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W. S. HERBERT, Editor.

The Albemarle, Stanly county, newspaper says: "The negroes of Montgomery county have placed in the field a full ticket for county officers." There is enough food for thought in that one fact to last any North Carolina white man a good while.

The Raleigh Press-Visitor correctly says: "The American people would appreciate the act of President McKinley, as soon as possible after war is declared off, if he would make a few changes in the names of towns in the captured islands and number the various Morros."

Gen. Miles' triumphal procession through Porto Rico must be becoming almost monotonous to the general. The natives do not even give his men the trouble of raising the American flag over their towns, but raise it themselves, and all the gallant and handsome general has to do is to ride through the city and dodge bouquets, while the band plays "See, the Conquering Hero Comes."—Chicago News.

Ex-Secretary of State C. M. Cooke has replied to the charges and insinuations of The Progressive Farmer, that the Democrats who have held the office now held by Dr. Cy Thompson were thieves. He clearly shows that the increased receipts under Secretary of State Thompson's administration are due to higher taxes under new laws and to natural increase of the insurance business and taxes.

Mr. John R. Smith states that his "report" was properly made out and filed with the directors last January. Says it is now in the hands of the governor and has been for some time.

Is it not strange, then, the governor having this important document in his possession, did not furnish it promptly when it was requested, instead of inditing the disgraceful letter to Mr. Simmons?

It being a public document, will not the people think it very strange that they cannot get a look at its contents, six months after it should have been given to the public?

Let us have a copy of that report, governor.—Raleigh Post.

Mr. Bailey says that when he asked Governor Russell why John R. Smith was made commissioner of agriculture, the governor replied that he "had to do it in order to get Mr. Smith out of the office of superintendent of the State's prison as under his administration of that office our State was suffering the disgrace of personal scandal and financial loss by corruption." In the estimation of the governor, it seems, that the corrupt practices of John R. Smith as superintendent of the penitentiary didn't disqualify him for the office of commissioner of agriculture. It is true that in the latter office his opportunities for gratifying the baser passions of his animal nature were not so good, and if he didn't get exposed for swindling the State out of the \$700 a year he would be allowed to take out of the appropriations for the expenses of his office, he would in time become a very valuable acquisition to the Republican party, if not a leader. "When the wicked bear rule the people mourn."—M. C. Pilot.

Dr. Kilgo Attending the Primaries.
Greensboro Record.

"Kilgo is attending the primaries and Clark will have to go," said an observant gentleman the other day.

He referred to the fact that at the district conferences, now being held in various parts of the State, President Kilgo was having things his own way, and he was right.

Judge Clark used to be a very good politician, but he should look to his laurels.

One Instance of Official Incompetency and Neglect.

Philadelphia Record.

A board of survey has just brought to light the details of one of the many cases of the official incompetency and neglect which explains why the soldiers in the trenches at Santiago complained of a scarcity of food, although the shipments of commissary supplies had been abundant. On the 3d day of last June the transport ship Breakwater received at New York a cargo of supplies for the third United States infantry. The stores were invoiced by Major A. D. Nickerson, commissary of subsistence, to Lieutenant James N. McAndrews, third infantry, at Mobile, Alabama. The regiment was taken on board at Mobile, and the Breakwater proceeded to Santiago, where the troops landed.

But before the stores, consisting of flour, bread, bacon, beef, beans, canned tomatoes, coffee, salt, etc., could be landed the ship was ordered to Hampton Roads where she was disinfected, and she then proceeded, with some wounded soldiers and the cargo, to New York. When the steamer arrived at New York it was found that the supplies had been so badly damaged by the fumigation of the ship with sulphur that they were unfit for food. The whole cargo of commissary stores was accordingly condemned by the board of survey.

There were also on board the Breakwater the entire camp outfit, tents and personal baggage belonging to the third infantry. This camp equipage was unloaded at Fortress Monroe, where it probably still remains. But how the soldiers of the third infantry did without their tents may have its partial explanation in the sick list at Santiago. What officer of the quartermaster's department invoiced this camp equipage, and what officer received the invoice, does not appear from the investigation of the board of survey.

The board reports that it is unable to fix the responsibility for this failure to unload commissary and quartermaster's supplies at Santiago. But there ought to be some way of ascertaining where the blame lies for letting this transport ship, laden with supplies, beat about between Santiago, Fortress Monroe and New York until the cargo was made useless to the soldiers who were so much in need of it. In this case the commissary service and the quartermaster's service are both implicated, unless it can be shown that the Breakwater was ordered north by some authority having knowledge that her hold was filled with food and camp equipage for the soldiers in the trenches at Santiago. Taking it all 'round, a worse case of official incompetency and neglect has not transpired among the many examples of the kind during this brief war.

A Quick Witted Baptist.

