

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad deal has given the papers plenty of speculative material for over a week and still holds its own.

Bullscrape is the name of a locality in Mitchell county. It is a voting precinct, and got its name from the assembling of the herds thereabouts when the country open, unfenced, and when the cattle ranged the country, without let or hindrance. It was celebrated for its grass—as it is now—and the bulls would meet, paw and scrape the ground. Hence the name, which the people would gladly be rid of, but it sticks like wax.

It is Bro. A. L. Williams, a Methodist, who rises to a question of great importance. Hear him:

I have long thought that our church was countenancing some practices which would subject it to adverse criticism. It seems to me such things as raffling articles for the benefit of churches and Sunday schools should be stopped. I am not prepared to give any elaborate argument, but as I feel interested I would like for some capable man of the church to prepare an article, giving the pros. and cons. of the question. I notice our secular papers of late are criticising it quite a good deal. I am inclined to think it has a tendency to beget a fondness in children and young people to take chances in lotteries and to countenance the practice among the older people. Please give us something on this subject in the Raleigh Christian Advocate and oblige a friend and brother Methodist.

Gambling is the getting of money or valuables by a game or chance, and it makes no sort of difference as to who so obtains goods, whether they are noble or ignoble, pious or impious, it is flat, bold gambling, and the sooner the churches and Sunday schools quit the nefarious practice the better it will be for their honor and the glory of God. Fact.

Simon Cameron says that it is true that at the outbreak of the rebellion Gen. Robert E. Lee was tendered the command of the Union army.—Exchange.

For some reason the fact that Col. Robert E. Lee was tendered the command of the Union army at the outset of the war of 1861-5 seems to have been a recent revelation to the Southern people, and old Simon Cameron, of Pennsylvania, is authority for it.

If I do not greatly disremember it was patent to all the Northern people. I believe it was made public in the newspapers; if not, at any rate an interview between General Winfield Scott and Colonel Lee was made public. Scott and Lee, when things had so far progressed as to convince all people North and South that war was inevitable, consulted over the matter, and were closeted for a space of two hours, and it is my understanding that at this memorable meeting General Scott urged Lee unhesitatingly to espouse the government side of the controversy.

It is my understanding that this meeting was induced by the sending in to the war office his resignation by Col. Lee. Gen. Scott requested him to withdraw his resignation, and urged and begged him to remain true to the Union. It is understood that Lee declined the proffered command because it would probably compel him to make war upon his native State—Virginia. He was willing to remain neutral, but he could not bring himself to the point of warring against his kinsfolk, and his resignation was reluctantly accepted.

I also understand that, when

Lee took service under Jefferson Davis, he stipulated that he should not be required to go out of Virginia to fight. If so, we can account for his doing so was the changed state of affairs which upset all calculations made at the very beginning of the outbreak of the war. OLD MAN.

THE CHEROKEE INDIANS.

It is not generally known that some of the Cherokees still reside in the mountains of North Carolina. Their settlement is not far from Asheville, a few miles further to the South. The isolated mountains still give them many a free hunting ground.—Exchange.

The above paragraph may be somewhat misleading, in that the Cherokee Indians in North Carolina get their living by hunting. They are on a reservation in Swain county, and while their squaws labor in the fields the men assist them. The writer knows whereof he speaks, for he has seen them. They live in a wild, picturesque, beautiful and productive part of our naturally rich State, and of course delight in the chase, which they pursue to some extent. Yet, they are civilized and educated. They live in a primitive way, about as agricultural whites live in a new country, away from the influence of towns.

We remember that, some years ago, the Agricultural and Mechanical Society of Greene county, Tennessee, wanted to go out of the track of years ago and get up some new attraction to "draw" the multitude to their fair and the "quarters" into their treasury. So they sent an agent over to the Cherokees and hired a deputation to come over to their fair and play a game of ball a la Indian, fight a sham battle and give some other exhibitions of their skill, and the ruse took mightily. The Indians pleased the largest multitude ever there assembled and the directors came out way ahead for their financial venture.

General Lee's Generosity.

