The Wilmington Messenger.

VOL. XII. No. 65. WILMINGTON N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 17, 1899. PRICE 5 CENTS.

DASTARDLY CRIME

Nine Negro Prisoners, While Tied, Attacked by a Masked Mob.

FOUR OF THEM SHOT TO DEATH

The Consequences of Burning for Purposes of Pillage of Business Houses in Palmetto, Georgia--The Negroes Arrested and Held for Trial on Confession of One of the Party--Horrible Scene in the Room of the Massacre--The Town Guarded by Troops--Governor Candler Takes Prompt Action.

Palmetto, Ga., March 16.—Twenty men, armed and masked, rode into this little town at an early hour this morning and put to death four negroes, fatally wounded one, shot another and broke the arm of a seventh man. Two others who were of the crowd upon which the bullets were showered, miraculously escaped. These unfortunates were under guard of three men awaiting the hour of 9 o'clock when they were to have a hearing before a justice of the peace on the charge of arson. William Cotton, the leader of the nine men confessed some time ago that a conspiracy had been entered into which resulted in two incendiary fires here in February and on this evidence the men were to have been tried. The dead are: William Cotton, Jr., Harrison Hudson, Ed Brown, Henry Bingham. Fatally wounded, John Bigby. Wounded, John Jameson, George Tatum, arm broken.

Isom Brown and Clem Watts, the other members of the gang escaped injury. After the inquest they were turned loose and left on the train for Atlanta. The town is quiet tonight and under the protection of the Capital City Guards, of Atlanta, and a posse of seventy-five well armed citizens.

The negroes were confined in the office of the Johnson warehouse, a one story stone building just across the track from the Atlanta and West Point depot. They were arrested yesterday, and tied together with ropes. They were passing the night under the protection of three guards sworn in for that purpose. Their preliminary trial was set for 9 o'clock this morning.

About 1 o'clock this morning about twenty men masked and mounted, rode up to the warehouse and dismounted. Without waiting to announce themselves to the guards within they easily forced the door of the warehouse and a second later stood in the office of the Johnson Company where the negroes were lying on the floor around the fire. The guards were covered by Winchesters and with hands up were marched to one side of the little room and stood against the wall.

The negroes who were frightened into silence by the bursting of the door now realized their peril. Scream after scream went up from the victims as they saw the gleam of fire arms in the dim light from the fire place. Their appeals for mercy were unheeded. A short, heavy set man whose features were completely concealed by a white handkerchief acted as leader. He cursed the blacks into silence for a moment and told his men to get ready. After looking at each negro he commanded them to get up. The trembling, crying wretches, tugging at their ropes in a vain effort to get away obeyed the words of the mob's leader.

A last appeal for mercy went unheeded and the word "Fire" rang out in the little room. The volley filled the room with fire and smoke and the negroes fell in a heap on the floor.

The noise awakened the little town and as lights began to twinkle in windows here and there, a second volley sealed the doom of those who were fortunate enough to escape the murderous fire of the first charge. As the mob made ready to depart three or four men with pistols sent bullets into the prostrate forms on the floor, and inside of ten minutes after the masked crew had entered Johnson's warehouse on their murderous errand, they had completed their work and were on their way to safety on the backs of fleet horses.

Soon citizens began to arrive at the warehouse, being under the impression that the guards were murdered by the negro prisoners. When the horrors of the affair was presented Mayor Arnold telephoned Governor Candler, at Atlanta, of the occurrence and asked for some militia. He then deputized seventy-five citizens to preserve order and arming them with rifles placed them on duty in different parts of the town.

Daylight in the warehouse revealed a sickening scene. Blood covered the floor and the walls were indented with bullets from Winchesters and other arms. Wives and children of the negroes to whom the news of the tragedy had spread on rapid wings knelt by the bodies of their dead and endeavored to console the wounded. The cries of the negro families filled the room and sent a shock through the hearers.

Doctors bent over the wounded and administered to their wants at intervals until noon when friends of the injured came and removed them to their homes. The dead, whose bodies were horribly mangled, remained where they were until shortly after noon, when a coroner's jury was empaneled. In the absence of Coroner Dunlap, justice of the Peace Cummings summoned the jury and conducted the inquest.

Clem Watts, one of the negroes who miraculously escaped being shot, was the first witness. He said: "I was at the warehouse and a crowd of masked men about twenty called upon the guards to throw up their hands. They made them leave the guard room. The leader then ordered his men to fire on the prisoners, first counting 1, 2, 3. The men afterwards loaded and fired again."

