

# THE DAILY FREE PRESS.

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## GENERAL NEWS.

### Matters of Interest Condensed Into Brief Paragraphs.

Democrats of the ninth congressional district nominated Champ Clark without opposition.

Burglars robbed the First National Bank of East Brady, Pa., Friday night, securing between \$6,000 and \$10,000.

Susie May Busie has secured a divorce from her husband, Amos Busie, the baseball pitcher, on account of cruel treatment.

A treaty has been signed at Washington extending for seven months the time for ratification of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty.

Sandon, B. C., was destroyed by fire, except six houses, Friday. Loss between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000, with almost no insurance.

Fire destroyed the business part of Glasgow, Ky., Saturday. Seventeen buildings were burned, causing a loss of \$150,000; partly insured.

Gen. Otis reports that during April the American loss was 40 killed and wounded; the Filipino killed, wounded and captured numbered 1,721.

Bishop H. M. Jackson, until recently assistant bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama, is dead, as a result of pneumonia. He was a Virginian by birth.

At the national Republican convention Senator Wolcott will be temporary and Senator Lodge permanent chairman. Senator Foraker will nominate McKinley.

The U. S. transport Meade sailed from Manila Saturday for the United States with Gen. Otis on board. Gen. MacArthur is in command of the army in the Philippines.

Discovery of coal on the Unger farm in Bear Garden Mountain, Va., has caused excitement. The coal is said to be of fine quality and appears to be in paying quantities.

Dewey was given a grand reception in St. Louis on Saturday. There were over 15,000 people in the parade, which was witnessed by over 400,000 people lining the streets.

There is a call for a Republican convention of Hawaii to meet in Honolulu May 15th. This convention will select delegates to the national convention, which meets in Philadelphia.

At Buffalo, Tex., J. W. Miller was attacked by the four Linsion brothers. Miller killed W. T. Linsion and L. W. Linsion and wounded Edgar Linsion. Eugene Linsion retreated. Miller was not hurt.

Sioux Falls, S. D., is rapidly filling up with the advance guard of the national Populist convention. Elaborate preparations have been made for entertaining the large crowd expected. The convention meets Wednesday.

It is authoritatively announced that until the pending issue relative to payment of the American indemnity claims is settled to the satisfaction of the state department, no United States minister will attend the Turkish capital.

At Frankfort, Ky., Friday, in the Goebel murder trial, Assistant Secretary of State J. B. Matthews and McKenzie Todd, private secretary to Taylor, gave very strong testimony against Henry Youtsey and other Republican conspirators.

Fifty-five members of the Georgia Cotton Compress association met last week in Savannah, Ga., to discuss ways and means for bringing about the general adoption of the standard cotton bale, 24 by 54 inches, by farmers and ginners, for the next ginning season.

The death of a member of a Sedalia, Mo., merchandizing firm developed the fact that they did business in an original way. They bought for cash and sold for cash, and kept no books. When they bought a bill of goods each member paid his part of the bill, and every night when they figured up returns each one took his share. They did that for 30 years.

There are indications that Canada is drifting toward independence. They are beginning to talk of "Canada for the Canadians." It is only a question of time with Canada, Australia and the South South African colonies, when each in its time will strike out for itself, and let England paddle her boat in her own way. They are now but nominally under British dominion.

Lieut. J. H. Gibbons, with the gunboat Alvariz, recently rescued 522 persons from the vicinity of the Gulf of Bagay, Philippines, most of whom had been prisoners of the Filipinos. The party rescued consisted of 10 Americans, 71 Spanish officers, the wife of a Spanish officer, 17 priests, 31 merchants, 4 Filipinos, 387 Spanish soldiers and the wife of a Spanish soldier.

**Made the Passengers Jump.**  
Tacoma, Wash., May 5.—After robbing five passengers on a Northern Pacific local freight train, near North Yakama last night, six highwaymen compelled their victims to jump off a swiftly running train. The robbers secured watches, rings and nearly \$600.

Fred Booker and John Clerman were shot, but will recover. The passengers walked to Rosa station and wired Sheriff Tucker at Yakama, who organized a posse and started in pursuit. The robbers left the train at Untani.

## TOWARD KROONSTADT.

### Hunter's Crossing the Vaal Brings The Relief of Mafeking Nearer.

London, May 5, 4:50 a. m.—The mounted infantry with Lord Roberts, among whom are the Canadians, have picked their horses on the south bank of the Vet river, 18 miles north of Brandfort. The head of Lord Roberts' column has thus advanced 32 miles from Karee Siding in two days, or 53 miles north of Bloemfontein.

