THE WEATHER TO-DAY.
For North Carolina:
FAIR.

The News and Observer.

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For Raleigh:
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ACRES OF BUILDINGS MELT IN A WHIRLWIND OF FIRE

Jacksonville is Compelled to Call on Other Cities For Aid.

FIVE NEGROES PERISH IN THE FLAMES

Firemen Fight the Fire With Dynamite.

AT TEN FIFTEEN IT IS UNDER CONTROL

The Windsor, the St. James and One Other Hotel Besides a Theatre and Six Blocks of Houses Destroyed. Telegraph Wires Burned.

(By the Associated Press.)

Atlanta, Ga., May 3.—The officials of the Western Union Telegraph Company were advised tonight that almost the entire business section of Jacksonville, and a large portion of the residence section had been destroyed by fire, which broke out shortly after noon today in the factory of the Cleveland Fibre Company. At 8:30 o'clock tonight the fire is still burning, and although aid is being hurried to the Florida city from many adjoining places, it is feared it will not arrive before the fire has burned itself out.

It is impossible to give a reasonable estimate of the loss. It is said that five negroes were burned to death. No other casualties have been reported.

The fire is supposed, from advices received here, to have practically wiped out twenty blocks. A gale, which blew all day put the flames from the start entirely beyond the power of the fire department and the city was left at the mercy of the flames.

The St. James and Windsor Hotels were destroyed.

The St. James was the principal hotel of the city. It was a brick structure, five stories high, modern in all its appointments. It faced the St. James Park and was just across the street from the Windsor. It was the highest priced hotel in Jacksonville, and was the winter home of many millionaires.

The Windsor is a block nearer Bay street, three blocks from the centre of the town. It is a modern frame building, four stories high, and covering one of the largest blocks in the city. The Times-Union and Citizen, which is regarded as the geographical centre of Jacksonville, is one block from the Federal building.

The Western Union building is one block down Bay street from the Times-Union building.

The telegraph company is sending all its business on a train which left Atlanto at 10:45 tonight. This train also carried a corps of linemen and operators and a carload of wire and other telegraph supplies.

New York and other eastern cities are sending all their telegrams to Savannah, and a train which leaves Savannah at 3 o'clock tomorrow morning will carry the messages to Jacksonville.

Savannah, Ga., May 3.—Jacksonville fire is under control at 10:15 p. m. Three hotels, theatre and about six blocks burned. Western Union have just gotten one wire into Jacksonville. Long distance telephone wires all burned.

A VILLAGE MADE MOTHLESS.

Story of the Ferrybook Disaster on the River Dnieper.

(By the Associated Press.)

London, May 3.—A special dispatch from Odessa, dated April 26th, purports to give an eye-witness story of the recent ferryboat disaster on the River Dnieper near Katchkarovka, when almost a hundred mothers, with their babies, returning from the evening milking were drowned. A sudden storm sprang up, there was a panic, the pontoons swamped and only a few of those on the ferry were saved by a boat. Three persons clung to a horse which swam ashore. Practically every family in the villege was rendered motherless by the disaster.

Morgan Aids a Hospital.

(By the Associated Press.)

Aixies Bains, France, May 3.—J. Pierpont Morgan has donated fifty thousand francs to the local hospital here, and the municipality has marked its appreciation of the gift by the presentation of a bequet inscribed the "Town of Aix les Bains to J. Pierpont Morgan, Chevalier of the Legion of Honor, in recognition of his gift of fifty thousand francs to the new municipal hospital." Mr. Morgan and Mr. Carnegie have had several conferences here.

Weldon Jail Crowded.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Weldon, N. C., May 3.—Halifax Circuit Criminal Court begins Monday. The jail is full of prisoners and Solicitor Daniel will have his hands full.

The county authorities are trying to locate the men who shot John Pope, a colored farmer, in the eye a few nights ago at the fair grounds. His wound is serious and may result fatally, as the ball is lodged under the bone near the ear.

Farmers who have been holding cotton now realize the mistake they made, and some are disposed to turn losse at the present low prices.

