

The News and Observer.

VOL. XLVI. NO. 127.

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 6, 1899.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

LEADS ALL NORTH CAROLINA DAILIES IN NEWS AND CIRCULATION.

Library of Congress
Langg

METROPOLIS OF FLORIDA

Cleanest City in the Southern States.

COST OF ORANGE FREEZE

MORE DESTRUCTIVE OF PROPERTY THAN ANY EARTHQUAKE THE WORLD HAS KNOWN

THE UNIQUE OSTRICH FARM

It is a Fine Investment and is One of the Only Two Ostrich Farms in America Not in the Ostrich Trust.

Jacksonville, Fla., August 3.—(Editorial Correspondence.)—This is not a noted summer resort. People who visit Florida ordinarily come in the winter when its mild climate affords a delightful change from the snow and ice of the North. But, though I was here when the thermometer registered 94, and it seemed hotter than at any other point, I found by reading the state of the weather at other points that the thermometer registered as follows in several cities: Jacksonville, 92; Raleigh, 92; Charlotte, 92; Cincinnati, 98; Kansas City, 94; Memphis, 94; New Orleans, 96; St. Louis, 96; and Vicksburg, 95. These were the points where the thermometer registered highest. I was greatly surprised upon finding that Raleigh, Charlotte and Jacksonville registered the same, 92. In one point Jacksonville has the advantage of both Charlotte and Raleigh. While the maximum temperature was the same, the minimum temperature in Jacksonville was 82, while it was 84 in Raleigh and 86 in Charlotte. One other advantage Jacksonville enjoys is that it is on the noble St. John river, only fifteen miles from the Atlantic ocean, and within thirty minutes by rail of what Jacksonville people claim to be "the finest sea beach in the world." It has nine miles of river front, and most of the time enjoys a breeze. It is claimed in the advertising literature gotten up by the board of trade that "Jacksonville's mean temperature is seventy degrees, and is cooler in summer than Boston or Chicago." However that may be, there is no doubt that the breezes from the St. John's river moderates the heat, though its southern situation renders its summers hot and long, and I do not believe the board of trade claims that it is a model summer resort.

Old as it is, Jacksonville is in every essential a modern city. Named for "Old Hickory" in 1822, it swears "By the Eternal" and grows younger and more energetic as it waxes stronger and rejoiceth in its vitality. It has the creed expressed by one of its oldest and most influential citizens: "I am as young as when I came to Jacksonville as a young man."

You will not find a cleaner city in the country outside of Washington city. Its cleanliness accounts for its healthfulness, the mortality averaging ten in a thousand. But its glory is its superb system of water works and its sidewalks splendidly paved streets and sidewalks. The city owns its water supply, for which it owes \$200,000. The water works is supplied from artesian wells, flowing 5,000,000 gallons daily. The power house and offices are in the city, and are surrounded by a small park of tropical plants, making a very restful and lovely place. When first pumped up the water comes from artesian wells 650 feet deep there is a suggestion of sulphur in the water, but that soon passes away, leaving a pure and wholesome supply, ample for all uses and for the fire department, the pride of the city. The water supply is owned by the city. I talked with some of the leading citizens and all of them agreed that municipal ownership has proven more than satisfactory. "No city," said one of them, "ought to be dependent upon private corporations for its water supply any more than for its administration of justice. I have known few cities that depended upon a private company for its water supply that did not have frequent disputes and much trouble. Municipal ownership is the only correct thing." I thought of this in connection with the controversy between the city fathers of Raleigh and the Raleigh Water Company. The people of Raleigh ought without much longer delay to avail themselves of their option and have the city to own the water supply.

The streets of Jacksonville look as clean and bright as a pin. In most places the paving has been done with vitrified brick, and they make a good impression and are said to give general satisfaction. A gentleman, who knows all about such things, says the brick are laid on the sand and will last seven years, where the travel is heavy, and then they can be taken up and the bottom side placed on top when they will last another seven years. This is said here to be the cheapest method of paving, and it certainly makes clean and attractive looking streets that make a good impression on the visitor, and the cost is said to be much less than any other system of paving that has been used. The experience of Jacksonville might be worth something in expending

the \$100,000 bonds issued by Raleigh for street improvements.

