

BURLESON BILL FOR SECURING COTTON FIGURES

Representative Burleson of Texas Introduces a Bill for This Purpose -- Penalties for Wilful Misrepresentation of Facts.

North Carolina Gets Twenty Five Thousand Dollars for the Continued Support of the Raleigh A. and M. College.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—Representative Burleson, of Texas, introduced a bill on Saturday last providing for an improvement in the present method employed by the Secretary of Agriculture in gathering cotton crop statistics.

His bill provides for the collection after June 1, 1904 of a tax of one mill on each bale of cotton ginned and baled within the United States.

It is further provided by the bill, that the Secretary of Agriculture furnish printed cards bearing the name of the Agricultural Department, in sufficient numbers, to all persons, operating gins at which cotton is ginned and baled, who will be required to report to the Secretary of Agriculture upon such cards, at such times as he may direct, the number of bales of cotton ginned during the prescribed period, and every person, reporting must affix to such cards the stamp or stamps representing the amount of tax levied.

Mr. Burleson's bill further recites that its purpose is to raise revenues sufficient to defray all expense incident to the collection of the tax provided for, as well as the ascertainment of the number of bales of cotton ginned in the United States, as same is being produced during the current year.

The Secretary of the Interior in his report to Congress of the disbursements under the act to apply a portion of the proceeds of the sale of public lands to the support of colleges shows that he certified to the Secretary of the Treasury the following amount to receive the fifteenth installment of the grant, \$25,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

Washington, Dec. 22.—President Roosevelt, upon the observance of the Congressional holiday, was not in the White House, nor did the President appear in his executive office. Shortly before ten o'clock he walked to the residence of the Secretary of State and remained with the Secretary about 20 minutes. Returning immediately to the White House he left on an extended horse back ride.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—An event of interest this evening will be the marriage at 6 o'clock of Miss Blanche Austin to Mr. Jesse Garrett. The ceremony takes place at the home of the bride's parents, 900 East 4th street, and will be performed by Rev. Mr. Orr, pastor of East Avenue A. R. P. Church.

NEWS' SANTA CLAUS FUND.

The Old Fellow Has Been Buying for the Children Today. Santa Claus would remind the public that only two more days are left for the charity-loving public to subscribe to his fund that will be entrusted to The News.

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BEHEADED BY A FREIGHT TRAIN

A Night Watchman at Columbia Meets With a Horrible Death--Negro Child Burned to Death -- A Youthful Criminal.

Columbia, S. C., Dec. 22.—J. D. Batchman, the white watchman at the Gervais and Lincoln streets crossing of the Seaboard Air Line, met with a horrible death last night.

The deceased was about sixty years of age and a widower. The three-year-old son of John Palmer, a colored hackman, was burned to death yesterday.

Probably the most youthful criminal ever arraigned in the city court is Bud Weather, a negro boy nine years old. He has worked nearly every store in Columbia, and has even robbed dwellings, stealing children's toys, baby carriages, children's wagons, etc., from porches in the residence section.

Mr. J. J. Gifford and son, of Newark, N. J., will spend Christmas with his brother, George A. Gifford, and sisters, on the Boulevard.

PINK GRANITE MINE IN ROWAN COUNTY

Mr. Jansen Tells a News Representative About the Inexhaustible Supply of This Stone--He Will Make Charlotte Headquarters.

Mr. L. H. Jansen, a mining engineer of note, and who is vice-president and general manager of the new \$300,000 Salisbury Pink Granite Company, of Salisbury, is in the city today.

Mr. Jansen has prepared a detailed report of the pink granite in Rowan county in which it is set forth that nearly eighty-three million cubic feet of granite are available.

The value of the stone is considered to be 70 cents per cubic yard. The strength of this granite is remarkable, it being capable of sustaining a pressure of 33,000 pounds to the cubic inch.

SHIPBUILDING FRAUDS.

More of the Ship Building Iniquity Aired in Court Today. (By Associated Press.)

New York, Dec. 22.—Letters and cablegrams which are alleged to have been passed between New York and Paris in connection with the United States Shipbuilding Underwriting, placed in the French Capital, are published today, by the World.

LETTER TO THE CHILDREN.

Especially to Those Who Have Written to Santa Claus. (From a country woman.)

