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STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

Arrangements have been perfected to organize a \$150,000 cotton mill at Henderson.

Wm. Truedale, colored, was hanged at Charlotte Thursday for the murder of his sweetheart a year ago.

Dr. J. W. McNeil has been granted a franchise to run an electric railroad in Fayetteville. It is expected that it will be extended to Hope Mills.

A company to manufacture mantels and tables has been organized at High Point with a capital of \$25,000. Capt. A. M. Rankin and E. M. Armfield are at the head of the enterprise.

M. M. Perry, of Raleigh, was held up by two masked men Wednesday night while walking from North to South Rocky Mount and robbed of \$800. Two men held revolvers in his face while the leader took all his money.

Nine white women were arraigned before the mayor of Winston Thursday for refusing to be vaccinated. Six of them were excused by physicians, one was vaccinated and two were notified by the mayor that they could not work in Winston without complying with the law.

Democratic State Chairman Simmons and National Committeeman Josephus Daniels Wednesday sent W. J. Bryan a telegraphic invitation to speak in Raleigh next Tuesday evening. Col. Bryan has signified his willingness to visit Raleigh, and will speak there next Tuesday night.

Charles Beavis, colored, was working on a chimney for Jas. Wester about 10 miles from Laurinburg when by some mischance the scaffold slipped and he fell, his head catching between the timbers. He was left suspended, his neck being broken and the scaffold had to be knocked down in order to get his body down.

Wilmington Star, Feb. 8th: A telephone message to Mr. B. F. Penny from Leland, Brunswick county, yesterday morning, brought information of the burning of his steam grist mill and store, about one mile this side of the village. The stock of goods in the store belonged to Mr. H. E. Truelove, and was partly saved. Mr. Penny estimates his loss at \$1,500, with insurance on same of \$700.

A special, Feb. 8, from Mt. Airy, says: D. F. McIver, for two years chief of police of Mt. Airy and at present tax collector of the town, disappeared on the night of the 5th instant about 8 o'clock under circumstances that are considered as suspicious. Absolutely nothing has been heard of him since he disappeared and town officials think that he is short in his accounts with the town to the amount of \$1,500. Attempts are being made to ascertain his whereabouts.

Charlotte Observer: A Sharon farmer who was in the city yesterday says that the people in his section are beginning to be worried about the wholesale abandonment of the farms for the town by the croppers, both white and colored. He said: "Within one mile of my place eight families have moved to Charlotte within the past week and that means eight farm houses vacant." This influx of farm hands to town probably means more business for the Humane society.

Clarkton Express: The little 3-year-old son of Mr. Wm. McKeithan, near Bule's cross-roads, was shockingly burned on last Thursday. He and two other children were in the house at his grandmother's, Mrs. Frank McKeithan, standing by the fire. The day was very cold and in getting too near the fire his clothes caught and before assistance could reach him they were almost entirely consumed from his stockings up. The skin peeled from a portion of his body and his nostrils and ears were crisped. He has since died.

Question Answered.

Yes, August Flower still has the largest sale of any medicine in the civilized world. Your mothers and grandmothers never thought of using anything else for Indigestion or Biliousness. Doctors were scarce, and they seldom heard of Appendicitis, Nervous Prostration, of Heart failure, etc. They used August Flower to clean out the system and stop fermentation of undigested food, regulate the action of the liver, stimulate the nervous and organic action of the system, and that is all they took when feeling dull and bad with headaches and other aches. You only need a few doses of Green's August Flower, in liquid form, to make you satisfied there is nothing serious the matter with you. For sale by Temple-Marston Drug Co.

SENATOR ALLEN

Will Not Tackle the Amendment Question in North Carolina.

Washington, Feb. 7.—The fact that Senator Allen, of Nebraska, is going to deliver an address before Senator Butler's convention on the 18th of April, has given rise to published statements that Senator Allen will put in some "licks" in behalf of Senator Butler's views on the constitutional amendment. Congressman Atwater took the pains to ask Senator Allen about the matter. He stated to Mr. Atwater that he did not intend to ever mention the matter one way or another; that he did not mix up in local state squabbles outside of his own state; and that he would make his address on national issues.

Mr. Atwater says all his information is to the effect that the Populists in the State will not follow Butler's lead in voting against the constitutional amendment. Mr. Atwater says the amendment will be adopted by 50,000 majority.

TAYLOR TAKES TIME.