Here's an incident of General Robert E. Lee that has never been published. Col. Chapman, the internal Revenue officer, was Colonel of Mosby's regiment. Frequently Mosby was off making private scoutings, accompanied by only a few trusty men. In such cases, he left Col. Chapman in command. Early in January in 1865, the Colonel went to Petersburg to see Gen. Lee about moving a part of Mosby's command for the remainder of the winter down near Kinsdale, on the Potomac river. While the Colonel was talking to Gen. Lee they were interrupted by the arrival of a special courier. The day was very cold. There had been rain for several days. This day the rain had fallen in torrents. The war was drawing to a close and rations and clothing were very scarce. The courier was wretchedly clad. He had no overcoat. His suit was very much worn and was soaking wet, for he had ridden many miles that day in the drenching rain. General Lee drew a chair to the small wood fire and bade the man take a seat. When he had concluded his errand and was thoroughly warmed he arose to go. General Lee glanced at him almost furtively, as if he felt that the soldier was ashamed to have his poor attire observed.

"Are you returning at once to your General?" inquired General Lee.

Yes, sir, was the response, if my horse has finished feeding.

It is still raining very hard, said Gen. Lee; have you no rubber coat?

Oh, that don't matter, General, was the evasive but brave answer.

Then, says Colonel Chapman, General Lee remained silent a moment, walked to the wall where his rubber coat hung, took it from the wall and gave it to the soldier, who protested in vain against General Lee's depriving himself. I'll tell you, continued Colonel Chapman, there were many generals in the army who would have risked their lives for their men, but Lee is the only one I saw part with a gum coat on a rainy day in dead winter, and that to a private

who was not immediately connected with Lee's command.—Macon Telegraph.

Preparing for the Grave.

Mrs. Nancy Byrd, who lives near Lilesville, was taken, during the early part of the year, with what she deemed her last illness. On Saturday, the 26th, she sent to the store for goods out of which to make her garments. When the goods arrived she examined them carefully, gave minute directions for their cutting and making, and superintended the work during its progress. When finished, she dismissed the subject from her mind and composedly awaited the end. On Wednesday night she said to a friend who had just arrived, after having travelled many miles to see her, James, I want to turn over. She was carefully placed in the desired position, and in less than five minutes passed away without a struggle. No better argument is there in favor of the Christian religion than the calm death of those who embrace it in youth and live in accordance with it throughout their days, as did the deceased. Mrs. Byrd was born August 2, 1817, and was therefore 70 years, 4 months and 24 days old.—Wadesboro Intelligencer.

The Trenton (Tenn.) Herald speaks thus of a remarkable Gibson county Methodist: "There is a man in our district who goes to church almost every Sunday, takes nothing with him to write with, but on his return he sits down and pens every word of the sermon verbatim et literatim. He has all the sermons that have been delivered by the ministers of the Methodist church in this part of the country for years, including Ashley Wilson, Ephraim Hamilton, Evans, Hayes, M. M. Taylor, Sullivan, Witt, and others. Any one may see the sermons at his pleasure. This man's name is Thomas Cartwright. You may call this what you may, but I am sure that it is a faculty that few possess."

Down in Texas they are no more afraid of the English language than a hungry man is of a buttered biscuit. This is how the ungallant vernacular cascades from the lips of a man who has had full and uncommonly sad experience: As a great moral agent a woman is a yard wide and all wool, but as a book agent she cuts a swath a mile wide and never misses a victim. We would much rather have friends pour a pitcher of common molasses down our back than to be interviewed by a lady book agent whose mouth resembles a crack in a lemon and whose nose looks like an exclamation point in a whirl-wind.

Owing to the fact that the mints of the country have stopped the manufacture of gold dollars these coins are commanding a premium—in some instances of twenty-five cents. The manufacture of \$2.50 gold pieces has also been stopped, and these command a premium of five per cent.

TWINKLINGS.

Every thief would like to keep himself unspotted.—Texas Siftings.

The whale has four (4) stomachs, yet he never strikes for higher wages.—Washington Post.

