

The Home Companion.

Be Sure You're Right and Go Straight Ahead.

VOL. I.

MANSON, N. C., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1897.

NO. 5.

STATE PENCIL POINTERS.

The News of the Week Tersely Told in Paragraphs.

Y. M. C. A. STATE CONVENTION.

Graham Under \$1,000 Bond--Will Not Accept Office--Will Enact no Laws Regulating Working Hours.

The twenty-first annual State Convention of the Young Men's Christian Association of North Carolina will be held in Winston-Salem February 19-22. The attendance will be large and the programme interesting. Among those who are to make addresses are Dr. A. C. Barron, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Charlotte; Rev. Wm. Black, the well-known evangelist; Professors P. P. Claxton, of Greensboro, and J. A. Bivens, of Charlotte. The international committee will be represented by Messrs. H. P. Anderson and H. W. Georgi. Topics will be discussed covering the whole range of association subjects. Especial attention will be given to the educational work, to Bible study and to the religious work of the Young Men's Christian Association. A conference of the college association presidents will be held by Mr. Georgi on February 18 and 19, and it is hoped each college association will send its new president or order that he may be instructed in his important work. All Christian workers, and especially Christian men in towns where there are no associations, are cordially invited to attend; and every pastor will be welcomed. Reduced rates on all railroads. Those desiring to attend should write to Mr. F. F. Turner, State Secretary, Charlotte, N. C.

The Charleston, (S. C.) News and Courier says: "Sympathy for the Cuban patriots has permeated into the wilds of Western North Carolina and has induced a young lawyer of Asheville to give up his business and start out for Cuba to join the insurgent forces. A reporter had a chat at the St. Charles Hotel with Mr. C. B. Atkinson, a well known young man from Asheville, who will go to Tampa with the intention of casting his fortunes with the gallant Gomez.

"Mr. Atkinson said that he has been watching the war in Cuba very closely and at last determined to volunteer his services. He has two friends from Texas already down this way to join him, and they will go well armed for the struggles.

"Mr. Atkinson's appearance is not unlike a Texan, which is due to the fact, perhaps, that he once lived down by the waters of the Rio Grande. Arrangements have already been made, Mr. Atkinson said, for himself and friends to land on Cuban soil on a filibuster. He realized the dangers before him, but wants to fight for the insurgents and try to help them on to independence."

The House judiciary committee have disposed of Judge Norwood's case. James M. Moody, ex-Judge Avery, T. P. Devereux, Spencer Blackburn and Representatives McCrary and Skulken asked for mercy. The committee finally decided to indefinitely postpone the resolutions of impeachment upon Norwood's placing his resignation in the hands of Chairman Lusk, it to take effect the moment he again becomes intoxicated. The committee did not confer with the Governor about this matter.

The Raleigh correspondent of the Wilmington Messenger says: "The Populist bolters and the Republicans are now welded together in a firm organization. Their total strength is

ninety, which gives them absolute control of the legislature. They do not in the least recognize the Populist majority or caucus. They say that if the majority wants office all it has to do is to say so, but that it will not accept office."

This Legislature will enact no laws fixing the hours of labor. That was settled last week once for all. In the assemblage of cotton mill men in Raleigh to defeat the bill over \$20,000,000 was represented. It is stated that operatives do not want any such law these stringent times, when shorter hours mean shorter wages. Mill men say many mills are being operated almost at a loss.

Monroe Johnston, the negro convicted of burglary in Mecklenburg county in 1896, was hanged at Charlotte Monday. The execution was private. About 1,000 spectators, mostly colored, stood around the jail yard trying to get a glimpse of the doomed man. Governor Russell refused to reprieve him, though his lawyer, Walter R. Henry, of Charlotte, exhausted the law. He pleaded innocence to the last.

An amendment of the law as to the criminal cases will probably be made by the Legislature. The committees on judiciary will recommend that in criminal cases all juries shall be chosen from the box, the same as regular juries, and also that county commissioners can employ local counsel to aid the solicitor in prosecutions.

The nominations of the Democratic postmasters at Lenoir, Wilson, Rocky Mount, Warrenton and Laurinburg are hung up in the Senate committee on postoffices. Senator Pritchard has requested that they be not agreed upon until he can consider them, being prevented at present by illness.

The question is asked, will the legislature enact any general road law? It seems it will not. Many more counties are adopting the plan of working roads by taxation.

It is settled that this State will as a State make no exhibit at the Tennessee Centennial Exposition. The bill calling for a \$10,000 appropriation will be unfavorably reported.

J. L. Graham, chief clerk in the office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, who was arrested in Raleigh on the charge of arson, has been placed under a \$1,000 bond.

It seems that no attempt is to be made to reduce the appropriation to the State University.

New York's Pauper Dead.

The graveyard of New York's unknown and pauper dead is Hart's Island, situated at the entrance to Long Island Sound, in the East river. Potter's field is only a few acres in extent, but it holds over 100,000 bodies, says a correspondent. There are about twenty interments made there every day in the year, and a constant stream of silent passengers flows from the morgue at the foot of Twenty-sixth street to this quiet resting place out in the river. No monuments record the virtues of the sleepers on Hart's Island, no flowers bloom on its graves; in fact, no graves are visible—only a flat expanse of sod that would never be green if its life depended upon the tears of mourners instead of the morning dew and the weeping clouds.

