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GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed Into Brief Paragraphs.

Dewet, the Boer general, has again outwitted the British and escaped.

The average salaries paid school teachers in the United States last year were \$45.24 a month for men and \$38.14 for women.

In a head end collision at Desarc, Mo., Wednesday, between freight trains, two trainmen were killed and four injured. Both engines were demolished.

The New York Tribune publishes a letter from Andrew Carnegie, favoring an isthmian canal, but opposing any treaty with England upon the subject.

Washington City on Wednesday celebrated in great shape the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the seat of federal government at Washington.

The official canvass of New York state shows McKinley's plurality to be 143,606. Odell's plurality is 111,126. Bryan carried only four counties in the state.

The British chancellor of the exchequer announces to the house of commons that the Transvaal shall be made to pay a considerable proportion of England's war debt.

General Roberts has issued an order prescribing the circumstances under which Boer farm houses must be burned. He orders provisions and cattle taken from all farms.

Florence Wickham, wife of J. E. Wickham, committed suicide at Port Jervis, N. Y., Wednesday morning. He had found a man concealed in her room and told her he would institute suit for divorce.

Advices from Colombia report desperate fighting in nearly every state. The most desperate fighting is now going on in the department of Bolivar. The government forces are getting the best of the insurgents.

The revolt of the students at the University of Alabama, at Tuscaloosa, continues. The faculty is investigating the affair and the board of trustees has been called together. The students are fighting against both the president and the commandant.

An Alabama deputy constable was shot Wednesday and probably fatally wounded by occupants of a wagon which he thought was hauling blockade liquor, they taking him and the officers with him for highwaymen. One of the officers returned the fire and wounded both occupants of the wagon.

It is stated as a curious fact that if the Hay-Pauncefote treaty is ratified at the present session of congress it will be by the aid of Democratic votes; that some southern Democratic senators are so anxious to secure the construction of the isthmian canal that they are willing to sink their antagonism to the treaty in order that, by getting it out of the way, an obstacle to the canal may be removed.

The steamship "Empress of India," arrived at Victoria, B. C., Wednesday, brought details of one of the most stormy passages on record of the great typhoon which ravaged Hong Kong on Nov. 10, causing heavy loss of life and immense loss to shipping. No part of the city escaped wreckage and general debris was strewn everywhere. The British gunboat Sandpiper foundered and some of her seamen lost their lives. The American ship Benjamin Seawell went ashore and in all 77 steam launches were wrecked and over 2,500 natives were drowned.

GLENFIELD ITEMS.

December 13, 1900.

Miss Myrtle Heath, of Institute, spent Sunday with Miss Lizzie Moore.

There were no services at Rainbow Sunday, owing to the absence of the pastor.

Mr. Jeff Price and son, of Seven Springs, spent several days this week at Mr. Chas. Lassiter's.

Miss Lola Sutton, who had been spending several days with Miss Bela Sugg, returned home Sunday.

Misses Myrtle Tucker and Pede Jones, and Mess. Jno. Jones and George Tucker, of near Kinston, spent Saturday night and Sunday at Mr. J. J. Moore's.

Bad Coughs

If you have taken just a little cold, perhaps vinegar and molasses or a little honey will stop your little cough. Even then there's a "perhaps" about it. Better get Ayer's Cherry Pectoral while you are about it. It cures the easy ones, and the hardest of the hard ones, too. There is nothing so bad for a cough as coughing.

These show the strength for an ordinary cold, but right the cough, bronchitis, hoarseness, whooping-cough, hard colds, etc., most successful for chronic cases.

The Tulip Craze.

About the middle of the seventeenth century the tulip became known in Germany, and a scientist named Gesner gives the first description of this flower. First only the yellow variety was known, and then other colors were produced by crossing. The Dutch, particularly the citizens of Haarlem, produced the most wonderful varieties of this flower and obtained enormous prices for them.