One of the candidates for the state senate down in Jefferson county, Ala., was a prominent Baptist, and he expected his fellow churchmen to help push him along. The story goes that he was campaigning on a country beat and had the good fortune to fall in with a whole congregation of Baptists. Whether a prayer meeting had just been held or what the occasion of the gathering was is not known. About this time a light shower came up, and the candidate at once raised a large umbrella which he was carrying.

"You are not afraid of this little shower, are you, Brother?" remarked one good Baptist, standing near.

"Not at all," responded the quick witted candidate, "but you know I am opposed to all forms of 'sprinkling.'" He carried that beat solidly.—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

An Effective Pill Box.

Here is a good story of the author of "The Deserted Village." Hearing of Dr. Goldsmith's great humanity, a poor woman, who believed him to be a physician, once wrote to him begging him to prescribe for her husband, who had lost his appetite and was altogether in a very sad state. The kind hearted poet immediately went to see her, and after some talk with the man found him almost overwhelmed with sickness and poverty.

"You shall hear from me in an hour," said the doctor on leaving, "and I shall send you some pills which I am sure will do you good."

Before the time was up Goldsmith's servant brought the poor woman a small box, which, on being opened, was found to contain 10 guineas, with the following directions: "To be used as necessities require. Be patient and of good heart."—Christian Work.

Be Compiled.

Mr. Transient—Is this all the butter you have in the house, Mrs. Caterer?

Mrs. Caterer—It is, Mr. Transient, and I wish you would try to make it go as far as you can.

Mr. Transient—With pleasure, Mrs. Caterer (opens window and throws butter against back fence). There! If it hadn't been for that fence, I could have made it go a little farther yet.—Boston Courier.

TOUCHED A TENDER FOOT.

A Georgian's Well Meant Words of Encouragement That Went Astray.

When the train bearing the Fifth regiment reached Atlanta, the men got out and gladly stretched their cramped limbs. Of course the officers needed the same grateful exercise, and they were soon strolling about the station, looking curiously on the southern spectators and holding merry talks with the decidedly friendly natives.

Surgeon Love, however, remained near the train, and while he was standing there a big, long whiskered Georgian came up, and not recognizing the surgeon's branch of the service by the emblem on his collar slapped him heartily on the back and cried out:

"That's right, cap'n. Kill all you can of 'em."

The surgeon blushed.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Tobogganing in 1765.

It is interesting to note in Smollett's "Travels Through France and Italy" that when the novelist was making an excursion in March, 1765, from Nice across the Maritime Alps to Turin he descended the Piedmontese slope of the Col di Tenda toward Cuneo on a toboggan.

"Having reached the top of the mountain," he tells us in letter 38, "we prepared for descending on the other side by the leze, which is an occasional sledge made of two pieces of wood, carried up by the coulants (local guides) for the purpose. I did not much relish this kind of carriage, especially as the mountain was very steep and covered with such a thick fog that we could hardly see two or three yards before us. Nevertheless our guides were so confident and my companion, who had passed the same way on other occasions, so secure that I ventured to place myself on this machine, one of the coulants standing behind me and the other sitting before me as the conductor, with his feet paddling in the snow, in order to moderate the velocity of its descent. Thus accommodated, we descended the mountain with such rapidity that in an hour we reached Limon. Here we waited two full hours for the mules which traveled with the servants by the common road."

This is simply tobogganing used as a practical means of transit for travelers in the Alps.—Chambers' Journal.

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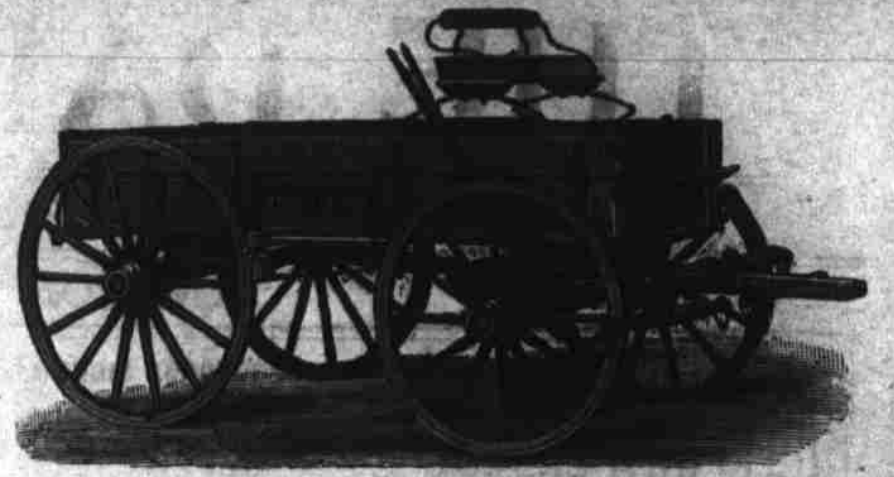
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