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STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items
In Condensed Form.

While Bernard has dropped out of the race for district attorney, ex-Gov. Russell is still fighting Skinner for the position.

The plant of the Snow Basket Co., at High Point, was destroyed by fire Tuesday. Loss \$10,000, insurance \$2,500.

The gin at the Caledonia State convict farm on the Roanoke river was burned Saturday night. Not much cotton was destroyed, it is said.

Railway officials say the statements by the coal companies that there is a "famine" of cars, are fakes pure and simple, gotten up by the companies for their own purposes.

A special from Salisbury says: The three negroes who broke down the door in the house of Mrs. Livengood and assaulted her have been captured and placed in jail. They tell contradictory stories.

A Washington dispatch says: Word has just been received here of the death Saturday in North Carolina of Daniel R. Goodloe, in the 89th year of his age. He was marshal of the district of North Carolina during reconstruction days.

Mount Olive Advertiser: The Wayne county board of education at their meeting last Monday appropriated two dollars for every child of school age in the county. The Mount Olive graded school will receive from this source \$1,300.

Fayetteville Observer, Jan. 20: At 10 o'clock this morning fire broke out on the roof of the office building of the Fayetteville cotton seed oil mill, but was confined to that building by the fire brigade of the mill. The roof was entirely consumed and considerable damage done to the body of the building. The fire originated from a spark on the roof.

Gov. Aycock says emphatically that he is not a candidate for the senate to succeed Pritchard; that the fact that the position is going to some one in the west, and that is as it should be. He told a reporter, however, that he would like to be a senator, "but it is not at this time; that desire will have to await a more fitting season."

The State superintendent of public instruction, after a conference with the governor and attorney general, decides that county boards of education shall reserve from the public school fund such sums as they may deem necessary to pay the county superintendent and school board and other necessary expenses, including school houses, before they make apportionment of the funds.

Wilmington Star: Ex-Gov. D. L. Russell on Monday declined the appointment to the office of collector of the port of Wilmington, which was tendered him on last Thursday and which he had under careful consideration since that time. He telegraphed yesterday to his law partner, John H. Gore, Jr., that he would not accept the place, and that Mr. B. F. Keith, of Wilmington, would later be appointed.

Winston Journal: The Journal received a message from the Winston-Salem ladies in Washington yesterday

announcing that Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese minister, had granted them an hour's interview and conditionally promised to attend the Academy centennial. They have received assurance from Secretary Long, of the navy, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, Attorney General Knox and Capt. Richmond Pearson Hobson, the hero of the Merrimac, that they will be present during the celebration.

Newbern Journal: Capt. Joe Gaskill, who has just returned from a business trip in Hyde county, reports that the farmers in that county are still losing their horses, by death, in the same mysterious way. Some of the farmers give the reason for the horses dying, as the result of mosquito bites received last fall, while others say it is due to the feed. Whatever the cause the farmers are still losing their animals and their condition is very serious, as they must have horses to make crops this year, and most of them have no money to pay for horses. Capt. Gaskill states that the pea crop was the only crop raised and this vine is being extensively used for forage for stock.

Watterson Thinks Young Newspaper Men Are Inaccurate.

Washington Post.
"The most needed thing in American journalism," said Col. Henry Watterson, the veteran editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, at the New Willard last evening, "is accuracy. It seems to me the boys show a lamentable disposition nowadays to let the most important points of a newspaper story slip through their fingers. They seem to lack a knowledge of general subjects which is absolutely essential in printing the news in a manner that treats subscribers fairly. The patrons of the newspaper—the people who buy it—deserve better treatment. There is an implied contract between them and the publishers that they shall receive for their money all the news, the accurate news, and no inaccurate news."

"The most important subject to be mastered by the reporter is that embracing biographies. The history of the men of the world who have been prominent should be at the writer's finger ends. If I ever establish a school of journalism I shall make a course in biography the most important feature. Another good book for reporters to study is Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. You would be surprised how much you can learn by reading it. I would advise all reporters to read a page of the dictionary every day. In a very short time his vocabulary would be greatly increased."

Says Lincoln Didn't Offer to Pay For Slaves.

Wilmington Messenger.

There is no little ignorance and misrepresentation as to the supposed offer of Abe Lincoln to pay for the slaves at a price of \$300 a head. This is a lie and has had little enough. The Richmond Dispatch considers the matter and says:

"In December, 1862, in his message to congress, he recommended that congress should propose an amendment to the constitution providing for a gradual abolition of slavery, and that the United States government should assume the cost and issue bonds to pay the debt. Congress never adopted the suggestion."

