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THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1894.

IT took the Brazilian government a long time to get its new fleet in shape, but such as it was De Gama did not try conclusions with it. A few weeks ago the whole world had its ear to the ground to hear the concussion that was predicted when the Nictheroy and Aquidaban should fight; but they never met by chance or any other way except in the bloodless columns of one of the magazines where the expected modern sea contest was very cleverly depicted.

STENOGRAPHERS.

Arguing in these days for court stenographers, after they have proved that they are indispensible, is distressing work, for every reference to the subject is an admission that North Carolina prefers the old, costly and wholly unsatisfactory system, and is not up with the times. What Thos. H. Sutton of Fayetteville says in the following from the Raleigh News and Observer, THE CITIZEN has said many times, but it is here forcibly put and is worth repeating:

"Let some one 'fond of figures' count up the cost of holding one days' court in these days where crime certainly is not on the decline. Eighteen for a grand jury, and the like number for the petit jury—thirty-six in all, the extra jurors necessary, the State's witnesses, solicitors and court officers, the extra service and extra expense, the special venires for capital cases, etc., all to be paid by the county. Count all this and many other incidental expenses and see what it cost to hold court for one day, and against that place to the credit of the stenographer the saving in dollars and cents, by that system, and the balance will largely preponderate in favor of the court stenographers, I assert, without the fear of successful contradiction."

There ought to be a determined move to bring about this reform. The spectacle of a court room full of lawyers, jurors and witnesses awaiting the moment when the judge, worked like a galley slave, shall have set down the latest piece of testimony, is a painful one and should not be exhibited after the meeting of the next legislature.

THE MAYORALTY.

A Call for All Democrats to Get Together.

EDITOR THE CITIZEN:—The Legislature of 1893 did the nice thing for Asheville when it fixed the salaries of Mayor and Aldermen to a bare nominal sum, thus making them posts of honor and trust rather than places of lucre and gust.

It now becomes our duty to conciliate any and all sectional differences that may have sprung up among us as to the best method of securing to ourselves an honest and economic city government, and agree upon men and measures that will be satisfactory to every candid man. Last year we were divided, not in our desire for the best possible control of city affairs but as to how that control should be secured.

The Democrats who supported "the Citizen's Ticket" did so, doubtless, from pure motives. No man knows to the contrary. If they were wrong in their rebellion, we were cowardly in our submission; if they were patriotic in their warfare, we were noble in our surrender, for we took down our flag, furloughed our commander and gave them the field and the camp. It now becomes our duty to come together, select honest, capable, upright men—men for whom every true citizen can cast his vote with the assurance that the interest of Asheville will be held sacred.

We must lay aside personal preferences. We must rise above self. "Clear and sound dealing," said Bacon, "is the honor of man's nature." Said Dr. Charles F. Deems, in an address here 30 years ago: "I love the South as a young man loves his bride, yea, as an old man loves his wife." If every citizen of Asheville would adopt these sentiments as his own, scramble and faction would flee away, and we would be one great family, bound by the ties of common sympathy.

I am a Democrat because I believe in Democratic doctrine. I have never been a strenuous partisan, but it is our duty, now at least, to stand in line. We will not deserve to succeed, unless we choose men of high honor, unflinching character and sound business ability. We have such men in our ranks; let us name them and they will be elected.

A Democratic Man.

Inconsistency in Christians

From the United Presbyterian.

"Inconsistent men in the church?" No doubt there are; but what of it? You belong to society, which includes these same men of one faith and another practice. You find them in the same political party with your consistent self. They are citizens of the United States, as you are proud to be. They are residents with you of the town or city of whose advantages you are wont to boast. Their presence does not drive you from any of these relationships; why should it keep you from the church, where you ought to be, in duty to your God and to yourself?

He's Fixed.

From the Cherokee Scout.

March is a hard month on editors and old cows. One has the hollowhorn and the other has the hollowhead, but we are all right this time. A lone subscriber at Coalville sent us a middling of bacon to eat with our roughness.

Flagler's Florida

From the Atlanta Constitution.

Mr. Flagler has already spent over $10,000,000 in Florida, and the New York Mail and Express says that he has expended twice as much as the cession of Florida cost the United States government.

One Woman in a Thousand

From the Chicago Inter-Ocean.

"And your wife aimed at and struck your head with the cup?"

"Yes, sir."

"Well, then, all I have to say is that you should be very proud of her."

Unfortunate People

who do not live near the leading dairy regions, can now use products of such dairies owing to the perfect preservation of milk in all its mother purity, as accomplished in Borden's Peerless Brand Evaporated Cream.

THE STATE SET RIGHT.

North Carolina Has Done Her Duty In the Ling Gun Case.

EDITOR THE CITIZEN:—I deem it my duty to make a statement to the public relative to the case of Robert Morris, Carter Ward and Wade Lawson, who were tried and convicted at this term of our court on a charge of having committed an assault on Ling Gun near Paint Rock, about the 7th day of last November. The first impression in regard to this case was that these defendants were not only guilty of the assault at the time stated, but that they had followed up the attack afterwards and had actually killed Ling Gun. After the defendants had been lodged in jail charged with the murder of Ling Gun, a search was instituted and every effort was made to find the body of the missing man, but the search proved futile.

