THE WEATHER TO-DAY. The News and Observer. Rain. The News and Observer.

RALEIGH. NORTH CAROLINA, TUSEDAY MORNING, JANUARY 1, 1902.

Dailies

THE WEATHER TO-DAY For Raleigh: Rain. --------

Seal Sugar Of Good Stees

and Circulation

Leads all North Carolina

VOL. LI. NO. 94.

NATIONAL COFFERS ARE RUNNING OVER

A Comparison of Receipts trade. and Expenditures.

REDUCING PUBLIC DEBT

Surplus of \$100,000,000 Largely Ex- Mr. Thaver is one of the ablest and pended in This Way.

INCREASE OF MONEY IN CIRCULATION

According to Secretary Gage's Statement This Increase Since April 1897 is \$574,-561,277 in Amount and \$5.59 Per Capita.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, Dec. 31 .- "The Treasury is in a condition of exampled strength,' said Secretary Gage today when asked to review briefly the Treasury situation at

"Only a month ago, in my annual report to Congress, I reviewed these conditions. The figures for the last month have been made but little change. For the calendar year we show receipts in excess, of the ordinary xepnditure amounting roundly to one hundred million dollars. Such an excess might have resulted in serious embarrassment had not the department been able by means of this surplus to reduc the public debt in large amounts. Since April 1, last, the Treasury has redeemed and cancelled United States bonds to the par value of \$58,714,700, which have been applied to the sinking fund, and the disment resulting therefrom was \$72,-226,845. The available cash on hand is therefore only about \$30,000,000 larger han the amount hold a year age.

Comparing the situation as it is today with April 1st, 1897, the result is malady. most gratifying. On the latter day the Treasury held money of all kinds to the amount of \$250,873,000, including \$100,000,reserve leaving therefore \$150,000,000 as a cash balance. Today in money of all kinds the Treasury holds \$296,659,000, and if we deduct the \$150,-000,000 now held as a gold reserve, the balance stands at \$146000,000 or \$4,000,-000 less than it was April 1st, 1897. It will be seen, therefore, that substantial equilibrium has been maintained.

"There has been a very material increase in the volume of money in circulation since March 1, 1897, as well as in the amount per capita. The volume of money on that date, outside the Treasury was \$1,675,694,953 and the amount per capita was \$23.14. On the first of December last the amount of money outside the Treasury was \$2,250,256,230, and the amount per capita was \$28.73. The increase in amount, therefore, was \$574,-561,277, and the increase per capita was

"The amount of gold coin and gold certificates in circulation increased from \$553,860,515 on March 1, 1897, to \$914,300,-089 on December 1, 1891. Every other kind of money in circulation is greater in amount now than it was on March 1, 1897, with the single exception of the Treasury notes of the act of July 14, 1890. The amount of these in circulation December 1, 1901, was only \$40,012,622, as against \$85,546621 on March 1, 1897. This situation is greatly improved today reduction in volume grows out of the natural operation of the act of July 14, 1890, and the act of March 14, 1900.

"The increase in the amount of na- west, which have been water bound for tional bank notes in circulation during several days, came through today. the period in question was \$132,132,731. This increase is mainly attributable to the act of March 14, 1900.'

NEED OF A TOBACCO MARKET.

Mr. J. D. Turner Speaks of Opening a Warehouse-Here.

Mr. J. D. Turner leaves next week for Durham, after spending the holidays days. Electric car service is practically at home. Mr. Durham has been on the suspended. Durham tobacco market since August, and spoke very highly of that market. Owing to the very short crop the sales will fall short at least one million pounds, as compared with last year. About five million pounds will be sold this season. He thinks the farmers will receive fully as much if not more for their present crop than they realized for the 1900 crop, owing entirely to the extremely high

