The the second s **A Battle With Polar Bears** 

Arthur P. Silver.

story told by a veteran whaler. How the whaling crew went in arch of a whale they had killed, only to find the carcass in possession of a dozen ferocious Polar bears! 'The battle royal that ensued was a most exciting affair.

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N the pursuit of the ardu- fore the days of the fast steamship armed with the fatal "harpoon gun." ous calling of Arctic whaling the crews of whaling ships are often called upon an enormous jet of water and blood to face extraordinary hazarus. seldom, however, after killing some twenty feet in the air, lashed the their whale, are they obliged to wrest of his gigantic tail, and then cuddenly their booty from a troop of ravenous Polar bears, angrily disputing possesdipped beneath the surface of the ocean. To such a vast depth did he sion of their prize. The thrilling story of such an unparalleled encounter was plunge in his agony of pain and fright narrated to me under the following that two boats were compelled to join almost at the ear of the savage beast. circumstances:

It was a lovely evening in June when dived, staying under nearly twenty we swung clear of Port-aux-Basques breeze, steered northwards towards the coasts of Labrador. Our craft was a smart Nova Scotia-built schooner of about a hundred and fifty tons, and in the vicinity before it was actually our crew were picked from a settlement of the nearest modern representatives of the old Norsemen-the sturdy fishing folk of the iron-bound coasts of Newfoundland. I was peculiarly attracted by the first mate, Harry Jewer, a man still in the prime of life, with hard-bitten, weather-roughened features, yet with a merry twinkle in before he could dive beneath the icehis eye that bespoke a happy Hibernian temperament and a capacity for facing with equal cheerfulness the sunshine and the storm of an adventurous career. His face was tanned like leather with being so often set against the blinding glare of sunshine scured by the flying spume. The creafrom illimitable glistening fields of ture had been pierced with lances undrifting ice, and deeply scarred and til the water was reddened with blood, seamed by repeated scourgings of yet so padded with fat was he after fierce winds armed with stinging ice his summer's gorging on herrings that fragments, which smite like the knot- the lances failed to reach a vital organ. ted cords of cruel whips.

other men were equipped with long whalers' lances. I opened the conflict by dropping on my right knee and taking deliberate aim at the largest bear. There was a moment's pause. Then came the sharp report of the rifle followed by an angry roar, and through the smoke, the bear, only slightly wounded, made a rush at us. The spearmen promptly fell back, but the other rifleman knelt down with great coolness and discharged his gun at the furious animal. Again, however, the wound was not fatal. Springing to his feet the man made a lunge at the infuriated bear with his empty gun, but with a swift blow the great brute sent the rifle flying in the air, and with an-After the stroke the whale suddenly other laid low the unfortunate sailor. headed away from the boats, sent up The forepaws of the bear were laid on the shoulders of the prostrate man, and the hind feet were being brought to water into foam with a terrible flurry bear with repeated efforts to rip his tough tarpaulin jacket, when, carried away by my excitement, I rushed up and, with the muzzle of my gun held their lines to ours; and three times he literally blew its head to fragments. Unmindful of a few hurts and a stream of blood trickling from his face and minutes on each occasion, before we Harbor, and, catching a light land could get near enough to lance him in neck, the fallen man, to our amazea vital part. Unfortunately, as he ment, jumped to his feet and, apparently half-crazed by his recent maulsped away he drew on the boats toing, performed something very like a wards a large field of ice known to be war-dance on the dead body of his late sighted, because of the extraordinary assailant.

The bears now appeared to be somewhat cowed by the death of their comrades. The reserve line was weakened by the desertion of the two she-bears with their cubs, and the four monsters in the front rank did not seem much inclined to take the aggressive.

All wild beasts, however, will usually forget their fear of man on three bccasions: at mating time, when their young are in danger, and when their food is threatened. There was nothing for it, therefore, but to keep blazing away at the front guard until all were wounded. Finally, I ordered an advance of my little force, whereupon the disconcerted animals suddenly broke and fled, carrying away the rear line in their retreat. The bears were utterly routed.