A primary has been called for tonight to nominate a mayor and seven commissioners. Mayor Gooch will probably be nominated for re-election. There will be several changes in the board of town commissioners as some of the old members will not allow their names to be used for re-election.

Extra precautions are being taken to prevent the spread of typhus fever from Mexico into this country. Officers have been regularly inspecting every train crossing the frontier.

so at this session, and there will be only four judges present."

CHEEK GOES TO THE PEN.

Reported Discovery of Oil on Texas Form Belonging to P. H. Hanes.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Winston-Salem, N. C., May 3.—Yadkin Superior court closed today. Henry Cheek, aged 28 years, was convicted of murder in the second degree and sentenced to the peritentiary for seventeen years for killing Andrew Pinnix, brother of State Senator J. W. Pinnix, February 2nd. Cheek shot Pinnix with a double-barrel shot gun at a still house. Both men were drunk. Sheriff Shore, of Yadkin, carried the prisoner to Raleigh tonight.

A prominent cotton mill man says two attempts have been made to combine cotton manufacturing, but they failed. He added he did not think such a thing possible for several years at least.

It is reported that a valuable oil well has been discovered on a farm in Texas owned by P. H. Hanes, of Winston.

John M. Lindsay, for fifty years one of Rockingham county's leading citizens, died near Madison last night, aged ninety years.

New Industry at Lexington.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Lexington, N. C., May 3.—Davidson Building Material Company is the latest new industry for Lexington. E. M. Ward is president and L. F. Rathrock, J. F. Hedrick, J. C. Crissman, directors. These are practical working business men, and the chances are that they will meet with the success merited by intelligence and hard work.

All the talk in our town now is schools and schools and graded schools. On next Monday the sovereigns of Lexington vote on the question. Considerable interest is manifested. We have had no fights yet, but can't tell how soon the match will be applied to the fuse. It is the opinion of this writer that schools will carry. The registration this year is larger than usual.

There is much improvement going on. The sound of the saw and hammer can be heard on every hand.

John Kirk, a negro, of this county stole a valuable cow last Friday night from Mr. Carrick, of Cotton Grove township. He took the cow to Salisbury and sold it to a butcher. The negro was arrested in Rowan on a warrant from Davidson, and carried before 'Squire S. M. Peacock, where be confessed his guilt. A set of burglar's keys was found on the negro's person. Sheriff Dorsett tried one of the keys (a skeleton arrangement) on several office and store locks and it worked like a charm.

Efforts to Secure Control of the Union Pacific Fail

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, May 3.—The Commercial Advertiser says:

"There is good reason to believe that E. H. Harriman will continue in control of the Union Pacific Railroad. The purchases of Union Pacific shares by outside parties, although very large, it is asserted, fell considerably short of a majority and Mr. Harriman and Mr. Gold have so strengthened their hold on the property within the past few days that a continuance of the present management is practically assured.

"Friends of Mr. Harriman are confident today in their assertions that United Pacific control still rests with the Harriman syndicate. There is some talk, however, of a possible recognition by the controlling powers of the great minority interest that has been concentrated in the recent sensational movement of the Union Pacific stock.

"Stock exchange operators say that the heavy demand for Southern Pacific shares which has accompanied the protracted upward movement in Union Pacific was caused largely by efforts of a considerable Southern Pacific minority interest to regain possession of that system in the event that Union Pacific changed hands. The last named company holds but $75,000,000 of the Southern Pacific stock out of the authorized issue of $200,000,000. Some of the old-time stockholders of the Southern and Central Pacific systems are anxious to have the independence of the property re-established. It is believed the outside demand for Southern Pacific shares within the past few days impelled the Harriman-Gould interests to add materially to their holdings of that stock."

ANOTHER RAILROAD

An Extension of the L. & N. to the S. A. L.

Another Route Needed For Coal Carrying. Will the Seaboard Get a Portion of the Coal Carrying Traffic?

(Special to News and Observer.)

Greensboro, N. C., May 3.—It is currently reported that there is a movement on foot for an extension of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad to the Seaboard, either at Norfolk or Wilmington.

