

NORTH STATE MATTERS

Newsy Items Gleaned From Murphy to Planteo.

Two Women Killed

Gastonia Special.—Sarah and Cora Brewer, two colored women, aged about forty and seventeen, were killed by southbound passenger train No. 11 at Hendrick's crossing, four miles west of Gastonia, at 1.30 o'clock Thursday afternoon.

Frozen to Death.

Winston-Salem, Special.—Parties here from Yadkin reported that a man, with his two children, were held on the boat at Conrad's ferry several hours yesterday afternoon, and that the children came near freezing to death.

Cylinder Head Blew Out.

Lexington Special.—On account of work of the cylinder heads blowing out of the engine of the south-bound passenger train No. 23, near Conrads, a fireman came near losing his life, and five passenger trains were held here until about midnight.

Tar Heel Topics.

Charters were granted Thursday to the Powell Supply Company, of Fair Bluff, Columbus county, with a capital stock of \$50,000; stockholders Mary D. Powell, G. A. Powell and others; to operate tobacco warehouses, make turpentine and stockholders in the Statesville Female College (Incorporated) under the control of the Central Presbytery of Concord, Rev. Dr. Shearer, and others; to operate a mill; and others.

The State Superintendent of Public Instruction says applications for what is known as the second \$100,000 of the State's annual appropriation for keeping the public schools open four months in the year are coming in quite rapidly and the division of the sum will be made before long.

By far the finest specimens of nickel ore ever secured for the State Museum were received by Curator Brimley from the W. S. Adams nickel mine, in Jackson county. There are 20 pounds of it, which shows metallic nickel imbedded in the ore.

North Carolina had only one lynching in 1903. The year previous there were eight lynchings in that State.

Governor Aycock has set the day for two hangings. The day set for the execution of two men is Thursday, the twenty-fifth day of February.

On that day Jabel Register, white, will be hanged in Whiteville, Columbus county, and Will Bogan, colored, in Wadesboro. Both for murder.

The attorney general of North Carolina has decided that all non-residents who hunt in the State must take out license at \$10, no matter what sort of game is hunted.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE

Resident of Henrietta is Completely Burned Out.

Henrietta Special.—Mr. June Hicks' residence, on Henrietta street, between Dr. R. Hicks' and Dr. C. B. Wiseman's residences, occupied by Mr. O. B. Biggerstaff, a merchant of Henrietta, was, with all of its contents, destroyed by fire at 9 o'clock Monday night.

Robbery Near Statesville. Statesville, Special.—Mr. Ham Smith, a merchant of the Troutman neighborhood, was in town Tuesday, and told of the robbery of his store on last Friday night. An entrance was made through a front window. About \$50 worth of goods were stolen and \$250 worth of negotiable notes.

North State Notes. Mr. George Windle of Hamlet, committed suicide at the home of his father-in-law, Mr. E. A. Alley, at 1215 S. Tryon street in Charlotte on Saturday afternoon by shooting himself through the temple with a .38 calibre Smith & Wesson revolver.

Mention has been made of the fact that there has been only one lynching in North Carolina during this year. During the year 1901 and 1902 there were no less than eight lynchings, of which three were murder, three for rape, one for assault with intent to murder, and one for poisoning.

The survey for the Raleigh & Pamlico Sound Railway is progressing in a very satisfactory manner. The surveyors are now within ten miles of Raleigh, going that way from Wilson.

A house on North Caldwell street, in Charlotte, occupied by Christian Crusaders, was broken open Thursday night while the inmates were attending services in their hall on North Col. Street.

Thursday was the last day of the bar rooms in Raleigh, the dispensary going in Friday. The bar keepers of that city say in two years bar rooms will be voted back, but the anti-saloon people say that the dispensary will be continued, or there will be prohibition.

W. W. Alverson is still confined in the Caswell county jail at Vanceville, charged with abducting pretty Annie Yeaman, fifteen years old, from her home at Pelham.

At the annual meeting in Salisbury of the stewards of the Salisbury district of the North Carolina Methodist Conference Friday morning, the salary of Rev. Dr. G. H. DeWiler, presiding elder, was fixed at approximately \$1,400, an increase of \$100. This represents 11 per cent of the aggregate salaries of the pastors of the district.

In a serious runaway accident in West Raleigh, Friday, Mrs. Tate Butler, Mrs. J. R. Jefferys, and Miss Fort of the Greensboro Normal and Industrial College, were thrown from the carriage. Mrs. Jefferys was seriously injured, and Miss Fort was hurt in the face, losing several teeth.

Secretary of War Root has taken charge of the negotiations with Colombia owing to the illness of Secretary of State Hay.

GEN. GORDON DEAD

Confederate Hero of Many Battles is Now at Rest

HE EXPIRED ON SATURDAY NIGHT

Much of His Life Since the Surrender Has Been Spent Trying to Heal the Old Breach.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—Lieutenant General John B. Gordon died at his winter home near Miami, Fla., at 10:05 o'clock Saturday night. His fatal illness, which overtook him last Wednesday, was congestion of the stomach and liver, following an acute attack of indigestion, to which he was subjected.

