

The Semi-Weekly Messenger.

VOL. XXXI. NO. 9.

WILMINGTON, N. C., TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1898.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

PENITENTIARY REFORMS

SUPR. MEWBOORNE'S VIEWS ON THE MATTER

Officers of the Soldiers' Home Re-elected. Special Agent at the Internal Revenue Office—Otho Wilson a Candidate for the Raleigh Postoffice—Russell's Advice to the President Amass Republicans Russell's Vindictiveness Against the Southern

Messenger Bureau.

Raleigh, N. C., January 29.

Your correspondent had a special interview today with J. M. Mewboorne, the new penitentiary superintendent, regarding the policy as to convicts, the state farms, etc. Mewboorne said: "I think, perhaps, we can carry out the law and make the penitentiary self-sustaining. It requires \$130,000 to \$140,000 a year to operate the penitentiary. We will make it if we can. Maybe we will do it. There is a considerable falling off in the number of convicts. A few years ago it was over 1,400, now it is only 1,068. Convicts are going on the county gangs. As to the phosphate mine and farm at Castle Haynes we don't intend to buy it. We can't go into the phosphate business. It would require a vast deal of machinery and cost much for repairs. It is rather too much of a commercial transaction. We would have to find a market for the phosphate. We might find one and we might not. We would have to put out drummers in the field and we have enough business on our hands without that. Of course if the buyer of the mines wants us to furnish convicts for digging phosphate we would do that. It is too risky for us to try to do anything ourselves. We might be legislated out of it in six months. I have been to the Anson county farm. That farm ought never to have been leased at the high figure of \$2,500 a year. It has been magnificently improved. Supervisor Reinhardt has done a wonderful amount of work there. It is a beautifully located upland farm, with 1,500 acres in cultivation. There are 900 acres in timber, which we are cutting. As to the farms on the Roanoke river, the Halifax farm is far too dangerous. Its lease has only two years more to run and then it will be surrendered. The Northampton farm is far superior. Its lease has four years to run. The Caledonia farms (really they are one) are the finest I have ever seen. But about half of it is subject to overflow. There is always the element of risk. We have made a good lease for the Tillery farm on the Roanoke. Tillery furnishes thirty ploughs, and half the fertilizer. He furnishes all save the labor. We furnish the convicts, clothing, feeding and guarding them. It is a fair contract. Now as to the plants. I am determined to plant enough of food crops to supply all the people and the criminals employed on all the farms. We will make plenty of corn and wheat and oats and peas and will have also ample gardens to yield a great supply of vegetables. We will have plenty of hogs and cattle; not too many hogs as I fear cholera when they are in large droves. But, remember that the first thought will be of ample food crops. All the women on the farms were brought to the penitentiary today, and practically all of them will be employed in the shirt factory there."

The old officers of the Soldiers' Home are all re-elected for the year. The new superintendent, R. H. Brooks, takes charge Monday. Captain Fuller, the retiring superintendent, who by his fall is disabled for life, goes to his old home at Kittrell Monday.

Wolcott Lay, a special agent of the United States treasury, arrived today to supervise the transfer of the revenue office from T. M. Simmons to E. C. Duncan. Lay says the transfer will be made by Monday evening, he thinks, but possibly it may take two days longer.

There are, by reason of lack of means, only six inmates of the negro convicts' sanitarium at Southern Pines, but there are no less than fifty applicants for admission. Alfred Impey, the South African prince who is now there, has consumption, as a bacteriological examination clearly shows. It is incipient. He was perfectly well when he arrived here last October.

Otho Wilson is the latest candidate for postmaster at Raleigh. This news causes quite a laugh here. James H. Young, colored, says Senator Pritchard promised him his endorsement.

Republicans here are laughing at Governor Russell's message to the president through Marshall Mott; that if Senator Pritchard were not eliminated from republican politics North Carolina would be irreparably lost. That the most influential republicans say that of all republicans in this state not one has less influence than the governor; that his party casts him out and spurns him, and that Senator Pritchard has more influence in a minute than Russell in a year.