The route is from Norton, W. Va., the present eastern terminus of the Louisville and Nashville thence to St. Paul, Va., striking the rich coal fields at that point thence to Radford, Va., where a road is now being surveyed to Floyd, C. H., thence to the headwater, of the Dan River and connecting with a narrow railroad from that point to Mt. Airy, N. C., which will be made a standard gauge. Here a connection can be made with the Southern railroad or by a further extension east the Seaboard road can be tapped, thus giving two strings to the outlet. It is a well known fact that the Southern interest requires an outlet for its western connections from Greensboro, rather than run by way of Asheville, as is now the case. The Norfolk and Western and the Southern Railroad having an agreement whereby neither will encroach on the other's territory has prevented the Southern from entering on the work of the western connection, but with the Louisville and Nashville working in conjunction it may serve the purpose as well, for the Southern's western outlet and also the Louisville and Nashville's eastern outlet to the Atlantic ocean.

The coal carrying capacity of the Norfolk and Western has been crowded to the limit and other facilities will in the near future be furnished the coal operators in the West Virginia coal fields for another way out for their product, for which there seems an unhalting demand at this time. Will the Seaboard Railroad get a portion of this coal carrying traffic?

Judge Boyd says the next session of the Circuit Court of Appeals may be held in Baltimore instead of Richmond. He says: "The statute designates the place for holding the court, but declares that it may be adjourned to any city within the district which the judge may choose. The hotel accommodations in Richmond are not entirely satisfactory, and as soon as the court assembles it may adjourn to Baltimore. That is not determined fully. Chief Justice Fuller, who usually sits with the appeal court will be unable to do

FIVE THOUSAND FOR KITTRELL.

Mrs. Shannon's Bequest to the Negro Normal and Industrial School.

(By the Associated Press.)

(Cambridge, Mass., May 3.—The will of Mary Shannon, of Newton, filed in the Middlesex Probate Court today contributes more than $125,000 to charitable and public institutions. Hampton (Va.) Normal and Agricultural Institute gets $10,000; and Tuskegee (Ala.) Institutions, Kittrell (N. C.) Normal and Industrial School for negroes, Atlanta (Ga.) University and Mallalieu Seminary for poor whites, Kinsey, Henry county, Ala., $5,000 each.

Death of Mrs. M. A. Oliver.

(Special to the News and Observer.)

Reidsville, N. C., May 3.—Mrs. M. A. Oliver died at 3:15 a. m. today. Five children survice her. They are R. I Oliver, Reidsville; J. T. and Manton Oliver, of The Review; Mrs. O. L Fitzgerald, Lansonville, and Miss Maud Oliver. he remains were interred in Greenview cemetery at 6 p. m. today. The funeral was held at Main Street Methodist Episcopal church, Rev. J. P. Brooks officiated.

Gift to Oxford Orphanage Asylum.

(Oxford Orphan's Friend.)

As is seen from our list of donations, we have received a beautiful gift from Mrs. A. C. Best, Washington, D. C. Mrs Best has recently experienced the sad misfortune of losing her daughter, and presents the piano to the asylum as a memorial to her. It is a handsome instrument and we are grateful indeed to the donor.

A little loving is a dangerous thing.

GEE! DID YOU HEAR THE BIRDS WARBLE?

They Play a Well Nigh Faultless Game.

FIFTEEN HITS OFF BASS

Richmond Falls Like Ripe Corn Under the Scythe.

THE GIANTS FIGHT BRAVELY BUT LOSE

And Norfolk Keeps Up Her Reputation as a Hard Team to Handle. The Shipbuilders Trounce the Portsmouth Boys Once More.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Richmond, Va., May 3.—The Richmond team went down before Raleigh's fast team this afternoon like corn under the scythe.

The visitors played a faultless game, well nigh, and found Bass with ease and with emphasis, fifteen good solid hits were made off the little twirler, and among them were singles, doubles, triples and a home run.

Some of the Richmond lads made a good showing, but the remainder fell down, and were transformed into veritable monkeys by the splendid aggregation from Raleigh.

Raleigh's runs were made in bunches, and only three innings were needed to secure the fourteen with which they are credited.

