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GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

The large crate and berry basket factory of the Southside Mfg. Co., at Petersburg, Va., was destroyed by fire Saturday, together with all the stock, including 1,500,000 fruit baskets. Loss \$6,000 to \$7,000, partially insured.

Judge Cantrill, at Frankfort, Ky., overruled the motion for a new trial in the Jim Howard case and sentenced him to imprisonment for life. An order was entered transferring Howard to Georgetown for sale keeping pending an appeal.

News comes from Washington that Representative Otey, of Virginia, on Saturday introduced in the house a resolution providing that the itinerary of Prince Henry of Prussia shall extend through Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee.

Details of the loss of about 200 Japanese soldiers, who were frozen to death, were received at Yokohama Saturday. It seems that a command of 210 men, practicing winter marching, were caught in a blizzard on the northern end of the island of Honshu and lost their road.

Leslie M. Shaw, of Iowa, on Saturday took the prescribed oath of office as secretary of the treasury, succeeding Lyman T. Gage. The oath was administered by Justice Shiras, of the United States supreme court. The retiring secretary was among the first to congratulate him.

The senate committee on forest preservation has reported favorably on the bill asking for an appropriation of \$5,000,000 to purchase 2,000,000 acres of land in the Appalachian regions of North and South Carolina, Virginia and Tennessee to establish an Appalachian park and care for it.

At the close of a day of intense excitement and conflicting stories concerning the chances for life of the wounded Biddle brothers, murderers, who broke jail at Pittsburg, Pa. Thursday and were captured after a bloody battle Friday, the unexpected has happened as both men died of their wounds Saturday night.

It is given out unofficially in London that the government has declined the Dutch proposition of peace in South Africa, because it was not made on authority. The war will be ended by fighting and not negotiation. The Boer representatives in Europe are believed to be disheartened, although unwilling to admit the fact.

Under the new constitution Saturday was the last in which voters in Alabama could enfranchise themselves by paying poll tax. All who do not hold receipts can't vote in any election in that state during the next year. From reports received from various parts of the state it is estimated that at least 20 per cent of the people have disfranchised themselves by failing to pay their tax.

A special from Abbeville, S. C., says: Sheriff Lyon, of this county, brought in Friday from Calhoun Falls four men suspected of the robbery of the Doe West postoffice. They give their names as follows: J. W. Casey, of Boston; Gus Reed, of Baltimore; Joe Alford and N. W. Brooks, of Wilmington, N. C. The men are in jail awaiting identification by postoffice agent George Smith.

Jim Redmond, a member of the police force, was shot through the heart and instantly killed Saturday night at Jackson, Miss., by a negro from Canton, said to be Jim Frye, whom he was taking to jail. Redmond called for assistance and those who came to his aid had a hard struggle before disarming the negro. He was hustled off to jail with a mob at his heels and but for Sheriff Harding there would have been a lynching in the state's capital.

A fatal shooting affray occurred at the little mining town, Krystone, W. Va., Saturday night, in which Daniel Harmon and Dr. E. J. Daniels were the participants. The two men were engaged in a game of cards when a dispute arose and the shooting quickly followed. After the smoke had cleared away it was found that Harmon had been shot and instantly killed. Both were popular. Harmon, who leaves a widow and two children, recently sold some coal lands by which deal he is said to have cleared \$150,000.

A special from San Antonio, Tex., says: Eighty-five miners killed and fifty more buried under debris in the fearful record made by a dust explosion at the Hondo mine in Mexico. At the time the explosion occurred there were 160 miners at work in the mine, all of whom were entombed by the shaft being choked up by falling earth and stone loosened by the explosion. Just how many are dead is not at this time known, but at least accounts received by wire Saturday night 85 dead bodies had been recovered. It is thought that the death list will be over one hundred. The Hondo mine are located at Coahuila, at a terminal of a branch of the Mexican International railroad, about one hundred miles south of Eagle Pass, and are the most important in that state. Details of the disaster are meagre.