Joseph J. Woods is dropped as supervisor of the Castle Haynes farm and State Senator Cannon, of Brunswick, succeeds him. It seems that the state will occupy this farm but a little while longer.

It is asserted that good progress is now being made in the construction of the Richmond, Petersburg and Ridgeway railway, and that by early autumn the Seaboard Air Line will be

running trains over it as a "short cut."

There are severe attacks upon Judge Robinson, of the superior court, for his slighting remarks from the bench. The Durham people are now angry because of his disparaging remarks about a preacher here.

E. C. Duncan has been to Washington three times, making efforts to secure some kind of a modification of the civil service rules. The main pressure is to get the democratic deputy collectors ousted. The applicants for places call on Duncan to kick the democrats out and then rely upon the government to back him. Duncan doesn't want to get in trouble.

Otho Wilson in his paper today says it is the certain expectation of Russell and Butler to form a new party.

The state charters the Alpha Mining Company, of Rockford, Surry county, with \$25,000 capital. Three of the five stockholders are North Carolinians, the two others being George B. McLane of Alexandria, Va., and L. McLane, of Stover, Pa.

A widely known Edgecombe county democrat when asked what was the attitude of the populists in that section replied that those who talk freely say they are sufficiently amused with their republican allies. But the great masses are silent and these he thinks may abstain from voting at all. The eight suits against Vice President Andrews, of the Southern, which were reported last night as having been brought by Governor Russell, are for \$5,000 each. They are against him personally, and are for the full penalty. It is well understood here that the governor's plan to have Andrews jailed or heavily fined for refusal to answer incriminating questions of the railway commission has failed. Now in his anger the governor brings these suits in the superior court here. It sets out that the failure was to make reports, but really it is for not answering the commission's questions. The aggregate amount sued for is \$40,000. The governor's entire attack is directed upon the Southern and A. B. Andrews in particular. By day and by night it seems to be his one thought. It was midnight last night before Chairman Caldwell, of the commission returned from the governor's mansion with the complaints in the eight suits, to get Caldwell to swear to them before he left at 2 o'clock this morning.

The new rate on fertilizer freights go into effect February 10th.

THE GRIDIRON CLUB

It Gives Its Thirteenth Annual Dinner. Some Features Peculiar to This Occasion

Washington, January 29.—The Gridiron club gave its thirteenth annual dinner tonight, and as has been its custom in the past, furnished one of the most unique entertainments of the season. Distinguished guests were present from all parts of the world, as well as men prominent in public life from every section of the United States. The large banquet hall at the Arlington hotel was superbly decorated and the table was a bed of rich and fragrant flowers.

The features were spectacular and brilliant and of a kind peculiar to those dinners. The initiation of Mr. Charles A. Boynton, superintendent of the Southern division of the Associated Press, and Mr. Albin Miller, of the Kansas City Star, afforded an occasion for the publication of the pension roll. No names except those of guests were found on this roll and they were subjected to comments of a witty character to fit each person mentioned. A tribe of Indians in full war dress, swooped in and scalped George H. Daniels and George W. Boyd, who have been active in presenting the anti-scalping bill, before congress. The civil service question was settled in a spirited contest in which Senator Lodge and Representative Grosvenor were personated by athletic young men, the result being that the reformer got the best of the spoilsman.

An eloquent tribute was paid to the deceased members of the club, the late Moses P. Handy, Fred D. Mussey, Jacob J. Neal and George V. Coffin.

The features and speeches were interspersed with solos and songs by the quartette which added to the brilliancy of the occasion. There were 175 covers and among the guests were the following: The president of Hawaii, Hon. Sanford B. Dole; the German ambassador, Mr. Von Holleben; the French ambassador, M. Cambon; the Hawaiian minister, Mr. Hatch; the Japanese minister, Mr. Toru Hosti; the Chinese minister, Mr. Wu Ting-Fang; the apostolic delegate, Monsignor Martinielli; Mr. Justice Brewer, Senators Aldrich, of Rhode Island; Gorman, of Maryland; Foraker and Hanna, of Ohio; Platt, of Connecticut; Jones, of Arkansas; Shoup, of Idaho; Mitchell, of Wisconsin; Warren, of Wyoming; and Senator-elect McComas, of Maryland; ex-Senator Hill, of New York; Speaker Reed and many other prominent men.