General Gordon was born in Upton county, Georgia, July 6, 1832, of Scotch ancestry, which had a prominent part in the Revolutionary war. Young Gordon graduated from the Georgia State University in 1852 and a few months later was admitted to the practice of law. Early in 1861 he enlisted in the volunteer Confederate service and was elected captain of his company. He rose rapidly by promotion to lieutenant colonel of the Sixth Alabama Infantry in December, 1861.

Right to Tax Bank. Washington, Special.—The United States Supreme Court, in an opinion by Justice McKenna, yesterday reversed the decision of the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana, in the case of the Citizens' Bank of Louisiana vs. Col. Parker, tax collector of the first district of the city of New Orleans.

After Perry Heath. Salt Lake City, Special.—The Desert News says the government inspectors, including James H. Bennett, of Cheyenne, have been in the city for two weeks in an endeavor to subpoena former First Assistant Postmaster General Perry S. Heath, but have not yet succeeded in serving the papers.

To Abolish Office. Washington, Special.—Secretary Hitchcock, of the Interior Department, has recommended to the President that the office of railroad commissioner, held by the late General James Longstreet, be abolished.

Paid Big Price. New York, Special.—Daniel J. Sully, who gained fame in the recent bull campaign in cotton, closed arrangements today with Edward Morrison for the purchase of his seat on the New York stock exchange and the seat was posted for transfer on the exchange. It was said that Sully paid something in the neighborhood of \$55,000 for the seat.

Dynamic Explosion. Huntington, W. Va., Special.—A dynamite explosion occurred near Cassville, in Wayne county, Saturday, while a number of employees on the Norfolk & Western extension were at luncheon. Six men were killed and fourteen were injured.

Far Eastern Situation. London, By Cable.—At the Japanese legation it was said that the far Eastern situation remained unchanged. No news had been received by the legation and it was believed some days might elapse before any developments occurred, as Japan was still considering her reply and that no news had been received at the legation concerning the reported dispatch of troops to Korea.

RUTH CLEVELAND DEAD

Oldest Daughter of Ex-President Fell By Diphtheria.

Princeton, N. J., Special.—Ruth, the oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grover Cleveland, died in this city Thursday very unexpectedly, the immediate cause of death being a weakening of the heart action during a mild attack of diphtheria. Dr. Wyckoff, the attending physician, said that Miss Cleveland had been ill with a mild form of diphtheria for four days, and that the heart affection was not anticipated.

The Cleveland household is grief-stricken over the death of the oldest daughter and many messages of condolence are being received. The private school which Ruth attended has been closed for the rest of the week out of respect.

President John N. Ninley, of the College of the City of New York, Mr. Cleveland's personal friend, has come here to make all arrangements for the funeral.

In response to many inquiries, former President Cleveland gave out the following statement: "After a few days illness, which began with an attack of tonsillitis and developed yesterday suddenly into diphtheria, our oldest daughter, Ruth, died today, suddenly."

Ruth Cleveland was born on October 3, 1891, in her father's residence, at 681 Madison avenue, New York, after Mr. Cleveland had served his first term as President. She was named after Mr. Cleveland's grandmother, and as "Baby Ruth" was a great favorite in Washington society during her father's second term in the White House.

It is now understood that it was the child's illness that prevented Mr. Cleveland's attendance at the dinner to Mayor McCallan, in New York, on January 4.

The funeral services will be held at the Cleveland home, conducted by Rev. Maitland Bartlett, Mr. Cleveland, with President Kinley, of the College of the City of New York, Dean Andrew West and a few intimate friends will accompany the body to Princeton cemetery, where interment will take place. It is said the other children show no signs of diphtheria.

Well Known Author Dead. Baltimore, Special.—Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Wormley Latimer, the authoress, is dead at her home here. She was 78 years old and had been in feeble health for some time.

New Orleans, Special.—Alexander Dowle, self-styled Eljah, reached this city last night in a private car No. 99 of the Arkansas Pass Railroad. Assistant General Manager Agent Lupton, of the road, is personally conducting him. Dowle has been misleading the newspaper men, and his real objective point was not made known until after he arrived here.

Merchants' Association. New York, Special.—Former Pres. William King, of the Merchants' Association, has planned to start February 1st for an extended tour throughout the South and West, with the view to the ultimate formation of a National Merchants' Association.

Big Suit. Washington, Special.—Robert Burton Rodney, paymaster, with rank of lieutenant commander on the retired list of the navy, brought suit for \$50,000 damages against Capt. Samuel C. Lemley, judge advocate general of the navy, for alleged long-continued pecuniary and naval grade losses and indignities.

