

Wade H. Harris, Editor. SUBSCRIPTION PRICE. One Year \$5.00 Six Months \$2.50 Three Months \$1.25 One Week .10

MUSIC. Charlotte has now two halls suitable for musical entertainments. There is in the city plenty of good musicians and music-lovers to sustain the technical side of musical entertainments.

A MONUMENT TO A GOVERNMENT'S NEGLECT. The shift in Cuban affairs brings to mind the fact that the wreck of the Maine still lies in Havana harbor, and has revived talk of the necessity of raising the hulk. Governor Magoon says the sunken battleship "is a serious menace to the shipping of the harbor, as it occupies a portion of the best anchorage. The obstruction has increased annually during the past 10 years by causing a shoal."

A TREE CUTTING LAW. It will be seen elsewhere that the commissioners of Guilford county are to petition the Legislature for a law requiring the cutting of trees from the roadside. This seems to be a new idea and is explained by The Greensboro Patriot. "An enterprising and progressive young man" advanced the idea. He explained to The Patriot the practical value of such a plan and related his experience in connection with a road running through his farm. The road was constructed through a piece of timber land, and at certain seasons in the winter and spring it was almost impassable. Over a year ago the timber was cleared away on both sides of the road, and the improvement was noticeable almost at once.

Sunday was a day of eulogy in the House of Congress. A number of addresses were made, in which "So Live," "His Name Will Ever Be," "Full Many a Gem," etc., were quoted. One speaker closed his oration thus: "There is no death! What seems so is transition; This life of mortal breath Is but a suburb of the life of elysium, Whose portal we call Death."

Each year we see the game birds fading away and more restrictions put about their further destruction. Quails are scarcer and higher priced each year. For the table the best substitute for quail is the quail. The supply of these may be raised practically all the year and is therefore unlimited. Except for a preference for a game bird for the table the quail is as good as the quail. The raising of quails for the hotels, restaurants and public generally ought to make a good business.

The trouble with The Industrial News seems to have been that it lived in a divided house, with gifted letter writers in each house. Mr. Hildebrand once wrote a letter to Mr. Holton and Mr. Holton wrote one to Mr. Butler, if we have the facts in the case right. Neither letter was intended for publication, but The Industrial News, being a progressive paper, of course got hold of them. An enterprising paper of this sort deserves anything but a run of hard luck, but it goes to prove that a paper run by stockholders is bound to have more or less of a rough time.

THE TORRENS SYSTEM. A bill has been introduced in the Legislature to provide North Carolina with the Torrens System of registering land titles. The subject is being agitated also in Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia. The Progressive Farmer is a strong advocate of the measure and as an evidence of its need, cites the present antiquated system of registering titles. "Every time a piece of real estate changes hands," it says, "some lawyer must examine into the legality of the title. Old records, running back sometimes for hundreds of years, must be searched at great labor and expense; and the next time the property is sold, and the next, and the next, the same identical work must be done over again, and other big lawyers' fees paid—a system as foolish and uneconomic as paying a man to carry a brick from one side of the street to the other and back again and again interminably." The process is really pretty much as The Progressive Farmer has described it, and to show the improvement, it sets forth the merits of the Torrens System. "This system," says The Progressive Farmer, "proposes that instead of this perennial investigation of the same thing, this unending, Sisyphean-like job of rolling the stone uphill and then letting it roll straightway down again, and all to no purpose save the paying of unnecessary fees to lawyers who might better serve their fellows in some other way—instead of all this, we say, the Torrens System proposes that the State shall examine the title once for all, guarantee it, and register it, so that forever afterward it may be transferred almost as easily, quickly and cheaply as a government bond or a share of stock in an incorporated company. The original cost of a Torrens deed, even including the tax for the guarantee fund, would be little, if any, more than the present cost of a title investigation, and ever after the farmer would be able to transfer his property, or secure loans upon it, at from one-fourth to one-tenth the present cost."