To Change Commander of the Vizcaya. Madrid, January 29.—It is announced that the cruiser Vizcaya which the government has decided to send to the United States will not be commanded by Captain Concas y Pulan, but by Captain Eubate.

This change in the command of the Vizcaya is believed to be due to the feeling produced by an address delivered in 1896 before the Madrid Geographical Society by Captain Concas y Pulan, who commanded the caravel Santa Maria, sent over by Spain to the Columbian exposition, giving his impression of the United States in such a manner as to call forth from Hannis Taylor, then the United States minister to Spain, a curt note to the Spanish government demanding an explanation.

THE LION GETS HIS SHARE

ENGLAND VICTORIOUS IN HER FOREIGN NEGOTIATIONS

To Secure All Her Demands in the East West Africa and Upper Nile—Germany Comes Around to Her Side and Russia and France Become Less Obdurate—Pushing Forward to the Upper Nile—Deplorable Condition of the Spanish Navy

London, January 29.—After an unusually prolonged period of extreme tension, all indications point to an early improvement in, if not a complete solution, of the various international political problems agitating the nerves of Great Britain. The foreign and colonial offices are beginning to see day light through the darkness which has long been enveloping the far east, west Africa, the upper Nile and India, and unless signs fail and information from the best informed circles is faulty, the march of Salisbury, and Mr. Jos. Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, will divide honors and Great Britain will secure about all she asks. So far as China is concerned, this view, in connection with the speech of Mr. Curzon, the parliamentary secretary for the foreign office, at Bolton on Tuesday, and the reported acceptance of the British loan, is generally regarded as correct. Mr. Curzon foreshadowed the probable success of the loan negotiations, the achievement of Great Britain's purpose in keeping the ports free to the whole world and the maintenance of treaty rights whereby "speeches of influence are rendered impossible."

The Russian proposal of a loan to China on the same terms as Great Britain was not taken seriously. It is understood that she has not the money herself without drawing upon her war reserve funds.

Paris is daily showing less inclination to burn its fingers in a game in which, even if successful, Russia would be the only gainer, while Germany appears to have come completely around to the British side. Throughout, the situation has never been so alarming as sensationalists attempted to paint it. Hence, the czar's peaceful assurances and Lord George Hamilton's statement in his speech on Tuesday that relations with Russia were entirely satisfactory, will not surprise America.

Turning to West Africa, an official of the colonial office informs the Associated Press that the impossibility of securing witnesses from the west coast earlier is the reason for the delay in the Paris negotiations. Thus far, all the British demands have been conceded nominally and provisionally, pending the result of the convention. But Mr. Chamberlain is perfectly satisfied that the British claims are upheld and that the French will be confined westward of a line prolonged from the present Lagos-Dahomey frontier to the Niger, and along the bank of the Niger to Say. In the meantime, he does not propose to risk being caught napping by a possible adverse decision of the convention, so he is pushing troops and supplies to the front as rapidly as possible.

In regard to the upper Nile the interesting news which Mr. Curzon dropped Tuesday to the effect that the ratifications of the treaty between Great Britain and King Menelik, of Abyssinia, have been exchanged and that the government hopes shortly to accredit a direct representative at the Abyssinian court, has given the greatest satisfaction, as helping to solve the question of the upper Nile.

In the meanwhile, Young Henry Cavendish, a distant relative of the Duke of Devonshire, is preparing to start again for equatorial Africa, accompanied by Lieutenant Andrews, eight British officers and Mr. Dodson, who was the companion of Mr. Donaldson Smith, the American explorer. Mr. Cavendish will take with him 400 armed men and a number of rapid fire guns. As his objective is the junction of the White Nile and the Sobat river at Sobat, the purpose of the expedition, it will readily be seen, is to cut off the French from reaching Fashoda, which is only a short distance north of Sobat.

