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## GENERAL NEWS.

### Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

Receivers have been appointed for the Old Town Bank of Baltimore.

Investigation shows that there are 30,000 lepers in the Philippines.

Currier & Ives, stock brokers of New York and Boston, failed Thursday.

A riot occurred at MacClenny, Fla., Christmas day. One negro was killed.

The Cuban convention will have the constitution ready to present to congress about Feb. 1st.

The mayor of Bismarck, N. D., is under arrest on the charge of being interested in a gambling house.

Mr. Cleveland writes to the Atlanta Journal that he did not vote for McKinley at the last election.

The Cramps' agent has signed a contract with the Turkish government for the building of a cruiser.

The Boers captured two wagons containing Christmas luxuries destined for the camp of Lord Methuen.

Lord Armstrong, inventor of the famous Armstrong gun, died Thursday morning at his home near New Castle, England.

Three hundred students have been arrested in St. Petersburg, according to a Berlin dispatch, for propagating socialist doctrines.

A run is being made on the City Savings Bank of Baltimore. This is caused by three banks having gone into the hands of receivers.

There was a big fire in East End, London, Thursday. Five immense sheds filled with goods, including a thousand bales of hemp and quantities of jute, were destroyed.

Drunken negroes captured a saloon and began a race war at Clementaville, Ind., Christmas day. The whites were intimidated. A negro was shot and wounded by the saloon keeper.

Mrs. David Birdsong, wife of a well known farmer near Macon, Ga., was found murdered in her house. Her husband with a posse in search of the supposed murderer, a negro.

The strike at Enterprise colliery, Shamokin, Pa., was ended Wednesday by all the miners agreeing to pay their laborers the ten per cent. increase, and miners refusing to pay helpers will be discharged.

Ernest Rober, champion wrestler of America, and Paul Pons, the French champion, will wrestle for the championship of the world, on the night of Wednesday, Feb. 2, at the Madison Square Garden, New York.

Thomas Webb Jay, of Indianapolis, broke the world's bowling record in that city by bowling 299 out of the possible 300 perfect score. Strike after strike was made in his game until the last ball, which missed the eighth pin.

Nyelva D. Baldwin, the Arctic explorer, who is arranging for the Baldwin-Ziegler expedition, has purchased the Equinox, the largest and staunchest of the whaling fleet, fitted her with modern appliances and named her the America.

Chief of Police Brown, of Barre, Vt., was shot three times Thursday morning by two Italians for whom he had warrants. He will not live. His assailants belong to a nest of anarchists and they laid wait for Brown as he was making his rounds. The chief has fully identified them.

Gov. Sayers, of Texas, made application to Gov. Roosevelt, of New York, a few days ago, for the extradition of John D. Rockefeller and other members of the Standard Oil company on the charge of violation of the anti-trust law. Gov. Roosevelt has declined to grant the application.

There will be argued before the United States supreme court on Jan. 7th, a series of suits between the United States and Porto Rico, which, when decided, will establish a precedent that will affect the question whether or not the constitution follows the flag. The suits involve the question of tariff between two countries or parts of the same country.

**Dewet Fighting Four Armies.**  
London, Dec. 27.—Gen. Dewet is again in battle with British forces. Four English generals on as many sides are fighting the Boer general, and he is trying to break through the lines as formerly.

Bobcat's Chill Pills are the best. Cost less than any other, chill and fever remedy, and they are guaranteed to cure, or your money back. Price 50c per bottle. Druggists.

A most shocking tragedy occurred Christmas day in Martin county, near Palmyra. A white man named Hale was riding a bicycle along the public road when he was shot from ambush and killed. Persons in a dwelling near by saw the smoke from the gun and saw a man run into the woods from the scene of the tragedy. The top of the murdered man's head was shot off.

White's Black Liniment—full size 25c bottle for 15c. It cures pain.  
J. R. Hoos.

### Horses in Battle.

One of the most curious sights to be seen in a cavalry charge is the various riderless horses galloping in the line in perfect order. At the charge of Balaclava the front rank of one regiment was composed to a great extent of riderless animals, their masters having dropped one by one. It would seem that in the excitement of the moment the horses lose all conception of what is happening around them and probably fall to notice the fall of their riders.