We were now kept busy for hours To our great chagrin he dived under Notwithstanding this hard and per- the ice, and, as the boats could now no in skinning the slain bears and in cutflous mode of life his character had longer follow him beyound the edge ting out the whalebone from the jaws

# **IMPORTANT** OPINION

Supreme Court of United States Says Eight-flour Law is Unconstitutional

# THE- RIGHT OF CONTRACT .SACRED

United States Supreme Court, in What Justice Harlan Calls the Most Important Decision in the Last Century Holds Unconstitutional the.. New York 10-Hour Law For Bakeries, Four Out of Nine Justices Dissenting-New York Court's Opinion. Now Reversed, Written by Judge Parker.

Washington, Special.-In an opinion by Justice Peckham, the United States Supreme Court of the United States held to be unconstitutional the New day's work and sixty hours a day's work and sixty-six hours a week's work in the bakeries of that State. Justices Harlan, White, Day and Holmes dissented and Justice Harlan declared that no more important decision has been rendered in the last century.

The opinion was handed, down in the case of Lockner vs. State of New York and was based on the ground that the law interferes with the tree exercise of the rights of contract between individuals. The Court of Appeals of the State upheld the law and affirmed the judgment of the trial court holding Lockner guilty. Judge Parker wrote the opinion of the New York Court of Appeals supporting the law, and the court divided four to three on the question of validity.

Lockner is a baker who was found guilty of permitting an employe to work in his bakery more than sixty hours in a week.

# Big Preparations Being Made For the Annual Gathering of State Educa- Many Newsy Items Gathered From tors at Greensboro.

TEACHERS' ASSEMBLY

Greensboro, Special,-The program committee of the North Carolina Teachers' Assembe has finished compiling the program and President

Faust and Secretary Carmichael announce that the meeting to be held in Greensboro on June 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th, will be one of the greatest educational meetings ever held in the South. The Assembly will open Tuesday

evening, June 13. There will be two sessions daily of the entire assembly: the morning session will open at 10 o'clock and continue until 12; the evening sessions will be from 8.30 to 10 o'clock. There will be two addresses at each of these sensions. Sectional meetings will be held daily from 3

until 5.30 o'clock in the afternoons. The following speakers from outside the State are now certain of attendance: Dr. Walter Page, editor of the World's Work; Dean James E. Russell, of Columbia University; Professor L. H. Bailey, of Cornell. University; Dr. W. W. Stetson, State Superintendent of Maine; Hon. O. B. Martin, State Surerintendent of South Carolina; Mr. Dick J. Crosby, of Washington, D. C .; Miss Adele Marie Shaw, of Brooklyn, whose recent educational articles in the "World's Work," have attracted widespread attention over the country, and Miss Patty S. Hill, principal of the Louisville Kindergarten Train-

ing School.

It is probable that in addition to these, Superintendent Gregory, of Chelsea, Massachusetts, or Superintendent Hughes, of Toronto, Canada, Chancellor Hill, of the University of Georgia, and Governor Montague, of Virginia, will also be present.

The sectional meetings, to be held in the afternoons, will be informal round-table discussions which should be very helpful. The Woman's Association for the Betterment of Public Schools will have Miss Adele Marie Shar to work with it; Miss Patty S. Hill will be with the primary teachers: Dean Russell will be with the city superintendents and principals; Superintendent Gregory or Superintendent Hughes, will also likely be present to work with this section; Superintendent W. W. Stetson will be with

### all Sections.

NORTH STATE NEWS

Charlotte Cotton Market.

These figures represent prices paid to wagons:

## General Cotton Market.

л	7 910
l	Galveston, easy
	Mann Onloand stoody
l	Mobilo 000V
	Cowannah (1111
	Charlogton (iiii)
	Wilmington stoody
	Deltimore nominal
	New York dulet
	Boston diller
	Houston easy
	Augusta, steady
	Memphis, steady
	Memphis, steady
	St. Louis, quiet 75-
•	Louisville, firm

#### END OF GREENSBORD COURT.

During the Term \$20,000 Has Been Collected in Fines-No One Sentenced to the Penitentiary.

Greensboro, Special .- In the Federal Court last week, District Attorney A. E. Holton prayed judgment on E. A. Hasten, storekeeper and gauger of Forsyth, and the prayer for judgment was continued until the next term of court. Hasten giving bond in the sum of five hundred dollars.