Independents to Fight Trusts.

Pittsburg, Pa., Feb. 3—Independent steel manufacturers of the central western manufacturing district are in conference here today to discuss the formation of an organization for the purpose of regulating prices by arbitrary agreement, and to provide a source of raw material outside of the United States Steel Corporation. Raw material has been scarce recently, and the United States Steel Corporation, which is the largest maker of sheets, informed the independents, through the Carnegie steel and other allied interests, that it would be unable to further furnish the outside concerns with sheet bars, as its own interests consume all the product not taken on long time contracts, which but few of the independents concerns have.

The outside concerns have small mills, which roll sheets from bars bought in the open market. The plan is to form a company and erect a great steel mill in the Pittsburg district. For the present the independents may decide to import steel bars from Germany to relieve immediate needs. Many firms are pledged to deliver contracts, which they are not in a position to fill, because of the steel shortage.

Moon and Mirror.

Some night when the moon is at its full and the air is free from haze go outdoors with a hand mirror and hold it so that the moon's image will fall on it. Make the experiment, preferably, when the moon is well up in the heavens.

Instead of seeing one image, as you will expect, you will see four.

One of these images will be very bright, but the other three will be dull, like unburnished silver.

They will be in a straight line, one of the dull images on one side of the bright image and two on the other side of it. Turn the mirror slowly around, and the images will appear to revolve around on a common center.

The explanation of this queer little phenomenon may be found in the fact that there are two surfaces in a mirror, one in front and the other in the back, where the quicksilver is.

The brightest of the images is from the moon itself. The others are what are known as secondary images, reflected from the front to the back of the mirror and thence to the eye.

A similar experiment may be made with the planets Venus, Jupiter and Mars or with any of the first magnitude stars, such as Sirius, Capella, Arcturus, Vega and Antares.

The planets and the stars, however, make only three images, the number of images depending on the breadth of the object. A perfectly clear night is essential.—New York Herald.

The Dear Old Frauds.

Those old, pleasant, innocent frauds of the circus are not practiced now—the imposing, five barred gates that, as the horse approached them, were slung into insignificant wattles and the rings through which the signorina purported to leap, but which in reality were insinuated over her by compliant attendants. And then there was that venerable jockey performance, the culmination of which was a leap from the ring to a standing position, albeit at an angle of 30 degrees, on the horse's back.

In the old circuses it was the custom of the horseman to miss the crowning jump two or three times in order that a fiercer flame of interest might be kindled in the audience. After two failures the band would stop (always the prelude of a moment of strain supreme), the horse's head would be loosed, he would be urged to a greater pace, and the feat would gloriously succeed. Then what a crash of brass and outburst of delight in the building, involving even the staff and ringmaster in the expression of ecstasy. Those old, simple days!—Cornhill.

The Moral is Plain.

"Once upon a time," says the Hontdale (Pa.) Journal, "a man got mad at the editor and stopped the paper. In a few weeks he sold his corn at 4 cents less than the market price. Then his property was sold for taxes because he didn't read the sheriff's sale. He paid \$10 for a lot of forged notes that had been advertised two weeks and the public warned against them. He then rushed to the printing office and paid several years' subscription in advance and had the editor sign an agreement that he was to knock him down if he ordered his paper to be stopped again."

Wanted a Chance.

A Scottish preacher who found his congregation going to sleep one Sunday before he fairly began suddenly stopped and exclaimed: "Brethren, it's no use fair. Give a man half a chance. Wait till I get along, and then if I see worth listening to gang to sleep, but dinna gang before I get commenced. Give a man a chance."

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

The Medway Mill company, at Rockingham, has decided to enlarge its plant by adding a weave mill of 400 looms. Prof. Thos. R. Foust has been elected superintendent of the Goldboro graded schools, to succeed his brother, Prof. J. J. Foust.