The return of riderless horses to camp is an almost certain sign of defeat. When a cavalry charge is successful, the horses will, as I have said, all keep up together, even though they have lost their riders, but when a force is routed the first paws of ill omen to those in the rear will be the return of the horses with empty saddles and stirrups dangling free. No more sorry sight can be imagined. To illustrate the callous feeling these animals have under fire a case which happened at Ladysmith during the siege may be cited.

A farrier sergeant was engaged in shoeing an officer's horse in the open ground behind the stables of a hotel and had already put one or two nails into the shoe when a shell came screaming through the air. The next moment the missile burst five or six yards away from the sergeant and the horse was standing, and the splinters flew around both, but failed to touch either. When the smoke had cleared, the horse was to be seen with its foot still in the man's apron, quite undisturbed by the incident.—Pearson's Magazine.

### The Eagle Got the Fish.

At this junction of the thoroughfare and inland lake on a dead pine more than 100 feet high sat a white headed eagle. In the air a large fishhawk was sailing over the water looking for his dinner 200 or 300 feet below him. What penetrating orbs of vision nature has endowed this bird with! There, he gives his lightninglike shot to the water, seems almost submerged, only to reappear with a four pound fish in his talons. Slowly he rises, going toward the woods, when he hopes to enjoy his well earned meal, but he has reckoned without his host. The king of birds has been watching his every movement and, if found successful, is in readiness to exact that tribute which the stronger always demands and compels from the weak.

Almost quick as thought the eagle is pursuing the hawk, and for a little while a merry chase it is. But the eagle is the master, and the hawk instinctively feels it, as after a sudden, violent swerve, only just to evade the terrible claws of the now enraged eagle, he drops the prize and slowly flies to the other end of the lake.

There is no need for haste now, as the master was after tribute, not the hawk. Payment having been made by relinquishing valuable property, the eagle once more displays his wonderful activity by catching the pike before it strikes the water and then as leisurely to cover to gourmandize.—Forest and Stream.

### From Sky to Pawnshop.

Pawnbrokers take some curious pledges, but it is not often that they receive one from another world. A London pawnshop, however, exhibits in its window as an unredempted pledge a magnificent aerolite, a mass of fused metal that fell, as it were, from heaven to provide a poor man with his beer. A ticket bears the statement that it was brought from the arctic regions by a sailor.—New York Tribune.

### Useful Some Day Perhaps.

Husband—What! You bought an artificial arm?  
Wife—Yes, dear. It was a great bargain, and—  
Husband—Great Scott! What are you thinking of? You haven't any earthly use for such a thing.  
Wife—But, dear, you know you travel on the railroads a great deal, and you can never tell what may happen.—Philadelphia Press.

### A Queer Military Law.

When a British soldier is taken a prisoner of war, he is guilty of an offense against the queen and is liable to be put upon trial should there be any doubt that he gave up his liberty when there was really no necessity to do so. He must then prove that it was impossible for him to take any other course without uselessly throwing away his life.

### The Queen.

"My wife," he said proudly, "has been known as the queen of hearts."  
"No doubt," they answered. "It was because she took the knave."—Chicago Post.

### A Jolly Funeral.

An Italian doctor named Louts Cortusio, who died in the eighteenth century, left some curious instructions as to the manner of his burial. This gentleman, by his will, forbade his relations to weep at his funeral on pain of being disinherited and appointed him or her who should laugh the longest and loudest the principal heir and legatee. Not a stitch of black was to be displayed either in the house in which he should die or in the church in which he should be buried. They were both to be strewn with flowers and green boughs on the day of his funeral. Instead of the tolling of bells lively music was to accompany his body to the church, and 50 minstrels were to march with the organ sounding their flutes, trombones and trumpets. The bier was to be carried by 12 marriageable girls clothed in green, to each of whom the testator bequeathed a sum of money for her dowry. Lastly, no one in the procession was to wear black. All these orders were absolutely carried into effect.—Household Words.

### Straw Horseshoes.

Straw is put to strange uses in Japan. Most of the horses are shod with straw. Even the clumsiest of cart horses wear straw shoes. In their case the shoes are tied around the ankles with straw rope and are made of the ordinary rice straw, braided so that they form a sole for the foot about half an inch thick. These soles cost about a half penny per pair, and when they are worn out they are thrown away. Every cart has a stock of fresh new shoes tied to the horse or to the front of the cart, and in Japan it was formerly the custom to measure distance largely by the number of horseshoes it took to cover the distance. So many horseshoes made a day's journey, and the average shoe lasted for about eight miles of travel.

