

In writing to change your address always give former address as well as full particulars as where you wish your paper to be sent hereafter. Unless you do both changes can not be made.

AN ABSURD PLATFORM. There is an old saying that it takes all kinds of people to make a world, and if the convention of the People's Party, of Ohio, which met last week at Springfield, be a fair sample it may truly be said that it takes all kinds of people—except sensible people—to make the People's Party. It would be utterly impossible for any body of men not drawn from the lunatic asylums to get together and draft a platform, as irrational, absurd, and impossible as the platform this convention then and there adopted.

In a platform embracing eighteen demands it would be almost impossible to avoid putting in something defensible, but there is so much bad, absurd and impossible in this one that the little good there is in it is so completely overshadowed that it is scarcely perceptible. If the People's Party, of Buckeye, as voiced by its creators at Springfield, be approximately representative of the People's Party which Simpson, Pfeiffer, Sister Lease, Jerry Slocum, et al. are orating for and trying to launch upon the country, that party will be a candidate for sympathy before it gets well under way.

The first seven clauses demand respectively that the form of municipal government shall not be changed without the consent of the people; the forfeiture of the charter of the Standard Oil Company for violating, as alleged, its charter; the enactment of a law to prohibit all forms of gambling in futures in agricultural or mechanical products; the election of U. S. Senators by the vote of the people; the rigid enforcement of laws against the adulteration or counterfeiting of food; free school books in the public schools and compulsory education; the prohibition of child labor under fourteen years of age.

The fifth clause, if it should succeed in working it into the platform of the National People's Party, is one in which the Southern cotton raisers may be interested, for a very large quantity of the cotton seed oil now made is used as an admixture with lard, which being much cheaper has cut down to very small proportions, comparatively, what is known as the "pure hog lard business." Cincinnati is considerable of a hog and hog's lard town and it would be just in its hands to secure a little legislation against the use of cotton seed oil as a mixture with lard. That was tried last session of Congress by the Conger bill, but failed. With Congressmen elected on a platform like this they might stand a better showing.

The eighth clause demands the abolition of contract prison labor, and declares for equal rights for all and special privileges to none, and yet Senator Pfeiffer is going around as an evangelist of the People's Party demanding that the Government shall issue several hundred millions of dollars and turn it over to the farmers who may ask for it at a merely nominal interest while the mechanic or other laborer or business man, who may need money quite as badly as the farmer, is left out in the cold and can't come in for a nickel. Is that exemplifying the declaration of "equal rights for all and special privileges to none?"

The ninth clause demands that taxation, national, State and municipal, shall not be used to build up another at the expense of another. This has the right ring in it, but why didn't they face the music and come out squarely and say what they probably meant, that the high protective tariff to enrich manufacturers out of the tribute levied upon the people shall be so modified as to bring it within the pale of reason and conscience? But as this is a "People's Party," which wants the votes of all kinds of people, the platform builders feared, perhaps, that they might antagonize some of the workmen employed in the protected industries, and therefore played cautiously, and whipped the devil around the stump.

The tenth clause favors the wiping out of the national banks, the issuing of money direct by the Government in volume sufficient to do the business of the country on a cash basis, and lending it to the people at two per cent. on land or other ample security. This is the delirium of financial insanity. There isn't money enough in the world to do the business of the people of the United States on a cash basis. It would take \$500,000,000 to move the wheat crop alone of the country this year, as much more to move the corn crop, a couple hundred millions to move the meat supplies, three hundred millions to move the cotton crop, forty or fifty millions to move the sugar crop, and the Lord only knows how much would be needed to keep the wheels running in other industries. A de-

mand like this is simply the culmination of the absurdities, for no trading nation in the world ever did or ever will do business on a cash basis, because no nation ever wanted to "and couldn't it would. If money in this country were plentiful enough to do business on a cash basis, it would be the cheapest and most worthless commodity in it. A man with his pockets full of Montgomery county rocks or of Chicago dirt would be better off than with his pockets full of money that existed in such abundance.

