

REV. PALMAGE'S SERMON.

NOTED WASHINGTON DIVINE'S SUNDAY DISCOURSE.

He preaches on the Wonderful Personal Magnification of the Saviour—The Sorrows of Jesus, His Miracles and His Infinite Sympathy for All Mankind.

The prophet lived in a dark time. For nine hundred years the world had been in darkness. Kingdoms had arisen and perished, as the captain of a vessel in distress sees the light of day when the water is calm, but the stormy times in which he lived put the telescope of prophecy to his eyes. He saw the dawn of a new era.

After the battle of Antietam, when a general rode along the lines, although the soldiers were tired down, exhausted, they rose with great enthusiasm and huzzed. As Napoleon returned from his captivity in England, he was met by a crowd of his soldiers. He took 3000 troops to watch him in his exile. So there have been men of war who have been men of peace.

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THE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Comparison of Figures in This State and Virginia on R. R. Taxation.

OLD NORTH STATE CULLINGS.

Delegates to Farmers' National Congress—The Excellence of the Crops Simply Wonderful.

The following delegates and racing teams were represented at the State Firemen's Association at Fayetteville last week: Asheville, Charlotte, Concord, Salisbury, Greensboro, Durham, Raleigh, Wilson, Newberne, Wilmington, Goldsboro and Winston-Salem.

Christ, in His preaching, was plain, clear, and sympathetic. He did not drag men into heaven. We cannot drive them in with the butt end of a catechism. We waste our time in trying to convert a man by the use of the sweet honeycomb of the gospel.

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TITLE TO THE KLONDIKE FIELDS

No Valid Objection Can be Advanced to Great Britain's Claim.

Incited by the newspaper publications recently, tending to throw doubt upon the ownership of the Klondike gold fields, some of the high government officials who would naturally be expected to deal with the question if it comes to a practical issue, have been quietly looking into the matter with a view to preparing themselves for any controversy that may arise.

The following is the result of the race: In the engine contest the New Bern steam fire engine's time was 3:41 1-2. Winston 3:49 1-2; Atlantic, of New Bern, 4:03 1-4; Greensboro 5:12 3-4; Wilmington 6:26 1-2. The first prize was \$50, second \$30, third \$20.

In the hand reel 150 yards dash Fayetteville's time was 31 seconds. New Bern 32, Greensboro 33, Durham 34, Salisbury 35 1-2, Salisbury 35 1-2, Charlotte 35, Durham 36, New Bern 36 1-2, Atlantic 37 1-2, Fayetteville 37 1-2, South sides 38 1-4.

In the long distance rapid steeple, Wilmington and Winston made fine show. In the long distance throwing water, Winston won, 229 feet, 5 inches. The Greensboro Juniors defeated the Fayetteville Juniors. The championship hand reel race was won by the Atlantic, of New Bern; the horse wagon contest was won by the Greensboro team.

Charlotte didn't get the tournament, but she got the promise of the Fayetteville boys, along with others, to go there next 20th of May.

Much has been said recently as to the taxation of railway property in Virginia and North Carolina. The following are the facts as to such taxation. The total value of railways in Virginia, including property outside of right-of-way, as well as street cars, assessed for taxation, is \$28,889,546.

The commissioner of agriculture says all the crop returns which come in are remarkably favorable. In fact the excellence of the crops is simply wonderful. The returns for August are rapidly arriving from correspondents. None of these put cotton below 100 per cent. and some put it as high as 120 per cent.

Governor Russell appoints the following delegates to the North Carolina to the Farmers' National Congress for the next two years: State at large, J. S. Cunningham and Wm. Dunn; First district, John Brady; Second district, M. L. Wood; Third district, J. A. Westbrook; Fourth district, Kansom Hinton; Fifth district, General Cameron; Sixth district, Nick Gibbons; Seventh district, J. L. Lawrence; Eighth district, J. L. Byers; Ninth district, W. G. Candler.

Southern Pencil Pointers.

The smallpox situation in Birmingham, Ala., is very much improved.

M. A. Connelly, of Savannah, Ga., has been chosen as secretary of the Nicaragua Canal Commission.

Alfred E. Holton has been appointed United States attorney for the Western district of North Carolina.

A gentleman who has been dead two months has been appointed postmaster at Wahoo, Sullivan county, Tennessee.

During a game of ball at Euflaula, Ala., Rose Faulkner struck Cal Taylor on the head with a stick and death resulted. Faulkner escaped.

The Charlotte Observer says the proposition to move the court house site from Dallas to Gastonia, N. C., has failed. A majority of those who voted were in favor of removal, but a majority of the registered voters did not go to the polls.

