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STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

Northampton county now has absolute prohibition. An error of the enrolling clerk made the act read that license must be granted by the judges of the supreme courts of Northampton county instead of superior court judges. This error makes that part of the act, invalid, consequently there is no power to issue license.

The Republican delegates to the national convention left Sunday for Philadelphia. Senator Pritchard, who is at the head of the delegation, is absolutely the leader of his party in North Carolina. There is not a break in line as regards him, save for Gov. Russell and a few of the latter's political family. One of the latter is J. C. L. Harris, who was for a number of years secretary to the Republican State committee. Harris is in open revolt against Pritchard.

The Baptists of North Carolina have twenty missionaries in China, the majority of whom have families, and there is much anxiety on the part of their relatives and friends as a result of the Boxer movement and the crisis in the government, which has resulted in the massacre of foreigners. There is occasion for fear by reason of the fact that a number of the missionaries from this State are far removed from the coast and are located in the northern province, where the Boxers have been most active in their efforts to exterminate foreigners.

The status of affairs in Republican circles in the First district is such that Chairman Holton and the State committee may be called upon to settle or arbitrate matters. One wing of the party in the district does not, evidently, intend to stand by the nomination of Isaac Meekins for congress. Dr. Abbott, one of the "machine" leaders, has declared the nomination invalid, on the ground that no convention can be held without due notice, and that the one which named Meekins was in session inside of an hour after the executive committee had directed its members to complete their business. Dr. Abbott says Meekins is "an ambitious young man," and intimated that he is a bolter.

A HOBO ON A TRAIN.

His Brief Interview With a Brake-man and the Conductor.

"I spent several hours in a small country town not far from here a few days ago," said a young professional man of this city, "and to kill time I joined the usual group in the corner grocery store. One of the crowd was a freight brakeman, and he told a story about a tramp who was stealing a ride on the bumpers during his last run.

"The conductor seen him first," he said, "and when he came back to the caboose he said, says he: 'Bill, there's a blamed ugly lookin' hobo on the trucks behind the first car. Suppose you go up and fire him off.' 'All right, cap,' says I, and starts front. When I gets to the first car, I looks down, and, sure enough, there was a big, greasy hobo squatting on the edge, holdin' on to the brake iron. 'Hi, there!' says I, 'what d'you mean by tryin' to beat the road? We're goin' slow now, and you hop right off!' The hobo reached around into his pocket and pulled out a gun about a yard long. When he pointed it at me, it looked like a piece of stovepipe. 'You freckle nosed baboon,' says he, 'if you don't go 'bout your business real sudden, I'll cave your face in! Skip!' says he. I skipped.

"When I got back to the caboose, the conductor says, 'Well, Bill, did you fire the hobo?' 'No,' says I, 'I didn't. In chattin' with him,' I says, 'I found out we was kin, and I didn't really have the heart to bounce the poor feller!' 'Well, I'll do it myself, then!' says the conductor, gettin' hot, and away he goes over the tops. Pretty soon I could hear him comin' back lickety split, on a dead run. He slid down the brake iron like a streak of greased lightning and dropped into the caboose seat all out of breath. 'Did you fire him?' says I. 'No,' says he, sort of faint. 'Why, how was that?' says I, pretendin' to be surprised. 'Well, I'll tell you,' says he, confidential. 'It's funny, but, d'you know, when we got to talkin', I found out he was some kin to me too.'—Chicago Inter Ocean.

High Life.

When a man who lives in a boarding house has gone, the landlady assumes an air of great importance.—Philadelphia Record.

You can't make a girl with a new engagement ring believe all men are alike, and after she has been married ten years you can't make her believe they are not.—Chicago News.

Dreams of the Maimed.

M. de Manacine, the Russian psychologist, mentions the case of a person born without arms or feet who always dreamed that he had been mutilated. Now, it should be borne in mind, he says, that the majority of persons born without arms or feet always dream that they possess these extremities. It is evident, he maintains, that this difference results, in the first instance, from weak impressions hereditarily transmitted, and in the second instance from the strength and precision of these impressions. Persons whose limbs have been amputated are subject to curious delusions while asleep. They never dream that they are walking on crutches; quite the contrary, they invariably dream that they are walking with their feet, with this difference only—that as time passes their extremities appear to become shorter and shorter.

M. de Manacine mentions as a curious fact that this hallucination is very pronounced when the wound has healed without complications; while on the other hand there is no hallucination when the process of cicatrization has been painful. Moreover, we find the reason of this difference in the greater or lesser intensity of the sensations experienced. Still, if the dreams of abnormally formed persons are characterized by certain peculiarities, they are none the less subjected, as are other dreams, to the mysterious conditions of the human organism, and, like other dreams, their repercussion on the wakeful state is identical.

