

Monroe Should Have a Hospital.

There is a movement on foot looking to the establishment of a hospital in Monroe. This is very much needed, and it is to be hoped that the project may come to full fruition. A modest institution of this kind would not be expensive. The promoters feel that it could be sustained, so far as running expenses are concerned, if a suitable building could be secured. Every year more and more patients are sent to hospitals by practicing physicians. This has become a necessity in all cases where there is a serious illness that requires careful and scientific nursing to effect cures, to say nothing of surgical treatment, in which hospital treatment is becoming wholly necessary. Any one who reads the local papers will readily recall the number of cases that are constantly going out of this county to hospitals elsewhere, and the equally as great a number, if not indeed more cases where, such treatment is as necessary, but the patients are unable for lack of means to take it. There is no reason why a community like this should suffer itself to go without an institution that means so much for the comfort and happiness of humanity and the amelioration of suffering. Other towns of like size are building them right along and receiving untold blessings.

The institution in contemplation for Monroe would also be a training school for nurses, at which there would always be undergraduate nurses to be sent out in the town and county whenever their services were demanded. Beside this, there could no doubt be built up a good foreign patronage from patients who desired to receive the benefit of the artesian water. There is an ample field, an urgent necessity. Let us have a hospital.

The quarrel between Judge Peebles and the Robeson lawyers is yet in full vigor. When the case came up last week, Judge Peebles backed water far enough to grant the defendant's request that the case be tried before another judge, a thing he at first refused. It is now to come up on June fourteenth before Judge Brown. Meanwhile, two or three instances of cases are being brought to the judge's attention, and one hotel man asserting that he found fourteen quart bottles in a room which the judge had just vacated, another saying that he had seen a half gallon jug on the judge's mantel. The judge ordered three men, one of them a lawyer of Clinton, to go to jail thirty days and pay a fine of \$250 for contempt in swearing that he was drunk. The sentence has not yet been executed, and a fight against it will probably bring on a long suit. With these affidavits and the case before another judge, Judge Peebles' case does not look as hopeful as it did when he was sitting on it himself with three lawyers appearing before him in his own behalf.

We said last week that Mr. Bryan had not indicated whether he would support the nominee of the St. Louis convention or no, but he has since said, in a letter to a friend, and in the following unmistakable terms: "While a Democrat presumes that his convention will write a platform and nominate a ticket that he can conscientiously support, it is not a conclusive presumption, and I do not believe that any one ought to be asked, or expected to say that, no matter what a convention does, he will support the ticket. For that reason I defer until the convention has acted a decision upon the course that I will pursue."

Mr. Bryan goes on to say that if any other rule than this was applied, campaigns would be useless, for the reason that no votes could be changed, and one party could never be put out and another one put in. For our part, we are glad that Mr. Bryan has the courage to say it.

The most real war that the world has seen for some time is undoubtedly going on now between Russia and Japan, a war in which well matched foes meet each other with all the modern means of destruction that man's ingenuity has yet devised. And coupled with these, each side is armed with an ancient hate and a bloodthirstiness that cannot be satisfied easily. Verily, there is becoming a great cheapening of human life in the "Far East."

In their attack upon Port Arthur, the Japanese are pursuing the same plans that they did in 1894 when that place was taken by them from the Chinese. Then Russia, abetted by the other powers, robbed Japan of it. Now the plucky little Japanese will take it from the robber. Glorious little fellows!

Has Labor Throttled the Fair?

This is the day when the labor unions of the country are making hay, if they are able in many cases to do what the New York Commercial says they have done for the St. Louis Fair. That paper says that "Almost since the first shovelful of earth was thrown up on the exposition grounds, every nook and corner of the place, every department of constructive activity has been under the complete and absolute domination of unionism. Not only has the exposition company felt the blight of this control from the very beginning, but every contractor and subcontractor, even the United States government itself, have had to bend their necks to the yoke of organized labor."

And the Commercial continues: "Strikes on the exposition grounds have been so numerous in the past three years that the count of them was lost long ago. One employer of plumbers, for instance, has had about one hundred and fifty strikes to contend with, and all of them started on the most trifling and flimsy pretenses. Wages meantime have jumped from \$4.50 to \$6 for an eight-hour day. One foreman of the modelers in staff is paid \$9.60 for an eight-hour day, with double time for overtime and Sundays, and as the extra time often has been necessary, he frequently has received \$19.20 for a day's work. For a Sunday of twelve hours his wages would amount to the tidy sum of \$28.80, equivalent, under the peculiar rules of the union, to his pay for three days of eight hours each! And conditions almost as bad have existed in every class of employment inside the World's Fair grounds.