Signing the Louisville Agreement Deferred While He Confers With Advisers.

Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 8.—Gov. Taylor has not signed the Louisville peace agreement, nor will any action be taken tonight. This was determined at a conference that lasted until 2 o'clock this morning. All of Taylor's legal advisers were present.

Gov. Taylor said this morning: "The situation remains absolutely unchanged. The peace treaty will not be signed today. Time is necessary for further deliberations."

While this was all the governor would say, it is known that the ground was thoroughly gone over by the conferees. It can be said that if Gov. Taylor does acquiesce, it will be with the distinct pledge that a fair election law shall be enacted.

Reuben Ross to Hang.

Raleigh, Feb. 9.—Reuben Ross will be hanged at Lumberton today. Gov. Russell, while greatly disturbed over the case, declines to interfere further, either to grant a new respite or to commute Ross' sentence to imprisonment for life. Thus the last hope of Ross vanishes.

Ross' case has been, in some of its phases, one of the most remarkable in the State's criminal annals. He has been three times respited by the governor— from Dec. 7 to Jan. 5th, from Jan. 5 to Jan. 7, and from Jan. 7 to Feb. 9th, today; the militia has been once ordered out to protect him from a fancied attempt of lynchers, and the best people of the county in which the crime was committed have been so divided in opinion as to his guilt that voluntary delegations have been sent, both to ask for and to protest against the commutation of his sentence to life imprisonment.

The crime of which Ross was convicted was a criminal assault on Mrs. Bettie Ingram.

Adding Insult to Injury.

He had been studying shorthand, thinking it might be a help to him in his business, and naturally he was interested in it. So it happened that when he did something to displease his wife and she started to tell him what she thought of it all he asked her to wait a minute.

"Wait a minute!" she exclaimed in astonishment. "Why?"

"I don't like to miss such a splendid chance for practice," he replied, reaching for his pencil and paper. "I'm training for a speed certificate, you know, and rapid dictation is just what I want. Now go ahead."

Both Glad.

Said Mrs. Gadabout, who had come to spend the day, to little Edith: "Are you glad to see me again, Edith?" "Yes, m'm. and mamma's glad, too," replied the child. "Is she?" "Yes, m'm. She said she hoped you'd come today and have it over with."—Ohio State Journal.

Leeches.

It is claimed that 30,000,000 leeches are used annually in France and England alone. A single company in Australia used to export 2,000,000 to 3,000,000 a year to Europe and America. One Parisian capitalist affirmed that his leech crop returned him 15 to 1, and it is recorded that the monopoly of taking leeches in Morocco was once sold for \$100,000.

HOLDS HIS POSITION.

Claimed That Relief of Ladysmith Is Certain. British Losses 233 at Potgieter's Drift. London Not So Sanguine.

London, Feb. 8.—Gen. Buller has cabled to the war office that the approximate British casualties in the fighting at Potgieter's Drift up to noon Tuesday are: Officers 2 killed and 15 wounded; non-commissioned officers and men 216 killed and wounded.

A dispatch from Spearman's Camp, under today's date, says: "Buller holds his position. Relief is certain."

LONDON NOT SO SANGUINE.

No Material Change in Conditions Since Buller's Last Attempt.

London, Feb. 8.—2:15 p. m.—News of the greatest import may arrive at any moment. Yet here there is more doubt than exultation, for even if the recollection of Gen. Buller's two disastrous failures after auspicious starts were not keen in the minds of the public the list of casualties published today would be a sufficient reminder of the tremendous difficulties of his task. His occupation of Vaal Krantz, the key to the lower ridges, while a praiseworthy and gallant achievement, by no means signifies that he and Gen. White will inevitably join hands. Before Gen. Buller there are several days of hard fighting, and any attempt to forecast the result would be valueless. If based on precedent, which can hardly be done in warfare, it would be bound to be in favor of the Boers, for apparently, the conditions have not materially altered since the last fruitless attempt.

On the other hand the British troops are smarting under defeat and will undoubtedly be nerved to more desperate efforts than ever before, and if furious gallantry can carry Gen. Buller over the kopjes that face him, Ladysmith will be relieved within a week. But so far, British bravery has been, in the main, woefully misguided.

It is more than likely that Gen. Barton, at Chieveley, may be strong enough to advance on the Tugela and render valuable assistance from the southeast, while the beleaguered garrison itself, according to the latest dispatches, should be able to create a potential diversion when Gen. Buller has overcome the initial difficulties which lie in the kopjes immediately north of the Tugela.

