott's representatives, may advance from 18 to 50 cents within twenty-four hours after the publication of these facts.

SINGULAR CASE OF DEPRAVITY.

[Greenville, (Pa.) Letter to Knoxville Press and Herald.] The cholera at Greenville has developed a few cases of monstrous depravity, one of which I will recite without mentioning names. An old gentleman, probably nearly seventy years of age, who lived a mile or two in the country and noted for his recklessness and utter defiance of the laws of God, came into town one day, and passing down the street cried out that he intended to spread the cholera over the town. He then went to an undertaker and wanted to know if he could make him a coffin and what he would charge. The reply was that if he wanted it before his death he would charge him twenty-five dollars; but if after, he would charge only fourteen dollars. He told him to proceed with the matter, but to be sure to make it out of two-inch plank and leave it open at both ends, so that if the devil comes in at one end he could escape at the other. That night he was stricken down with the cholera, and by morning was a corpse.

SCANDAL.—The story is told of a woman who freely used her tongue to the scandal of others, and made confession to the priest of what she had done. He gave her a ripe thistle top, and told her to go out in various directions and scatter the seeds, one by one. Wondering at the penance, she obeyed, and then returned and told her confessor. To her amazement, he bade her go back and gather the scattered seeds; and when she objected that it would be impossible, he replied that it would be still more difficult: to gather up and destroy all evil reports which she had circulated about others.—Any thoughtless, careless child can scatter a handful of thistles seed before the wind in a moment, but the strongest and wisest man cannot gather them again.

METHODIST HISTORY.

The Methodist Conference Centennial in Philadelphia.

The centennial celebration of the First Methodist Annual Conference, recently held in Philadelphia, is a very interesting gathering. The First Methodist conference was held in St. George's church, Philadelphia, on the 14th, 15th and 16th days of July, 1773. The conference was called for the 13th of July, 1773, but on account of the absence of many of the preachers no business was transacted until the following day. The committee having determined to include the 13th as well as the 14th, 15th, and 16th days of July. The general committee recommended that on the first of these days Sunday the assembling of the conference be commemorated in all the Methodist churches of the land. It was not, however, so observed to any considerable extent except in Philadelphia and within the bounds of the old Philadelphia conference, where sermons were preached having reference to the subject of the early history and rapid growth of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Conference of 100 years ago was the first Assembly of Methodist preachers in America for the purpose of consultation in regard to their work; but it was not a "conference" in the sense in which the word is now used, nor did the preachers belong to a distinct church as now. The "Methodist Episcopal Church" did not exist until the winter 1784—11 years later than the Philadelphia Conference. When John Wesley, in 1739, at the solicitation of Whitfield, who had preceded him in the work, began his ministries as a field-preacher in England, he had no design of organizing an ecclesiastical system outside and independent of the English church, of which he himself and a few others were members. He proposed to institute a society as an evangelizing supplement to the Established Church, and took special pains to do nothing which would look like disloyalty to that church except when he thought himself compelled to do so by the exigencies of the mission to which he felt called. It was not until 1784 that Wesley took the first step toward the organization of a "church." Previous to that time Methodists had considered themselves members of the Episcopal Church, and had received the sacraments in the churches and from the ministers of the establishment. All the Methodist preachers, who had not been ordained as regular Church of England clergymen, were simply "lay preachers," and performed no church functions; but in 1784 there were in America 81 Methodist preachers and 15,000 Methodist laymen. They were scattered all over the country, and the Episcopal churches being few and inaccessible to many, this large body of Christians were deprived of all "church" relationship, and of participation in the sacraments. Representations of their needs were made from time to time to Wesley, and notably by the convention of preachers which met in Philadelphia in 1773. He, pitying their condition, and yet wishing to avoid irregular action, besought the Bishop of London to ordain ministers who should administer the sacraments among the American Methodists. The request being refused, he thought himself authorized by the necessities of the case to himself ordain Thomas Coke, already a preacher in the English Church, a Superintendent or Bishop for America. On Christmas day, 1784, as many as possible and the Methodist preachers in America met in Baltimore, Bishop Coke presiding, and the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized. He ordained the preachers as ministers, and during the same session ordained Francis Asbury (who had been elected to the office) Bishop of the new church. It will thus be seen that the Methodist Episcopal Church, as a distinct ecclesiastical body, lacks 11 years of being a hundred years old, and in 1884 the Methodists of Baltimore will without doubt celebrate the centenary of Methodism.