### The Word "Salary."

The way languages are built up is very interesting, and the derivation of the word "salary" is curious as well. In ancient times Roman soldiers received a daily portion of salt as part of their pay. "Sal" is the Latin for salt, and when the salt was in course of time commuted for money the amount was called salarium, or salt money; hence our word "salary" and hence, doubtless, the expression "not worth his salt"—that is, not worth his "salt money," or salary.

### Musical Fish.

Many fish can produce musical sounds. The tringa can produce long drawn notes ranging over nearly an octave. Others, notably two species of sphidium, have sound producing apparatus, consisting of small movable bones, which can be made to produce a sharp rattle. The curious "drumming" made by the species called umbrivas can be heard from a depth of 30 fathoms.

### Her Prospects Good.

"Do you think he can support you in good style after you are married, dear? I hear he is worth nothing."  
"I know Harold isn't rich, mamma, but he has his life insured for \$20,000, and I could get along quite comfortably on that."—Chicago Tribune.

### Giving Them the Slip.

An impecunious man in Kansas City practically lives on bananas. When he eats them, he throws the peels just outside his office door. That's the way he gives his creditors the slip.—Kansas City Star.

### A Good Scheme.

Mrs. Younghusband—Do you notice any difference in the milk, dear?  
Mr. Younghusband—I should say so. This is a much better quality than we have been getting lately.  
Mrs. Younghusband—Indeed it is. I got it off a new man, who said he would guarantee it to be perfectly pure. So I bought enough to last for a couple of weeks.

### A Boom.

"The undertaker is very jolly this morning."  
"Yes. Three hundred new doctors were graduated last night."—Harlem Life.

The man that talks about the newspapers misquoting him is the man that hasn't any good excuse for getting quoted originally.—Chicago Journal.

When appetite prevails over reason, the first step to make the gutters and drunkard is taken.

The Best Prescription for Chile and Fever is a bottle of Governor's Tamarina Compound. It is simply iron and quinine in a palatable form. No cure—no pay. Price, 25c.

### The Future of Our Legs.

Professor Yung of the University of Guelf, Switzerland, entertains great fears concerning the future of our lower limbs. This sage is of the opinion that within the next thousand years human beings will have forgotten how to use their legs, and that these limbs, if evolution will not do away with them, will serve as mere ornaments to the rest of the body.

Professor Yung states that at the present age human beings show a decided aversion to personal or physical locomotion, and this is more manifest every time a new automatic traveling instrument is invented and rendered practical. Steam, electricity, cable power and the different velocipede machines all bear an influence over us and create a dislike for walking, and the future generations will likely have the convenience of steerable airships at their windows and electric automobiles at their doors, and these conveyances will be so cheap that almost every one can own them, and this means the doom of our legs.

The latter will be regarded as superfluous appendages, no use will be made of them, and who knows but that they may disappear altogether? But so much more will our arms develop in length and strength. These are the cruel laws of evolution, and it will be due to their pranks that future generations will again resemble the apes. There will come another epoch of short legs and long arms.

### Compiled With the Law.

A certain well known Mobile lawyer, who was lame and had something of a reputation as a fighter, said a southern gentleman, "was at one time attorney in a suit that caused much ill feeling. He won the suit for his client, and the loser vowed vengeance. In pursuance of that same, in the language of Truthful James, he one day went into the lawyer's office and subjected him to a tirade of abuse that would have caused a salt water captain to die from pure envy, such was his talent in vituperation.

The lawyer answered him nothing, to the surprise of two or three men who were present, but getting out of his chair, began to hobble backward. His enemy, thinking he was retreating, followed him up, with more abuse and threatening gestures.

The lawyer's foot finally struck against the wall, when he suddenly straightened up and saying, "Gentlemen, I call on you to witness that, on account of this wall, I have retreated as far as possible" (the general law of homicide), drew out a derringer and shot his opponent.

At the trial he was acquitted, his witnesses being the men present at the time of the killing, who testified to the lawyer's having retreated as far as possible."—New York Tribune.

### A Cold Night in Canada.

The sky at night is a deep dark blue, and the stars are like dropping balls of fire, so close they seem to be almost within reach. The northern lights look as if a titanic paint brush had been dipped in phosphorescent flame and drawn in great, bold strokes across the heavens.