Ananias was killed but he left posterity that finally settled in Philadelphia.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

No man will permit a stranger to lie about his friends. That is a special privilege of friendship.—Texas Siftings.

The Missouri river is sixty miles wide at Bismarck. Now is the time for Dakota to float into the Union.—New York World.

Peace is the greatest blessing known among nations, but it is a costly luxury at nearly \$1,000,000,000 a year.—New York Times.

Mayor Hewitt, of New York City, has caused some excitement by appointing a Knight of Labor president of the health board. The man appointed is said to be opposed to strikes.

All good is reciprocal; it is full of compensation in return for its exercise. You can not perform any act in the spirit of kindness without awakening kindness in others, and bringing increased good to your own heart.

Constipation

Is a universal and most troublesome disorder. It causes Headache, Mental Depression, impairs the Sight and Hearing, destroys the Appetite, and, when long continued, causes Enlargement of the Liver, Inflammation of the Bowels, and Piles. Constipation is speedily cured by Ayer's Pills.

For a number of months I was troubled with Constipation. In consequence of which I suffered from Loss of Appetite, Dyspepsia, and a disordered liver. My eyes also troubled me. I was compelled to wear a shade over them, and, at times, was unable to bear exposure to the light. I was entirely

CURED BY USING

three boxes of Ayer's Pills. I have no hesitation in pronouncing this medicine to be the best cathartic ever made.—James Eccles, Poland, Ohio.

I suffered from Constipation, and, consequently, from Headache, Indigestion, and Piles, for years. Ayer's Pills, which I took at the suggestion of a friend, have given me effectual relief. I commenced taking this remedy two months ago, and am now free from Constipation, the removal of which has caused my other troubles to disappear, and greatly improved my general health.—W. Koeliet, Amherst, Mass.

I suffered from Constipation, which assumed such an obstinate form that I feared it would cause a stoppage of the bowels. Two boxes of Ayer's Pills cured me, completely.—D. Burke, Saco, Me.

Ayer's Pills,

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists and Dealers in Medicine.

M. K. CALLUM. TO ARRIVE, AND IN STOCK THIS WEEK. Ham Sausage, Dried Beef, Pigs Feet, Breakfast Strips, Hams, Shoulders, 15 Cases Bananas, Oranges, Lemons, Potatoes, 15 barrels Early Rose seed—Catawba Grapes, Sweet Potatoes, Apples, Crackers and Cakes, Canned Goods, Pickles by the doz., No. 1 Mulletts, White Fish, Sugar, Coffee, Molasses. A GOOD STOCK OF COUNTRY PRODUCE ON HAND ALL THE TIME. Respectfully, M. K. CALLUM, T. S. Shelton's Old Stand, Alexander Building. Please Call and get Prices and Compare Goods.

Your Children

Are constantly exposed to danger from Colds, Whooping Cough, Croup, and diseases peculiar to the throat and lungs. For such ailments, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, promptly administered, affords speedy relief and cure.

As a remedy for Whooping Cough, with which many of our children were afflicted, we used, during the past winter, with much satisfaction, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. For this affection, we consider this preparation the most efficacious of all the medicines which have come to our knowledge.—Mary Parkhurst, Preceptress, Home for Little Wanderers, Doncaster, Md.

My children have been peculiarly subject to attacks of Croup, and I failed to find any effective remedy until I commenced administering Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. This preparation relieves the difficulty of breathing and invariably cures the complaint.—David G. Starks, Chatham, Columbia Co., N. Y.

I have used Ayer's Cherry Pectoral in my family for many years, and have found it especially valuable in Whooping Cough. This medicine allays all irritation, prevents inflammation from extending to the lungs, and quickly subdues any tendency to Lung Complaint.—J. B. Wellington, Plainville, Mich.

I find no medicine so effective, for Croup and Whooping Cough, as Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It was the means of saving the life of my little boy, only six months old, carrying him safely through the worst case of Whooping Cough I ever saw.—Jane Malone, Piney Flats, Tenn.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists. Price 25c; six bottles, \$1.

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