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to learn all they could about them, and go back to Japan to become the teachers of their countrymen. This is one of the secrets of Japan's wonderful progress. She began at the bottom and with an admirable resolution and perseverance worked up to the top. England may do this now, as Lord Rosebery suggests, but if she did she would not meet with the same success the Japanese have, for Englishmen have not the imitative talent of the Japanese, nor are they as quick or patient to learn. The Englishman in this particular bears more resemblance to the Chinaman—he thinks he knows it all.

The Englishman has one looming, redoing trait and that is stick, a bulldog tenacity for holding on when he gets a grip and this it is that will stand him in stead when the commercial battle wages in earnest. But that will not save him. The relegating of England to a second and even a third place among the commercial nations is one of the inevitables, and with all her energy and all her perseverance and all her wealth she cannot prevent it, because she cannot overcome nature and the irresistible. Her people have neither the dash nor the energy of the American, one of her rivals, nor the practical, persevering thorough method of the German, her other rival, while she has still two more rivals in the East, the Japanese and the Russian in China, neither of which is alluded to by Lord Rosebery. Within half a century England's fuel supplies for manufacturing purposes will be almost exhausted and before that time she will have ceased to be a great cotton manufacturer, as the industry will be taken from her by this country. To-day she is importing coal, iron and steel and ten years hence she will be importing more.

Without cheap coal and iron, two of the things which have helped to make her the commercial power she is, how can she compete with nations which have both of these in abundance? She can't do it and will therefore be compelled to surrender, although she may struggle manfully and obstinately, but she will have to surrender all the same, for she will be, is already outclassed and must succumb to the inevitable.

ABSOLUTELY USELESS.
 When Governor Stanley, of Kansas, was informed of the burning in Leavenworth of that negro assaulter of women, he became very indignant and concluded he would offer big rewards for the apprehension of these proceedings, but in view of the fact that there were five or more thousand people mixed up in it as active participants, or aiders and abettors, he reconsidered. Giving his reasons he said:

"It would be absolutely no use to offer a reward, for if the guilty persons were arrested they would necessarily have to undergo the first trial in Leavenworth county, and in the present condition of public sentiment there it would be absolutely useless to attempt to prosecute anybody there for the crime."
 Some time, a short time, too, before that a negro was burned at the stake in Colorado for the same crime. The Governor became very indignant, offered rewards and sent a peremptory order to the sheriff of the county to arrest forthwith every participant in that burning whom he could find. In due time the response came that no participants could be found in that county. Like the burning in Leavenworth there was not a disguised man in the crowd and the father of the girl in both instances lighted the fire that consumed the culprit. Of course there would be no use in arresting any one for participating in these burnings, for no jury could be found in either of the counties or States that would convict any of them. There are thousands of people who shudder at the cruelty of the punishment, but there are very few who would punish the avengers.

Joseph Leon Gobeille, who is president of a big Pattern company of Cleveland, Ohio, is also an ardent church man. His church has been divided for some time on the retention of the pastor. Gobeille's father sided with the faction opposed to the one his son belonged to, and thereupon young Gobeille showed what a pattern Christian and son he was by discharging his father who for eighteen years had worked in the Pattern shop. The old man is poor too, and has to support the young man's mother, while the young brute is rich.

You couldn't persuade Milton McCombs, of Sharon, Pa., that there is nothing in dreams. He went to the Klondike a couple of years ago and pegged away without making more than enough to buy his hash. Then he went to dreaming. Dreamed where he could grab the nuggets, went there, grabbed awhile and then sold his stake for \$25,000 cash, and like a sensible fellow came home.

PLANNING TO HOLD CUBA.
 If the utterances of the leading Republican papers which stand in with the McKinley administration, and the reports that come from Washington from time to time be any indication, and in our opinion they are, the intention is to hold on Cuba if there can be found a half way plausible pretence for it, notwithstanding the fact that when war was declared against Spain, it was at the same time unanimously declared by Congress that "The people of the island of Cuba are, and of right ought to be, free and independent." It further solemnly disclaimed "any intention to exercise sovereignty, jurisdiction or control over the island except for the pacifying of the island," which accomplished the "government of the island would be left in control of its people."