In 1634 the trade in tulips assumed a peculiar turn. It degenerated into a sort of a game of chance, so that in 1673 the authorities felt called upon to interfere and to issue edicts against extravagance in tulips, as they formerly had against trains and laces. This interference would seem to be justified if one reads that in 1606 a single flower of this sort, called the Viceori, was paid for with two cargoes of wheat, four cargoes of rye, four fat oxen, eight fat hogs, 12 fat sheep, two casks of wine, four barrels of beer, two tons of butter, 1,000 pounds of cheese, a complete bed, a suit of clothing and a silver tankard.

Another bulb, the Semper Augustus, was paid for with 4,000 gold guilders and a coach with a double team of horses. In Haarlem the tulip craze reached its height in the decade from 1630 to 1640, when a price of 12,000 gold guilders (about \$9,000 American money) is recorded for a single bulb.

A Joke of Sydney Smith's.

On the occasion of a dinner Sydney Smith was the guest, and when the evening was over the host thanked the wit heartily for the entertainment he had afforded. "I shall not forget you, Mr. Smith," he added. "Thank you. Take care you don't forget yourself tomorrow (it was Saturday) in church," rejoined Smith, whereat the host, Kershaw by name, rather bridled up.

"I hope, sir, I know how to behave myself in church!" "Well," said Smith good temperedly, "if I catch you smiling I will call you by name." "You may," rejoined the visitor. "The thing is absurd. I will give you a donation to the York hospital if it happens."

On the ensuing morning Smith read the prayers reverently, as he always did, then ascended the pulpit, looked around the church and rested his eye on the visitor whose name was Kershaw. That gentleman said afterward that he did not know what possessed him, but so it was he gave a broad smile. Thereupon the preacher was seized with a violent inclination to sneeze, and, applying his handkerchief with suitable action, he sounded "ker-ker-shaw" three times over. From "The Reminiscences of Half a Century," by E. W. Hiley.

Bright's Threat to His Wife.

Two characteristic anecdotes of John Bright are given in Sir Edward Russell's memoirs, which he has published under the title "That Reminds Me."

Bright was supposed to be a total abstainer, but once when Edward Miall was very nervous at the prospect of having to make an important speech in the house, Bright said:

"Well, Miall, if I were you, I'd for once go and have a pint of champagne."

Mr. Miall did as he was told, and the result may be judged from the narrator's comment that "champagne on an unaccustomed interior is not always a curative or a tonic."

Bright, "rarely had any difference with his wife," but occasionally they were not at one about the children. When they came to a point of absolute disagreement, he used to say:

"Now, I tell thee, if thou doesn't do what I wish, I'll go straight to Mr. Gladstone and ask him to make me a knight," to which the answer invariably was:

"Oh, anything rather than that."

A Great Bawl.

Walter Damrosch once related an amusing experience that befell him in Orange. The musical director took upon himself the task of training a chorus in that burg. They were studying Mendelssohn's "Elijah" and had reached the chorus.

"Hear us, Bawl; hear us, mighty god!" the male voices were booming out sonorously, when Damrosch cried out, as in his wont: "No, no! Not that way. Not that dreadful howl! Don't say 'B-a-w-l'! Soften a little. Give a more musical sound to the words. Say 'Bawl!'"

"Whereupon," he says, "the Oranges took up the strain again:

"Hear us Bawl! Hear us Bawl! Hear us, mighty god!"

"They quickly realized the peculiar fitness of the sentiment and broke down in laughter."

SIMMONS AND AYCOOK.

Supper Given Last Night in Honor Of the State's Two Most Distinguished Citizens. Pleasant and Beneficial.

A number of the friends of Gov.-elect C. B. Aycock and Senator-elect F. M. Simmons gave a supper in compliment to them at the Lynch Hotel last night, commencing a few minutes after 9 o'clock.

