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## SCENES IN THE PENITENTIARY.

### HOW NEW CONVICTS ARE RECEIVED.

An Observer Representative Takes a Look at Things Inside the Big Walls—Flaking Shirts—Men at the Machines and Women in the Field—Shirts Made in the Penitentiary Shipped to New York.

Charlotte Observer, 27th.

RALEIGH, Feb. 26.—A few months ago there was ceaseless ridicule of the penitentiary. That was during the reign of John R. Smith, gone, never to return. Families were then quartered in the prison—a most unseemly sight. Now there is a business-like air about things and save for a lack of neatness in the rear enclosure and the dangerous old log stables, it is difficult to find fault with the appearance. Thursday afternoon, your correspondent spent a couple of hours in the prison. It is a quiet place, and the few convicts now quartered there seem almost lost amidst the vast buildings.

While chatting with Warden Russell, a rattle of wheels is heard, and a sheriff and two convicts are driven under the arch of the portal. The convicts, negro men, shamble in and stand awkwardly while the commitment papers are examined. They are in sharp contrast with a veteran convict, who stands near, and who, in fact, opened the door for them. The veteran, well set up, has in comparison the air of a soldier long used to barrack life, while the new arrivals have all the ungainliness of recruits. The sheriff gets his receipt, and slips off the handcuffs. "Behave yourselves, boys," he says in farewell, and the new arrivals are marched into the basement of one of the great tiers of cells. The barber takes possession of them, and off goes their hair and their mustaches, off goes their clothes, which a veteran convict, handling gingerly and holding far from him, carries to the engine room to be thrown into the fire. Next, the newcomers go into a hot bath, and then are given a treatment of mercurial ointment, to rid them of any souvenirs of their jail life. The last process is the donning of new clothes, from head to foot, and there they stand, cleaner than ever before, and in the stripes. They smile, even the younger one grins and he is a murderer, who gets 15 years.

But the objective point of the visit is the new shirt factory. It is the last of several prison enterprises. Years ago, say 20, there used to be a local shoe factory, later there was some making of cells for jails, of plug tobacco, of horse collars, and of shoes again. But the Knights of Labor, once so powerful in this district that they elected a Congressman, but now not even a memory, stopped manufactures in the penitentiary, by searing officials on political grounds. The shirt factory is in the chapel, in the east wing. It is well lighted and spacious and lofty. In each of its two departments are 28 sewing machines, operated by a steam engine specially put up.

The beginning is in a small way, and only 15 convicts are at work. They are making negligee shirts, colored, with collars and cuffs attached, and Mr. Hall, who is the representative of the New York contractors, says the convicts are learning as quickly as any men he ever saw. One tiny convict, a pale-faced white youth of 15, attracts attention. He is found to be Clay McCarthy, of Asheville, who murdered a young playmate at Asheville. He operates a machine which cuts and makes button holes with wonderful celerity and neatness, but just now he is sewing on buttons. After a while the shirts will be laundered in the penitentiary, but for the present Hilderbrand & Co. will ship them to New York. Instructors are scattered here and there among the whirring machines.

Observing that only male convicts are employed at the machines, the question was asked if women would not be employed. In reply it was said: "Most probably not. Some of them are at work in the garden and some in the laundry, and do you know that they are better field hands than men, save as to ploughing." Superintendent Hall says that in a little while 100 dozen shirts a day will be made. The penitentiary gets 24 cents a dozen

for making them.

Leaving the shirt factory, a stop is made in two of the cell "blocks." The cells rise in tiers, four stories high, each cell is a mass of masonry, with a casing over all the brick building which people see from the outside. Just now whitewashers are at work, and all the iron work is being painted a glossy black. The whites have one row of cells, the negroes another; they are never mixed.

The garden is the last place visited, and on the way to it, Warden Russell says it is going to be one of the finest in the State—"thanks to Old Master." This is the universal prison name for Gardener Ponton, who was brought here from one of the convict farms on the Roanoke. Warden Russell says he does not see how the old garden, of barely four acres, sufficed, and adds: "Now we have 40 acres, and will try to feed all our prisoners therefrom. There will be ten acres in Irish potatoes, a like amount in corn and peas, also in sweet potatoes."