Turning from the transcendent interest in Ladysmith, the whole war area presents a scene of important activity. The Boer attack on Gen. Gatacre's forces, reported Feb. 7th, fizzled out, the artillery of the burghers, after shelling the camp, retiring upon the arrival of the British reinforcements. The affair scarcely warrants being called a skirmish. The British casualties were one man killed and four men wounded.

The latest advices from Sterkstroom announce that Gen. Gatacre's cavalry is in pursuit of the Boers. While nothing has resulted from this affair, it indicates that the burghers are fully alive to the importance of the concentration which is on the verge of occurring between the forces of Gens. Gatacre, Kelly-Kenny and French, and they do not hesitate to take the aggressive against established positions in an attempt to thwart it, though it is believed that a sufficiently large body of troops will soon be massed at Colesberg to insure the unopposed advance of the invading army when it is ready to start.

BOERS REPULSED

At Koodoosberg, But British Are Ordered to Retreat. British Lost 50 Men.

New York, Feb. 9.—A delayed and censored dispatch from Koodoosberg Drift, Thursday, Feb. 8, says the Boers fiercely attacked Macdonald's column. The battle began Tuesday afternoon. The Boers were repulsed at all points toward the evening, but Lord Roberts ordered Macdonald to retreat from Koodoosberg. The British loss was 50 killed and wounded.

Sixty Thousand Sick at Munich.

Berlin, Feb. 7.—The influenza, which has spread throughout Germany, now number 60,000 victims in Munich. In Berlin today every bed in every hospital was occupied, and the hospital physicians, hundreds of whom have been stricken with the malady, are scarcely able to care for their patrons.

A telegram from State Treasurer Worth says he has won his case, at Greensboro, involving the legality of the tax of \$250 on piano dealers.

LaGRANGE ITEMS.

FREE PRESS BUREAU, LaGRANGE, Feb. 8, 1900.

Mr. Ollie Wilkerson, of Kinston, spent Sunday here.

Mr. Thomas McGee, of Goldsboro, is stopping at Field's Hotel.

Our truckers have obligated to plant about fifty acres in tomatoes to supply the Osceola Canning Factory.

Mr. W. A. Newbold left Sunday for Edenton in answer to a summons announcing the serious illness of his sister.

Mr. J. M. Murchison, who is now buying cotton on the Greenville market, came home Saturday and returned Monday.

Mess. E. P. Wooten and James E. Jones have rented the Banner tobacco warehouse for the coming season. They managed the Banner successfully last season and will go forth with energy to increase the business of this season.

Mr. Pegram, of the Kinston tobacco market, and Mr. Shade Wooten, Jr., have rented the old tobacco warehouse for the coming season. They are young men of energy and experience and will infuse new life into our tobacco market.

Mrs. Robert Rouse came near being burned to death a few days ago. In carrying a chunk of fire from the fire place to start a fire in the stove, a spark set her dress on fire and nearly burned it off of her. Promptness in using a bucket of water which was at hand saved her from painful burns.

Mr. R. W. Moore died here on Tuesday night, aged some over 70 years. He had been ill for several months. The remains were laid to rest in Fair View cemetery Wednesday, Rev. T. H. Sutton officiating. He was for a number of years a justice of the peace, and held other positions of trust. He was, perhaps, more familiar with the works of Josephus than any man in our community. He leaves a widow, two daughters and one son.

Texas and Trusts.

Southern Tobacco Journal.

Texas put up a stiff anti-trust fight—has been doing so for some time. Her new law went into effect last Thursday.

The Lone Star state is in a fair way to win out if other states will quickly take a stand beside her; if they do not, her tradesmen may be very much embarrassed. Were a half dozen or so of her sister commonwealths to come at once to her aid, and then together they would be in position to say to the trusts to do their worst, to retaliate, to withdraw or do any old thing they please. The trade of the combined territory would be sufficient to sustain handsomely good sized independent factories in all lines that might be needed. Some of the combines would find it to their advantage to "uncombine." At any rate they would not be missed.

We hope that no harm will come to Texas and her business interests through her new law.

Artificial Diamonds.

