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On account of our intimate acquaintance and frequent transaction with the Grocery trade of the West and South we are able to handle N. C. Fish to the best possible advantage, and we are known everywhere as the largest distributors in this market.

THE MISSISSIPPI ON A RAMPAGE.

The Height of the Waters Exceed that of '82 and '84.

LEVEES MELT AWAY

And the Rushing Water Covers A Vast Area of Farming Land.

The mighty Mississippi and its tributaries, are now on their annual Spring rampage, and the swelling waters have swept away everything but the land, leaving hundreds of people, once happy, without shelter, or the necessities of life. The more fortunate sections are rendering such aid as is in their power, to care for the homeless ones. The present flood is probably the greatest in history, even overtopping the floods of 1882 and 1884. The immense levees are melting away, and the rushing waters have covered an immense area of farming lands, destroying buildings, fences, sweeping the stock away, and carrying dismay to many hearts. The homeless ones are encamped in tents on the hills, awaiting boats to carry them to the cities where the relief committees may care for them.

The rivers are now about stationary, but as moderate rains have fallen during the past forty-eight hours in the watersheds of the Cumberland, Tennessee and Ohio rivers, the waters may rise even higher.

The destitution is fearful, want sets at many a table, and the need of help is great.

Big Norfolk Fire.

The Greenleaf Johnson Lumber Company, near Berkeley, on the Elizabeth river, lost fourteen dry kilns, two fan houses and 350,000 feet of first class lumber by fire Friday night. Total loss estimated at \$23,000. The mill's fire pumps broke down, and the engines sent from Norfolk and Berkeley met with mishaps. But for the pluck of the mill hands the entire plant would have been destroyed. Assistance was rendered by the Navy Yard Fire Department and several railroad fire tugs.

"Is' Blegged to Look After My Flock."

(Monroe Enquirer.)

The story is told of a colored preacher who was very much opposed to dancing and was very loud in his exhortations against it. Secretly he loved the music of the violin and the dance had an irresistible charm for him. On a certain night a ball was to be given and the preacher went so far as to threaten to expel any of his flock who dared attend the ball. But on the night of the ball the violent parson was seen sitting in one corner of the hall, patting his foot and swaying his body to the music of the dance. One of his friends ventured to express surprise at seeing the parson at the ball, but the preacher defended himself by saying: "Lawdy Massa! I hates dis mighty, but I's de shepherd, and I's blegged ter look arter my flock. I's got my eye onto every one ob dese here onchristian, pop-eyed, dancin' niggers, and you see ef I don't make 'em smell fire and brimstone for all dis next meetin' time.

The next leap year will be 1904. The girl who failed to leap in 1896 will have some time to wait.

Some men tell their wives everything that happens, and others tell them many things that never happen.

Brooks—"Did you have good luck fishing yesterday?" Rivers—"Yes, I got home without being seen by anybody."—Chicago.

HICKS FOR APRIL.

Quite warm weather for the season will prevail generally during the opening days of April. A regular storm period centers on the 2d, covering 1st to 5th. Look from about the 1st to 4th, for a very low barometer to move from western to eastern sections, attended by great sultriness and warmth, ending in many marked and dangerous storms. The disturbances are almost sure to bring heavy rains, hail and thunder. Behind the storms of the first April period look for a killing frosts, even in central parts. The cold will appear in the northwest promptly in the rear of the storms advancing southward and eastward as the storm area moves out of the way, reaching the Atlantic coast regions about 5th to 6th.

On and next to 8th and 9th, antistorm conditions will break down and another warm wave will cross the continent, breaking into storms of thunder, rain and hail about the 8th to 10th inclusive. From about 10th to 12th look for very cold nights with frosts in many sections. Indications are that the 12th to the 17th will constitute the most precarious storm period of the month; a wave of great warmth will develop at this time, the barometer will fluctuate and fall to danger readings in various localities, phenomenal heat and cold will stand over against each other in close proximity, and violent storms of rain and hail with tornadoes probable, will visit many sections of the continent. Will name the 14th to 18th as dates of greatest probable danger.

Prepare for very cold for the season, with frosts after the storms.—Reactionary disturbances will center on the 20th and 21st, when warmer weather will return, followed by another dash of northwesterly air.—The last storm period for April will be central on the 25th. Look for much warmer, with very active storms about 25th to 28th. The 28th to 30th will bring progressively fair weather, with cool and frost northward.

Cow Thieves Sentenced.

The Goodman brothers, Carter and Wells, get three years each. They were tried Tuesday in Gatesville N. C., Superior Court, Judge Bryan presiding. Solicitor Leary prosecuted them. The alleged thieves had no counsel, and the jury made short work.

The State Treasurer has notified the heads of the various State institutions—charitable and educational—that the special appropriations made by the last Legislature cannot be paid until he finds there is a surplus over the regular expenses of the State.