Too much stress seems to be laid on the one effect of this bill of cutting the lawyers out of a fee. The lawyer who investigates and guarantees a title, as a general thing, charges little enough for the service. He earns his money and could doubtless occupy his time more profitably otherwise. Nevertheless, a better system of registering titles is needed. Certainty of title and ease and safety of transfer are greatly to be desired. Any system to bring this about should be welcomed.

HAMMERSTEIN'S CHANCE. Oscar Hammerstein, the impresario and who recently called himself the world's most modest man, and who is big as a show house man in New York, is giving some entertainments off the stage. The New York Press was kind enough to say of Mr. Hammerstein that "he is a fakir; that he gives out fake press stories, and now as an opera impresario is trying to forget that he at one time was a cigar-maker, and that he got his start in that way." In reply, Hammerstein sent The Press a pleasant note in which he said: "You persist in sending me as representatives of your paper drunken, seedy and unclean persons. I cannot continue the expensive use of disinfectants after their departure from my house. Anyone representing himself hereafter as coming from your paper will be dealt with as a vagabond by my special officers." Thereupon, the editor of The Press and the impresario organized for the exchange of further pleasantries. The editor of The Press was backed by Michael Ford and Frederick Barber, reporters, and Hammerstein by William and Arthur Hammerstein—three to a side. The mix-up occurred after the show, just outside the Knickerbocker Hotel. The policemen joined in and it was a great sight. Hammerstein, the first, got a punch in the jaw and his high hat was wrecked, while a stray lick from a policeman's billy raised a kopje on the head of the editor. It was a grand sight. Then, after the policemen had got the crowd to the court room, Magistrate Finn bucked because the case had been brought to him for trial. He thought the judge should have been given to Judge House. A big wrangle followed and the lawyers and the combatants were finally discharged. If Hammerstein could put the whole play on the stage, he would make the biggest hit New York has known in years. It is his chance.

The Reidsville saloon keepers who are dishing out a slop known as near-beer, claim that N. Glenn Williams is permitted to sell whiskey to druggists in the State and therefore, they ought to be permitted to sell liquor and will apply for a license. Of course, they will fall in any such undertaking, because North Carolina is a prohibition State. It seems to be a fact, however, that the county commissioners have granted a license to Williams to sell the product of his distillery. How come?

Representative Webb has been put to the expense of contesting his seat in Congress against the claims of Mr. Smith, his opponent in the last campaign. Of course, Mr. Smith's contest is based on no substantial ground and has never had the slightest chance of holding good, and it is another argument for a change in the rules governing congressional contests. The elimination of the \$2,000 bonus for making contests would have a wholesome effect.

RAILROAD TALK. The Chronicle yesterday noted that the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio had made connection at Bostic with the Seaboard, and would be in readiness next week for through traffic. They have been hearing things at Norfolk about these two roads. A dispatch from that place to The Cincinnati Enquirer, speaking of the C. C. & O., says: "This road, like the Seaboard, is controlled by Thomas F. Ryan, but there is a well-founded report to-day that Harriman has gobbled up both the Seaboard and the C. C. & O. and will establish coal piers either here or somewhere on the North Carolina coast. The Cumberland Corporation, builders of the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio road, owns a single tract of land containing 300,000 acres rich in coal deposits. This is in Dickinson county. Other tracts are owned by the same controlling company in southwest Virginia and Kentucky, from which the coal supply to be handled by the Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio will be derived. The Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio has agreed to deliver to the Seaboard 1,000,000 tons of coal annually, and it is estimated that the net increase in the traffic will be between \$300,000 and \$400,000 a year. The control of these two properties is a matter of indifference to the public. It is sufficient to know that they have plenty of money back of them and that through their combined operations great benefits are to result to this part of the country."

