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## OUR NAVY DEPARTMENT

### Is Hampered By a Desire of Some Full Term Men.

## FRENCH WAR PREPARATIONS

### Still the Absorbing Subject of Discussion in Paris. Important Naval Experiments at Toulon. Russian Forces Have Made An Aggressive Move on Northern China.

Washington, Oct. 20.—The navy department is hampered by the desire to re-establish the foreign naval stations by a limited number of the full term men in service. At present the enlisted force includes about 8,000 for the term of war only, and as peace may be declared daily they may be entitled to discharge. Nearly all of the 120,000 long term men are with Dewey's fleet.

### French War Preparation.

Paris, Oct. 20.—The war preparation is the absorbing subject of discussion. According to the papers, there were important naval experiments at Toulon last night. A flotilla of torpedo boats were detached to make an endeavor to force an entrance to the harbor, the whole garrison was called to arms, and the forts and batteries were manned ready for instant action.

### Russian Forces Aggressive in China.

London, Oct. 20.—Dispatches from Shanghai say that Russian forces have made an aggressive move on northern China, seizing the town of Neu Chwang, and the forts at the mouth of the river Eliaou.

## NEWS OF DEWEY.

### Reported Encounter of American Ships With Filipinos Discredited.

Washington, Oct. 20.—Nothing has yet reached the state or navy department regarding an encounter between Dewey's ships and the Filipinos over hoisting the rebel flag. The report is not believed by the authorities. It is suggested that the report had its origin in Dewey's trouble with the Filipinos over the determination of the insurgents to fly their flag on their little gunboats.

### French Missionary Murdered.

Paris, Oct. 20.—At the cabinet meeting Del Casse read a dispatch from the French minister at Peking announcing that a French missionary and several Chinese Catholics had been massacred or burned to death in a chapel at Paklung by a riotous mob. Gerard immediately demanded reparation from China.

### Quiet at San Juan.

San Juan, Oct. 20.—The city remains quiet and orderly. Major General Brooke has installed in the palace Brig-Gen. Henry, and remains commander of the district of Ponce, and Gen. Grant commands the district of San Juan.

### The Fever Districts.

Jackson, Miss., Oct. 20.—The weather is warmer, but another frost is predicted. There are fewer new cases in the yellow fever districts, and no deaths. The fever is unusually mild.

### Train Robber Bound Over.

Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 20.—William W. Lowe, a self-confessed train robber, has been arraigned before the criminal court and pleaded not guilty. His bail was fixed at \$8,000.

### Shot His Wife.

Paterson, N. J., Oct. 20.—John Rienshard, former saloon keeper, shot his wife and himself today because she interfered with his business. He had much property.

### A Chinese Joke.

Vancouver, Oct. 20.—The wording of the article in the Chinese Mail show that the rumored marriage of Chang and the dowager empress is intended as a joke.

## A STRANGE SENTENCE.

### Punishment For a Murder That Was More Cruel Than Death.

In 1801 a man died in the Catskills who had been condemned by one of the strangest sentences on record. Ralph Sutherland was born in 1701 and lived in a stone house near Leeds. He was a man of violent temper and morose disposition, shunned by his neighbors and generally disliked. Not being able to get an American servant, he imported a Scotchwoman, and, according to the usage of the times, virtually held her in bondage until her passage money had been refunded.

Unable to endure any longer the raging temper of her master, the girl ran away. Immediately upon discovering her absence the man set off in an angry chase upon his horse and soon overtook her. The poor woman never reached the house alive, and Sutherland was indicted and arrested on the charge of murder.

At the trial he tried to prove that his horse had taken fright, run away, pitched him out of the saddle and dashed the girl to death upon the rocks, but the jury did not accept the defense, and Sutherland was sentenced to die upon the scaffold.

Then came the plea of the insufficiency of circumstantial evidence and the efforts of influential relations. These so worked upon the court that the judge delayed the sentence of death until the prisoner should be 99 years old.

It was ordered that the culprit should be released on his own recognizance, and that, pending the final execution of his sentence, he should keep a hangman's noose about his neck and show himself before the judges of Catskill once a year to prove that he wore his badge of infamy and kept his crime in mind. It was a more cruel decision than the sentence of immediate death would have been, but it was no doubt in harmony with the spirit of the times.

Thus Ralph Sutherland lived. He always lived alone. He seldom spoke. His rough, imperious manner had gone. Years followed years. At each session of the court the broken man came before the bar of justice and silently showed the noose that circled his neck.

