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THE WEATHER: Fair tonight and Thursday, with slight change in temperature.

VOL. XXIII.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., WEDNESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 22, 1902.

NO. 5160.

UGLY SCANDAL IMMINENT IN CONGRESS OVER PANAMA ROUTE.

It is Charged Vast Sums Are to be Used to Defeat Nicaragua.

EVIDENCE TO SUSTAIN THIS?

Said That Adherents Know Canal is Impracticable in Panama.

EXPOSURES ARE LOOKED FOR.

Washington, Jan. 22.—An ugly scandal is in prospect in the canal fight.

It is charged that the Panama lobby has raised a big sum of money to defeat Nicaragua.

Circumstantial evidence is piling up to sustain the allegations.

It is charged that the advocates of the Panama route know that a canal cannot be built on the ruins of the defunct French enterprise, but are determined to kill the Nicaraguan plan at any cost.

Startling disclosures are expected at any time.

SAN ANTONIA AFTER PRINCE HENRY'S FAVOR.

San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 22.—The Business Men's Club, at its meeting last night, adopted a resolution inviting Prince Henry of Prussia and suite to visit San Antonio during his tour of the United States. The resolution will be sent to Congressman Slayden to present to Prince Henry on his arrival at Washington or New York.

CONFIRMATION IS STAVED OFF BY POLITICS.

London, Jan. 22.—The confirmation of the chaplain-in-ordinary to the late Queen as Bishop of Worcester met with such opposition that what was intended to be a semi-religious ceremony assumed the character of a disorderly political gathering.

VALET KERN TAKEN TO NEW ORLEANS PRISON.

New Orleans, Jan. 22.—Valet Eduard Kern, wanted in New York for the Thebaud robbery, was brought from Gretna to the New Orleans prison yesterday. Klein and West, the men charged with stealing the jewelry which Kern himself stole, were placed on trial in the Criminal Court, but their case was finally postponed to Saturday. Kern, therefore, is not likely to be taken East before Saturday night. Kern, when arraigned as a material witness, said his name was Manners. He would not answer to the name of Kern.

CAPTAIN HARTSHORNE IS SHOT FROM AMBUSH.

Manila, Jan. 22.—Captain Benjamin M. Hartshorne, Jr., was shot from ambush and killed January 2, in the eastern part of the island of Samar.

WIFE DEAD, THIS HUSBAND LAY DELIRIOUS.

New York, Jan. 22.—They found Mary Smiles dead at the supper table, and her husband dying. She sat like one resting, her head bent, her hands folded.

The old husband, half delirious, had tried to leave his sick bed to reach her and had fallen fainting—and for two days the Quick and the Dead had been together in the cold basement.

From time to time the old man would call in a weak whisper to the still figure at the table.

"Mary, Why don't you come to me, Mary?"

And then delirium would come again. When they broke into the room Smiles was struggling weakly to drag himself to his wife. The old man will die.

McKINLEY'S PHYSICIAN NOW SURGEON GENERAL OF ARMY.

Washington, Jan. 22.—The President has nominated Dr. P. M. Rixey to be Surgeon General of the navy.

DEFEATED FOR OFFICE THIS MAN SUICIDES.

William Hoffmeister Failed For Society Honors By One Vote and Then Fired the Fatal Shot.

St. Louis, Jan. 22.—William Hoffmeister, of St. Louis, ex-supreme recorder of the Legion of Honor, committed suicide at the Planters' Hotel last night by shooting himself.

The only witness to the suicide was George M. Ackley, of Kansas City. Deputy Coroner Boghter took charge of the remains. Mr. Hoffmeister was a candidate Monday night for re-election of the order of the Legion of Honor, but was defeated. One feature of the struggle was Otto A. Overbeck, candidate for supreme chancellor (the highest officer in the order), and leader of the opposition. Mr. Overbeck was arrested while on his way to the meeting where the election was to be held. At the Four Courts a complaint was made against Mr. Overbeck for carrying a concealed weapon. Friends of the Overbeck ticket, however, procured Mr. Overbeck's release on bond and hurried with him to the meeting hall, where they arrived in time to vote, his one vote being necessary to win.