Little power was spent. The British work was hard marching, the Boers retiring out of reach of the British shells. The correspondents supplement Lord Roberts' plain statements with a few details. As Gen. Hutton with the first mounted infantry brigade drew near to Brandfort, he saw a khaki-clad body of troops ahead of him. He was surprised but thought they must be the British. Soon, however, they opened fire upon the British, who replied heavily. They were the Irish-American brigade from Lourenzo Marques, and it is reported that the Irish lost severely.

Gen. French's cavalry are sweeping the country northward. The expectation is that the infantry advance will be continued toward Kroonstadt immediately. Although no prisoners were taken and although no hot pursuit was attempted the news greatly cheers London, nevertheless it has not been received with the fine rapture that attended the first successes of Lord Roberts.

Gen. Hunter's crossing the Vaal at Windsorten brings the relief of Mafeking, 195 miles beyond, almost within a calculable interval.

## Mafeking Not Yet Relieved

London, May 6, 4:20 a. m.—London has been confidently expecting to have news of the relief of Mafeking before midnight, but at that hour the war office stated that no further intelligence had been received of Hunter's column, to which the public believed had been assigned the work of relieving the town.

## Behind the Scenes.

"A good many people," said a veteran stage manager the other day, "have an idea that beyond the scenes of a stage there is great fun and hilarity and that actors have a jolly sort of time between their appearances before the audience. The fact is a military camp during times of inspection is no more sedate than is the rear of any well regulated stage when the public in front of the footlights is being entertained. The shifting of scenes and the proper execution of an intricate play require all the thought that can be given them. All the men and women have all they can do to properly perform their parts. If a manager is an easy going man, caring little for discipline, he soon gets to the end of his career. You may be sure there is no business that is carried on in a more businesslike way than is the playhouse, and when the fun is on in the front those behind the scenes are carefully watching to see that no hitch occurs and that every one is ready to do his part at the proper time and does it properly when the time comes."—Washington Star.

## How to Dry Rubber Boots.

It was a problem how to dry out hip rubber boots. In the sitting room there was an open grate fire which was covered every night with fine coal and a few shovelfuls of ashes, so that the room never became quite cold. We found that if we heated a piece of old flannel as hot as possible and stuffed it down into the foot of a boot and stood the boot in front of the fireplace it was as dry as a bone next morning. The handiest thing to keep the boot leg open is a spring steel corset rib about 18 inches long by three-quarter inch in width.—Forest and Stream.

## Refrigerated Eggs.

Eggs become unwholesome when kept in refrigerators. A fungus forms in them which is easily found by the microscope, although it is not noticeable to the taste. The fungus constitutes a danger when we consider how many eggs are consumed by all classes of society, and people of delicate constitutions ought to be particularly careful that they eat fresh and not kept eggs.

## Dainty Clothes Hangers.

Gowns wear so much better when hung away properly that every woman should make it a point to do so. And since such dainty hangers have come into general use the custom can prove but a joy.

A successful and charming hanger can be made from a quarter of an old barrel hoop cleaned thoroughly. Cotton batting sprinkled with sachet powder is fastened to the frame, which is then covered with two widths of ribbon run together and musquetered. Ribbon sufficient for a long loop (for hanging) and a bow is then fastened to the center, and this dainty addition to a woman's wardrobe is complete.

## UP-TO-DATE TELEPHONY.

### An Interesting Article by Mr. Geo. S. Luce on Telephony and What Constitutes an Up-to-Date Exchange.

Written for THE FREE PRESS.

The subject of what constitutes an "up-to-date" telephone exchange is agitating the mind of the local public. The writer has been asked to contribute something of this nature for THE FREE PRESS.

Telephony, like telegraphy, was capable of demonstration for years before it finally became a public servant. It is hard to say when the string with rawhide diaphragm, (otherwise known as the "lover's telegraph") was not a plaything. Every old boy and girl, I reckon, has, at some time, experimented with it for amusement. And yet, it was the foundation for the present system of long distance communication with the human voice. Vibration is the key to telephony; all the rest has been accomplished by the scientific application of other natural phenomena to help out.

In simple phraseology, the evolution of the present, almost perfect, system of oral communication for long distances, is the application of the laws of vibration, electrical energy, and induction. Every child in the philosophy class knows about the row of bullets suspended by a string, in contact.—When the outside bullet is pulled back and allowed to fall against the next, that the middle bullets remain stationary, while the farthest bullet sways outward from the impact, exactly in proportion to the energy imparted to the first. This is the theory of telephonic vibration. The atoms in the wire represent the bullets, while an induced current by a battery represents the energy which transmits the impulse to the receiving station. I say "induced" current because a direct current over the wire is not used; it first passes through what is known as the "induction coil," which induces a larger volume of sound acting like the lense to glasses, only as applied to sound. It would require some scientific knowledge to understand this, and as a matter of fact the best electricians cannot say how it is accomplished except that it so operates.