In the centre of the city St. James Park occupies a square graced by a \$25,000 Confederate monument erected last year by the generosity of a rich Texan and unveiled while the troops were in camp here and grouped about it are the chief hotels, churches, opera house, and handsome residences that make Jacksonville the Mecca for Northern visitors in the winter. They come in great crowds, most of them "rich as cream," seeking health and pleasure and recreation no matter at what cost. The regular population of Jacksonville is 30,000. In the summer it goes down to 25,000 and in the winter up to 40,000 and sometimes even more. If I were the mayor of the city, I would take the census of the city in the winter when I could count in all the Yankee visitors and the influx of servants and others who come to wait on them and get the shekels which they scatter. "Talk about gay times," said an old resident, you ought to be in Jacksonville at the season. There's more fun to be squared here than anywhere in the United States. But it comes high.

Living is high in Jacksonville. I talked with a young North Carolinian who is making his way in the commercial world. After graduating at the University he said he borrowed a little money and came to Jacksonville to make his fortune. "It costs more to live here than in North Carolina," he said, "but you can make more. There are more openings and more money pours in here. One gentleman told me that, upon a guess, he would say that eighty per cent of the money invested in Jacksonville was invested by Northern men. They came here for health or pleasure and found opportunities to make eight to ten per cent on investments, with chances of doubling it. Many of them withdrew their New England three per cent investments and put their money in Florida enterprises. The big men like Plant and Flagler built great systems of railroads and steamboat lines, electric car lines and modern hotels. The smaller capitalists invested in everything from alligators up to orange groves.

People outside of Florida do not appreciate the magnitude of the loss sustained by the folks here when the orange groves were destroyed by the big freeze a few years ago. It will be twenty years before the groves are again bearing as when cut off by the most disastrous freeze of which there is any history. "Think about what we lost," said a well-informed gentleman, "there never was an earthquake, a famine, a shipwreck, a pestilence that cost so much in money as the cold that killed the Florida orange groves. I doubt whether the people of the country have ever realized that the disaster was so great." It was a blow from which many will never recover. One gentleman—not a resident of Florida—had for many years invested all his earnings in an orange grove and incurred some debt. For several years prior to the freeze he had been in receipt of a net income of \$6,000 a year from his oranges. He had just gotten out of debt when the freeze destroyed every dollar of a life time's saving. He cannot retrieve his fortune because he has not the money to expend on another grove, and if he had the necessities of his family demand that he go to work at something that will bring in quick return. And his condition is that of many others. The destruction of the orange crop brought loss on all sides. The railroads, which had done much to develop the orange business, lost heavily in freights on the oranges and the bulk of business which good prices brought in the sections where they are grown. But you find nobody in Florida sitting down wringing their hands, and crying over the milk that is beyond recovery. Those who can have gone to work to grow new groves and others have gone into other lines of industry, for Florida is a State that is confident of its future. If Florida has lost its orange money for some years, it still has two sources from which it can get a living. Yankees in the winter and potatoes in the summer. As long as these crops hold out, Florida will not be downcast at anything else that may overtake it.

They have no politics in Florida to divert them from digging potatoes in summer or trading with Yankees in the winter. At least, Florida has no partisan politics. The Australian ballot law is in force here and it disfranchises most of the negroes and a few of the white folks. The result is that Republicans take no interest in politics, and comparatively few of the people take the trouble to vote. The total vote of the State in a recent election was only 12,000, only a few less than were cast in Wake county. But the Democrats have politics till you can't rest a minute in the party primaries. There is no fun and no contest at the regular election, but enough to make up for it in the Democratic primaries. A nomination being equivalent to an election, there is a big fight over the nominations, especially to the most important places, and there are not wanting well organized factions within the party, but the primaries are regulated by law and there is general acquiescence in the decree of the primary. A man rarely bolts the primary nomination. If he does, he invites and receives political annihilation. The white people of Florida had a bitter dose of negro and carpet bag rule up to 1877, and they have not forgotten it. They are resolved to permit no appeal to the negro vote. Now and then an attempt is made in some local election, but the sentiment in favor of abiding by the white primary is too strong to permit any headway to be made.