Mr. Turner speaks of the great need of a market in Raleigh and says that it is a matter that deeply concerns our merchants and hope they may take some steps towards making it a substantial market. He also states that there is at least two million pounds of tobacco grown in fifteen miles of Raleigh, and yet she does not sell one pound. This speaks very badly for Raleigh and its business men. Raleigh should sell every pound adjacent to her market, while Louisburg, Youngsville, Smithfield and Durham are selling all of the tobacco that should properly come to Raleigh. This means that the towns mentioned are drawing our trade

directly from our doors. Mr. Turner expresses his intention of opening a warehouse here next season, provided he can get the proper encouragement, and the merch nts and other business interests generally interested. It concerns them more than any other class. Raleigh should sell at h twe million pounds of tobacco annua which at the present prices would

about three hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Turner remarked that Louisburg, a town of probably fifteen hundred or two thousand inhabitants, would sell about six hundred thousand dollars worth of tobacco during this season. These facts were obtained from the president of the Bank of Louisburg. Let Raleigh wake up and get a move on her-or her sister towns will get her

A Visitor From the Nutmeg State.

Hickory, Dec. 27 .- Hickory has had quite an agreeable visitor this week in the person of Hen. Chas. F. Thayer, a prominent lawyer of Norwich, Conn. most aggressive leaders of the young Democracy of the Nutmeg State.

In a strongly Republican city he wes this year elected Mayor of Norwich by a majority of eighty-one on the Democratic ticket.

Mr. Thayer is also chairman of the Democratic State Central Executive Committee for Connecticut. During the stress and storm to which the Democratic party in the Eeastern States has been exposed for eight years, he has done valiant service for the cause. He thinks that light is breaking once more for the party in Connecticut.

Mr. Thayer believes that the Democrats will carry the State at the next election and will elect their candidate for Governor, Ex-Governor Bulkely seems to be a disturbing element among

Connecticut Republicans just now. According to the Constitution of that State a majority vote is required to son, are dead. His other victims were ficient. A movement is on foot to amend ters, Annie, about 16 years of age, and the Constitution so as to allow election Carrie, 12 years old. It is thought they Ward that at Wilcox's own request the by a plurality. Bulkely and his faction are bitterly opposed to the proposition, was Bitzer's purpose also to take his hence the disturbance in the Republi- own life, but his prompt arrest appara hence the disturbance in the Republican camp.

Mr. Thayer is a man of pleasing address and a lawyer of ability. Christmas passed off very quietly here, only one disturbance taking place.

A young man was struck on the head with a rock by a little negro boy and seriously injured. The boy was bound over to court.

Mr. Summey Whitener, a young business man of this place, is lying at death's door with blood poison. His orginal trouble was white swelling, which subsequently developed into his present

THE BIVERS ARE FALLING.

Heavy Frosts Reported in Northern and Central Florida.

(By the Associated Press.) Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 31.-Dispatches from various points in Alabama and Georgia indicate that the rivers, which did so much damage Sunday and Monday have fallen. At West Point, Ga. it is believed the crest of the flood has passed. The bodies of three people drowned there Sunday were found today. At Columbus, Ga., the waters of the

Chattahoochee have fallen nearly five feet.

The Atlanta and West Point Railroad, which is the connecting link between the Southern and the Louisville and Nashville systems, is open only as far as LaGrange, Ga., thirty miles north of West Point. It is thought the road will open to the Alabama line by evening

Freezing temperature was reported this norning to the Florida line with heavy frost in the northern and central portions of that State.

Water Bound Trains Now Running.

(By the Associated Press.) Asheville, N. C., Dec. 31 .- The flood with the exception of trains on the Murphy division of the Southern, traffic has been resumed. Trains from th

Crest of the Flood Reached.

(By the Associated Press.) Rome, Ga., Dec. 31 .- The flood in the Coosa river reached its height at noon today and the gauge recorded 32 feet. damage to property in this city. The rural mails have not left Rome in two

The Alabama Rising.