"Is it any wonder, therefore, that the exposition company found itself seriously embarrassed in its finances more than a year ago and was forced to mortgage its gate receipts to the government as security for the loan of \$4,600,000? Simply because the enterprise was an ambitious one, requiring financing on a most extensive scale, organized labor immediately laid its plans to hold up the company and loot it. And that it has done, in a manner that would compel the instant admiration of a Robin Hood."

This is a pretty heavy arraignment of the labor Union, but it should be taken with some grain of allowance, coming as it does from one of its avowed enemies. Southern people have not yet had any experience with labor unions like the North has, and if we can arrive at a basis that shall give to both employer and employee every just right and eliminate the tyrannies of each, our country will be fortunate indeed.

No one can doubt that the Agricultural Department of the United States is really interested in the boll weevil remedy for the ravages of this fast growing pest. And it is doing a great deal of talking on the subject, too. A week or two ago one of its agents announced that the case was hopeless, and that about half of every crop was bound to be contributed to the satiation of the weevil's appetite. But last week the department got more hopeful and said that one of its agents in South America had certainly discovered an ant which was an unfeeling murderer of the weevil, and that it would be introduced into Texas at once. We have never felt hopeless about the boll weevil, anyway.

If a judge or other officer so conducts himself as to inspire the contempt of the people, that contempt will be expressed all right, and the attempt of a petty officer in this country to stop such expression is like unto the spectacle of a stick-bomb artist trying to sweep back the waters of the Atlantic.

BANK WORRIES.

How One Clerk Frosted a Whole Year All For Nothing. An ex-bank official said that during his career in the banking business he had known more than one employee of a bank to get into trouble on account of carelessness in handling money.

One collector, who was a light hearted fellow, was going along the street in high water season slipping up a twenty dollar piece with his thumb and finger and catching it as it came down. Finally it slipped and fell through a grating on the sidewalk into about two feet of water. He made some efforts to recover it, but finally decided to wait till the water was gone, and then it was found that the coin was also gone. Another time the same fellow was coming up the street with \$10,000 in twenty dollar pieces on his shoulder. In some way he lost his hold on the sack, and in striking the sidewalk it burst, and the coins rolled in all directions. A number of people rushed to his assistance, but he described a large circle around the sack and, waving his arms wildly, ordered everybody to "stand back." He recovered most of the coin, but decided to get out of the banking business.

Another time a Chinaman came into the bank and deposited \$200 and took a certificate of deposit. The clerk who made out the certificate was preoccupied and wrote \$2,000 on it and on the stub. When he made up his cash at night he was \$1,800 short. He knew where the mistake was and tried to hunt up the Chinaman; but, although he got a clue, he could never find him, and he remained \$1,800 short on the books. He had a notice of the date of the certificate, amount, etc., pasted in his desk and was always on the lookout to catch the certificate as it came in. Just a year from the day the deposit was made the Chinaman walked into the bank and presented the certificate to be cashed. When asked how much he wanted he said all—\$200. He had never noticed the mistake in the amount of the certificate and he had never found it out, and the clerk suffered the worry of being short in his mind for a whole year for all for nothing.—Portland Oregonian.

JAPS STORM FORTIFICATIONS.

They Drive Russians From a Position Thought to be Impregnable and Take Many Guns—Every Man in Line Shot Down.

Fierce fighting took place between the Japanese and Russian forces last Wednesday and Thursday, with heavy losses on both sides and complete victory for the Japanese in their march south towards Port Arthur. The fighting began on Wednesday, and on Thursday morning the Japanese army swept the Russians from Kin Chou and in a desperate attack stormed and carried the almost impregnable position of the Russians on Nanshan Hill, west of Talienvan. The Russians had made elaborate preparations to check the Japanese movement south on the Liao Tung peninsula toward Port Arthur, planting heavy fortifications and artillery. A dispatch says:

"The Japanese assault on Nanshan Hill was one of the fiercest and bloodiest affairs in modern warfare. In the earlier rushes of the engagement, every man participating was shot down before he reached the first line of Russian trenches. It was found necessary to stop these infantry charges and renew the artillery fire from the rear before the final and successful assault on the Russian position could be made. The success of this assault was brought about by one detachment of Japanese troops, more intrepid than their comrades, who succeeded in piercing the Russian line. A splendid stroke of fortune was the discovery and destruction by the Japanese of the electric wires leading to the mines at the eastern foot of Nanshan Hill. This prevented the Russians from exploding the mines when the Japanese infantry crossed the ground where they had been placed. It is possible that the fortune of the day hinged upon these mines. If the Russians had been able to explode them at the right time, the losses among the Japanese troops would have been tremendous, and it is possible also that the Russians would have been able to hold the hill.

