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GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed into Brief Paragraphs.

Count Mureff, Russian minister of foreign affairs, died suddenly Thursday morning at St. Petersburg.

An insurrection in Bulgaria is spreading. Fifty peasants have been killed by the military at Duran Lekah.

Mrs. Mary Ines, 50 years old, wife of Israel Ines, a farmer residing at Hewitt, Md., was killed by lightning during a violent storm Wednesday.

The Democrats of Florida are having a hard time trying to nominate a candidate for governor. Six ballots were taken Thursday, without a change, and no nomination was made.

Oscar, the 3-year-old son of A. J. Boor, West Virginia Central railway agent at Elk Garden, W. Va., was kicked in the forehead Monday by a horse running at large, from the effects of which he died.

Another woman was assaulted Wednesday night for riding on the street cars in St. Louis. She was set upon by two unknown women, who knocked her down with their fists, pounced upon her and beat her severely.

The navy department has issued a general order under the terms of the last appropriation act increasing the pay of naval officers on shore in Porto Rico, Cuba and the Philippine Islands, Hawaii and Alaska 10 per cent. and of enlisted men of the marine corps ashore at those places 20 per cent.; said increase to be computed from May 26th last.

The U. S. circuit court of appeals has affirmed the decision of the lower court sustaining the will of the late Judge John Handley, a millionaire of Scranton, Pa. He was attached to the city of Winchester, Va., near which place he fought many battles in the civil war. He left \$250,000 for a public library for that city, and the residue of his estate he left to the city of Winchester for 20 years, the income to be paid out and expended in that city for the erection of school houses for the education of the poor. This residuary involved about \$500,000.

NOT REVERSIBLE.

One Decision That the Supreme Court Couldn't Alter.

In the good old days when Judge Gaslin sat upon the bench in a district that comprised the western half of Nebraska, the rustler, the horse thief and the killer abounded. Judge Gaslin was aware that there was but one way to rid the country of these pests, and that way was to make it too hot for them. Accordingly Judge Gaslin, when one of them was put on trial, admitted evidence that was sometimes "incompetent, irrelevant and immaterial," but as it was generally true that if the prisoner was not guilty he had been guilty of something equally bad Judge Gaslin let it go at that and clinched the prisoner on general principles. The result was that the supreme court reversed a good many of the judge's cases.

During these perilous times an atrocious murder was committed in Adams county and the perpetrators were soon captured. The evidences of guilt were plain, and the two prisoners were soon pronounced guilty and sentenced to be hanged. But as several notorious characters had recently been allowed to escape by the supreme court, the people of Adams determined to forestall anything of that kind by quietly lynching the prisoners. The two men were taken from the jail and hanged to a railroad bridge east of town.

The bodies were left hanging to the bridge, and next morning Judge Gaslin sauntered out that way to take a look. He gazed on the swaying bodies for a few moments without saying a word. Then he turned to a friend and remarked:

"I sentenced those two fellows to be hanged. That's one decision that infernal supreme court won't reverse."—Omaha World-Herald.

Dishes That Break.

The crying demand of the times is a dish that will not fall out of a girl's hands and break. Women who keep help in their kitchens do not make the complaint of broken dishes more often than the woman whose daughters "do the dishes." As soon as a man gets a half dollar saved it has to go for a meat platter or a pitcher which his daughter dropped, and there probably isn't a family engaged in housekeeping that doesn't have to make weekly visits to a queensware store. In some homes the daughters are fined for every plate they break, but the father has to give them the money to pay back to him in fees, so that he is always the loser. If a man is put in good humor by his dinner, the crash of china heard from the kitchen ten minutes later drives his good nature away.—Boston Globe.

BLIND AS A BAT.

Bat That Fact Wasn't Mentioned When the Horse Was Sold.

David H. ... was a good horse trader, but a recent transaction in horse-flesh which was made by a well known Memphian shows that there are others who know how to get the long end of a horse trade. Several weeks ago this Memphis man saw a fine buggy horse, which he thought he wanted. He located the owner and asked the price: "One fifty," was the reply. After looking the animal over closely and trying her speed he concluded it was a good trade and without more ado wrote a check for the amount. The next day he found that the mare was as blind as a bat, but this did not hinder her speed or detract from her general appearance. He drove the animal for several weeks and succeeded in attracting the admiration of another lover of horse-flesh, who made a proposal to purchase.

