

# The Mount Airy News.

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## NATIONAL PENSION FOR CONFEDERATES.

### Such Likely to be Result of Gettysburg Reunion—Tar Heel Claim Fixed.

Battlefield, Gettysburg, Pa., July 5.—The retreat from Gettysburg started this morning when General Julian S. Carr gave orders to the 1,215 North Carolina veterans to break camp. Quite a number of the old soldiers left last night; some of them went to Philadelphia and New York and some to Washington. Each and every one is happy; happy because they came to this historical spot and happy because they received the heartiest welcome ever given an American soldier.

Two things are almost certain to result from the reunion besides the settling of the controversy between the states. In the near future North Carolina is going to have a monument befitting of the valor of her men who died here, and also of those who were fortunate enough to escape; and, second, but in no wise least, the much talked of pensioning Confederate soldiers and movement to have them cared for in United States soldiers' homes has received a start that is almost sure to result in the government doing something to care for Confederate as well as the Union men when they become disabled.

Governor Cox, of Ohio, in a speech in the North Carolina camp here last night declared that the time had long since past when the United States government should take care of disabled Confederate soldiers.

"There are seven United States soldiers' homes in Ohio," declared Governor Cox. "We do not need them all, and I am in favor of turning one of them over to North Carolina at once. No men in the history of the world's battle ever fought harder than did the men who wore the gray; they deserve as much as any other men who fought in the war between the states, and I am ready now to have it done."

Colonel A. H. Boyden, of Salisbury, said the speech of Governor Cox was one of the best he had ever heard. Colonel Boyden, as every one knows, has always been willing and ready to help the Confederate soldier, and the declaration of Governor Cox struck a responsive cord in the heart of every man who heard him speak.

Colonel George McConnell, of the 24th Michigan regiment, "the Iron brigade," startled an audience of some 2,000 or 3,000 veterans Thursday night when he declared that he hoped to see the time come when "The Star Spangled Banner" would be sung to the tune of "Dixie."

"Dixie" is the most popular song I ever heard," said the Michigan man. "It gets more genuine enthusiastic applause than any other song, and I for one will welcome the time when the national air shall be sung to the tune of 'Dixie.'"

Going a step further, Colonel McConnell said that although the fight of the Roosevelt Rough Riders at San Juan hill was mere boys' play as compared with the battle of Gettysburg, that Roosevelt had received more publicity for this little battle than was given the combined forces of the north and south during the entire period of the war between the states. "And yet," he said, "two per cent of the men engaged at San Juan hill were killed, while here at Gettysburg 98 per cent were missing after the three days' fight."

Cyrus B. Watson, of Winston-Salem was in great demand for speeches. Ever since he came here the old veterans have demanded that he make a speech whenever he is seen in a crowd. And he takes a keen delight in talking to the "boys," as he calls the old vets.

Judge Walter Clark, Judges A. W. Graham and W. J. Peale, of Raleigh, who have been here during the week looking after the work given them in securing data as to where the North Carolina troops fought, believe they have ample proof that the Tar Heel troops went furthest in Pickett's famous charge, and wish they got back home they intend to make public the information secured.

## Fewer Penitents "Conscience" Stricken Than in Years.

Washington, July 6.—Fewer penitents, tortured by the "Still small voice" confessed and surrendered "conscience money" to the Federal government during the fiscal year 1913 than for many years. The "conscience fund" received during the 12 months ended June 30 totaled only 2,814.44, the lowest amount since 1901 and comparable with a 100 year average of \$4,200.

That fund is the only official index to scruples, but no treasury official attempts to explain the decrease in restitution of money received from the government by fraud or error.

During the past 100 years the government has received conscience contributions aggregating nearly a half million dollars, the exact figures up to June 30 last being 434,615.69.

The remarkable fund was established during President Madison's administration in 1811 when the first contribution of \$5 was received. The largest amount ever received in one year was \$36,886 in 1902, and the greatest individual contribution of \$18,669.60 was made to the collector of customs in New York more than a decade ago by an unknown person who probably had defrauded the government of tariff duties.

Treasury officials surround the fund with a certain degree of sacredness. Usually the penitents end their contribution anonymously, but if he signs his name his secret is locked in the archives of the government. It is the one place in the federal establishment where a contrite sinner may make confession and amend without the slightest danger of prosecution.