Guard Baker testified that the mob filled the room and the guards were forced to the wall. "The leader of the mob gave a count and the shooting began. They had pistols, shotguns and Winchester rifles. They did not stay over five minutes. I don't know which way they came or which way they went when they left."

J. J. Conner, the other guard examined said: "I was guarding the prisoners about 1 o'clock. A crowd of masked men came in the room by forcing the door open and moved the guards back. The prisoners were commanded to line up and then the order to fire was given which was obeyed. They shot and reloaded and shot the second time. The room was filled with the masked men. I don't know the number."

The jury then rendered a verdict which presented in writing read: "We the coroner's jury, empaneled in the cases of the death of Harrison Hudson, William Cotton, Jr., Ed Brown and Henry Bingham, find that they came to their death from gunshot or pistol shot wounds from a crowd of masked men to the jury unknown, a little after midnight on the morning of the 16th of March, 1899.

"T. J. BULLARD, Foreman."

The town has been visited by two incendiary fires since February 1st and the citizens have been afraid to rebuild, owing to the oft-repeated threats of the negroes that they would do the same thing again. The county authorities have been very active in their efforts to apprehend the incendiaries and yesterday arrested nine negroes. William Cotton had confessed to Dr. H. L. Johnson that he and eight companions had conspired to burn the town and loot the stores.

The burning part of the programme was successfully carried out, but the fire spread so rapidly and the buildings went up in flames so fast that they were unable to obtain anything from the stores. Dr. Johnson got the names of the eight accomplices from Cotton and on this evidence the warrants were sworn out.

The Capital City Guards of Atlanta, fifty-five men, under command of Colonel John S. Candler, late of the Third Georgia volunteers, arrived at 11 o'clock and reported to Mayor Arnold. The mayor distributed the men throughout the little town and, together with the citizens now doing duty as deputy sheriffs, it is believed there is a force sufficient to quell any uprising by the negroes.

From the best information obtainable the mob did not exceed twenty men. They made no noise to announce their coming and the dispatch with which they got away from the scene of the crime would seem to indicate that the number employed in the work was small. The two negroes who have talked say the room was crowded, but the office would not hold over thirty, mob, prisoners and guards.

The doors of the warehouse were not bolted and were forced without any trouble.

The town is quiet tonight. The only sign of life is the solitary patrol every few paces, walking back and forth on his beat. The citizens apprehensive for the night have quieted down and place complete confidence in the ability of the militia to preserve order.

PROMPT ACTION BY THE GOVERNOR.

Atlanta, Ga., March 16.—Governor Candler is very bitter in his denunciation of the Palmetto lynching and terms the killing an outrage. In an interview today the governor said:

"I regard the outrage as simply inexcusable. These men had been arrested, as I am informed, and proof was at hand to convict them. They were in the hands of the law. The law was amply able to punish them and the interposition of this mob of disguised men was entirely unnecessary, since with the proof in the hands of those who had made the arrests conviction and punishment were absolutely certain.

"I offer the largest reward the law will authorize for the apprehension of any one or more of the perpetrators of this dastardly deed, and I will try to see to it that they are prosecuted to the limit of the law. Such outrage must stop in Georgia."

Later in the day the governor issued the following proclamation:

"Whereas, Official information has been received that on the night of March 15th, 1899, an unknown mob foully murdered Henry Bingham, colored, Tip Hudson, colored, Ed Brown, colored, and Bud Cotton, colored, while said parties were incarcerated and well guarded awaiting a commitment trial upon the charge of arson, in the county of Campbell.

"I have thought proper, therefore, to issue this, my proclamation hereby offering a reward of $500 for the apprehension and delivery of the first member of said unknown mob and a further reward of $100 of each additional person so complicated, with evidence sufficient to convict, to the sheriff of said county and state.

"And I do moreover charge and require all officers in this state, civil and military, to be vigilant in endeavoring to apprehend the said members of the unknown mob in order that they may be brought to trial for the offense with which they stand charged. Given under my hand and seal of the state, this, the 16th day of March, 1899.

"A. D. CANDLER, Governor."

Clem Watts, one of the alleged incendiaries who escaped death at Palmetto this morning arrived here tonight. He said he did not know how he came to be released. He was not taken before any judge after the coroner's inquest or was any formality looking to his release taken. He was simply told he could go and he don't know who imparted this information to him. He says he had nothing to do with the burning of Palmetto in February and if Cotton made a confession he (Watts) knew nothing of it. He still maintains that there were but twenty men in the mob.