Ackley, who says he was in an adjoining bath-room when the shot was fired, expressed the belief that Hoffmeister killed himself because he had been defeated in his candidacy for reelection. "Hoffmeister was drinking last night," said Ackley, "and he told me there would be trouble. I knew he had a revolver and I took it from him and locked it up. My own revolver was in my valise and this he used to shoot himself."

Geo. W. Teadsdale, an intimate friend of the dead man, said: "Mr. Hoffmeister's accounts were investigated by the supreme council recently and were found to be in good shape." After hearing testimony the coroner rendered a verdict of suicide.

SUCCESSOR TO MR. MILLER CHOSEN AT GREENSBORO.

Greensboro, N. C., Jan. 22.—At the meeting of the North Carolina Bankers' Association, held in the rooms of the Merchants and Manufacturers Association, this city, to elect a successor to Mr. John M. Miller, Jr., of Charlotte who has resigned the office of Secretary and Treasurer, preparatory to engaging in the banking business in Richmond, Va., Mr. C. N. Evans, cashier of the Bank of Reidsville, and third vice-president of the association, was chosen. Mr. George H. Beall, cashier of the Bank of Lenoir, and a member of the executive committee, was chosen as the successor of Mr. Evans. Mr. Beall's place was filled by Mr. Lee H. Battle, cashier of the City National Bank of Greensboro. Out of town bankers who attended the meeting were: Messrs. Joseph G. Brown, of Raleigh; J. P. Sawyer, of Asheville; C. N. Evans, of Reidsville; G. H. Beall, of Lenoir; and John M. Miller, Jr., of Charlotte.

In June, next, many members of the association will attend a meeting of the bankers of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, which will be held in Savannah, Ga.

NORFOLK CASHIER FOUND LIFELESS IN A BOAT.

Norfolk, Jan. 22.—John L. Pearce, 30 years of age, prominent in society in Norfolk and cashier of the Standard Oil Company's branch here, was found dead by a newsboy. The body was in a small skiff in Roanoke dock. No reason for Mr. Pearce's presence in that locality is known. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict giving congestion of the lungs and kidneys as the cause of death. The body shows no marks of violence. Mr. Pearce's books are in excellent condition and there is nothing to indicate suicide. He had been hunting at iVirginia Beach yesterday and was in good health and spirits.

CROKER OFF FOR WANTAGE, MAY NOT RETURN.

New York, Jan. 22.—Richard Croker sailed for England this morning. He declared he is out of politics for good and that his return to the United States is a matter of uncertainty.

TEXAS OFFICIALS CLAIM CAPTURE OF COUNTERFEITER.

Houston, Tex., Jan. 22.—United States Court officials report the arrest at Gainesville of L. H. Reagan, against whom 15 indictments have been found by the Federal grand jury now in session at Dallas. Reagan is accused of raising silver certificates and other Treasury notes from small denominations to large ones, the counterfeits being so cleverly executed that some of them passed through the Texas banks. Reagan was taken to Dallas today by Chief Forsythe, of the secret service.

CALLED TO DOOR THEN FIRED UPON.

Mr. Ward Patton Shot at by Unknown Assailant in York County.

BLOODHOUNDS ON TRAIL

Ball Fortunately Passed Through Mr. Patton's Coat.

Special Dispatch to the News.

Yorkville, S. C., Jan. 22.—Mr. Ward Patton, of York County, S. C., was called to his door last night by an unknown party and shot at without a moments warning.

The ball passed through his coat but did him no damage.

Bloodhounds were sent for and are now following the trail.

Mr. Patton has no idea who his assailant was.

The bullet struck some letters in his pocket and then glanced aside, severing his watch chain, and cutting a button off his vest. The bloodhounds trailed the assailant to the bank of the river where he evidently crossed to the opposite side in a boat.

Twenty men armed with shot guns and pistols have taken up the trail again today.

NORFOLK AND WESTERN ORDERS LOCOMOTIVES.

