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VOL. XXIX.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1898.

NO. 16

THE POSTOFFICE.

Formal Transfer to the New Postmaster Will Be Made This Afternoon.

CHADBOURN TAKES CHARGE.

Ex-Postmaster Morton Retires With the Respect and Confidence of the People—His Management Has the Endorsement of the Department.

The transfer of a postoffice where a large amount of business is transacted is something of an undertaking and is most frequently done on Sunday when there is least business transacted.

Mr. Morton will be occupied for a week or ten days making out reports and finally arranging the business of the postoffice so far as it concerns him.

Mr. Morton has not made public his decision, if he has made one, as to who will be his assistant. The present assistant postmaster, Mr. W. C. Craft, will most probably remain in the office for two or three weeks.

Mr. Morton has during his term inaugurated many reforms in the mail service. Among them may be named the increase of service between Wilmington and Shallotte from semi-weekly to tri-weekly; free delivery at Wrightsville Beach, and the system of exchanging pouches of registered letters between Wilmington, Richmond, Baltimore, Washington and New York.

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RUSH OF ORDERS.

The Fertilizer Men of Wilmington and Charleston Are Doing a Fine Business.

NEARLY A TON A MINUTE.

The Sales Indicate No Intention of Planters to Materially Curtail Production—Prices Have Been Advanced in Charleston—Demand Good All Along the Line.

If the sales of fertilizers are a fair criterion on which to base estimates of cotton acreage and production, the reports from Wilmington and Charleston factories certainly do not indicate any determination on the part of planters to materially curtail production.

Some days since the STAR showed that the manufacturers of fertilizers in and near Wilmington were doing a good business. In fact, that they were a little pushed to keep up with their orders.

The payment of fertilizers out of Charleston for the last few weeks has been exceedingly heavy. Some time ago the News and Courier printed an article based upon information gathered from reliable sources to show that there was no foundation for the belief that in certain quarters of the effect that the product of the mills would be a drug upon the market this season.

The demand is reported to be good all along the line, and in more than one instance there has been a sharp advance in price recently. Many of the companies have just about as much business as they can do, and they are kept in a rush all the time.

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A DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

It Broke Out Early Yesterday Morning in the Town of Laurinburg.

LOSSES ESTIMATED AT \$30,000.

Several Business Houses, Two Livery Stables and Other Buildings Destroyed—Insurance About Ten Thousand Dollars.

Laurinburg, N. C., February 4.—Once more Laurinburg has been invaded by the fire fiend and her citizens made to weep over the wreck of a night.

Fire was discovered this morning at 1 o'clock breaking through the sides and roof of J. W. McNeil's warehouse, joined to the main body of the store-room. Before anything could be done to stay its progress the flames had made the leap across Fairley street and set the two-story building occupied by the J. E. Britz Harness Company on fire.

From there it soon spread to the next building, occupied by the McDougald Furniture Company. In quick succession went the two livery stables in the rear, and the building occupied by Anthony Harris on the south side. Only by the hardest kind of work were the flames here controlled.

The loss is estimated at \$30,000, with \$10,000 insurance. J. W. McNeil was the largest loser, having a \$15,000 stock with \$5,000. There was no insurance on the livery stables; the other property was partially insured.

The Norfolk Market Nervous and Prices Advanced. Norfolk Pilot: "The peanut market is nervous and, owing to the small receipts, advancing. An advance of about a quarter of a cent last week has been followed by another of about the same within the past day or two.

Miss Rose, One of the Teachers, Resigns on Account of Ill Health. The resignation of Miss Annie Lee Rose as teacher in the Wilmington High School has been accepted, and Miss Rose left yesterday morning for a protracted visit to relations in Graham county.

Miss Rose has been a teacher in the High School here for the past four years and the School Board, her associate teachers and the children who have been under her tutelage, all speak of her in the very highest terms, not only as a highly successful teacher, but also as a lady of rare culture and admirable disposition.

She came to Wilmington in 1894 as one of the first teachers in the High School, having just completed her course in the Greensboro Normal and Industrial College, and during her stay here has won many admiring friends who regret exceedingly that she has been forced to give up her position and leave the city.

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ACTION POSTPONED.

Result of the Conference at the Governor's Mansion on the Hancock Scandal.

ANOTHER MEETING FEB'Y 22.

