

Daily Concord Standard.

PRICE: \$4.00 per year.—

CONCORD, N. C. SATURDAY, MAY 24 1902.

—SINGLE COPY 5 CENTS.

MRS. B. E. HARRIS ENTERTAINS. A Magnificent Social Function and Literary Lesson.

We are now reconciled that the event of Mrs. B E Harris' entertainment on the 23rd escaped us, as we can present it from a more fluent pen which alone could do it justice.

"The happiest occasion of the season in Concord was the reception given this evening, from 5 o'clock to 7. p. m., by Mrs. Brevard E Harris, at her home on North Union street. The parlors of this cozy residence were beautifully decorated with flowers and foliage plants and illuminated with soft lights, and were thrown into connection by wide open communicating doors. The whole interior was a vista of loveliness, so arranged by the exquisite taste of the hostess as to charm every guest on the moment of arrival.

The reception parlor was in decorations of white and green; the second parlor was filled with a golden glow by masses of yellow blooms; the third was a crimson bower of scarlet roses and geraniums and the dining room a fragrant scene of white and pink roses.

Master Brevard E Harris and little Miss Marie Caldwell, in white costume and pink ribbons, were present to receive the cards of the guests who were ushered from the entrance into the reception parlor by Miss Rose Harris. Here they were given most gracious greeting by the charming hostess and by Mrs. J P Allison and Mrs. W W Stuart. Shortly after the party was assembled, Misses Lottie Boyd, Lizzie Young, Lena Leslie and Mary Lewis Harris distributed pencils and paper that each one present might enter the contest which had been devised to give zest and pleasure to the passing hour. This contest might properly be called the game of recognition, as it consisted in recognizing and naming the national banners which were conspicuously displayed around the parlors for thorough inspection. There were 24 of these flags, miniature models, made of finest silk, beautiful and exact representations of the ensigns of as many nations. Some of them were easily recognized, and others not so familiar, were a tax on the memory to designate. The contest was not only spirited and interesting, but was also an acquisition of valuable information. The notes were passed over to a committee of two, for inspection and while awaiting award of the prizes, Miss Melissa Montgomery and Mrs.

J M Odell, with their corps of assistants, Misses Lena Leslie, Lizzie Young, Lottie Boyd and Mary Lewis Harris, served the guests with strawberry ice cream, in meringue shells and white pound cake and fancy cakes. Frappe was gracefully offered in the second parlor by Mrs. J P Allison and Mrs. W W Stuart. The first prize, a china plate, exquisitely hand-painted, the rim gold banded, and in the centre a picture of Old Glory, mounted on a flagstaff and floating above a rifted cloud, was given to Miss Bettie Leslie, who made over 60 per cent. correct answers. The booby prize, a box of cards, each one bearing a flag of some nation, a really valuable trophy, was given to Miss Nannie Cannon.—Concord correspondence of 23rd to the Charlotte Observer.

NEARLY 300 MAY BE DEAD.

An Explosion in a British Columbia Coal Mine Brings Death to Many Miners.

Vancouver, B. C., May 23.—A special from Fernie, B. C., says: "In the terrible explosion at 7:30 last evening in No. 2 shaft of the Crow's Nest Pass Coal Company's mine, near Fernie, which also extended to No. 3 shaft, only 95 of the 300 men working in the mine are known to have escaped. Nine dead bodies have been taken out up to noon today.

Of 160 men entombed it is feared the majority are dead. The scenes at the mines and in the village of Fernie are heart-rending. Hardly a house has escaped affliction. The work of rescue is being hurried and perfect order prevails, assistance coming from every available source. The presence of coal damp is adding to the danger of rescue work. A fear has become general that the mines may catch fire at any time and survivors are being besought by their relatives not to venture into the shafts even for rescue work."

CAPT. S. E. WHITE ILL.

His Family Called to His Bedside at Fort Mill.

The many friends in Charlotte, of Capt. Samuel E White, will regret to hear that he is very ill at his residence at Fort Mill, S. C. He has been suffering for months with a sore place on his neck and the trouble has become alarming. A phone message from Fort Mill this morning stated that he was worse. Mr. D P Hutchison went down at noon to see him. Mrs. J M Odell, of Concord, a sister-in-law, goes tonight. Bettie, news from Capt. White is hoped for later. His daughter, Mrs. Leroy Springs, of Lancaster is at Fort Mill.—Charlotte News of 23rd.

Mrs. Odell left for Fort Mill Friday morning.

MORE EARTHQUAKE DISASTERS.

Queszaltenango, Guatemala, Central America, Destroyed With its 25,000 Inhabitants.

A dispatch of the 23rd from Hamburg brings the intelligence that the town of Queszaltenango, Guatemala, was destroyed by an earthquake within three-fourths of a minute with its 25,000 inhabitants. The dispatch further says:

"It was reported from Guatemala City, Guatemala, April 20, that earthquake shocks, which were general throughout that country April 19 and 20, partly obliterated the town of Queszaltenango and badly damaged Matlin, Solola, Santa Lucia and San Juan. Two hundred persons were reported killed, mostly women, and many people were injured. Queszaltenango has a population of 25,000 people, is handsomely built and well paved and has a richly-decorated cathedral, several other churches and a fine city hall."

It is not clearly stated whether the dispatch of the 23rd refers to a second disaster or whether accounts of the same experience differ.

A dispatch from the city of Mexico dated the 23rd says:

"The dispatch from Hamburg tonight stating that a paper there has advice that the town of Queszaltenango, Guatemala, had been wholly destroyed by an earthquake shock has been received here. No shock was felt here, as was the case on April 18 last, when a shock was felt. It is possible the Hamburg paper may have received mail advices referring to this earthquake."

PEACE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

War Seems Over and Much Confidence Felt That All Will Be Well Soon.

The news from South Africa is now quite favorable to peace. There is little idea of more fighting and it is said that the English are even sending out clothing to the Boers to help them dress up to come in and surrender. The shouting is refrained from lest there be some Boers yet insubordinate to their leaders who may give further trouble.

All the delay of the Boer leaders seems to be to get the best terms possible for individual amnesty.

Mr. McNeill Meets List Takers.

Eleven out of 15 list takers met Mr. Frank McNeill today (Saturday) and conferred on the lines of the law as to the valuation of property in the state, looking to greater uniformity in such valuation in the State. Mr. McNeill was very much gratified at the turnout. The Standard was pleased to have him call.

Mr. Myron Linn, of Mt. Pleasant, spent the morning in the city.

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