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GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

It is proposed that the government purchase the land embracing Bull Run battlefield.

A New York dispatch says that all grades of refined sugars were advanced five points Monday.

Nine convicts escaped from Shelby farm, Bolivia, Miss., by sawing their way through the cage. Bloodhounds have been put on the trail.

President Roosevelt has sent a message to congress recommending the transfer of Naval Constructor Hobson to the retired list, in special recognition of his services, particularly the sinking of the Merrimac.

A sensation was caused in the British parliament recently by the appearance of an American visitor from Georgia, named J. F. Skinner, who stands seven feet seven inches high. Sir Howard Vincent, M. P., escorted the giant through both houses.

The Temps, a Paris paper, publishes a dispatch from Constantinople which announces that Miss Ellen M. Stone, the American missionary, has been released by the brigands who captured her and that Rev. Taitka, husband of Miss Stone's companion, has been arrested charged with complicity in the kidnapping of the missionary.

A dispatch, Feb. 17, from London says: The North German Lloyd steamship Kronprinz Wilhelm with Prince Henry aboard was in wireless communication with the Marconi station at the Lizard from 12:30 until 9 o'clock this morning. At the latter hour the Kronprinz Wilhelm was 140 miles west of the Cornish coast. Over one hundred words were exchanged between 8:50 and 9 a. m.

The Kellogg, or Seventh Day Adventist sanatorium at Battle Creek, Mich., was destroyed by fire Tuesday. The property loss is about \$500,000; insurance \$148,000. The building will be rebuilt at once. It was wonderful that about four hundred sleeping inmates escaped an awful death. Abner Case, of New York, who was known to have been in the building is missing and is supposed to have perished in the flames.

Margaret L. Shepard was arrested in Columbus, O., Sunday at a hall where she was about to give a lecture. The hall was crowded with people and there was much excitement over the arrest. The action was caused by two local Catholic orders. Mrs. Shepard claims to have been a nun, but has renounced the Roman faith. The literature sold by her was alleged to be obscene but is claimed by her to be an exposure of certain Catholic rites and orders.

Dr. Hill, for the president's delegates, on Monday made public the general program and itinerary of the visit of his royal highness, Prince Henry, of Prussia, covering the period of time, from Saturday, February 22nd to Tuesday March 11, 1902. This program provides for the arrival of the prince at Chattanooga Sunday, March 2nd, at 7 o'clock a. m. Presentation of souvenir album of the trip. Three hours and thirty minutes for a trip to Lookout mountains. Departure for St. Louis at 10:30 o'clock p. m. Stop fifteen minutes at Nashville and ten minutes at Louisville.

Details which are slowly arriving at Batu from Sh-maka, show that 2,000 persons, mostly women and children, perished as a result of the earthquake there last week and that 4,000 houses were destroyed. Thirty-four villages of the country surrounding Shamaka also suffered. To add to the terrors of the neighborhood, a volcano near the village of Marazy, eastward of Shamaka, has broken out into active eruption. A great convulsion has appeared, whence immense flames and streams of lava are being thrown out. The course of the river Geochalika has been altered in consequence of its bed being drenched with earth which had been deluged by the earthquake.

At New Madrid, Mo., Sunday night a mob of masked men overpowered the jailor and lynched a negro, Louis Wright. A negro minstrel show gave a performance there Saturday night, at which an altercation arose between one of the musicians and some persons in the audience. The whites made an onslaught on the musicians and one of the negroes on the stage began to shoot. Several persons in the audience were hit, but none was seriously hurt. The negroes escaped to their private car, which was soon surrounded by armed men, but no violence was done, owing to the arrival of the town marshal. All the negroes were put in jail, and in the preliminary examination the name of the one who did the shooting was discovered. He was lynched and the others will be released. Several of the prisoners were badly beaten.