All Admit That Hancock Will Be Bounced—Other Raleigh News-Retailers Paid to Governor's Attorneys in the Case Against the Southern.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 5.—The expense accounts made by the new railroad commissioners would make very interesting reading matter just now. There is no way of gaining access to these accounts. I understand that some of the accounts are most absurd. Among others is the following: "Paid J. L. Mott, \$25 for services as guard to the commission office." Now young Mott is a son of the doctor and holds a regular position in the penitentiary.

At the Governor's suggestion he was stationed at the commission office for two weeks to hold off the Wilsons and the enemy—the Southern Railway. About all young Mott did was to draw breath and the twenty-five dollars salary.

Collector Duncan is appointing storekeepers and gaugers in various parts of the district. The eligibles on the civil service list have been exhausted and appointments are made now of persons who have never stood the civil service examination.

The Railway Commission report will make its appearance next week. Clerk Brown is preparing some matter for the report for use by the press. The colored people are to be given better accommodations in the Union depot here.

The directors of the Atlantic & North Carolina Railroad met again this morning. It had been decided at the conference at the Executive Mansion last night, which lasted past midnight, that the Hancock matter should be postponed. At the meeting this morning a motion was made to adjourn until February 22 and the same prevailed. The session was a short one.

Nearly all the directors of the Atlantic and North Carolina road admit that Hancock will be bounced at the meeting on the 22d; only two of the members of the Board are for him. The Governor would have had him ousted to-day, but desired to let him dound easy.

The Governor's attorneys, Messrs. Cook and Douglass, have been paid three hundred dollars each as retainers fees in the prosecution of the case against the Southern Railway Company.

STABBED IN THE SHOULDER. Colored Stevedore Cut With a Knife by a Negro. Yesterday afternoon about four o'clock Bristow Hurst, a colored stevedore aged 35 years and an employe in the Chamberlains, was stabbed by a prominent colored man on Water street between Dock and Orange. Hurst says he does not know who the man was that stabbed him, but others said that it was a young colored man named Floyd Cole.

After being stabbed Hurst ran to Bell street and up Front to Mr. R. R. Holliday's drug store. He was bleeding freely and his clothes were saturated with blood. Dr. J. C. Shepherd and a colored physician, Dr. T. R. Mask, were called in to dress the man's wound. They found a stab two or three inches deep in the left shoulder four inches above the heart. After the physicians had rendered the necessary services, Hurst was placed in a carriage and driven to his home on Fourth street, between Church and Castle.

He says the man who stabbed him had changed some money for him and claimed that he had given him too much. Hurst denied this, and when he did, Cole, if this was the man, whipped out a pocket knife and drove it to the handle in Hurst's body. Officers are in pursuit of Cole.

Truck Dealers Here. Several gentlemen from Northern cities have recently come to Wilmington for the trucking season for the purpose of representing extensive truck dealers North. Among them are Mr. W. A. Sharp, of Chattanooga, Tenn., Messrs. O. C. Stevens and S. A. Townsend, of Philadelphia, and Mr. A. S. Maynard, of Chicago. All these gentlemen are stopping at the Orion.

ALABAMA POPULISTS. Agitating Movement for Returning to the Democratic Party. By Telegram to the Morning Star. CHATTANOOGA, TENN., February 5.—A special to the Times from Birmingham, Ala., says: A conference of a score or more leading Populists of this county was held to-day. They issued a call for all the Pops of the county, February 19th, to consider a system of returning to the Democratic party, and participating in Democratic primaries. The leaders of the movement say the Democrats adopted the Populist principles at the Chicago convention and that the best thing for Populists to do is to return to Democracy, act as a faction of the party and by united action wield a strong influence on the party primaries and conventions. It is said similar efforts will be made in various counties. Jerry Fountain, former Populist county chairman, is the leader of the movement which is now opposed by the State Populist organization.

THE PEANUT OUTLOOK.

The Norfolk Market Nervous and Prices Advanced.

Norfolk Pilot: "The peanut market is nervous and, owing to the small receipts, advancing. An advance of about a quarter of a cent last week has been followed by another of about the same within the past day or two.

Considerable sales are reported as having been made of fancy farmer's stock yesterday at high prices, and a good many sales at 2 1/2 cents. These figures indicate an upward movement, which will be very gratifying to farmers.

THE WILMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL. Miss Rose, One of the Teachers, Resigns on Account of Ill Health. The resignation of Miss Annie Lee Rose as teacher in the Wilmington High School has been accepted, and Miss Rose left yesterday morning for a protracted visit to relations in Graham county.

