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GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed Into Brief Paragraphs.

A bill for the disfranchisement of the negro has been introduced into the Georgia legislature.

Mrs. Zeralda James, widow of Jesse James, the noted bandit, died Tuesday at her home in Kansas City, Mo.

The veterinary college building, one of the finest buildings of Cornell University, was damaged \$25,000 Tuesday morning.

The Baltimore schooner James J. Reese, lumber laden, was lost in Chesapeake Bay Monday. The crew of four were drowned.

O. H. P. Belmont's illustrated political weekly, The Verdict, has suspended after two years of publication. Mr. Belmont sunk about \$30,000.

Isaac Gathan, a prominent citizen of Atlanta, was run down by an electric car in the centre of that city Tuesday. His injuries resulted fatally.

Grant Bros., stock brokers, of New York, made an assignment Tuesday. It is said that the stoppage of the firm's business was due to the defalcation of \$150,000 to \$175,000.

A forest fire burned Brookings mill at Fredalbra Park, Cal. Over 10,000,000 feet of lumber was burned. The flames could be seen 60 miles away. The damage is estimated at \$400,000.

Fire destroyed the Wichita Falls mill and elevator at Fort Worth, Tex., Tuesday. Over 20,000 bushels of wheat were burned with the buildings. Loss about \$140,000, fully insured.

In a fight over business affairs connected with operation of a store at Bonita, La., P. S. Batecher killed his partners, J. A. Williams and F. F. Welbourne. All three were prominent citizens.

Ten people were injured in a collision between a northbound Lake Shore passenger train and an extra freight train, which met head on three miles south of Kalamazoo, Mich., Tuesday afternoon.

The plant of The Evening Star and Times at Winchester, Va., was badly damaged by fire Tuesday morning. The fire undoubtedly was incendiary origin. The loss is \$3,000, fully covered by insurance.

Capt. John D. Hart, of Cuban filibustering fame, died in Philadelphia Tuesday. During 1896 two of his vessels made frequent trips to Cuba with arms and ammunition for the Cubans. Capt. Hart was born in Virginia.

In a dispatch to the war office, dated at Johannesburg, Nov. 12, Gen. Roberts gave details of five skirmishes with the Boers. He says the commandos appear to act independently, with no particular object except to cause as much annoyance to the British as possible.

A difficulty occurred Monday afternoon at Deudron, Va., between Robert Palmer and Henry Mason, negroes, during which the latter was shot and killed by the former. Palmer was subsequently arrested and has since confessed that he killed Mason, but says that he did so in self defense.

A cable from Paris, Nov. 14, says The Figaro makes the following sensational statement: "A recrudescence of royalism is imminent. The Duke of Orleans has ordered meetings in the wards of Paris and the movement will be extended to the departments, when well on foot in the capital."

Because the cable between Galveston and Vera Cruz, Mexico, was broken in several places, and rolled up into tangled piles in several places during the late hurricane which swept over the island, the opinion is entertained that the hurricane was accompanied by a subterranean eruption, which would account for the extraordinary tidal wave.

In 1884 Frederick White was sent to Coventry, N. Y., by his wife to buy a sack of flour. He returned Monday carrying the flour on his shoulder. In the meantime he had sojourned to the west, acquiring a cattle ranch and a small fortune. He grieved his wife by saying: "Here's your flour, Maria. I didn't forget it." White was long ago given up as dead.

A Centerville, Md., dispatch, 13th, says: Two brothers, Charles and William E. Denny, who lived in a little shanty on Kent Island, near the Chester river steamboat wharf, and engaged in fishing and oystering, were found dead yesterday, one in his shanty and the other in the freight house on the wharf. They were between 40 and 43 years of age. The cause of death is supposed to have been drinking Jamaica ginger in place of whiskey.

To remove a troublesome corn or bunion: First soak the corn or bunion in warm water to soften it, then pare it down as closely as possible without drawing blood and apply Chamberlain's Pain Balm twice daily; rubbing vigorously for five minutes at each application. A corn plaster should be worn for a few days, to protect it from the shoe. As a general liniment for sprains, bruises, lameness and rheumatism. Pain Balm is unequalled. For sale by J. E. Hood.

MASTER OF HIMSELF.

The Test Was a Unique One, but the Boy Stood It.

That was a unique way in which Mr. Smith, a merchant of an eastern city in want of a boy, is said to have tested the young applicants who came to him. He put a sign in his window: "Wanted, a Boy; Wages \$4; \$6 to the Right One."

As each applicant appeared the merchant asked, "Can you read?" Then he took the boy into a quiet room, gave him an open book and bade him read without a break until told to stop.

When the reading had been going on for a few minutes, Mr. Smith dropped a book to the floor and then rose and moved certain articles about the room. This was sufficient to pique the curiosity of some of the candidates. They looked up, lost their place on the page, blundered, and the merchant said: "You may stop. I shall not need you at present. I want a boy who is master of himself."