The island has been pacified for two years and is still occupied by U. S. troops and governed by men sent from Washington, and there is intimation as to when this will cease and the government of the island be turned over to its people. We have undertaken the task of building a "stable" government for them, which means a government which comparts which the American rather than the Cuban idea.

The Republican convention which met at Philadelphia and re-nominated McKinley reaffirmed the resolution to which we refer, and pledged the Republican party to carry it out in good faith, when it had already been broken in the spirit and in the letter. The Chicago *Times-Herald*, a Republican paper, quotes "one of Mr. McKinley's trusted advisers" as saying:

"It (universal suffrage) is not to be thought of for one moment. It would be a miserable betrayal of all the people of substance and intelligence in the island. These people look to the United States to see to it that a stable government is established to take the place of our own regime. They have faith that we will not abandon them to the miseries of rule by the ignorant masses."

The new constitution of Cuba provides for universal suffrage, but it might be asked if "the people of Cuba are, and of right ought to be, free and independent," what business is it of ours whether they adopt universal or restricted suffrage? Have we a right in the face of our own solemn pledges to dictate to a "free and independent" people what kind of suffrage they shall have?

But doesn't it border somewhat on self-justification when Republican statesmen whose party foisted universal suffrage on the South, and did it practically at the point of the bayonet, too, declaim against restricted suffrage in the South, while they protest against universal suffrage in Cuba, and make that a pretence for violating their solemn pledges, and refusing to recognize the independence of Cuba?

But the observance of pledges, or a decent regard for consistency are two things that never stand in the way of the schemes of Republican statesmen.

GEORGIA MARBLE.
 Georgia marble is coming in great demand for building purposes, much of it being shipped even up into the New England States, where it has to compete with Vermont marble. This is the marble that is to be used in the construction of the new building for the Department of Justice, in Washington, where large amounts of it had been previously used in other public and private buildings. The owners of the marble works at Marble Hill, Pickens county, Ga., were recently awarded the contract for erecting that building against five other bidders, their bid being \$1,387,200, the next lowest \$1,426,990 and the highest \$1,597,922.

There are immense deposits of this stone in Georgia, and this interests us because the deposits extend into North Carolina, being found in Cherokee and other counties in inexhaustible quantities and of many varieties, and suitable for many purposes on account of the different colors and tints. As far as we know no use has been made of these marbles yet because they are somewhat out of the line of transportation, but the time will come when they will be utilized and prove a source of much wealth.

There now in Asheville two Texas twins, visiting relatives. They stand six feet three inches in height, are built in proportion and are still growing as they are only 19 years old. There are thirteen children in the family and the dwarf of the family measures six feet. Their parents are North Carolinians who moved to Texas, where all the children were born. This shows what North Carolina stock can do when it has plenty of room to elongate.

The kissers and huggers come to grief occasionally. A few days ago a kiss snatcher out west was jabbed in the arm by a girl with a hat pin, and died, and a few nights ago a fellow in New York who undertook to hug all the girls at a party, struck one kisser who snatched a table knife, jabbed it into him, and he died.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

McLean's Bill Providing for the State Prison to Manufacture Fertilizers.

TO SOLVE CONVICT PROBLEM.
 The State's Revenues Must Be Increased. Several Measures Having This End in View—Bills and Resolutions Introduced.

[Special Star Correspondence.]
 RALEIGH, Jan. 17.—Considerable interest is developing in legislative circles in the bill introduced in the House yesterday by Mr. McLean, of Scotland county, providing for the State prison to embark in the fertilizer manufacturing business. The bill provides for the prison authorities to buy all necessary lands, erect buildings and equip with machinery etc., for the manufacture of fertilizers for agricultural purposes. The bill is now in the hands of a committee. The title is "An Act for the Better Employment of Convict Labor."

Members of the General Assembly seem to be very much divided, and quite a number really at sea, as to what is the best solution of the convict problem. There are many who believe with Representative McNeill, of Cumberland, that the thing to do is to provide for the counties to retain their convicts, except those in for life or very long terms, and work them on permanent public road improvements. The Legislature, or rather many individual members are giving much thought to the matter of discovering resources from which the State's revenues may be increased, as increased law at least some of them are giving thought to the matter of larger appropriations are to be made to institutions, old and new as now scheduled.