(By the Associated Press.) Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 31.-The Alabama river is rising at the rate of seven inches an hour. The crest of the flood is of the flooded district and at one time not expected until tomorrow. All traffic of the Atlanta and West

Sunday. The Louisville and Nashville has succeeded in resuming regular ser-

Incendiary Barn Burning in Orange,

(Special to News and Observer.) Hillsboro, N. C., Dec. 31.-Mr. Paisley Kirkpatrick, one of our best farmers, who | suredlives about five miles west of here, had a barn full of feed destroyed by fire before day. The barn belonged to his son-inlaw, Mr. Allen, who is florist at the Deaf had to vacate temporarily. and Dumb Asylum, Raleigh, N. C., and The gas works are partially under the barn was situated not far from Mr. water and the gas supply cut off. This Kirkpatrick's place. Mr. Kirkpatrick was condition seriously cripples the newspausing this barn, as about one month ago pers, as the metal for their linotype he had his own barn burnt up, losing all machines is heated by gas. All are his farming machinery, feed, etc., besides working lamps tonight. The incoming three horses. Everyone is sure that it Southern trains had to run through is an incendiary and we hear steps have several feet of water. Bridges are rebeen taken towards the arrest of some ported gone in various sections of the

We will be deprived of the Orange County Observer this week, as the editor, Mr. The loss by water in this city cannot be Joseph Harris, and family, are spending estimated tonight but it will rot be the holidays at Winston-Salem, N. C., heavy, as there was time to move with his brother.

Kitchener's Weekly Report.

(By the Associated Press.) London, Dec. 31.—Lord Mitchener, under date of Johannesburg, December 30, sends a weekly budget showing that since December 23, thirty-five coers have been killed, five wounded, 237 taken prisonrs, and 51 surrendered. These says the commander-in-chief, do not include De Wet's losses in his attacks on Dargell and Firman, when it is reliably estimated that fifty were killed and fifty

DeWet is still in the vicinity of Lanberg. Colonel Spence and Colonel Plumer came in contact December 28th, with Britz's commando and took 27 prisoners. General Bruce Hamilton came in touch with Grobelan's commando, near Marydale, December 23. He killed four Boers and captured 27.

Accidentally Kills a Girl, Then so said a LETTER TO MRS. CROPSEY Tries to Exterminate His Family.

(By the Associated Press.) Turner's Falls, Mass., Dec. 31.-Louis Bitzer, a jeweler of this place, today shot five persons, two of whom, Miss Ida Columbe and Bitzer's five year old elect, a simple plurality not being suf- his wife, Christina, and his two daughwill not die. There is evidence that it

From a note left in his store by Bitzer, it appeared that while he was cleaning his revolver the weapon discharged acoldentally and hit Miss Columbe in the head, killing her instantly. Overcome by the situation, Bitzer apparently rushed to his home hatless and wild with excitement and began the work of exterminating his family.

The little boy, ill in the bed with the measles, was shot and killed. The 16 year old daughter, Annie, was wounded through the left hand and in

the ear. The 12 year old daughter, Carrie, was shot through the neck. Mrs. passing through the nose. The sound of the shotsh brough neighbors into the house and Bitzer was ar-

The police believe that Bitzer is insane. The note which they found in his store after the affair was almost an incoherent jumble of words. After telling of the shooting of Miss Columbe Bitzer wrote that he had determined to go to his home and end the lives of his wive and children and his own. He

'Nearer My God to Thee" be sung. He wished that his property should be given to his brother and his aged mother and ended the letter with an expression to the effect that "God would not blame a man for doing what he had done. Substantially the same story was told by Bitzer after his arrest.

asked that at his funeral the hymn

Richmond Firemen Wade to Fight Flames.

Fulton and Lower Main Streets Inundated Lime Starts the Blaze Which is Soon Extinguished.

(By the Associated Press.) Richmond, Dec. 31.-Flood, fire and general excitement made up Richmond's position today. The water in James The high water has caused considerable river rose 231/2 feet, within four feet of the level of the great freshet of 1877. Lower Main street and a greater part of Fulton, the extreme eastern section of the city, were flooded. When the freshet was near its height, fire, caused by the waters coming in contact with lime, broke out in the plant of Warner,

Moore & Co., millers and feed supply

The property is situated on the creeks it seemed inevitable that it would be swept out. But a change of wind and Point railroad has been annulled since the splendid work of the fire department averted that. The hose were carried over a line of partially submerged coal cars and buoyed on rafts made of small boats and the firemen fought the flames standing up to their waists in water. The fire was confined to the building in which it started and the loss is only about \$10,000, fully in-

> It is estimated that the occupants of some two hundred small houses on this and the Manchester sides of the river

State and traffic greatly damaged.