Broken Chain

The family circle is never so happy after the chain is broken and a link taken. Some family chains are strong, others weak. Have you a good family history? Or is there a tendency to coughs, throat or bronchial troubles, weak lungs? Has a brother, sister, parent or near relative had consumption? Then your family chain is weak. Strengthen it. Take SCOTT'S EMULSION OF Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites. It makes rich blood, gives strength and vigor to weak lungs and run-down constitutions. With its aid the system throws off acute coughs and colds. It prevents the chain from breaking. Shall we send you a book about this free? For sale by all druggists at 50c. and \$1.00. SCOTT & BOWNE, New York.

MADE WHOLE BY FAITH.

A Remarkable cure effected by the Prayers of a Virginia Lady.

CURED AFTER BEING GIVEN UP TO DIE.

HER FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND PHYSICIANS BELIEVED HER DISSOLUTION A QUESTION OF A FEW DAYS—PRAYED THAT SHE MIGHT RECOVER, ASTONISHED HER HUSBAND BY RISING AND WALKING.

The Norfolk Virginian prints the following news item from Suffolk, Va.:

"The most remarkable example of faith cure ever heard of in this section took place Monday in Southampton county Va. Mrs. Joe Tom Barham, wife of a leading merchant in Capron, was a helpless invalid for more than six months. She could not feed herself nor sit up in bed. The most expert physicians in that county had given her case up. It was no use to give any more medicine, they said. Her death was only a matter of a short time.

CURED BY PRAYER.

The doctors were wrong. Faith stepped in and did the work after human agencies had failed. At 3 o'clock Monday morning Mrs. Barham woke her husband and told him she wanted to get up and walk around the house. Mr. Barham thought his wife was delirious. Notwithstanding his protests, Mrs. Barham jumped out of bed and walked about the room as nimbly as a 16-year-old girl. Mr. Barham looked on in astonishment; he could hardly believe his eyes. There was his wife, whom he thought would soon be a corpse gliding about the room declaring that she was painless.

GREAT REJOICING.

Monday the news of the miraculous cure spread like wildfire. There was great rejoicing around Capron and vicinity, for Mrs. Barham was well liked, and her friends had never expected to see her walk again. She got up at 9 o'clock, dressed herself and went down in the parlor, which was a scene of thanksgiving. There was a continual reception. The hostess says she never felt better, and it is hoped the cure will be permanent. The doctors don't know what to say. The ministers are puzzled. So is everybody else. The whole of Capron is talking about the seeming miracle.

FOR A MOTHER'S SAKE.

The cure is looked upon as a direct answer to prayer. Mrs. Barham's father, Mr. Daniel died last week, and she prayed to be well that she might comfort her old mother. Her prayer was answered.

This story looks too miraculous to be true, but it is authentic. It was told by Mr. George W. Tritt, the wealthiest and one of the most reliable citizens of Suffolk. He was in Capron Monday.

BRYAN CALLS ON M'KINLEY.

They Discuss Many Things, But Eschew Politics.

William J. Bryan called on President McKinley Tuesday morning. It is the first time the two gentlemen have met since they were in Congress together. Mr. Bryan was accompanied by Hon. Benton McMillin, of Tennessee, and Attorney-General C. J. Smith of Nebraska. They were cordially received by the President. The visit lasted about ten minutes. "We discussed everything except politics," said Mr. Bryan, laughingly to a Southern Associated Press reporter as he was leaving the building.

FARMERS FORMING A TRUST.

Banded to Control the sale of Produce at Common Centres in Every County.

P. F. Brown, of Johnstown Pa., left a package of papers and letters in his room at the Jefferson House, Toledo, Ohio, and went to Columbus recently, and it was the means of exposing the largest scheme the farmers of this country have ever undertaken.

It is known as the Agricultural National Protective Association, and is incorporated under the laws of New Jersey. The members are all oath bound, and the farmers are taking to it right and left. This year is being given up to organization, and agents are now at work in nearly every county in the leading States.

In 1898 it is proposed to compel people to import their farm products, and county and corporation warehouses will be erected and placed in charge of county boards, who will have absolute control. From these warehouses goods will be shipped as may be deemed necessary.

The farmers will raise all wheat in one locality, oats in another, and so on. The National Board of Finance is now at work on a complicated scale for the division of profits, and everything will go through the hands of the sovereign body, much on the order of communistic organizations.

A Finger for Her Nose.

It is due to the skillful surgery of Dr. Joseph P. Tunis, of Philadelphia, that Mrs. John Edwards, of Chester, Pa., has a nose like anybody else. The third finger is missing from Mrs. Edwards' right hand, but it is now a part of her face, for it was grafted there to form a new nose for her. Mrs. Edwards was admitted to the Methodist Episcopal Hospital late in the fall to be treated for a cancerous growth. This ailment was carefully treated and checked, but it had left an unsightly blemish where the patients nose had been. Mrs. Edwards grieved a great deal over the facial disfigurement, and when Dr. Tunis suggested a remedy, she immediately agreed to undergo the operation, by means of which one of her fingers was to be made to take the place of her nose.