Physicians in charge of the aged white man, Patrick Gorman, who attempted suicide in Raleigh Friday, say there is a good chance for his recovery.

A special from Washington, D. C., says: Representative Small Saturday introduced a bill appropriating \$150,000 for a public building at Elizabeth City.

Revenue officers made a raid in Franklin county Saturday night and despite the unspeakably bad weather captured an illicit distillery. The moonshiners escaped.

There will be a meeting in Raleigh Wednesday of representatives of the baseball association from various points in the State to see what arrangements can be made for the formation of the State league. Plenty of interest appears to be shown.

Raleigh Cor. Wilmington Messenger: Judge Allen Friday signed a judgment in the Ashe-Willard case. It is in the nature of a compromise. The suit was simply to construe the will of the late W. H. Willard, who left an estate worth \$175,000.

At Greensboro last week the circuit court returned a verdict for the defendant in the \$10,000 damage suit brought by Michael Caffey against the Southern Railway. This was the second case decided for the Southern during that term of court.

A special from Wadesboro says: Mr. Jno. J. Dunlap, a prominent citizen of this county, died suddenly at his home near here Friday. He had finished his meal as usual, was taken sick as he was about to leave the table and died within an hour. He had been a member of the legislature and was one of Anson's first citizens.

Pritchard & Winstead's stemmy, at Goldboro, was destroyed by fire Saturday evening, together with a large quantity of leaf tobacco. The building was owned by H. Wall Bros., and others. A conservative estimate places the loss between \$40,000 and \$50,000, with some \$80,000 insurance on building and stock. About 150 people will be thrown out of work as a result of the fire.

A special from Durham, N. C., to the Charlotte Observer says: U. G. Baumgardner was arrested in Cincinnati Friday afternoon and is wanted here on a charge of embezzling \$400 from Mrs. J. H. Freeland. He is also wanted in Richmond, Va., on a charge of stealing \$2,100 from the same woman, and it is said that he is wanted in Lynchburg and Alexandria, Va., and other places for similar offenses. Baumgardner came here a little more than two years ago from Lynchburg, and during the year that he was in Durham was a high-roller, driving fast horses, spending much time on the race tracks, gambling and with women. He operated a number of slot machines in this city and elsewhere. In connection with the alleged embezzlement from Mrs. Freeland there is a story of a ruined home. He boarded with the family of Mr. Freeland, a well-to-do citizen and at one time a prominent business man. He soon gained the confidence of every member of the family and persuaded Mrs. Freeland to put \$400 in his business. It is this money that he is charged with embezzling. Soon after this he left here with Mrs. Freeland, who deserted her husband and children and went to Richmond. She drew from the bank some \$2,500 which had been deposited in her name by her husband. Soon after reaching Richmond, Mrs. Freeland was taken quite ill and she claims that Baumgardner took from her trunk \$2,100 and left. Since then, about a year ago, until now, the authorities have been looking for him in this country and Canada. True bills for embezzlement in this city and larceny in Richmond have been found against him by the grand jury. He will be brought here for trial and later made to face the Richmond authorities.

Mischiefous Custom—Allowing Women to Visit Prisoners.

That the custom of allowing women to visit prisoners in jail is mischiefous has been shown on many occasions. Only recently the daughter of a sheriff aided a burglar to escape because he seemed to be a nice fellow, and the wife of a western sheriff sloped with a horse thief after opening the jail doors for his exit. Of course, nobody could have expected the woman's wife to assist the Biddle brothers, convicted murderers, to escape from the Allegheny county jail, but she should have had no more freedom to visit them than had any other unauthorized person. It is assumed that only sworn officials have access to prisoners, but no attempt to restrain the members of the warden's or sheriff's family from visiting the cells lately, has been made.

Jan Bond Hanks for sale at Tax Sale.

Jan Bond Hanks for sale at Tax Sale. Farm office, 75c per 100.