The water began to fall about 5 p. m.

WILCOX HAD AN

This Theory Rapidly Gaining Ground at Elizabeth

FACTS THAT SUPPORT IT

Your Daughter Will Appear in Front of Your House To-Morrow.

Andrew J. Cropsey Declares That One of the Physicians Stated That Nell When Found Had Not Been Dead Over Three Days.

(Special to News and Observer.) Elizabeth City, N. C., Dec. 31.-I have just been informed by Solicitor G. W. reliminary trial will not take place this week He i now held in custody by recently prevented him from carrying out commendation of the coroner's jury and at his purpose. He is about 35 years of his own request pending the presentation by the grand jury. The trial takes place at the March term of court. The feeling that he is guilty is still

strong. But the theory that there are two men implicated is rapidly gaining ground. A detective, sent by the New York Journal, has been here working up the case and from yesterday's Journal it is seen that he hold to the two-man theory. There are many things that There are many things that lead one to believe that he is correct. On the fatal night Wilcox called at the Cropsey home but did not speak to Miss Nellie, talking however to other members of the family. He kept continually pull- interment. ing out his watch in a nervous way, say ing that he promised his mother to be

home at 11 o'clock. At 11:15 he rose abruptly and went out. After getting into the hall he re-opened the door and said: formerly attended. The casket was com-'Miss Nellie I would like to speak to pletely covered with flowers. you a minute. Nell went out, as has been related just as she was, with a slipper on onfoot. That was the last ever seen of the

fated girl until the river gave up its Now the theory is that the cause of hi continually looking at his watch and the nervousness shown was that he was to meet some one cutside at the appointed time. Then there is the evidence of Mr. C. Parker that Wilcox and another man were seen talking at the gate at an early hour in the night. Also there is the evidence of Captain Owens and his mate or board the barge of a skiff with two people

eleven and gliding along under the shadows of the bank. Again there is the evidence of the blood hounds that Miss Nellie was carried from the gate to the summer house. Wilcox is a small man and Miss Nellie weighed

in it crossing the river shortly after

over 130 pounds. Every time the dragging of the river would begin near where the girl is now supposed to have been sunk there would come reports that she was in this place or in that, now supposed to be usually the work of a skilled accomplice. The boat which must have been used to transport the girl to the middle of the river was moved some distance down and needed help to bring it, up and replace it so that the work could be speedily done for Wilcox to get on his journey in good

It is also thought that he body wa anchored down but cut loose n the night before it was discovered. A reputable gentleman showed me this evening the copy of an anonymous letter received by Mrs. Cropsey on the night before Nell's body arose which said: "Your daughter will appear in front of your house to morrow." An electrician had arrived with an apparatus for searching the bottom of the river and it is believed that the guilty parties cut the body aloose at this juncture to uphold the suicide the

Why they should write the letter no one can imagine unless it was to make them look for the body on the surface rather than search the bottom. The proper authorities are in possession of other facts that can not now be given to the public, it is understood. Some sensations are likely to be sprung before this affair is over with. However, it is not believed that Wilcox will have anything to say tomorrow. The New York World has had a man here for some days, but he will leave tomorrow H. A. CHAPPELL.

HAD BEEN DEAD BUT THREE DAYS. Startling Statement by a Physician Repeated

by Lawyer Cropsey.

Lawyer Andrew G. Cropsey, says a reporter of the Virginian-Pilot, who interof James Wilcox, whom he firmly believes guilty of the murder.

"The clothes she wore are now going to be thoroughly examined. "Wilcox has a chain of circumstantial evidence woven around him already which I think is strong enough to convict him

collapsed beneath her weight when the

blow on her temple killed her. Drowned people are not found like that, and

drowned women do not float face down-

and there is more yet to be told. "I will be at the trial as one of the prosecuting attorneys and I will push the case against him.

"My brother is nearly distracted. All last night I could hear his sobs as he walked the floor. His wife is in a pitial ble condition."

"Do you think the body was in the river since the 20th of November?" one of the reporters asked him. "That is hard to say," he replied Some do, some dont, while others think

it was buried in the mud. One of the doctors stated that life had been extinct only three days when it was found "Wilcox has had a close shave. A mob of two or three hundred men from Camden county started to come to Elizabeth City after him, but my brother's request kept them away."