Roanoke, Va., Jan. 22.—The Norfolk & Western Railroad Company has just placed another order for new equipment. This time it is engines that are needed and the order calls for 30 locomotives, which will be the large class "W" type, the largest in use on the line and the class that has proved satisfactory in hauling heavy coal trains over the mountain divisions of the road. Fifteen of these are to come from the Baldwin Locomotive Works, in Philadelphia, and the remaining fifteen from the Richmond Locomotive Works, at Richmond, Va. They are to be built as soon as possible.

ELECTIONS HELD UNEXPECTEDLY FOR JUDGES.

Columbia, Jan. 22.—The State today says: The election of judges was held yesterday according to the announcements already made, and the election of dispensary officials was also held—rather unexpectedly. All of the judges whose terms expire were re-elected, except Judge W. C. Benet and O. W. Buchanan who declined re-election.

Hon. C. C. Dantzler had no opposition for Judge Benet's place and was unanimously elected. For Judge Buchanan's place Hon. R. O. Purdy of Sumter was elected on the first ballot.

H. H. Crum was re-elected dispensary commissioner; L. J. Williams had no opposition for the place of chairman of the dispensary board; H. H. Evans and A. F. H. Dukes were elected directors after a race which was closer than expected a short time ago.

Columbia, Jan. 22.—A special to the State from Wallhalla says: Alfred L. Ballew, a Confederate soldier, aged 63, met a horrible fate last night by being burned to death in the guard house. Late in the afternoon he was locked up and at 11 o'clock the guard house was discovered to be on fire. Help came too late and only the charred form was taken from the debris. It is believed that he set fire to the cell as the first rescuers found the building burning, the strongest flames coming from within, and the coroner's jury so rendered its verdict.

Mr. Ballew came here from Greenville county. He was drinking when he locked up. The town burned his remains today in Westview cemetery.

THIS MAN COUGHED UP POINT OF A BAYONET.

Los Angeles, Cal., Jan. 22.—After being given up to die of what the doctors supposed was consumption, James W. Plunkett, a veteran soldier of the regular army, now staying in the city, coughed up the tip of a bayonet out of his lungs and probably will get well.

Plunkett, who is a soldier of twenty years' experience, and who last saw service with the Forty-first United States Volunteer Infantry, is unable to account for the tip in his lungs, but supposed he must have swallowed it.

CLOSE SENATORIAL VOTE IN IOWA YESTERDAY.

Des Moines, Ia., Jan. 22.—The vote for United States Senator taken yesterday stood as follows: In the Senate, Allison 36, Thayer 10, Dolliver 36, Seeley 10. In the House the vote was, Allison 84, Dolliver 82, Seeley 34, Thayer 24.

CALLS PATRICK A VICTIM OF HEIRS.

Milliken Gives Out Startling Statement in Defence of His Brother-in-Law.

MRS. FRANCIS TAKES STAND.

She Says Patrick Was at Her House on the Day Rice Was Killed. More Surprises Due.

St. Louis, Jan. 22.—John T. Milliken, brother-in-law of Albert Patrick, on trial in New York for the alleged murder of William Rice, made the startling statement today that he had been offered \$250,000 by the six heirs of Rice under the will of 1896, if he would induce Patrick to compromise the will of 1900.

Milliken says Patrick is the victim of a conspiracy because he stands between certain people and the Rice millions. The will of 1896 left the bulk of the Rice money to Captain Baker, as trustee to be devoted to founding the Rice industrial school in Texas. The will of 1900 leaves the bulk of the fortune to Patrick with liberal provisions to the heirs.

New York, Jan. 22.—Two unexpected surprises are looked for in the Patrick trial today. The defense is expected to put medical experts on the stand to prove that Rice was not murdered. They will not put the lawyer on the stand to testify in his own behalf. The physicians who are to be witnesses were those present at the autopsy who were not examined at the hearing of the district attorney. Patrick is in excellent humor and alert to every point. He is constantly prompting his attorneys and is confident of acquittal.

Mrs. Francis, the mysterious Patrick witness, stated on the stand today that Patrick was at her house on the day Rice was killed.