Brickmaking has always been the chief industry at the penitentiary. This year more ought to be done in this line than ever before, so great is the demand in Raleigh for brick. All those made in the prison last year have been sold here. F. A. OLDS.

### POLICY OF ADMINISTRATION.

Senator Hanna Says it Seems to be Wisely Conservative.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—Senator Hanna, in an interview today said:

"A serious condition is confronting us, but so far as I know there will be no hasty action.

"I have my belief that the destruction of the Maine was due to accident on the same information possessed by the public. I have no information other than that, and so far as I know any private citizen is as well informed as the government concerning the cause of the accident."

On the policy of the administration Mr. Hanna said:

"The policy of the administration seems to be wisely conservative. I cannot say what Congress will do in the event of decisive action by the President, but as for myself he will have my enthusiastic support."

To a question the Senator replied that he did not believe any hasty action would be taken, even if the board of inquiry should decide that the Maine was wrecked by other cause than accident.

"The policy of the administration will, I think, receive the support of the country," concluded the Senator. "This is a time when patriotism and judgment should be combined.—Washington Post.

### The Sure La Grippe Cure.

There is no use suffering from this dreadful malady if you will only get the right remedy. You are having pain all through your body, your liver is out of order, have no appetite, no life or ambition, have a bad cold, in fact are completely used up. Electric Bitters are the only remedy that will give you prompt and sure relief. They act directly on your Liver, Stomach and Kidneys, tone up the whole system and make you feel like a new being. They are guaranteed to cure or price refunded. For sale at Shuford's Drug Store only 50 cents per bottle.

### The Weather Calendar.

The Press has received the Cardui Weather Chart and Calendar for 1898 from the Chattanooga Medicine Co., manufacturers of McElree's Wine of Cardui and Theford's Black-Draught. This is one of the best calendars published. It consists of twelve sheets of paper, 13x20 inches in size, all fastened together with a gift tin strip and a brass loop hanger. Each sheet contains the calendar for one month in large figures that can be read across any room. Under the figures patent weather signals indicating Prof. De Voe's Weather Forecasts for every day in the year appear. The moon's changes and legal holidays are also shown. We understand a few copies of it can be secured by sending 10 one-cent postage stamps to the Chattanooga Medicine Co., Chattanooga, Tenn.

**CASTORIA**  
The family  
signature  
of *Chas. H. Fletcher* is on every wrapper.

## WASHINGTON LETTER.

### UNCLE SAM WELL PREPARED FOR WAR.

Mr. Pearson Intends Putting the House on Record on the Civil Service Question.

(Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28, 1898.—Few men occupying the position of President McKinley at this critical time would be able to withstand the temptation to do a little spread eagle posing by catering, in talk, at least, to the unmistakable fighting sentiment of the country. Whether he has been tempted to do so, I cannot say, but that he has not done so is known to all the world, and it reflects great credit upon him as a man and as an official and has, beyond a doubt, increased the respect for the U. S. by all civilized nations. Not a line officially indicating what the verdict of the naval court of inquiry will be has been received by either the President or Secretary Long, but that very fact has tended to convince the public that the investigation has already shown the court that the explosion, which wrecked the Maine was not accidental and that it did not occur inside the vessel; whether it has convinced the President and Cabinet, their active preparations for war show better than anything said for publication by any of them. These preparations are for the purpose of putting the country in a condition to hold Spain to a strict accountability, if the verdict of the court shall be that the Maine was blown up from the outside, as nearly everybody now expects that it will be. Holding Spain responsible is likely to cause war, and although not one warlike word has been uttered, either by the President or by any member of his cabinet, this country is quite well prepared for war.

Our Navy is equal to that of Spain in guns and armament, and as superior to it in fighting qualities as an American is to a Spaniard, and the following remarks made by a War Department official will give some idea of our coast defenses: "From Portland, Me., to the southernmost point on the Atlantic coast, big guns and mortar batteries have been planted, and, in case of war, an invading force could not land on Uncle Sam's soil, without suffering severely. The Pacific coast has not been neglected by any means, and a hostile fleet seeking an entrance to a harbor anywhere along that coast line, would find violent opposition. One good result of the present critical times, if it only amounts to a scare, is that there will be less opposition to appropriation for coast defenses and for needs of the army and navy."