The new Senator from Florida, Mr. Taliferro, lives here. He has never before held office, though he has taken an active interest in local politics. He had no public record except that he has been a public-spirited and successful business man who has been true to the Demo-

A WOMAN MAKER OF PRESIDENTS

An Interesting Chapter of History Recalled.

DEATH OF MRS. SPRAGUE

ROSCOE CONKLING OBEYED HER NOD FROM THE GALILEY.

DAUGHTER OF SEC. SALMON P. CHASE

Who Spent her Life in Trying to Place him in the White House. She Married

Sprague for His Influence. (Philadelphia Times.)

Washington, July 31. Mrs. Kate Chase Sprague, wife of a former Governor of Rhode Island, and the daughter of the late Salmon P. Chase, Governor of Ohio, United States Senator and Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, died at her home, Edgewood, in Washington's suburbs, early this morning. She was 50 years old.

For three months she had been suffering with a complication of liver and kidney troubles, but had consented to medical treatment only ten days ago. She grew steadily worse and the end came a few minutes after 3 o'clock this morning. At the bedside were her three daughters, Miss Kittie Sprague, who lived with her mother; Miss Portia Sprague, of Narragansett Pier, and Mrs. Donaldson, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

A FAMOUS WOMAN'S CAREER.

Some one has said that Kate Chase Sprague was the Mme. de Stael of America, but later years will have to furnish the perspective necessary to set a proper seal upon that likeness. Those that have known her in her day will always speak of her as a brilliant, ambitious, spirited and daring woman. In her efforts, she had great personal beauty and a ready wit, an ability that enabled her to reign in the social world. She inherited much of the genius of her father, Salmon P. Chase, Lincoln's Secretary of the Treasury, which, combined with an intimate and practical knowledge of governmental workings in the days of the war, gave her a political power such as probably no other woman in this country has ever possessed.

She was born in Ohio in 1840, and was barely more than 20 when she went to Washington with her father, who was to take his place in the Cabinet. Young as she was, she had seen service in public life. While her father was Governor of Ohio she had been his confidential secretary, and by constant association with him had taken on many of his manners and habits of life and thought. He was imperious and high-tempered, and so was she. His self-esteem was one of his greatest infirmities, and the daughter was not a step behind him.

DOMESTIC INFELICITY.

It was the dream of her young life that she should some time see her father President of the country, and it is certain she subordinated many of her life plans to this overpowering idea. Her beauty and her father's place in the Cabinet placed her in the front rank of society in Washington, and it was not long before she was using her power to attract the leading men of the capital to her. Those in public life vied for her favor, and she accorded it in proportion to their position and influence, immediate or prospective. For the man that came to her in a marrying mood she had no thought in those early days, and passed them away with freezing imperiousness. They had no place in the plan of her campaign.

The women of the capital she never heeded. She considered them as useless as the love-lorn men, and could not see how they could ever help her in the realization of her dream. But the enemies she then made were never lost to her, and surely counted against her in the days that came. When she was 24, however, there appeared as a suitor for her hand, Governor William Sprague, of Rhode Island. He was a man of great wealth, had served with honor in the battles of the war, and there was that about him which made the young woman believe he might be of great use to her. She married him as a mere step forward in the furtherance of her ambition, and not with any thought of love, as events were made to show.

HER MARRIAGE A FAILURE.

This marriage proved to be the mistake of her life, and it was not many years before she realized it. Her husband, Governor then and Senator afterward, brought no addition to her power and helped her not at all in the campaign in her father's favor. But she was not cast down to the point of forsaking her plan, and when, after passing from the Cabinet, her father went into the Supreme Court of the nation, there to become its Chief Justice, she redoubled her efforts. She employed every method known to the science of politics to advance his cause. An enormous fund was raised and a systematic corruption of the newspaper correspondents at Washington was attempted.

The list prepared by this clever, audacious woman, contained the names of men who should receive \$100 per week for advocating the nomination of the Chief Justice. She once boasted to the writer of this article that she had the receipts of many men, whom she named, for money accepted in this service. In that list are the names of several persons who stand very high in wealth and political power today.

But all the campaigning was for naught. All she could do was in vain, and when, in 1873, her father died, without her hopes having been realized in the slightest degree, she gave up and whatever power she had ever had was at an end.

