

Much criticism has been aroused by the recent decision of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals at Richmond in the case of Major W. E. Brees, the former president of the Asheville bank that failed several years ago. It has been a remarkable case. Major Brees was an elegant gentleman, refined, educated and stood high in his church, and yet was no doubt guilty of embezzling over one hundred thousand dollars from the bank of which he was president.

He has had four jury trials. At the first trial he was convicted and sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary, but on appeal a new trial was given him. On the second trial the jury could not agree, only one holding out for acquittal, and on the third trial the jury again was unable to agree. On the fourth trial he was again convicted and sentenced to the penitentiary, but on appeal the court held that he had been illegally convicted and must be discharged under that indictment because two of the grand jurors who found it had not paid their taxes.

The court has been severely criticised by some papers and persons for this decision, for turning loose a criminal because one or two of the grand jurors, who indicted him, had not paid their taxes. This criticism was unjust. The Federal Court of Appeals decided this case just as our own State Supreme Court had decided the same point in other cases, and was only following the construction placed upon our statute laws by our own highest court. The persons to be criticised are those who selected or allowed as grand jurors persons who had not paid their taxes and were disqualified to serve as jurors. It is a good law that forbids persons from serving as jurors who have not paid their taxes, and should not be repealed.

So that, even if this embezzling bank president should escape his just punishment by reason of this decision, yet the decision is strictly in accordance with law and the law on that point is a good law. But, we are pleased to learn that he may yet receive his merited punishment. It is said that another indictment was found by another grand jury for another offence connected with the bank's failure, for which he may be convicted. We hope so, for embezzling bank officers ought to be convicted and punished more severely than ordinary thieves.

The bill to establish the whipping post in the District of Columbia for wife-beaters was defeated in the House of Representatives, on last Monday, by a large majority. Among those who favored the bill were Congressman Pou and Small of this State.

It is somewhat strange that the Republicans should have defeated by so large a majority a measure that was recommended in the President's message. Such a law has existed in Oregon for many years, and has had so good an effect that only three men have been punished under it. No punishment is too severe or degrading for any brute of a husband who will beat, or even ill-treat, his wife. Indeed THE RECORD is so old-fashioned as to favor the re-establishment of the whipping-post for some other crimes. "Spare the rod and spoil the child" was one of Solomon's wisest sayings, and some grown folks might do better if the rod was applied to them!

The railroad rate bill was passed by the House of Representatives, on last Thursday, by an almost unanimous vote. The vote was 346 for it and only seven against it. Not a Democrat voted against it, all the seven being Northern Republicans.

The passage of this important bill by such a vote seems quite peculiar. It was a bill that was strongly urged by a Republican President, and yet the only men who voted against it are Republicans. Democrats were very consistent in voting for it, because it was carrying out the principles set forth in the Democratic national platform. Such unanimity in the passage of this bill is creditable to both political parties, but it may yet be defeated by the Republicans in the Senate.

"The Saloon Must Go."
The Executive Committee of the Anti-Saloon League held a meeting at Raleigh on last Thursday, and resolved to "continue the aggressive policy mapped out by the last Temperance Convention, with especial emphasis upon the enforcement of existing temperance laws." They declined to accept the resignation of Mr. J. W. Bailey as chairman, but decided to employ a superintendent "who shall give his whole time to the work of promoting the temperance cause in North Carolina."

The following address was prepared and ordered to be published to the temperance forces of the State: "We congratulate the people of North Carolina upon the progress of the cause of temperance within the last four years, and upon the fact that the situation of our cause at the present time is more hopeful than at any time in our history. The Legislative statutes have excluded saloons and distilleries from our rural districts and small towns in which police supervision could not be effectual; while under local option thirty of our best towns and cities have voted out saloons. At present saloons exist in only seventeen of the ninety-seven counties in North Carolina, and dispensaries in but seven. Within four years about 400 liquor licenses have been cancelled in our State as the direct result of our temperance movement."