"Nanshan was splendidly defended. Nearly fifty guns of various sizes were mounted on the various emplacements, and there were also two batteries of quick firing field pieces. The artillery was sheltered behind loopholes trenced on the terraces of the hill. The infantry manning the field pieces ran with them around the hill, thus using these guns for the protection of the most important points.

"The Japanese began the fight by bringing all their field guns into action and concentrating their fire on the emplacements on the hill. By 11 o'clock in the morning, the principal Russian batteries had been silenced. The two Russian field batteries then withdrew to Nanshan East Hill, and from there until nightfall.

"After the Russian batteries had been silenced the Japanese artillery opened on the enemy's trenches. The Japanese infantry advancing meanwhile to within rifle range. The Japanese gradually worked to within 100 metres of the Russian lines, where they encountered wire and other entanglements. They succeeded in discovering an opening in these obstacles and getting finally to within 200 metres of the Russian trenches, from which point they rushed for the line. Several successive charges were made, but every officer and man in the attacking party was shot down, twenty or thirty metres from the line. The charges were then stopped, and the Japanese artillery renewed its preparatory fire on the enemy's position. Toward evening a detachment of Japanese carried a section of the Russian trenches, breaking through of the enemy's line. Hundreds of the comrades of these men, inspired by their successes, sprang forward, and then the entire Japanese line swept up the hill, driving the Russians from their positions. It was in the desperate infantry charges that the Japanese sustained the bulk of their losses."

BLUE GRASS.

It is a Native of the Wabash Valley in Indiana.

"A great many people contend that blue grass was first found in Kentucky," said an eminent Indiana geologist. "But this is not so. Blue grass is a native of the Wabash valley, in Indiana. It was found by William Harrison's troops during that solemn march to Tippecanoe in 1811. Harrison gathered a small army at Ohio Falls and started north. At Vincennes the gallant heroes realized that they could not go 200 miles up the Wabash without food for their horses. General Harrison had two crates of corn at Terre Haute and persuaded the men to go on. As they came on with hungry horses and scant feed they found the ground covered with blue grass.

"Six miles west of Newport, on the Collett farm, was found a bonifant supply of blue grass. Some places in the bottom it was growing three feet high, and such food had never been heard of by the Kentucky soldier. At State Line City more blue grass was found, and from there to Tippecanoe the whole line of march was covered with blue grass.

"The seed was carried back to Kentucky and sown there, but they could not make it thrive alone in the warm soil, and it had to be sown with oats and rye. Mr. Sandusky told me in an early day that no blue grass grew in Kentucky until after it was imported from Indiana. Tom Downing of Terre Haute was an ardent admirer of Henry Clay and once went to visit him at his home near Ashland, Ky. After seeing the fine farm well set in blue grass Downing suggested that Mr. Clay let him have some of the seed to take back to Indiana.

ODD BATTLE PLACES.

Man Made War on Ice and Under the Earth's Surface. Battles have been fought in many curious places, ranging from mountain peaks to sewers, from ice fields to desert sands. At the battle of Monterey, in the Mexican war, the Americans were able to command the streets of the city with their artillery, but they had difficulty in dislodging the Mexicans from the houses; so the city being built of stone or adobe in solid blocks of houses, the Yankees broke through the walls from one house to another, fighting and driving out the enemy, so that the battle of Monterey was largely fought indoors.

In one of the battles of the wars of William the Silent for the independence of the Netherlands the Spanish ships were frozen in on the Zuyder Zee. The Dutch came out on horseback over the ice and attacked them. This is probably the only battle in which cavalry was ever used directly against ships. Several other combats were fought between crews on the ice in these wars, and on one occasion the infantry is said to have worn skates.

The battle of Austerlitz was partly fought on a frozen lake, and when the allies were retreating across it the shot from the French artillery, plunging to the ice and breaking it up, caused the death of thousands of Russians and Austrians.

THE ANGRY TREE.

Peculiar Action of This Curiosity of Plant Life.