If the reader was undisturbed by Mr. Smith's movements, a lot of roguish puppies were tumbled out of a basket and encouraged to frolic about the floor. This proved too much for most of the boys. They looked, hesitated and were dismissed.

Boy after boy underwent the same treatment until over 30 had been tried and had failed to control their curiosity. At length, one morning, a boy read steadily on without manifesting any desire to look at the puppies.

"Stop!" said the merchant finally. "Did you see those puppies?"

"No, sir," replied the boy. "I could not see them and read too."

"You knew they were there?"

"Yes, sir."

"Are you fond of dogs?"

"Yes, sir."

"All right. I think you will suit me," said the merchant. "Come tomorrow. Your wages will start at \$4, and if you prove master of yourself, as I think you will, you shall have \$6, perhaps more."

It was not many weeks before the wages were \$6, and promotions followed. Now the young man fills a high position in the store. — Youth's Companion.

Quicksilver.

The ore from which quicksilver is obtained is a brilliant red rock known as cinnabar. When of high purity, it is actually vermilion in color. Cinnabar is the original source of the pigment known commercially as vermilion. It is a compound of sulphur and quicksilver, and in order to separate the latter from the sulphur the rock is roasted. Passing off in the form of a gas, the mercury is afterward condensed and flows out in a fine stream, like a continuous pencil of molten silver.

The discovery of the famous California mines came about in an odd sort of way by observation of the vermilion paint with which certain Indians in that part of the country frescoed their bodies. It was ascertained where they got the pigment, and thus were revealed the rich deposits which subsequently became of such commercial importance. Like gold and silver, mercury is occasionally found in a native or pure state. Sometimes the miner's pick penetrates a cavity that contains a cupful or more of the elusive and beautiful fluid.

Miners suffer much from the poisonous effects of the quicksilver fumes. Extreme cleanliness is the best safeguard for workers in this dangerous occupation. Use is also made of a sort of lemonade which serves to a certain extent as an antidote, a strong acid taking the place of lemon juice in the composition of the drink. — Saturday Evening Post.

Shakespeare in the Bible.

In Shakespeare's name lies the key to a wonderful cryptogram. The spelling "Shakespeare" was the poet's nom de plume, while "Shakespere" was his name, an evident change from "Shakespeare." In each of the two spellings last given are ten letters—four vowels and six consonants. Combine these two figures, and we have the number 46, the key to the mystery.

Turning to the Forty-sixth Psalm in the revised version, it is found that the psalm is divided into three portions, each one ending with "selah." Remember the number—46.

Counting 46 words from the beginning of the psalm, one reads the word "shake" in the first portion, and counting 46 words from the end of the psalm one reaches the word "spear." There is "Shakespeare" as plainly as letters can make it.—London Answers.

Chamberlain's Stomach and Diver Tablets cure biliousness, constipation and headache. They are easy to take and pleasant in effect. For sale by J. E. Hood.

THE STORE DETECTIVE.

At Times He Makes It Unpleasant For Others Than Thieves.

A young woman who sings in a church choir in this city was in one of the department stores the other day when the detective employed there stopped beside her and, pointing to a woman with a long cape and a bag at an adjoining counter, said:

"Just watch that woman work."

The singer saw the woman take two articles from the counter when the shopgirl was not looking and drop them into her bag.

"Why; she is stealing," she said.

"Yes," said the detective, "and if you will follow her to the next counter with me you will see her take more things."

The singer was interested, and she walked along with the detective. Two more articles were dropped in the bag, and then the detective arrested the shoplifter. She made the usual scene and protested her innocence. The detective asked the singer if she would step back to the office with him and corroborate his charges, and she went, unconscious of further trouble. There was no doubt as to the shoplifter's guilt. She came of a respectable family, and she convinced the singer that she took the articles not because she needed them or the money that they would bring, but because she had the shoplifting habit.

When these facts were settled, the detective thanked the singer for her assistance and told her that she must be in the police court at 9 o'clock on the following morning as a witness. It was the singer's turn to make a scene. She protested against being dragged into a police court and said that such notoriety would seriously injure her in her work. The detective insisted, and had the charge against the shoplifter not been withdrawn before the case reached the court the singer would have been one of the witnesses. She denounced the detective and the store which employed him for imposing on its patrons in that fashion, and she is going to make it her business hereafter to keep out of the way of store detectives. Had the singer been forced to go to court her punishment in the consequential notoriety would have been almost as hard as that inflicted on the shoplifter. — New York Sun.

The Hollow Bones of Birds.