The patient was etherized, and the operation begun. Dr. Tunis cut off the end joint of the third finger of her right hand, and disarticulated the remaining two bones. The hand was held in position over Mrs. Edwards' face, and the boneless flesh was laid over the damaged nose and stitched to the face. Bandages of crinoline, spread with plaster of paris, were wrapped about the patient's body, holding the arm firmly in place. The hand and remaining fingers were padded to prevent maceration of the face, and for three weeks Mrs. Edwards remained in that position. Her hand almost entirely covered her face, and it was necessary to feed her by means of a tube inserted into the left corner of her mouth. Occasionally the bandages were removed, but the hand was never allowed to change its position.

The finger was firmly grafted to the face. It was then treated with a preparation of cocaine and was severed from the hand. Both wounds were dressed and the patient was none the worse for the operation. She was much better off, as a matter of fact, for the new nose was quite as good as the average person's. The nasal passages, which had not been affected by the cancerous ailment, had been packed with iodoform gauze and the nostrils were thereby preserved. Mrs. Edwards has left the hospital with a new nose, hardly less perfect in form than her original one.

PREDICTS MILLENNIUM.

Here is a Clergyman Who Says McKinley Will be the Last President and Tells Why.

McKinley is to be the last President of the United States and Wall street is to be transported to Jerusalem in the near future, according to the positive prediction of the Rev. Beverly O. Kinnear, a revivalist, who is now preaching in the Bible House. He says the millennium is due to arrive here September 1901.

"Do not say that I preach the end of the world," says he; that only makes people laugh. I preach the end of the age. After that we shall all be taken off this continent and transported to another, if we are believers. If unbelievers, we shall be killed. The time for this is now close at hand. I quote a few, very few, if any authorities.

"Sir Richard Proctor says: 'In about 1897-98 the heat of the sun will be so enormously increased by the impact of a comet as to destroy life upon this earth.' Sir J. W. Dawson wrote: 'I anticipate the destruction of the present state of things on the earth by conflagration from the teachings of science.'

"Dr. Frank M. Close, of Oakland, Cal., ex-president of the Tacoma Academy of Science, writes: 'The late seismic disturbance' which extended over the Middle and Southeastern States, was one of the preliminary throes of a great cataclysm.'

"These undoubted authorities show that the time is near at hand. We know that the end of the age is within this generation, due whether the present generation began in 1870 or in 1871 we do not know. That is where chronology is liable to err. But the time is near and we must be watching for it.

"What will become of the present United States when the end of the world comes? It will be carried over to England. McKinley is to be the last President of the United States. Before the end of his term there will be a terrible European war. Nations are building warships and getting ready for it. More have been built in the past year than in the world's entire previous history.

"It is not certain how the end of the world will come," continued Dr. Kinnear. "That is not revealed as yet. If He decides to earth He will gather the faithful together and establish a kingdom in Jerusalem, and there rule His people with a rod of iron," as the Scriptures say. If He decides to take us all up to heaven, He will do so and leave the others here. Either way it will be the millennium.

"The climate of the earth will not be severe, either from excessive cold or heat. Violent storms either on land or sea, will be unknown, and the whole aspect of creation will be more beautiful. The animal world will no longer have ferocious beasts, or any creature to harm man or woman.

"What will become of Wall street? That I can positively answer. Wall street, three years from now, will be in Jerusalem. But its work will be over. Its usefulness will have been accomplished.

"And our politicians? The bad ones will be cast into outer darkness and the good ones transported to Jerusalem, where they can fix for a thousand years in the delights of the perfect reign of Christ, the millennium. Their mission then will be to follow Christ forever and forever.

"Now, when it comes to locating the day for this to begin, I must beg off a little. I used to believe in chronology, and all signs say that the world will come to an end March 29 1899. But it may be September 1901. That is my present belief. There is only a little difference. One is surely right. And the time is very near.

The Same... Old Sarsaparilla.

That's Ayer's. The same old sarsaparilla as it was made and sold by Dr. J. C. Ayer 50 years ago. In the laboratory it is different. There modern appliances lend speed to skill and experience. But the sarsaparilla is the same old sarsaparilla that made the record—50 years of cures. Why don't we better it? Well, we're much in the condition of the Bishop and the raspberry: "Doubtless," he said, "God might have made a better berry. But doubtless, also, He never did." Why don't we better the sarsaparilla? We can't. We are using the same old plant that cured the Indians and the Spaniards. It has not been bettered. And since we make sarsaparilla composed out of sarsaparilla plants, we see no way of improvement. Of course, if we were making some secret chemical compound we might... But we're not. We're making the same old sarsaparilla to cure the same old diseases. You can tell it's the same old sarsaparilla because it works the same old cures. It's the sovereign blood purifier, and—it's Ayer's.

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