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## GENERAL NEWS.

### Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

The Democrats of Alabama have nominated J. M. Samford for governor.

The Atlanta Federation of Trades endorses the Southern telegraphers' strike and asks the merchants to boycott that road.

Former Capt. O. M. Carter left New York for Ft. Leavenworth, Kas., Wednesday night, to serve his term in the United States prison there.

In a labor riot in Chicago Wednesday night one man was instantly killed, one severely wounded and six others sustained slight injuries.

A. S. Hardie, inventor of the first cable car system in the United States, died at San Francisco Thursday, aged 73. He was a native of Scotland.

There was a triple hanging at McMinnville, Tenn., Wednesday. John Watson and Bill Brown, white, and Sonnie Craig, colored, were executed for murder.

A German steamer which has arrived at LaGuayra reports that the Colombian revolutionists are masters of Cartagena, the most important Colombian harbor.

The steamer Australia from Honolulu, brings advices to the Associated Press, dated April 17th, announcing that the bubonic plague seems to have entirely disappeared.

The industrial commission in its report recommends the employment of convict labor on public works and roads and in producing articles for support of state institutions.

Burglars secured \$5,000 from the vaults of the Bank of Coulterville, Ill., a private institution owned by J. L. A. Nisbett, during the early hours Thursday morning and made their escape.

The Nicaraguan government has cancelled the concession to the Maritime Canal Co. to construct a ship canal across Nicaragua, the time having expired by limitation and an extension of time being refused.

The Gramatan Inn, at Bronxville, N. Y., was destroyed by fire Thursday. The guests got out in safety and saved many of their personal effects. The loss is estimated at \$150,000, and is covered partially by insurance.

Thomas J. Hunter, formerly auditor of the Atlanta & West Point R. R. Co., was found guilty of embezzlement and sentenced to the penitentiary for five years. It was charged against Hunter that he had misappropriated \$20,000.

The southern fast mail item of \$171,238 for special mail facilities from New York to Atlanta and New Orleans was retained in the postoffice appropriation bill Thursday by the decisive vote in the house of 92 to 41. This appropriation has been attacked annually.

The Constantinople correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph says: "The porte considers that its offer to rebuild the American structures burned at Kharput will close the question. It bases this belief on news that Russia has intimated an intention to oppose any attempt on the part of the United States to enforce payment."

The house of representatives at Washington on Wednesday defeated the appropriation in the postal service bill for the use of pneumatic tubes in cities. Mr. Moody, of Massachusetts, stated that bribery had been attempted to secure the passage of an increased appropriation. By a vote of 87 to 50, the entire appropriation for pneumatic tubes was stricken out.

J. F. Lafout, representative of Gairard & Son, of Marseilles, France, stove merchants, has appealed to Gov. Foster and the United States court for protection of the interests of his employers. He claims that on the night of April 13, a crowd of people of Little River, Winn Parish, La., attacked his laborers, who were working on a contract for staves, and 22 of his men were killed.

Secretary of War Root on Wednesday sent to the senate his reply to the resolution of April 21, as to whether officers of the United States army in Cuba or Porto Rico have received any compensation for their services there other than the compensation to which they were entitled by law to receive as salary and allowances; admitting that allowances amounting to \$17,441 had been paid.

It is reported in naval circles at Washington that Capt. French Chadwick, who commanded the flagship New York, and who was Rear Admiral Sampson's chief of staff in the war with Spain, has been asked to explain whether he was correctly quoted in an interview in the Brooklyn Eagle of April 22, in which he is made to say, in effect, that Rear Admiral Schley had disgraced the navy, and other severe things about the commander of the flying squadron.

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## TURKEY MAKES CLAIMS.

### Attempt of the Porte to Offset the Armenian Indemnity.

Washington, April 26.—Turkey has attempted to turn the tables on the United States in the negotiation concerning the Armenian indemnity by making a request for the payment of claims of Turkish subjects against this government, the exact nature of which cannot be ascertained this evening. The United States have never acknowledged the validity of these claims, and in that respect the case is not identical with that of the Armenian indemnity, the justice of which the sultan admitted, coupled with a promise to pay the amount demanded. The claims of Turkey against the United States are about equal in amount to those of the United States against Turkey growing out of the Armenian outrages. Realizing that the revival of the Turkish claims is born of a desire to confuse the principle for which the United States government is now contending, the state department will keep the Armenian indemnity distinct from the counter claims of Turkey and decline to consider them jointly. Meanwhile the American charge d'affaires at Constantinople will continue to press the porte for payment.

