

The Only Associated Press Newspaper in Western North Carolina

MERIWETHER IS LENIENTLY DEALT WITH

Confinement to Naval Academy and Public Reprimand Is The Sentence Imposed.

BONAPARTE APPROVES OF COURTS FINDINGS

Still He Hints That Punishment Imposed Might Have Been More Severe.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Confinement to the limits of the naval academy for the period of one year and a public reprimand by the secretary of the navy is the sentence of the court in the case of Midshipman Meriwether, Jr., tried by court-martial at Annapolis on the charges of manslaughter, violation of the third clause of the eighth article of the navy and conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline; all three charges arising from a fist fight between the accused and Midshipman James R. Branch, Jr., on November 6, last.

Two days later Midshipman Branch died. The accused was acquitted of the first charge and found guilty of the second and third.
Secretary Bonaparte approved the findings and ordered that the sentence be approved, but "so much of the penalty as might debar the accused from service on any practice ship attached to the academy be remitted."

Early this morning the secretary received a call from Representative Broussard of Louisiana, from whose district Midshipman Meriwether was appointed to the naval academy and made known to him the sentence of the court-martial and the department's action thereon. Mr. Broussard expressed his satisfaction with both and it is understood that no congressional action will be asked in the case.

The secretary in his review says there is perhaps room for some doubt whether the punishment imposed might not have been made more justly severe and disapproves the action of the court in sustaining the challenge of Commander S. A. Staunton, as a member of the court, on the ground of prejudice and in failing to sustain the challenge of Read-Admiral A. H. McCormick, U. S. N., (retired) on several grounds.
The court found the first charge, that of manslaughter, "not proved," and the accused "not guilty," and acquitted him thereof. Of this finding Secretary Bonaparte says:
"The department approves these findings, and this acquittal. The specification was drawn up on the information as to the cause of the late Midshipman Branch's death, which the department had prior to the autopsy performed during the trial."

SOUTHERN BELL ABANDONS FIELD

TAMPA, Fla., Dec. 12.—A merger of the local telephone exchange was announced tonight, whereby the Southern Bell Telephone company abandons the local Bell's plant, equipment, business and branches being acquired by the Peninsular Telephone company, the independent company which has been operating here several years. The consideration has not been made public.

TOBACCO FACTORY IN KENTUCKY BLOWN UP BY AN EXPLOSION OF DYNAMITE

(By Associated Press.)
ELKTON, Ky., Dec. 12.—The tobacco factory here owned by Mrs. M. B. Penick and operated by the American Snuff company, was blown up by dynamite early this morning. There was no loss of life, but the damage to the factory is complete. There was no insurance on the plant as the insurance company had only a few days ago cancelled the insurance

SUPREME COURT RENDERS OPINIONS

Important Cases from Fifteenth and Sixteenth Districts Passed Upon at Raleigh.

(Special to The Citizen.)
RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 12.—The Supreme court this evening delivered opinions concerning twenty-one cases, nearly all of which are from the Fifteenth and Sixteenth districts. They are as follows:
McAiden vs. Palmer, Cherokee, affirmed; Miliner vs. Leatherwood (Swain), error; Hunt vs. Dehart (Swain), affirmed; Frazier vs. Gibson (Swain), affirmed; Rose vs. Taxa (Swain), new trial; Ammons vs. Railway (Swain), new trial; Dixon vs. Railroad (Buncombe), affirmed; Crenshaw vs. Street Railway (Buncombe), new trial; Finckman vs. Suddeth (Burke), new trial; Commissioners vs. Erwin (Dutherford), affirmed; Crawford vs. Masters (McDowell), affirmed; Jones vs. Casualty Co. (McDowall), affirmed; Sherrill vs. Railway (Catawba), new trial; Cooper vs. Railway (Catawba), new trial; Corporation Commission vs. Railway (Wake), affirmed; State vs. Holman (Hertford), reversed; Stannard vs. Rabon (Brunswick), error; Green vs. Green, Jackson (Per Curiam), affirmed; Frazier vs. Queen (Swain) per curiam, affirmed; Giles vs. Tel. Co. (Buncombe), per curiam, affirmed; Kinsey vs. Marble Co. (Cherokee), and Roper vs. Mining Co. (Macon), both dismissed under Rule 17. The court expects to deliver opinions on the remainder of the cases pending and adjournment Friday or Saturday on term.