The next four clauses declare respectively for free coinage of silver; against the extravagance that collects \$500,000,000 a year from the people for Government expenses; against the alien ownership of lands; for a graduated income tax, and then in the next they strike a brand new way, for this country, of settling the liquor question, by demanding that the Government run the liquor business, and supply drinkers with their liquor at cost, as they propose to have the Government possess the railroads, steamboats, telegraphs, &c., and give the service of these at cost. They didn't forget to declare for unlimited suffrage for white and black, male and female, and for liberal pensions for the soldiers of the "late war." Taking it all in all, with the good and the bad, this platform is the queerest jumble we have ever seen, and for an illustration of the quintessence of the ridiculous and idiotic, stands without a peer in any political platform that we have ever read.

THE REMEDY IN THEIR OWN HANDS. We have in these columns devoted considerable attention to the cotton question, because while cotton is the principal crop of the South, not only the cotton planters themselves but nearly every one else is directly or indirectly interested in it, for the prosperity of this Southern country, or at least that portion of it where the cotton is grown, is dependent upon it. If the crop pays the planters have money, and everything goes well; if it don't pay they have no money and everything goes wrong.

Cotton is lower than it has been in thirty-five or forty years, with a prospect of going lower still, because the markets of the world are overstocked. The eight million bales, in round numbers, raised in this country, with that raised in other countries, is more than the mills of the world can work profitably, and they don't want any more than they can work profitably if they go it for nothing.

To the manufacturer the margin of the profit per yard over the cost of the raw material, and of manufacture is exceedingly small, the competition being so great, and it is only by working a large quantity that the amount earned becomes large enough to pay a reasonable interest on the investment. We speak here of the cotton mills of the world at large. The mills of the South are an exception because they have advantages in being near the cotton fields and in other respects, which other mills do not have, and they can run at a good profit when other mills run at a very small profit.

As yet Southern mills work but a very small proportion of the crop raised, and the South yet buys millions of yards of cotton goods for which she pays the manufacturer's and dealer's profits out of the raw cotton she sold at a low price. The time will be when the South will quit that foolishness, and manufacture not only all needed for home use, but to ship and supply the demands of other sections. When that time comes there will be more certainty of reasonable profit in cotton culture because there will be a larger and a reliable home market for it. But, that time is still too remote to present a sunlit vista to the planter who grows cotton and tries to make ends meet at present prices.

In the meantime the farmer must not delude himself with the hope that anybody is going to help him but himself, nor put his dependence on legislative enactments to raise the price of anything he has to sell the decimal point of a cent. The only legislation he ought to ask or expect is legislation to relieve him from some, if not all, of the onerous burdens that have been imposed upon him by unjustly discriminating legislation in the interest of certain favored ones who stood in with and footed campaign expenses and election bills for the party in power. If they got this they could, take for their own advancement, "rote their own skill" and scuffle along for themselves.

In discussing this question we have maintained that the cotton planters are, if they will be, masters of the situation, and can do in their own interest what no legislation can do for them, however friendly the legislators may be or however much they may desire to aid the industry of the farm. To this end we have urged a reduction of acreage, diversified agriculture, and the establishment of cotton factories by the planters to work up the cotton and get not simply the price of the raw cotton but the profit there may be in the cotton converted into finished forms. This would keep at home a great quantity of the cotton which now goes abroad to glut the market

and run down the price. The reduction of acreage by agreement and standing honestly by the agreement is practicable. It is not likely the proposition would be agreed to by all, but it might be by enough to accomplish the object in view, a reduction of the product to about 5,000,000 bales which would pay as well as an 8,000,000 crop, and could by better culture be raised on half the land. It is estimated that there are this year 28,000,000 acres under cotton and the figures show that on the average it takes three and a half acres to produce a bale of cotton. There is no money in that, even with cotton at what is considered a fair price. It is too much land and too much money for the cotton, and too little money for the land and the poor. Even if cotton brought a reasonable price there ought to be a reduction of acreage and better culture to get more out of the acre and save labor; but reduction of acreage and of product must come before prosperity can come to cotton planters.