A large trust company is under process of formation under the laws of New Jersey, backed by vast capital and leading financiers, which has for its object the creation of a chain of banks throughout the country, the controlling interest of each of which banks is now held, or will be acquired, by the central company. Although the banking laws prohibit national banks from holding stock in other banks, there is nothing that prohibits a trust company from holding such securities, and the trust company is at the same time amenable to scrutiny by the bank examiners. The present plan includes the formation of a trust company which will control the trust company owning the various bank stocks. Dividends have been sent to a large number of banks throughout the country outlining the plan and seeking their cooperation. Controlling interests in such banks which have been acquired, will be secured by the trust company.

OUR CONSCIENCE FUND.

It was Started With a Dollar in the Year 1811.

"In the year 1811," says H. E. Armstrong in Ainslee's Magazine, "an anonymous citizen of New York sent a dollar to the treasury department at Washington with an avowal that he had defrauded the government and wanted to make restoration. A dollar meant something to Uncle Sam in those necessitous days when the country verged on war with Great Britain, and it was a patriotic as well as a penitent act. The contributor was the founder of the conscience fund, and probably he died in the odor of sanctity.

"During the preceding thirty-five years of the life of the republic no one had despoiled the government, or the private conscience was callous. This New York man, indeed, seems to have been the one blemish on a golden era of national virtue, for fifty years were to elapse before there was an addition to the fund.

"In 1861, just after Sumter was fired on, the sum of \$6,000 in bonds was received by the treasury department, with a letter explaining that a sorely tried conscience could no longer endure its burden of guilt. The plain inference was that the sender, realizing the United States would need a mint of money to carry on the war, judged it not to be a time to defer repentance. Think of the bounty jumpers who profited by his contribution!

"It was really useful to the country in another way. The conscience fund, which had languished for want of a shining example, now became active. It has been quoted pretty steadily ever since. At the present time it amounts to more than \$300,000. Indeed, restitution is getting to be the fashion, and the time may come when no one will take advantage of the government or do so only with the laudable design of swelling the conscience fund when any emergency confronts Uncle Sam."

HOME NOTES.

Try adding a tablespoonful of kerosene to a pail of clear hot water to wash the windows.

One or two good sized mirrors in brass or gilt frames will do much to lighten a dark hall or room.

To clean cut glass wash articles, let them dry afterward, rub them with prepared chalk and a soft brush, carefully going into all the cavities.

To make a mahogany table shine like a mirror dip a woolen cloth into a tablespoonful of vinegar mixed with three of pure linseed oil and rub vigorously.

Lemon peel (and also orange) should be all saved and dried. It is a capital substitute for kipling wood. A handful will revive a dying fire and at the same time delicately perfume a room.

To renovate black satin ribbon heat some ale, and in it steep the ribbon for some time. After rinsing the ribbon from it, while wet between two cloths, and it will be stiff and glossy like new.

In sponging out bureau drawers and those of sideboards use tepid water containing a 1 per cent solution of carbolic acid, or, if preferred, use a small quantity of thymene in the tepid water instead of the acid.

Consistency.

They had been married but two months. He came home one evening to find his wife in tears. She had found an old scrapbook of his in which were pasted some poems he had written to some one else and published in the college papers. "I thought," she said, "you had never loved any one but me." And he promptly reassured her that she had thought truly, and burned up his old scrapbook in the furnace in the basement.

And the next day he found that she had distributed on the mantel and the dresser not less than five photographs of an many former beaux of hers and invited two of them who were in town to dinner the next Sunday.—St. Louis Mirror.

Calling Up Fish.

The other day several New York brokers received telephone orders to buy a certain stock and notify Mr. Fish at a given telephone number. Calling up that number, the response was invariably, "Which one is wanted?" Then followed this conversation: "How many of them are there?" "Several hundred, large and small." "I want the head of the firm." "Oh, then, you want Colonel Jones." "Colonel Jones? No, I want Mr. Fish. Who in thunder are you?" "The Aquarium."

How the Natives Treat Gorillas. Natives in the countries inhabited by great apes regard them always as human beings of inferior types, and it is for this reason that for a long time it was found impossible to get hold of an entire gorilla skin, because the natives considered it religiously necessary to cut off the hands and feet of the animals when they killed them, just as they do with their enemies, possibly for the purpose of reminding their servants in case they should by any

MAN IS NOT MONARCH.