The news from Christiania on Friday last, that the committee appointed to draw up proposals for the better regulations between Norway and Sweden has been unable to reach an agreement, indicates that the tension between Sweden and Norway is fast approaching the snapping point.

The Corroer, organ of the Carlists, discussing the visit of the United States battleship Maine to Havana, expresses the belief that the Spanish public is justifiably alarmed, adding: "As a fact, it is the government itself which is seriously alarmed, though every effort is made to disguise it, in spite of the official statement of Admiral Cervaras, the admiral of the fleet, on Tuesday last, (at a conference with the minister of marine, when he asserted that the recent evolutions had demonstrated the perfect condition of the Spanish fleet). Admiral Cervaras in reality reported that there was not a ship ready for service; that the vessels not actually in dry-dock ought to be there, that many of the boilers were defective, that some ships were not yet armed and that most of the vessels required cleaning. In view of the perfidy of the United

States it is not surprising that such neglect and helplessness create alarm."

According to the same paper, great importance is attached to the conference between M. Patenotre, the French minister to Spain, and Senor Guillon, the Spanish minister for foreign affairs, who it is said discussed the action of the United States, "as it is well known that there is great alarm in France at the course of events. The fact that M. Patenotre is intimately conversant with United States affairs lends additional importance to the matter."

A FATAL AFFRAY

A Fight at a Store in Wilson County Results in One Person Being Killed and Two Injured, One Perhaps Fatally

(Special to The Messenger.)

Wilson, N. C., January 28.—A horrible affray took place Friday night at about 7:30 o'clock at Lamm's store, about six miles from Wilson. T. R. Lamm and Pearson Eatman got into a difficulty over a settlement, and soon fighting took place. Lamm was shot with a pistol by Eatman in the right side and may die. Eatman was killed by either T. R. Lamm or his son Chas. Lamm, being fearfully beaten on the face and his head was split open, his brains running out on the ground. Stephen Eatman, a young son of Pearson, was horribly beaten with a stick on the face and head, but will probably recover. Feeling in the neighborhood seems to be with the Eatmans.

TO RUSH THE RESOLUTION

Leaders of the House Decide to Take up, Discuss and Vote on the Teller Resolution at Tomorrow's Session of That Body

Washington, January 29.—The determination was reached by leaders in the house of representatives that the Teller resolution for the payment of bonds in silver, passed by the senate last night, should be disposed of by the house on Monday, in order that the attitude of that branch of congress might be placed before the country immediately. This conclusion was reached after numerous conferences between Speaker Reed, Chairman Dingley, of the ways and means committee, Messrs. Dalzell and Henderson, of the rules committee and other influential members of the house.

Late in the day the resolution which had come over from the senate was referred by the speaker to the Ways and Means committee and Chairman Dingley at once gave notice of a special meeting of the committee at 10:30 o'clock Monday morning. At the same time he notified democratic members of the committee what his general purpose was, substantially as follows: The bill will be considered by the committee on Monday and an adverse report made on it. No amendment or change in the phraseology will be made, but the adverse report will be on the resolution as it stands. This will be submitted to the house when it convenes on Monday, and plans made to dispose of the matter before the day's session closes. As to the procedure on the floor, Mr. Dingley made no prediction, beyond saying that it was proposed to dispose of the subject on Monday. This will doubtless require a special rule as to the debate. A basis for such a rule was presented today by Mr. Dalzell, a member of the rules committee, in the form of a resolution providing that the subject be considered immediately after the report of the ways and means committee. The committee will probably be ready to report by 12 o'clock, so that under the Dalzell resolution the debate would begin shortly after noon. It is probable that before the house assembles the Dalzell resolution will be so shaped as to fix the hours of debate and set a time for a vote.