At last his ninety-ninth year came, the time when the court had ordered that the utmost penalty of the law should be executed. For the last time the man tottered before the judge's bench, but new judges had arisen in the land, new laws had been made, old crimes had been forgotten or forgiven, and there was none who would accuse him or execute sentence. Indeed the awful restriction that had bound his life so intimately to the expiation of his crime was now legally removed.

But the spirit of self punishment continued, and when Sutherland, after he had passed his hundredth year, was discovered dead, alone in his house, his throat was found to be encircled by the rope which had been placed there nearly three-quarters of a century before. Youth's Companion.

### Value of a Constitution.

It happened in the spring of 1860, when Garibaldi was pursuing his expedition in Sicily and when the words "Constitution and Liberty" were on every Neapolitan's lips. "Why are you so anxious for a constitution?" asked a foreign tourist of his guide and donkey driver, while they were traveling through the mountains of Sorrento. "Well, you see, your excellency," was the answer, "because I think we shall be all the better for it. It is now close upon 20 years that I am letting out my asses to visitors from all countries—English, French, Americans; all of these have a constitution, and they are all rich."—Argonaut.

### Life in Colorado.

A person in this country no sooner gets through shoveling coal and carrying out the ashes than he has to sprinkle his grass and push the lawn mower. The more coal he shovels the more ashes he carries, and the more water he squirts the harder he has to push the lawn mower. It is ever thus.—Longmont (Colo.) Ledger.

According to the authority of an English magazine Great Britain controls 21 out of every 100 square miles of the earth's surface and 24 out of every 100 square miles of territory in North and South America.

## CONTEND TO THE LAST.

### The Spanish Commissioners Still Seek to Attach Conditions

## TO THE GIVING UP OF CUBA.

### Trying to Provide for the Assumption of The Cuban Debt by the United States. Will Not Recognize Affirmatively The American Position.

Paris, Oct. 20.—The Spanish peace commissioners have not yet received from Madrid instructions to bid adieu to Cuban sovereignty without further seeking to attach some condition providing for the assumption of the Cuban debt by the United States. If they are at present so disposed and instructed the Spaniards will not at tomorrow's meeting recognize affirmatively the American position. They apparently intend not to yield and will tomorrow make another written presentation.

### Cleveland Ball Club Against Management.

Cleveland, O., Oct. 20.—The Cleveland base ball club in the league are against the management. Only two or three have signed contracts for next year, the others refuse to sign until they learn where Cleveland is going to play.

### Wilson Succeeds Breckenridge.

Lexington, Oct. 20.—Gen. Wilson will succeed Gen. Breckenridge in command of the first army corps today.

### To Take Part in Jubilee.

New York, Oct. 20.—The battleship Texas went to Philadelphia today to take part in the peace jubilee.

### Dreyfus' Hearing Oct. 27th.

Paris, Oct. 20.—Dreyfus' hearing is set for October 27th.

### Republicans at Institute.

Institute, Oct. 19.—The Republican candidates met at Institute today and found a few white men, a few negroes, but no ladies, to hear them speak. After hearing Mr. Bright's oratory (?) and his stress on his favorite clause, "If negro supremacy is wrong" one of his hearers thought his name was not at all shady enough for the man.

Mr. Wooten spoke seemingly for the benefit of the negroes for some time and it is a pity they did not turn out in full to hear him.

It is a sad pity they did not have respect enough for the teacher and school girls to keep their whisky away from the school yard. We are proud to say the Democrats used no whisky at that place and the speakers had plenty of ladies to hear them speak.

## INSTITUTE ITEMS.

October 19, 1898.

Mr. W. J. Brothars went to Goldsboro today.

Miss Ruth White returned last Monday from a visit in Wayne county.

Quarterly meeting at Hull Road was well attended Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. P. M. Hardy has opened a grocery store at Mr. A. T. Dawson's old stand.

Miss Lucy Brooks spent Saturday and Sunday with her parents near Gritton.

Mr. Lewis Turnage and Miss Lera Bryan attended Sunday school convention at Ormondsville Saturday and Sunday.

Among our visitors Saturday and Sunday were Misses Lizzie and Sallie Moore and Mess. R. Moore, Sidney Bumpass, N. Currin, S. Currin, S. Sugg, Leon Pridgen, E. D. Pleasant, of Glenfield; Mr. R. E. Bizzell, of Goldsboro; and Mess. John Brown and Archie Taylor, and Mrs. J. T. Rouse and son, Troy, of near Kinston.

### Corrupting an Echo.

At Killarney every visitor hears some laughable stories. Here is one—new and fresh, I think—which I picked up during my last visit to the glorious lakes: A number of boatmen who were quarreling about the division of "tips" indulged at the top of their voices in a good deal of profane language, which the marvelous echo repeated verbatim.