I know of four bills in process of preparation having view this one by means of a tax on dogs. One of these was introduced yesterday by Mr. Garrett, of Rockingham. It is designed as an "act to protect the game fowls and dogs of North Carolina." But the prime object of its introduction is to aid in the increase of the State revenues. It provides for a tax of one dollar on each dog. Mr. Garrett believes that if enacted into a law this will bring into the State treasury at least \$100,000 annually. At the same time it will also make dogs personal property, so that their owners will be protected against dog thieves. The keeping of an excessive number of dogs will also be averted in many instances.

There seems to be a right strong sentiment among legislators to enact a law at least some of them are giving thought to the matter of larger appropriations are to be made to institutions, old and new as now scheduled.

[Special Star Telegram.]
 The Senate devoted much time to discussion of the bill providing that a husband may have the right to convey title to property in case of insanity or idiosyncrasy of wife. Senator Brown characterized it as a "bill to promote cruelty to women." The bill was defeated.

Senator Travis introduced a bill providing for four months school in every county and appropriating two hundred thousand dollars for this purpose. The bill requires the Board of Education to ascertain what counties cannot maintain schools that length of time and supplement the funds with the necessary amount. The remainder of the two hundred thousand is to be divided among all the counties, according to school population.

Important bills on the calendar passed readings as follows:
 Third reading: To authorize Rocky Mount to issue bonds for an electric light and sewerage; to incorporate East Lumberton, Robeson county; to allow the Public Board of Commissioners of the State to employ a stenographer; Morton's bill examining train dispatchers from jury duty.

A long list of bills was introduced in the House, and many others passed the third reading. Very few were of public interest. The session was the dullest the House has yet held.

Winston introduced a bill providing that convicts sentenced to terms of ten years or under be sent to county farms and improve the public roads.

The bill incorporating the James Walker Memorial Hospital passed a third reading.

Bill to allow an executor or administrator of estates to foreclose deeds of trust, elicited long debate but passed its readings.

Among the bills ratified to day were: For the relief of the dangerous insane; to amend chapter 83 of the Laws of 1899; favoring the establishment of a national preserver; to incorporate the Howard Relief Association, Wilmington; to improve the upper Cape Fear river.

The joint committee having under consideration Senator Aycock's bill for uniform text books in the public schools met to night and decided to defer action as to recommendation until next Friday. It is considered one of the most important bills pending.

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 19.—The General Assembly adjourned early to-day in honor of Lee's birthday. Neither branch was in session more than an hour. The resolution for the Senate recess was presented by Mr. Morton, of New Hanover.

A number of bills passed a third reading. Among them the following: For the relief of the Clerk of Court of Robeson county; to allow commissioners of Wilson to issue fifteen thousand dollars in bonds and levy a special tax; resolution inviting Dr. J. L. M. Curry to address the joint session. Senator Gudder voted against the invitation to Dr. Curry. He said Dr. Curry labored in Congress against the seating

of Crawford and favored Pearson in the contest for his district.

On motion of Senator Foushee, two hundred copies of Brown's anti cigarette bill were ordered printed. Notable bills introduced in the House: By Carlton, to incorporate Rose Hill; Thompson, to protect deer in Onslow county; Thompson, to amend charter of the Onslow Navigation Company; McNeill, to prohibit the sale of liquors near the Baptist church, Brunswick county; McNeill, to allow the commissioners of Brunswick to levy a special tax.

Bill passed final reading to provide pay for a stenographer to the joint Committee on Public Roads.

Public Schools.
 The State Association of Superintendents of City Schools met in session here yesterday, and to day elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, J. I. Foushee, Goldsboro; Vice President, J. A. Matheson, Durham; Secretary, W. C. Lane, High Point. The attendance was large and the meeting was the most successful in the history of the Association. The feature of the programme to day was an address by Prof. J. B. Blair, of Wilmington, on plans for school room decoration.

BOY ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.

Harry Keen Received a Bullet in His Side at Wrightsville Yesterday.
 Harry Keen, the twelve-year old son of Mr. John T. Keen, who resides at No. 715 Grace street, was accidentally shot about 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon on Wrightsville Sound by Clarence Craft, son of Mr. T. C. Craft. Young Craft was trying to load a .32 calibre pistol when it went off, the ball entering Harry Keen's right side just above the hip. The wound is not considered dangerous.