The North Carolinians scored by good hitting, assisted by costly errors on the part of the locals.

THE TABULATED SCORE.

RICHMOND.	AB.	R.	H.	P.O.	A.	E.
Darby, s. s.	4	0	0	2	3	1
Bigbie, 3b.	5	0	3	0	1	2
Soffle, 2b.	4	0	1	4	5	0
Fillman, r. f.	3	0	0	2	0	0
Kain, c. f.	4	0	0	2	1	0
Trager, l. f.	2	1	0	2	0	1
Thomas, 1b.	3	2	1	10	0	0
Gans, c.	4	0	2	0	0	0
Bass, p.	3	0	0	0	5	0
Total	32	3	7	27	15	4

RALEIGH.	AB.	R.	H.	P.O.	A.	E.
Stanley, c. f.	4	2	1	0	1	0
Hennager, 2b.	6	1	2	4	4	0
Kelly, 1b.	5	2	1	11	1	0
Atz, 3b.	4	3	3	2	3	0
Hauptman, r. f.	5	3	2	0	0	0
Meade, s. s.	5	1	1	4	7	1
Sherman, l. f.	5	1	2	1	0	0
LeGrande, c.	5	1	2	4	0	0
Bowden, p.	4	0	1	1	1	1
Total	43	14	15	27	17	2

SCORE BY INNINGS.

Richmond	0 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 0—3
Raleigh	0 0 0 4 0 4 6 0 0—14

Summary—Two base hits, Atz, Hauptman, Sherman, LeGrande; three base hits, Sherman; home run, Hauptman; stolen bases, Fillman, Traeger, Stanley, Hauptman, LeGrande; double plays, Soffle to Darby, Darby to Soffle and Thomas, Atz to Kelly to Atz, Hennager and Kelly, Hennager and Meade to Kelly; bases on balls, off Bass 4, off Bowden 6; struck out, by Bass 3, by Bowden 1; passed balls, LeGrande. Umpire, Staley. Attendance 800.

BOTH TEAMS PLAY STAR BALL.

Batting Honors Even. Norfolk One Better in the Error Column.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Norfolk, Va., May 3.—Norfolk defeated Wilmington today by the score of 4 to 3. Both teams put up an excellent game of ball and Umpire Clarks' decision gave satisfaction generally. The batting honors were even throughout, while Norfolk had one the best of it in the error column. There were no special features to the game. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Norfolk	1 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 *—4	7	2
Wilmington	0 0 2 0 0 0 1 0 0—3	7	3

Batteries: Wolfe and Nelson; Allen and Thackere.

PORTSMOUTH ON ITS LAST LEGS.

The Newport News Team Walks Away From Them With Ease.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Portsmouth, Va., May 3.—Newport News-Hampton again defeated Portsmouth this time by the score of 9 to 3. The boys from across the roads had an easy thing in the demoralized Portsmouth players and walked away from them without effort. The game was devoid of interest, and the crowd was extremely slim. It looks as though the Portsmouth team were on its last legs. Score:

Portsmouth	1 0 0 0 0 0 2 0 0—3
Newsport News	1 0 3 4 1 0 0 0 0—9

Batteries: Rapp and Westlake; Heiberger and Ashenback.

STANDING OF THE CLUBS.

Clubs.	Won.	Lost.	P. C.
Norfolk	11	3	.786
Newport News	9	6	.600
Raleigh	9	7	.563
Wilmington	7	9	.438
Richmond	5	10	.333
Portsmouth	5	11	.313

THE GAMES TODAY.

Raleigh at Richmond.
Wilmington at Norfolk.
Newport News at Portsmouth.

NATIONAL LEAGUE GAMES.

Brooklyn Leady Philadelphia and New York Boston.

(By the Associated Press.)

Pittsburg, Pa., May 3.—The visitors played a patched up team today and the locals won easily. Attendance 1,300. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Pittsburg	3 0 0 3 0 4 0 0 0*—10	13	3
Chicago	0 3 1 0 0 1 1 0 0— 6	12	2

Batteries: Leever and O'Connor; Hughes and Chance. Time 2:35. Umpire, Emslie.

