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GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

There is said to be no doubt about Aguinaldo being in hiding in Manila.

The navy department still has difficulty in securing enough sailors to man the new warships.

Ex-Congressman Charles A. Towne, of Minnesota, is a candidate for second place on the Democratic national ticket.

The Boers are in force near Bloemfontein. The British have erected fortifications and troops sleep in the trenches.

At Baltimore, Charles R. French, alias Harry M. Herth, was convicted of receiving \$650 worth of postage stamps, knowing them to have been stolen.

A large cigar manufacturing company has been organized at Key West and will at once begin operations. The main office of the company will be in New York city.

The Boer peace commissioners have arrived at Naples. They say that Lord Roberts will never reach Pretoria, as he would have to pass through an impracticable desert.

The French authorities have decided that all exhibits at the Paris exposition are to be open to the public on Sundays and the United States exhibits are naturally within this regulation.

The senate committee on privileges and elections on Tuesday decided by a unanimous vote to recommend the adoption of a resolution declaring that W. A. Clark, of Montana, is not entitled to occupy his seat as a senator from Montana.

Thus far, according to the Railroad Gazette, Russia has expended \$268,000,000 on the Trans-Siberian railroad, will spend \$65,000,000 more this year, and between \$75,000,000 and \$90,000,000 more to complete the job, the biggest one in railroads ever undertaken.

Banker H. H. Fisher, who had charge of the Livermore (Cal.) Bank in the capacity of manager and cashier, blew his brains out at his Livermore home Monday. Pitcher was a trustee of the estate of the late Thomas Varney, valued at \$800,000. His trusteeship was being investigated in court.

The New York World says: Negotiations are in progress for a combination of the gigantic new Carnegie company and the Cramp ship-building concern. If the conference now going on in Atlantic City results in a satisfactory arrangement, the coalition between these two great interests will soon be announced.

Fire at Greenvale, N. Y., Monday threw between 1,200 and 1,500 men out of employment and destroyed several factories. The damage is estimated at from \$500,000 to \$600,000. The factories destroyed were: Edward C. Smith, box manufacturer; North Carolina Lumber Co.; A. J. & J. J. McCullum, coal dealers; George W. Dipper, wood and paint works; and Post & McCord, iron founders and pattern makers. The cause of the fire is unknown.

Rev. W. F. Junkin, of Mont Clair, N. J., died Monday, after a week's illness of pneumonia. He was 60 years old. His first pastorate was over the Presbyterian church at Falling Springs, Va. He entered as a private in the Confederate army and subsequently received a commission, which he resigned to become a chaplain. He was a brother-in-law of Gen. Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson and was with him when the general fell at the battle of Chancellorsville.

Ignatius Donnelly, the well-known Populist, is in Atlanta to attend a meeting of the executive committee of the middle-of-the-roads. When questioned concerning Admiral Dewey as a presidential candidate, he said: "We cannot tell, as yet, how much there is behind the Dewey movement. There will be held, soon, monster Dewey meetings in the great cities of the country, and if it should turn out that the great business-minded element of the country, tired of politicians of the McKinley and Bryan ilk, will back Dewey's candidacy up, it is possible that the Populist convention may nominate Dewey."

Newbern Fair Notes.

The Newbern fair will be held next week.

The entries for the race meet will be closed next Saturday at 11 p. m.

The fine band of Elizabeth City has been engaged to play during fair week.

Hutchinson, the balloon man, is on his way to Newbern. He will give exhibits daily, during the fair.

The Best Prescription for Colds and Fever is a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. It is simply iron and quinine in a tasteful form. No cure—no pay. Price, 25c.

A CRUSHING BLOW

Inflicted on the British by DeWet. 800 Killed and 900 Captured.

London, April 11.—A dispatch to the Daily Mail from Brandfort dated Sunday says:

"Yesterday Gen. DeWet inflicted the third defeat on the British within a week at Meerkatsfontein, killing and wounding 600 men. He captured 900, with 12 wagons, losing five Boers killed and nine wounded."

A Second Report.

London, April 11.—The Daily Mail publishes the following, dated April 10th, from Lourenzo Marques:

"The Netherlands Railway Co. professes to have received a telegram reporting a Boer victory near Kroonstad, the Boers capturing 900 British."

Commenting upon this the Daily Mail remarks:

"There is a Meerkatsfontein about eight and a half miles southeast of Kroonstad, but, if the report be true, this can hardly be the place."