Six young boys—Harry Keen, Clarence Craft, Harry Stanland, Sam Penney, Will Dunham and Walter Woodcock—whose ages range from eleven to fifteen years, went to the Sound yesterday afternoon in a surly. The boys were standing on the gangway in front of the Atlantic View Hotel when Clarence Craft tried to load a pistol which he claims to have found and it went off, the ball entering the side of young Keen, who was standing a few steps away.

Capt. Oscar Grant was near by at the time of the accident and brought the wounded boy up to the city on a special train over the Seacoast road. Dr. T. S. Burbank was notified by telephone and met the train at the station. The boy was taken home and his wound dressed. The physician didn't probe for the bullet but said he thought it was only a flesh wound. The young fellow was doing very nicely last night. The other boys drove back to Wilmington in post haste, all more or less frightened.

ASSIGNMENT AT MAXTON.

Creditors of the firm of J. B. Sellers & Co. Met Wednesday.
 The creditors of the firm of J. B. Sellers & Co., of Maxton, which made an assignment about ten days ago, met Wednesday in Maxton for the purpose of hearing a report of the assignee. The report showed that the liabilities are \$10,180 and assets \$10,000. Only about \$2,000 of the assets is tangible, as most is uncollectable accounts. About \$8,000 of the liabilities was represented by creditors who were present and a compromise of 90 per cent. was offered and accepted by those present on condition that all of the creditors concur therein. It is understood that the adjustment was very equitable, as the firm will make no plea for the homestead and personal property exemptions and it is estimated that it will have to borrow money in order to settle on a 20 per cent. basis. Wilmington creditors were involved to the extent of about \$1,800.

Jno. H. Cook, Esq., of Maxton, is trustee under the assignment.

Death Near Atkinson.

News was received in the city yesterday of the death at his home near Atkinson, N. C., on Wednesday afternoon of Mr. James N. Henry, a prominent citizen of Pender county. He was 67 years of age and was a good and useful man in his community. He was an elder in the Caswell Presbyterian Chapel for a long number of years and married a sister of Mrs. M. G. Bailey, No. 311 Walnut street, this city. His sorrowing wife, with two sons, Mr. Norman Henry, of Texas, and Mr. R. J. Henry, of Long View, and two daughters, Misses Mary and Minnie, survive him. The funeral was held from the family residence at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, Rev. A. D. McClure officiating, and the interment was in the family burying ground near by. Mrs. Bailey was with him at the time of his death and Mrs. J. C. Stewart went yesterday morning with Mr. McClure to attend the funeral.

THE NEWS OF LUMBERTON.

An Assignment by Prominent Merchant. New Enterprise at Red Springs.
 [Special Star Correspondence.]
 LUMBERTON, N. C., January 17.—W. O. Thompson, general merchant, has made an assignment to Q. T. Williams, assignee. The liabilities and assets are unknown.

The Red Springs Steam Laundry and Power Company, a new enterprise, has secured a charter from the Secretary of State through A. W. McLean, Esq., of Lumberton. The business of the company will be the operation of a steam laundry and electric lighting plant. The incorporators are A. E. Pearson, W. J. Johnson, W. H. Britton, W. F. Williams and other residents of the thriving town of Red Springs.

94TH ANNIVERSARY.

The Birthday of Gen. Robt. E. Lee Splendidly Celebrated in Wilmington Yesterday.

ORATION BY E. S. MARTIN, ESQ.
 Mrs. Gaston Meares, in an Admirably Written Address, Presented Crosses of Honor to Veterans—The Military Parade.

All the conditions Saturday were highly favorable to an auspicious celebration of the ninety-fourth anniversary of the birthday of General Robert E. Lee and it is safe to say that never before was the occasion more generally observed in Wilmington or was there manifested such a commendable sentiment among its people to do honor to the "Confederacy" beloved here. The day was bright and the streets were lined with people witnessing the long and imposing military parade in honor of the event and when the Opera House was filled to overflowing with military and civilians to reverently do homage to the one, who among all others, is worshipped as the idol of the Southland.