RAILROADS TO BE INVESTIGATED

Twelve Persons Are Summoned to Give Testimony About Rebates Before Jury.

(By Associated Press.)
CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Exhaustive investigation of some of the railroad companies centering in Chicago, has been decided upon by the local Federal officers. Subpoenas have been issued for a large number of railroad men and heads of large industrial concerns which have heavy yearly shipments, to appear before the Federal grand jury which has been summoned for December 23.

SUBPOENAS SERVED.
(By Associated Press.)
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 12.—Subpoenas were served today by United States deputy marshals on a dozen persons who have been summoned by United States District Attorney J. Whitaker Thompson to appear before the Federal grand jury tomorrow and give testimony in the prosecutions to be brought against certain railroads and shippers for rebating.

MAN OF ROME IS BEHIND THE BARS

ROME, Ga., Dec. 12.—G. W. Hallett, a well known insurance man of Rome was this afternoon arrested on a warrant charging him with issuing bogus insurance policies. The warrant was sworn out at the instance of a representative of the Georgia Co-operative Fire Insurance company, who came to Rome to adjust the loss sustained by the fire which seriously damaged the Echols residence on Second avenue, on the night of November 12. When the policy was examined it was found to have been a forgery and steps were taken at once to land Hallett behind the bars.

SOUTHERN HAS BEGUN WORK ON NEW RAILWAY

Movement Which Means Much For Asheville Now Assumes Definite Shape.

ESTABLISHMENT OF FACTORIES NOT A DREAM

Timber in Barnardsville Territory Will Be Used To Pulp Mill.

The Citizen's story of the building by the Southern of another railway to Asheville from Tennessee and the establishment of factories here is receiving wide attention in the newspapers of this and other states which realize the great development which will follow the building of this road through a virgin territory and the bringing of Asheville and other Southern cities reached by the Spartanburg road two hours nearer to the territory served by the Norfolk & Western.

Since the publication by The Citizen of the fact that the road was to be built all reserve as to plans has been abandoned and active work not only of survey but of actual construction has begun in Tennessee.

The people of Asheville did not at first realize what the plans meant to the prosperity of the city, because the announcement of them came without preliminary report of any operations, but now there is an awakening to the realization that Asheville is to have a great development to begin in a few months, which will stir prosperity in all business.

In connection with this railway building it may be now stated that the great timber lands in the Burnsville and Ivy sections will be brought by the railway to serve what is practically an Asheville factory, the great pulp and paper mill to be built by Peter G. Thompson at Canton. The pulp factory will be a tremendous affair and will require that a vast territory be tributary to it and the necessary paper timber is found in great abundance in the country which the new road will open up. The timber will be brought through Asheville and taken to Canton on the Murphy branch. In fact it is stated that Mr. Thompson would not have located his factory in this country unless he had assurance that ample timber territory would be opened up so that his mills could have all they needed. His purchase of the thirteen thousand acres at the head of Pigeon will be, as stated some time ago in The Citizen, held as a reserve and will not be touched for years.

Competent observers here say that with the coming of spring there will be seen the greatest development of

the resources of the country about Asheville, which has ever been known. As was stated in The Citizen the Southern already has factories ready to locate at Asheville on the land it has provided and with the building of these factories, the great mill at Canton and the active movement which will be given the sales of timber lands by the certainty of the opening of the new fields to market will come a great inflow of money to this section which is practically Asheville.