SEVEN SPRINGS ITEMS.

January 31, 1902. Several mad dogs are reported as having been killed recently.

Dr. Waitrous, of Connecticut, is stopping at Seven Springs Hotel.

Miss Nannie Grady spent Thursday night at Mr. Geo. O. Griffin's.

The steamer "Goldboro" is now making regular trips to this place.

Mr. and Mrs. DeLeon Fields, of LaGrange, spent Sunday with friends here.

Mr. Joe Griffin and sister, Miss Lena, spent Sunday with Miss Ada Jones, near Mt. Olive.

There was a big dance at Mr. Ed Wooten's Thursday night. All report a pleasant time.

Miss Mattie Ivey and Sadie Sutton spent Saturday and Sunday with relatives in Huckleberry.

Rev. Mr. Brown, of Kinston, will preach at Zion on the second Sunday. Everybody invited to the services.

One of the small boys at the Seven Springs High School asked his teacher, "What does hen spell with w before it?"

Mr. Lester E. Davis attended the marriage of Mr. J. H. West and Miss Estelle Hardee at LaGrange last Wednesday.

We are glad to learn that the telephone line, being constructed from Morehead to Goldboro, will connect with us at LaGrange.

Mr. S. D. Byrd has moved into the store just completed by Mr. J. J. Ivey. We are glad to welcome him to our little town.

Mr. J. J. Ivey went to Kinston Monday on the steamer "Goldboro" and returned Wednesday. He reported a pleasant trip.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. C. Davis, of Newbern, who had been spending some time at the Seven Springs Hotel, returned home Monday.

There is to be a marriage here Sunday, February 2d. The contracting parties are Mr. G. F. Bissell and Miss Mattie Grady. We wish them happiness.

Silk Culture in North Carolina.

The recent publication in The Bulletin of an article on silk culture in North Carolina has already borne fruit. Several requests have been received from persons at a distance for copies of The Bulletin, one coming from the State of Michigan, and one from a company in New York which possesses ample capital and which proposes to establish silk farms and silk mills in some of the southern states, where suitable land can be had at a reasonable price, and where convenient power may be available when needed. If North Carolina can secure the location of this company it means the opening of a new and very important industry for the State. Letters received at the department of agriculture from this company declare the purpose of the president and other officers to visit North Carolina, and perhaps other southern states, at an early date, for the purpose of examining lands and mill sites; for observing climatic conditions, adaptability of the land for growing mulberry trees, and to secure such other information as they may desire with reference to establishing their business.

It is desirable to have descriptions of lands which are for sale, and upon which the Chinese mulberry thrives. The owners of such lands are requested to file with the department descriptions, including the present condition of land and building, distance from railroad, accessibility to water power, how much cleared and uncleared land, whether any Chinese or white mulberry trees are now growing upon the land, price, etc.

In this connection the department desires to secure the names of persons in the State who have had personal experience in growing silk worms, and who might desire to produce raw silk for the new company.

Please send descriptions of properties for sale and names of silk growers to the undersigned, care of the department of agriculture, Raleigh, N. C.

GHELAD McCARTHY, Botanist and Biologist.

Jan. 29th, 1902.

Staring Into a "Mare's Nest."

Philadelphia Record. The supreme court settled one thing, and that is that there is a distinction between the United States and territory belonging to the United States.—Senator Spooner.

Yes, but not that "the United States," in dealing with "the territory belonging to the United States" or with anything else, can act independently of the constitution. The "distinction between the United States and territory belonging to the United States" was recognized by Chief Justice Marshall when he declared in Longborough vs. Blake that "the territory west of the Missouri is not less within the United States than Maryland or Pennsylvania." It is, indeed, simply the familiar distinction between a whole and its parts. The Senator from Wisconsin is staring into a mare's nest.

Admiral and Mrs. Scheyer are being quite royally entertained in Nashville, Tenn. A big banquet and a brilliant reception were given in their honor. Thousands of people gather to do honor to the brave hero and his wife.