MINOR MENTION. The advance sheets of Poor's Railway Manual present some interesting facts and figures as to the railroads in this country. The capital nominally or actually invested, funded and unfunded debts, amounts to \$10,122,639,900, nearly twice as much as it was ten years ago. The mileage has reached 166,817 miles, an increase of 5,498 miles in the past year. The cost of roads has increased from \$53,274 in 1889 to \$59,638 in 1890. The gross earnings for the past year amount to 11 per cent, the net earnings to less than 3 1/2 per cent. The number of passengers carried was 520,439,082, for which the companies received \$273,664,439, or a little over 52 cents each. The freight carried amounted to 701,334,438 tons, for which the companies received \$740,374,844 or a little over a dollar a ton. Considering the vast amount of business done, and the bona fide capital invested, if we put it at one half the nominal capital, less than three and a half per cent. net earnings show that the railroad business as a whole is not a bonanza in this country. While a few of the roads may make handsome earnings, the majority of them do not clear enough to pay a fair interest on the capital invested. But some of the modern statesmen and financiers, who seem to think that the railroads are coining money out of the people, want a job of which the Government would soon get pretty sick if it undertook it, and of which the people would get pretty sick long before they had paid in taxes the \$10,122,639,900, which the roads are valued at. Figures are good things to enlighten people and explode visionary or insane theories.

There is too much fooling with the press these days by Legislatures, and sometimes by Judges, to prevent them from publishing legitimate news, an illustration of which is furnished in the law passed by the Legislature of New York prohibiting the papers from publishing anything but the mere announcement of the fact of the execution of condemned criminals. This law was purposely violated by every leading paper in New York city, with the exception of the *Tribune*, when the four men were recently executed in Sing Sing prison, and as all the offenders in the city, but singular to say, none outside of the city, were indicted, the constitutionality of the law will be tested. It was passed in deference to the sentiment that the publication of the details of executions is demoralizing, and the motive was doubtless good, but carried to its logical conclusion it would justify the passage of a law prohibiting the publication of reports of horse races, prize fights, divorce trials, murder trials, lynchings and dozens of other things that are just as demoralizing. A case has just been settled by the Supreme Court of Montana which sat down upon one of the inferior court judges for publishing an opinion expressed by some one that a certain case could not be impartially tried in a certain county, the Supreme Court holding the proper way for a court to be above contempt was by fearlessly and impartially administering the law and not by attempting to gag editors and throttle the press.

There may be some distinction between there is not much fun in being a mayor or a councilman in Kansas city, Kansas, while there are such men at John B. Scroggs and such mobs lying around scraggs as reported in the press dispatches yesterday. The purchase of an electric light plant for \$340,000 they evidently considered too serious a matter to make light of and in place of suspending judgment until the aforementioned mayor and councilmen could be heard from they councilled amongst themselves in a wild, breezy, impetuous way and concluded that the best thing to do to suspend the proceedings of the board of councilmen would be to summarily suspend them all, which humane resolve seems to have been defeated by the impromptu adjournment to parts unknown of the city fathers. This is not the most commendable, dignified and orderly way of entering protests, but it is energetic and emphatic, and will probably prove effectual in preventing municipal deals that the denizens don't endorse.

STATE TOPICS. Tobacco has taken permanent root in Eastern North Carolina, and the indications are that in the near future tobacco culture will not simply be one of the leading crops, but the leading crop. Having demonstrated the success of the crop as a money making one, the next thing in order will be to establish in the counties or vicinity of where the tobacco is grown, good home markets, which will not be dependent upon other markets or upon buyers from other sections. This can be done by warehouses alone for the sale of the leaf, but by the establishment of manufactories for the manufacture of the leaf. Warehouses do well enough as far as they go, but warehouses with factories will fill the bill and ensure a home market for the tobacco raiser, and one upon which he can count for ready sales and the best prices.