"Well," said the Memphian, "I gave \$150 for her, but I will let you have her for \$103."

The prospective owner looked the animal over and concluded he had a bargain. He paid over the money and took the mare. When the animal was unhitched, the first thing she did was to run against a post and then by way of emphasizing the fact that she was blind fell over a barrel. The next day the buyer came back to the Memphian with blood in his eye.

"Colonel, you know that mare you sold me," he began. "Well, she's stone blind."

"I know it," replied the colonel, with an easy air.

"You didn't say anything to me about it," said the purchaser, his face reddening with anger.

"Well, I'll tell you," replied the colonel. "That fellow who sold her to me didn't tell me about it, and I just concluded that he didn't want it known."

The newcomer took his medicine and is now on the lookout for a friend on whom he can even things.—Memphis Scimitar.

A Business Epitaph.

"I was hunting for odd epitaphs," said a Tennessee newspaper man, "and in a cemetery in my own state I came across one that was inscribed upon a neat granite monument and read in this way: 'Sacred to the memory of John Smith, for 20 years senior partner of the firm of Smith & Jones, now J. J. Jones & Co.'"

"Of course the names weren't really Smith and Jones, but I don't want to hurt anybody's feelings, and they will answer for the purposes of the story. I met Jones later, and he gave me a frank explanation of the inscription.

"Smith was a bachelor without relatives," he said, "but he knew a tremendous lot of country people, and if any of them happened to see his grave they might think that the old house had closed up and gone out of business. So I thought it no more than right to let them know that the firm was still alive."

"I complimented him upon his good judgment."

And Still He Failed.

He flattered himself that he was a clever man, and he decided to propose in a clever way.

"The use of 'shall' and 'will' always puzzled me," he said reflectively. "I never know just which is the correct word to use."

"The rule is very simple," she replied innocently. "Just remember that—"

"Oh, never mind the rule," he interrupted. "Just tell me which is correct—'I shall marry you' or 'I will marry you'?"

"Neither," she answered promptly.—Cincinnati Post.

Mixed.

"Henry," she said, "did you get those shoe buttons for me today?"

"Yes," he replied.

"What did you do with them?"

He felt in his pocket and presently fished out a little round box. Then a scared look overspread his countenance, and the lady wanted to know what was the matter.

"Did you take any of those complexion pills you asked me to bring home for you?" he asked.

"Yes, one," she answered. "Why?"

"That was a shoe button. Here are the pills."—Chicago Times-Herald.

Answered the inquiry.

"What did you tell those people about the first time?"

"They asked me if it was good walking distance, and I told them it was."

"Gracious! Good walking distance from what?"

"How do I know? They didn't say, and I wasn't going to be impudic!"

TIEN TSIN SHELLED.

Admiral Kempff Cables That the American Consulate Was Being Destroyed. Relief Party Enroute.

Washington, June 21.—Acting Secretary of the Navy Hackett received a cable message this afternoon from Admiral Kempff, dated Che Foo, June 21, saying that Tien Tsin is being bombarded, and that the American consulate as well as much of the foreign concessions are being destroyed. A relief party is en route to Tien Tsin including 130 American marines under Maj. Waller.

The developments of the day apart from those at Tien Tsin greatly encouraged the officials here in their hope that the worst is past in China, and that the difficulty can be settled without any very serious change of the political status of the country, at least in its relations with the outer world. The state department is much gratified with the attitude of the powers. So far as it is informed, there is no difference of opinion or intention among the different powers respecting the Chinese situation. Their object simply is to restore peace, protect life and property, and leave all further questions for future settlement. So far as can be gathered there is not a dissenting voice among the powers in answer to the proposition made by the United States to limit the operations of the foreign armies and navies in China to that simple program, and if there is a contrary purpose entertained anywhere, the particular power has not signified that fact.

EMPEROR REPORTED KILLED

And the Dowager Empress Is Missing. Reported That She Suicided.