The Philadelphia Evening Times does not think that \$100,000 a year is an excessive allowance for the President, and quotes that Austria-Hungary pays its Emperor \$3,875,000; Great Britain and Ireland pay their King and Queen \$2,350,000, and allow others of the royal family \$560,000; Italy pays its King \$2,858,000; Prussia pays her King \$3,846,121, and the Netherlands allow the Queen \$250,000 and \$62,500 for the royal family. But this is not a country of monarchies, castles and imperial estates, where the ruler gets everything and the people nothing, yet the fact remains that the United States could well afford to pay its President \$100,000, and remain a democratic country.

Just as we were all "sitting down to take our pen in hand, feeling well and hoping you are the same," comes The Observer and blandly announces that the cost of depository discussions in its columns will be strictly 20 cents a line, under advertising head and over writer's name. The Chronicle does not believe in cut rate wars, but the depository enthusiasts, pro and con, who feel that The Observer is a little too steep for them, can have the run of The Chronicle's columns at 19 1/2 cents. Come to the cut-rate shop!

The Chronicle finds a good deal of pleasure in a new acquisition to its exchange list—The Washington Herald. One of the chief attractions of this paper is its neatness—in typographical art it stands at the top—but its value is first in the completeness of its news service and the arrangement of the news which it prints. The Herald is one of the finest papers that comes South.

Charlotte is going to have both clean and clear sidewalks. Chief of Police Christenbury has suppressed the sidewalk skaters and will run in the spitters and the banana peeling throwers. That done, the street sweeping regulated so as not to throw the dirt up to the curbs like a turn plow, and Charlotte will have good street conditions.

SPARKLERS. Gems from the Jewel Case of Newspaper Paragraphs. Chicago News. The young husband whispered soft and low: "Dear, I never loved another."

Pick-Me-Up. He—Would you like to take a spin with me on the bridge path? She—Church or park?

Harper's Bazar. Johnny—The camel can go eight days without water. Freddy—So could I if ma would let me.

Boston Record. A sign hung in a conspicuous place in a store in Lawrence: "Man is made of dust. Dust settles. Are you a man?"

Life. The Little Bird—That's an ugly lump you have on your back. The Big Bird—What can you expect with all those wireless messages flying around?

Judge. Author—How is this? I don't get the usual stipend for that joke "Pa," said Johnny, etc. Editor—Only half-price for children's jokes.

Louisville Courier-Journal. "So he has ceased to be her ideal?" "He has." "What disagreeable thing did he do?" "Married another girl."

Philadelphia Record. "Captain, did you ever see a sea serpent?" asked the ocean voyager. "No," replied the Captain of the liner. "I never drank a drop in my life."

St. Louis Times. Visitor—My man, why are you here? No. 13—I'm a shoemaker by trade. A guy brought me a pair of shoes to be heeled and I sold 'em.

Kansas City Times. Q. There is only one speaker in a motor car, isn't there? A. Not necessarily. The number frequently varies with the number of couples carried.

AFFAIRS IN NORTH CAROLINA. DAILY INCIDENTS, FACTS AND COMMENT GATHERED FROM THE NEWSPAPERS OF THE STATE.

TROLLEY TALK. Greensboro Street Car Line Said to Have Been Sold to New York Parties—Inter-Urban to Winston-Salem.

Winston Sentinel. The presence of Bird S. Coler and James Hoag, New York capitalists, in Greensboro, has revived a rumor that Mr. Coler and associates have either closed a deal or are negotiating for the purchase of the Greensboro street railway and electric light plant. The News says that when seen by a reporter Mr. Coler declined to make a statement as to the truthfulness of the report.

The rumor which has been current for some time is that a deal has practically been closed whereby Bird S. Coler and associates have become owners of the Greensboro Electric Company, together with the franchises and rights of way between Greensboro, High Point and Winston-Salem. It is also rumored that Coler and his associates are interested in the re-organization of the Whitney Power Company, which is to furnish power for the operation of the Greensboro Electric Company's projects.