Bryan With the Hibernians

Bloomington, Ill., March 16.—William J. Bryan tonight addressed a large audience at the coliseum. He had been invited to take part in the St. Patrick's day exercises under the auspices of the Ancient order of Hibernians, but could not be here tomorrow so the celebration was held tonight. Bryan was introduced by ex-Vice President Stevenson, as "the foremost statesman of the time."

"You've heard of him before, you will hear of him again," said Mr. Stevenson. This expression was received with great applause, which was redoubled as Mr. Bryan arose.

The greater portion of his address was an argument against imperialism.

Tonight Mr. Bryan was shown a telegram from New York in which it was suggested the probability of his acceptance of an invitation to a banquet to be held on Jefferson's birthday, by adherents to the Chicago platform as a rival of the banquet to the Democratic Club. He said: "I never heard of the Jefferson day banquet until now. As to the other banquet, I have written a letter to August Belmont in reply to his invitation. The public can learn my decision from him."

Not one child dies where ten formerly died from croup. People have learned the value of One Minute Cough Cure and use it for severe lung and throat troubles. It immediately stops coughing. It never fails. R. R. Bellamy.

Kipling Resumes Literary Work

New York, March 16.—Rudyard Kipling is steadily improving. He was moved today from his room on the second floor a suit on the floor above, which has been in readiness for him for several days. He will have more sunshine there and the apartments are brighter than those he has been occupying.

Mr. Kipling is already at work again. His tremendous energy has already asserted itself, and he has tackled yachts. A message was sent to a well known publishing house today for some books on yachts, yacht building and points about the building and sailing of this class of craft. Books were sent to the author's room.

Spain Secures a Loan

Madrid, March 16.—The Spanish government has concluded a loan of thirty million pesetas with the banking house of Urquijo. The money was handed over yesterday and will be devoted to paying the arrears due the Spanish troops which have served in Cuba.

The queen-regent tonight signed the decrees dissolving the cortes, convoking the new parliament and authorizing the payment of arrears of pay to repatriated troops.

THE CONDITIONS IN CUBA

No Organization to be Recognized by Our Authorities—The Philadelphia Reaches Apia—A Week's Sea Drill for the Naval Reserves

Washington, March 16.—There has been further telegraphic correspondence between General Brooke and the war department regarding conditions in Cuba, with the result that hereafter General Brooke will confine himself wholly within the terms of the resolution adopted by congress before the war. No government, organizatino, or set of men will be recognized. The United States government will deal directly with the people of Cuba. In the same connection, it is regarded as important that the census which has been determined upon, should be taken so as to ascertain the resident citizens of the island. The Cuban assembly will be dealt with as any other organization. If its sessions provoke riot and disturbances it will be dispersed like any other disorderly body. If the assembly gets in the way of the United States authority in the preservation of the peace and tranquility of the island, then the assembly or any other set of men must in the language of the American police "move on."

The war department has received the following:

"Guantanamo, March 16.

"Adjutant General, Washington:

"Private Robert T. Tanksley, Company H, Third United States volunteers, died at Santa Rosa yesterday at 12 M., gunshot, murdered. RAY, "Colonel."

THE PHILADELPHIA AT APIA.

Admiral Kautz has reported the arrival at Apia of the cruiser Philadelphia March 6th. He made no mention of political affairs.

SEA DRILL FOR NAVAL MILITIA.

The navy department today announced the itinerary of the auxiliary cruiser Prairie, which will be devoted this summer to actual practice cruising for the benefit of the naval militia of the Atlantic coast states. The cruise will commence at New Orleans April 10th, ending at Massachusetts about October 1st, giving the naval militia of each of the coast states a full week of actual sea drill. This is the first time that the department has been able to devote a vessel exclusively to the use of the militia and it is considered the greatest aid to this branch of the service that has ever been attempted.

THE POPE'S HEALTH

Conflicting Statements as to His Condition

Rome, March 16.—The Messagero today says the pope shows signs of increasing weakness and that his physicians are very watchful.

Professor Mazzoni and Dr. Lapponi, the pope's physicians, deny all the alarmist rumors that have been in circulation regarding the condition of his holiness. They declare that the wound made by the recent operation is about healed; that the pope's lungs and heart are absolutely healthy and that his weakness is not more than is natural in a nonagenarian.

On the other hand the newspapers print a variety of reports. While the Tribune states that his holiness has resumed his usual avocations, giving audiences, etc., the Opinione declares that he had several fainting fits during the day and the Fanfulla avers that weaknes and other signs of breaking up are increasing.