There is in the wilds of northwestern Idaho a species of the acacia tree which is entitled to be classed as one of the wonders of plant life. It grows to a height of about eight feet and when full grown closes its leaves together in coils each day at sunset and curls its twigs the shape of pistils. After the tree has settled itself thus for a night's sleep, if touched the whole thing will flutter as if agitated or impatient at being disturbed. The oftener the foliage is molested the more violent becomes the shaking of the branches, and at length the tree emits a nauseating odor, which if inhaled for a few moments causes a violent, dizzy headache.

The angry tree, as it has been named, was discovered by travelers, who upon making camp for the night placed one end of a canvas covering over one of the sensitive branches, using it for a support. Immediately the tree began to sharply jerk its branches. The motion continued, growing more nervous, until at last the sickening odor which it gave out drove the tired campers to a more friendly location. Curiosity of course prompted an investigation. One of the angry trees was dug up and thrown to one side. Immediately upon being removed from the ground the tree opened its leaves, its twigs lost their pinnacles, and for something over an hour and a half they continued to quiver and quaking, which grew weaker as time passed, finally ceasing altogether, when the foliage hung limp and withered. The next morning the tree was placed upright in the ground again, a little water was applied to the roots, and very soon it resumed its normal condition.—Boston Globe.

A girl. "What is a grig?" asks a correspondent who has been worried by the phrase "as happy as a grig." The grig shares with Mark Tapley the honor of being proverbially happy. But a lonely adjective does not denote a substantive. In Yorkshire, we are told, a grig is a young child, happy, we may hope. In Staffordshire it is a hawk. But in Dutch the "kriek" is a cricket, or grasshopper, a really merry fellow. In Webster a grig is the provincial English for an eel. But we cannot accept an eel as the embodiment of mirth, and we put our money on the Dutchman's "kriek"—London Chronicle.

Using an Income. No one can use an income with true economy who does not exert his best judgment and put forth all the wisdom he possesses to make it fulfill the highest ends of which it is capable in his peculiar circumstances. If it does not make some lives better, fuller and happier; if it does not develop the body and educate the mind; if it does not promote industry, honesty and good will, if, in fact, it does nothing to elevate and improve mankind, then waste and not economy is shown in its management.

She Had Pierced His. Miss Sharpe—Pa-pa says if I give up my singing lessons he'll give me a pair of diamond earrings. Miss Sharpe—You've never worn earrings, have you? Miss Screamer—No, I'll have to have my ears pierced. Miss Sharpe—Oh, I see his idea! He wants to pay you back in your own coin.—Philadelphia Press.

The Real Taxpayers. Johnny—Pa, the taxpayers are only the people who own properties, aren't they? Pa—No, my son. The real taxpayers are the people who rent the properties.—Philadelphia Ledger.

A man of integrity will never listen to any reason against conscience.—Horne.

The Lazy Korvans. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that the Korvans are the laziest people on earth. All day long they lie about the streets smoking their gigantic pipes. A native pipe is a six foot length of bamboo, with a metal bowl, and is carried tucked into the neckband and down the trousers leg. All work of very nearly every kind is done by the women, who occupy perhaps the most degraded position held by the sex of any nation. The unfortunate female population is collectively a beast of burden and denied even the most elementary recognition as human beings. A Korvan girl has no name. She is merely known as "daughter of So-and-so," her father.

Sleep For the Young and Aged. A four-year-old requires 12 hours; one of 7 years, 11 hours; of 12 years, 10 hours; of 16 or 18, 9 hours. After that 7 or 8 hours is sufficient until after 60; then the hours should be increased gradually with each decade, as the man or woman of 80 requires as much sleep as a child of 10. And it should be remembered that the most health giving beauty making time is early.

The Economic Value of Bob White.

The ornithologists of the Department of Agriculture have been making an investigation of the economic value of the bobwhite, as a result of which it is now announced that that bird is "probably the most useful abundant species on the farms." Field observations, experiments and examinations show that it consumes large quantities of weed seeds and destroys many of the worst insect pests with which farmers contend, and yet it does not injure grain, fruit or any other crop. It is figured that from September 1 to April 30, annually, in Virginia, alone the total consumption of weed seeds by bobwhites amounts to 573 tons. Some of the pests which it habitually destroys, the report says, are the Mexican cotton boll weevil, which damages the cotton crop upwards of 15,000,000 a year; the pests of the potato crop, the cotton worms, which have been known to cause \$30,000,000 loss in a year; the chinch bug, and the Rock Mount locust. The report urges measures to secure the preservation of the bobwhites in this country.