Prayer for judgment in the case of James Taylor, of Rockingham, convicted of "removing whiskey," was continued until the adjourned term, and will be heard on Wednesday, April 26th. The tax collector of Stoneville and the sheriff of Rockingham county were introduced by defendants counsel. R. D. Reid, and testified to Taylor's excellent reputation as a good citizen and reliable business man, aside from his occasional troubles with the internal revenue department and the federal court. Taylor gave bond in the sum of \$1,500 for his appearance. The jury was discharged and court adjourned to meet this morning at ten o'clock, when the day will be devoted to calling over the docket, issuing orders, etc. Only the three cases against N. Glenn Williams are now remaining for trial and these have been transferred to Charlotte for trial at the June term of court, should Mr. Williams be discharged by Dr. Osler by that time. There have been over twenty thousand dollars in the shape of fines and forfeitures paid to the government as the result of the pleas and convictions of guilty at the present term. Not a single defendant has been sent to the penitentiary. One storekeeper and gauger was sent to jail six months, a fellow from over in Davidson was sent to jail twenty days, the facts showing that he was drunk in catching hold of a rural mail box post beside the road, he caught too hard, and he, post and box all fell down together. There were one or two more short sentences to jail for trifling offences. Five officers of the government known as storekeepers and gaugers were convicted or pleaded guil- . ty or nolle contendered with the court.

tion of this awful beauty, grandeur and terror of the great Arctic solitude. listen to the tale of his varied exploits when suddenly one afternoon the wind grew light, and we ran into a heavy smoke-like bank of grey fog which obscured all around us. When at length we emerged there was no breath of wind. The sun beat down on a sea motionless and becalmed.

At this moment, to my great delight, Harry, pulling at his blackened clay pipe, tainting the balmy sea air with pungent odors, seated himself at my side and told me the following tale of a strange adventure that befell him in the Far North:

It was in Lancaster Sound, on board the good ship Aurora, that I found myself in the summer of 1896. We were after "right" whales, and had already taken five on this voyage. While nearly all our casks were full to bursting with oil, we had room to stow away the blubber of yet another carcass. This the crew were anxious to accomplish as speedily as possible, for after a nightless period, the sun was now beginning to dip each day below the ed something unusual on a yellow bar as some landlocked harbor. Quickly horizon for a few hours at a stretch, and cool fitful northwesters were giving warning of the approach of winter. If only we could secure our booty and turn our course to the south, "with the Newfoundland girls pulling at the tow-rope," as the saying is in the fo'c's'le, everyone would be happy. For although the seafarer, wherever you find him, cannot remain content ashore for long, one of the greatest of all the pleasures of his calling is the return home with a pocket full of coin after a successful voyage.

A good Greenland or Arctic "right" whale is worth a lot of money. "Right" whales are those producing whalebone, and a good specimen is worth at least six hundred to seven hundred pounds. There are other large whales which we let alone-the "finners" or rorquals. and even the giant "blue whales," as the biggest of them are not worth one- whether the carcass belonged to us tenth part of the value of the "right" who had killed the whale or to the whale. Of late these valuable prizes, as well as the "sperm" whale, are getting scarce, but in those days they were abundant. Each man was sure to come home with a snug little sum to his credit, what with wages and his share of the "bounty," as the men's narrow percentage of interest in the net profits is termed.

"There she blows!" All hearts fairly

been fashioned into a hearty admira- of the ice-field, the order was reluctantly given to cut the line, abandon the prize, and return to the ship. Very Like many others of his class, he was keen was the disappointment of the captivated by the fascinating glamor men. Here was a fine whale "gone which the Arctic casts like a spell upon to the deuce!" Gone, too, cut clean those who have once penetrated its away from the grasp of the men, was mysteries. An opportunity came to half a ton of good whalebone. However, there was a feeling pervading the fo'c's'le all that evening that I would not yet give up, but would organize a search party, and each one hoped that he might be one of those chosen to go out to try and retrieve the lost booty.

coldness pervading the atmosphere.

As the custom is with a wounded

whale, he made to get under the ice

in hot haste. The only chance for suc-

cess was to finish him before he disap-

peared beneath the floe. He would

have to come up once more to breathe

floor, and we got ready to dispatch

him. Soon the line began to grow

slack, and up, up he came with start-

ling speed. For a few minutes there

was an awful flurry on the surface,

while our boat became entirely ob-

On the morning following, after thinking the matter over. I decided that the whale must be dead, as the lances had been driven well home, and had drawn so much blood. Thereupon I picked out six of the best men on board to help me hunt for the carcass. Two rifles were stowed in the boat

and enough biscuit to last the seven of us for a couple of days.