As you pass the electric lamps you see very fine particles of snow caught up by the wind and glittering high in the air like diamonds. But it is a cold night, and you are not sorry to get into your room. First of all, you take a blanket or so from the bed, for there are people in Canada who sleep all the year round with only a sheet over them, to such a pitch of perfection have they brought the heating of their rooms.

After you have tucked yourself in the stillness of the night is broken occasionally by a report like a cannon. Have you ever been inside a bathing machine when a mischievous boy threw a stone at it? And, if so, do you remember how you jumped? When the walls of a wooden house crack in the bitter cold, the effect is similar, only magnified. But you know what it means here, so you only draw the clothes closer round you, thankful that you are snug and warm. And so good night.—Blackwood's.

### His Only Fear.

The undaunted Corporal Calithness, so conspicuously daring in a "pinch" at the battle of Waterloo, was asked if he did not fear they should lose the day.

"No, no," said he. "I knew we could not do that. My only fear was that we should all be killed before we had time to win it."

### An Aspiration.

There is woe and woe, and if woe would only obey her when it would be worth while driving.—Milwaukee Journal.

## STATE NEWS.

### Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

The State treasurer urges the sheriffs to send in funds as the State's finances are very low.

Mose Cole, a 12-year-old boy, was accidentally shot and killed near Durham Christmas by his cousin, while they were hunting.

Robert O. Burton, one of the ablest lawyers in the State, died at Raleigh Thursday, of malarial fever, aged 49 years. He was a son of Rev. R. O. Burton, a distinguished Methodist preacher.

James Wilson, brother of H. D. Wilson, president of the Shelby Cotton Mills, met with a very painful accident Friday. He was filing a window sash when the file slipped and struck him in the eye, putting it out.

James Green, colored, living near Ciedmoor, on returning home Tuesday night, found another man in the house with his wife. He whipped his wife; she ran and when he found she was going to escape he shot her through the heart.

Goldboro Argus: An attempt was made Saturday night to "hold up" Sheriff Scott by three unknown men near the railroad bridge over Stony Creek, but by having a fast horse the sheriff made good his escape. It is not known or even surmised for what purpose the "hold up" was attempted.

Washington Duke, of Durham, the head of the noted Duke family, the wealthiest in this State, Monday at Durham, his home, celebrated his eightieth birthday. He is the most liberal giver in the State. After the civil war, in which he was a Confederate soldier, he peddled in wagons in eastern North Carolina.

While a few exuberant young spirits of Greensboro were out taking in the town Christmas eve, in a vacant lot, in the rear of the Gate City Steam Laundry, they came across an old, tobacco press, made of cast iron and weighing about a ton, into a large cavity of which they either poured a quantity of powder or placed a stick of dynamite. A few moments later that entire section of the town was shaken by a terrific explosion. Several buildings in the immediate vicinity were damaged and a piece of the old press was hurled a distance of a quarter of a mile, striking Simon Lane, a negro fireman on the Southern railway, as he was sitting in his cab waiting to go out on a trip. He was struck on the head and seriously wounded, and will probably die. No arrests have been made, though the police officers think they know the perpetrators of the deed.

Asheville Citizen: Few Christmas presents in Asheville are so valuable and pleasing to the recipients as those handed down by the supreme court at Raleigh to a considerable number of creditors of the Western Carolina bank, the amounts ranging from \$200 down. The supreme court upholds Judge Allen's decision that the creditors who obtained judgments in the magistrate's courts the next few days following the suspension of the bank have a prior claim over the remainder of the depositors. A large number of the creditors took this action, the judgment in each case being limited to \$200, the largest amount over which a justice's court has jurisdiction. Therefore those who took these judgments were mostly small depositors, and it will be best kind of news to them that they are to receive dollar for dollar on their claims. The claims are held to lie on the real estate of the bank.

## Twice 30 Years

"I have used Ayer's Hair Vigor for thirty years and I do not think there is anything equal to it for a hair dressing."—J. A. GRUENFELDER, Grantfork, Ill., June 8, 1899.

"I have used Ayer's Hair Vigor for over thirty years and can testify to its wonderful merits. It has kept my scalp free from dandruff and my hair soft and glossy. And it has prevented my hair from turning gray."—Mrs. F. A. SOULE, Billings, Mont., Aug. 30, 1899.

One dollar a bottle.

If your druggist cannot supply you, send us \$1.00 and we will express a bottle to you, all charges prepaid. Be sure and give us your nearest express office.

J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.  
Send for our handsome book on The Hair.