Fatal Fire at Greenwood.

Greenwood, S. C., Dispatch, 20th. Fully one half the business portion of Greenwood was wiped out by fire between 3 and 6 o'clock this morning and Mrs. Annie Moseley was burned to death. The fire is supposed to have originated in the kitchen of the Central Hotel. The flames were first seen by an engineer of the Charleston and Western Carolina, who gave the alarm with the whistle. Although roused, Mrs. Moseley, proprietor of the hotel, was so overcome with fright that she refused to jump. She was overcome by the flames and burned before it was possible to rescue her. Her charred remains were found this morning. The total property loss estimated at not less than \$133,000, with not over \$75,000 insurance. If you desire fire, life, accident, health, plate glass or other insurance, see W. J. Hudson, manager, at The Savings, Loan & Trust Co.

Special Umbrella Sales!

Wednesday Morning, June 1st,

we put on sale the greatest line of Ladies and Gents Umbrellas that we have ever had and at prices that will astonish you.

Wet Weather Umbrellas at Dry Weather Prices.

50 cent Steel Rod Umbrellas at 25c.
For this sale, 100 Steel Rod 26-in. Congo handle Umbrellas, usual retail price 50c., our special sale price 25c.

\$1.00 Umbrellas 75c.

These are 26 and 28-in. Congo handles, paragon frames, extra quality serge top, regular \$1.00 values at 75c.
Lot 3. \$1.50, \$1.75 and \$2.00 Ladies and Gents Umbrellas, special price 98c.

Big Saving in Embroidery and Insertions.

Another big shipment in this week. Big values at 5c. The beautiful Embroideries we sell at 5c. has made us a wide reputation. 7 and 8 1/2c. kind at, per yard, 5c.

15 cent Embroideries at 10 cents.

To see this line of full pieces, very wide and a great variety of pretty patterns, will easily convince you that we are headquarters for embroidery. While they last, 10c.



Illustration of a man in a suit and hat, standing next to an umbrella.

Men's Pants.

Do you wear pants. If so read this. 50 pairs men's fine Worsted Pants that sell from \$1.00 to \$5.00 cleaned up from factory in small lots. If you can find a fit you can buy them at \$2.50. Don't wait, but come at once.

Belk Bros.,
That Cheap Store.

BANK of UNION

MONROE, N. C.

W. S. BLAKENEY, President. A. M. STACK, Vice-President. W. C. WOLFE, Cashier.

This Bank has been operated in the interest of the people at large as well as its stockholders. Its officers have done their best to build up Monroe and the surrounding country. It provides every safeguard for the depositor and is always liberal to the borrower. No reasonable person could be dissatisfied with its methods. Remember what it has done for the people thus far and let everybody know that it will meet all legitimate competition in the future. Patronize it with your accounts and thus show your sympathy for a progressive and obliging institution. It is your friend and it is here to stay.

AT COST!

Now is your chance to get rare bargains for a little money. We are offering our entire stock of Jewelry, Silver and China Ware at actual cost. Come early and be benefitted by the cost prices.

S. J. WELSH, Druggist.

Spring Furnishings of all kinds for Stylish Men!

MILLINERY

You will be delighted twice with our Hats. First, with the pretty styles, and you will be pleased, second, with the reasonable prices. Come and see what we have. We are selling more Millinery than we ever did. We keep right up with all the late styles and new things and you can rest assured when you buy from us that you get styles that well dressed ladies wear.

Our Dry Goods of every description are splendid, new, and up-to-date. Don't fail to call on us for whatever you want.

We are, as usual, the Leaders in Monroe.

MRS. A. LEVY
A. LEVY

SHIRT WAIST SETS, Belt Buckles, Belt pins, Placket pins.

A new assortment of the NEW SPRING STYLES just arrived. Prices 25 cents and up.

W. E. LINEBACK,
The Jeweler, Monroe, N. C.

New Buggies and Harness.

We have just gotten in a car load of new buggies and have another car on the road. All grades, from the cheapest to the finest rubber tires.

Dry Goods

Our Dry Goods of every description are splendid, new, and up-to-date. Don't fail to call on us for whatever you want.

We are, as usual, the Leaders in Monroe.

MRS. A. LEVY
A. LEVY

New Buggies and Harness.

We have just gotten in a car load of new buggies and have another car on the road. All grades, from the cheapest to the finest rubber tires.

Also a lot of Harness just received.

See us for fine livery turnout.

G. G. & V. D. SIKES