"While these facts are gratifying, the conditions favorable to our cause are more gratifying. An examination of the recent political records reveals the fact that the political leaders in North Carolina are in sympathy with the temperance movement, and barring a few localities, are independent of the once powerful saloon vote. Moreover, the temperance people are in a state of great encouragement. They take assurance from recent successes that the time is shortly at hand when the hopes of the fathers who labored before them in this cause are to be realized, when, with proper effort and sacrifice we shall be able once and for all to utterly banish the saloon from our beloved commonwealth."

"We recognize from year to year, a most wholesome and substantial progress in opinion favorable to our cause. Everywhere new citizens are saying, 'The Saloon Must Go.' There are strongholds, to be sure, but even in them the tide of temperance opinion rolls higher day by day. Moreover, the state of mind with reference to law-enforcement is increasingly gratifying. Officers of the law are realizing that behind our temperance legislation is the voice of the people, and that they must enforce the people's will or retire in favor of those who will. Violators of temperance laws are at last receiving punishments commensurate with their crime, not only against the State, but against Society and the common welfare."

"We have also 'made good.' The evils predicted by our opponents have not come to pass. Our prohibition cities and towns are more prosperous than ever. Nor have the political leaders who stood for our cause lost thereby. Instead they have grown in favor with the people."

"With thoughts of this kind we call the temperance forces to the work for another year. Our efforts in the past have been rewarded beyond our deserts. Let us put on the armor for the battles ahead in the spirit of gratitude to God, and of courage and victory in His name."

"There is much yet to do. While for the present we may well be content to strengthen our present policy, enforce our present laws with a view to further establishing our cause in the minds of the sceptical and so commending it to our whole population, and to set on foot plans with a view to their improvement—and these are objects worthy to arouse our best efforts—we are also to look forward to the complete fulfilment of our hopes in the final end of the liquor traffic in North Carolina."

"We respectfully advise that it becomes us now: 1st. To rally to our organization—to renew our allegiance, to get in line for the coming conflict. 2nd. To see to the enforcement of our laws; to be prompt to complain of officers who neglect them and to uphold officers that enforce them; to fear not to report violations or to rebuke that official indifference that would play into the hands of our enemies. 3rd. That we give more liberal support to our State chairman. He must keep in communication with our forces, and his postage, printing and stenography, etc., expenses, must be paid. It is absolutely essential to our progress that we maintain a strong State organization."

"Our watchwords for 1906 are Law Enforcement, Vigilance in the Cause, Organization, and Progress."

Gov. Glenn, after a personal investigation of our asylums, has published a statement that he finds everything all right in their management. He says that no persons have been admitted into them through favoritism.

Washington Letter.
[From our (Regular) Correspondent.]
Washington, Feb. 8, 1906.

Somebody in the House Committee on Agriculture must have a grudge against the seed men of the country. There was a sudden call for information from the House the other day and it resulted in the revelation that a large number of the seed firms, not all of them it may be said for the reputation of the business, have been adulterating the seed sold to the farmers so that the wonder was that he ever got any of the forage crops he was expecting. It seems that last year when the seed appropriation was made, there was a provision inserted in the bill that the Department of Agriculture should buy samples of seed in the open market and not only find out by examination which were adulterated but publish the names of the firms engaged in the business. This was not a very welcome task for the Department. It was the sort of publicity that would make enemies as well as friends and the two small bulletins that were published were cut down to the least possible compass and were not given out to the newspaper men at all. Neither would the information sent to Congress have been given out if the Department could have helped it. But there was a leak in the committee and result was that the whole of the correspondence has gotten into print. There are hundreds of names of supposedly reputable firms. The adulteration of the samples runs all the way from a few percent to 98 percent. The report shows also that tons of cheap worthless seeds are imported annually from Germany, Canada and the Argentine for the sole purpose of being mixed with the native grass seed and being sold as the pure product. As Kentucky blue grass seed costs 16 cents a pound and the Canada blue grass only 5 cents, there is profit in the transaction. The bur clover seed used to adulterate alfalfa is a by-product of South American wool combing. The Department even found the small wire teeth of the carding machines in the samples, taking no Sherlock Holmes to tell where the seed had come from. Red clover and orchard grass were also included in the report. Out of 265 samples of the latter examined, there were 133 adulterated. Of the red clover, all the samples had been mixed with the seed of yellow trefoil. Of this there were imported in one year 250,000 pounds and it was of no use except as an adulteration. Some times the foreign seed had been sterilized before they were mixed with the forage seeds. This recalls the case of a brilliant contractor in the old days of the Agricultural Department who sold the Department a car load of two of tomato seed for free distribution. None of them came up and it was discovered later that the seed were the refuse from canning factories and had all been boiled. Officials of the Department don't like to hear this story, but it is true. The Department's investigation so far has included only the four forage plants named, but the law requires all varieties of commercial seeds to be taken up in turn and if the farmers of the country will keep up the agitation, either there will be a lot more names of firms go on the departmental black list or there will be a regeneration in the seed business and some adulterating rascals driven out of business. It may be said that anyone interested can get the names of the offending firms by writing to the Department. This will throw a little extra work on the officials, but that is what they are paid for.