PADILLA STOLE A MARCH ON ALBAN.

Panama, Jan. 22.—Prisoners who had been exchanged by the two forces told the insurgents that General Alban intended to get the steamer Lautaro ready for a fight. It was on this information that the Colombian rebels won the victory. The revolutionists attacked the Lautaro before she was ready and she fell an easy victim to the Padilla which had been painted white to deceive the Government.

LYNCBURG NEGRO FIEND CONFESSES TO CRIME.

Roanoke, Va., Jan. 22.—Mrs. Ralph Webber, who was criminally assaulted by a negro who then cut her throat and left her for dead in Lynchburg, on the 11th instant, was brought here last night and taken to the jail, where Joe Higginbotham, who is charged with the crime, has been confined for the past week. When Higginbotham was brought before Mrs. Webber she at once identified him as the man who assaulted her. The negro broke down and confessed to the crime with which he is charged and further stated that he had attempted some months ago to assault a white girl who was a patient in a Lynchburg hospital.

The Roanoke Blues military company are in their armory tonight, under arms, and it is said several out-of-town military organizations will arrive here today to escort Higginbotham to Lynchburg.

STORY OF AWFUL CRIME SEEMS TO BE UNFOUNDED.

Meridian, Miss., Jan. 22.—A local newspaper published a sensational story yesterday to the effect that a man arrived here from Calvert, Kemper county, Miss., and reported that a horrible outrage had been perpetrated in that community by a mob of 15 or 20 men. He reported, according to the story, that on Thursday the mob visited the residence of a Mr. White and shot through the door, wounding White, his wife and a lady visitor and later the house was burned in which four children perished. White and his wife are reported missing. The Meridian Press, a reliable morning paper, has exhausted every means in an effort to confirm the story, but without success. The people along the railroad in Kemper county discredit the report.

SIX KILLED AND TWO HUNDRED HOUSES BURNED.

Vienna, Jan. 22.—Two hundred houses were burned in Fraknovaraj today. Six persons are known to have been killed.

PRINCE HENRY'S TRIP MOVE TO SECURE TRADE RECIPROCITY.

WOMAN CHARGES MITCHELL WITH HAVING LIED.

President of United Mine Workers of America Will Be Therefore Com- pelled to Undergo Investigation.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 22.—Charges against President Mitchell, Secretary Wilson and the executive board of the United Mine Workers of America were the first order of business before the convention and the unexpected announcement that the charges would be taken up caused a flurry of excitement. President Mitchell, in a voice full of emotion, said he was unwilling to have the election of officers proceed until these charges had been investigated. He resigned the gavel and the charges were read by their author, Miss Millie Meredith. The young woman's statements concerned the alleged defalcation of ex-Secretary-Treasurer Pearce and alleged that President Mitchell and Secretary-Treasurer Wilson did not give out all the facts concerning Pearce's actions and that they "willfully lied" to the miners' committee a year ago. She demanded an investigation of the books to see how much Pearce's alleged defalcation really was. She intimated that both Mitchell and Wilson sought to protect Pearce and for that reason did not give out all the facts.

At the conclusion of Miss Meredith's statement, Secretary-Treasurer Wilson denied the truth of the statement and said that it was the outgrowth of spite. Miss Meredith, he said, was recently let out as assistant secretary. She is the young woman to whom a gold medal was presented for discovering the Pearce shortage.

President Mitchell submitted an affidavit declaring he had told the whole truth to the convention a year ago and a committee was appointed to investigate the charges.

COMBINE OF SHIPPING FOR TRADE AGREEMENT.

London, Jan. 22.—An authoritative statement regarding the rumored shipping deals, which, while confusing the reports of the amalgamation of several lines, reveals the fact that negotiations towards a trade agreement are being conducted on a larger scale than hitherto hinted at. What has actually happened is this:

Every line trading between England and America, except one, has agreed to form a freight combination upon a basis considerably higher than the rates at present in force. That one exception, however, threatens to upset the prolonged negotiations, for fifteen firms withdrew their previous assent, declaring that unless this one exception came in the combine would be valueless. The line which has so disarranged the calculations is comparatively unimportant, though he admitted that strenuous efforts would be made to persuade the backsliders to come in again, and leave the unimportant exception to fight its own battle.