All day the men rowed hard, while I swept the sea with my glasses. The vast ice-floe had slowly drifted southward, and it was a long time ere we came up with it, which we did towards nightfall. In the clear water behind its wake we made out an island of black rock fringed with a wide tawny sand beach, and soon we sight- depths, kept the water there as calm that ran far out from the island among we seized the proffered opportunity. the beating waves. Presently, to our By herculean efforts the boat was great joy, it revealed itself as the stranded body of the dead whale. The men were delighted at the prospect of recovering the valuable whalebone, for here was prize enough even if it became necessary to abandon the blubber.

That night we camped in a sheltered cove of the island, and needing no rocking, for we were tired out after our long pull. What was our astonishment next morning when we found our prize in possession of a company dozen of them-not to speak of a couple of yearling cubs which kept close to their dams-all fighting, snarling and tearing at the flesh of the battle would be necessary to decide bears who were now in full possession. Bigger than grizzlies, at times raising to their full height as dancing bears are trained to do, the monsters before us bore out the reputation of Lancaster Sound for its extremely large breed of bears, noted for their ravenous propensities and extreme daring and ferocity.

It was at the ebb of the tide-dead throbbed for joy as the look-out from low water-when we decided to make

of the prize. Then, well satisfied with our work, we loaded down the boat with our spoils and proceeded on our way to rejoin the ship. But our perils were not yet over. A breeze sprang up which rapidly developed into a gale, accompanied by blinding sleet and snow showers, until our position grew hazardous in the extreme. Great white-capped waves broke over the heavy-laden boat, and we were kept incessantly occupied baling out the water.

Nevertheless we rowed on doggedly for hours, until at length our wrists grew swollen, and it really seemed as if out of the peril of the bears we had rushed into a greater danger still. Fainter and fainter grew our hopes of safety, as the gale rose and the billows rushed past madly, driven to fury by the scourging blasts.

Suddenly, through a rift in the driving storm-clouds the awful form of a towering iceberg was seen, rearing its glistening columns against the dull greyness of the snow-darkened sky. The weather-side of the iceberg received the full shock of the long, greygreen rollers as they swung up and broke again and again over its shelving icy strand, while the steep iceside, sinking sheer into the ocean brought up against the full force of opposing wind and tide, and safely steered to the lee-side of the iceberg. Then the ice anchor was got out and she was made fast to the giant berg. The next danger which confronted us was that in the long wait we might perish of cold. There was coffee aboard and fresh water, but how were we to manage for fuel and cooking utensils? I thought for a moment, and then ordered the men to pare off wood shavings from the thwarts, floorof Polar bears! There were a round ing and gunwale of the boat until we collected a good-sized parcel of fuel. For a stove we perforated the bottom of a large kettle, hanging a smaller one over the fire. Soon we were able whale. It was evident that a pitched to pass round a draught of steaming hot coffee, which wonderfully cheered our spirits. This was repeated towards the break of day. Then the storm gradually subsided, and we knew that the danger was over. Once more we steered our course to the ship, and finally arrived safely with the rich prize of the whalebone which had cost us so much labor and peril.

Some of the rest of the crew were anxious to be allowed to visit the derelict carcass for another bear hunt, but the captain was known to hold white bears in high respect, and it Four Die in Stampede.

Indianapolis, Special.-Frenzied by a false alarm of fire, several hundred newsboys struggling to obtain free tickets to a show by a patent medicine advertising company, stampeded in a narrow stairway in the Masonic Temple Monday night, crushing the life out of four boys and probably injuring several other children.

Long before the time appointed for the distribution of free tickets, the stairs of Masonic Temple, at the southwest corner of Washington street and Capitol avenue, were crowded with a pushing, yelling crowd of children, mostly newsboys, each anxious to be first to receive a pass. When the diswibuting began, the excitement became more intense, and the efforts of several policemen to maintain order were unavailing.

It is alleged by a witness that one of the boys, in an endeavor to hasten the exit of those who had received passes, shouted "Fire?" Immediately those at the top of the stairs faced about and madly began to force a way to the bottom of the steps. Shrieks and physical encounters followed. Those at the top became so closely entangled that the mass of boys fell, clinging to each other, into the struggling mass of youths at the bottom of the stairs.