The New York Press, Rep., has the cheek to lecture David B. Hill on the "broken pledges." If all the broken pledges of the Press party could be gathered up there would be enough to stock a first class junk shop.

A Providence, R. I., retired business man rashly undertook to demonstrate that the McKinley tariff was a good thing and ended by committing suicide.

THE STATE FAIR. To be held in Raleigh October 23rd-28th, during the Southern Exposition. The premium list, to be held at Raleigh, October 18th to 26th, during the Southern Exposition, has been received. It contains a long list of valuable premiums on agricultural crops produced in North Carolina. For instance, forty dollars is to be awarded for best cotton; five dollars on best packed bale; seventy dollars on best tobacco; about fifty dollars on corn; forty-five dollars on wheat; same on oats; about twenty-five dollars on rye; forty-five dollars on field peas; seventeen dollars on ground peas; forty-five on hay; forty dollars on grass seeds; best ten pounds of flax five dollars. There are also splendid premiums on hams, cattle, hogs, sheep and poultry. Nearly two hundred dollars offered on fruit, fourteen dollars on dried fruits; five dollars on a five pound home made cheese; five dollars on a native of hard home made soap; three dollars on best gallon of home made soap—the winning soap and winning cheese to be given to the North Carolina Soldiers' Home; six dollars for best five pounds of starch made from corn or wheat; three dollars on best ten pounds of beef; ten dollars on live bees showing best working by having glass in the side of the gum; ten dollars on best ten pounds of butter; three dollars for best gallon of sorghum syrup or molasses; two dollars on best dozen heads of broom corn. Premiums worth more than fifty dollars are offered on the best bushel of Irish potatoes; two dollars on best dozen stalks of sorghum or molasses cane.

All who make exhibits at the State Fair of articles that can be used at the North Carolina Soldiers' Home, are urged to aid the old soldiers by making donations.

ANOTHER STORM WAVE. Prof. Foster Says It Will Precede the Hottest Spell of the Season. Prof. Foster is out with another storm wave. This one is to start, according to his predictions, from the Pacific coast about the 18th, cross the Rocky-Alleghany valley from the 17th to 19th, and reach the Atlantic coast about the 20th. The regular movement of these mid-summer storm waves from the west to east, he says, will not be so manifest to casual observers as were those of the spring months. The rains and other effects will develop only in isolated localities and will appear more as chance and irregular disturbances than the effects of regular storm waves. This storm wave will inaugurate the hottest period of the summer, and bring the finest corn and cotton weather of the season. The weather will not be settled, but changeable from 16th to 22d, after which it will be more uniformly warm and dry.

FARMERS' ALLIANCE. The State Convention at Morehead—President Carr's Address—Col. L. L. Folk. The North Carolina Convention of the Farmers' Alliance at Morehead was attended by delegates representing ninety-two counties. President Elias Carr presided, and in his annual address reviewed the history of the State organization, advocated minor changes in the State constitution, outlined the policy of the organization, and closed with a strong presentation of the duty of members. The report of the State Secretary shows a membership of over one hundred thousand. President Folk delivered a public address in the Atlantic Hotel. It was a powerful speech, and one of the happiest efforts of his life. Colonel Folk left yesterday morning for Maryland, to attend the State Farmers' Alliance Convention in session there.

The accident to Dr. Blizard and Wife. Dr. Blizard and wife, of Bladen county, who were thrown out of a buggy last Wednesday by the horse they were driving running away, (as told in the STAR at the time) were both severely hurt, but it was thought that they would soon recover from the injuries they received. It has since been reported, however, that the doctor and his wife were much worse, and Tuesday last their son, Mr. W. A. Blizard, of this city, was called to their bedside, and left at once to be with them.

"What Will the Harvest Be?" A leading cotton merchant in this city received the following dispatch from a prominent cotton broker in New York city, viz: New York, Aug. 12.—Galveston *News* makes the acreage ten per cent. larger and the condition 15 per cent. better than last year's cotton crop in Texas.

RAILROAD NOTES. The First Mail on the Atlantic Coast Line The Fayetteville Short Out.