HEARING EXPECTED TODAY.

An Karlier Report Than the Above From Elizabeth City.

(By the Associated Press.) Elizabeth City, N. C., Dec. 31.James Wilcox, who is held in connection with the death of Miss Ella Cropsey, will be given a preliminary hearing tomorrow before five justices. The Citizens' Committee of Five in investigating a possible clue to the cause of Miss Cropsey's death will present evidence at the hearing tomorrow. Wilcox is still confined within the jail here. Popular sentiment is very strong against him, but time has aleviaed the feeling somewhat and the talk of lynching b. Wilcon's mother, who is in delicate health, is said to be in a serious condition caused by the suspicion cast upon her son.

COMMITTED TO THE GRAVE.

Five Hundred People Present. Nell's Coffin Covered With Flowers.

(By 'the Associated Press.) New York, Dec. 31.—The body of Nell cropsey arrived here today from Elizabeth City, N. C., with the body was Andrew G. Cropsey of Brooklyn, uncle of the dead girl. The casket was removed from the train to a hearse and taken to the new Utrecht cemetery, Brooklyn, for

at the committal service, including relatives of the dead girl and a number of pupils from the public school which she

SCHLEY COMING SOUTH

Will Spend Ten Days at Savannah the Guest of General Gordon.

(By the Associated Press.) late Rear Admiral Roe.

wee of April.

THE NEGRO EXHIBIT.

This Will Be a Great Day for the Negroes at Charleston.

(By the Associated Press.) Charleston, S. C., Dec. 31 .- New Year's Day at the exposition will be largely monopolized by the colored people. The negro building will be formally opened and addresses will be delivered in the auditorium building by prominent colored men. Phesident Thomas E. Miller, of the South Carolina Industrial and Mechanical College, at Orangeburg, will deliver the chief address of the day. Dr. Crum, of this city, will make the address, delivering the negro building to the Board of Exposition Directors.

The exhibits from the Knoxville Normal College and from the State colored college and Claffin University, both at Orangeburg, are large and comprehensive. The exhibits from Tuskege Institute carefully selected by President Booker Washington and among them are many paintings, crayons, sketches, studies in water colors which display talent and

There is on exhibition a rapid fire machine gun invented by a negro named Burkins. It is an interesting piece of machinery. The gun is operated by electricity and fires fourteen shells per minute. The gun has been patented in the United States, France, Italy, Spain, Germany and other countries.

After the formal exercises are concludd the colored people will adjourn to the Midway where an elaborate amusement program will be carried out. All of the Midway shows will re-open.

The Ohio Legislature, which elects the

successor of Senator Foraker, convenes viewed him on his arrival in Norfolk with here next Monday. The party caucuses the remains of his niece, is a large, fine to nominate candidates for presiding offilooking man, rugged in appearance, and cers and other positions in both branches in his eyes could be seen traces of deep of the General Assembly will be held next serrow mingled with grim determination Saturday night, as there is no opposition to strain every nerve in the prosecution to the re-election of Foraker the Senatorial question for this session is settled, but there is a very bitter contest

SUDDEN DEATH OF S. S. SPIER.

An Old Citizen of Goldsboro Expires of Heart Disease.

(Special to News and Observer.) Goldsboro, N. C., Dec. 31.-The entire community was shocked this morning to learn of the sudden death of Mr. S. Spier, one of Goldsboro's oldest, as well

most respected citizens. While walking along the street in apparent perfect health, he was stricken by the hand of death without a moment's warning. Heart disease is supposed to be the cause of his death.

He leaves a devoted wife and three children, two daughters, Misses Sadie and Etta, and Aaron Ward, of New York. The sympathy of the entire community goes out to the bereaved ones.

The Board of Aldermen met in special ession this afternoon to consider recomnending a renewal of license to dealers

in the liquor business Mayor Hood and Mr. D. J. Thurston, have formed a law co-partnership and will occupy the office of S. W. Isler, on Walnut street, in front of the court house. Mr. Thurston completed his law course in 1898, at Wake Forest, and secured his license the same year.