The following were in attendance in addition to the honorable guests: W. D. Pollock, George Rountree, L. Harvey, Col. W. A. Bobbitt, Plato Collins, Dr. H. D. Harper, Sr., Dr. R. H. Lewis, H. E. Shaw, W. A. Mitchell, Mayor Geo. B. Webb, N. J. Rouse, Y. T. Ormond, Sheriff J. C. Wooten, J. W. Grainger, T. C. Wooten, Judge O. H. Allen, R. F. Powell, E. B. Lewis, Chas. F. Harvey, W. D. Suggs and W. S. Herbert.

Music was dispensed by an Italian band.

Mr. W. D. Pollock was toast master and presided with grace and ability.

Dr. H. D. Harper led in prayer.

Then those assembled partook of the following menu:

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| Pickles | Stewed OYSTERS | Fried Crackers |
| Coffee | Tea | Chocolate WAFERS |
| CHICKEN SALAD | | TURKEY WAFERS |
| COLD HAM | | Celery |
| Cranberry Sauce | | |
| WISCUIT | BREAD | |
| | CREAMED POTATOES | |
| | CHOCOLATE CAKE | COCOANUT CAKE |
| | PEACH CREAM | |
| | FRUITS | |
| Cheese Straws | Coffee | Whipped Cream |

Everything was prepared in the very nicest manner and the supper was relished and enjoyed by all.

Then Mr. Pollock introduced Mayor Webb, who extended the freedom of the city to the guests—North Carolina's two most distinguished citizens—in a few appropriate remarks. The mayor made a gem of a welcoming speech, notwithstanding that he was sleepy from the banquet of the previous evening.

Senator-elect Simmons responded to "Democracy Is Immortal," in a perfect speech of about fifteen minutes. He said the words "Democracy Is Immortal" derived much of their importance and interest from the fact that they were uttered by Zebulon B. Vance, North Carolina's greatest and best beloved citizen.

He said man is both mortal and immortal. The mortal part—the divine essence, the spirit—lives forever. Democracy is also both mortal and immortal. The mortal part, like that in man, dies, but the principal part, like the spiritual part of man, lives forever. The principle of democracy is immortal and will never die. Democracy is of the people, by the people and for the people. He referred to the grand history of Greece and Rome, and dwelt upon the glorious development of Greece during her first 300 years while the pure democratic principle prevailed, and of her great achievements in peace and war, in the arts, learning, etc. But after 300 years Greece acquired a little outlying territory by conquest and undertook to govern it despotically, thereby sowing the seeds of destruction, which undermined the democratic character of her own people and eventuated in the destruction of democracy in her home government. For centuries thereafter it seemed that the principle of democracy was obliterated, but not so; it was not dead; it lived in the minds and hearts of individuals and after centuries of quiet broke out into active life again.

He said the true principle of democracy in its broadest sense is the principle of the Democratic party, viz: The sovereignty of man; and will eventually be recognized the world over.

The speech of Mr. Simmons was learned, elegant, eloquent, interesting and inspiring, and we do not believe has ever been surpassed for such an occasion.

"We Pledge Our Lives, Our Fortunes and Our Sacred Honor" was responded to by Gov. Aycock in a short and practical speech, in which he explained that at the time of using the words in connection with the determination of the people of North Carolina to secure Anglo-Saxon supremacy they were meant in all seriousness. But it has fortunately turned out that no necessity arose to sacrifice life to secure white rule, and that we shall add to our honor, and to the material welfare of the State under Anglo-Saxon government by fostering her educational and industrial as well as her agricultural interests.

"The Judiciary of North Carolina" was fittingly responded to by Judge O. H. Allen. He began by quoting Addison, who had said of some question that there was much to be said on both sides of the subject. He thought that the fact of the intelligence of the North Carolina people, though largely illiterate, was somewhat due to the knowledge dispensed by the judiciary and the bar under the system of rotation in holding courts, and related an incident of a Methodist preacher who left North Carolina and located in Mississippi, where he became not only a presiding elder but also a superior court judge, holding both offices at the same time and filling them ably and acceptably.