BRABANT IN A CORNER.

Boers Engage Him All Day in a Fierce Battle.

London, April 10.—Gen. Brabant and his 2,500 colonial troops at Wepener on the Basutoland frontier, are in fierce battle with three commandos of Boers today. The fighting began yesterday morning, continued all day and was resumed this morning. The losses have been heavy on both sides. According to British dispatches the Boers were repulsed in yesterday's attack, but the burghers have pushed reinforcements from all directions and have renewed the assault.

Wepener is 60 miles southeast of Bloemfontein. The Boers have, within the last few days, surrounded Gen. Brabant's force and demanded his surrender. The withdrawal of the Irish rifle to Aliwal North left Brabant cut off from communication with all the other British forces. His colonials are well posted for defense and he has large guns placed in commanding positions.

The Boers began yesterday's battle with desperate courage, and brought rapid fire guns as well as heavy artillery into play. They were met by the British and Gen. Brabant's guns played havoc in the ranks of the burghers. They were not daunted by their losses, however, but kept up the fighting until nightfall.

At the beginning of the action the Boers opened with a Vickers-Maxim gun that did considerable execution at first. The British artillery soon got the range of the Boer position and sent a telling fire into the ranks of the attacking burghers.

The Boer commando that occupied Rouxville after the retirement of the British from that place, was rushed to Wepener to help in the assault. From DeWet's Dorp another large force of Boers was hurried forward. This commando is estimated to number 2,000 men, and has four guns. The three commandos form a force that greatly outnumbered Gen. Brabant's 2,500 colonials. Heavy lists of dead and wounded are looked for as soon as full details of the result are sent through.

English correspondents at Aliwal North and Bloemfontein profess to be confident that Gen. Brabant can hold Wepener against any force the Boers can send against him, as the place is well adapted for defense and the British commander has his guns well placed. The town is fully provisioned to withstand a long siege. But the Boers are evidently determined to capture the place and are bringing an overwhelming force up for the purpose.

The Free Staters in the vicinity of Aliwal North, who took the oath of allegiance to Great Britain prescribed by Lord Roberts, are now rejoicing the Boer commandos. Similar reports are coming in from Philippolis and Fauresmith.

Does it Pay to Buy Cheap?

A cheap remedy for coughs and colds is all right, but you want something that will relieve and cure the more severe and dangerous results of throat and lung troubles. What shall you do? Go to a warmer and more regular climate? Yes, if possible; if not possible for you, then in either case take the ONLY remedy that has been introduced in all civilized countries with success in severe throat and lung troubles, "Boecher's German Syrup." It not only heals and stimulates the tissues to destroy the germ disease, but allays inflammation, causes easy expectoration, gives a good night's rest, and cures the patient. Try one bottle. Recommended many years by all druggists in the world. For sale by the Temple-Marston Drug Co.

STATE CONVENTION.

Great Gathering of Democrats at Raleigh. Grainger Vice-President of Convention. Aycock For Governor. L. Harvey Delegate to National Convention. E. B. Lewis One of the Reading Clerks. Simmons Makes Great Speech. Mebane's Name Will Not Be Presented.

Raleigh, N. C., April 11.—Such a gathering of Democrats as is in the city to attend the Democratic State convention today is unprecedented. The hotels are taxed to their utmost and citizens are entertaining delegates who have failed to secure accommodations.

The meaning of the presence of so many representatives of the great Democratic hosts was rightly interpreted last night by Hon. Charles B. Aycock, the man of the hour, who will today be nominated to head the Democratic ticket. "The constitutional amendment is responsible for the large attendance of Democrats here so early in advance of the convention," Mr. Aycock said. "From one end of the State to the other the people are aroused to the importance of adopting the amendment, and this is the meaning of the people's interest in the convention here tomorrow."

The discussion yesterday developed the fact that the nomination of only one candidate is conceded. That Hon. Charles B. Aycock, of Wayne, will be enthusiastically named for governor is not disputed. As to the other nominations there is strong but good-natured rivalry between the candidates, and no nominations are being made.

Raleigh, April 11, 12 m.—Delegates from the 2d district met today, W. A. Dunn, presiding; E. E. Britton, secretary; Lemuel Harvey, of Lenoir, and B. H. Speight, of Edgecombe, were elected delegates to the national Democratic convention, and R. H. Stancill and H. G. Williams were elected alternates.