Brooklyn, May 3.—Today's game was in favor of the pitchers. Both Kitson and White did splendid work. Attendance 1,800. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Philadelphia	0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0—1	8	3
Brooklyn	1 0 0 0 0 1 1 2 *—5	9	1

Batteries: White and McFarland; Kitson and McGuire. Time 2:11. Umpire, O'Day.

Boston, Mass., May 3.—Today's game was a pitcher's battle, in which Matthewson excelled. Attendance 1,200. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Boston	0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0—1	4	1
New York	0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0—2	8	0

Batteries: Nichols and Kittredge; Matthewson and Smith. Time 1:30. Umpire, Nash.

AMERICAN LEAGUE GAMES.

Siever Wins For Detroit The Quakers Bunch Hits Effectively.

(By the Associated Press.)

Detroit, Mich., May 3.—Siever kept the hits well scattered today, and aided by the snappy fielding behind him won the game. Attendance 3,500. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Detroit	1 1 1 1 2 0 0 0 *—6	8	3
Cleveland	0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1 0—3	8	1

Batteries: Siever and Buelow; Hoffer and Yeager. Time 1:40. Umpires, Sheridan and Manassau.

Philadelphia, Pa., May 3.—The home club played a faster game than Baltimore and won by bunching hits. Attendance 2,641. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Baltimore	0 0 0 3 1 0 0 0 0—4	10	1
Philadelphia	2 0 4 0 3 0 0 0 *—9	13	2

Batteries: Yerkes and Robinson, Fraser and Powers.

Washington, May 3.—Washington today won the first game of its series with Boston through good stick work in the first and fifth innings. Attendance 4,000. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Washington	4 1 0 0 4 0 0 0 *—9	8	5
Boston	0 1 0 2 1 0 0 0 0—4	7	1

Batteries: Carrick and Clark; Foreman and Criger. Time 1:57. Umpire, Cantillion.

Milwaukee, Wis., May 3.—Milwaukee was easily beaten in the opening game today. The home team fielded miserably. Attendance 4,000. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Milwaukee	0 0 0 0 0 0 3 0 6— 3	5	8
Chicago	1 7 0 2 0 0 0 0 1—11	14	1

Batteries: Leahy, Hawley and Sparks; Skoperand and Rand. Time 2:20. Umpire, Haskell.

EASTERN LEAGUE RESULTS.

Providence 19, Hartford 11.
Worcester 6, Syracuse 10.
Buffalo 8, Toronto 5.
Montreal 10, Rochester 4.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE RESULTS.

At Little Rock—Little Rock 7, Memphis 0.
At Shreveport—Shreveport 8, New Orleans 7.
At Birmingham—Birmingham 13, Selma 2.

Tribute to Major Alstor.

To the Editor: he sad news today of the departure of another old hero and sterling gentleman emboldens one who knew him most intimately and valued him accordingly, to lay a little sprig of immortelle on his newly made grave. Major Robert W. Alston was for years succeeding the war one of my nearest neighbors in a sparsely settled section of Warren, as he was then and ever after, one of my nearest and dearest friends. His valor was attested by all of his comrades, and doubly attested by a beautiful ugly gash across his visage, which somewhat marred the facial symmetry. It was only one of many glorious scars received in freedom's cause. Me it said that the loss of a few dentals and a slice of the upper lip in no wise spoilt Bob's beauty in the eyes of his good wife and all other good women and brave men of his after life. "On the contrary, quite the reverse." The mark of that "Minnie" was ever held by them to be a prouder badge of glory than "the golden fleece" o rthe grand crop of the legion on the breast of on ordinary lieutenant general or field marshal. The dear old fellow never took it to heart himself, as he deemed such mishaps only natural results of war. And they were all acquired for duty's sake. He fought and bled for duty, not for glory.