Justice Harlan, of the U. S. Supreme Court made the following reference to the loss of the Maine, in a lecture to the law students of Columbia University: "It is idle for any man to say he knows how that calamity occurred, and any man belittles his nature and lowers himself in the estimation of his fellowmen when he expresses the anxiety that it will turn out that it was treachery rather than an accident. Brave, generous men do not want to think so badly of their fellowmen. We don't want to believe that that was an act of treachery and duplicity; we hope it will turn out otherwise. And we ought all to have his feeling that if it turns out to be accidental, we should rejoice; if it turns out not to be accidental, we will not hear any more of North, South, East or West, no more of republicans, democrats or populists. We will hear only of Americans."

The President and Secretary of the Navy believe that it would be both fitting and patriotic for Congress to authorize the building of a new warship, to be as good as it can be made, to be named Maine, but they also regard as wise the opinion of the men in Congress who have studied this subject, that it will be best to wait until full particulars of the loss of the Maine can be carefully studied before deciding whether it would be advisable to build anymore vessels of the battleship type.

Representative Pearson, of N. C., indignantly resents the imputation, made in some quarters, that the fight made by the republicans of the House to secure modification of the civil service law and rules, in which he has been conspicuous among the leaders, is a sham. He says he intends, if within his power, and he thinks it is, to see

that every member of the House is put on record on this question before the close of the present session. There is reason for the belief that President McKinley would have issued an order materially modifying the civil service rules before this, had not his attention been so fully taken up with matters following upon the de Lome letter and the destruction of the Maine.

The failure to secure unanimous consent for the House to take up the bill, already passed by the Senate, providing for the enlistment of two additional regiments of artillery, in order that the government might properly man the batteries of heavy guns which have been planted in connection with our sea coast defenses, owing to democratic objections, speaks much louder to observant persons than do the war whoops which certain democrats have recently been indulging in. This temporary delay will not affect the bill, which will be passed this week, but it should serve as a pointer for all intelligent persons.

### Sam Jones is Out of It.

ATLANTA, Feb. 24.—The Rev. Sam Jones has withdrawn from the gubernatorial contest, but declares that he reserves the right to re-enter it at any time he sees fit. He gives as his reason the lack of character in the State Democratic forces. He says that in former campaigns they have sold themselves to the whiskey element, and he has no assurance that this campaign will be an exception. He also says that he does not care to endorse the "vagaries of the Chicago platform," a step which would be rendered necessary should his candidacy be continued.—N. Y. Sun.

### A Narrow Escape.

Thankful words written by Mrs. Ada E. Hart, of Groton, S. D., "Was taken with a bad cold which settled on my lungs, cough set in and finally terminated in Consumption. Four Doctors gave me up saying I could live but a short time. I gave myself up to my Savior, determined if I could not stay with my friends on earth, I would meet my absent ones above. My husband was advised to get Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, I gave it a trial took in all eight bottles. It has cured me, and thank God I am saved and now a well and healthy woman." Trial bottles free at Shuford Drug Co. Regular size 50c and \$1.00 guaranteed or price refunded.

### McKinley's Attitude.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—A member of the cabinet, in speaking today of the attitude of the President on the question of a war with Spain, said: "President McKinley is giving thorough and earnest consideration to every phase of the Cuban situation, as it appears, but he will not be jingooed into war, or act in anticipation of what may never occur. He fully realizes what war means and will not go to this dreadful extremity without the approval of his conscience, and a firm conviction that such a course would be right in the sight of God and man. But, whenever the honor and integrity of the nation or its people become involved, the President may be depended upon to do his whole duty and do it promptly.—Charlotte Observer.

Don't think that you liver needs treating if you are bilious. It don't. It's your stomach. That is, your stomach is really what causes the biliousness. It has put your liver out of order.

See what's the matter with your stomach.

Sick stomach poisons liver and then there's trouble. Shaker Digestive Cordial cures stomach and then all's well. That's the case in a nutshell.