"At the Hampton Road conference the president said he would be willing to be taxed to remunerate the southern people for their slaves. He represented that men in high station in the north were of like opinion with him on this question. 'But on this subject'—we quote from Alexander Stephens' History of the United States, Appendix, page 1009—"he could give no assurance; enter into no stipulation."

Canal Commission Report.

The president Monday sent to congress, with a message simply of transmittal, the supplemental report of the Isthmian canal commission, in which it is unanimously recommended that the offer of the new Panama Canal company to sell all of its rights, property and unfinished work to the United States for \$40,000,000 be accepted.

The offer received from the new Panama Canal company to convey all its property, including all its interests in the Panama canal, to the United States will make the estimated cost of the two canals as follows: Nicaragua, \$189,844,062; Panama, \$184,233,358.

The report concludes as follows: "After considering the changed conditions that now exist and all the facts and circumstances upon which its present judgment must be based, the commission is of the opinion that the most practicable and feasible route for an Isthmian canal, to be under the control, management and ownership of the United States, is that known as the Panama route." The report is signed by the entire commission.

No Wonder Russia Is Ignorant!

Russia, with her population of 129,000,000, has only 743 newspapers, but little more than half the number published in the state of Pennsylvania, which is 1,430. Of the 743 there are 589 printed in Russian, 69 in Polish, 44 in German, 9 in French, 3 in Armenian and 2 in Hebrew. No English newspaper appears in the list.

ABSORBED IN WHIST.

A Game That Cost General Doubleday a Fortune.

Not many years ago a famous whist game was played at Sudbury, Vt., two of the sitters in being General Doubleday and Henry Dater of the well known firm of Dater, Thompson & Co. It was something like 5 or 10 cents a corner; so you see it was easy for a man to lose as much as \$1.90 in an afternoon. Play began after the Sudbury dinner hour, half past 1, and lasted until teatime. The old roosters became so wrapped up in the game that nothing short of an earthquake could have disturbed them. Brokers in New York could do nothing to shake the interest.

The game was played at the time of the historic Hannibal and St. Joe corner, engineered by Kennedy, Hutchinson & Co., in the interest of their client, John Duff of Boston. Doubleday was selling the stock short through Van Schaick & Co., and at a quarter to 2 on the eventful day he received a telegram from his brokers advising him of the situation. The game was stopped just long enough for him to read it and lay it aside. In 20 minutes a second dispatch arrived, was read and cast aside. Doubleday was winning at the rate of 35 cents an hour. What did he care about Hannibal and St. Joe? Later in the afternoon a third summons came from Van Schaick & Co., and at 5 o'clock a fourth. Then Doubleday arose and remarked: "Gentlemen, I have enjoyed the game. My winnings are exactly \$1.65. I must say good afternoon, as it is necessary for me to take the first train for New York." The next morning his brokers informed him that he could settle for \$100,000. At the time the first telegram was sent he could have settled for \$25,000, at the time of the second for \$50,000, the third for \$75,000. He had ample warning, but in the thick of the Sudbury game of whist he believed the rise was only a threatening flurry.—New York Press.

SCOTCH SIMPLICITY.

The Mason, the Building Architect and a Conscience Stricken Lad.

The Scotch are fond of telling stories which illustrate the peculiar simplicity of mind of their country people. This simplicity at least saves them from wicked guile.

One of these stories relates that an honest mason once had a contract to build a small house of stone. He came early and began from the inside to lay the stone, working very fast. At noon his young son brought him his dinner, peeping over the wall as he handed the basket to his father. With honest pride in his eye, the mason looked over to the boy.

"Weel, Jock, hoo d'ye think I'm gettin on?" he asked.

"Ye're getting on famous, feyther," answered Jock, looking at the solid wall, in which there was no break. "But hoo d'ye get out?"

The mason looked around. It was true. He had provided the house with no door at all, and he was on the inside. He looked kindly and very admiringly at the boy.

"Mon, Jock, ye've a grand heid on ye!" he exclaimed. "Ye'll be an architect yet, as sure as yer feyther's a mason!"

Another story shows how unsuccessful as a thief the rustic Scot may be. Two young plowmen went into a garden at night to steal gooseberries. The bushes surrounded a plot of potatoes, and as one of the lads groped about he got a handful of potato plums, which he quickly put into his mouth. Then he gasped to his comrade:

"Oh, Jock, I'm poisoned! For my sake, shove me through the hedge again, for I wadna like to dee i' the auld man's gairden!"—Youth's Companion.