A Fatal Election Riot

Hot Springs, Ark., March 16.—Five lives were lost here at 6 o'clock this evening in a factional fight over the coming mayoralty election. The dead are: Tom Nolen, chief of police; Tom Gosley, captain of police; James Hart, detective; John Henkley, driver of a beer wagon; Louis Williams, son of Sheriff Williams. The shooting occurred on Central avenue, a principal thoroughfare. Saloons have been closed by the police and considerable excitement prevails.

The sheriff was a warm supporter of the regular democratic nominee, while Nolen, Hart and Gosley were supporting an opposition candidate.

Early in the afternoon shots were exchanged between Sheriff Williams and his son John, of the one side, and Sergeant Gosley, on the other, but no was injured.

After this, both parties determined to have it out. Nolen, Hart and Gosley were walking south on Central avenue at about 5:30 o'clock when they met Sheriff Williams and his two sons, John and Coffey and Ed. Spears. No one can tell who fired the first shot, but in a moment there was a general fusilade, in which forty or fifty shots were exchanged. When it was over, Nolen, Hart, Gosley and Hinkle, a noncombatant, were dead, and John Williams was mortally wounded. He died an hour later. Louis Hinkle attempted to separate the combatants when the fight opened. He was shot in the head and died instantly.

Sparks

The postmaster general has issued an order constituting Tampa, Fla., an exchange office for the money order business of Cuba. The business has been done heretofore at New York city.

Baron Russell, of Killowen, lord chief justice of England, has been appointed to succeed the late Baron Herschell on the Venezuelan arbitration commission.

Joseph Medill, proprietor of The Chicago Tribune, dies at San Antonio, Texas.

The British steamer Brator, ashore at Cape Henry, was floated at 10:45 p. m. Thursday.

Joe Walcott, the colored pugilist, knocks out Billy Edwards, of Australia, at the Broadway Athletic Club in the thirteenth, of which was to have been a twenty round bout.

A. C. Fine, of Norfolk, Va., is elected one of the sovereign managers of the sovereign camp, Woodmen of the Dorld.

Benjamin P. Hutchinson, at one time the leading grain speculator in the United States, died Thursday night at Lake Geneva, Wis.

No change is reported in the senatorial deadlocks in Pennsylvania and California. In the latter state the legislature will adjourn sine die March 18th.

A cablegram received by General Miles from Martanique announces that the condition of ex-Secretary of State Sherman is better.

In a fight over candidates in Missouri "Bud" Price, a negro, and Edward Osterhide, were shot and almost instantly killed. It is alleged that ex-Detective Jack Williams did the shooting.

The queen regent of Spain will sign the ratification of the peace treaty today.

The Sheridan Reaches Port Said

Port Said, March 16.—The United States transport Sheridan, which sailed from New York on February 19th for Manila, has arrived here.

The troops on board the Sheridan are the Twelfth United States infantry and a battalion of the Seventeenth United States infantry, the detachment being under the command of Colonel Smith.

INSURGENTS' LINE BROKEN

By Our Occupation of Pasig River.

DESPERATE FIGHTING

Results in Capture of Fortified Town of Cainti—Splendid Advance of Our Troops Under Heavy Fire—Enemy's Loss Four Hundred, Ours Light—Luzon Only Island in Control of Insurgents—Philippine Republic on its Last Legs

Manila, March 16.—1:30 p.m.—The insurgents at the outposts and in the trenches beyond Caloacan fired several volleys last night upon the Montana and Kansas volunteers and a part of the Fourth regulars, desiring, it is supposed, to discover if the American line had been thinned by the movement of General Wheaton's command. The Americans in the trenches replied warmly to the fire. N. Y. Becher, of Company A, of the Montana regiment, was killed in the engagement.

A battalion of the Twentieth regulars routed a small band of Philippinos on the Laguna road, and some sharpshooters who were firing from a house over which a French flag was flying were dislodged.

A gunboat entered the lake and silenced a one gun battery in the foot hills.

3:55 p. m.—The strongly fortified village of Cainti, northwest of Pasig, was captured today, after a desperate fight by the Twentieth regular infantry. The troops first encountered the rebel outposts in the dense jungle on the banks of the river. The enemy was dislodged after half an hour's fighting. The Americans advanced in splendid order under a heavy fire until it was necessary to volley the rebels from the trenches. The latter had a great advantage and dropped a number of our men. The Americans charged across the rice fields, making four advances on the enemy, who numbered 1,000 men, 500 of whom were entrenched, and in the face of a cross fire. Our troops, however, carried the town after four hours fighting and burned the outskirts, the rebels firing from the windows and keeping up a running fire in the streets. The Americans then withdrew in order to obtain more ammunition.