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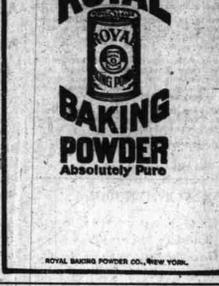
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SPANISH TROOPS SENT TO CUBA.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Says There is No Aggravation of the Situation.

U. S. MINISTER WOODFORD Presented an Official Note, to Which Premier Sagasta Replied in Vigorous Terms—Work on Naval Armaments Being Rushed.

By Cable to the Morning Star. MADRID, February 5.—Senator Gallon, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, declares there is no reason to fear any aggravation of the Cuban situation. The despatch of 15,000 men to Cuba, the minister asserts, was decided upon before General Blanco's departure.

HAVANA, February 5.—Captain General Blanco and General Pando have arrived at Puerto Principe. General Blanco is expected to reach Havana in three days. MADRID, February 5.—El Herald says that Gen. Stewart L. Woodford, the United States minister, to-day presented an official note to the Spanish government, to which Premier Sagasta responded in vigorous terms.

The work on the naval armaments is being actively rushed, and the Spanish squadron will proceed shortly for the Canary Islands. HAVANA, February 5.—Among the passengers who arrived here to-day on board the Spanish steamer Maria Christina were Senor Eduardo Dols, secretary of ports and telegraphs in the colonial government; Senator Eliseo Giber and thirty officers and 1,400 soldiers. The Secretary and Senator were received by the Central and other companies and by the Autonomous Commission, who went out on a tug boat to meet them. The new arrivals were cheered by crowds of people on the wharves.

Capt. George A. Converse of the United States cruiser Montgomery, accompanied by Lieut. Ramsey and U. S. Consul Bryce, visited the Governor of Matanzas yesterday, and the Governor, his secretary and the other authorities of Matanzas, where the cruiser is at anchor, returned the visit of the American officers.

LONDON, Feb. 5.—Special dispatches from Madrid say that the Spanish Government has decided to send two additional cruisers to the United States. The vessels selected will probably be the Cristobal Colon and the Almirante Oquendo. HAVANA, February 5.—(via Key West Fla.)—The reported action of ex-Secretary of State Olney in contributing \$100,000 to the Spanish Government through the Spanish minister in Washington, ignoring Consul General Lee, is criticised by Americans here as tending to cast discredit upon the contributions through the State Department. The announcement that the gift was made through the Spanish minister was called here and given publicity and a prominent American resident, speaking of the matter, said that the cable dispatch cost as large a sum as the gift.

Insurgent Col. Canajo, a countryman of Gen. Serrano, who succeeded leader Guerno, has already organized two squadrons of cavalry in the districts of Guanaco, Vogas and San Nicolas de la Havana province. El Diario de la Marina which has hitherto refused to admit that an annexation sentiment existed among resident Spaniards in Cuba, now recognizes the fact that the annexation here believe that annexation is a necessity to save their lives and property.

SPAIN'S TORPEDO BOATS.

No Significance Attached to the Sending of a Merchant Ship With the Flotilla.

By Telegram to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, February 4.—At the Spanish legation no significance is attached to the sending of a merchant ship along with the torpedo flotilla which is about to cross the Atlantic. It is said at the legation that the sending of the torpedo boats has been contemplated for a long time and has been repeatedly announced through the press. They are, however, small craft to undertake the hardship of an ocean voyage and it is essential that they be accompanied by a larger vessel to serve as a transport for extra supplies, particularly coal, which the tiny craft cannot carry in sufficient quantities for a long voyage. The merchant vessel will serve merely as a transport. She belongs to the legation, and is having a large number of ships, so that one of them can be readily spared for this service. All of these ships belong to the auxiliary navy and are subject to call at any time. The one now being brought into service is a small affair, by no means formidable, and useful mainly for carrying supplies.

The Populists in Congress have completed an organization, with Representative Bell, of Colorado, as chairman of the executive committee, and Representative Shuford, of North Carolina, as secretary, and Senator Harris, of Kansas, as chairman of the Congressional Committee.

CONSUMPTION

TO THE EDITOR: I have an Absolute Cure for CONSUMPTION and all Branches, Throat and Lung Troubles, and all Bronchitis, Croup, Whooping Cough, and all other Affections of the Throat and Lungs. My medicine is a simple, natural, and safe remedy, and is the only one that will cure Consumption in its early stages. It is the only medicine that will cure Consumption in its advanced stages. It is the only medicine that will cure Consumption in its final stages. It is the only medicine that will cure Consumption in its last stages. It