## Burch Station in This County Wants Agent.

Washington, July 5.—A petition was filed today with the interstate commerce commission by Charles W. Dockery and others against Southern Railway company seeking an order requiring the defendant company to build and maintain a station and an agent at Burch, on the Wilkesboro branch of the Southern. It is alleged in the petition that the revenue, amounting to several thousand dollars annually, derived by the company from this station, is amply sufficient to warrant the company in granting the relief prayed for; that the company has refused, though often requested and petitioned, to provide a station and agent, and that there is no place for the deposit of freight or the accommodation of passengers, or any facilities reasonably sufficient to accommodate and serve the needs and demands of the public; that the failure of the company to provide the necessary facilities is a discrimination against this locality.

While apparently the case is not of great importance, it is entirely possible that it will decisively settle the mooted question of the power and authority of the commission to compel carriers to provide station facilities at a point within a state.

## Flag Desecrations.

Washington, July 5.—Two incidents involving desecrations of national flags which marked celebrations yesterday are expected to form the subject of complaints to the state department, though so far nothing has been heard from them.

The affair at Winnipeg, Man., involving the trampling of an American flag at a British parade, probably cannot be made the basis of an official protest because the international law does not guarantee protection of flags of a foreign country except where they are displayed over official buildings.

In the Tucson, Ariz., incident, however, where the flag over the Mexican consulate was torn down the state department probably will feel obliged to request the local authorities to make a proper apology and amend to the Mexican consul, if that can be done without involving any official recognition of the Huerta government, which appears to be the great apprehension of the state department at this juncture.

## WAS NEGRO TEACHER HAMILTON MURDERED?

### Once Was Valet to Frenchman Who is Reported to Have Left eLegacy.

Greensboro News, 4th.

The body of Hamilton Clark, the negro A. & M. college professor who was found dead with a pistol hole through his heart in Mount Airy Wednesday morning passed through the city yesterday and was put on train No. 36 to be carried to the home of the sister of the deceased in Washington. One of the professors of the college accompanied the body to its destination.

Though most of the available evidence in the case still points to the decision of the coroner's jury at Mount Airy that the man committed suicide as the most probable explanation of his death, there has grown up some strong doubt in the minds of those who knew the negro professor and some suspicion of foul play has arisen among the authorities of the college.

Whatever was the cause of his death, it is the universal opinion the the legacy which the deceased thought that he would receive on the first of July, whether real or imagined, had much to do with his death.

There are two conflicting theories. One holds that the matter of the legacy was a hallucination of the mind of the negro, that he had somehow become obsessed with the queer delusion that he was to receive \$101,000 from a white benefactor, which gift he thought would come to him on the first of July, and that when the first came no legacy was received, he left hurriedly for Mt. Airy and killed himself because of the depression resultant upon the destruction of his cherished delusion.

The other suspicion which has arisen in the minds of some of his friends is to the effect that there may have been something to the legacy actually, and that some interested person lured him to Mt. Airy and killed him to get him out of the way. Some of the professors of the college state that they have seen papers belonging to the deceased, which bear out his strange tale about the legacy.

It was his story that he once served as valet to a very rich Frenchman in the city of Washington, and that this man left him a legacy of \$101,000, to take effect on July 1, 1913. President Dudley declares that the manner of Clark clearly showed the effect of association with some one of the French nationality his excessive politeness, and his vivacious manner of speech.

It is further asserted by President Dudley that Clark was never known to be melancholy, that he never drank, or smoked, and that he was never known to have a revolver. These facts with the additional fact that the shot was fired Tuesday night and the other occupants of the house seem not to have heard it and not to have found the body until the following morning, are thought by some to cast a shadow of suspicion upon the conjecture that the death was caused by suicide. However, this conjecture still stands as the most probable, in the face of the evidence to hand, until further information can be secured.

## Public School Examination.

The examination for the white teachers of the public schools of Surry County will be held at Dobson on Thursday and Friday, July 10 and 11th, 1913; and for colored teachers, on the 12, Saturday.

Please bear in mind that private examinations are not given unless some lawful excuse is rendered for not attending the public examination.

W. M. Cundiff,  
Supt. of Schools.

## Rheumatism Quickly Cured.

"My sister's husband had an attack of rheumatism in his arm," writes a well known resident of Newton, Ia. "I gave him a bottle of Chamberlain's Liniment which he applied to his arm and on the next morning the rheumatism was gone." For chronic muscular rheumatism you will find nothing better than Chamberlain's Liniment. Sold by All Dealers.