The parade formed at 3 o'clock in front of the Wilmington Light Infantry armory and the line of march was identical with that given in yesterday's STAR. It was in charge of Capt. James I. Metts, chief marshal, with his aides, Messrs. O. McD. Davis, George P. James and D. D. Barber. The order observed was also practically the same, as follows:

Platoon of four policemen, Messrs. E. Wood, J. J. Moore, W. H. Barber, and E. L. Smith.
 Drum corps, consisting of Messrs. Will Rehder, Frank Turentine and W. L. Burkholder.
 Third North Carolina Infantry Association, with twelve men, commanded by Col. Wm. L. DeRosset.
 Cape Fear Camp No. 254, United Confederate Veterans, with 69 men in ranks, commanded by Col. F. W. Kerchner.
 George Davis Camp No. 50, United Sons of Confederate Veterans, with 24 men in ranks, commanded by Col. Walker Taylor.

Wilmington Light Infantry, with 24 men in ranks, commanded by Capt. Alex. P. Adams.
 Wilmington Division, Naval Reserve, with 20 men in ranks, commanded by Lieutenant A. B. Skelding.
 First Battalion, Boys Brigade of America, with 24 men, commanded by First Lieutenant James A. Price.
 Howell's Military Academy cadets, with 20 men, commanded by Capt. H. M. Durant.

The exercises at the Opera House commenced with a very fervent prayer by Rt. Rev. Bishop A. A. Watson, who was introduced by Capt. Metts as one ever in the thickest of the fight, administering to the sick and wounded things earthly and spiritual.

Eugene S. Martin, Esq., the orator of the day, was also presented by Capt. Metts as one among the first to volunteer for service at Fort Caswell in 1861 and as a soldier and scholar of distinction. The address by Mr. Martin was, in the main, historical and full of pretty thought and interesting reminiscences for those who followed the intrepid and great and good leader, General Lee. He closed with a splendid eulogy of Lee's life and character and was given a round of hearty cheers.

Capt. Metts next read the famous "Farewell Address" of General Lee, so familiar to students of Southern history. It was listened to eagerly and the final words were greeted with feeling applause.

Mrs. Gaston Meares, who was chosen by Cape Fear Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy, to present to the veterans, the Crosses of Honor, was presented by Capt. Metts as a true daughter of the Confederacy and the widow of an officer and as gallant a soldier as ever marched to taps of drums.

Mrs. Meares read in an impressive and dramatic manner her address as follows:
 Veterans and heroes of our war for Southern independence.
 In the name of the Cape Fear Daughters of the Confederacy, I bid you welcome to this our Confederate holiday—the birthday of Robert E. Lee.
 Just forty years ago our quiet land was stirred by a great uprising of its people. The tyranny of might had grown upon an unnatural and unwelcome war. Submission had ceased to be a virtue, and at the call of their sovereign States, from every section of the South there poured a mighty host of men going forth to meet the foe. Saying good-bye to peaceful homes and all else that men held dear, they set their faces to the front and never faltered; going out, they knew not whither, but trustful and strong in the righteousness of the cause for which they were to fight.
 Four years later, with hearts quivering with woe and eyes blinded with tears, we saw the broken remnants of that great army coming back in straggling squads, ruined and desolated homes. Scared and maimed by battle wounds, hungry and sick and destitute, branded with the cruelties of prison life, they were crushed and bleeding, the "Bonnie Blue Flag" trailing in the dust of conquest, our noble President in hopeless captivity, with kindly dignity wearing for his people a felon's chains in a prison cell.
 Ah! those days of bitter anguish. Can they ever be forgotten? Can we wonder that our people's hopes were dashed?
 The memories of the golden deeds of those four heroic years were all that were left to us; and while you men, with greater heroism than even war had called forth, took up again the battle of life's duties and fought it out to glorious success, we women gathered up those memories, enshrined in our hearts, gloried in our heroes, treasured as a sacred trust the noble army of martyrs who never came back to us; and still with unwavering devotion to the cause for which they fought, we honor all who followed the banner of the Southern Cross till it was furled forever. (Applause.)
 Let me show you a memento of those times you will remember. I have here

a pair of silver cuff buttons mounted on a card of pressed cotton and inscribed: "These buttons were made from two identical silver quarters paid to a Confederate soldier at the first distribution of specie just prior to the surrender of General Joseph E. Johnston at Durham, N. C., in 1865. They represent four years hard-earned pay to a southern soldier—'Confederate' has been there for years with the colors he fought under." Ah, what a tale they tell! Such was your-guerdon and reward, but 'twas all your country had left to give. (Applause.)