The Weldon, N. C., correspondent of the Richmond *Times* says: The report which was current a short time ago that the fast mail train over the Atlantic Coast Line would soon be discontinued seems to be without foundation. A gentleman well informed in this matter, by virtue of his official connection with the road, informed your correspondent the sole reason why the Postoffice Department ever considered the advisability of discontinuing this mail service was that the depleted Treasury demanded the curtailment over possible expense. There is no truth in the report that the Richmond and Danville system had under the Atlantic Coast Line. The department has reduced the subsidy to the Coast Line by one-third, and showed a disposition to make a still further reduction, but has not yet done so.

SUDDEN DEATH. Of Capt. R. H. Tomlinson of the Steamer Cape Fear.

Maj. T. D. Love received a telegram from Fayetteville yesterday morning announcing the death in that city yesterday on Monday night, of Capt. R. H. Tomlinson, well known in this city as the master of the steamer *Cape Fear*. His death is said to have resulted from congestion of the lungs. Capt. Tomlinson's wife and three children who were spending the summer at Carolina Beach, were at once informed of the distressing event, and came up to this city and left for Fayetteville by train on the C. F. & Y. railroad yesterday afternoon.

Chief Engineer Pavie of the Fire Department of Newbern. (Special Star Telegram.)

SUDDEN DEATH. NEWBERN, N. C., August 11.—E. N. Pavie, Chief Engineer of the Fire Department of this city, a prominent contractor and builder, was found dead in his bed this morning. Mr. Pavie was in his usual good health up to Sunday. On Monday he was complaining and went to a physician, who apprehended no serious trouble; but on Tuesday morning he was found in his bed a lifeless corpse. Fatty degeneration of the heart was the disease which took him off so suddenly. He had hosts of friends in this community and his death casts a gloom over the whole city. He was a native of New York and came down here during the war. His wife had preceded him to the better world, and he leaves no children but an adopted daughter and an aged mother here, who are prostrated in grief.

South Carolina's Blue Crop. From the *Charleston News and Courier*: A gentleman who has something to do with rice said yesterday that he had conversed with three or four rice planters, men who plant on Cooper, Combahee and Pon-Pon rivers, and who in all usually raise each season about seventy thousand bushels of rough rice, and was surprised to learn from them that notwithstanding it is a fact that the growing crop of Carolina rice is an extremely healthy condition, the yield per acre is by them and their neighbors also expected to be, and is sure to be, a light one, below the average. They mention that the fields do not present a thick and velvety appearance when looked down on, but instead show water now turned on the fields shows through the growing rice. All interested have been expecting a large crop, and this information leads him to fear a disappointment. Last season's crop was short, and this now growing may prove no larger.

Distressing Accident. Down in the Stump Sound section, last Saturday a most unfortunate accident occurred, resulting in the death of the infant child of Mr. Willoughby Hansley. It seems that Mrs. Hansley, the mother of the child, was compelled to leave it for a short time in the house by itself, and to keep it from tumbling out of doors or getting into mischief secured it with a cord, one end of which was tied around the infant's waist and the other to a bed-post. On returning to the house Mrs. Hansley was horrified to find her child was strangled to death with the cord, that in some way had become wrapped tightly around its neck.

OUT OF THE WOLVES' CLOTH. A Weldon dispatch to the *Richmond Times* says: A few days ago in Wilmington considerable indignation was raised by the announcement of Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumptive Cough, when used for any affection of Throat, Lungs or Chest, such as Consumption, Influenza, Lung, Bronchitis, Asthma, Whooping Cough, Croup, etc., etc. It is pleasant and agreeable to taste, perfectly safe, and can always be depended upon to reach its object. Trial bottles free at R. R. BELLAMY'S Dispensary.

MUTINY IN WAKE JAIL. Terrorist Conflict Between a Deputy Sheriff, Jailor and a Negro Prisoner—Sheriff in Raleigh.