## MOTION FOR REMOVAL.

### Alleged Murderers of Goebel Ask for a Change of Venue.

Frankfort, Ky., April 25.—In the circuit court today Attorney J. C. Cincaid, of Louisville, filed a motion and affidavit in the cases of Holland, Whittaker and Tallow Dick Combs, charged with the murder of Goebel, and John Davis and Republican Secretary of State Caleb Powers, charged with accessory before the fact of the murder, asking for a change of venue. The usual grounds, alleging that a fair trial cannot be secured for the suspects here, are set out in the affidavit, citing the existing political feeling and other reasons. The motion was set for hearing next Monday, when all of the parties will be arraigned.

## Easily Settled.

They fell into conversation on the avenue street car, as men will to pass away the time, and when one of them happened to mention he was from Pittsburg the other turned to him with: "Pittsburg, eh? Dear me, but how singular!"

"How do you mean, sir?" was asked. "Why, I was in Pittsburg 21 years ago and lost 10 cents in a street car. I was thinking of the incident just before you spoke to me. I suppose you couldn't inform me whether the money was ever found, could you?"

"Why, yes; I believe I can. I found a dime in a street car about 21 years ago and have been looking for the owner ever since. Here it is. It must belong to you."

"Thanks. You are an honest man. Here's 2 cents to reward you."

The Pittsburg man pocketed the reward as the other pocketed the dime, and then they closed the incident.—Washington Post.

## Swelled the Collection.

A man came up to me one day after service in a frontier town and was pleased to address me in this manner: "Say, parson, that there service and sermon was grand. I wouldn't have missed 'em for \$5."

When I suggested that he hand me the difference between the amount he had put in the collection basket and the figure he mentioned for my missionary work, he stopped suddenly, looked at me with his mouth wide open and then slowly pulled from his pocket \$4.90, which he handed to me without a word.—Rev. Cyrus Townsend Brady in Ladies' Home Journal.

## BOERS NOT BEATEN.

### Retreating After Doing Great Amount of Damage. Moving to Next Ridges. S. Cronje Reported Killed. 13 People Blown to Pieces at Pretoria.

London, April 26.—All the interest in the South African war is now centered in the running fight in progress between the burghers retreating from the southern portion of the Orange Free State and Gen. French's horsemen and the infantry of Gens. Pole-Carew, Chermiside and Ruddle. But the British hope of conclusive results is slim at present, the Boers escaping unbeaten and having accomplished an immense amount of damage. They clung to their positions as long as it was safe to do so and they have now slipped off to hold the next commanding ridges through a broken country admirably suited for a rear guard defense.

Dispatches from Alwal North under date of Wednesday, April 26th, say the Boers left Wepener so hurriedly that many of the dead were left in the trenches unburied. Commandant S. Cronje is reported to have been killed.

## 6,000 Boers Slip Through.

Dewetsdorp, April 25.—Wednesday.—Gen. French entered this town today with two cavalry brigades. He left camp at daylight and found the Boers retreating. The cavalry pushed around the position of the Boers above the town where they were holding Gen. Ruddle in check. It is reported that 6,000 Boers passed through the town last night in order to avoid Gen. French's attack in the rear.

## 13 People Blown to Pieces.

Pretoria, Wednesday, April 25.—A serious explosion occurred at the Barbie Works used by the government as an arsenal last night. The walls of the building were destroyed and the structures in the neighborhood are a mass of flames. Further particulars from Johannesburg show the explosion occurred in a magazine containing smokeless powder, on the opposite side of the street from the Barbie Works used by the government as an arsenal. Thirteen of the occupants of the building were blown to pieces and 50 were injured.