Policemen from central station responded to a riot call and began to extricate the smothering boys. Four boys were dead when uncovered. The boys fought desperately to get free, and dozens were injured by the first crush or were hurt by the subsequent scramble aforesaid.

An immense crowd of people, attracted by the wild shouts, jostled about the mass of boys and hampered the work of the ambulance corps. The severely injured were sent to a hospital, while many, who suffered slight injuries, were sent home.

Serious damage Near Goldsboro.

Goldsboro, Special.-The cold wave which has prevailed in this section since since last Wednesday evening reached a climax Sunday night, when it frosted heavily. Ice was also plentiful in many places. Beans, peas, Irish potatoes and other garden plants were hurt. Beans have been hurt to an extent of half the crop. Strawberries are also hurt, but not to any serious extent.

#### Great Anxiety Felt.

Wilmington, Special.-Ice formed throughout the east Carolina trucking belt Sunday night, but owing to high winds there was little, if any, frost. Temperatures falling from 33 to 36 degrees are reported from various points in the belt, and the damage to the crop cannot yet be estimated. Irish potatoes and beans suffered most. Strawberry blooms were cut off in places, but the damage in that particular is not regarded as serious. Continued cold and frost again tonight is predicted and the greatest anxiety prevails among truckers.

the county superintendents. Enough county superintendents to make a good meeting have already written that they will be present. Prof. H. L. Bailey, the very greatest authority on nature study, and Mr. Dick J. Crosby, as well as Dr. and Mrs. E. L. Stevens and Professor Pearson, will work with the nature study section.

On Friday, June 16, the State Campaign Committee, composed of Hon. J. Y. Joyner, Dr. Charles D. McIver, Ex-Gov. C. B. Aycock, and R. D. W. Connor, secretary, will open the educational campaign which will be continued throughout the State this summer and fall. Numerous short addresses will be delivered by men who are to take part in the campaign, and others. An educational conference will be held to consider our educational interests. The great educational raly of this day will be a most significant feature of the meeting.

As soon as the changed plan of the assembly was announced early in the year, unusual interest was manifested in the meeting, and this interest has continued to increase.

The Charlotte city schools have just made attendance on the assembly equivalent to attendance on a summer school, and some of the .other cities of the State will likely make the same recognition of the Assembly within the next few days.

A great many teachers from all parts of the State has already written saying that they will be present, and those who expect to attend and have not written, should write at once to the Secretary, Mr. W. D. Carmichael. at Durham. It is important that this be done.

The meeting will assuredly be an unusual opportunity for the teachers of North Carolina, and no progressive teacher within the borders of the State can afford to miss it.

It seems now that the teachers of North Carolina will assemble at Greensboro in the greatest professional gathering ever held in a Southern State. Their deliberations will mean much to the educational life of our commonwealth, and the meeting will attract attention far beyond the borders of the State.

FRUIT AND PRODUCE MEN.

Annual Meeting of Big Association To

of "Jimpson Weed."-New Ice Company.

Wilmington, N. C., Special .- The annual meeting of the American Fruit and Produce Travelers' Association will be held in this city on Saturday, April 22, when officers for the ensuing year will be chosen and other business of importance transacted. Most of the officers of the association are from the

#### Suit For Damages.

Asheville, Special.-A suit has been brought jointly against the Asheville Electric company to recover \$15,-000 alleged damages for the death of a colored boy named Chambers, who received, such injuries in a runaway accident several weeks ago that his death resulted. Elsie McCasson, an aunt of the boy is bringing suit. The suit is brought the Asheville Electric company on account of alleged negligence in allowing their track on South Main street to be torn up for an unnecessarily long time. The city is charged with permitting the said negligence. The boy was driving a team which became frightened and ran, throwing the lad out of the buggy and killing him.

#### North State News.

The council of State has passed an order donating to each rural public school library in the State a set of the North Carolina Regimental Histories of the Civil War. The histories will be sent out very soon.

C. T. Bailey, postmaster at Raleigh, is paymaster in North Carolina for the rural free delivery mail carriers. and reports that for the first quarter of 1905, he has paid out \$149,894.20.