Quite awhile afterwards a gentleman living beyond the Tennessee line, while passing through the mountains of Tennessee, some several miles from the scene of the first assault, found the dead body of the Chinaman. From an examination it was found that he had been murdered; his throat had been cut and his neck broken. I was retained by the State to assist Mr. Zachary and Solicitor Jones in the prosecution. An investigation disclosed the following facts relative to these defendants:

About the 7th day of last November Ling Gun started from near Asheville to some point in Tennessee. He was put off the train on the Tennessee road by the conductor because he refused to pay his fare. The next day he passed the home of Mrs. Ward, going in the direction of Robert Morris' home. Later in the same day and about sundown she, the wife of Robert Morris, was in the road near her home, when she met the Chinaman coming back the same road. She had never seen a Chinaman before and have never seen any one dressed in the peculiar garb in which he was attired. Supposing that he was a male man, she became frightened and hunted and was carried to her home near by by her husband and some of the neighbors. It appeared that the Chinaman had approached her and tried to talk and she could not understand a word he uttered. This fact, in connection with his strange appearance, frightened the woman very badly, and as a result she was confined to her bed for several days, being at the same time in delicate health.

It further appeared by defendant's testimony that after Mrs. Morris had been carried home that the Chinaman followed and entered the yard and attempted to enter the house, also, that Robert Morris, put him out of the yard, but used no more force than was necessary. The next account of the Chinaman was given by Mr. and Mrs. Lamb, who testified that about dark on the same day they heard a cry of distress, also heard some one hissing dogs and heard the dogs barking. They were at their home, a distance of three quarters of a mile from Robert Morris' home, when they heard the noise. They at once went out in the road, where they found Ling Gun, who seemed to be limping and was badly frightened. Two or three behind him came Carter Ward and Wade Lawson, who had the dogs with them, and also had rocks in their hands. They said they had "given the old man h——." In a few moments Robert Morris came up to where the parties were standing and remarked "that the Chinaman had frightened his wife and had killed her." He had a pistol in his hand, but did not point it at the Chinaman.

These were the last witnesses who connected the defendants with the transaction. The evidence, while it made the defendants guilty, made them guilty of an assault and battery. The Chinaman had at that time three wounds on his person, to wit: One on his right leg, which had the appearance of an old wound; another on his left leg which had evidently been inflicted by some one of the defendants, and still another on his right arm which resembled a dog bite. Neither one of these wounds was of a serious nature.

There was no evidence which in any way connected these defendants with his murder. There for the solicitor did all that could be done when he indicted them for an assault. While the assault on the Chinaman was a brutal one, at the same time one can well see how Robert Morris could have been misled in making it. His wife had fainted and, as he thought at that time, had been kicked by the Chinaman. Under such circumstances it was perfectly natural that he should feel indignant and inclined to punish him for what he considered to be a great wrong to his wife who as recently suffered at his home. The other two defendants were mere boys and had barely passed the age of accountability at the time the assault was committed. His Honor Judge McIver took great pains to thoroughly investigate all the circumstances attending this case before he passed sentence. After doing so he sentenced each of the defendants to hard labor for four months on the public roads of our county. He did this in consideration of the fact that they had already been confined for four months previous to court on this charge, bail having been refused on the idea that they were guilty of the murder of the Chinaman.

I would not have written this article, but I do so in order that the people of our State may have the true facts, so many sensational reports having gone out in regard to the transaction. I am informed that two men are now confined in Newport jail in Tennessee on a charge of having murdered Ling Gun. Our people are well satisfied with the results of the trial, and all are glad to learn that the unfortunate man was not murdered on North Carolina soil.

J. C. Pritchard.

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A New Kind of Bass

From the Wadesboro Messenger-Intelligencer

Mr. David Bass lives near Beaver Dam, Union county. Mr. Bass is about 75 years old and has been almost entirely bald for over 20 years. Indeed, we are told that his pate was as slick and shiny as a newly scrubbed tin bucket. Some time ago he dreamed that he would live to be 106 years old, and that before he died his head would be covered with an ample growth of new and beautiful hair. The dream was so vivid that Mr. Bass awoke from his sleep greatly impressed, fully believing that the vision would prove a true one. So great was his faith in the dream that he at once began to examine his head for the appearance of a new growth of hair, and, most wonderful to relate, it was only a few days until his anxious search was rewarded by the appearance of a soft fuz all over the bald part of his cranium, and now we are assured that his head is almost entirely covered with a luxuriant growth of hair.

Her Social Triumph

From the Chicago Record.

Mrs. Gossip—I hear you attracted much notice on your appearance in the social world abroad.

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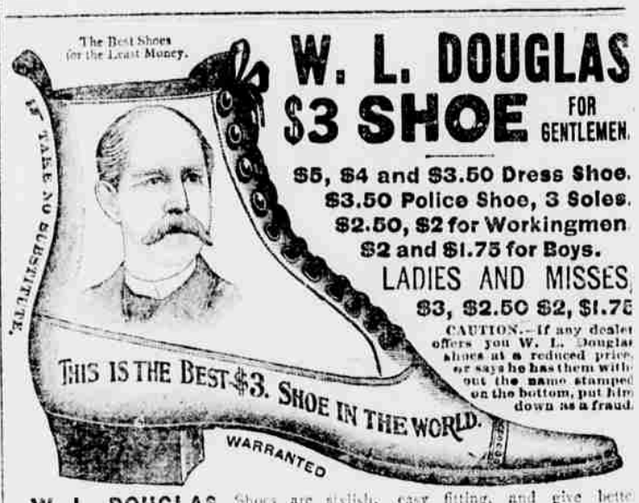

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