An Asparagus Island.

New York Press. Nearly all the asparagus consumed in this country out of season comes from an island in the Sacramento river. A foreign born farmer, noticing an island there covered with silt, thought it would make good asparagus and he settled there.

Now he ships several carloads of asparagus a day, canned and in glass, all over the country, and his asparagus bed is one of the biggest gold mines ever discovered in California.

BARGAIN COLUMN.

A HORSELESS PROPOSITION.

I have a fine Mule, Harness and Buggy that I wish to sell for cash or on time with good security. The Mule, Buggy and Harness are in good condition. The Mule is gentle, a good driver and will work to anything. Come and look them over. C. E. SPEAR.

The Bicycle Man.

YOU DON'T MEAN IT!

I certainly do, and it is good for either Bread or Pastry. How can he do it? He simply bought one car load at the right time and the right price, and it is right Flour—\$4.50 per barrel while it lasts—at

W. M. CARROLL'S, Staple and Fancy Grocer.

AN EYE OPENER.

For breakfast use Coffee and Hecken's Tea, and for good things to eat in the Grocery line stop LaRogue & Rountree's wagon, or phone your order, and it will receive prompt attention and free delivery. All the latest delicacies in Canned Goods, Soups, Potted Ham, Chicken, Turkey, Lamb's Tongue, etc. All kinds of breakfast food. Give us a trial order.

WE WANT TO

C-U-B-A customer of ours. Our stock of Staple and Fancy Groceries is complete, new and fresh, and the best the market affords, and our prices are as low as the lowest. Give us one call and convince yourself of the above assertion.

J. H. ALEXANDER, General Store.

DON'T GET MAD

at your wife just because you did not rest well last night. Was there a lump in the mattress or did the spring sag? If so you should call and see Quinn & Miller, dealers in Furniture and House Furnishings, and they will make sleeping a comfort. Just think, a White Enameled Brass Trimmed Bed with Woven Wire Springs and Mattresses for 750 cents.

WE HAVE NO GRIT

In our Corn Meal, because our latest improved process separates it from the meal. Phone 49 or 118, and your order will receive prompt attention and free delivery. Sold in small or large quantities. Our specialty is grinding of corn and oats while you wait, also buy any amount you may have and pay liberally.

NEUSE MILLING CO. We Have Seed Oats.

YOU MAY HAVE

a place to eat and a place to sleep, but how about the clothes you are often judged by? We can make you look like ready money for \$15.00, a suit that is really worth \$18.50 and will equal any tailor-made suit costing \$25.00; a \$15.00 suit for \$12.35, \$12.50 suit \$9.00 and a \$10.00 suit for \$7.60. These clothes are worth your inspection. Call and look them over.

ARE YOU ONE

who is going to build or anticipates building? If so we wish to let it be known that we can furnish on receipt of order Framing and Box Boards, cut from Long Leaf Pine, also all kinds of Dressed Lumber. Come and examine our stock and get our prices before purchasing. Thanking our customers for past patronage and hoping to renew same, we remain, Yours truly,

THE GAY LUMBER CO. Prompt Delivery.

BARGAINS IN PRINTING.

We have some more of those Letter Heads, Note Heads, Bill Heads and Statements in fine quality colored bond papers, pink and blue. They are good value for price charged. If in need of some stationery examine these goods before making your selection. Letter Heads 500 for \$1.75, 1,000 for \$3.00. Note Heads 500 for \$1.35, 1,000 for \$2.25. Fine Old Hampshire Bond pink Note Heads 500 for \$1.65, 1,000 for \$2.65. Fine blue or pink Bill Heads, 7x5 1/2 inches, 500 for \$1.40, 1,000 for \$2.40. Statements, elegant quality bond papers in blue, pink, lemon or salmon, 500 for \$1.50, 1,000 for \$2.50.