## DRIVEN FROM ISRAELSPPOORT.

### Ridley Carries Out a Turning Movement Concoived by Him.

London, April 26.—Midnight.—The war office publishes the following dispatch from Lord Roberts dated Bloemfontein, April 26th:

"Gen. Hamilton yesterday drove the enemy off a strong position at Israelspoort by a well conceived turning movement which was admirably carried out by Gen. Ridley, commander of the Second infantry brigade and Gen. Smith-Dorrien, commanding the Eighteenth brigade. These troops are today advancing toward Thaba N'Chu.

"Our losses were slight, only one yet reported—Maj. Marshall, Grahamstown Mounted Rifles, severe wound in the shoulder."

## Afraid of the People.

The New York papers say that during his visit to New York, President McKinley was guarded by an extra police force, a cordon surrounded the hotel, detectives went with him to the church, and mounted policemen escorted him to the ferry. That's right. The sacred person of an emperor must be protected. It wasn't that way when Grant walked about New York city with a cigar stuck in his mouth. It is only those presidents who distrust the people and surrender to those influences that rob them who need policemen and detectives when they go about among the people.

## RAILROAD IMPROVEMENTS.

### Carolina and Northwestern to Become Standard Gauge and Be Extended into Tennessee.

Charlotte, N. C., April 25.—A special to The Observer from Hickory says that at a meeting of the directors of the Carolina & Northwestern Railroad company held in Chester, S. C., on the 23d, it was decided to increase the capital stock of the company from \$360,000 to \$2,000,000. Of the new issue \$1,000,000 to be preferred and \$1,000,000 common stock. It was further resolved to retire the present mortgage bond issue, amounting to \$400,000, and to execute a new mortgage providing for a bond issue of \$12,000 per mile of standard gauge track. It was further resolved to hurry with the work of converting 110 miles of the road now in operation from Chester to Lenoir into a standard gauge and to push the road across the Blue Ridge into Tennessee. A further bond issue, not to exceed \$2,000 per mile, was arranged for to provide equipment for the road.

At the stockholders meeting held in Chester yesterday, which was largely attended by new stockholders from the counties along the line, President Barber explained the plans agreed upon by the directors and they were unanimously approved.

The new mortgage which was decided on at the stockholders meeting will be executed May 1st to the Trust Company of America, of New York, as trustee. It provides for the issue of \$1,320,000 of 5 per cent. gold bonds, which will be used to retire the outstanding bonds and to convert the present narrow gauge road into a standard gauge.

## RURAL FREE DELIVERY.

### Success of the Experimental Shown in an Official Report.

Washington, April 26.—The practical value of rural free delivery is set forth in a report just made by First Assistant Postmaster General Heath. It is a summary, in concise form, of the experiment—the first one of its kind—made in Carroll county, Maryland. It covers a period of three months, and shows conclusively the benefits of the service. In his letter to the postmaster general, Mr. Heath says the results achieved are far beyond the expectations of the most enthusiastic advocates of rural free delivery, and the results will go far to allay the fear that a general introduction of the service might prove a tax upon the postal revenues too burdensome to be thought of, which was the reason assigned by two former heads of the postoffice department in declining to disburse the appropriation provided for an experiment of rural free delivery. It also confirms the opinion expressed by the officers early in the present administration, that a judicious extension of rural free delivery, carrying with it all other postal facilities, would prove of incalculable benefit to the agricultural classes without becoming a burden upon the postal revenues.

## Imperialism Comes High.

News-Observer:

The war expenditures of the United States this year will aggregate \$299,589,000, or \$4.16 for each man, woman and child in the United States. Not counting the expense of the war in the Philippines, the war expense this year will be \$135,297,653. Austria-Hungary with an army of 345,750 costs \$50,000,000; France, with 538,759 soldiers, spends \$125,000,000; it costs Germany \$136,000,000, to support an army of 528,000; and it costs Italy \$45,000,000 to care for its army of 273,000. These figures, obtained after much research by Representative McClellan, of New York, make an eloquent plea against militarism. In the face of this expenditure for the war department, exceeding the cost of the immense standing army of France and within three quarters of a million of the cost to Germany, the contention that "there is no imperialism" or "we have entered no policy of militarism" has nothing to stand upon.