"Why does the Southern wish to locate factories in Asheville any more than any other place?" was a question which was asked yesterday. "Why does the Southern wish to develop Asheville?" was the reply. "It has been doing that for years and puts Asheville to the front in all its advertising. The reason is simple. The Southern is not an annual benefit fraternity of course, but it can help itself by helping Asheville. It is the only road in this territory. It gets all the haul of travel and freight and naturally prefers to have travel and freight where it will get all the haul. Is it not more to the Southern's interest to have a factory here where it will get all the haul of the product than in some other place where there are other railroads to share it?"

"The Southern has tracks here to haul stuff and it wants to keep them busy. Other parts of the country may have occasion to complain of the Southern possibly, but not this part. Why, of course, the Southern wants this section to boom—its own exclusive territory. A merchant would prefer to see trade go to a store owned by him exclusively than to another in which he had only a part interest; the Southern has part interest only in some territory."

The Southern wants to build up all the western Carolina territory and bringing factories here means factories at Hendersonville, Waynesville, Marshall, etc.

GAMBLERS FINED AT GREENSBORO

Fines Aggregating \$1,400 are Imposed by Judge Ward in The Superior Court.

(By Associated Press.)
GREENSBORO, N. C., Dec. 12.—Fines aggregating \$1,400 were imposed on four of Greensboro's most prominent young men today by Judge Ward in Superior court, for violating the gambling laws.
The young men were recently playing poker in a rear room of the Hurf building when a policeman, who had learned of the incident, climbed a telegraph pole on the opposite side of the street and gaining an unobstructed view of the room and its occupants, procured warrants for their arrest and the game was called to trial today.

CLOUDY TODAY.
(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Forecast for Wednesday and Thursday: North Carolina—Cloudy Wednesday, followed by rain; Thursday rain and colder; light to fresh winds; shifting to north.

MEMORY OF N. G. GONZALES WAS HONORED

Monument to Martyr-Editor Unveiled Yesterday at Columbia.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ERECTED IT

Granite Shaft, Twenty-Five Feet High Will Perpetuate His Memory.

(By Associated Press.)
COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 12.—Almost within a stone's throw of where he fell, mortally wounded on January 15, 1903, within the shadow of South Carolina's capitol and on the wisest thoroughfare of the city he loved so well, a beautiful monument was today unveiled to the memory of N. G. Gonzales, the late editor of The State, who, nearly three years ago was shot and killed by Lieut.-Gov. Tillman.

There had been erected a temporary stand around the monument for the accommodation of specially invited. On this stood a large crowd of citizens who had gathered to pay tribute to the deceased editor's worth. Seated upon the stand were the members of the Gonzales monument association; members of the ladies' auxiliary association; members of the family of the deceased; local and visiting editors and the clergy of the city. Members of the Columbia Chamber of Commerce, Knights of Pythias, organizations of which Mr. Gonzales was a member, the Typographical union, and employees of the newspapers of the city attended in a body.

The exercises were opened with prayer by Bishop Elliott Capers, Episcopal bishop of South Carolina, followed by the hymn, "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," rendered by a selected choir. After an address by Mr. W. A. Clark, president of the Gonzales Monument association, the monument was formally unveiled. Rev. Samuel M. Smith, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of this city, delivered an oration appropriate to the occasion. Then came formal delivery of the monument by Mr. Clark to Mayor T. H. Gibbs, who received it in behalf of the city, with a speech of acceptance. The ceremonies were closed with a benediction by Rev. W. C. Lindsay, pastor of the First Baptist church of Columbia.

The monument is a granite shaft 25 feet high, resting upon a base 20 feet square, giving it a total height of 45 feet. The monument is erected by the people of South Carolina, subscriptions for its construction having been made from every county in the state. The shaft stands at the intersection of Senate and Sumter streets, overlooking the pretty park which surrounds the state capitol.

FOREST RESERVE MEETING AT RALEIGH

Mass Meeting of Citizens at State Capital to Quicken Interest in Movement.