The Parson and the Rooster.

A good rooster story comes from a Somerset county correspondent. A certain clergyman, whom we will call Rev. Mr. Little, gave one of his parishioners a rooster, as a slight token of esteem. In the family was a bright 4-year-old boy, and he always called the rooster "Brother Little." One morning the little fellow saw the rooster coming toward the house, and he shouted, "Grandma, here comes Brother Little."

Grandma never stopped to look out or make any inquiries, but started quickly to pick up and set things to rights about the room. This done, she asked the boy, "Where is Brother Little?"

"Just gone into the stable," replied the boy.

Grandma thought she might have time to change her dress and quickly dodged into another room and in a very short time appeared attired in another gown, but somewhat out of breath. Again she asked the boy if he had seen Brother Little.

"Yes," said the innocent child; "there he goes back to the barn with the rest of the hens."

Grandma did not say a word, but sat down for a few minutes to rest, and later she seemed to enjoy the joke with her grandson, who looked on wonderingly as though he only partly took in the situation.—Bangor Whig and Courier.

Busy Choir Soloists.

Roman Catholic and Episcopal churches have the credit of providing the finest and most elaborate music, but the finest music in New York is heard in the Jewish synagogues. It is chiefly sung, however, by the best singers of the Christian churches, who thrifly "double up" and draw two salaries, a good arrangement for both temples and churches, albeit the churches pay double and sometimes treble the salaries paid by the temples.

The salaries of soloists in the larger American cities range from \$800 to \$2,500, the latter sum being paid in a single instance. All engagements date from May 1, which is moving time for church singers as well as house movers. Their church salaries form the basis of the soloists' incomes, but many fees are earned as a result of church work. Weddings and funerals yield quite a number, and private recitals at the home entertainments of millionaire church members are weighted with the golden fruit. There are also whole orchards of concerts and oratorios for those capable of shaking the trees.—Success.

Saved Her Life.

Riggs—Hear about Mrs. Titewadd? Told her husband she would kill herself if he didn't buy her a new bonnet.

Jiggs—What did Titewadd do? Riggs—Got estimates on funerals, found he could save \$2 by buying the bonnet and saved her life.—Baltimore American.

A self-closing door spring adds to the anger of the angry man who wants to sign the door.—Chicago News.

The occupants of a balloon a mile high command a radius of 96 miles.

IT IS A DARK SECRET.

Neither Affirmation Nor Denial of Peking Riot Story. Report of German Minister's Murder Traced to Chinese Censor at Shanghai, Where It Is Said That Communication With Peking Has Not Been Interrupted. Position of the Expeditionary Force Known to Be Perilous. Rumors Continue.

London, June 18, 2 a. m.—There is not a cabinet in Europe apparently that knows what has been transpiring in Peking for five days or in Tien Tsin for three days. Nor are there any that know with what difficulties the small and inadequately equipped international column is contending between these cities.

The German foreign office, upon learning the report of the murder of Baron Von Ketteler, the German minister at Peking, sent a telegraphic inquiry to St. Petersburg, the Russian government, because of its wires to Manchuria being supposedly in a better position than the other governments to obtain direct news. In reply the German foreign office was informed that nothing whatever was known on the subject, as communication with Peking was interrupted.

The report, spread world-wide from Shanghai, that the legations had been attacked and that one minister, probably the German, had been murdered, has been traced to Tao Tai Sheng, who, for a few days, as the empress dowager's agent, has been censoring telegrams from Shanghai.

Lines Closed Only to Foreigners.

The Shanghai correspondent of The Daily Express says:

"Sheng, as head of the telegraph administration, pretended that the line connecting Shanghai with Peking had been down since June 9, and that the wires to Tien Tsin were cut on June 15. Nevertheless it is notorious that constant communications have been passing from Shanghai to Peking over the northern and western routes, although Sheng has refused both ministers and consuls the privilege of using the lines. It is known that last Friday Sheng received a message from either Peking or Tien Tsin. This dispatch said that Gen. Tung Fuh Siang's troops aided the Boxers in an organized attack on the foreign legations, and that in the course of the attack some of the legation buildings were reduced to ruins, and one foreign minister sliced to pieces.

"Why in the cables it should have been added that the murdered minister was Baron Von Ketteler is not explained."