"Arrah, look at that, now, for a scandal," said one of the party who was of a pious turn. "T'achin the poor harmless echo to curse and swear."—Spectator.

## "OLD NORTH STATE" NEWS.

### Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

Mr. Frank Chase, aged about 68 years, a respected citizen of McDaniell county, was run over by a train at Statesville Monday.

Mr. J. V. Wilson, a mechanic of Raleigh, was shot Monday night by his wife. He will probably recover. Mr. Wilson had brought suit for a divorce and his wife attempted to kill him.

The News says that Wednesday night Wagner & Ragan's livery stable, at Thomasville, and contents, except the stock, were totally destroyed by fire. The fire originated in the front of the building. The cause is unknown. Loss about \$4,000; insurance \$1,400.

Gov. Russell is pardoning convicts secretly. He recently pardoned John Flasher and Newton Mace, who were serving five year terms from Madison county, for murder in the second degree, and one London Snelling four months' sentence, from Mitchell, for embezzlement.

Democratic State Chairman Simmons says he is entirely confident the Democrats will elect Kitchen, Klutz and Crawford in the fifth, seventh and ninth districts, respectively, and that he thinks Small, Thomas and Bellamy have good chances in the first, third and sixth districts, respectively. As to the legislature, he makes the positive assertion that the Democrats will carry both branches.

It is now certain that the companies of the second regiment will be mustered out at their homes. Capt. Dodd thinks that he will begin mustering out November 3d. The officers will first muster out companies B and G, at Charlotte; then companies H, L and M, at Asheville; next company C, at Lenoir; then company D, at Greensboro; then companies F and A, at Fayetteville; then company K, at Wilmington, and finally companies I and E, at Tarboro.

## IN DUPLIN COUNTY.

### Registration Law Violated and Idiots Are Registered Over Protest.

Goldsboro Argus.

The chairman of the board of registration, with the concurrence of one Republican negro, John W. Hill, placed upon the registration book of Friendship precinct, Duplin county, N. C., on Saturday, October 15th, the names of three negro idiots, to wit: Henry Williams, Sylvester Williams and Robert Williams, over the protest of the Democratic member of the said board, Mr. J. F. Bailey, and Dr. Matt. Moore, who was present, protesting against their being allowed to register; stating that he knew them to be idiots having known them from their infancy. But the chairman, Mr. L. W. Hodges, and the negro, J. W. Hill, overruled this protest and placed the names of the three idiot negroes on the registration book.

This outrage upon the election law is told The Argus by an eye-witness to the disgraceful transaction, and any one doubting its truth can write to Dr. Matt. Moore, Warsaw, for verification, and Dr. Moore has been a Populist up to the negroizing of eastern North Carolina by fusion, when he repudiated the nefarious co-operative combination and returned to his first love, the Democratic party—the only party that assures white government and honesty in the administration of the State.

Two of these idiotic negroes a few years ago wandered into Lenoir county and so frightened some of our white ladies that they were taken up and lodged in jail until their father, Alfred Williams, came after them. Abe Middleton's methods in old Duplin are giving an unsavory reputation to that good old county.

If you are going to get married, don't forget THE FREE PRESS can furnish your wedding cards in the very latest style, and on the shortest possible notice. Strict secrecy guaranteed.

## BILTMORE SQUATTERS

### Sued by Vanderbilt to Drive Them From His Game Preserves.

## BATTLESHIPS OF HIGH SPEED

### Were Shown To Be a Necessity by the War With Spain. The Torpedo Boats Showed a Long List of Accidents and Cannot Be Safely Used as Blockade Ships.

Asheville, N. C., Oct. 20.—George W. Vanderbilt has entered suit to drive a number of squatters from that part of the Biltmore estate which is designed for a game preserve. The squatters have retained attorneys and will fight the case on the ground that they have been in undisputed possession for seven years.

### High Speed Battleships a Necessity.

Washington, Oct. 20.—Engineer-in-chief Melville in his annual report says the war showed the necessity of high speed battleships, and the training of engineers. He lays stress on the help rendered by the Vulcan off Santiago. The torpedo boats showed a long list of accidents and he thinks they cannot be safely used as blockade ships, and advocates water tube boilers.

### Cotton Market.

The New York cotton market opened this morning for November 5.25 and closed 5.25. January opened 5.32, closed 5.32. Spot cotton at Kinston, 4.80. Forty-five bales were sold on the Kinston market today.

### Points to Consider.

There's only one kind of printing we don't do. That's the poor kind. That's the kind you don't want. But when you do want something that is neat, clean, right-up-to-date, printed on good paper, with fine ink, from type that is new and of latest face, set in an artistic and intelligent manner—in short, when you want a strictly first-class job, . . .

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