His Senses Are Less Acute Than Are Those of Animals.

Man's vaunted faculties are far less acute than some of the lesser creatures.

The human eye is a wonderful piece of mechanism, with its little bundle of nerves that in some mysterious way make visualization possible. Yet this eye, with all its delicacy of discernment, is but a circumscribed organ as compared with the eye of the eagle, which sees infinitely farther than can any human eye. The same is true of the human ear. The rats and the mice that haunt our houses, the squirrels that caper about the woods and the numberless other little animals all hear better than we do. They may not trace refinement in sound as accurately as can man, but for catching sound at long range theirs are the ears most perfectly constructed.

The sense of touch is more accurately developed elsewhere in the animal kingdom than in man. No man made device for measuring water pressure equals that of the fish, whose sides all strung with nerves register the water pressure correctly every time and inform his fishship just how much he can stand and when to move up or down.

A dog's sense of smell is always respected by man, who frequently, as in the case of a hunter, relies on it to supplement the findings of his own less active olfactory nerve.

When it comes to the human voice, there are birds with whose music man's music cannot be compared. Not Patti herself ever sang more sweetly than the meadow lark at break of day.

Cod Liver Oil From Beans.

During the wait between acts a medical student and a young woman sat together became slightly embarrassed for topics of conversation. Finally and not unaturally in view of the nature of the young man's studies their talk drifted to the subject of disagreeable tasting medicines. Among the horrors they mentioned were cod liver oil and castor oil.

"I don't see," mused the young woman, "how any one can bear to eat the beans that stuff is made of."

"What kind of beans do you mean?" inquired the young man.

"Why, cod liver oil beans, to be sure."

"Aren't you thinking of castor beans?" ventured her companion.

"Why, I always thought cod liver oil was made from beans," she said, and the good breeding of the young man was shown by the fact that he didn't even smile, but several of those who sat near by hadn't equal control over their features.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Chimneys That Lean.

"It's just this," said the man with the restless eye, who was gazing skyward—"some ten years ago some man who had a grudge against me, I guess, called my attention to the fact, if fact it be, that if a chimney leans at all it always leans to the east.

"I didn't believe it, and I can hardly believe it yet, but I've spent hours and days and weeks and months squinting at chimneys from car windows and from sidewalks, but I'll be darned if I ever yet have been able to discover a leaning chimney that didn't slant to the east. I've looked at factory chimneys, hotel chimneys, farmhouse chimneys and city house chimneys, and they all, like the adobe gods on the temples of Yucatan, bend their heads toward the rising sun."

And the man with the restless eye once more began an inspection of the sky line.—New York Telegram.

Under Cover of Darkness.

The minister of a Scotch parish was going from home and procured the clergyman of a neighboring parish to officiate on Sunday. His servant, who was also the beadle, was sent over to the station to drive the reverend gentleman to the manse.

When the train arrived, the beadle asked him to wait awhile, as he had some messages to do before he went. It was two hours before he returned. The good man was furious and threatened to report him to his master.

"Well, sir, ye can do that if ye like," said the beadle, "but he tellt me himself to wait till it was dark afore I drove ye over, for if the folk o' the village saw wha was to preach the morn nobody wad turn out ava."

How to Imitate a Singing Bird.

According to La Nature, with any glass tube whatever it is possible to easily reproduce the song of a bird. It suffices to rub the tube lengthwise with a piece of wet cork. In order to imitate the song of a bird the cork must be moved with a varying rapidity, now slowly, now rapidly, and abrupt stoppages must intervene. The experiment can be made more simple by rubbing an ordinary bottle with a piece of cork.

He Knew.

Bumble-Papa, what makes a man always give a woman a diamond engagement ring?

Her Father—The woman.

GEN. TOON DEAD.

State Superintendent of Education Died at Raleigh This Morning.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 19.—Gen. T. F. Toon, State superintendent of education, died this morning.