T. W. Mason, L. V. Morrill, W. J. Hawkins and Nathan O'Berry were elected State committeemen, and J. W. Grainger vice-president of the State convention.

The crowd here is immense. All records are broken.

Theodore F. Davidson withdraws from the race for governor and Aycock will be nominated by acclamation. M. H. Justice will present his name.

Cyrus B. Watson will be permanent chairman of the convention. The weather is cold and rainy.

Raleigh, April 11—2:20 p. m.—Chairman Simmons called the convention to order three minutes to noon. There were 2,000 people in the hall. Rev. Dr. Ivey, editor of The Christian Advocate, offered a prayer.

All the counties are represented, with no contests.

C. Dowd and John C. Lamb were elected secretaries, and S. B. McIntyre and E. B. Lewis reading clerks.

Chairman Simmons made a great speech on the amendment. He said he would now positively announce that it would be ratified, and that a Democratic legislature and all the State officers would be elected.

E. Y. Webb was called to the chair as temporary chairman.

It is said Charles H. Mebane's name will not be presented to the convention for superintendent public instruction.

Raleigh, April 11—3:40 p. m.—Lee S. Overman was made permanent chairman of the convention.

Notice.

By order of the president, Col. N. B. Whitfield, of the Farmers' Mutual Insurance association, of Lenoir county, each and every member of the association is earnestly requested to meet at the court house in Kinston, on Friday, April 13, at 10 o'clock, a. m. Business of importance to be attended to.

Fraternally,

K. R. TURNSTALL,
Secretary and Treasurer.

DOVER ITEMS.

April 9, 1900.

Miss Sue V. Wilson left for Kinston Saturday.

Prof. E. A. Simkins went to Newbern this morning.

Mr. Zeb V. Murphy, of Newbern, came Sunday to attend the marriage of Mr. W. M. Tyndal, and returned this morning.

The Goldsboro Lumber Co. has opened up business in their elegant store building on east corner of Dover and Railroad streets.

Mr. Seth West is crowded with business both at his basket and crate factory here and at his saw mill about four miles in the country.

Rev. Chas. F. Hopper, Baptist, preached here Sunday morning and night in Tyndal's hall. He announced that he would preach here monthly on second Sundays.

Mrs. Z. Thompson and daughter, Miss Bettie, of Goldsboro, came last Wednesday to attend the burial of Mr. A. P. Thompson's baby, and returned Thursday.

The Goldsboro Lumber Co. will soon have in operation a much larger saw mill located nearer to their dry kilns, the building for which is now well under way. Their capacities for sawing and handling lumber will thereby be very largely increased.

We are truly glad to note the prosperity of our excellent school under the management of Prof. E. A. Simkins, assisted by that amiable lady, Miss Estelle Hardee, of LaGrange. There are 108 white children entitled to attend the public school in this district, and of that number 102 are enrolled at Dover High School, where a four months term of the free school is being taught. Prof. Simkins is not only a fine scholar but seemingly a born teacher as well.

On last Wednesday, April 4th, the sweet little spirit of Margaret Inez, two-year-old babe of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Thompson, made its exit from earth to heaven. Thus God hath plucked another precious bud at Dover and transplanted it into bliss, there to adorn immortal bowers. Fond parents, let us not mourn for our little Margaret as dead, for "There is no death, the stars go down To rise upon some fairer shore, And bright in heaven's jeweled crown They shine forever more."

SECOND ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE.

James Ruffin Makes Another, and This Time Probably Successful, Effort to Take His Life.

Morganton Letter, 6th, to Raleigh Post.

Mr. James Ruffin, who it will be remembered, attempted suicide in New Orleans about six months ago and was brought to the Western Hospital here for treatment, has again tried to take his life. Ever since his confinement in the hospital he has kept close within its walls, refusing to go out for exercise or recreation, though often encouraged to do so by his physicians. But yesterday afternoon he was induced to take a drive towards the South Mountains, with an attendant with him. The attendant reports that they had gone about five miles, when, on coming to a stream, Mr. Ruffin asked him to get out of the buggy and let down the rein that the horse might drink. He had no sooner gotten out of the buggy than Ruffin struck the horse with the whip and dashed up the mountain in a gallop, in a few moments disappearing from view.