"Our Hope for 1904" was responded to briefly but hopefully, encouragingly and ably by Hon. T. C. Wooten, who led the State electoral ticket at the last election.

"The Machine" that is the political

machine, was responded to by Mr. Plato Collins. He said that a good many people have a perfect horror of the "machine" in politics and imagine that if it was defeated there would be a big explosion and that the air would be full of flying wheels, cogs, bursted boilers, etc. He pointed out that what is called the "machine" is nothing more than organization and begins with the people, starting at the township executive committee, and goes up gradually until we have the national executive committee. Mr. Collins made one of the best speeches of the occasion, and all of the speeches were good.

Mr. E. B. Lewis in a few appropriate remarks presented Hon. F. M. Simmons with a mammoth persimmon, grown by Dr. H. D. Harper in Kinston, to which Mr. Simmons replied in acceptance.

Dr. H. D. Harper was called on and made a short talk, in which he voiced the sentiment, not only of his hearers but the entire State, in saying that the State's interests will be in safe hands the next four years with Aycock as governor and Simmons representing her in the United States senate.

All present expressed themselves as glad at having been there—at one of the most enjoyable occasions of their lives and the meeting broke up about 11:30 o'clock, all feeling that they had not only passed a pleasant evening but had been benefitted by the social intercourse.

Harry Lindley Co.

Funny Harry Lindley and his excellent company presented "Woman Against Woman," a four-act comedy drama in the opera house last night.

Mr. Lindley has a fine reputation as a comedian in Kinston, having appeared here nearly ten years ago, and he sustains the reputation already made. He is not the entire show though, for his support is excellent.

The specialties were all new and very good.

There have been a great many worse companies of this class to appear here, and but few better ones.

"The Castaways" will be presented tonight.

Seats are on sale at Woodley's drug store.

Black Diamonds.

Black diamonds are comparatively rare and correspondingly high priced. They are three or four times as hard as the white ones, and fire cannot harm them, however great the heat, but if a drop of water should touch them while heated they will explode and leave nothing but a little heap of sand in their place.

Their beauty is not remarkable, but on account of their extreme hardness they are invaluable for dressing surfaces impervious to the friction of any other material. The largest black diamonds are set in the end of a round short bar of steel, with a handle of wood, and are used in dressing emery wheels that have lost their "trueness." A black diamond is the only substance that will not be ground away by contact with the emery surface.

Black diamonds are also used as points in scoring pencils which are used by sealers of weights and measures to mark glass receptacles. They are used by dentists for drilling teeth before filling them with gold. In appearance they look more like a shining little splinter of iron or grain of coal than a precious gem, and their chief mission is a distinctly commercial and not an ornamental one.

No One to Assist Him.

"I have called," said the reporter, "to see if you wish to add anything to our account of your wife's reception this evening. We have most of the details and a long list of names, including those who will assist her in receiving."

"No," replied the business man; "there's only one account that I'm expected to take any interest in, and there'll be no one to assist me with that."—Philadelphia Press.

Why She Failed.

"No; he didn't engage that stenographer."

"Why not?"

"Why, you see, when she answered his advertisement he wrote and asked her qualifications, and she replied by sending him a photograph."

"Well?"

"Well, his wife heard of it, and he didn't engage her."—Chicago Post.

Nature's Winter Storage.

As the result of 29 years of experiments at Rothamsted, England, it is shown that in the winter months more than half of the amount of rain that falls penetrates into the soil and becomes available for the supply of springs, while in the summer only one-quarter of the rainfall is absorbed by the soil. The maximum quantity of water in the soil is at a depth of about 40 inches.

To Care a Cuckoo in One Day.

The Langston House, Queen's Terrace, A. S. C. and the money if it falls across. E. W. Govan's signature is on each box, etc.

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items In Condensed Form.

There is an outbreak of smallpox near Wilton, Granville county. Fifty persons were exposed. It is said the infection was from cotton bagging.