Gentle, genial and kindly he was in all the relations of life, a living illustration of the couplet; the bravest are the tenderest; the loving are the daring. "During ou rlong intimacy I cannot recall his ever using a harsh word or an unkind remark to or about any human being, and yet he had his rubs in life, as who has not? Here was a practical Christian, to my thinking and fain am I to believe that he is with his old chieftain, Stonewall, in the shade of the trees across the river." And yet he enjoyed the simple pleasures of this world in his own simple, innocent way, and could cut "the pigeon win" with the best to the inspiring strains of old Frank Johnson's fiddle, presupposing always that it was in a goold old-fashioned square English dance. I opine that he would have preferred to lead a "forlorn hope" to "leading the german."

Farewell old friend, typical of the grandest race that the world has known, known once and will never know again the old Southern civilization supplemented by "the Confederate army."

WHARTON J. GREEN.

Fayetteville, N. C., May 1.

COL. W. H. OSBORN ENDORSED.

Graduating Recital at Female College. New Machinery For Mineola Mills.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Greensboro, N. C., May 3.—The second Democratic city convention met last night and endorsed the nomination of Col. W. H. Osborn for mayor. The nomination of Mr. G. T. Glascock as alderman from the Sixth ward was also endorsed. The first convention referred Mr. Glascock's nomination back to his primary because he had voted for McKinley last November.

The graduating recital of Misses Leonora Balsley, Adelaide Click and Elma Courtney, in the chapel of Greensboro Female College last night, was attended by a large crowd. A most excellent program was rendered and thoroughly enjoyed. These young ladies have completed the course in music at the college.

Prof. P. P. Claxton, of the State Normal and Industrial college, has gone to Kinston and Enfield to deliver educational addresses.

Ellerman Talks of a Subsidy Bill.

(By the Associated Press.)

London, May 3.—At the annual meeting of the Leyland Steamship Line today Chairman Ellerman declined to discuss the sale of the line to J. Pierpont Morgan and Company, until a special meeting was called to take the matter up. Reviewing last year's business, Mr. Ellerman referrred to the Congressional discussion of the Subsidy Bill as "a period of some anxiety." An American subsidy, he added, would be detrimental to British trade and might make it next to impossible to compete with American owned steamers while British ships could not expect Government aid.

Of two weevils choose the smaller.

TO REDUCE THE STRENGTH.

Program For Withdrawing Part of the Army From the Philippines.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, May 3.—It is expected that within a day or so a program will be completed at the War Department for a substantial reduction of the present strength of the United States army in the Philippines. The regular troops now there, who have seen the most service, are the Fourth, Eighteenth, and Twenty-third infantry, and one battalion of the Third artillery. They went out to Manila in 1898 in the first expedition under General Anderson and if the announced policy of the Department, heretofore lived up to, is continued, these will be the first organizations to return to the United States. Some of these troops will be replaced with the new levies just raised in this country. It has not yet been determined how large a reduction will be made. The Department is also arranging to transfer a number of the enlisted men from one branch of the service to another, with a view to securing the balance of proportions contemplated in the Re-organization Bill. Enlistments are being made in satisfactory numbers. These enlistments will soon bring the army up to the maximum of 76,000 men. At present the infantry and cavalry under the schedules recently approved by Secretary Root are practically complete, or would be if the excess of men in different regiments were transferred to other regiments in process of formation. The artillery is still short and the transfer proposition contemplates taking men of experience in the infantry and cavalry arms and assigning them to the artillery if they should prefer that service. If not the new enlistments will have to be made for the artillery in order to increase that branch to the maximum of 18,000 men.

Gompers Decline to Discuss the Cotton Mill Situation

Mr. William E. Curtis, the Chicago Record-Herald's Washington correspondent, writes as follows:

"President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, declines to discuss the rumors of a strike among the operatives of the cotton mills of the Southern Satees, which is said to have been set for the first of May. The story goes that the Federation of Labor has been gradually organizing the operatives in that section for several years, and that the labor unions are now very strong among the spinners in all parts of the South; that the plans adopted by the Federation there are the same as those pursued by them in the anthracite coal regions—to organize thoroughly and then demand recognition from the mill owners for the unions. Mr. Gompers prefers not to give any information concerning the question of the organization in the South. He denies, however, in a most positive manner the report that demands have been made upon the manufacturers, but declares that if they should be made they will be readily granted."

TRADE IN TEXTILES LAGS IN THE REAR

Iron and Steel Furnish the Best Reports.