AMBITIOUS FOR HER FATHER.

Her married life had never been happy. Her husband had established her in a palatial residence at Canochet, R. I., destined to be the scene of a great sensation in a later day. She was extravagant in everything, and this led to a feud between her and the members of her husband's family. They warned him that she was leading him on at too rapid a pace, and when she learned of this she vowed a lasting vengeance.

The first child born to her was a son, but she never cared for him. What ever mother's love there was in her heart was saved for the daughter that came afterward. Not one of the children served as an additional bond between her and her husband.

The death of her father was followed by the panic of 1873. The vast fortunes of the Sprague family were not thought to be in danger, and if all the members of the family had stood together it would not have been necessary for any of them to go to the wall. But the Senator's wife had estranged the others, and in the wreck that came the Senator was the only one that suffered to the extent of losing all his possessions. At that time the Senator and Mrs. Sprague, although living in the same house, never spoke to each other. When everything was gone Mrs. Sprague took her three daughters and left the house to her father, and left again.

Long before that there had been talk of a divorce, but the world had known little of their troubles. There was however, the incident in which Roscoe Conkling figured. He had been marked in his attentions to Mrs. Sprague and continued so until one afternoon, at Canochet, when the husband chased him from the place with a hatchet.

A NOD OF TREMENDOUS IMPORT.

When Don Platt was publishing the Sunday Capital in Washington he printed an editorial (said to have been written by Colonel A. C. Buell, now with the Cramps) in which it was charged that Conkling was called from the floor of the Senate by a nod from Mrs. Sprague in the Senate gallery, and that the summing of Conkling in this manner had much to do with the passing of the electoral commission bill, which resulted in the seating of Hayes in the White House.

But nothing ever came of the mutual charges of misconduct made by the Spragues, and it was not until 1882 that a divorce was granted to Mrs. Sprague on the ground of non-support.

Meantime, she had been living on a little estate, called Edgewood, in the suburbs of Washington. This had been left to her by her father, and at that time it was of little value. But the city began to grow out in that direction and when the time came to cut the land up into building lots, Mrs. Sprague found herself in comfortable circumstances. Her natural extravagance, however, led her to encumber the land by a mortgage, and it was only by the personal intervention of some of her friends, among them Levi P. Morton, of New York, that it was saved to her.

RATHER NEGLIGED.

How Lieutenant Brumby Welcomed the (Pittsburg Dispatch.)

Flag Lieutenant Brumby, who is now with Admiral Dewey at Trieste, is a dapper little man, who is most punctilious about his uniform and deportment. In essentially he is as brave an officer as ever sent a ship into action, and his native State of Georgia has a handsome gold-filled sword ready to present to him when he gets home from the war. On one occasion, however, Lieutenant Brumby made a most lamentable slip in the matter of uniform.

Up to this time the story has never been told in print. It occurred while the Olympia was still lying before Manila. One of the duties of Lieutenant Brumby was to receive all persons who came to call on the Admiral. On the afternoon in question he had gone down into his stateroom to take a nap. It was terribly hot, and before lying down he removed his spottish white canvas coat, trousers and cap. Half an hour afterward an orderly hurried down to announce that the launch of the captain of the British ship Immortalite was alongside the Olympia. Half asleep, Lieutenant Brumby put on his coat and hat and rushed on deck in order to be in readiness to receive the guests. During the hot weather no work was done on the warships between 10 o'clock in the morning and 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Consequently, most of the crew was on the upper deck enjoying the breeze. They took one look at the dashing young Lieutenant and then burst into a laugh which not even naval discipline could restrain. The Lieutenant hurried below decks for his trousers, while another officer temporarily took his place in the reception of the guests.

RAGTIME IN REALITY.

"Do you have any ragtime down here?" asked the man with the guitar. "It's always ragtime down here," replied the hard-fisted citizen, with a lugubrious sigh, "nothing but rags; hardly any patches."

THE NEGRO SHOULD GO TO THE INDIES

Emigration the Solution of the Problem.

IN CUBA AND PORTO RICO

THE NEGRO OF INDUSTRY AND SMALL MEANS CAN DO WELL.