He has been cashier of the Southern Railway Company quite a while here, and has made many friends. He is a promising young man.

SMATRERS MAD IN COURT ROOM.

Uncomplimentary Remarks Passed Between Him and Attorney A. S. Bernard.

(Charlotte Observer.) Asheville, Dec. 30 .- "Yes, and I say you you are no part of a gentleman." This drastic declaration was made by George H. Smathers to A. S. Barnard, while the evidence was being heard by Judge Fred. Mcore at chambers this afternoon with reference to the petition which has been submitted by J. G. Merrimon, asking for the removal of Mr. Smathers as receiver of the Western Carolina Bank, Barnard, attorney for the petitioner, expressed the opinion that it was unnecessary to read a certain paper containing the answer of Smathers to a demurrer that the plaintiff had made to ertain evidence. Smathers said the plaints had a way of admitting things when the did not want them read and impressed on the mind of the court. Barnard characterize. this remark as uncalled for and ungengentlemanly. It was then that Smathers excitedly made the retort quoted. The verbal tilt occasioned some commotion in the court room, but nothing more se-

rious followed. DELAYS IN MAIL SERVICE.

Caused by Floods in the South. Traffic on Sev eral Alabama Lines Suspended.

(By the Associated Press.) and the Southwest, as well as locally in the affected regions. Local trains were stopped between Atlanta and West Point, Ga., but the service between left here this afternoon for Baltimore to cording to dispatches received at the He will return on Thursday to act as hon- of West Point, running to Montgomery orary pall-bearer at the funeral of the and Mobile, is broken, interfering with On January 8th Admiral Schley will ern cities and New Orleans and the this they were paid and well paid. go to Savannah, Ga., for a ten-days' Southwest. All Texas and Mexico mails visit with General William B. Gordon. On are being dispatched from the East via the 25th, 26th and 27th of January he will St. Louis instead of New Orleans. There be the guest of the Hamilton Club of Chi- are numerous suspensions of traffic on cago: January 29th and 30th he will visit interior lines in Alabama. Mails for Louisville, as the guest of the Board of New Orleans are being forwarded via ary pirates were stealing the products of Trade and the Knights Templar of that Birmingham and the Alabama Great my pen and brain, a set of bunco-steerers city; February 1, 2, 3, he will be in Nash- Southern road, requiring a long detour | crganized the "Amos Owens Cherry Com ville, as the guest of the Board of Trade and consequent delay of twelve hours and Knights Templars. He will visit or more. In the Chesapeake and Ohio Knoxville, on February 5th and 6th as railroad wreck near Lynchburg Sunday the guest of the city. The Memphis trip night there were twelve pouches and has been arranged finally for the last twenty-five sacks of mail reported lost, employed at \$20 per month to do writing but advices to the Postoffice Department today report that part of these sold everywhere as "Cherry Mount. have been recovered. None of the pouches or sacks were full.

H. and B. Beer's Market Letter.

New Orleans, La., Dec. 31 .- The continuance of very large receipts occasioned the easiness in Liverpool, and our market, in sympathy opened 6 to 7 points lower, improving 7 to 8 points subsequently in anticipation of a marked falling off in the movement after, January first easing off, later closing at a net loss of 1 point on the day. Port receipts for the four days are 11,000 in excess of last week, 91,000 over last year and show an increase of 125,000 over year before last. The semi-weekly interior town receipts are estimated at 37,000, which is 18,000 in excess of last heart from Cherry Mountain" will show year and 38,000 over year before last. It can be readily seen that the port and interior receipts are both on a heavy scale, yet it is expected that the recent inclement weather will cause a prpendi-'cular decrease after the New Year. If however, the amount marketed equals last year's from now out it will indicate a crop of 10,400,000 or over; therefore conservative operators are becoming shakey on the short crop views; sentiment, though,, is bullish and with any encouraging feature the probability is values will be maintained. h exchange will be closed tomorrow, and there will be no trading on the curb. W wish you ceivers by a decree ent all a happy and presperous New Year. H. & B. BEER.

SPLIT HIS HEAD WITH SHOVEL.

One Negro Oysterman Kills Another. The leston, S. C., on Murderer Arrested.