He had been sick sometime, but recently had apparently been on the road to recovery. His death this morning was unexpected.

Gen. Toon was an old Confederate soldier and bore a high reputation for his soldierly qualities. He made a tour of the State in the late campaign, speaking for the ratification of the constitutional amendment and materially helped in the passage of the measure.

MAN AND HIS LEGS.

The Nether Limbs as an Index to the State of the Mind.

There are many indexes to the mind, but I learned of a new one the other day when I called to see a busy man at his office down on Broad street. When I entered the outer office, it was quite evident that he was in, for I could see him through an open door leaning over his desk quite intent on papers that lay in front of him. I spoke to the clerk in attendance, whom I know real well, and asked that he announce me. He glanced into the other room before speaking.

"Wait a minute or two," he said. "It will be better, for he will have you come in the moment I say you are here."

I didn't quite understand what he meant, but I took a seat to wait a minute or two. I waited five of them and then spoke again.

"Wait until he crosses his legs," answered the clerk.

"What has that to do with it?" I asked.

"Everything," he replied. "He doesn't like to be disturbed when he is busy, and I know he is very busy because he has his legs out straight. A man never thinks hard with his legs crossed. As soon as his mind lets up a little, then he straightens, crosses his legs and is ready for visitors and a chat. When his legs go down again, it is time for the visitor to take his leave. Just bear that in mind and see if I am not right."

As he finished speaking up went the legs, and I was announced and received at once.—New York Herald.

Meals in Russia.

Among the common people there is no fixed time for eating meals. The Russian eats when he is hungry, and this is about six square meals a day. He has at least a dozen lunches, a little bit of salt fish or some caviare or a piece of bread and cheese, washed down with a nip of fiery vodka. He never passes a station without a glass of tea—marvelous tea, with a thin slice of lemon floating in it. You get a fondness for Russian tea and forever swear bemildred deceptions forever.

The table manners of the Russian—such as you see in hotels and buffets—are not pleasing. He sprawls with outstretched elbows on the table and gets his mouth down to his food rather than raise the food to his mouth. He makes objectionable noises in his throat. He has a finger bowl and rinses his mouth as the rest of us do when cleaning our teeth in our bathrooms. Then he squirts the water back into the bowl. In time one may get used to this.

The Civil War Mortality.

Commenting on the loss of life in the civil war from various causes, General Francis V. Greene says in Scribner's Magazine:

"How paltry seem the 5,000 killed and wounded in the war of 1812 or the war in Mexico or the war with Spain compared with the 14,000 at Shiloh, 15,000 at the Chickasaw, 23,000 at Antietam, the same at Fredericksburg, 16,000 at Chancellorsville, 23,000 at Gettysburg, 16,000 at Chickamauga, 37,000 in the Wilderness and 26,000 at Spotsylvania! The grand aggregate of destruction fairly staggers the imagination, accustomed as we have been for more than a generation to the figures—63,000 killed by bullets, 186,000 killed by disease, 25,000 dead from other causes, a grand total of 394,000, or about one in nine of every man who wore the uniform."

A Scotch Cynic.

A young Scotchman was once halting between two loves, one possessed of beauty and the other of a cow. In despair of arriving at a decision he applied for advice to a canny compatriot, who delivered himself thus: "Marry the lass that has the cow, for there's so the deference o' a cow's value in any twa weemen in Christendom."—Pearson's Weekly.

Man's Footwear Figures. A man who wears size 5 shoes requires size 6 half hose; he who wears size 5½ shoes needs 9½ hose; 6½ to 7 calls for 10; 7½ to 8 goes with 10½; 8½ to 9 harmonizes with 11, and 9½ to 10 shoes strikes a fit with 11½ hose.

The most fertile looking object in this world is a man just around the house in the depths.—Albion Clark.

HIS ENGLISH FRIEND.

A Visit That Wrecked the Nerves of an American Host.

"I've been having the time of my life, I tell you," said the suburbanite gloomily to his city friend at lunch.