CONGRESS SHOULD GIVE \$20,000,000

To Aid the Southern Blacks in Going Says

Waller. A Negro Now in Cuba Writes of the Future of his Race.

San Luis, Island of Cuba.—When American soldiers freed the Cubans they opened a pathway to liberty and happiness for the colored people of the United States. The solution of the negro problem lies in the direction of a partial emigration of the colored population of America from the South to Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines. What with lynchings in the South, and oppression in the labor market in the North, it seems that the colored man of North America has his choice between three things:

First—Gradual but sure annihilation, as in the case of the North American Indian.

Second—Gradual amalgamation, which is physically impossible and undesirable from all points of view.

Third—Emigration.

In my earnest opinion the gradual emigration of the colored people from the South to Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines—the two former islands more particularly—will furnish a sure solution of the many wrongs and persecutions to which the recently emancipated people have been subjected during the past thirty years. There is before this people now an "open door," as a result of the Spanish-American war, which makes it possible for the colored people of the States to emigrate in large numbers to the islands comprising our new possessions and still be under the protection of the Stars and Stripes.

MUST BE HUSTLERS.

I would not advise any person or persons to emigrate to either of the islands mentioned unless they possess the same hustling qualities which were found in the early colonists of North America. The class of people who should come must possess the following qualifications: Nerve, manhood, determination, an independent spirit, \$300 or \$400, and a good team. They must burn the bridges behind them and come here to stay, to make a home for themselves and their posterity. The man or men who will come here or go to either of the other islands, to sit on the seashore and sigh for the old plantation, had better remain where they are. There are millions of fertile acres in Cuba only waiting the brown, sinew, intelligence, and enterprise of the colored people of the States to turn this island, now uncultivated and poverty-stricken, by reason of the late war, into a field of plenty.

Lands can be either leased or bought at reasonable prices and on reasonable terms. They are supplied with an abundance of water and will produce almost any vegetable grown in the States. In addition to these, sugar cane, tobacco, coffee, cocoa, and sweet potatoes are grown in great abundance in Cuba. Corn and cotton are also produced here. Oranges, bananas, grapes, mangoes, lemons, limes, figs, and many other fruits are abundant. A thrifty and energetic farmer who gets a fair start in Cuba can treble his money in one year.

CUBANS ARE FRIENDLY.

The kindly treatment accorded the distressed Cubans by the Twenty-third Kansas, Eighth Illinois Volunteers, and Ninth United States Volunteer Infantry (colored) during their six months stay in the province of Santiago has created a friendship between the American colored people and the Cubans that will always make the former welcome visitors to the island, despite the fact that there have been efforts on the part of some white men high in station to discourage it. I would be pleased to hear from one or two of the leading colored men in each of the States who favor a partial emigration of our people from the South to the three islands referred to, to the end that we may co-operate in an effort to induce the Congress of the United States to make an appropriation of at least \$20,000,000 for the purpose of aiding such colored people who desire to emigrate to either Cuba, Porto Rico, or the Philippines.

It must be remembered that I am speaking only of such persons of the race as may desire to try a home in the islands above referred to as a solution of the wrongs now inflicted upon our race. There can easily be spared from the South 3,000,000 colored people, 2,000,000 of whom should emigrate to Cuba, and the remainder divided between the other two islands, or, if desirable, Cuba and Porto Rico. This would cause such a reduction of colored labor in the South as to create a demand for the retention of the remainder of that race in the States, and it would forever set at rest the bugbear of negro domination, as feared by the Southern white. Then, too, the news of the success of the departed 3,000,000 would ultimately result

the emigration of at least 70 per cent, the remaining portion of the colored people from the South, and the negro problem would be solved as was the Israelitish problem and the Protestant problem, which latter resulted in the establishment of the early colonists in North America, from which a government has been founded that has become the strongest among the family of nations.