The attendant followed for several miles, but gave up the chase and came back to report to Dr. Murphy. He did not reach the hospital until late last night. This morning Drs. Taylor and Campbell, with guard, went in pursuit. About ten miles from here, in a mountain cabin, they found Ruffin, almost dead, with both wrists cut and two horrible gashes across his breast. He had purchased a knife from a mountaineer as he drove along the road, going some distance after doing so, then literally he cut the harness of the horse, carefully tied him to a tree and set about his own destruction. From the last report heard he was too weak to be moved to the hospital at any time, and the announcement of his death is expected any time.

Mr. Ruffin is the grandson of Judge Ruffin, the distinguished Chief Justice whose epitaph is written in the North Carolina reports. He comes from one of the oldest and best families in the State. Before his mind gave way under the press of business he owned and controlled large manufacturing interests in the State. Nothing can be sadder than to think of the bright future that lay before him a short time ago and his present deplorable condition.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE TABLETS. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. K. W. GUYER'S signature is on each box.

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

Horner School beat Trinity College playing ball at Durham Tuesday, 6 to 2.

Otho Wilson denies that he has made friends with Senator Butler and says he will bolt the ticket if Butler is nominated on it.

Tarboro Southerner, April 10: The dwelling home of James Mayo, at Coakley's, was burned yesterday afternoon. There was no insurance on the property. The damages are estimated at about \$500.

A special from Elkin says: Heavy forest fires have been raging in the mountains for the past two days. Hundreds of acres of land have been burned over and large quantities of timber, rails, fodder, etc., destroyed.

A special from Washington City says that Judge Ewart will not be confirmed by the senate, because his nomination will not be reported from the judiciary committee; and at the close of the session he will not be appointed by the president.

Greenville Reflector: The Osceola band has closed a contract with the secretary and will go down and make music for the Newbern fair next week. The people who attend the fair this year will have the pleasure of hearing some very fine music.

Goldsboro Argus: A telegram received by the Argus this morning from Sheriff Scott, in Washington, D. C., says the negro man arrested there for Isiah Yelverton, the murderer of John Davis, is not Yelverton at all, consequently his trip was in vain.

Salisbury Truth-Index: Henry Watson, colored, who claims to hail from Concord, said his prayers, took a drink and cut his throat Tuesday night all in the short time of five minutes. Watson has been desperately in love with Red Sal Bennett, of Tin Cup Alley fame.

Walter H. Neal, chairman of the State election board, says: "I want to make the prediction that within 60 days from this time the amendment fight will be settled and that the opponents of that measure will virtually withdraw from the field." He added that the people were determined to settle the question.

Washington Gazette: The oyster factory is still in full blast at Swan Quarter and has given employment to hundreds of laborers whose crops were totally destroyed by the August storm. —A colored preacher is circulating a petition, praying the government for aid in the way of food, the scarcity of which is owing to the general cut off in the crops by the storm of last year.

Wilmington Messenger: Capt. Robertson, who arrived yesterday on the schooner Chas. C. Lister, reports that while anchored at Hampton Roads on the 5th instant, he saw a large three-masted schooner sink at sea, but he was too far away to render any assistance. He says he was anchored just inside and, in the afternoon of that day, one of his sailors called his attention to the sinking schooner and he looked at her through his glasses just in time to see her disappear. The schooner foundered just off Cape Henry.

Raleigh Post: Gov. Russell has appointed Mr. Augustus M. Moore, of Pitt county, to be judge of the eastern criminal circuit to succeed the late Judge Dossy Battle. While we concede to Mr. Moore the qualifications to make an acceptable judge, we must express surprise that Gov. Russell should go outside the circuit to get a successor of Judge Battle. His excellency may place a very proper estimate upon the fitness of men of his own party within the circuit for the position, but he could have shown this and at the same time observed the proprieties by selecting a suitable Democratic resident, and there are plenty of these from whom he could have chosen.

State Superintendent Mebane on Monday made known the following statement: "I have decided to be a candidate before the Democratic convention, and this of course means that I will abide by the decision of said convention. If I am not nominated by the Democratic convention I shall not be a candidate before either of the other political conventions, but shall retire to private life, with the full assurance of an honest conscience that I have done what I could to promote the great cause of public education in North Carolina, and shall attend my best wishes and hearty support to the man who shall be the leader of the cause of the grand army of six hundred and forty thousand children for the next four years."