THE CROP REPORTS GOOD

The Warm, Sunny Weather Makes Retailers Smile.

EXPORT BUSINESS IN PRINTS BETTER

But the Slowness of Demand For Cotton Goods Has Caused a Decline of Five Sixteenths of a Cent in Ten Days.

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, May 3.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say:

"The sanguine feeling as to trade and speculation finds reflection in the enormous activity in stock speculation, which has attracted much money from the usual commercial channels and expanded clearings to unheard-of totals. Warm, sunny weather is helping retail trade in the cities and is likewise affording the farmers favorable opportunity to complete crop planting. General business, the country over, may be classed as satisfactory. The iron and steel trades, though reporting somewhat of a lull in the cruder forms, continue to furnish the best reports, while the textile industries return the least favorable accounts.

"The textiles are relatively the worst situated of all the industries. The slowness of demand for cotton goods on domestic account has been the cause of a reduction of print cloths of 3-16c, which, following the decline of 1-8c last week, makes a net decline of 5-16c in ten days. Curtailment of production by the mills limits stocks but does not help demand. Export business, however, is better and there is scarcity of brown cottons reported.

"The crop situation at present is quite encouraging. Warm, sunny weather is helping corn and cotton, and wheat maintains a generally good condition, notwithstanding reports of damage by insects in the Southwest. Cotton crop advices are fairly good, and an increase in acreage is still foreshadowed despite much replanting have been necessary in Alabama, Georgia and in Tennessee, where the scarcity of seed for this purpose is remarked. Grain planting is almost finished in the Northwest.

"Iron trade production naturally appears to be catching up with demand in the cruder forms first. Bessemer pig iron is 25c lower this week and sales have been made of Southern pig fifty cents below the asking price of some weeks ago, although Birmingham reports schedules adhered to.

"Failures for the week number 163, as compared with 214 last week, 153 in this week a year ago, 164 in 1898 and 240 in 1898."

COMPARATIVE COTTON STATEMENT.

New York, May 3.—For the week ending Friday, May 3rd, 1901: Net receipts at all United States ports during week, 89,268; net receipts at all United States ports during same week last year, 41,064; total receipts to this date, 6,801,856; total receipts to same date last year, 6,203,240; exports for the week, 155,908; exports for same week last year, 89,752; total exports to this date, 5,496,588; total exports to same date last year, 5,164,579; stock at all United States ports, 585,522; stock at all United States ports same time last year, 369,685; stock at all interior towns, 476,149; stock at all interior towns same time last year, 202,900; stock at Liverpool, 771,000; stock at Liverpool same time last year, 670,000; stock of American afloat for Great Britain, 120,000; stock of American afloat for Great Britain same time last year, 66,000.

TOTAL NET RECEIPTS.

New York, May 3—The following are the total net receipts of cotton at all United States ports since September 1st, 1900:

Galveston, 1,911,007 bales; New Orleans, 2,236,492; Mobile, 127,412; Savannah, 1,008,301; Charleston, 216,705; Wilmington, 255,837; Norfolk, 372,716; Baltimore, 60,509; New York, 156,753; Boston, 187,587; Newport News, 18,119; Philadelphia, 22,403; Brunswick, 85,165; Port Arthur, 20,654; Pensacola, 128,646. Total, 6,801,685 bales.

A "Blasphemy" Case in Madison Co.

(Wilkesboro Chronicle.)

Ashe county comes forward with something new in this section. In last week's court there was a case of "blasphemy" and the parties submitted and paid the cost. This is the first case of the kind on record in this section, so far as we can learn. The parties loaded up with the liquid extracts of corn and went to a mill pond on "Hoss creek" on Sunday and baptised each other as best they could under the circumstances. Their loud shouting and praying disturbed the neighbors and they were indicted for blasphemy. Blasphemy is not a statutory offense in this State, but it is a common law offense for the accommodation of our neighbor county, which delights in getting something new.

Refined Sugars Advanced.

(By the Associated Press.)

New York, May 3.—All grades of refined sugars were advanced ten cents a hundred pounds today.