And there is another (pointing to a tattered old flag full of bullet holes)—a pitiful relic, but we "treasure" gently for 'tis holy"—'tis the tattered fragment of the once beautiful flag of the Third North Carolina regiment of State Troops. That was one of our own home regiments—the one I prize most about—in which I had great personal interest. Its officers, some of whom had been members of the old Raleigh Light Infantry, were joined with the men of the "Free City of the Cape Fear." Its companies were recruited from New Hanover and neighboring counties, and was a good band and we were very proud of it. And it is something now for me to tell my grandsons (and they are "Sons of the '61ers" too) how I took their father, little as he was, to the battle of the Third to Virginia.

Just too late for the first Manassas, but reaching Richmond in time to hear that the cannon were booming in the distance, while we waited with bated breath for the hourly dispatches from the battle. Those were the early days of the battle—those were the days of the news came of Beauregard's first great victory for the South it was hailed with joy and acclamation, and we hoped the happy end was near at hand. But, as the news came, the glad news was dashed with the inevitable war note of sorrow, for Bee and Barlow had fallen in the life-and-death struggle of the men who wore the grey lead upon the battlefield!

The winter followed, and with the early summer came the winter of Richmond, and the seven days fight for its defence, and when the sun set upon that fatal field of Malvern Hill the light of day shined on our ears and homes was quenched in a darkness of great darkness, for Virginia's soil was watered with the precious blood of many of Carolina's noble sons.

The year of our 1862, the Shenandoah and the Wilderness, Sharpsburg and Gettysburg, and scores of others wrote in letters of blood their stories of our brave men, and of our glorious victory and sometimes of defeat, but never of cowardice or treachery.

At last the scene shifted to our own North Carolina, and the seven days fight for its defence, and when the sun set upon that fatal field of Malvern Hill the light of day shined on our ears and homes was quenched in a darkness of great darkness, for Virginia's soil was watered with the precious blood of many of Carolina's noble sons.

Our peerless Lee! My friends you bore an honorable part in the making of that wonderful day, the day of the Confederacy, and for that we owe you a debt of gratitude and are proud to do you honor.

Flashing across the pale of history like a meteor athwart the sky, but glorious as the splendor of the noon-day sun—all too soon the young republic was set down in the dust of defeat and disappointment and defeat. The Sun of Peace had never risen upon its mountain tops, its fertile valleys could never again be fruitful and its fields harvest, for there were none to till the land. From first to last the men were at the front, fighting for "their homes, their altars and their sacred rights" for freedom they could not win! (Applause.)

But "in eong and story it will go sounding down the ages" as one of the greatest war records of the world has ever known. Unequaled and unique in many respects during its brief continuance, the story of the Confederacy would not be complete without its epilogue. It stands in the annals of the world's annals for the loyalty and devotion which after nearly half a century of humiliation and subjection of justice and honor, it displayed in the heart of every true man and daughter of the South. (Applause.)

Can any other country tell of a band of conquered soldiers so tenderly beloved and cherished by the people whom they fought and failed? Other nations have had their conquering heroes and welcomed them with triumphant processions and their laurel wreaths to victory; but our monuments are inscribed only to "The Confederate Dead"—our processions are the yearly pilgrimages of Memorial Day to the thousands of sacred spots that dot the land, where rest the brave who fought a good fight, and gave their lives for the cause that was lost. (Applause.)

God bless you all. Amen.

—Goldboro Argus: We regret to chronicle the death of Miss Ethel Parker, the 18-year old daughter of Mr. J. W. Parker, Thursday morning, of typhoid fever.

—Newborn Journal: Mrs. Mary Simmons, wife of Mr. F. G. Simmons, and mother of Hon. F. M. Simmons, died at her home at Oliver, in Jones county, on Thursday night; aged 78 years.

—Mount Olive Advertiser: Our readers will learn with profound regret of the death of Mr. Daniel Lambert, which occurred a few days ago. Deceased was one of the most highly esteemed citizens of this section.

—Sanford Express: The stockholders of the Sanford Cotton Mill met here Tuesday. They were pleased with the showing made by the mill. It was decided to increase the stock from \$100,000 to \$125,000 and to fill the mill with machinery. Several new cottages will be built for operatives.