## ONE MAN BUILDING RAILROAD IN KANSAS.

### Where It is Going or Why He is Building It He Won't Tell. He Works all Alone.

Dodge City, Kan., July 6.—In the spring of 1908 a farmer in the Spring Creek Valley in Hodgeman county was approached by an old German, a stranger, who asked to buy a strip of land across part of his farm. Surprised at the request, the farmer questioned the old German and finally learned the land was wanted for a railroad right of way.

The farmer could not believe that his visitor was the representative of a railway company and his belief was justified by the frank admission of the stranger that he was not backed by any company. He wanted the land for his own use, he said. He was to be the sole railroad builder.

That was the way Rudolph Meyer started on his railroad construction. His queer enterprise provoked no end of comment among the farmers in the neighborhood, but comment did not interest this hard working, uncommunicative Teuton in the least. Men said five years ago that he would soon quit his quixotic campaign to throw up a grade across a broken prairie country where some of the hills had to be seventy feet.

But Rudolph Meyer is still working. Men believed that when he exhausted his supply of money—and his appearance did not indicate that he had much—he would have to quit work because of lack of right of way to work on. But he has always had the cash ready to pay for the next strip of land, no matter how much the owner asked for it.

Meyer has worked five years now and has hardly five miles of road grade to show for his toil. A little mule team and a single scraper comprise his complete outfit. With it he works all day when the weather is fine. When the ground is frozen or soaked with water he whiles away his time in his little cook shack, which is always stationed near the part of the grade he is at work on.

The work of Rudolph Meyer has been the topic of keen speculation among railroad men in western Kansas. What induced him to undertake a job of that kind? Who furnishes funds for carrying on the work? What route does he intend to follow? What railroad is interested in the project? Is he crazy? These are the questions that have been discussed over and over again the last five years.

And Rudolph Meyer is the last man in the world to throw light on the puzzle. The questions have been put to Meyer on different occasions, but they might as well have been withheld so far as eliciting information is concerned. No cross-examiner has yet managed to extract from the old grader any information that amounts to anything. And no information has been dug up from any other source. It is a peculiar project carried out in a peculiar manner by a peculiar man.

A party of visitors to the scene of the strange railroad grade recently found the lonesome cook shack of the grader huddled down in a valley between two high hills flowering above it was hte grade of 70 feet, hauled into place a scraper full at a time by the patient labor of the old worker and his mules.

Stretching away to the northeast toward Jetmore are the few miles of grade which Meyer has to show for the five years of work. All the dirt in the grade was hauled by Meyer; he holds and dumps the scraper. He is the workman, the hostler, the cook, the whole crew on an enterprise that should have the service of a high grade engineer and an experienced contractor.

Meyer never objects to talking to visitors. He seems to enjoy a chat with those who swoon down on his little camp to find out all about his business and he always manages to work out an extremely indefinite answer to all questions. The visitors wanted to find out how he happened to start a railroad grade there.

"Oh, I just picked out an easy place to build one," Meyer repli-

ed. "Where was he going? Meyer had no objection to telling. Just going over onto the flats; but he hadn't figured any further than that."

Just ahead of where he is working another fill must be built up and just beyond that is a discouraging raise where a cut must be made through the high hill. When a visitor pointed to these Meyer merely observed that further on it was level.

When it was suggested that the Sante Fe, which has a branch to Jetmore and might like to have a line up the valley of the Pawnee, might be interested in a line there he said, "Well I guess the Sante Fe is all right in some ways; I don't know much about 'em."

He said he had not had much experience in building grades, but finally remembered that he had helped build a little grade for the Sante Fe. Meyer admitted that his plan is to cross the Hodgeman county line about six miles further south than Jetmore, and he thought it would be a good place to start a town near the county line.

Some of the people say the terms of the deeds are that unless trains are running over the grades within six years after the deeds are executed the land shall revert back to the original owners. If that is true Meyer will have to hurry. But it is pretty hard to get accurate information when the only man who knows won't tell.

It is the right of way that may cause a hitch in the work at last. Meyer has almost completed the work on the right of way he has, and has tried to buy some more. The owners of the land wanted have so far refused to sell and hope in that way to force the builder to show his hand. Anyway they have decided to hold up the work for a while.

But Rudolph Meyer does not appear to worry. He thinks he knows a way in which difficulties of that kind can be avoided.