A bold and cleverly contrived attempt at escape was made in the Wake county jail on Sunday, and a well-laid scheme frustrated after a bloody fight with one of the prisoners, a negro named Willoughby, who had been put up in default of bail for getting the pass book of Mr. P. Lindean and procuring a quantity of grain and forage from Latta & Wyatt thereon.

SUDDEN DEATH. Mr. M. H. Brown, deputy sheriff and jailor, went into the jail as usual Sunday morning to give the prisoners their breakfast. There are seven prisoners in the jail. He has allowed them to leave their cells and go in the corridor around the central cage for exercise. He had the rations brought in by Mr. Wm. Leary, steward, and placed in an end cell and ordered the prisoners in their cells preparatory to giving them breakfast. There was a pile of blankets and clothing in the corridor and Willoughby had concealed himself underneath this pile. After the lever had been closed and locked Willoughby sprang up. Mr. Brown turned and caught him by the collar and attempted to put him in his cell. Willoughby snatched the bunch of keys out of Mr. Brown's hand and dealt him a stunning blow on the head with them. He had then to the lever and tried to push it back, but found it locked and so he could not get his confederates out to assist him. He then made for the door. By this time Mr. Brown had sufficiently recovered to renew the fight and caught Willoughby again. This time Willoughby pounded him in the face and drove him down stairs. Mr. Brown then came to his assistance and caught Willoughby and the latter at once began to batter him with the keys, each of which weighs about a pound. Mr. Leary's little son was on the outside of the door of the jail where his father had placed him and made him believe he was on the outside. The negro went to the door and told the child if he did not open the door he would "kill both the damned men in-entery afternoon."

Capt. Tomlinson had been suffering for some months past with rheumatism, and had not been running regularly on the steamer *Cape Fear* recently. He was about 38 years of age, a native of Fayetteville, and enjoyed the respect and esteem of a large circle of acquaintances, and the warm friendship of many who deeply sympathize with his family in their sad bereavement.

SUDDEN DEATH. Chief Engineer Pavie of the Fire Department of Newbern. (Special Star Telegram.)

CRIMINAL COURT JURORS. The List for the September Term as Drawn Yesterday.

The County Commissioners at their meeting yesterday drew the jurors for the September term of the Criminal Court as follows: H. H. Volkers, Michael Griffin, S. J. Jones, Geo. F. J. Jernigan, S. I. Sternberger, J. J. Brewer, S. W. Noble, Thos. M. Gardner, J. D. Bell, W. M. Poisson, S. A. Schloss, Chas. Craig, Jr., M. B. Shrier, R. F. Ronan, Hosea Shepherd, W. D. Rhodes, Sol. J. Jones, Jno. L. Breckenridge, J. T. Kerr, W. S. Ellis, J. W. Vass, J. T. Sholar, Wm. Melton, Jno. Shehan, Jr., A. M. Wilson, Wm. Costin, L. R. Mason, C. H. Schulken, S. W. Skinner, Robt. Green.

A Handsome Gift to the University. The *Wilmington News and Observer* says: At the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University yesterday, President Winston informed the Board that he had received from Mr. D. G. Worth, of Wilmington, a check of \$500, to remodel the Chapel. President Winston also stated that the University has pressing need for \$1,000 to build an infirmary; for \$500 to complete the Athletic and Gymnasium Equipment, and for \$500 to equip the Biological Department.

Suicide of a Colored Woman. A discolored woman named Lucy Moore, committed suicide Sunday morning last by taking laudanum at a house in Strauss' Alley over in Brooklyn. The reason assigned by some of the woman's acquaintances was that she had been living with him abandoned her.

CONDITION OF COTTON. It is Practically the Same as Last Month—Crop Generally Late—Stale Aragoas, Etc.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—August returns to the Department of Agriculture make the condition of cotton 88.9 for the whole breadth—practically the same as last month. Improvement during the month has been confined to sections of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas. In other portions of the cotton belt there has been a decline in condition. There was excess of rainfall during the whole month over the whole breadth, except in Louisiana, Florida and the greater part of Texas, and this excess of moisture was, as a rule, accompanied by temperature below normal. The last week of the month was characterized by further excess of rain, but the drought in California, Texas and elsewhere above normal. But if this combination of meteorological conditions wrought injury the return was made too early to indicate it.