(Special to News and Observer.) Moreh and City, N. C., Dec. 31.-At West Virginia Swans Quarter today two negroes, resi- ground upon dents of Beaufort, Joe Joyner and Ellis The association Baxter, engaged in the cyster traffic, had ties in several a difficulty on Capt. Harry Hall's boat. one of the la Joyner's head was split open by Baxter kind in the Sou "Little Nell did not drewn hersel in progress bearing on the re-election of with a shovel. Baxter was taken into Messrs. Jacob custody.

"When her body was for senator Hanna two years hence, custody."

And Give a Guarantee to Hatch Out Mud Turtles.

CORN CRACKER'S LETTER

Gave Notoritey to Amos Owens and

Cherry Mountain. BRONGO MEN USED IT TO ROB "SUCKERS"

'Corn Cracker" Pays His Respect to Literary Pirates and Tells How Amos Owens and Cherry Mountain Became Famous.

(Special to News and Observer.) Cherry Mountain, N. C., Dec. 30 .- The ow price of cotton and the short yield has caused many of our merchants to assign. In proof of the fact that Phineas r. Barnum "spoke a parable," as the mountain folks say, the collapse of the Cherry Mountain Swindling Association verifies his observation that people enjoy being humbugged. Fifteen years ago, nobody except a few he and she hoodlums that live near the now historic spot and went there to fight, drink, dance and carouse, knew there was such a place as Cherry Mountain. Nobody but the same gang and the revenue officers knew the was such a being as Amos Owens, About that time, I commend him up in the papers of Cl Rutherford counties. At fix his charmed votaries wrath. The prevalent publication was to "rising and talen every speckled-face and accomplished.'

canting on the beauty and chivalry that there did congregate. I found Amos Owens making and selling blockade whiskey, and that he was the author of cherry bounce, a decoction made of corn er found, that the fights, foot-races, fast and furious fiddling and dancing of this spot would relegate hitherto classic and celebrated Donnybrook Fair to eternal obscurity, and wrote them up just as they Washington, Dec. 31.+The floods in existed. The matter attracted attention the South have caused serious delays and from local became general in their in the mail service between the East celebrity. Cherry Mountain scenes were published from my pen in the Chicago Blade, Chicago World, Pennsylvania Grit, Atlanta Constitution, your columns, and elsewhere. The papers of this State and Washington, Dec. 31.-Admiral Schley these points was resumed today, ac- Georgia assured me they were "d-d good,' but other papers came down with pay a long deferred visit to his sister. Postoffice Department. The line south checks. For some five years, flannelmouthed and sorrel-topped "reporters" have paraphrased my articles, and, the through train service between East- some instances, stole them bodily. For

> Two articles were stolen bodily from my pen, published in the New York Sun, and afterward, copied in the Shelby Aurora. This gave Col. Amos Owens and his mountain great notoriety, and while literpany." The papers that had got my lite ary productions for nothing, publish flaming "advs," for which they were pa with ill-gotten gains. Young ladies w at home. Black-heart cherry trees w sprouts" that never saw Cherry Mountai

and never will. The swindler-in-chief of the nefarious enterprise, even sent to our place, and dug up little red May cherry trees and sold them for mountain sprouts. To begin with, this famous black-heart cherry is indigenous to Cherry Mountain and will no more bear anywhere else than a Flor-

ida orange will grow in Greenland. I was aware of this and told some people so, but they treated me with about the same consideration with which I have been treated by the North Carolina press. New, my message to all the verdant suckers who have lost money, is the legal tender with which I have been paid for tringing Cherry Mountain into promi-

nence, "D-d good." If somebody who has bought a "blackme a black heart cherry growing on one I'll set a hen on mud-trestles and hatch cut alligators.

CORN CRACKER.

RECEIVERS FOR IRON BELT. Judge Simonton Appoints James Terry and

E. B. Jacobs. (By the Associated Press.) Roanoke, Dec. 31.-At the su W. Gwynn, of Huntington, W. Iron Belt Building and Loan has been placed in the Simonton, United State

The bill was filed on the United States and the decre Simonton, sittin

B. Jacobs and Ja The passing of