The rebels lost about 400 men and the American loss was Corporal Johnson, of Company C, and Private McAvoy, of Company L, killed. In addition the following Americans were wounded: Sergeant Check, Company L; Corporal Households, Company M; Privates Kelly, Kinney, Tinker, Company C; Privates Gilley, Varley, Company G; Private Caley, Company F; Privates Mahan, Griffiths, Lafayeth, McFarland, Company L. Artie Cluckmann, the regimental "mascot" carried a parrot into action and was wounded in the knee.

INSURGENTS CONTROL CONFINED TO LUZON.

Washington, March 16.—The following from General Otis reached the war department today:

"Manila, March 16.

"Adjutant General, Washington:

"Reports from Iloilo indicate improvement; less activity on the part of insurgents of the island. Reports from Negros most encouraging; inhabitants enthusiastic; quiet prevails throughout island, and Colonel Smith directing affairs in framing internal government. Cebu quiet, business progressing under United States protection. Reports from Samar and Leyte indicate desire of inhabitants for United States troops; these islands occupied; insurgents control confined to Luzon. The occupation of the Pasig river line with control of Laguna de Bay has cut the country occupied by the Tagalos in nearly two equal parts.

"OTIS."

PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC ABOUT TO COLLAPSE.

Minneapolis, Minn., March 16.—United States Senator Kyle, of South Dakota, said here today while en route home that President McKinley had lately received private advices to the effect that the Philippino republic was on its last legs. The senator said he had received this information from sources very near to the president and that the latter anticipated the final collapse of Aguinaldo's government and complete possession by General Otis within a few days.

"Give me a liver regulator and I can regulate the world," said a genius. The druggist handed him a bittle of DeWitt's Little Early Risers, the famous little Pills. R. R. Bellamy.

Fatal Explosion on a British Cruiser

Portsmouth, Eng., March 16.—An inquest was opened here today into the circumstances of the death of the stoker of the British first class cruiser Terrible who was killed by a boiler explosion on board the cruiser while she was on her way from Malta to Davenport. The evidence showed that during the cruise of the homeward voyage five steampipes burst and that at various times the fires had to be drawn from under three of the boilers in order to prevent disaster. The stokers and engineers were almost in a state of panic and were afraid to go on duty, not knowing at what moment an explosion might occur.

against, nothing "as a fine substitue," will "answer the purpose," or is "just as good" as One Minute Cough Cure. That is the one infallible remedy for all lung, throat or bronchial troubles. Insist vigorously upon having it if "something else" is offered you. R. R. Bellamy.

Six Men Frozen to Death

Seattle, Wash., March 16.—The steamer Excelsior, which arrived tonight from the mouth of Copper river, Alaska, brings news of the freezing to death of six men on Valdez glacier about the first of March. They were: Adolph Ehrhardt, New York; Maximilian Miller, New York; Alfred Aleeman, New York; Dr. Edward Logan, Denver; Rudolph Ellerkamp, Louisville, Ky.; August Schultz, New York. All the bodies except that of Dr. Logan were recovered and buried at Valdez. Ehrhardt, Miller and Alleeman were members of the Scientific Prospecting Company, of New York.

A Bicycle Trust

Boston, Mass., March 16.—Colonel A. A. Pope, of this city and Hartford, in an interview today, confined the report that a bicycle combination is being formed and that options on many big plants have been requested. He said that Mr. Spaulding, acting for a number of bankers, under advice of able counsel, is endeavoring to bring the manufacturers together.

The Norna Arrives at Colombo

Colombo, Ceylon, March 16.—The American schooner yacht Norna, belonging to N. J. Weaver, of the Atlantic Yacht Club, New York, reported in distress in the Red sea by the British cruiser Brisko, arrived here on Tuesday last and reported all well on board.

As the season of the year when pneumonia, la grippe, sore throat coughs, cold, catarrh, bronchitis and lung troubles are to be guarded

CORPORATION TAXATION

Under the Present Revenue Law.

CONTESTS FOR OFFICES

Suit to Try Title to Office of Labor Commissioner to be Brought in April. Soldiers Honorably Discharged from First North Carolina Volunteers. Salisbury Anxious to Secure the North and South Carolina Railroad. Sixth District in Supreme Court

Messenger Bureau,
Raleigh, N. C., March 16.