The report is quite generally late, especially in the Atlantic and Eastern Gulf States; the plant small, and on account of the drought at the season of planting and the excess of rain later, which delayed working out, the stand is imperfect over considerable areas. In the Carolina heavy rain of the month caused some shedding of bolls and failure of the plant to fruit well. In Georgia and Alabama some improvement is noted, though the dropping off of forms has followed local excess of moisture. The plant is small and late, but is fruiting. Mississippi is late but making good growth, with favorable weather, and taking on forms rapidly. Louisiana returns are variable. Some damage from locusts is reported, but more from excess of rain in some sections. The plant has made too much growth to the injury of the bottom crop. The decline in Texas is mainly the result of drought, though rains at the close of the month may have been sufficient to prevent permanent injury.

The presence of the caterpillar and bell worm has been noted in Alabama, Texas; only one State—Texas—reports them from more than one county, except Arkansas where worms are noted in two counties. Sixteen counties are: Virginia 81; North Carolina 75; South Carolina 88; Georgia 86; Florida 94; Alabama 89; Mississippi 83; Louisiana 90; Texas 92; Arkansas 85. The fact that the crop is decidedly late over almost the entire breadth makes the season during August of vital importance. The first week of the month was marked by a moderate weather that marked July with rainfall above the normal over a larger portion of the cotton belt.

WASHINGTON NEWS. Contract for Heavy Guns Awarded—Fred Douglass' Resignation. WASHINGTON, Aug. 10.—Acting Secretary of War Grant today approved the recommendation of the Board of Ordnance and Fortification that the contract for 100 high power guns be given to the Bethlehem Iron Co. of South Bethlehem, Pa. The aggregate amount of the work involved in the contract is \$3,880,378.

DUEL TO THE DEATH. Fatal Shooting of a Negro in Mississippi. MEMPHIS, Aug. 10.—A desperate duel to the death took place Saturday evening at Norfolk, Landing, Miss., 98 miles below Memphis, news of which reached this city late last night. The principals were D. B. Wall, a young man from Williamson county, Tenn., who was employed as manager of R. H. Shaw's plantation, and a negro named Reed, who had been working on the place. Wall and Reed had a dispute about the length of time the negro had worked, and falling to agree Reed left the store, carrying a shot-gun, which he tried to hide from Wall. The latter secured a revolver and started after the negro, but he emerged from the store the negro "hot" him in the right side, making a large hole. Wall was mortally wounded, but he was game. He emptied his revolver at the negro, then reloaded and was preparing to fire again when he fell to the earth at the same instant, one of the balls from Wall's pistol having passed through his body. Wall was only 23 years old and unmarried. The negro is about 30 years old. His wound is regarded as mortal.

BILL ARP'S NEPHEW Murders Two Men About a Yoke of Oxen. ATLANTA, GA., August 10.—Hezekiah ARP, nephew of the original Bill ARP, shot two men to death near the State line in Fannin county yesterday. He held a claim against Wm. Bramlet, who was about to leave the State, and had a yoke of steers attached. This produced a quarrel which Bramlet threatened to settle by force. ARP shot Bramlet through the heart. Bramlet's brother, who had a hand in the row, and was shot through the chest, dying of the wound. ARP belongs to one of the leading families in this section.

NEW YORK DEMOCRATS. State Convention at Saratoga in September—The Ticket. By Telegram to the Morning Star. NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—The Democratic State Committee met at 10 o'clock this morning at the Hoffman House. It was decided that the State Convention shall be held in Saratoga September 15. The general sentiment was that the ticket presented was: For Governor, Roswell P. Flower, of Waterbury; for Lieutenant Governor, Wm. F. Sheehan, of Buffalo; for Secretary of State, Frank Rice, of Canandaigua; for Comptroller, John B. Riley, of Plattsburgh; for Treasurer, Elliott Danforth, of Bainbridge; for Attorney General, Simon Weisenfeld, of Albany; for Engineer, E. Sweet. The County Democracy committees were by no means enthusiastic for the opinion that their ticket would be a much more available candidate.

