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STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items
In Condensed Form.

Trinity College beat Lehigh at Durham Friday. The score was 4 to 3.

Wake Forest beat Guilford playing ball Thursday, 9 to 4; and won the second game Friday by a score of 19 to 9.

Sidney Mitchell, who was shot in Salem a few months ago by Ada Walker, died Friday. Walker will be tried for murder.

Work has been commenced on the Polk county railroad from Poor's Ford to Chimney Rock. It will ultimately be extended to Asheville.

Will McAlister was shot and instantly killed by Lee Turnbull in a disreputable house at Marion Thursday night. It is claimed the shooting was done in self defense.

Mack Fesperman, colored, who murdered his wife in Charlotte on Jan. 6th, was found guilty of murder in the first degree and sentenced to be hung May 31. An appeal was taken.

Raleigh News Observer: News has been received here of the sudden death of Col. John D. Thorne, of Littleton. He dropped dead Wednesday night while sitting at the supper table. Col. Thorne was a man of extensive acquaintance in North Carolina.

Warrenton Record: The Populist executive committee for the county held a meeting here last Monday and decided not to put out a county ticket if the Democratic ticket was satisfactory. The majority of the committee, so we have been told, are in favor of the constitutional amendment, and will vote for it and work for its adoption.

Winston Sentinel: A big fire swept over a portion of the country just south of Salisbury Sunday evening. Something like a thousand acres of ground was burned over. Persons living in the burned territory saved their property by burning around their buildings before the fire reached them. So far as learned only one barn was burned.

On Friday Gov. Russell honored a requisition of the governor of Tennessee for Baxter Shemwell. A rendition warrant was issued for Shemwell several weeks since, upon the requisition of Gov. McMillan of Tennessee, who demanded Shemwell to answer an indictment for fraudulently obtaining \$4,000 from the Shelton National Bank of Knoxville.

The supreme court heard argument Friday on the constitutionality of the Craig law. The case was Debnam vs. Southern Bell Telephone Co. At the last term of court the case was submitted on briefs, but the case has not yet been decided, and owing to its importance the court asked for an oral argument of it. The decision of the question involved will be awaited with great interest.

The Populist State convention meets in Raleigh on the 18th instant. Cyrus Thompson, its chairman, says that Senators Pettigrew and Allen will address the caucus the night of the 17th, and probably speak at the convention also. There will be other speakers, Populists, he says, but he doesn't know them. He says it will be a large convention; but that he does not know what it will do regarding the constitutional amendment.

It is now thought that Mr. James Ruffin will recover. He was formerly superintendent of the Rocky Mount Cotton Mills. His mind became deranged over a love affair, causing him to try to kill himself. He was placed in the asylum at Morganton, where he tried again to kill himself recently, and his injuries were considered fatal, but later news is more favorable. He was a talented young man and the dethronement of so bright an intellect is very sad.

The Wake county Republican executive committee has decided to have no county convention to nominate delegates. The committee held a secret session. The negro Republicans were clamorous for recognition, and a compromise was made with them by the whites, by which all the delegates to the State convention, May 2nd, will be whites, and all the delegates to the congressional convention negroes. The executive committee has named both sets of delegates.

Greensboro Telegram: President E. A. Alderman, who has recently been elected to the presidency of Tulane university at New Orleans, will pay a visit to the institution and look over the ground before making his decision. It is stated that the position carries a salary of \$6,000, and the institution has nearly a thousand students. The president of the University of North

Carolina gets \$2,500. President Alderman would be only human if he accepts the new offer. While he is as patriotic as any man living, he could not be blamed for not refusing to accept so tempting an opportunity.

Michael Benson, a former employe at Biltmore, Mr. Vanderbilt's estate, has become insane. He imagines he is Capt. Dreyfus, and that his enemies have filled him so dangerously full of electricity that should he touch a street car rail or other large metallic subject, he would immediately disappear, as does an electric spark or flash. His antics to avoid this catastrophe are pitiful. Imbued with the idea that Biltmore was a non-conductor haven, he swam the Swannanoa river, a day or two ago, and made three efforts to break into the mansion. He was ejected twice by the watchman, and arrested the third time. He will be sent to an asylum.