"What's the matter? Pipes burst? Furnace won't work? Dog killing the neighbors' chickens?" asked the friend, sympathetically running through the list of the suburbanite's usual grievances.

"No; worse than that," sadly answered the first speaker. "I've been having an English friend visit me. It's years since I've been across the water, so one or two of his ways were a little strange. The worst of his doings was what has broken me up so. He went to bed the first night before the rest of us, and when I came along the corridor an hour or so later there were his shoes standing outside his door and frightfully muddy too.

"I looked at them in astonishment. Then I remembered the English custom of having the boy come up for the boots. We keep only two servants, you know, both women, and of course in the country you have to rub them the right way or they'll leave. I knew perfectly well that if I told either of those free and independent Irish women to clean the Englishman's shoes we'd be left servantless, and that would have been the death of my wife.

"I lifted the shoes gingerly by two fingers and carried them to my room. When I thought the servants must be asleep, I crept down stairs and got to work with a brush. At every sound I would nearly jump out of my own boots and drop his. I fancied every moment that the girls would see my candle and give the alarm of burglars or that my friend would be taken ill and get up and find me brushing his shoes. Oh, I had a pretty time of it! He stayed a week, that Englishman, and what with loss of sleep and overstrained nerves I'm a wreck."

"Well, why on earth didn't you have the moral courage to—"
"Moral courage! I'd like to see the man who'd have the moral courage to tell an English gentleman with a monocle that the ways of even well bred people in this country differ from those he's been accustomed to! My friend, you do not know the breed!" And he drowned his sorrows and braced his nerves with a second cup of unsurpassed coffee.—New York Tribune.

The Best Telephoned City.

What is the best telephoned city in the world? San Francisco seems to be the answer. In that city, with a population of 342,782, there are 21,324 telephones, or sixty-two per thousand. In Europe, Copenhagen is probably the best telephoned city, with 14,311 telephones to its 312,839 of population, equal to forty-nine per thousand. In Copenhagen, too, the best conditions for the public exist, although the rates are relatively as high as those in American cities. London compares very unfavorably with these figures. At the beginning of this year there were 41,111 telephones to a population of more than 5,500,000, or a proportion of seven to every thousand people. New York, with a population of 2,350,000, had 54,647 instruments, or twenty-six to a thousand.

Husbands' Motto a Bible Verse.

The Husbands' Protection society of London has as its motto the naive verse found in what is known as the Wife Beater's Bible, published in 1543, copies of which may be found in many museums and libraries. This verse is as follows:

"He dwelleth with his wyfe according to his knowledge and taketh her as a necessary helpier and not as a bonde servant or a bonde slave. And if she be not obedient and helpfull to hym he endeavoureth to beate the fear of God into her heade that thereby she may be compelled to learne her dutie and to do it."—London News.

When the Rod Was Not Spared.

The change of thought and conditions of mankind is no better illustrated than by the history of the rod. In an article on the morals of the child by Dr. Grace Peckham Murray there is mention made of a Swedish schoolmaster who during his fifty-one years of superintendence of a large school had given 611,500 canings, 121,000 floggings, 200,000 castides, 136,000 tips with the ruler, 10,200 boxes on the ear and 22,700 tasks by the heart.—Delicenter.

No Joking Matter.

"Joakim, it appears, is married and has gone to housekeeping."
"Not at all. What made you think so?"
"He's been writing so many jokes about servant girls lately he must have had some experience with them."
"Nonsense! If he'd had such experience, he wouldn't joke about it!"

Chronic Constipation Cured.

The most important discovery of recent years is the positive remedy for constipation. Cascarets Candy Cathartic. Cure guaranteed. Genuine tablets stamped C. C. C. Never sold in bulk. Druggists, etc.

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

The Cleveland party is reported to have killed 200 ducks in Currituck sound last Friday.

Twenty-four thousand dollars have been subscribed to the stock of a new national bank to be established July 1st at Wayneville.