A Mother and Daughter Murdered

Burlington, Iowa, January 29.—The dead bodies of Mrs. Fanny Rathburn and her 12-year-old daughter, Mary, were found this afternoon in pools of blood at their lonely home west of this city. The woman had been struck in the head with an axe, which was found leaning against a nearby well. Her head was split open. The body of the child was found in a bedroom off the kitchen with the throat cut from ear to ear. Evidences of a terrible struggle were present on all sides. Evidently the young girl had been assaulted by the murderer, who then cut her throat. The girl's hand showing cuts where she had attempted to defend herself. The body of the woman was found to be badly eaten by rats. Several arrests have been made and the police are actively engaged in running down clues. It is believed the crime was committed Sunday night. The woman was a widow of good repute though quite poor, and no motive but the outrage of the daughter can be supposed. The officers refuse to give the names of the persons under arrest.

McKinley's Birthday

Washington, January 29.—Today was the anniversary of the president's birthday. He was born in 1842. There was no special observation of the day at the White house save the presentation to the president of a large bunch of cut flowers.

POLITICAL DEBATES

CONTINUED ON APPROPRIATION BILLS IN THE HOUSE

The Question as to Whether Prosperity Has Arrived the Subject of Most of the Discussion of Yesterday—The Debate Accompanied at Times a Resolution to Provide \$50,000 for Properly Fitting Up the White House for Senator Hanna—Mr. Allen Entertains the Debate

Washington, January 29.—There seems to be no prospect of an abatement of the political debates which has been in progress in the house during the consideration of the appropriation bills. Again today almost the entire session was consumed in the discussion of political topics. The controverted question as to whether prosperity has arrived attracted the most attention and interest, and testimony pro and con was offered throughout the day. At times considerable acrimony was displayed, but as a rule the debate was good natured, both sides seeming to recognize that it is a struggle to score political advantage. Only a few pages of the district appropriation bill were disposed of. The clerk of the senate transmitted the Teller resolution, which passed the senate last night. The announcement was greeted with a terrible outburst of applause from the democratic side of the house. No motion was made at the time and the resolution remained on the table.

Mr. King, democratic Utah, raised a laugh by offering \$50,000 for the improvement of the White house "to make it a suitable abode for Hon. Mark A. Hanna. The amendment was ruled out on a point of order.

Mr. Simpson, populist, of Kansas, commented upon President McKinley's declaration at the manufacturers' dinner in New York, declaring that the attempt to make all the obligations of the United States payable in the dearest money in the world was "dress coat anarchy."

Mr. Tongue, republican, of Oregon, in a spirited reply, denounced the populists and the democrats for being responsible, through the passage of the Wilson Tariff bill for the depression and poverty of the farming classes.

The discussion became very animated when the topic of prosperity was reached. Mr. Richardson, democrat, of Tennessee, precipitated it, and Messrs. Grosvenor, republican, of Ohio, Cochran, democrat, of Missouri; Hopkins, republican, of Illinois; Mahany, republican, of New York; and Fitzgerald, democrat, of Massachusetts took part. The latter again brought up the New England cotton strikes which have played a considerable part in the debate on previous days.

Mr. Hepburn, republican, of Iowa, created some enthusiasm on the republican side when he read the Dun trade review as an answer to the democratic critics of the effects of the Dingley law. Members of the house, said he, no matter what their politics, have no right in attempting to score a little cheap political capital, to become the libellers and slanderers of their country.

Mr. Allen, democrat, of Mississippi, enlivened the proceedings with one of his witty speeches. He said he was tired of having Mr. Dingley get up every day and explain why his bill had not met the expectations of the country. It was very absurd, he said, but it was with the same serious solemn mien with which the Jewish clothier explained to him how he was able to sell goods below cost. Mr. Allen said he had not met a business man in Tupelo, Miss., or elsewhere who bore testimony to any appreciable improvement in business. In the course of some remarks in a more serious vein Mr. Allen aroused the democrats to applause by quoting the following from a speech delivered by President McKinley in the house in 1890, when the McKinley bill was under consideration: "When merchandise is the cheapest the men are the poorest and the most distressing experiences in the history of our country—yea, in all human history—have been when everything was the lowest and cheapest, measured by gold, for everything was highest and dearest measured by labor."

Mr. Walker, republican, of Massachusetts, who followed, denounced Mr. Fitzgerald's statement that Boston was not prosperous. He quoted the old proverb "It is an ill bird that fouls its own nest."