Advice to Mothers. For Over Fifty Years Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has been used by millions of mothers for their children, when troubled with colic, or disturbed at night and broken of their cry, or with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once for a bottle of Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor sufferer at once and give a sweet sleep. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhoea, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, relieves Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP" for children is pleasant to the taste and is the best female preparation of one of the oldest and most useful remedies ever used in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price 25 cents a bottle. Be sure and send for "MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP."

SPIRITS TURPENTINE. —Charlotte News: A joint meeting of the Order of Railroad Conductors and Locomotive Engineers is to be held in Charlotte on the 15th Sunday in this month. It will be the greatest meeting of the kind ever held in the State.

—Concord Standard: Mr. M. Volls has a gray mule that has been suffering for some time past with a sore throat and neck was so badly swollen that he could not get it to the ground. He is not saying whether it will be age old or whether it is good common sense out but that mule got to be lying down and eating all in his bed and then getting up and changing his position and again lying down.

—Raleigh News and Observer: Trinity College, through President C. B. Traylor, received notice of the donation of a collection of scientific specimens, consisting of 600 specimens of American invertebrates, labeled, in alcohol and other woods and 130 specimens of insects, are the gift of a friend of the institution living in Washington, D. C. This is the second collection Trinity has received this year. The one just received is valued at not less than five hundred dollars.

—Newton Enterprise: There was a horrible accident in the Monbo cotton factory one day this week. A bank young man wound around the arm of a young mangle, Mr. T. B. Luten, who was in the machinery and drew him in. She was soon horribly mangled, her right arm and both legs broken, and died in a very short time from her injuries. In this county as a whole a corn crop all over the county. There has been just enough rain to suit the upland and not enough to injure the bottom.

—Shelby Aurora: We saw in town Saturday a valuable and large piece of mica, weighing ninety pounds, taken from the W. W. Greene, five miles Northwest of Shelby. Messrs. J. W. Morgan and Jos. Blanton, with laborer, worked the mica mine only eight feet below the surface. They were hunting mica not quite one week and the output amply compensated for the cost of the mine. Several dozens per pound according to the quantity. Cleveland county has produced the largest mica sheets in North Carolina and our veins are generally on the surface.

—Raleigh News and Observer: At the recent Tobacco Association at that importance. The first week of the month was marked by a moderate weather that marked July with rainfall above the normal over a larger portion of the cotton belt.

—Maxton Union: Mr. Peter McCormack, near Alfordville, died last Tuesday night, aged about 72 years. Henry Lewis, colored, was arrested for the larceny of two chickens in the county some eight months ago. When apprehended by the officer he drew his knife and shot the officer in the chest. His persuasive eloquence of a blow over the head to subdue him. He was, however, finally overpowered, securely bound, and taken to the station. Since his arrest it has been ascertained that he was an escaped convict, having escaped from the chain gang while at work on the railroad, and he is a very desperate character. It will probably go back to the pen.

—Charlotte Chronicle: A most cowardly and brutal murder is reported to have taken place Friday afternoon at Fish Lake, in a station on the Atlantic, on the G. C. & N. road. The victim of the assassin was Mr. Lewis, a young man about 18 years old and student at the law. Lewis was at the depot office attending to some business when the first train passed after 12 o'clock, but when the next train came he was wanted and could not be found. The office door was locked, but was broken open and the assassin was found in the room. The train was stopped, and the boy was found under a pile of a blow over the head. Fortunately the train was running at a fair speed, which caused the little fellow to be thrown upon the track and the body being crushed beneath the wheels, which were moving slowly. The boy, upon being taken and carried for soon revived, and with a few moments and a few teeth and sustaining several bad bruises, no damage resulted.

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