Shaker Digestive Cordial is no secret. Formula's on every bottle. But it's the simple honest way it's made, the honest Shaker herbs and other ingredients of which it's composed, that make it so efficacious.

Any real case of indigestion and biliousness can be cured with a few bottles of Shaker Digestive Cordial. Try it. Sold by druggists, price 10 cents to \$1.00 per bottle.

The Monroe Enquirer says that a man was granted a divorce in Union court last week and the next night was married again and is now living with wife No. 2.

### Catawba Superior Court.

The following cases were disposed of at court last week:

State vs Morgan Cline, larceny, alias capias.

State vs Tom Camptod, larceny, alias capias.

State vs Alfred Bostian, assault, alias capias.

State vs Sam Reed, a and b, alias capias.

St vs Jim Yount, affray, not guilty.

St vs Geo. Holmes, c c w, alias capias.

St vs L. C. Bowman, c c w, alias capias.

St vs Chas. Shook, alias capias.

St vs John Bost, c c w, alias capias.

St vs Geo. W. Brown and Jos. Jenkins, affray, alias capias.

St vs John Carper, c c w, alias capias.

St vs Clifton Baxter, larceny, continued.

St vs Clifton Baxter, larceny, continued.

St vs J. L. Graham, house, burning, continued upon affidavit of defendant.

Defendant allowed to give justified bond of \$500 for his appearance at next term of court.

St vs Lee Mosteller, c c w, alias capias.

St vs Ace Yoder.

St vs Henry Huggins and Barbara Rink, f and a, alias as to Huggins.

St vs Arthur Moose, assault, alias capias to Catawba and Caldwell.

St vs John Goodman, larceny, alias.

St vs Park Hawn and Ed May, alias capias as to May.

St vs Ed May, c c w, continued.

St vs Jeff Bost, disorderly house, alias capias.

St vs Will Hefner, John Drum and Wes Travis, affray, alias capias as to defendant Hefner. Defendants Drum and Travis plead guilty. Fined \$5.00 each and cost.

St vs Walter Jones, c c w, pleads guilty.

St vs Will Dellinger, c c w, pleads guilty. Judgment suspended on payment of cost.

St vs Will Dellinger and John Hefner, affray, pleads guilty, judgment judgment suspended upon defendants each paying half the costs.

St vs John Stirewalt, selling l w l, alias capias, four cases.

St vs Eugene Bolick and Tate Sigmon, retailing to minors, alias capias as to Sigmon. Defendant Bolick allowed to give bond in the sum of \$300 for his appearance at the next term of court.

St vs Eugene Bolick and Tate Sigmon, continued.

St vs Bevard Harris, c c w, alias capias.

St vs M. A. Thornburg, appeal, not guilty.

St vs Hattie Reinhardt, affray, guilty, judgment suspended and defendant discharged.

St vs John Martin, c c w, guilty, fined \$10 and costs.

St vs D. W. Lowder, retailing, confined in county jail for ninety days.

St vs D. W. Lowder, retailing, guilty judgment suspended.

St vs D. W. Lowder, retailing, pleads guilty in four cases and judgment suspended, nol pros in one case.

St vs Rowe Connor, c c w, guilty, fined \$10 and costs.

St vs W. J. Gamble, alias capias.

St vs Ed Harris, defendant to pay fine and half the cost, and allowed until next term of court to do so.

St vs J. A. Yoder, appeal, verdict not guilty.

St vs Frank Deal, c c w, guilty judgment suspended, defendant discharged.

St vs Joe Brittan, larceny, guilty, four years.

St vs Noah Young, Walter Byers, Will Hooper, affray, guilty.

St vs E. C. Clement, assault, pleads guilty.

St vs James Kesler and Micheal Engle, Kesler pleads guilty, Engle not guilty.

St vs Will Jenkins, John Robinson and Obe Carpenter, forcible trespass, defendants plead guilty. Jenkins fined fifteen dollars and costs. Robinson and Carpenter each fined \$5 and costs.

St vs John Sutherds, breaking into house, guilty.

St vs Eugene Deal, larceny, bill changed to forcible trespass, pleads guilty discharged.

St vs Haley Wilfong, guilty judgment suspended.

St vs John Shuford appeal, not guilty.