Think of it! The people of North Carolina have paid within the past twelve months over eight million dollars (\$8,320,000) in order to convert this republic into an empire, and the burden is in its infancy. Every time a man pays one dollar to support his State government he pays \$8 for the English policy of imperialism. How long will the people stand it?

## 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 NEWS.

### Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

The State Christian Endeavor convention is in session at Raleigh.

Trinity College beat Bingham School, of Mebane, playing ball at Durham Thursday, 2 to 0.

Ulysses B. Williams committed suicide Thursday at Charlotte by taking a drug. He had moved to Charlotte from Wake county.

Oliver Moore, a well-known and respected citizen, near Wilkesboro, committed suicide by taking laudanum last week. He leaves a wife and several children.

Mrs. Maggie Jones has been awarded \$250 damages against the city of Raleigh for injuries sustained from a fall by stumbling over an exposed gas pipe. She sued for \$4,000.

Salisbury Truth-Index: Mr. George Fink has, he says, twenty acres in wheat, from which he expects to harvest twenty-five bushels per acre. He brought in from the plot a bunch of eighteen stalks from one grain.

William Clinard, a young man, while at work on an electric light wire at Winston Thursday afternoon, was struck by 1,200 volts and thrown from a 35-foot pole to the ground. He was sent to the hospital and his condition is critical.

Robbers broke into the postoffice at Mooresville Wednesday night, blew open the safe and stole \$1,000 in money and stamps. This is the fifth postoffice robbed in North Carolina during the past few weeks, the others being at Leakeville, Chapel Hill, Graham and Youngville.

Charlotte Observer: From the writhings of the Asheville Gazette, the purchased organ of the anti-amendment crowd, as well as from other evidence, we infer that the Democratic candidates for the State offices have made considerable impression by their campaign in the west.

Mr. B. F. Patrick states that he will build a 40-room hotel at Greenville, to be completed this summer. At a mass meeting at Greenville Thursday afternoon \$50,000 was subscribed towards a cotton mill, and another meeting called for May 3d to organize and elect directors for the mill company.

The Forsyth county alumni of the University met in Winston Tuesday night and adopted a resolution asking the board of trustees of the University to increase the salary of the president to an amount that would compare favorably with that paid by other similar institutions in the south.

Charlotte News: We are glad to see the southern mills varying their product. It is announced that the Odell Manufacturing company, of Concord, is putting in machinery that will enable them to make elder-down, for lap-ropes, bath-ropes, etc., and that this goods will be turned out in numerous attractive designs.

At Shelby 2,500 people heard the Democratic State candidates Thursday. Suspended across Main street was a large banner bearing the slogan of the campaign, "White Supremacy." Attached to the banner was a wire cage containing a game cock which crowed lustily throughout the day from his elevated position for Aycock for governor.

Raleigh cor. Charlotte Observer, April 26: For many years, almost daily, Matthew Austin, a venerable negro, has had his post at the south entrance to the capital square, and thousands of people residents and visitors alike have heard his quick spoken "Mornin', gemmen, thanks fur 5 cents." The old fellow came to be known as "Mornin', gemmen." Last night he died. His people say he was 105 years old.

The Republican convention of Craven county was held in Newbern Thursday. The number of delegates was considerably less than at the convention of two years ago, but the same majority of negroes prevailed. In a bitter factional fight, headed by Robert Hancock on the one hand, and Richard Williams on the other, Hancock came out a winner by a considerable majority. No action was taken in regard to the matter of a county ticket, and it is thought that none will be brought out. Abe Middleton, the famous negro politician who holds a fat government position in Washington, attended the convention and appeared much in evidence. Frank Brown, U. S. deputy marshal, was also present. It will take Senator Pritchard to explain why these worthies were present.

## An Incendiary Threat.

Oxford, N. C., April 26.—It is reliably reported that a certain mouthy negro of Granville county made this threat: "That there would be more ashes in Granville county before the election was over than there was in hell."

A certain law-abiding, Christian citizen said, upon hearing the same: "Find out the party who said it, and we will increase the Republican majority in hell one vote sure."

Keep up with the town news. The Free Press prints the town news. Only 10 cents a week.

## A HUNGRY CROWD.



The Tame Man: "I hope they won't try to annex my basket."  
—St. Louis Republic.