According to another telegram from Shanghai, dated June 17, at 7:25 p. m., Sheng has fled, fearing that the foreign authorities were about to arrest him because of his stoppage of telegrams.

A third cablegram asserts that the reports of the murder of the German minister emanated from Peking are quite confirmed and are discredited at Shanghai.

TROOPS UNDER ORDERS.

Ninth Regiment Going to China From Manila.

Manila, June 18, 10 a. m.—The Ninth regiment has been ordered to Manila, whence it will proceed to China.

The gunboat Concord, with marines aboard, has sailed under sealed orders, supposedly for China.

The British cruiser Buena Ventura has sailed for Hongkong with troops and stores for Hongkong and Tien Tsin.

CHINESE FIRE FIRST.

Then Get a Taste of Modern Guns, and Surrender.

London, June 18.—The allied fleets at Taku have demolished the Chinese forts and the Asiatics at that point have surrendered. The news comes from Chee Foo, via Shanghai, and is dated June 18th, 12:30 p. m. The Taku forts are now in the hands of the European naval forces.

The situation of hostility at Taku had reached such a stage that the naval representatives of foreign nations dispatched an ultimatum to the Chinese commander of the forts. The reply came in the shape of several shots which were deliberately fired at the foreign warships.

The fleets immediately replied and the

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 our bottle. Recommended many years by all druggists in the world. For sale by the Temple-Marston Drug Co.

Chinese guns were soon silenced. The Chinese commander then surrendered. Although the date of the engagement is not given in the Chee Foo dispatch, it is believed that it occurred Sunday.

After the native troops manning the forts had been reduced to a state of submission the commanders of the various warships in the harbor sent detachments from the fleets to occupy them.

The Chinese fortifications were badly damaged by the fire of the fleets and it is believed that many of the native soldiers were killed. Affairs at Taku are now more peaceful and there will probably be little further opposition around Taku.

FROM TIEN TSIN.

Russia Reported to Have Landed 7,000 Troops.

London, June 18.—The latest news from Tien Tsin is that the marines, with supplies for Admiral Seymour's force, have been cut off seven miles from Lang Fang, and have returned to Tien Tsin to procure reinforcements to enable them to cut their way through.

The statement that the Russian troops are siding with the empress dowager is reiterated in almost every message from Chinese sources. The latest news stated that 7,000 Russians, with twelve machine guns and twelve field guns, are marching from Tien Tsin to Peking.

The hordes around Peking are constantly swelled. Well informed Chinese, who are not unfriendly toward foreigners, declare that now upward of 120,000 are outside the city gates, all armed in a more or less crude fashion, with probably more than 7,000 Chinese troops among them.

Memorial.

To the President and Board of Directors of Orion Knitting Mills:

Your committee appointed to draft resolutions expressive of our deep sorrow occasioned by the sudden death of our friend and coadjutor, Mr. John Quincy Jackson, beg to submit the following, viz:

Whereas, The deceased was an original subscriber, a charter director and a zealous supporter of the Orion Knitting Mills (the pioneer manufacturing enterprise of our town), having given much of his personal attention and judicious counsel towards the successful development of the enterprise; therefore,

Resolved, That the unexpected announcement of this summary dispensation of Divine Providence, by telegram yesterday morning, cast a thrill of profound sadness throughout our entire community, and that we, his co-laborers, deplore the loss of so valuable a member of our board of directors.

Resolved, That we more readily yield submission to the mandate of the all-wise Judge of all the earth when we remember his Christian virtues, feeling assured that he is but called up from the environments unrest to the elysian fields of eternal joy.

Resolved, That we tender to his bereaved widow, his relatives and friends our heartfelt condolence in their sad affliction.

Resolved, That these resolutions be spread upon the records of our factory, a copy furnished THE KINSTON FREE PRESS for publication, and that a copy be sent to the family of our lamented friend and brother.

J. W. COLLINS,
S. OETTINGER,
H. D. HARPER, SR.,
Committee.

June 15, 1900.

Why He Was Arrested.

"There is such a thing as being altogether too clever."

"You think so?"

"I know it. I was walking along the street yesterday when I noticed a \$5 note lying on the pavement. I stooped to pick it up, but it looked like a counterfeit, so I passed on."

"And the note turned out to be a good one, of course?"

"No, it did not, but I was arrested before I had gone ten steps farther."

"Arrested? What for?"

"For passing counterfeit money."—London Answers.

Obliging Travelers.

"What is in that box you are so careful about, if I may ask?" inquired the man who had secured the lower berth in the sleeper.

"That's a collection of rare snakes I am taking to a museum. They are too valuable to be trusted out of my sight," replied the man who was preparing to climb to the upper shelf.