Mamma—Where's papa? Flora—He's down stairs. Mamma—What's he doing? Flora—His bicycle is out of breath and he's giving it some more.—London Figaro.

Madge—How proud Mame is since she ordered her bicycle! Tom—Well, you know, pride goes before a fall.—Yonkers Statesman.

BUDGET OF FUN.

HUMOROUS SKETCHES FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

And His Departure—A Different Feeling—A Theory—Not His Full Title—In Constantinople, Etc., Etc.

And then they both began to sing. The key was, I think, B flat. She took the alto, May the air, And I—well, I took—my hat. —Town Topics.

ESTIMATED.

Bingo—"That doctor must have found out how much I am worth." Mrs. Bingo—"Why?" "I just got the bill."—Life.

WHY HE DARED.

She—"I think I might love you more if you were not so extravagant." He—"It's my extravagant nature that makes me love you so."—Life.

A DIFFERENT FEELING.

Miss Timberwheels—"How were you impressed by Mr. Noodles?" Miss Hungerford—"I wasn't impressed. I was oppressed."—Judge.

OUT OF HIS LINE.

Tourist—"How long will it take me to reach the ferry, my good man?" Policeman—"I ain't no mind reader. I'm a policeman."—Detroit Free Press.

A COMPLIMENT.

Editor—"Your story is flat." Author—"Yes?" Editor—"I wish to compliment you. Most stories we get are rolled up."—Puck.

RIDING NOT NECESSARY.

Berthwhistle—"Do you ride your cycle to reduce your weight?" Dunsap—"No—hustling for the money to meet the installments for it does that."—Puck.

A THEORY.

Maria—"How kin these weather prophets tell about the weather, anyway?" Josiah—"I dunno; unless mebbe they go by the almanacs."—Puck.

IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

The Sultan—"Have they ceased to allude to me as the 'Sick Man?'" The Grand Vizier—"No, Commander of the Faithful; but they are willing to admit that you are not in business for your health."—Truth.

NOT HIS FULL TITLE.

"Hungry Higgins?" said the kind lady. "Of course that is not your real name!" "Nome," answered Mr. Higgins. "It's wot might be called a empty title."—Indianapolis Journal.

LIKE OTHER MEDICINE.

Penelope—"I hear you are engaged to Miss Dingbatts at last." Reginald—"Yes; she refused me six times, but I persevered." Penelope—"Then you were well shaken before taking."—Harlem Life.

SOMETHING REAL HORRID.

Ethel—"And would you really be willing to die for me, George?" George—"Darling, I swear it." Ethel—"But, would you be willing to die of hydrophobia or appendicitis, or something like that, George?"—Truth.

A SAFE REMINDER.

Mother—"Willie, as you come home from school stop at the grocer's and get me two bars of soap and a dime's worth of candy." Father—"What in the world do you want candy for?" Mother—"So that he shall not forget the soap."

NOT AT HOME TO HIM.

Caller—"Is your father at home?" Little Daughter—"What is your name, please?" Caller—"Just tell him it is his old friend, Bill." Little Daughter—"Then I guess he ain't at home. I heard him tell mamma if any bill came he wasn't at home."—Washington Times.

SARCASTIC.

Mrs. Achem (reading)—"The Chinese are a cheerful people. In China, while the dentist pulls the tooth an assistant stands by and drowns the lamentations of the victim in the noise of a large gong." Mr. Achem—"So they have adopted the painless method of extracting teeth in China, eh?"—Norristown Herald.

SLIGHTLY TWISTED.

He entered the store hurriedly, with the air of a man whose mind was filled by a weighty commission. Those whom he passed at the door heard him conning under his breath a formula which he seemed to fear might slip away and be lost. He approached the counter like one who wishes it were well over.

"I wish to get," he said boldly, "some ribbon for a red baby." The salesgirl's blank stare seemed to arouse him to a sense of something lacking.

"That is," he said, "I would like some baby for a ribbed red one." The salesgirl was smiling broadly now and four cash boys, a floor walker and seven customers gathered and grinned in unison.

He began again. "That is—of course, you know, I mean, some ribbed red baby for one—that is—some red ribs for one baby—some one's red baby's ribs—some red ribs for one baby—some—thunder and guns, where's the way out?"

He departed on a run. "I wonder," said the salesgirl thoughtfully an hour or so afterward, "if he could have meant some red baby ribbon!"—New York Press.

The Count—"My dear Mees Goldollar, I want you to marry me." Heiress—"Oh, Count! I am speechless with surprise." The Count—"Zat is all right; your money talk."—New York Commercial Advertiser.

Of the 56,005 men employed on British sailing vessels 928—or one in sixty—lost their lives by drowning, whereas of the 162,129 men employed on steamships only 674—or one in 241—were drowned.

-High - Grade- GUANOS

For - Tobacco - and - Cotton, Plant Bed Cloth and all the

-REQUISITES-

For Farm use can be found at James H. Lassiter & Company.

HENDERSON, - - - N. C.