The grand jury in the federal court at Raleigh returned a true bill against Warden Green and F. B. Arendall, of the penitentiary, for the escape of the federal convict Pearce.

The Asheville Citizen states that Mr. Rutherford P. Hayes, son of ex President Hayes, has purchased property in Asheville and will make it his home. He will build a handsome log bungalow.

Henderson Gold Leaf: The gentlemen who distill mountain dew, vulgarly called saw paw, and the makers thereof, commonly styled moonshiners, have at last been properly classified. The Asheville Citizen speaks of them as "unregistered chemists of the mountains."

Salt-bury Son: After having been buried three weeks, the remains of the late Levi Travis, who was thought to have been murdered near Newton, were exhumed and a second examination made, and the surprising fact developed that the deceased was not murdered, but came to his death from the effects of a cancerous growth inside the skull.

Ex-Congressman Fowler says that notice of contest has not been served on Mr. Thomas, but it is true that he will contest the right of Mr. Thomas to a seat in the next congress. He charges that votes cast for himself in Craven, Jones, Onslow and Duplin counties were counted for Thomas. Fowler went to Craven Wednesday evening, presumably to take affidavits.

In the federal court at Raleigh Wednesday Ed Jackson and Tom Faulkner, white, and a negro named Ellis were convicted and sentenced to eighteen months in the penitentiary for robbing the postoffice at Gilbert, Vance county. These men are members of a gang of counterfeiters and moonshiners, and are old offenders. It is believed that their robberies cover a wide area.

Greensboro Record: One by one the opponents of State education fall by the wayside. Dr. Shearer, of Davidson, was perhaps the first; Dr. Kilgo is getting it in the neck, and the last is Brother Bailey, of the Biblical Recorder, who was smashed by Dr. Huffman and the Baptist convention last week. It is well to speak kindly of the dead, but a few of them have only passed over the river. The Lord works in a mysterious way his wonders to perform, or words to that effect.

The new assessment of property for taxation in North Carolina—that of 1900—will show an increase of fully \$8,000,000. Seventy of the 96 counties in the State show an increase of \$8,598,506. There are 18 counties which show a decrease in the amount of assessment for 1900. This decrease amounts to \$688,123. The net increase in the 88 counties, therefore, is \$7,910,383. When the returns are received from the eight counties which have not yet reported, the increase in the assessment of property for 1900 will be in excess of \$8,000,000.

The report of the superintendent of public schools says there are this year 186,328 white pupils, an increase of 5,000, and 71,504 colored pupils, a decrease of 240. The report of the schools is made public. It shows the year's receipts to be \$1,018,000; disbursements \$950,000; average length of white schools 14 1/2 weeks; negro schools 14 weeks; number of white children of school age 439,000; colored 222,000; number of white schools 5,047, colored 2,844; value of school property \$1,077,000; attending schools 142,000 whites, 64,000 negroes.

Of Interest to Farmers.

It is desired to call the attention of the farmers, fruit growers, truckers, and all others interested in agricultural pursuits, in North Carolina, to the fact that the entomologist of the department of agriculture, at Raleigh, N. C., desires them to send him specimens of any injurious insects that may come to their notice. They are also invited to send specimens of any insects regarding which they desire information, and such information will be given so far as possible. It is desired to make the department of agriculture a great practical benefit to the people as possible, and no effort will be spared to attain this end.

During this winter the fruit growers are especially urged to make a careful examination of their trees, and send any insect or suspicious twig to the department so that the matter may be investigated, if it is of importance. As this office is for the benefit of the people, we hope that they will use it to the best of their ability, by correspondence or otherwise.

An effort is being made to build up a collection of insects for the agricultural department and for exhibition in the State museum. The aid of all is asked in getting specimens for this purpose.

Send any specimens of insects to the entomologist, FRANKLIN SNEADMAN, Raleigh, N. C.

Department of Agriculture.

at Raleigh, N. C. Subscribers to THE FREE PRESS.