—Raleigh Southern: Wednesday night a fire broke out on H. Battle's Dunbar farm, about ten miles from here and burned with it a colored child about a year old. The fire is believed to have been incendiary. It started in a kitchen on the upper story which was reached by an outside stairway.

—Carthage Blade: Last Monday, near Jackson Springs, in this county, a negro named William Cook on H. Battle's Dunbar farm, about ten miles from here was burned and with it a colored child about a year old. The fire is believed to have been incendiary. It started in a kitchen on the upper story which was reached by an outside stairway.

—Kinston Free Press: El J. Kennedy, wife of W. F. Dibble, J. P., Thursday on the charge of false pretence. He was bound over to court in the sum of \$300. This is the man who is in the coal and iron company at the company's ice plant. Mr. Luke Russell, of Institute, was shot from ambush this (Friday) morning while on his way to Kinston to attend the trial of his brother-in-law, E. J. Kennedy, who was charged with bigamy this morning before Justice W. F. Dibble. Kennedy recently married Russell's sister and he (Russell), hearing that Kennedy had a wife in Florida, began corresponding with parties in that State. The correspondence resulted in the indictment for bigamy.

—Asheville Citizen: The Snyder Pump and Well Company has just completed and fully tested an artesian well for the city of Asheville. The well is 171 feet deep, and was finished after two months' work. Six feet from the surface the drill struck granite, and the entire distance was drilled through this rock. Small veins of water were found at varying intervals, but Monday's first flowing water was entered. When the water struck it no chippings came up, as is the case when a small vein of water is entered, but clear water rose, showing that the water is not washed away. The water rose to within two feet of the surface. Yesterday and part of Monday the test pump was applied, but the water was not raised two feet no further gain could be made, which proves that the supply is sufficient for the company's demands. The vein which is being tapped is 18 inches deep, and is particularly clear and pure. No impurity can reach the water through 165 feet of granite. The well will furnish more water than is needed for the manufacture of ice.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE AND HOUSE.

Enologies Upon the Late Senator Gen. of Iowa—The Naval Appropriations.
 Tobacco Tax Reduction

By Telegram to the Morning Star.
 WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—Under a special order the Senate devoted the greater part of its session to day to eulogies upon the late Senator John H. Geary, of Iowa, who died in this city last July.

A concurrent resolution, offered a few days ago by Senator Lindsay, of Kentucky, and adopted by the Senate, provided for a hearing on the proposition to reduce the tax on tobacco in connection with the legislation on the war revenue. The delegation was composed of a hearing to a delegation from the tobacco growing States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Kentucky, West Virginia and Georgia, and was headed by Senators Pritchard, Tillman and Martin. They represented that the tax had been doubled in 1898, and that the revenue of the country is raised upon tobacco, and they asked for a reduction from the present tax of twelve cents per pound to eight cents. The committee did not commit itself, but some of the members indicated that there probably would be some reduction. The argument for a reduction was made upon the theory that it would be in the interest of the consumer and also that it would benefit small manufacturers.

House of Representatives.
 The session of the House to day was devoted chiefly to the Postal Codification bill which was about half completed. The discussion turned mainly on the proposition to compel star routes contracts to be let to persons living contiguous to the route, but the proposition was defeated after extended debate.

Among the bills passed was that granting fifteen days annual leave to employees of navy yards, arsenals, etc. The Navy appropriation bill was reported to the House to day, with an elaborate statement of its provisions by Chairman Foss of the naval Committee. The bill carries \$77,016,636, the largest amount ever reported to the House from the Committee on Naval Affairs. This is \$11,885,718 above the bill of last year and \$10,289,282 below the estimate made up by the Navy Department. The bill provides that not more than one battle ship or armored cruiser shall be built in one yard or by one party, and the usual provision is made that not more than two of the battleships and armored cruisers shall be built on the Pacific coast.

The following places receive appropriations for naval work: Norfolk, \$524,250; Key West, \$144,000; Pensacola, \$41,500; Algeirs, \$380,000; Tortugas, \$100,000.

A Frederic dispatch says the Boers have captured a train loaded with mining materials between Brugspruit and Balmoral. The passengers were robbed of everything.