An interesting hearing has been going on before the House Committee on Agriculture about the transportation of live cattle by the railroads. The stock shippers are clamoring for an extension of the time that cattle may be carried on the roads without food or water. The Humane Society which is appearing on behalf of the suffering beasts is after a reduction. The limit of this foodless and waterless transportation is now fixed by law at 28 hours which any man with a stomach will appreciate is entirely too long. The shippers of live stock want it extended to 36 hours to make a little more money out of the stock. If they could, they would make the run just as long as it could be made without actually losing money on the weight of the stock over the amount saved in food and handling charges. The Society on the other hand claims that either the runs should be shortened or that cars should be fitted with feeding and watering devices. There are plenty of expired patents for such cars on the market though of course the installation would cost something. There is the other alternative of moving the slaughter houses into the cattle country and doing away with the long transportation altogether. But this would mean extra expense to the Beef Trust which now makes the shipper pay the freight. It all resolves itself into a contest between humanity and greed. It may be that humanity will win but at least the Humane Society is determined that there shall be no extension of the railroad run and a compromise may be effected on that basis.

Church Fire At Mocksville.
Special to Charlotte Observer.
Mocksville, Feb. 11.—During services at the colored Presbyterian church today, the building caught fire in the roof from the stove flue, and was found to be beyond control when discovered. The cry of fire caused a mad rush for the door by the congregation, and although the excitement and confusion for a time ran high, no one was injured. The building was an ordinary frame structure and the loss will be less than \$1,000. It is learned that there was no insurance. Presiding Elder Scroggs had just finished his sermon at the Methodist church and was announcing a hymn when the alarm of fire fell upon the ears of his congregation, and for a moment it looked like pandemonium would follow. Mr. T. B. Bailey arose and quickly urged the people not to rush for the door, but to go out at windows, and but for this, doubtless something serious might have happened.

Negroes to Start a Town.
Dallas, Tex., Feb. 10.—Negroes with money have started to build a new town in Lamar county, Texas, near Red River, sixteen miles northeast of Paris, exclusively for members of their race. A tract of 290 acres of land has been bought, and the work of laying out the town site began. The plan proposed is to have a town a mile long and half a mile wide. A sawmill is in course of construction to saw up neat oak timber into railroad ties and red oak into shingles from the forests of Red River bottoms. It is proposed to sell building lots to 500 families on easy payments. No name has yet been chosen, but that of "Booker" seems popular.

A Model Grand Jury.
From The Monroe Journal.
Mr. M. C. Austin, who served on the grand jury last week, tells a tale that deserves to be embalmed. Its rarity is sufficient to entitle it to immortal recollection. Here is what Mr. Austin said after the grand jury had finished its week's work: "You can say that not a member of that jury drinks or smokes, not a word of profanity or vulgarity was uttered during our stay together by any member, and nothing was said or done that we wouldn't have been willing for our families to hear or see and no man spit on the floor."

Wadesboro Messenger: Perhaps Mr. W. A. Caudle, of the vicinity of Peachland, was the only person in the United States who had watermelon for dinner last Sunday. While picking over his cotton late in the season Mr. Caudle discovered several nice watermelons in the patch. He buried the melons in cotton seed; and during the Christmas holidays he and his family ate all of them except the one that was eaten Sunday. The melons, Mr. Caudle says, were as sound and nice as any he ever saw. The vast sum of \$378,745,000 is the value of all the gold mined last year, the largest yield in any previous year.