The hollow bones of birds are frequently cited as beautiful instances of providential mechanics in building the strongest and largest possible limb with the least expenditure of material, and this is largely true, and yet birds, like ducks, which cleave the air with the speed of an express train, have the long bones filled with marrow or saturated with fat, while the lumbering hornbill, that fairly hurtles over the tree tops, has one of the most completely pneumatic skeletons imaginable, permeated with air to the very toe tips, and the ungainly pelican is nearly as well off. Still it is but fair to say that the frigate bird and turkey buzzards, creatures which are most at ease when on the wing, have extremely light and hollow bones; but, comparing one bird with another, the paramount importance of a pneumatic skeleton to a bird is not as evident as that of a pneumatic tire to a bicycle. — Popular Science Monthly.

Shakespearean Authority.

"This expression of yours, Miss De Muir," said the teacher of the class in rhetoric, who had been examining her essay, "is exceedingly faulty. You say 'It made the very air sick.' How can you think of the atmosphere being 'sick'?"

"It seems to me," replied Miss De Muir, "I have read somewhere of an ill wind." — Chicago Tribune.

Ancient Cast Steel.

The manufacture of cast steel in India can be traced back for over 2,000 years, while there are also examples of wrought iron work nearly as old. Near Delhi, close to the Kutub, there is an enormous wrought iron pillar which weighs ten tons and is thought to be over 1,800 years old. — Chicago Chronicle.

AUGUST FLOWER.

"It is a surprising fact," says Prof. Houten, "that in my travels in all parts of the world for the last ten years, I have met more people having used Green's August Flower than any other remedy for dyspepsia, deranged liver and stomach and for constipation." I find for tourists and salesmen, or for persons filling office positions, where headaches and general bad feelings from irregular habits exist, that Green's August Flower is a grand remedy. It does not injure the system by frequent use, and is excellent for sour stomach and indigestion. Sample bottle free at Temple-Marston drug store.

Sold by dealers in all civilized countries.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Probably an Increase of Eighteen Members Under New Apportionment. States to Lose a Member.

Washington, Nov. 13.—Director of Census Merriam was at the white house today. He called the attention of the president to the fact that the figures on the population of the United States, the total of which has been announced, are in such shape that they will be at the disposal of congress when it meets for any action it may desire to take in the direction of a re-apportionment bill. The re-apportionment following the count of the twelfth census will become operative by law in 1903. There probably will be a considerable increase both in the ratio and the total number of representatives under the new apportionment. Starting with the ratio of one to every thirty thousand inhabitants, there were sixty-five representatives in the first congress.

This ratio under the tenth census reached 151,911, giving the house of representatives 325 members. The eleventh census in 1890 gave a population of 62,622,250, or an increase of 12,500,000.

With this the ratio was increased to 173,901 people to each representative, and at this ratio the house numbered 356 members, an increase of 21. The ratio under the new census probably will reach 200,000. With an increase of 13,225,464 shown by the present census and letting the majority fractions of the apportionment count for an additional number, as has been the custom, this will make an increase of eighteen members in the next house. Re-apportionment on this basis would leave but four states that would lose a representative. They are Maine and Virginia in the east and Kansas and Arkansas in the west. They would lose one member each. Any ratio smaller than two hundred thousand, which would save them their full representation, would if it is thought, make an unwieldy addition to the membership of the house.

EASTERN CAROLINA.

Wonderful Resources. No More Senatorial Primaries.

Washington Post, Nov. 14.

Dr. Walter C. Murphy, just returned from a visit to his mother, said today to a group of friends at the Metropolitan hotel that the developments of the material resources of eastern North Carolina were most gratifying. "Nature has reclaimed all the land from Norfolk to Charleston from the sea. Marine skeletons and deposits of marl are found many miles inland. It is a level, sandy loam. A railroad company has a stretch of forty-five miles without curve, excavation, or embankment. It was originally covered with long leaved pine, valuable for timber, tar, pitch, and turpentine. Modern methods have converted the short leaved pine, equally as abundant, into valuable building materials, and this industry has carried millions of dollars into that section. The climate is semi-tropical, and palms and other tropical plants grow at the mouth of the Cape Fear river. These conditions, and facilities for rapid transportation, make trucking profitable. And all available land, contiguous to transportation, has received a gratifying impulse."

Should all other states decide to elect their senators by a popular vote, he believes the Old North State would vote "No." The competition for Mr. Butler's seat, to be filled by the legislature in January, developed the keenest rivalry among many distinguished Democrats. A senatorial primary was agreed upon, and it is almost the universal opinion among the friends of all the candidates that the innovation of a senatorial primary is not again desired in North Carolina.

A special from Charlotte says news reaches there of the desperate illness of Mrs. Nancy Holifield, said to be the oldest living person in the United States. Mrs. Holifield lives near Ellenboro, N.C. Last fall she contracted cold and since then has been gradually growing worse. Mrs. Holifield does not know her exact age, but relates incidents in her life which took place over a century ago. A number of people who live in the same section say Mrs. Holifield must be about 117 years old. The lady herself states that she is over 110, but does not say how much.