Much interest is expressed in Gen. Thomas F. Toon, the nominee for superintendent of public institution, whose nomination was perhaps the surprise of the State Democratic convention. He was born in Columbus county in 1840; was educated at Wake Forest college; entered the Twentieth North Carolina regiment May 20, 1861, as a private; returned to the college and graduated, returned to the regiment at once; was promoted by the vote of his men to lieutenant, captain and colonel, the latter in 1863; was wounded six times. In 1864, upon the wounding of Gen. R. D. Johnson, Col. Toon, who was also wounded, remained on the field and was for gallantry promoted to brigadier general. After the war he was in the railway service sixteen years; then became a teacher at Fair Bluff; taught there until last year, when he engaged entirely in farming. He has three farms.

SOUTHERN COTTON MILL MEN.

Meeting of the Hosiery Yarn Spinners' Association.

Charlotte, N. C., April 12.—The Southern Hosiery Yarn Spinners' association met here today. The meeting was presided over by President Chas. A. Adamson. Among the commission men present were: Alex Mitchell, of James E. Mitchell & Co., Philadelphia; William A. Spelley and F. W. D. Oliver, of William D. Oliver & Co., Philadelphia, and E. S. Hyde, of E. S. Hyde & Co., Philadelphia.

The following schedule of prices was adopted: 5's and 6's, 17 cents; 7's and 8's, 17½ cents; 9's, 17½ cents; 10's, 18 cents; 11's to 22's rise ¼¢ per number; 23's to 40's rise of ½¢ per number.

The mills have agreed to discontinue the payment of "second freights" and in future will pay freight to either Philadelphia, New York or Boston, or if shipped direct to customers, to whatever city in the east the customer may desire.

The officers of the association stated that it was not the purpose in discussing the schedule of prices to undertake to stimulate prices further, but only to bring the schedule in accordance with the actual markets.

The Telegraphers Strike.

Atlanta, Ga., April 13.—Little change has occurred throughout the day in the situation of the telegraphers' strike on the Southern Railway. Both sides claim they are satisfied. Officials of the railroad say that they have given little inconvenience by the strike and that the trains are moving on schedule time with no congestion of freight at any point.

President Powell, of the Order of Railway Telegraphers, in a statement made today expresses the greatest confidence in the outcome.

Southern Railway trains have been arriving in Atlanta considerably off schedule today, but all delays are not attributed to the striking operators.

Firemen May Strike.

Charlotte, N. C., April 13.—A report is current here today to the effect that firemen on the Southern Railway will go on a strike Saturday.

At Selma, N. C., Thursday afternoon a party of strikes' sympathizers attempted to take a telegrapher from a Southern engine. He drove them off with a pistol. The wire near that place was cut and the station house locked.

They Call This a Duel.

Paris, April 12.—The Count of Lubersac and Baron Edouard Rothschild, a son of Baron Alphonse Rothschild, fought a duel with swords today in the neighborhood of this city. Baron Edouard Rothschild was deeply pricked in the right forearm, but he was able to return home for lunch and to go on a stroll this afternoon.

White's Black Liniment. It cures Sciatica, Rheumatism and Neuralgia. A 25c bottle for 15c. I. E. Hood.

BOER MOVEMENT CHECKED.

Wepener Is Still Surrounded, but The Garrison Holds Out Well.

London, April 13.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Gen. Roberts:

"Bloemfontein, April 13.—The enemy's movements south have been checked. Wepener though still surrounded, but the little garrison is holding out well. Troops are being moved to their assistance.

"The health of the troops is good and the climate perfect."

Ochernaide at Reddersburg.

Reddersburg, April 13.—The third division commanded by Maj. Gen. Chermerside has arrived here from Bethany. The Boers have been located south of Wepener and Smithfield districts.

Col. Dalgely, who is in command of the colonial forces surrounded at Wepener, is holding out gamely. Exciting developments are probable in the near future. The censorship is particularly strict.

Boers' Loss Is Heavy, It Is Said.

Aliwal North, April 12.—The detachment of 200 of the Rouxville commando is patrolling in this direction. Many of the men go to their farms at night and rejoin the detachment in the morning. The Rouxville commando numbers seven hundred. A large body of Basutos is closely watching events from the border. The weather is too cloudy to permit heliographing.

It is reported that the Boers lost heavily in the recent fighting at Wepener. There is much weeping among the women and an urgent message for assistance has been sent to the Rouxville commando. There was fighting at Dewetsdorp today.