An induction coil may be said to be the heart of the telephone. It is known that two wires running parallel, when a current is passed through one, it induces a return current in the opposite direction in the other. This fact gave birth to the induction coil, which is made by winding a small bundle of soft steel wires with a number of turns of fine insulated wire, and a greater number of turns of still smaller wire outside this. The first winding is called the primary and the second the secondary. The known law is that a battery current through the primary wire will induce a stronger vibration through the secondary winding, which is connected to the receiver of the instrument. There is no connection between the primary and secondary windings—consequently the battery in the instrument only makes the circuit of the microphone and primary circuit of the instrument.

Berliner, Bell, Edison, Ericsson, and many others have experimented along this line until they have evolved a practical apparatus whereby the human voice is enabled to traverse over wires a distance of 2,000 miles. Ten years ago, yes, five—this feat would have been considered a physical impossibility by the most scientific men. Today, while many believe the limit has been reached, others say we will get to the moon. This may or may not be all "moonshine."

Telegraphy has accomplished much more in long distance communication, because, by a system of automatic relays, the signals are renewed at given distances. Could the human voice be relayed in a similar manner, it would be as easy to talk around the earth as to telegraph. There are thousands working on this invention in various parts of the world, and it may not be long before the problem is solved.

Up to within a short time the telephone apparatus consisted of a magneto signaling, or call generator (to notify party wanted)—the microphone, or transmitter (talking part), the receiver, (hand phone held to ear) and the so-called talking battery, consisting of from one to four jars of solution, or the same number of storage or dry cells enclosed in the lower box of each instrument. This is the instrument now used in long distance work, but is supplanted in the local exchange work by the supervisory system, "central energy," or centralized battery system.

The amateur will understand better by stating that an "up-to-date system" does away with the crank. The simple lifting of the hook of the receiver (or in some instruments touching a button) calls the "central." At the central office what is known as a visual signal is brought to view; or, it may be that a miniature electric lamp with the number. This does away with what some call the "coffee mill" crank, and is certainly a great advance in telephone evolution.

With the progress heretofore made it is hard to say what will be the system of the future; but it is safe to say that telephony is yet in its infancy. This is inferred from what has been already accomplished, and the number of patents that have been relegated to the rear, once thought to be perfection. Every electrician recognizes the fact, that even now, the electrical field is full of prob-

lems. Problem is the right word, the working out of electric circuits for the switchboard require the hardest brain work. The installing of repeating coils, resistances, relays, and condensers, is bringing about results that, if it makes it complicated, shows how intricate things may be made practicable. There is plenty of food in this line for the new century.

The brightest men in the business are now working on what is known as the selective system; by which it is proposed to do away with the central girl entirely. Each party, by means of automatic devices, known as the step by step principle, calls the party wanted direct from his own instrument. This has already been accomplished in fact; but it is too complicated for successful operation as yet, except on long distance party lines.

In closing, it is well to state that Kinston deserves an up-to-date system. In case the old company declines the late proposition, the new company will build one, with all that the name implies. That the system recommended is thoroughly practical and the best, it is only necessary to state that the Bell company is rebuilding in a great many cities, from the Pacific to the Atlantic, and installing this system. G. S. L.

## SUPERIOR COURT.

### Judge Brown Made Brief Charge And Is Dispatching Business as Fast as Practical. New Trial of John Thomas Murder Case. A Few Cases Disposed of This Morning.

May term superior court for Lenoir county convened this morning at 10 o'clock, Judge Geo. H. Brown, of Washington, presiding, and Solicitor Duffy at his post of duty.

Mr. Ira Smith was made foreman of the grand jury.

He stated that he held court here in January and had then charged the grand jury regarding the new laws and changes in the laws; that the State docket not being large, he would not deliver his usual charge, but would give instructions from time to time as occasion may demand.

Lenoir county always welcomes Judge Brown with a great deal of pleasure. He is one of the ablest judges on the bench, and a very genial and clever gentleman. Few judges can dispatch business as does Judge Brown and at the same time so preserve the rights of all parties. We hope his stay in our city will be pleasant.

The criminal docket shows 41 cases, most of which are for assaults, carrying concealed weapons, larceny and similar offenses. There are two cases for seduction and one for rape.

It is expected also to retry Red Pittman and Jim Johnson, col., (for the murder of John Thomas, col.), who obtained a new trial from the supreme court, the evidence having been lost and could not be passed upon by the supreme court. This is the noted Fin Huggins case, Fin now being in the penitentiary, serving his term of ten years, not having taken an appeal.

Judge Brown announced that there will be no jury cases on next Saturday.

A few cases were disposed of this morning, as follows:

State vs. Geo. Williams; affray. Nol pros. with leave.

State vs. Mary Rhone; larceny. Nol pros.

State vs. Geo. Patrick; concealed weapon. Nol pros.

State vs. Geo. Patrick and J. F. Mewborne; bondsmen. Nol pros.