In The News' mail this morning was the following letter: Dear Children: I have been interested in your little letters, and I believe others have been too.

COMMISSION TALKS OF GOING TO THE CATAWBA

An Important Meeting of the Water Commissioners Held Last Night at the City Hall --The Bond Issue is Thoroughly Discussed.

WAR IN FOURTEEN DAYS.

Japan Specifies a Time-Limit for the Acceding to her Demands Upon Russia. (By Associated Press.)

New York, Dec. 22.—The report is current here, says a Times dispatch from Peking, that Japan's request for a reconsideration by Russia, of her reply to Japan, the demands is accompanied by the specification of a time limit.

ESTATE OF J. M. KENDRICK.

Administrator Named--Mrs. Kendrick Represented by Clarkson and Duls. Mr. H. N. Pharr, public administrator, was today appointed administrator of the estate of J. M. Kendrick, deceased.

REAR ADMIRAL TAYLOR.

The Bureau of Navigation Resumes its Place of Public Notice Pending the War with Colombia. (By Associated Press.)

Washington, Dec. 22.—Rear Admiral Taylor, chief of the bureau of Navigation and executive head of the general naval board, has been in conference with Capt. John E. Pillsbury, assistant chief of the bureau, Captain William Swift, chairman of the general boards committee on the fleet, commander Winslow and Lieut. Belknap of the Bureau of Navigation in the secret office of the chief of the bureau of navigation.

INJURED IN A MINE.

Three Men Hurt by a Mine Explosion at Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania. (By Associated Press.)

Wilkes Barre, Pa., Dec. 22.—Great excitement prevailed in Plymouth when word was sent to the surface from the Nottingham colliery that a serious explosion had occurred in No. 3 slope of that mine, operated by the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company.

THE CZAR'S PHOTOGRAPH.

The Emperor of all the Russias Gives His Photograph to William Jennings Bryan. (By Associated Press.)

St. Petersburg, Dec. 22.—The Czar has sent his photograph, with his autograph affixed, to William J. Bryan. San Francisco Arrives. (By Associated Press.)

Washington, Dec. 22.—The Navy Department is informed of the arrival at Alexandria yesterday of the cruiser San Francisco carrying as a passenger Consul Davis who recently left Alexandria on account of a difficulty with Turkish officers.

Cotton Receipts. The receipts of cotton at the city platform today amounted to 135 bales and the best price was 12.80. For the same day last year the receipts amounted to 165 bales and the best price was \$20.

RUSSIAN WAR-SHIPS.

They Return to Port Arthur From Chemulpo, Korea. (By Associated Press.)

St. Petersburg, Dec. 22.—Of the Russian war-ships, recently at Chemulpo, Korea, in connection with the disturbance there, only the Cresar Royan remains at that place.

BLOODED HORSES ARRIVE.

Twenty-one fine blooded horses, the property of Mr. Davis, of New York, arrived yesterday afternoon and are now quartered at the stables on the fair ground property.

HOLIDAY AT PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE.

The Christmas holidays at the Presbyterian College for Women begin today. Students left the city on every outgoing train for their home in various parts of the State and South.

MERS CHARGES AGAINST THE BELL.

It was learned today that the negro, J. Edward Bell, whose machinations in drawing bogus checks were told of in yesterday's News, caught other victims besides those mentioned in the Bell had a check cashed at Little's bar for some four or five dollars, which, like the other checks, was worthless.

SUICIDE IN MOBILE.

Mobile, Dec. 22.—J. B. Bowman, a stranger, apparently 60 years old, committed suicide at his boarding house early today by firing a bullet in his breast.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

For Craig-Flanigan Harness Co.—Young Laid Seriously Injured. (Special to the News.)

Statesville, Dec. 22.—At a meeting last night of the stockholders of the Craig-Flanigan Harness Company, which was recently capitalized at \$100,000, Mr. James P. Flanigan was elected President; J. F. Armfield, Vice-President, and J. R. Craig, of Gastonia, Secretary and Treasurer.

The following comprise the Board of Directors: H. R. Cowles, David J. Craig, W. C. Moore, and R. L. Flanigan.

While enroute from Taylorsville to Statesville this morning Mrs. Moore and daughter, of Taylorsville, were thrown from their conveyance. Mrs. Moore was right painfully injured, and Miss Moore was, it is feared, seriously injured.