PAPER ON THE FREE LIST.

Representative Heatwole Introduces an Important Bill.

Washington Post, April 13.

Representative Heatwole, of Minnesota, yesterday introduced a bill to repeal the tariff on paper and wood pulp, and to add to the free list the following:

Mechanically ground wood pulp, chemical wood pulp, bleached and unbleached; printing paper, unsized, sized, or glued, suitable for books and newspapers.

This bill is important, in that it is the first step taken by a Republican to break up the paper trust by admitting paper free of duty. The bill has been referred to the ways and means committee, upon which now rests the responsibility of either reporting the measure to the house or allowing it to be smothered.

The Democrats have been engaged for some time in presenting bills aimed at the paper trust, Representative Richardson's resolution being especially well-known.

Fair Notes.

Newbern Journal.

The main building at the Fair grounds is decorated by Mitteldorfer and will present a handsome appearance next week. Evergreens were hauled to the grounds for decorating the various rooms which is to be done by the ladies on the various committees.

The race track is in good shape and is being well trained. The rain this week will be a benefit.

One of the new features is the fish pond. It is in the rear of the building and will contain a variety of native fishes.

A good many exhibits are coming in and numerous articles of fancy work done by the ladies were received yesterday. There will be a good exhibit in this department.

The "merry go round," ever popular, is in position and will be ready to make its merry whirl.

An attractive feature at the Fair will be the Turkish exhibit, consisting of embroideries and eastern goods and needle work of lace, silk and other rich goods.

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, "Boschee'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 Notes.

Written for THE FREE PRESS.

The Lenoir delegation reached Raleigh Tuesday afternoon on a train crowded to the roof with enthusiastic Democrats and had hard work to find a place to stay. Most of them were finally domiciled.

The State convention met at 11:30 Wednesday morning. Except for one hour's recess, from 1:30 to 2:30 Wednesday afternoon, it was in continuous session until after 9 o'clock Thursday morning.

If anybody left the hall during that time it was not apparent until 6 o'clock in the morning, and every county was represented by delegates until adjournment. While good humor was the rule, there was the utmost indifference to anything that touched on whatever the delegates did not fancy, and if anybody who made a speech thought that a dignified appearance would make an impression he left the stage a much disappointed and a much wiser man. The political temper of the convention showed itself forcibly when Col. Paul B. Means, of Cabarrus, tried to advocate the nomination of Mebane for superintendent of public instruction. He had hardly said a dozen words when they began to shout at him, "Name a Democrat!" "Take a seat!" "Vote! Vote!" "Go Home!" and shouts of derision reached such a stage that for at least twenty minutes nobody succeeded in being heard. One member stood up on the back of a seat and made gestures with an old umbrella for five minutes, but if he said a word nobody heard him. Col. Means tried several times during a lull in the storm to continue his speech, but the storm of hisses drowned him every time. Finally Judge Connor prevailed on them to hear Col. Means for about one minute, and then seeing that nothing short of being paralyzed would ever stop the delegates, he declared Col. Means' time out.

Some speaker in referring to a Republican official of bad odor described him at length and closed a strong denunciation of him by saying: "He is the most dangerous man in North Carolina;" and to the surprise and boundless mirth of the convention, a delegate away back in the gallery of the hall, during the moment of intense silence following, exclaimed: "Waddell, by George!"

While the Lenoir delegation was scattered around working for Parrott a delegate on the lower floor asked a Lenoir man where Parrott was, that he wanted to see him. Not seeing Parrott, the Lenoir man pointed out another member of Lenoir's delegation as Parrott. In a few minutes this man who had been pointed out was shouting "Hurrah for Parrott!" at the top of his voice, when the strange delegate went to him and said: "Look here, you darned fool, I have promised to vote for you, but if you don't stop making a fool of yourself I won't do it." Of course an explanation followed and Parrott got the full vote from that man's county. But the best joke on Lenoir is in the possession of Maj. Neal, of Halifax county. You'll have to ask him if you want know it.

Race Horses Arrive.

Newbern Journal.

The following horses to take part in the race meet at the fair next week, arrived here yesterday.