The Chinese Treaty. Peking, By Cable.—The Chinese government has promised United States Minister Conger to soon forward the Chinese copy of the treaty to Washington for the exchange of ratifications. It is necessary first to obtain the Emperor's seal. After the treaty is ratified the opening of Mukden and Antung to the commerce of the world can be resumed.

KILLED AND INJURED

Many Suffer In Another Terrible Railroad Wreck

CONDUCTOR AND ENGINEER ERR

A Frightful Mistake That Resulted In the Loss of Many Lives and Produced Much Suffering.

Topeka, Kan., Special.—Seventeen persons were killed and thirty-seven injured in a head-on collision between the Rock Island, California & Mexico express and a freight at Willard Wednesday morning. Most of the injured are in hospitals in Topeka. The doctors announce that all will recover, with the exception of Mrs. M. A. Hill, daughter of Mrs. Harville, aged 33; Mrs. Susan Reed, a sister of Mrs. Harville; James Griffin, Claremont, Mo.; E. E. Mayer, Buffalo, N. Y.; Raymond A. Martin, Chillicothe, Mo.; W. S. Martin, St. Joseph, Mo.; E. R. Rankins, Dr. Kalb, Mo.; William J. Wells, Jacksonville, Ill.; Mrs. Mary Kaiser, Russian; Gale Fuller, aged 7, Brockton, Iowa; Grace Reed, Chillicothe, Mo.; Lenora Reed, Chillicothe, Mo.; unidentified boy, aged eight years.

Upon seeing at Willard a freight train upon the siding, Engineer Bennett threw open his throttle and under the impetus of full steam the passenger leaped into darkness and crashed down at a rate which the passengers declare to have been 65 miles an hour.

The fatal inquest was held at the wreck today by Coroner Dooly, of Wabunsee county. The investigation will be continued tomorrow.

H. G. Parsons, a reporter of the Topeka State Journal, who was on the Rock Island train, arrived in Topeka at eight o'clock this morning, after driving overland from the scene of the collision. Parsons escaped with slight injuries, while two persons on the forward end of the train were killed. Parsons tells the following story of the wreck:

It was in the third car of the passenger train, the first coach having been preceded by a smoker and a baggage car. The smoker was on the left and the baggage car on the right.

Washington, Special.—Secretary Hitchcock, of the Interior Department, has recommended to the President that the office of railroad commissioner, held by the late General James Longstreet, be abolished. It seems probable now that the recommendation will be adopted and that no successor to General Longstreet will be appointed.

Washington, Special.—The House of Representatives has approved a bill amending the law relating to the practice of polygamy or belief in or practice of polygamous cohabitation, or that either countenances or connives at any violation of the laws of the United States, including the condition in reference to polygamy, upon which the State of Utah was admitted into the Union.

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THE COTTON REPORT

Census Bureau Gives Out Figures on 1903 Crop

THE REPORT SHOWS FALLING OFF

Statistics Compiled From Reports of Ginners Indicate a Heavy Shortage in the Crop.

Washington, Special.—The Census Bureau has issued a report showing that there had been gained up to and including Saturday, December 12, 8,848,747 commercial bales, compared with 9,311,835 bales up to and including December 13 of last year. The Census Bureau found that 29,971 ginners had been operated this season, against 30,194 up to December 13 of last year.

This report was followed by two others, showing the quantity of cotton ginned from the growth of 1903 up to and including January 16, 1904, and a final report at the end of the ginning season, about March 15, which will distribute the crop by counties, aggregate upland and Sea Island cotton and give weights of bales.

Alabama, 946,656 commercial bales against 896,994 last season; 3,850 active ginners, against 3,859 last season.

Arkansas, 544,680 bales, against 768,861 last season; 2,609 active ginners, against 2,519 last season.

Florida, 50,049 bales, against 54,443 last season; 269 active ginners, against 284 last season.

Georgia, 1,202,815 bales, against 1,276,850 last season; 4,978 active ginners, against 5,046 last season.

Indian Territory, 230,873 bales, against 372,942 last season; 485 active ginners, against 428 last season.

Kansas, no crop reported.

Kentucky, 428 bales, against 1,027 last season; two active ginners, against three last season.

Louisiana, 686,600 bales, against 670,485 last season; 2,167 active ginners, against 2,143 last season.

Mississippi, 1,211,744 bales, against 1,155,557 last season; 4,192 active ginners, against 2,143 last season.

Missouri, 28,881 bales, against 39,185 last season; 74 active ginners, against 59 last season.

North Carolina, 502,591 bales, against 517,068 last season; 2,715 active ginners, against 2,863 last season.

Oklahoma, 155,242 bales, against 163,190 last season; 232 active ginners, against 218 last season.

Tennessee, 210,668 bales, against 272,125 last season; 778 active ginners, against 815 last season.

Texas, 2,310,725 bales, against 1,674,72 last season; 4,431 active ginners, against 4,542 last season.

Virginia, 11,143 bales, against 12,537 last season; 116 active ginners, against 109 last season.

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