1,000 People Made Homeless.
Wheeling, W. Va., Feb. 10.—Reports received here today from Littleton, W. Va., which was almost devastated yesterday by fire, say there is much suffering among the families whose homes were destroyed on account of the cold weather. Scores of families are huddled together over the embers of their homes, and deaths from exhaustion are likely to result. The relief fund started yesterday, has reached large proportions, and all the destitute will soon be taken care of.

The fire was under complete control at daylight. Four fifths of the buildings in the town were destroyed and over 1,000 people have been rendered homeless. But four business structures are left standing. One saloon escaped the flames, and when the fire was finally under control a mob rushed to this place and almost wrecked the building in a scramble for liquor. Many fights followed and Mayor Bradley finally compelled the owner to close the doors. The cause of the fire has not been definitely ascertained. The loss is estimated at \$300,000, with but fifteen per cent insurance.

Railroad Wreck near Greensboro.
Special to Charlotte Observer.
Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 11.—Five trainmen were killed and one seriously injured in a collision between north-bound passenger train No. 34, of the Southern Railway, and a switch engine at Pomona, at 1:30 o'clock this morning. No passengers were injured.

The wreck occurred near the Pomona yard office and almost directly in front of the Central Carolina fair grounds, one mile west of the city. Train No. 34, in charge of Engineer Owen Norvell, ran into the switch engine in charge of Engineer W. W. Sellars. Both engineers, Charles H. Johnson, fireman on the switch engine, were instantly killed, and S. G. Newman, yard brakeman on the Newman engine, and William Bailey, a young man reported to be learning telegraphy, who, who it is supposed, was riding on the engine to the Pomona telegraph office, both received injuries from which they died, Newman living only one hour after the accident.

Special Rates via Southern Ry.
New Orleans, La., Pensacola, Fla., Mobile, Ala.—Account Mardi Gras Carnivals, Feb. 22-27. One fare plus 25 cents for the round trip, tickets will be sold Feb. 21st to 26th, inclusive, final limit March 3rd, except tickets can be extended to March 17th, on payment of a fee of 50 cents. Louisville, Ky.—Account American Bowling Congress March 17-27. One fare plus 50 cents on certificate plan, tickets to be sold March 14th to 27th, with final limit March 30th. Nashville, Tenn.—Account Student Volunteer Movement of Foreign Missions, Feb. 26th to March 6th. One fare plus 25 cents for the round trip, tickets will be sold Feb. 25th to 28th, with final limit March 10th. T. E. GREEN, C. T. A., Raleigh, N. C.

Seaboard AIR LINE RAILWAY
Direct Line North, East, South and South-west.
Schedule Effective Jan. 8, 1905.

Trains arrive at Pittsboro as follows:
No. 139 at 10:50 a. m. from Moncure, connects with No. 38 for points South.
No. 141 at 5:50 p. m. connects with No. 41 from Raleigh and points North.

Trains leave Pittsboro as follows:
No. 138 at 9:00 a. m. for Moncure, connects with No. 38 for Raleigh and points North.
No. 140 at 3:50 p. m. for Moncure, connects with No. 41 for points South.

All Main Line trains carry first-class vestibule day coaches, Pullman Drawing Room Sleeping Cars and Dining Cars.
For rates, timetables, reservations and any information address your nearest agent or
B. M. POE, Agent, Pittsboro, N. C.
C. H. GATTIS, T. P. A., Raleigh, N. C.
RYAN, G. P. A., Portsmouth, Va.

LAND SALE:—By virtue of an order of the Superior Court of Chatham County in the cause entitled "W. E. Poe and others, ex parte," I will, at the court-house door in Pittsboro, N. C., on Saturday, the 24th day of February, 1906, offer to the highest bidder a tract of land in Chatham County lying on the waters of Haw river near the village of Haywood bounded on the north by the lands of M. S. Tom Poe and Dr. W. J. Strickland, on the east by Haw river, on the south by Miss Lizzie Moore and W. J. Bradshaw, on the west by Dr. P. D. Lassiter and Dr. W. J. Strickland, containing about 185 acres. Terms of sale: One half cash, balance in six months, deferred payments to bear interest from day of sale. This January 23, 1906.
R. H. HAYES, Commissioner.