The state auditor has made the following statement to me with reference to the tax on corporate franchises in this state:

"The property of railroad corporations is assessed by the railroad commission at so much per mile. It is supposed that the value of the franchise is considered in connection with the assessment. An ad valorem tax is paid on the amount of assessment, and no other tax is levied.

"In addition to the ad valorem tax on the property owned by private corporations, a graduated franchise tax is imposed according to the amount of capital stock. The tax on a capital of $25,000 or less is $5, and it ascends by a graduating scale to $500 on a capital stock of $1,000,000.

"Banks are not subject to this franchise tax.

"Insurance companies are taxed on the gross receipts. Upon them there is no specific franchise tax.

"The franchise tax is ascertained and collected by the sheriff or tax collector of each county in which corporations are located, and paid to the state treasurer."

This statement of the provisions under the new revenue law is made timely by the fact that the press has recently published articles giving inaccurate information as to the effect of the act.

The governor has received a communication from the war department, stating that Privates William B. Bailey, Company M, First North Carolina, and Charles F. Huffman, Company C, First North Carolina, have been honorably discharged from the volunteer service in the army.

A mass meeting of the citizens of Lincolnton has been held to arrange for the reception and interment of the remains of Lieutenant Wm. E. Shipp, which will arrive in that place on Friday morning. A committee of arrangements has been appointed to carry out the details of the burial, which will be attended by many prominent citizens of this state.

J. Y. Hamrick still holds the office of labor commissioner against the protest of B. R. Lacy. Proceeedings to try the title to the office will not be regularly instituted until April, when the superior cuort convenes here; but it is believed to be a certainty that if the case of the State Prison vs. W. H. Day is decided in favor of the former by the supreme court, the contention of Hamrick will collapse and he will surrender the office peacefully.

Salisbury capitalists are endeavoring to have the North and South Carolina railway pass through Rowan and offer to subscribe for large shares of stock as an inducement.

Sixth district cases were argued before the supreme court yesterday as follows: Smith vs. Railroad, argued on motion for certiorari by Cooper, Jones & Kerr for plaintiff; Davis & Stevens for defendant. Waters vs. Waters, Commissioners vs. Best, Miller vs. Guano Company and Jenkins vs. Daniel, continued by consent. Moore vs. Railroad, argued by Allen & Dortch for plaintiff; Davis & Stevens for defendant. McMillan vs. Railroad, certiorari for defendant. State vs. Tayloe, by attorney general for the state. Slinguff vs. Holt, submitted on brief by Stevens & Beasley for plaintiff; Simmons, Pou & Ward for defendant (ten days allowed plaintiff to file brief).

Before the discovery of One Minute Cough Cure, ministers were greatly disturbed by coughing congregations. No excuse for it now. R. R. Bellamy.

THE ATLANTIC RAILROAD

The Old Board of Directors Refuse to Surrender to the New Board

(Special to the Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., March 16.—The old board of the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad have refused to surrender the office to the new board appointed by the board of internal improvements. The board contend that their terms of office do not expire until next September and, in accordance with the charter of the road the board of internal improvements have no power to remove them. The new board, nine in number, instead of the three now governing, have brought action in New Bern for removal; but it is believed the suit will come up as a case agreed, and be settled in chambers.

RUSSELLS PARDON MILL

Grinds Out Four More Pardons—Suits Begun for Offices

(Special to the Messenger.)

Raleigh, N. C., March 16.—Since March 10th the governor has pardoned Thomas and William Tanner, of Granville; Gilmer Hammond, of Rowan and Tom Faison, of Sampson.

Barnes Brothers this evening had a summons issued against all the members of the joint printing committee, and against Edwards & Broughton, Uzzell and Cyrus Thompson and cite them to appear here March 30th before Judge Brown.

C. C. Cherry has had a summons issued against J. R. Burns to appear at the next term of the superior court. This hearing is for the office of keeper of the capitol.

For frost bites, burns, indolent sores, eczema, skin diseases, and especially Piles, DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve stands first and best. Look out for dishonest people who try to imitate and counterfeit it. It's their endorsement of a good article. Worthless goods are not imitated. Get DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. R. R. Bellamy.

RATIONS FOR THE CUBANS

Hereafter to be Paid for From Customs Receipts—Inefficiency of the Havana Police

Havanna, March 16.—An order was issued today by the United States military authorities to the effect that all rations distributed to the Cuban poor, after the supply now on hand is exhausted, shall be charged against the customs receipts of the province in which they are distributed. Monthly requisitions will be made as heretofore, and the United States authorities will supply, buying in the Cuban markets, such articles as sugar and rice, if they can be obtained to better advantage here. The rest of the rations will be bought in the United States.