The intermingling of our race with that of the Cuban (both are similar) will infuse new blood, new life, and awaken new enterprise in the people of this country that will make them one of the strongest, most energetic, and fearless people in the world. The coming of our race to this island would result in the foundation and establishment of one of the greatest settlements in the West Indies. Congress could well afford to appropriate the \$20,000,000 for the purpose, to save the name of our country from further shame and disgrace. America has given the Cubans \$3,000,000. The colored American has done far more for our country than the Cubans could do in the next 500 years; yet we were turned out of bondage without a dollar, despite the fact that 200,000 of our race aided the North in saving the Union. We were loaded down with the ballot when each freeman should rather have been given a hundred and sixty acres of good farm, a team of mules, wagons and farming utensils. This would have placed the colored man in a better position and made him able to maintain and appreciate the ballot in 1900, quite early enough to give him enfranchisement.

By 1900 the negro would own property, banks, railroads, factories, machine shops, packing plants and foundries, and be able to retain thereafter equal representation in Congress. Having had the right and exercise of the ballot since the first administration of General Grant, we are only able to appear at the end of thirty years with a people fairly educated, a great number of churches, a limited proportion of other property, and a single member of the race (Mr. White, of North Carolina) to represent 10,000,000 people in Congress. We once had seven members upon the floor of Congress at one time. We now have one. It will be many a year before more than three colored men will be members of the American Congress again at the same time, and the generation is not yet born that will see another colored man in the United States Senate.

PLAN FOR APPROPRIATION.

But to return to the plan for the appropriation by Congress of \$20,000,000 to make this energetic idea possible. It will naturally be asked: "How is the money to be returned?" The whole amount would be paid back into the Treasury of the United States in the way of revenue and duties on exports in less than five years after its appropriation. When the amount is appropriated it should be stipulated that the whole or such portion of the sum as is necessary to carry out the purposes for which it was appropriated be disbursed from time to time by the Secretary of War, or the Minister of the Colonies, should such a department be established. The law should safeguard the money appropriated as the wisdom of Congress may deem expedient.

JOHN L. WALLER (Col.), Late Chaplain Twenty-third Volunteer Infantry.

METHODIST CONFERENCE.

The Local Preachers and Lay Workers' Conference of the M. E. church, which is now in its thirtieth year, will be held at Clayton, N. C., August 17-20. The following is the program:

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17.

8:00 p. m.—Rev. J. B. Lloyd, president, Annual Address; Rev. J. T. Draper, Response.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18.

9:00 a. m. Conference—Rev. T. N. Ivey, D. D., Sermon; Rev. I. A. White, Suburban Mission Work; Rev. J. W. Jenkins, Church Orphan Work; Rev. R. C. Gullett, Inspired Work vs. Formalism. 2:00 p. m. Conference.—Mrs. Mamie Terrell, Woman's Work; Levi Branson, "Let him that heareth say Come;" Capt. George Baker, "Except ye be converted," etc. The Constitution of the Church; Rev. J. O. Guthrie, God's Love and Man's Destiny; Professor Bassett, Muttering Thunders; Prof. W. I. Crawford, The Great Battle.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19.

9:00 a. m. Conference.—Mrs. B. B. Adams, The Joy of Christian Work; Rev. Peter M. Briggs, The More Abundant Life; Rev. H. H. Home, Special Discourse; E. B. Thomas, The Hidden Mystery; Miss Lottie L. Best, Woman's Devotion to the Master; Prof. John E. Kelly, Industrial Education; Symposium, What the Lord Has Done for Me. 2:00 p. m. Conference.—Prof. Charles H. Mebane, Education and the Gospel; Rev. R. H. Whitaker, D. D., The Greatness of the Gospel; Rev. A. B. Crumpler, Does the Blood Cleanse from all Sin? Rev. T. H. Bain, Modern Missions.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20.

W. H. P. Jenkins, Local Preachers by My Time. 9:00 a. m.—Symposium: P. M. Briggs and others, What the Lord Has Done for Me. 11:00 a. m.—Rev. J. B. Floyd, Sermon. 2:00 p. m.—Rev. T. N. Ivey, Sermon. 3:00 p. m.—Rev. James H. Buffalo, Special Sermon—Rev. A. G. Kirkman, The Live Layman. 8:00 p. m.—Rev. A. B. Crumpler, The Blood Cleanses. The Committee on Entertainment consists of E. B. McCullers, C. M. Thomas, W. E. Barbour. Members of different denominations will take part in the conference. JAS. B. LOYD, President. Rev. James B. Floyd is president of the conference and Rev. Levi Branson, secretary.