Street Car Hit by Train.
Chicago, Ill., Feb. 12.—A theatre train on the Pennsylvania Railroad running at the rate of twenty miles an hour, crashed into a crowded street car in South Chicago last night, killing three persons and injuring twelve. The killed and injured were all occupants of the street car. The engine and first coach of the passenger train left the rails and were overturned. The engineer of the passenger train and the crew of the street car were placed under arrest.

Bryan Against Tainted Money.
Jacksonville, Ill., Feb. 12.—William Jennings Bryan, writing from Hong Kong, it was announced today, has sent his resignation as director of the Illinois College, saying he would not serve a school where the board of trustees was in favor of accepting funds from "Carnegie or other trust owners who are attempting to subsidize the colleges of America to prevent the teaching of economic truth."

A statement issued by the Post-office Department shows the gross receipts of the fifty largest post-offices in the United States for January, 1906, to have been \$7,118,689, as against \$6,260,360 for 1905, or an increase of nearly 14 per cent. Atlanta showed the largest gain, with an increase of nearly twenty-seven per cent.

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ANY of these symptoms and many others indicate inflammation of the LIVER.
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Take No Substitute.

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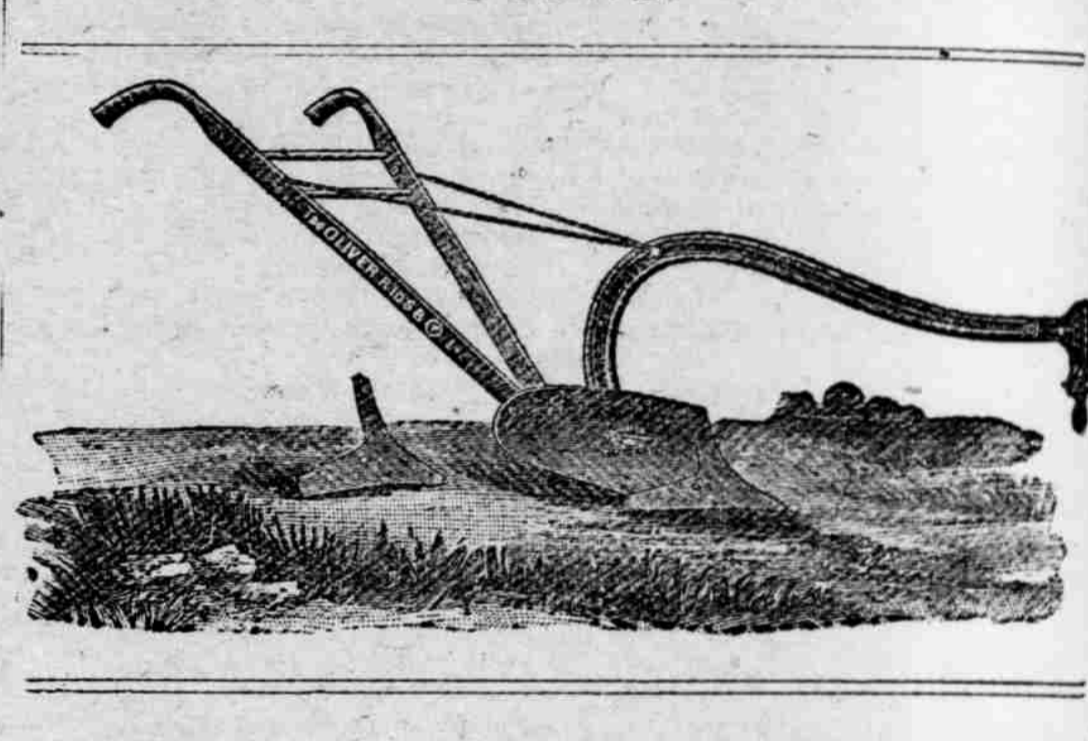
All Main Line trains carry first-class vestibule day coaches, Pullman Drawing Room Sleeping Cars and Dining Cars.
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R. H. HAYES, Commissioner.

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1878. 1906.
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has been doing its utmost to build up our grand old county.
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