The State has chartered the Atlantic Institute at Morehead City. It is an educational institution and no capital stock is given.

Mr. W. C. Munroe, Jr., son of Mr. W. C. Munroe, attorney of the A. & N. C. R. R., of Goldsboro, died at the home of his father Monday morning.

A special from Bethlehem, Pa., says Lehigh University baseball team will play the teams of the University of North Carolina on March 31st, and April 1st, and Trinity College, at Durham, on April 2d.

The Tarboro Southerner tells of a new industry that has been developed in Edgecombe. Old plug horses that will sell for only a few dollars in that market are shipped to Richmond where they bring a good price.

The Newbern Journal says editorially that Charles R. Thomas, the present representative in congress of the third congressional district, will without doubt be renominated for this same office at the next Democratic convention.

The press and type of the Mt. Olive Advertiser has been sold to Mr. Lionel Giles, who will establish a newspaper at Jacksonville, Onslow county. The Advertiser will purchase a new press and new outfit, and be much improved.

The Apex Canning company is taking steps to induce the farmers to plant tomatoes so that they will have a full supply this season. The Apex News shows that at twenty-five cents a bushel tomatoes pay better than cotton at ten cents.

Commissioner Young says the "Old Wayne Mutual Life Insurance company, of Indiana, is a fraud—does not comply with the insurance laws of Indiana or any other state, does only underground business and never pays its losses. It continues to try to do business in this State.

A Mrs. Tucker was burned to death in Stokes county the past week. The particulars as reported are that she was not feeling very well and made a pallet before the fire and lying down with her one-year-old babe in her arms, dropped off to sleep, when the bed clothing caught fire and burned her so severely that she died in twenty-four hours. Strange to say the babe was not hurt.

A special from Charlotte says that the recent rise in raw cotton has affected the mills of the south to such an extent that it is probable that the majority of the mills of the State will be compelled to close down. The mill owners of Charlotte claim that "without a corresponding rise in cotton yarns we will be unable to continue business, as the profits are all eaten up by the hands."

The snow fall at Raleigh broke all records, since the establishment of the weather bureau there, the total being 19 inches. It caused the close of the public schools Monday. The rural fire delivery mail carriers have been unable to make a trip since Friday. On Monday morning the great weight of the snow crushed the roof of the largest cotton warehouse in Raleigh. The roof of Holloway's carriage repository was also crushed by the snow.

Capt. Jasper Fleming, of Milton, Caswell county, died at the A. & M. College, Raleigh, Sunday morning, aged 69. He was a student in the dairy course, intending to establish a dairy and stock farm on scientific principles. He was taken with a deep cold about two weeks ago, which developed into pneumonia and caused his death. He was a brother of Capt. J. M. Fleming, superintendent of State penitentiary, and leaves a wife and three sons.

Newbern Journal: Frozen ground since early in November has prevented nearly all kinds of outdoor farm work, especially in preparing the ground for crops. Cabbage plants set out two months ago, have practically made no growth, where they have not been killed or dwarfed by the cold. Truckers who have planted peas are not certain what is to come from the planting. Two weeks late is the general estimate regarding crops in this vicinity.

There appears to be a misunderstanding on the part of the school authorities in a number of counties as to what are "available" public school funds. They appear to think such funds are only those which have come in since July 1. The law requires that before a county shall call on the State for special aid to keep its public schools open 4 months, it shall exhaust all the available funds. The State officials say this means all the funds to the credit of the schools, no matter if it goes back five years. There was on the 1st of last August the gross sum of \$227,800 to the public schools in the hands of county treasurers.

A special from Salisbury says: The Whitney Education company is rapidly pushing the work of harnessing the Narrows and when the work is completed it will probably represent more capital than any other single industry in North Carolina. The company is composed of several wealthy easterners and they estimate expending \$5,000,000 on the power development alone. In addition to this, the company owns and operates a splendid copper mine adjoining the Narrows, and a large granite quarry at Woodside. The aggregate capital invested by the Whitney company in this vicinity will be about \$5,000,000.