The reports of a financial amalgamation between the White Star, American, Atlantic Transport and other lines are strenuously denied.

MURDERERS HANG TOGETHER IN MISSISSIPPI CITY.

Mississippi City, Miss., Jan. 22.—Lewis Johnson, the assassin of City Marshal Richardson of Gulfport, and Victor Johnson, who murdered a little girl at Pass Christian, were hanged here from the same scaffold, in the presence of a large crowd. Lewis was seized with religious fervor and shouted from the trap, while Johnson was too badly frightened to speak.

TREATY FOR SALE OF DANISH ISLANDS.

Copenhagen, Jan. 22.—Arrangements have been completed by which it has been definitely decided that a treaty with the United States providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies will be signed at Washington this week.

QUICK JUSTICE METED OUT TO THIS NEGRO.

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 22.—There was quick justice administered to Neal Stanback, the 18-year-old negro who on Saturday evening assaulted Mrs. Elizabeth Preifer, a 70 year old white woman a few miles out of Norfolk county. Stanback was caught by a party of white men, brought to the county jail and locked up. Large mobs made attempts to lynch him but failed. He was indicted by a grand jury, convicted and sentenced to hang on March 12 in a few hours. His victim testified against him.

Count VonBulow Says in Reichstag it is an Expres- sion of This Desire.

ANXIOUS FOR -AN AGREEMENT.

Liberals of Germany Attach Great Importance to the Coming of the Prince

DESIRE FULL RECIPROCITY

Berlin, Jan. 22.—Liberal Deputy Doctor Booth in the Reichstag today attached great importance to Prince Henry's visit to America.

Imperial Chancellor VonBulow, in replying said:

"We desire ardently to come to a commercial agreement with America on the basis of full reciprocity. Prince Henry's trip is an expression of this desire."

MERGER OF RAILROAD AND COMPANY PERFECTED.

New York, Jan. 22.—An official statement issued by the Norfolk & Southern Company says the company, which was formed to acquire the stock of the Norfolk & Southern Railroad and the bonds and stock of the Lake Drummond Water Company will issue \$1,300,000 of stock and \$3,500,000 of 5 per cent. 50-year gold bonds.

BERLIN SAYS MISS STONE HAS BEEN RANSOMED.

Berlin, Jan. 22.—It is reported and published here that Miss Ellen Stone has been released by the brigands, who received \$61,000 as ransom.

TELEGRAPHERS TO COMPETE IN SENDING CONTEST.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 22.—The telegraphers of the South will hold a sending tournament in Atlanta February 23. The contest will be representative of Southern telegraphers, and the tournament, therefore, is open only to those south of the Ohio river.

The prizes as far as determined will be a gold medal and \$50 in cash to the winner; \$35 as second prize and \$15 to the third best man. Other classes will be announced later. The contest is open to all those engaged in telegraphy and includes railroad operatives.

GEN. METHUEN DOES SOME CAPTURING TOO.

London, Jan. 22.—Kitchener cables from Johannesburg that General Methuen after a running fight of eight miles captured all the wagons and cattle and 24 Boers of Bear's command near Boschpoort.

AIR TELEGRAPHY FROM TAMPA TO CUBA.

New York, Jan. 22.—Marconi said today he will return to America in about two months. He said he expected to communicate while out with other vessels within a radius of 65 miles, which is the limit of the present machine. He said wireless communication between Tampa and Cuba is under consideration but that nothing definite has been made public. The plan is perfectly feasible and would materially aid in the communication between the two countries.

TILLMAN AND LANDIS IN JOINT DEBATE.

Fredonia, N. Y., Jan. 22.—Benjamin R. Tillman, United States Senator from South Carolina, and Chas. B. Landis, Representative of Congress from Indiana, engaged in a spirited joint debate in Dunkirk last night on the question of "Democracy vs. Republicanism." Two thousand persons listened to the addresses which were along the lines of the platforms of 1900.