GRANT ON PROFANITY.—On Friday, before leaving for Long Branch, the President dropped in to see a well-known citizen of Washington. During his stay the daughter of the gentleman referred to, remarked that she had heard a pleasant thing about him (the President). The President inquired to what she referred. "I have been told by an officer who served with you in the army," said she, "that he had been with you under many trying circumstances, and in no single instance, no matter what the provocation, had he ever known you to make use of profane language. I was delighted to hear this, especially in view of the fact that profanity is said to be the rule, and not the exception, among army officers. Will you excuse me, Mr. President, if I inquire if what I heard is true?" "It is, I believe," modestly replied the President. "I have always regarded profane language as unnecessary, to say the least, and as I am a man of few words, I have never been able to understand the necessity of useless expressions of the character referred to.—Wash. Star.

A REMINISCENCE OF THE WAR.

In his Jail Journal John Mitchell writes of bellum days, 1862, in Richmond. Speaking of the organization of the Confederate army, let us here mention to a very surprising part of his history. "The officers being elective, and the time appointed for the new election falling last summer, just when the enemy, in overwhelming force, was pressing upon Yorktown on their way up the peninsula toward Richmond, the elections were held there and then, on the lines, in the trenches, in actual presence of the enemy. Was there ever before an instance of an army changing, by election, the whole body of its regimental officers on the very eve of battle? Yet here it was done, quietly, regularly, without a moment's excitement or confusion. This, as well as several other examples I could mention, has brought me to the conclusion that all races of men of the world, these southerners have the largest amount of *sans froid*—of genuine impassive coolness and steadiness. Yet the very contrary is the current and received idea of their character. Southern impulsiveness, southern passion, and wild, blind fury—this is the cant—the direct opposite is the fact.

ANOTHER TRAGEDY.—ALL ABOUT A NOTE.—A Marion paper says: An affray occurred in Rich Valley on Thursday last which resulted in the death of one of the parties and the serious wounding of another. It seems that Jordan Combs had traded for a note on Charles Phipps, about which they had a misunderstanding, and that Combs went to Phipps' house to see him about it, when a quarrel ensued and Combs drew a pistol and shot Phipps, the balls taking effect in the abdomen, causing his death next day. Immediately after the shooting George Robertson, who was with Combs, discharged a shot gun at Montgomery Buchanan, who was a brother-in-law of Phipps, the load lodging in his head, causing a serious though perhaps not fatal wound. Combs and Robertson escaped, and up to the present time have not been arrested.

STICK IT ON THE MIND.

A boy in a fit of passion, spoke God's name in vain. As soon as the words were out of his mouth, he was ashamed and sorry, and when he went home he asked his mother to write down all the Bible said about profane swearing. He said "he wanted to study it, and stick it on his mind, and carry it about with him everywhere." So she found and copied the following texts:

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who taketh His name in vain." Exodus 20:8.

"Ye shall not swear by my name falsely, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the Lord." Lev. 19:12.

"Because of swearing the land mourneth; the pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up." Jer. 28:10.

"I say unto you, swear not at all; neither by heaven, for it is God's throne; nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; neither by Jerusalem, for it is the City of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be Yea, ye; Nay, nay; for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil." Matt. 5:34-37.

"Above all things, my brethren, swear not; neither by the earth; neither by any other oath; but let your yea be yea, and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation." James 5:12.

He learned these scriptures, and I have written them down for every boy who reads these lines to learn them also.

BURIED ALIVE.