"Say, I'll trade berths with you."

"All right, I'm not particular where I sleep."—Chicago Tribune.

Proved His Case.

Miss Willing (after the proposal)—But are you quite sure you believe in second love?

Mr. Woodly (a widower)—Certainly, my dear. Now suppose a man buys a pound of sugar; it is sweet, isn't it?

Miss Willing—Yes, of course. But—

Mr. Woodly—And when that's gone he naturally wants another pound—and the second pound is just as sweet, isn't it?—Chicago News.

The Best Prescription for Chills

and Fever is a bottle of Gayer's Tamarac Cold Remedy. It is simply lemon and quinine in a palatable form. No cure—no pay. Price, 50c.

GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

Rats killed a two-months-old negro baby in Baltimore Saturday night.

There is hot fighting in Columbia. In a battle between government forces and revolutionists last week 400 men and 35 officers of the government forces were killed.

Three men were killed and fourteen persons injured by an explosion of gunpowder and dynamite used in the manufacture of fireworks, at Philadelphia Sunday.

Senator Clark came out ahead in the Democratic primaries held in Montana last week. Not a single state officer who signed the protest against Clark being admitted to a seat in the U. S. senate was sent to his county or state convention. Clark will head the delegation to the Kansas City convention.

At New Orleans, La., Saturday, Mrs. Anna Spuhler, wife of a former prominent physician, shot and fatally wounded a laborer named James Carver, who had been employed by deputy constables to aid in enforcing a writ of ejectment. Carver was breaking open the door of Mrs. Spuhler's room when the woman fired.

It is thought that the body of the man found in the Potomac river below West-ernport is that of Healy Dugan, a miner, of Boggs's Run, W. Va. Dugan was well dressed and weighed about 200 pounds. It is believed he was murdered, as his head was crushed in. The body will likely be disinterred for the purpose of further examination.

In a rear end freight collision on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad at Green Spring, fourteen miles east of Cumberland, Md., Sunday morning, while one of the trains was taking water during a heavy storm, brakeman William Smith, aged thirty, of Martinsburg, W. Va., was instantly killed, and E. Entler, of Martinsburg, conductor, was slightly injured.

Six athletes, representing Georgetown university, left Washington at 9 o'clock Sunday morning over the Baltimore and Ohio railroad for Boston, en route to the Paris exposition, where they will contest with the champion sprinters of the world during the week of July 15. The party consisted of Charles J. Martell, manager and director; Prof. William Foley, physical director; Arthur F. Duffy, the American champion short-distance sprinter; Bernard J. Wefers, the former champion; W. J. Holland and Edward Minahan.

At Omaha, Neb., Sunday, C. H. King, a stock broker, shot and killed a hackman named James Flood. King had telephoned for a hack, he and his wife intending to take the train for Birmingham, Ala. Flood was intoxicated when he arrived, and insisted on coming into the house. King commanded him not to enter, but Flood kept coming. King then shot through the door, the first shot penetrating the right lung, the second entering the abdomen, and a third the back. Flood died almost instantly.

The state officials of Kentucky, as well as representatives of the prosecution, will neither affirm nor deny the report that requisitions on governors of Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania for the arrest of W. S. Taylor have been made out in anticipation of his trip through those states to the national convention. It is the general belief that the attempt to arrest him will be made in Philadelphia. A number of persons in Kentucky have written to Gov. Stone, of Pennsylvania, urging him to follow the position taken by Gov. Mount, in the event Taylor is arrested. Gov. Taylor's friends say they have assurances from leading Republicans of Pittsburg that a requisition will not be honored in that state.

LARGE SPOT ON THE SUN.

French Astronomer Says Phenomenon Will Be Visible to the Naked Eye.

Paris, June 17.—Abbe Mareux, the astronomer, has discovered and sketched through the big telescope in the optic palace of the exposition a remarkable spot on the sun, forming a part of an extensive group and having a diameter of nearly 40 kilometers. This spot, he says, will remain for seven days and become visible to the naked eye.

He predicts the appearance of other spots in July, August and September, inferring that the heat during those months will be very great.

Refuse to Answer Negro Census Man.

Roanoke, Va., June 17.—Much interest is being taken in local political circles over the appointment of J. H. Brown, a negro, as a census enumerator. The responsibility for the appointment is placed on S. E. Spruiell, who recommended Brown. The supervisor of the census for the sixth Virginia district was greatly surprised that such an appointment should be made. It is stated that several people refused to answer Brown's interrogations.

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