Governor Glenn grants a pardon for William Gower, who is serving a sentence of six years from Granville coun-North and East, the organization being ty for manslaughter. The pardon is on the recommendation of Solicitor Brooks, and the Governor makes the statement that the defendant appears to have had great provocation, and in his opinion ought not to have been convicted. The Governor declined three other applications for pardons-Van Green, serving two years for larceny in Polk county; W. M. Thomas, serving five years from Ashe county for larceny, and R. C. Hensley, serving one year for retailing.

Be Held in Wilmington-Car Load

the "crow's nest" cheerily shouted the our attack. The boat was brought whale sighted against the sun in the spit where lay the stranded body of offing. Blithely the ropes sang out the whale. The feeding bears had apthrough the tackle-blocks while the parently scented battle from afar, for men took their places, and as the little two of the biggest took to the water flotilla of boats darted away with alacrity from the black sides of the great ship, like so many arrows shot from a bow, a strange gleam came into the men's eyes, and their bronzed and of these ten, five were indeed forfaces relaxed in a smile as if they al- midable monsters. Seeing the fate of ready anticipated their triumph.

They made towards a spot where at intervals of from ten to fifteen minutes a white column of spray was seen to shoot high in the air from the ex- five, including the two she-bears with tremity of a black rolling mass which their cubs, fell to the rear of the carglittered in the sun's rays like wet cass-exactly like a fighting corps held the voyager may be at rest. This wriindiarubber. My boat led, and all in reserve. The receding tide had left ter discovered it during a mid-Atlantic hands gave me a cheer when I threw the harpoon, which with a heavy thud central fin of the mighty whale. Those squad of bears. were the "good old days" of whaling,

glad news of an enormous "right" round and headed towards the sand- his immediate intention of proceeding and swam far out towards the boat. These became an easy prey, for they were dispatched while swimming alongside; but there still remained ten. their companions, the remainder of those which had entered the water

> returned to the beach. Five lined up in front of the whale, while the other

broad border of shelving sand, so storm, when he went down to the bathhat when our party landed we were room, tumbled into a warm sea bath embedded itself deeply behind the huge | still some sixty yards from the front | and floated. The vessel was perform-

A trusted shot at one end of the line water in the bath kept its usual gravbefore the craft was made compara- and myself at the other were armed ity and the bather floated with a smile tively easy by modern methods; be- each with a rifle and had fifty rounds upon its bosom .- London Chronicle.

surprised nobody when he announced homewards. And so the ship's course was set towards the Straits of Belleisle, where, like a jagged tooth gnawing at the Arctic current, the Island of Newfoundland rears its rocky bastions out of the cold, ice-laden seas. The snow-white skin of one of the biggest of the bears now decorates the little front parlor of my cabin, and furnishes an excuse for a frequent revival of the story of the battle between a boat's crew and a dozen Polar bears .- The Wide World Magazine.

#### Fighting Seasickness.

There is one place in a ship where ing the most amazing antics, but the

#### Fruit Probably Doomed.

Roahoke, Va., Special.-Reports from southwest Virginia indicate that if the fruit crop was not killed last night it is in great danger Monday night. The mercury fell Monday to 28 in some places, and at Radford there was an inch of ice. Snow fell at intervals Monday. There was a heavy fall of snow in Roanoke and fruit will probably be doomed.

composed of members from all over the country, including solicitors and others, together with the prominent truckers and buyers of truck and similar products.

A big banquet will be given by the association on Saturday night, at which prominent speakers will be heard on subjects of interest to the members. Mr. J. G. Thompson, of Philadelphia. and a former president of the association, is in the city to complete all preparations for the big gathering which promises to be of more than ordinary interest this year.

# \$1,000,000 Lumber Company.

Mobile, Ala., Special.-The Cotton Belt Lumber Company was incorporated here for one million dollars. The company will buy and sell lumber, operate mills, manufacture turpentine and do a general exporting business. Principal offices will be in Mobile. Incorvicinity Sunday that lasted several | porators are Archelaus S. Terrell, Wilhours. If the wind lays tonight, the lis H. Bennett and Theodore Emery, all of Chicago.

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Gevernor Glenn made an order putting on the military retired list of the State Col. George L. Morton, of Wilmington. He retires with the rank of Colonel, that having been his last rank while a member of the staff of Governor Aycock.