The Rome, Ga., cotton factory has obtained a government order for 1,800,000 yards of heavy duck for mail sacks. The amount of the contract is \$250,000. The mill has been forced to purchase new machinery and employ a large number of hands at good wages.

It is believed that the plan to utilize the water power of the James, at Richmond, for a great electric plant, will succeed. The old Talbot machine shops, at Richmond, Va., have passed away after fifty years of life. The depression of the times did it.

A VOLCANO IN ERUPTION.

Five Hundred People Known to Have Perished and 15 Towns Destroyed.

A special to the Chicago Chronicle from Tacoma, Wash., says: Five hundred reported killed up to July 1st is the record of the terrible outbreak of the great volcano Mayon, on the island of Luzon, one of the Philippine group.

On the night of June 24 this volcano began throwing up ashes and lava in immense quantities, and the flames were thrown upward considerably over 100 feet above the crater. The next day 45 bodies were reported as having been found.

It is probable, said the dispatches, that the loss of life will reach into the thousands, depending on the length of eruption. On that date lava streams and ashes had reached the cities of Bacacay, Malipot and Libori, and their destruction was certain.

A Cincinnati, O., is the center of a great new combine of manufacturers of wood-working machinery. The World says that 2,500 babies have been abandoned by their mothers in New York within the past year.

The National Democratic Association of Colored Men is called to meet in convention Columbus, O., on Sept. 23d. All the gas companies of Chicago, have consolidated. The capital stock is raised from \$400,000 to \$250,000,000.

Stephen M. Carty, who put up the first telephone used in Cuba, died at New Haven, Conn., from heart failure caused by excessive smoking.

At St. Louis cotton is said to be cornered and it is likely to remain so until September 1st, when the official cotton year opens, and the new crop begins to move. The statements of the local warehouses show that the total number of bales in storage aggregate 9,682 bales.

PESSIMISTS GROWING WEARY

Gratifying Reports of Business Improvement by Dun & Co.

THE DAWN OF BETTER DAYS.

Fewer Failures the Past Week Than in Any Week Since the Year 1892.

The weekly trade review of Messrs. R. G. Dun & Co., for the week ending August 7th, says: Four years ago, August 5th, 1893, the first of Dun's reviews was issued, with failures in that month amounting to over \$60,000,000, while in the month just closed failures have been only \$7,117,737, the smallest in any month since 1892.

The pessimists who pronounced reports of gain fictitious and misrepresenting have grown weary of their dire predictions and begin to see the dawn of better days. Last month was the first for four years of which the volume of business reported by clearing houses was larger than in any month of 1897, and the telegraphic dispatches from all parts of the country given this week show gratifying improvement.

This is probably due to a larger yield of wheat and good prices, though the crop is probably not as large nor are prices thus far as high as in 1892; but of cotton the price is higher and the yield probably larger than in that year. Other farm products are realizing good prices, and the possible decrease in yield of corn may help to market the enormous surplus brought over from last year.

Liquidation of a powerful combination in wheat broke and wheat being largely sold at a gain of 1-1/2 cents for the week. It is the wrong season to expect much from industries, and yet there has been material increase in the price of iron and steel. The iron manufacturers because of the satisfactory adjustment of wages dispute with the Amalgamated Association and the opening of numerous establishments which have been waiting, while the coal miners' strikes seem each day more likely to end in a permanent settlement beneficial to both parties.

Meanwhile the demand for most finished products is steadily increasing, the feature this week being large pipe contracts for Russian oil fields, Sumatra and Germany. The sales of wool, as comparative returns by months show, bear little relation to the actual consumption in manufacture, but heavy liquidation since the new tariff bill was enacted gives the impression that some dealers are no longer confident of a speedy advance. Nevertheless, prices have risen during the past few weeks nearly one cent per pound. Manufacturers are buying but little, though they are rapidly increasing the output and are able to report an advance of 10 per cent. in prices of goods, with rapidly increasing orders.

The temporary curtailment of output by cotton mills continues, but does not yet bring improved prices for products, although the demand is generally gaining. Failures of the week have been 337 in the United States, against 240 last year, and 29 in Canada, against 32 last year.

Southern Railway

FIRST AND SECOND DIVISIONS. In effect May 2, 1897.

This Condensed Schedule is published as information only and is subject to change without notice to the public.

Table with columns for Station, Time, and Fare. Includes stations like Atlanta, Savannah, and Charleston.

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WESTERN UNION APPEALS. Rests the Reduction in Telegram Rates Made by the N. C. R. R. Commission. The Western Union Telegraph Company has appealed from the order of the railroad commission making 15 cents the rate for a ten-word day message.