Hard Coughs

No matter how hard your cough is or how long you have had it, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is the best thing you could possibly take. If you are coughing today, don't wait until tomorrow, but get a bottle of Cherry Pectoral at once and be relieved. The first dose will make you feel better.

Three sizes: No. 1, enough for an ordinary cold; No. 2, just right for asthma, bronchitis, neuritis, whooping cough, hoarse voice; No. 3, more economical for chronic cases.

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

The 3-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Rial Jonnikin, living near Henderson, was burned to death Sunday.

A passenger train on the Southern jumped the track at Burlington Wednesday. The engineer and a passenger were slightly hurt. The train ran 100 yards on the ground.

Dr. Thos. D. Ward, who died in Raleigh last week, by his will, bequeaths \$3,000 to St. Mary's Female College and \$7,000 to the University of North Carolina to aid deserving students.

At the opera house in Charlotte, Monday, while a troupe was playing "The Mascot" a negro fell down the stairway leading to the gallery. He was so badly injured he died that night.

Lumberton Robesonian: Mr. Felton, proprietor of the hotel at Rowland, while at a saw-mill near there, became entangled in the machinery and had his leg cut off, from the effects of which he died Thursday night.

Mr. P. M. Pearsall, secretary of the State Democratic executive committee, has been tendered the position of private secretary to Gov.-elect Aycock and has notified him that he will accept. Mr. Pearsall will fill the place with ability.

Durham Herald: Old man Buck Blackwell was last week elected treasurer of this town, an office that pays something like \$25 a month, and we suppose he was glad to get it. If the old man had one-tenth of what is owing him by men who are living easy around this town he would forever be put beyond want.

Greensboro Record: Just about the toughest story, but no doubt true, comes from Burlington—a man sick and neglected until he was a mass of running sores, "varmints" taking possession of him as if he had been a piece of decayed meat. A fake doctor is charged with the crime. After the condition of things was discovered Mr. Eugene Holt sent a reputable physician to the man and he is said to be getting well.

Wilmington Messenger: Minnie Farmer, a dissolute woman who came here from Fayetteville a short while ago, was found dead in bed Tuesday morning at the house of Frankie Lee. Dr. W. F. Stokes, the coroner, was notified, but after viewing the body and seeing no evidence of foul play, he did not deem it necessary to hold an inquest. His opinion was that death resulted from acute gastritis, caused by alcoholic drink.

Greensboro Cor. Charlotte Observer: An analysis of the official vote of Guilford county in last week's election discloses the fact that the Democratic vote fell off 775 votes from the August election, while the Republican loss was only about 400. Had the full Democratic vote been polled Mr. Kitchin's majority in this county, would have been about 900. Some account for the slump by reasoning that, while the Republicans held an election, the Democrats contented themselves with a senatorial primary.

Charlotte Observer: Mules are high. A good animal cannot be bought for less than \$160, and if the increase in demand continues this spring these figures will be raised to \$190 or \$200. Thus Mecklenburg farmers who own good pasture lands might profit by raising their own mules. Dr. J. T. Kell, as an experiment, started in the mule breeding business on his own hook about 12 years ago. Since that time he has raised about 20 at an average cost of about \$60 a head. The mules produced were large and useful.

A special from Dunn, 13th inst., says a most cruel and unnatural murder was unearthed near there Monday by the discovery of the body of a child drowned in an old well in the edge of Cumberland county. It was found to be the two-year-old child of a negro woman, living near town, by the name of Melissa Clegg. Upon being arrested, the heathen mother confessed that it was her child; that she carried it while asleep and threw it in the well and took a pole and held it under water until drowned. She gave as her reason that she could not take care of it and wanted to get rid of it. The murderer will be sent to Cumberland county jail to await trial in that county.

Statesville Landmark: About two weeks ago Hunter Angle, a young son of Dr. J. B. Angle, of Eagle Mills township, and John Harp, of the same neighborhood, engaged in a dispute about some trivial matter and hot words passed. Young Angle had a banjo in his hands at the time he struck Harp on the back of the head with it, fracturing his skull. Harp was apparently not seriously hurt at the time and went home. In a day or two he began to complain of his head hurting him, but did not go to bed or secure medical attention, and it is also said he drank rather freely for several days. Finally he grew so much worse that neighboring physicians were called in and Dr. W. J. Hill, of Statesville, was also called. The doctors found that Harp's wound was a serious one, that the brain is affected and there is some doubt as to his recovery. Young Angle is a grandson of Dr. S. Angle, and is about 16 years old. Harp is a man of 35 or 40 more.