Tobacco In England, 1845.

When I was a lad, fully half the population of both sexes, rich as well as poor, the banker equally with the workman, were snufftakers. My first schoolmaster always carried his snuff loose in his waistcoat pocket, and innumerable were his dips into it with two fingers and a thumb in the course of the day, while the big gauffered frill which protruded from the bosom of his shirt was always thickly sprinkled with it. We used to notice that he never seemed to relish one of his huge pinches so much as immediately after having administered a sound castigation to some recalcitrant pupil.

On the other hand, there was little or no open air smoking, except in the case of laboring men going to or from their work. In this respect lucifer matches have something to answer for; but for them the practice of outdoor smoking would never have grown to its present enormous proportions.—Chambers' Journal.

The German Police.

A stranger in Germany soon makes the acquaintance of the police, little as he may desire it. You have been in Germany a week, more or less, when the policeman calls. At first you cannot believe that he is really after you, and then your mind runs back guiltily over your past. He takes out his little book—one of a small library of little books which he carries in his blouse—and inquires your age, your nationality and how long you intend to stay.

You learn subsequently that a record of every person in the empire is carefully kept, with full details as to his occupation, material wealth and social standing. If you move into a new house, you must notify the police; if you move out, you must notify the police; if you hire a servant girl, you must purchase a yellow blank and report the fact, the girl also making a report. When she leaves, you must send in a green blank stating why she is dismissed, where she is going and so on.

If you fail in any of these multitudinous requirements of the government—and I have mentioned only a few of them—there is a fine to pay, each fine graduated to the enormity of the offense. There are offenses graded as low as 2 cents.—Independent.

When Time Hangs Heavily.

Time is never wasted until it "hangs heavily on our hands," when you are neither working nor enjoying yourself. There may be times when it suits one's mood to "loaf and invite one's soul," but they are rare nowadays. If you don't believe it, consider how the average citizen spends his vacation. Most people work harder and economize their vacation time more grudgingly in getting the most out of it than they do in any other part of the year. They hate to lose a minute of enjoyment.

Of course there are times—every day—when time seems absolutely wasted, and these are the times when men's tempers are on edge and things go crosswise. Chief among this list of wasted and monotonous intervals is the time spent in waiting for a car, in traveling on it after you get it, in waiting for meals, in fuming over dilatory appointments or by reaching there too soon. Other instances are where the bore buttonholes you and insists with excessive eloquence in stringing a three line item into a two column tale.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Huge Spiders Wove Them.

Every one who owns a little strip of garden knows what it is to clear away spider webs, a matter of small difficulty and lightly performed, but a popular naturalist who lately returned from the great woods of Central America came across spiders' webs of such strength and huge dimensions that they were positive obstacles in his path. Needless to say, the tenants of these webs were of a monstrous size. "I measured one of these fabrics," he says. "It had a diameter of more than six feet, without including the long brace threads—that run out like forestays to the extremity of the surrounding branches. I then took a number of wild lemons and flung them against the center with all my might. The web stopped every one. It is no wonder that when a bird becomes entangled in the meshes the huge spider is able to make a breakfast off him."

An Unexpected Call.

"You are just going out, I see?"
"Yes, an important engagement. What was it you wanted?"
"It was about that little debt I owe you."
"Ah, yes! Take a seat."
"I was going to ask you for a little delay."
"Oh—excuse me, but I'm already late."
"I say, I was going to ask you for a little delay when I met a fellow who paid up what he owed me, and—"
"Why on earth don't you sit down! Will you take a glass of wine?"—Paris Figaro.

No Faith In Anything.

"Aunt Josephine is a thorough skeptic."
"She is?"
"Yes; she puts mucilage on the back of every postage stamp she uses."—Chicago Record.

From The Reports

of the dealers in this city, we think no proprietary medicine has a larger sale than Painkiller. Its valuable properties as a speedy cure for pain can not fail to be generally appreciated, in cases of accident, or sudden attack of dysentery, diarrhoea, cholera morbus.—Montreal Star. Avoid substitutes, there is but one Painkiller, Perry Davis'. Price 25c. and 50c.

GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

Admiral and Mrs. Schley left Savannah Monday for Washington after a visit of ten days.

The appeal of Admiral Schley to the president has been prepared by his lawyers and sent to the president.

The Caffrey Sugar Refining company, of New Orleans, and the Franklin and Abbeville railroad are placed in the hands of a receiver.