It is talked on the streets by people who are in position to know whereof they speak that the event Coler and his associates get possession of the Greensboro Electric Company will be extended and improved and that a quarter of a million dollars will be expended in this work.

New lines are to be built extending out East Market and North Elm streets. Additional cars will be installed and the service improved. Work on the inter-urban lines will likely be commenced soon after the transfer is made.

Another improvement which it is said the company has in mind is the erection of a new gas plant to cost probably \$100,000.

President H. E. Fries, of the Fries Manufacturing and Power Company, on this morning if any negotiations were on foot, they would be anything doing along this line in the near future.

Mr. Fries' company has a contract with the Southern Power Company, of Charlotte, to furnish a certain amount of power for the operation of local plants, beginning July 1. Mr. Fries is confident that the Charlotte concern will have a line in operation to this point by that time. The local company also had a contract with the Whitney Company to furnish power, but that expired when the Whitney Company went into the hands of receivers—before the original plant was completed.

The Banquet Postponed. Winston Sentinel. The banquet which was to have been given by the doctors and lawyers at the Hotel Zinzendorf to-morrow night has been indefinitely postponed. Mr. William T. Wilson, who had charge of the arrangements, reports that they will not be able to hold the banquet to-morrow night but that it will probably be held at a later date.

Cabarrus Owes \$100,000. Concord Times. The three auditors who have been here several weeks going over the books of the county finished their work last Thursday, and made their report, which will be presented to the commissioners at their regular meeting next Monday. They find that the indebtedness of the county is about \$100,000.

SOUTH CAROLINA ITEMS. Rector Marshall Gives His Congregation a Surprise. Rock Hill Record. Rev. R. Maynard Marshall, rector of the Church of Our Saviour, yesterday morning surprised his congregation by reading his resignation, to take effect after the first Sunday in March.

More Houses For the Cotton Mills. Gaffney Ledger. The management of the Limestone Mills have let the contract for the erection of four new houses for their help. The same management has contracted for the building of four additional houses at Hamrick Mills. The Hamrick Mills is the new enterprise for Gaffney; but is making money for its stockholders already and bids fair to become one of the best paying mill propositions in the State.

MILL ENLARGEMENT. The Keeler to Issue Stock For Purpose of Building an Annex. Salisbury Post.

At the meeting of the directors of the Keeler Manufacturing Company, held on January 16, 1909, the president and treasurer was authorized to sell 230 shares of capital stock of the company to provide additional funds to build and equip an addition to the mill to cost approximately \$100,000. The treasurer was authorized to receive sealed bids for a part or all of this stock until February 15, 1909, when the bids will be opened and the stock awarded, the directors reserving the right to reject any or all bids. The terms of the sale are cash on or before March 1, 1909. The new stock is to participate in dividends on some basis as the old.

The proposed annex or addition to the mill will be 80x120 feet, two stories high. The new room will be used exclusively for spinning. All the old spinning frames in the old mill will be moved into it along with enough new ones to fill up the space. The old mill will be used for weaving only and this too will be filled in with new looms. This addition to the mill will employ a number of employees to the working force of the company and to that extent will add so much to the business interest of Salisbury.

Tagging Cotton on Sunday. Concord Tribune. As a result of Saturday's big cotton day in this city several of the cotton buyers were compelled to work the biggest portion of yesterday in tagging up their purchases in order to have it in readiness to relieve the congested condition of the platform for to-day's buying. The platform was full to overflowing Saturday and yesterday and the buyers have been going since the dawn of day hauling the staple to the various warehouses in the city.

Liquor License to Glenn Williams. North Wilkesboro News. The county commissioners of Yadkin instructed the sheriff a few days ago to issue retail liquor license to N. Glenn Williams. This looks strange under the prohibition law, but doubtless all parties knew what they were doing. The officials certainly would not have taken this step if they had not been sure of their grounds, and we don't believe that Mr. Williams would have paid the price if he had not known what he was doing.