(Special to The Citizen.)
RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 11.—At a mass-meeting of the citizens under the auspices of the Raleigh chamber of commerce tonight a resolution was adopted that the North Carolina legislature in congress be urged to use their best efforts for the passage of the Appalachian Park forestry preserve measure and for the proper regulation of forests in western North Carolina. The meeting was addressed by a host of speakers, including Governor W. B. Patton, President W. H. Coker, of a well known college and H. L. Catter, who is spending some time in Washington working for forestry preserve legislation. The meeting was for the special purpose of quickening interest in forest preserve, and it was highly successful in this. Letters, regretting inability to attend and hearty sympathy in the movement were received from Gov. Glenn, D. A. Tompkins, Chas. D. Miller, F. P. Venable, and others. It is understood that the chamber of commerce will later send a delegation to Washington in the interest of this legislation.

TROLLEY MEETING AT CHIMNEY ROCK

SPEECHES MADE BY J. W. WOFFORD, W. A. SMITH & OTHERS

Indications Are That the Proposition Will Carry in the Election of the Sixteenth.

(Special to The Citizen.)
HENDERSONVILLE, N. C., Dec. 11.—On Dec. 10 the people of Chimney Rock, notwithstanding the rain, met at the Flynn voting precinct and held a rousing railroad meeting. W. F. Edwards, J. Williams, J. W. Wofford and W. A. Smith attended the meeting. Speeches were made and much interest was manifested. Numbers of people had been opposed to the proposed subscription and had issue by Chimney Rock residents when after being informed as to the true proposition and plans and being thoroughly convinced that they had been misled and misunderstood, went away very much enthused and in earnest over the success of the proposition. The indications are very good for the proposition being carried in the election on the 16th. When this is done, the link between the two ships in Polk and in Henderson will be made, and then the company will commence vigorous work to increase the private subscription along the line with a view to making a survey of all the proposed routes, and adopting business methods for getting up accurate and reliable data before the enterprise can be intelligently laid before capital.
It is believed by those who have studied the subject most that the success of the road depends upon the result of the election in Chimney Rock.
The original plan was to go direct from Hendersonville to Rutherfordton in order to connect with the Seaboard Air Line, but in so much as the Rutherfordton people both indifference and apparently unconcerned, the individuals who had that the road will go from Hendersonville by some route to Lake Chatahoochee down Broad river by Mills to Columbia, and from Columbia to Green's Creek, Lanham or Tryon to Spartanburg, as the route may be influenced by the parties in the different places.

PROTEST AGAINST NEW COTTON ESTIMATE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Representative Lovering's resolution, introduced in the house yesterday for the preparation of a new cotton estimate to be issued on January 15, 1906, has called forth a number of protests from Southern members.
The Charlotte Cotton Exchange and Board of Trade, sent the following dispatch to Representative Wain, of North Carolina:
"We wish to protest against any further estimate by the agricultural bureau this season, as they tend to upset business conditions and ask that you use your influence to defeat any resolution introduced for this purpose."

GEORGIA POLICY HOLDERS IN NEW YORK LIFE AND MUTUAL HOLD A MEETING

(By Associated Press.)
ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 12.—The Georgia policy-holders in the New York Life, and the Mutual Life Insurance companies, met here today to formulate plans to protect their interests in the next annual meeting of the companies. The first action proved a story one. Strong language was used and uncomplimentary speeches were applied. A letter had been received from Thomas W. Lawson, requesting that he be given the position of Georgia policy holder in the New York Life, and the Mutual Life Insurance companies, and that he be given the position of Georgia policy holder in the Mutual Life Insurance company.

RYAN'S MOUTH IS UNSEALED ON THE STAND

Tells All the Known About Harriman and Other Insurance Matters.

SAYS HE RECENTLY

Case of Loring which it is thought was caused by James.

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 12.—James Ryan, who has been in the news since he was indicted for the murder of William J. Loring, a prominent insurance agent, is today on the stand in the trial of Loring's estate. Ryan, who is a well known insurance agent, is today on the stand in the trial of Loring's estate. Ryan, who is a well known insurance agent, is today on the stand in the trial of Loring's estate.

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The Senate and Representatives—We hope you won't find as much to do around here as you did the last few trips.