M. H. White, Bertford, two trotting horses, Baron Wood and M. H. W.

C. C. Thompson, Weeksville, one trotter, Bay Line.

Rob't Smith, Greenville, two trotters, Bird Eye and Pattie McGregor.

W. H. Dail, Jr., Greenville, one trotter, Codine.

W. C. Chatman, Graham, two trotters, Defender and Mattie Holt.



Look at yourself! Is your face covered with pimples? Your skin rough and blotchy? It's your liver! Ayer's Pills are liver pills. They cure constipation, biliousness, and dyspepsia. 25c. All druggists.

Want your mustache or beard a beautiful brown or rich black? Then use BUCKINGHAM'S DYE for the Whiskers. 50 CTS. OF DRUGGISTS, OR B. P. MALL & CO., MANHATTAN, N. Y.

GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed Into Brief Paragraphs.

Texas loses \$3,000,000 by its recent floods.

Stephen Crane, the American novelist, is about to die.

Jim Jeffries and Kid McCoy have signed to fight July 30th.

The last reported yellow-fever serum is said to be a fraud. It is by a Dr. Doly, of New York city.

Perry Belmont, the wealthy Democrat, of New York, is the latest accession to Admiral Dewey's political forces.

At Pittsburg, Pa., Thursday, a four-story structure, undergoing repairs, suddenly collapsed, killing three people and injuring many others.

At Mt. Airy, Va., Thursday, the post-office was robbed of \$1,250 in cash and stamps. The postmaster was held at the point of a revolver by the robbers.

Dr. Hunter McGuire wishes to raise money enough to buy the house at Guinea Station in which General Stonewall Jackson died. A negro occupies it.

Miss Anna C. Chalmers, a beautiful and popular society young woman of Smithfield, Va., accidentally shot herself Thursday. The wound is expected to prove fatal.

Thirty-five thousand Boers, with ninety guns, are concentrating in the hills near Kroonstad. Gen. Roberts now has 214,000 troops in South Africa and 24,000 on the way or under orders.

The sub-committee of the Democratic national committee has formally decided to let Kansas City retain the national convention in July, the local committee having made satisfactory promises of a hall.

The Populists of Alabama have decided to send a delegation to the national convention instructed to vote for Wharton Barker and Ignatius Donnelly for first and second places on the national ticket.

Charles H. Allen, of Massachusetts, now assistant secretary of the navy, has been tendered and has practically accepted the first civil governorship of Porto Rico. The president has formally tendered him the office.

On Thursday the house passed a senate bill, which will permit the dependent mothers of soldiers or sailors of the Spanish war, even though they married Confederate soldiers, to receive the benefit of the general pension law.

James T. Smith, the 16-year-old Philadelphia messenger boy, sailed from New York for Pretoria Thursday, on the steamer St. Louis, conveying the message of sympathy to President Kruger, signed by 28,854 Philadelphia school boys.

Owing to continued ill health, Hon. John A. Porter, President McKinley's private secretary, has resigned. The resignation will take effect May 1st. George B. Cortelyou, of New York, present assistant secretary, has been appointed to the office.

Alabama is coming to the front. While she is a great producer of pig iron she lays claim to the largest hog in America, ten feet two and a half inches long, four and a half feet high and weighing 1,542 pounds. He is a three-year old, half native, half Berkshire.

Tom Shepperd, colored, postmaster at Chubbetown, a prosperous negro village in Floyd county, Ga., was arrested Thursday, by Inspector Barry and taken to Dalton for commitment trial. He is about \$900 short in his postal accounts, mainly through money orders sent by him to firms all over the country when he had no money to liquidate same.

At Virginia Beach, Va., Thursday, lightning struck the public school building. Two pupils were the victims. Thomas O'Neill was instantly killed, his clothing being burned from his body. Another lad, whose name could not be obtained, was so badly injured that his recovery is despaired of. The school-house took fire, and the panic-stricken children baffled the efforts of their teachers to calm them.

The house on Thursday, after a spirited debate, adopted the resolution reported from the insular affairs committee, to authorize the secretary of the treasury to designate depositories in Porto Rico, Cuba and the Philippines for the deposit of government funds. By the terms of the resolution, it only applies to Cuba, so long as the island shall be occupied by the United States. An amendment to include the Philippines in this provision, offered, as stated, to emphasize the desire of the opposition not to retain the islands, was defeated by a party vote.