## BELIEVED TO BE LOST.

### Fifteen Men Who Abandoned the Wrecked Virginian.

Washington, May 5.—Assistant Secretary Spaulding has taken active measures to rescue, if possible, the 15 men who abandoned the wrecked steamer Virginia on the outer Diamond Shoals. Today he ordered the revenue steamer Algonquin, now at Wilmington, N. C., and the Onondaga, which is expected to arrive at Norfolk today, to proceed to sea at once in search of the missing men.

They left the Virginia in a small boat, and as a heavy sea was rolling at the time, it seems almost certain that they were lost.

The Peabody Normal College, of Nashville, announces that the report of the location of a summer school in Asheville, N. C., is incorrect. The project of holding a summer session has been abandoned.

## 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, "Roache'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 on a 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 Pearson-Crawford contest will come up before the house on Wednesday.

The University of N. C. beat Maryland University playing ball at Chapel Hill Saturday, 5 to 3.

The Democratic State executive committee is called to meet in Raleigh May 10th to elect a central committee.

The State has chartered the Louisburg oil mills, capital \$15,000, and the Geo. B. Hiss Oil and Supply Co., of Charlotte, capital \$10,000.

An audience of 1,500 greeted the Democratic State candidates at Elizabeth City Saturday. The speeches of Aycock and Turner aroused great enthusiasm.

The Republicans speak of the immense federal patronage in North Carolina all of course at Senator Fritchard's disposal and say it aggregates now \$1,500,000.

Here is the comment of Loge Harris on the Republican convention: "If the brains of the entire outfit were concentrated they would not equal in volume or quality the brain of Gov. Russell."

Gov. Russell is said to be mad and threatening to bolt the Republican ticket, because the convention did not specifically endorse his administration. His friends Loge Harris and Charlie Cook also threaten to bolt.

Samuel W. Hawkins, who shot himself at Charlotte Friday, died Saturday. Hawkins refused to the last to give any reason for the commission of the awful deed and said he was not disturbed in regard to the hereafter.

An old colored woman, by the name of Day, was burned to death near Weldon a few days ago under peculiar circumstances. She was engaged in cooking dinner and when her son came in at the dinner hour he found his mother kneeling by a chair, in the attitude of prayer, burned to death.

At Goldsboro Saturday night Frank Nickols, colored, while under the influence of drink, attempted to board a north-bound "shoo-fly." He fell under the cars and was badly bruised about the head. His right arm was lacerated, amputation at the shoulder being necessary. He will likely die from his injuries.

Mr. W. T. Whitfield, who for the past forty years has been agent for the Southern Express company at Weldon, has been pensioned by the company for life, and retired from active service. Mr. Whitfield was never required to give a bond, and he was, perhaps, the only agent of the company who held such an important place without being bonded.

The schooner Hettie J. Dormau, lumber laden, from Swansboro, N. C., for Tachagne, L. I., struck a sunken wreck on the outer slough of Diamond Shoals last week and sank soon after. Capt. Weston and the crew of the schooner, five men in all, were rescued by life savers. The vessel, which is a total loss, sank until her decks were awash and then drifted out to sea.

Representatives of colleges and leading high schools of the State met at Durham Saturday for the purpose of elevating and purifying college sport. Stringent regulations were adopted to eliminate professional and hired players from college teams. The association chose the following officers: President, Walker Sikes, Wake Forest College; Vice-President, J. Allen Holt, Oak Ridge Institute; Secretary and Treasurer, W. P. Tew, Trinity College. The next convention is to be held on the first Saturday in May, 1900.

Wilmington Star: "Peace," or Percy of Dominica, as he calls himself, has at last yielded to the desires of the flesh and partaken of food upon the seventh day after he began his "fast" in the county jail, at the end of which time he predicted that the doors of the prison would voluntarily swing open and he and his followers go free. A tempting chicken broth (for "Peace" yet possesses some of the characteristics of the negro) offered by Jailor Millis yesterday morning "broke the fast" and the religious fanatic, who induced one of his fellow creatures to starve herself to death, broke down and ate freely, excusing his "weakness" by the statement that the moon is too large just at this stage of the game to carry on a successful "fast."

The annex to the State museum is completed. It gives five additional halls, the largest 100x40 feet, all high pitched. The ceilings are in native pine, polished and oiled. The annex provides room for the following new features: A department of economic and scientific botany; economic entomology, with special reference to the treatment of crop pests from a scientific standpoint; a doubling of the forestry exhibit, showing manufactured products as well as the raw material; North Carolina history, colonial, revolutionary and modern, including war and civil; commercial fisheries, apart from natural history; manufactured products of all raw materials found in the State; a lecture room, with special arrangements for stereopticon views; a work room; a large, cement floored basement for storage. The museum will be the greatest in this country outside of Washington.