Mr. Fitzgerald asked him to yield to a question.

"The gentleman's statements are so reckless," retorted Mr. Walker, "that I decline to yield to or recognize him." After some further remarks on both sides the house at 3 o'clock p. m., adjourned.

Civil Service Regulations Hold (Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., January 29.—Revenue Collector Duncan returned from Washington at noon. When asked if he had succeeded in getting the civil service regulations modified he replied: "Not a bit as yet."

If you feel weak, dull and discouraged you will find a bottle of Hood's sarsaparilla will do you wonderful good.

Royal makes the food pure, wholesome and delicious.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO. NEW YORK.

VACCINATION ADVISED

By the Board of Health of Raleigh—Entirely Disappointed in Appointment of Railroad Commissioner

(Special to The Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., January 29.—Raleigh health board this afternoon met and advised all citizens to submit to vaccination, but no compulsion is to be used.

William Miles fell dead on the street here today while unloading wood.

Populist say there is evidence that Butler urged the governor to appoint John Graham railway commissioner instead of L. C. Caldwell.

The cadets at the Agricultural and Mechanical college held a mass-meeting today to ask for better food in the mess halls. The faculty will consider the complaint Monday.

Clerk Fortune of the United States district court has gone to Henrietta upon news of the critical illness of his mother.

Better Than Kiondyke Gold

Is health and strength gained by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great blood purifier. It fortifies the whole system and gives you such strength that nervous troubles cease, and work which seemed wearying and laborious, becomes easy and is cheerfully performed. It has done this for others, it will for you.

Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic and liver tonic. Gentle, reliable, sure.

Concentration of Spanish Fleet at Havana

Washington, January 29.—No official advice has been received here as yet to confirm the reported intention of the Spanish government to send a fleet of warships to Havana. The Spanish legation was informed some time ago that the small gunboats now engaged in patrolling the Cuban coast would be strengthened soon by the addition of a number of torpedo boats, and it is this flotilla that is expected to sail for Havana as soon as conditions permit. The boats are said to be wanted particularly for service on the Cauto river and in Havana harbor. The coming of the fine cruiser Cristobel Colon, one of the best ships in the Spanish navy, with the torpedo boats, is said to be necessary to their safety, as these little craft must have a convoy to come to their relief in case of severe weather and to help out their coal supply. Even with this assistance, it is said the boats will have a risky voyage.

To Build the Richmond-Ridgeway Link

Richmond, Va., January 29.—A very important meeting of the board of directors of the Richmond, Petersburg and Carolina railroad was held this evening at Petersburg. Business of importance was transacted and arrangements consummated for the early building of the road from Richmond, Va., to Ridgeway, N. C. No doubt was expressed as to the ability of the company to carry out all of the contracts whether with the city of Petersburg or any one else. The company has, it was stated, strong financial backing, and will have no trouble about getting on advantageous terms, all the funds necessary to build and equip the line.

The Big Bicycle Race

Pittsburg, Pa., January 29.—The finish of the big 72 hour bicycle race here was exciting and was a desperate effort of the two leaders, Walter and Elkes, to carry off the big end of the purse. Elkes won by two yards, having gone 1,322 miles, 6 laps and 60 yards. The final score was: Elkes, 1,322 miles, 6 laps, 60 yards; Walter, 1,322 miles, 6 laps, 58 yards; Schinner, 1,314 miles, 6 laps; Hall, 1,311 miles, 5 laps; Walter, 1,309 miles, 11 laps; Dench, 1,129 miles, 5 laps; Cannon, 1,115 miles, 2 laps; Ruckel, 1,101 miles; Henshaw, 878 miles.

An Express Train Wrecked

Old Town, Me., January 29.—The St. John Train No. 29 known also as the Provincial express, was wrecked in the Cut-at-Orono Basin mills at 3:45 o'clock this afternoon and six cars, including the smoker, were turned topsy-turvy into the ditch. One of the passenger cars, in which were a large number of people was almost entirely demolished. Two persons were killed and more than a score injured, several probably fatally.