General Fitzhugh Lee has returned here from Cienfuegos.

Chief of Police Monecal, owing to the recent censures of the force, carries his resignation in his pocket. He has tendered it two or three times, but on reconsideration, has withdrawn it.

The new police force has unfortunately created a bad impression. During the last few days the policemen have shown timidity in handling people. They appear to be undetermined and undecided what to do or how to do it. People have no respect for them and pay little attention to their orders, which are not enforced. Besides this, the force has no past traditions, esprit de corps or experience. Since McCullaugh's departure the only American peace official has been Detective Crowley, and he is concerned with the detective bureau alone.

There have been several amusing incidents showing lack of respect for the force, and several of the policemen have asked for a detail of American soldiers to help them arrest law breakers, saying our soldiers are the only men the law-breakers will obey. It will take some time for the police to regain the prestige they have lost.

THE LAW DEFIED

Negro Oystermen Banded Together to Prevent Arrest for Violating the Law. A Battle Expected

Richmond, Va., March 16.—Attempts of officers to arrest negroes for depredating on private oyster beds in York river, just below West Point, have met with organized resistance, and may result in bloodshed. Some forty negroes are banded together to resist service of the warrants. The state oyster police steamer is anchored in the stream near the scene of the trouble, ready to open fire, and upon consultation with the sheriff of New Kent, who was here today, the governor has ordered a section of the Howitzers of this city to hold itself in readiness to assist the civil authorities and the oyster police. The sheriff went back tonight, but seemed to think that there might be bloodshed before he got home.

To prevent La Grippe take a dose or two of Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine daily.

Base Ball Clubs Come South

Charleston, S. C., March 16.—Manager Day of the New York ball club and fourteen players arrive here today via the Clyde steamer Comanche. The men in the party were Doyle, George Davis, Van Haltren, Tiernan, Warner, Garrick, Puhl, Doheny, Grady, Gleason, Hartman, Foster, Ira Davis and Brampton. Manager Day has not Heard from Rusie, Meekin and Seymour. The team will remain here practicing until April 6th.

THE PHILADELPHIAS AT CHARLOTTE.

Charlotte, N. C., March 16.—The Philadelphia base ball club arrived here this morning. The club will begin practicing at Latta park tomorrow, and this will be kept up daily until April 12th, when the club will go to Richmond to play an exhibition game. Manager Shettsline will divide his men into two teams, the regulars and the Yanagans, and will have a match game each day. A special hot room with shower baths has been fitted up for the club at the Central hotel.

WASHINGTON AT NEWPORT NEW.

Newport News, Va., March 16.—The Washington base ball team arrived at Phoebus today and have taken up their quarters at Clerk's sporting place. The men went into practice a few hours after their arrival, spending two hours on the field. The men look in fine condition. Their first match game will be with Yale in about a week.

Grip makes one sad, weary and restless. Dr. Miles' Restorative Nervine brings rest.

Volunteers to Return Home in Style

Savannah, Ga., March 16.—The Third Connecticut volunteers, which will be mustered out on Monday, are making arrangements to go home in style With wages and travel pay, the men will receive nearly $100 each. Company C, from Norwich, has engaged the full berth space of the steamship Tallahassee to New York. Companies F, from Danielson, and E, from Willimantic, have engaged special through trains. Company G, from Putnam, will probably have a similar train and other companies may follow suit. The men seem disposed to spend their money in new clothes and transportation.

Killed With His Own Pistol

Columbus, Texas, March 16.—John Scott and a deputy sheriff engaged in an altercation today when Scott remarked that if he had a revolver he would fight. Ex-Sheriff Reese offered him a revolver and the shooting began. Reese and Charles Boeme, a by-stander, were killed and a small boy named Williams was badly injured.

General Merritt at Fort Monroe

Newport News, Va., March 16.—General Wesley Merritt and wife arrived at Fort Monroe from Washington today and are stopping at the Hotel Chamberlain. A salute of thirteen guns was fired from the fort as the steamer bearing the general turned her nose ashore.

Smallpox in Arkansas Legislature

Little Rock, Ark., March 16.—Members of the legislature were panic-stricken today when it was announced that physicians had diagnosed the illness of Senator Lankford as smallpox. After an half hour's debate the house voted to vaccinate all its members.