As to the Bearing of Second Crops. Lumberton Robesonian. Rev. J. Wesley Thompson, of McDonald's, has an apple tree and a peach tree at his home which bore two crops last year. Those who were posted as to the ways and habits of fruit trees say that an apple tree does not bear a second crop of the same year once in fifty years, and that with a peach tree it is an even rarer occurrence, not occurring oftener than about once in a 100 years.

Shades Trees and Macadam Roads. High Point Enterprise. The highway commission is having petitions circulated for signers asking the Legislature to pass a law requiring all tree and shrubbery within fifty feet of the centre of the macadam roads of Guilford county to be cleared away. Shade trees in yards and fruit trees are to be exempted.

Cotton Mill Rumor. Concord Times. A rumor has been current for several days that Erwin, Duke & Co., large cotton manufacturers of Alamance county, have in view building a cotton mill at Salisbury.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. Among the German Crown Prince's most treasured possessions in a scrap book containing over a thousand pages of adverse newspaper criticism. The first 500 pages are inscribed with a gold lettered heading: "I hope I am not like this!"

The oldest nun in the world has just died at the Cistercian Convent of Sarsen, near Lucerne. She was known as Mother Andrew, and was born on Dec. 14th, 1812. She made her profession in June 10th, 1837, and from that time had charge of the vestry of the Convent until 1897—about sixty years.

Recently enrolled among the freshmen at the University of Pennsylvania is a Spanish nobleman, the Marquis Carlos de Poteat, a youth of 18, who speaks English like a native of England, having attended school in that country for several years, and has already received his A.B. degree there. His family is one of the nobles of Spain, and his father occupies a high Government position.

Inclosed in a red envelope and nailed to the bottom of a wash tub, the will of Patrick Monahan, of Charlestown, Mass., disposing of property valued at \$50,000, was found and offered for probate. Mr. Monahan died last September no will could be found. John F. Lynch, his former counsel, believed a will had been hidden and recently, with relatives of the dead man resumed the search. In a sub-cellar the lawyer kicked over a tub and caught sight of the envelope containing Monahan's will. After bequests to relatives \$10,000 was left to Catholic charities.

The hotel men of New York City and the paces along the Hudson River are expecting great things of Hudson-Fulton celebration next September and October. Proprietors of hotels along the Hudson River have in many cases already decided to extend their regular summer season until the second week in October, because of the visitors expected. It is estimated by conservative transportation and hotel men, says the Brooklyn Standard-Union, that at least 2,000,000 non-residents will view the features of the celebration, which will last for eight days in New York and six days along the Hudson River north of the city.

Writing to the Boston Transcript on some personal characteristics of W. C. Brown, the new President of the New York Central, a correspondent tells this incident as illustrating his courage: "Your readers may remember about twenty years ago a switchmen's strike in St. Louis. The switchmen had tied up all transportation in the yards, and defied any man to attempt to handle any cars there. Brown came down into the yard, went right past the switchmen's shanty, tied with these fellows armed and determined to rule, and going to a switch, he took hold of it, moved the switch and signaled the engineer of the locomotive to come ahead. That was the beginning of the breaking of the strike, and it showed Brown's pluck."

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New Side Band Calicoes. Several new cases Hamilton Prints in all the new patterns with Side Bands, in Browns, Turkey Reds, Black and White, Blues, etc., warranted Fast Colors, Special5 cents per yard

New Shirting Prints. Best quality Shirting Prints in all the pretty Light Patterns in Light Blue and Pink Polka Dots, Pin Stripes, etc., with or without Side Bands for Shirt Waists and Children's Dresses, etc.5 cents a yard

White Lawns. 40-inch fine sheer quality White Lawn 10 cents per yard 40-inch fine sheer Persian Lawns a regular 18 cent value, Special12 1/2 cents per yard

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