## After 20 Years Leaves Pulpit to Practice Law.

Griffin, Ga., July 5.—With the loop-the-loop jump Dr. Dent Atkinson, who for more than 20 years has been a Presbyterian minister, and for some years recently has been in Chautauqua work, while here in connection with the Chautauqua recently closed quit that field of work, laid aside the ministerial robes, withdrew from the Republican party to the Democratic and took an examination for admission to the bar of Georgia and was admitted by Judge Robert T. Daniel, of the Flint River circuit.

Dr. Atkinson is an Englishman by birth, but has been in this country 35 years. He holds a Ph. D. degree from the University of Illinois, as well as a diploma from Harvard. He has taken a three years' course in law training in Ohio Northern university and Chicago university. For years he has traveled, going around the world.

His purpose is to locate in Atlanta next September to enter actively into practice before the courts. Dr. Atkinson says his specialty in practice will be either criminal law or corporation.

## World's Leading Marksmen Heading for United States.

New York, July 5.—The leading marksmen of the world are already heading for the United States in order to participate in the international shooting tournament at Camp Perry, Ohio, September, 1-9. One of the most formidable teams is that which will represent Switzerland. It was at first thought that the entry would have to be canceled, but momentary difficulties having been overcome, a team of the best Swiss marksmen under the captaincy of M. Meyer de Statelhofen, a Geneva lawyer, and a splendid shot, will sail for New York in August to take part in the Camp Perry tournament.

The team is the best that Switzerland can send, and the wagering there is three to one that it will win. Out of the sixteen international meetings during the last decade Switzerland has won fifteen times, and was second once by only a few points.

## Repeated Pickett's Charge.

Gettysburg, Pa., Dispatch, 3rd.

A handful of men in gray reenacted today the charge of Pickett across the field of Gettysburg. Up the slope of Cemetery Ridge, where death kept step with them in '63, 150 veterans of the Virginia regiments of that immortal brigade made their slow parade. Under the brow of this ridge in the Bloody Angle, where the Philadelphia brigade stood that day, was a handful in blue scarcely larger, waiting to meet the onslaught of peace. There were no flashing sabres, no belching guns, only eyes that dimmed fast and kindly faces behind the stone wall that marks the angle. At the end in place of wounds or prison or death, were handshakes, speeches and mingling cheers.

The veterans in gray marched for a quarter of a mile over the ground that they traversed during the charge. They came up the slope in column of fours, irregularly but responsive to the commands of Major W. W. Bentley, of the 24th Virginia. Ahead of them marched a band and well down the column was a faded Confederate flag, its red fold pierced with many holes and its shaft colored with the sweat of many a man who died that it might fly high in the last desperate effort to pierce the Union lines. Its progress was slow and painful, for the timothy in the field was high and its plowed surface was not easy for world-weary feet. Up to the very edge of the stone wall, covered now with tangled vines and shaded by trees, they marched in the hot sun, while the band played "Dixie." There they stood for half an hour while their comrades in blue peered across at them.

The blue line formed behind the walls. Overhead floated a faded standard of the second army corps. Behind them were the statues of the Philadelphia brigade and the fourth U. S. A. battery, where General Armistead died.

As the men in gray formed in a long line facing the wall, the stars and bars and the flag of the second corps were crossed in unity; the stars and stripes was unfurled and the crowd that came to watch burst into cheer. Representative J. Hampton Moore of Pennsylvania made a long speech and Major Bentley answered him on behalf of the South. The veterans in gray were given a medal provided by John Wanamaker. They crowded over the stone wall, shook hands and the charge was over.

## What Ambassadors May Do.

Ambassadors have curious privileges. Most people know that they and their households are safe from arrest, and embassy being considered a geographical part of the ambassador's own country. But there are many less well known. The ambassador is the only person about a court who has the right to turn his back on the sovereign at the end of an interview. And he always exercises it, turning to bow after walking three paces. This, of course, refers to state occasions.

This worked out rather funny in Queen Victoria's time. To turn one's back on a lady would be rude; to retire backwards would be to resign a privilege, so the ambassadors always compromised by edging sideways towards the door like a crab.

Another privilege of ambassadors is the right of having both leaves of the folding doors thrown open when being ushered into the royal presence. No one else can claim this privilege.

Another highly prized privilege of the ambassador—one that sovereigns must often regret—is that of being able to demand an interview with the sovereign whenever it chooses, at any hour of the day or night.

The sword is the ambassador's emblem of honor. It is a long rapier with a blunted point. One great diplomatist—the late Lord Dufferin used to say that the only practical use he ever found for it was to poke fires with and file bills on.