It is well known that in the manufacture of carbon steel microscopic diamonds are formed, and the curious fact is stated by The Scientific Press that from the examination of a number of steels from a variety of processes identical results were given. A piece weighing 300 grams was cut from a lump of steel and treated with nitric acid, the insoluble residue collected being mainly graphic carbon. After being washed with water it was boiled three times with fuming nitric acid, which partially dissolved the residue, hydrofluoric acid and then fuming sulphuric being used, there then remaining nothing but graphite, which, after being washed, was melted with chloride of potash. The insoluble residue obtained fell to the bottom of a vessel filled with iodide of methylene, the little transparent octahedrons visible through a microscope, which burned on a sheet of platinum without any ash, being the diamonds.

The Thistle of Scotland.

Once upon a time many hundred years ago the Danes made war upon the Scots and invaded their country. One dark night, as they were marching upon an encampment of sleeping Scots, one of their number trod upon a thistle. The pain was so sudden and intense that the man gave a loud cry. This awakened the slumbering Scots, who sprang to arms and defeated the assailants. In gratitude for the deliverance the Scots made the thistle their national emblem.—Journal of Education.

GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

A decree has been issued announcing that the bubonic plague has disappeared from Opporto, Portugal, and that the quarantine of that port has been raised.

San Francisco will be the scene of the Corbett-Jeffries fight. W. A. Brady and George Considine met again Wednesday and the question was practically settled.

Dr. William Steinitz, the famous chess player, was taken from his home to the insane pavilion of Bellevue hospital on Wednesday night. He is 62 years old, and was confined in an asylum in Moscow in 1897.

At Clarksburg, W. Va., Wednesday, Henry Fleming, 26 years old and married, was instantly killed by the discharge of a shotgun he was carrying. He stooped to lift a child upon a sled, and caught the hammer of the weapon in the little one's clothing.

The Pee Dee tobacco warehouse, at Florence, S. C., was burned Wednesday night. The building was owned by W. E. Dargan, of Darlington, and was insured for \$1,700. The value of building was \$3,000. T. J. Abbott, a tobacco buyer, lost \$500 worth of leaf tobacco; no insurance.

By a vote of 9 to 3, the assembly committee on codes in New York state decided to report favorably the bill of Morton E. Lewis, which provides for the entire repeal of the so-called Horton law, which permits prize fighting in the state in regularly incorporated athletic clubs. The bill takes effect Sept. 1, 1900.

At Brussels, Charles Francois Feu, an armless artist, died Monday, in his 70th year. He painted with his feet, and copied hundreds of the best masterpieces. Many specimens of his work are now in America. While working he held his palette with his left great toe and manipulated the brush with his right foot, and with great skill. He always shaved himself. He had written a very successful tragedy.

Baron Fava, Italian ambassador, and John A. Kason, special reciprocity plenipotentiary for the United States, signed at the state department Thursday an agreement for the reciprocal exchange of certain commercial articles. The agreement was made under section 3 of the Dingley tariff act and does not require ratification. It will, however, require the sanction of the Italian parliament, and the intention is not to make public the terms of the paper until that body has acted.

The Washington Post says that after the new Philippine commission reaches Manila, in April next, Maj. Gen. Otis will return to the United States. It is stated in administration circles that his return is not in the nature of a recall, but is a compliance with the general's request that he be allowed to visit his family. He has been in the east nearly two years, and is anxious to come home. It is extremely probable that he will be succeeded by Gen. MacArthur, who is now next in command, although some officer may be sent from the United States.

HUNDREDS KILLED BY HEAT.

Bodies of Victims Lie Unburied Because of a Strike by the Grave-Diggers.

London, Feb. 8.—A special dispatch to The Times from Buenos Ayres, dated Feb. 6, says:

"Monday, when the mean temperature was 85 degrees, there were 267 cases of sunstroke reported, and Tuesday, with the temperature 92 degrees, there were 189 cases. Today the temperature is the same as yesterday, and there were many cases of sunstroke, but fewer deaths. A large number of dead bodies are decomposing at the cemetery, owing to the grave-diggers' strike for higher wages. The Pacific railway has charitably supplied tarpaulins to cover the corpses. "The greater portion of the maize fields have been scorched by the heat, and the crop will be very small."

Burial of Goebel.

Frankfort, Feb. 8.—William Goebel was buried today with all the honors the people of Kentucky could bestow. A number of eulogies were spoken over his body, and for hours the crowd stood uncovered in a beating rain and listened to oratory over his remains in the cemetery.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE TABLETS. All druggists return the money if it fails to cure. K. W. GROVE'S 12-1/2c in each box. 45c.