Mrs. Place Notified of Her Fate

New York, March 16.—Warden Sage, of the Sing Sing state prison, today informed Mrs. Place, the murderess, of Governor Roosevelt's refusal to commute her sentence of death. She received the information without emotion, but later broke down and cried.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER.
ABSOLUTELY PURE
Makes the food more delicious and wholesome
ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

NEW SPRING GOODS
ARE ON DISPLAY AT
THE C. W. POLVOGT CO.
No. 9 North Front Street.

Spring Silks a Furor.

Not one whit too strong an expression. The showing has created a furor among the women of this town. They appreciate newness, correctness, prettiness—and extreme values. Here's another lot that will be eagerly sought by fastidious women who appreciate economy.

Black Satins, Black Rhadimas, Black Peaudesoir, Black Faille, Black Gro Grain, Black Ornnour, Mlack Fancy Silks, Fancy Colored Waist Silks, Fancy Colored Dress Silks, 500 yards Wash Silks, at 35c a yard.

The New Dress Goods.

Every worthy sort, every proper style of dress material for Spring wear is here—or on the way. The on-the-ways will be here soon, too; and then this dress goods stock will be the most complete that you or we have ever known. If you would be posted on dress goods newness you must see this showing.

Twenty-five pieces of Black Crepons 50c to $2.00 per yard. We have the largest stock of Black Goods in the City in whip cords, Reps, Almas, Henrietta, Serges and 20 styles of Novelties.

SEVENTY-FIVE PIECES OF TEQUES SUITABLE FOR WAISTS AND SHIRTS. LARGE ASSORTMENT OF DIMITIES, ORGANDIES, LAWNS, GRENEDENES AND OTHER SUMMER GOODS.

FULL ASSORTMENT OF DRESS TRIMMINGS IN ALPIQUES, BRAIDS JETS AND RIBBONS.

WRITE OR SAMPLES AND MENTION THE MESSENGER.

THE C. W. POLVOGT CO.

SOLE AGENTS FOR THE W. B. CORSETS AND STANDARD PATTERNS.

THE BOOM IS ON!

AND IT HAS HIT OUR

MERCHANT TAILORING

Department Our Attractive Stock of Foreign and Domestic Suitings Attracts the Attention of Nicely Dressed Men.

A VERY HANDSOME LINE OF NEWLY MADE

NECKWEAR

Was Opened Last Week.

READY-MADE CLOTHING

Will Arrive, We Expect, This We

Look at our FOOTWEAR, at nominal prices. UNDERWEAR next week.

MUNSON & CO.

..JOHNSON'S..

Closing Out Sale

Will Be Continued.

The Greatest Opportunity Ever offered Buyers in the City to Secure Splendid Bargains.

Entire Stock at Cost.

NO. 111 MARKET STREET.

A MESSAGE...
FROM OUR NEW YORK BUYER

NEW YORK, March 10th 1899.

J. H. REHDER & CO., Wilmington. N. C.:

Dear Sirs: Was very fortunate to attend the Great peremptory auction sale today of 14,000 Rolls of Matting. Purchased 500 Rolls as prices lowest ever known. Most of them will arrive on Tuesday's steamer. Balance the following week.

WE WILL PLACE ON SALE SEA MLESS MATTING AT 10c.
35c BEAUTIFUL (CARPET PATTERN) COTTON WARP AT 19c.
120 DOZ. LATEST STYLE BELTS AT 50c ON THE DOLLAR.
NEW SILK WAIST PATTERNS AT 75c and 89c PER YARD.
NEW LINE OF SPRING CLOTHING ARRIVING DAILY. GIVE US A TRIAL.

J. H. REHDER & CO
617 and 619 North Fourth Street.

Don't Be Caught Napping

YOU WILL LET A GOOD THING GET AWAY FROM YOU UNLESS YOU WAKE UP OR COME TO A REALIZATION OF THE FACT—THAT THE BEST STOCK OF FOOTWEAR—THE GREATEST VARIETY OF STYLES, THE NEWEST AND BEST FINISHED GOODS, AND THE LOWEST PRICES IN THE CITY (GRADE FOR GRADE) IS IN OUR HOUSE, AND YOU SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR SALE TO SUPPLY YOUR WANTS.

GEO. R. FRENCH & SONS, 108 North Front Street

HIGH GRADE FOODSTUFFS

from every corner of the earth you will find at all times in our choice stock of Fancy and Staple Groceries, Hams, Bacon, Fresh Dairy Products, Cakes and Crackers. For your Lenten meal our Mackerel and Salt Mullets will be found tempting and nourishing.

A Fine Lot of Sweet Potatoes
20 cts. per Peck.

THE KING GROCERY CO.
B. F. KING, Manager.