A Little Girl Cries "Open Open" From Her Grave and is Rescued.

Yesterday evening a Globe reporter obtained an inkling of what seemed to be a sensational graveyard mystery, which excited enough curiously to induce him to investigate it thoroughly. Accordingly he visited the young lady from whom the report originated and interviewed not only her, but her father and mother. The result of the conference was the statement of Miss Mary Myers, who is an interesting young miss, fourteen years of age next month.

On Thursday morning, between 8 and 9 o'clock, she visited the "Old Picket Graveyard," on the Grovers road, for the purpose of watering some flowers and plants which had been set out on the graves of her dead brothers and sisters, for in number, the last of whom had been buried some seven years since, which plants, were set out last Saturday. After watering the flowers she took a stroll through the old graveyard and in her perambulations noticed a little rosemary shrub on a newly made grave.

On stopping to examine and smell of it she heard a voice from the grave crying "Open, open." The young lady became very much agitated, but still preserving her consciousness started off in search of assistance. Espying two men not a great distance off she went to them and related what she had heard. At first they laughed at her, but at length, becoming impressed with her earnestness, they consented to follow her to the grave, which had a small board at the head of it, on which was inscribed:

"EMMA GRIEVE,
1874.

The men found some shovels near by, and immediately commenced unearthing the coffin. At length the dirt was removed and the coffin laid bare. They then forced open the lid of the wooden burial case, when a young girl, between nine and ten years of age, rose from the coffin.

She was immediately assisted from the grave, and seeing the young lady, Miss Myers, caught hold of her dress, calling her "Mama, Mama." She also claimed one of the men who had unearthed her from her living grave as her father, but he denied knowing her.

LOOK WITHIN.—An English medical man has invented a machine by which he throws such a powerful light upon the human body that the flesh and blood are made transparent, and in this manner any derangement of the internal organs may be readily detected. We welcome this invention with a feeling of intense delight. We have long desired to see an energetic stomach-ache in active operations, and now the wish can be gratified. A thing of this kind will be very convenient in many respects. After a hearty supper a man will be able to look in and see whether it is the lobster salad or the clams that disagree with him; when he has a pain in his leg he can examine it and see whether one of his ribs has slipped down into his cell; he can hunt around in his brain for ideas without the trouble of thinking about them; he can examine his rheumatism at leisure, and see how it works; and he can tell with accuracy when his liver gets out of repair and he needs a new one. We shall buy one of these machines and illuminate our friends. It will kill the medical profession. When a man can detect a whooping cough the very minute it is organizing inside for work, and can go for it at once, the doctors and undertakers will have to quit the business.—Max Adler.

TO PREVENT SOWS DEVOURING YOUNG.—A Scotch farmer writes: I noticed some time ago a method for preventing sows from devouring their young, which they will do at times, and sometimes when they won't let down their milk. When this state of things is not caused by a diseased condition of the uterus, it is said that the sow can be brought to terms, by pouring a mixture of ten or twenty grains of spirits of camphor with one to three of tincture of opium, into the ear. The sow will immediately lie down on the side of the ear to which the application was made, and remain quiet for several hours in this position, without interfering with her pigs; and on recovery from the stupor will have lost her irritability in regard to them. The experiment has been tried in Germany hundreds of times, according to one of the agricultural journals, without any injurious effects. It is also said that the ending of pigs by the parent sow can be readily prevented by rubbing them all over with brandy, and making the same application about the nose of the sow herself.

FENCES.—The fence law of Texas has hitherto been a very curious one. Every man was required to fence against his neighbor's stock. In other words, it was required to fence out stock instead of fencing them in. A bill introduced into the Texas Legislature proposes to change this, and make a farmer fence in his cattle instead of fencing out those of his neighbor. Georgia also has just passed a law on this subject, one very important to an agricultural community. Under the statute, the boundary line of each lot or parcel of land is to be considered a lawful fence, and no animal used to fit food or labor will be allowed to run at large beyond the limits of the land of the owner.