Gen. Bell, commander of Batangas province, island of Luzon, has determined to put aside leniency and begin the enforcement of war measures in vigorous fashion.

Senator Vest has introduced in the senate as a substitute for the ship subsidy bill, his bill of the last congress, repealing the law prohibiting the purchase of foreign built ships.

A wall of the Smithfield flax mills, at Belfast, Ireland, Monday collapsed, burying the operatives, who included many women. Ten bodies, so far, have been extricated from the ruins.

Near Chase City, Va., Monday, Howard Hayes, a prominent young man, was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun in the hands of his friend, J. B. Falson, while returning from hunting.

The city council of Chattanooga has voted to accept the proposition of Andrew Carnegie to give \$50,000 to establish a library there, provided the city would expend \$5,000 annually in its maintenance.

It has been decided in Berlin that Prince Henry will visit Chicago, Milwaukee, Niagara Falls and Boston. The prince will go to Washington on the 26th, the launching, official reception and banquet having previously taken place.

A dispatch from Cradock, Cape Colony, says: Wessel's command of Boers on Saturday last cut up a patrol of fifty men belonging to the local town guard on the Tarkastad road. A few stragglers have returned. The remainder of the party are missing.

A dispatch from New Orleans says: P. G. Thebaud, of New York, fully identified T. E. Manners, the prisoner in the jail at Gretna as Edouard Hern, Jr., his late valet, who robbed the Thebaud mansion in New York of \$50,000 worth of diamonds and jewelry.

Early Monday morning Frank Duncan, a notorious safe-blower under sentence for murder, and three other prisoners, made their escape from the Jefferson county, Ala., jail by sawing through numerous bars and cutting the lock off the outer gate of the prison yard.

Herbert H. Mattoon, cashier First National Bank of Great Falls, Mont., has been arrested and lodged in jail, charged with embezzlement of the bank's funds. His shortage, it is said, will foot up \$175,000. Speculation, it is said, was the cause of the defalcation. The bank is strong financially and is in no danger of embarrassment.

The ways and means committee of congress has decided to report a bill reducing the revenue taxes. It is proposed to reduce the tax on beer from \$1.60 to \$1.00, as was the tax before the last war, and also reduce the tax on tea. The total reduction in revenues on beer would be \$31,000,000. The reduction on tea would aggregate about \$8,000,000.

A dispatch from Hambleton, W. Va., says: About 4 o'clock Tuesday morning the camp of the Otter Creek Boom and Lumber company, several miles from here, caught fire and was destroyed. An explosion is believed to have started the flames, which spread with fearful rapidity. There were forty men sleeping in the camp and of these seven perished. The surrounding forest caught fire from the conflagration.

A dispatch from Walsenburg, Col., 20th, says: A courier has just reached here from Pictou, a coal mining camp located three miles from Walsenburg, bringing news that a terrible explosion had occurred in one of the mines operated by the Colorado Fuel and Iron company at that place this morning, in which six men were instantly killed and ten or more wounded, many of them perhaps fatally. The mine immediately caught fire and now is a seething furnace.

Prince Henry, of Germany, will arrive in this country Feb. 24th, and will start for his home on March 8th. It is part of the plan to have the entertainment afforded the prince national in character; and the participants shall not be limited to any one strain of blood or race. One means of attaining this result will be to make his reception as formal as possible so that it will be drawn upon official lines and there will be a considerable appearance of the military element where feasible.

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You can be cured of any form of tobacco using easily, be made well, strong, magnetic, full of new life and vigor by taking **DO-TO-BACCO**, that makes weak men strong. Many gain ten pounds in ten days. Over **500,000** cured. All druggists. Cures guaranteed. Booklet and advice FREE. Address **STERLING REMEDY CO.**, Chicago or New York. 42

After He Comes

he has a hard enough time. Everything that the expectant mother can do to help her child she should do. One of the greatest blessings she can give him is health; but to do this, she must have health herself. She should use every means to improve her physical condition. She should, by all means, supply herself with

Mother's Friend.

It will take her through the crisis easily and quickly. It is a liniment which gives strength and vigor to the muscles. Common sense will show you that the stronger the muscles are, which bear the strain, the less pain there will be.

A woman living in Fort Wayne, Ind., says: "Mother's Friend did wonders for me. Praise God for your liniment."

Read this from Hunei, Cal. "Mother's Friend is a blessing to all women who undergo nature's ordeal of childbirth."

Get Mother's Friend at the drug store. 5c per bottle.

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Write for our free illustrated book, "Before Baby Is Born."