London, June 21.—Special dispatches from Shanghai continue to recount wholesale slaughter at Peking. The soldiers and Boxers are said to be massacring each other, and the Chinese and Manchurians are also said to be engaged in mutual slaughter. Prince Tuan is alleged to have sacked and burned the palace, the emperor is reported to have been killed, the dowager empress is represented as missing, and in some quarters it is believed she has committed suicide. All this purports to have been contained in a letter from Peking received by a high official Chinaman at Shanghai.

Pekin Legations Safe.

Berlin, June 21.—A semi-official dispatch from Tokio, dated June 21, says the Japanese consul at Shanghai confirms the reports that Vice Admiral Seymour has arrived at Peking, and that the members of the diplomatic corps are safe.

According to an official Japanese report from Che Foo the foreign settlement at Tien Tsin was reduced to ashes June 18th.

THE REPORTER'S METHODS.

Marked Difference From Those of the Orator, Preacher and Novelist.

Probably not one reader in a hundred has paused to notice that a newspaper article is written on a plan just the reverse of that of a sermon or oration. Comparatively few ministers have analyzed the subject sufficiently to notice this fact, and their ignorance of it will often account for the reluctance of newspapers to accept matter contributed by them. It is worth the while of every man and woman to know the general plan on which newspaper articles are written, for almost everybody desires at times to announce something through the press. The mere knowledge of the theory will not make a successful writer in this or any other department, but it is the first step.

The skillful preacher or orator usually reserves his most important points until toward the end of his discourse, closing with a climax; the skillful newspaper reporter puts his climax into his first sentence and ends with the most nonessential detail. While the novelist secures his dramatic effect by keeping the secret of his story hidden as long as possible, the reporter attains success by revealing his secret as quickly as words will let him. Both are working on principles as clearly defined as that on which a sonnet is constructed, but the modern newspaper article is of so much more recent date that few critics have analyzed it, and even many of the best New York writers work daily upon the foregoing principle without knowing it. No man can work many days under a metropolitan city editor without learning it.—Chicago Christian Advocate.

An Obtaining Tradesman.

Mrs. Y.—I want five pounds of sugar, please.

Dealer.—Yes, ma'am. Shall we send it for you?

Mrs. Y.—No, I'll take it with me if it isn't too heavy.

Dealer.—I'll make it as light as possible for you, ma'am.—Philadelphia Press.

TRIBUTE OF RESPECT

To the Memory of Hon. J. Q. Jackson by the Board of Stewards of Kinston M. E. Church.

Hon. John Quincy Jackson was born in Lenoir county, N. C., in the Tower Hill house, now owned by the Tills, October 12, 1832. He moved to Greene county in 1850, and was there prepared for Trinity College by Rev. Franklin Powell, a well known educator of his day. He graduated in 1861, and in the spring of 1862 he enlisted as a private in the 61st regiment, North Carolina troops, and was elected second lieutenant of Company E. Soon afterwards he was promoted to first lieutenant of the same company, in which capacity he served until September, 1864, when he was taken prisoner and held until the close of the war. He served in many important battles during the war and was wounded in the arm July 30, 1864. This wound gave him much trouble during the last years of his life and almost incapacitated him for writing.

After the war he returned home and engaged in farming, and at the same time studied law. In 1868 he was admitted to the bar and moved to Kinston, in 1878, to practice his profession, at which place he resided until his death.

He was closely identified with the growth and development of Kinston, being a stockholder and director in the Bank of Kinston, Orion Knitting Mills, Yarn Mills and Furniture Factory. He was always ready to lend a helping hand to whatever tended to promote the welfare, growth and development of the town.

His name was a synonym for honesty and just dealing. No suspicion ever rested upon him. He enjoyed the confidence of everyone, and though for years he enjoyed an extensive law practice, it can be truly said he never made an enemy.

He joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, early in life, and ever remained a true and faithful member. For years, to his death, he was a member of the official board of the church at Kinston, and was always faithful in the discharge of his duties. He was a regular attendant at all the services of the church, Sunday school and Epworth League, and by his consecrated life he has left an example worthy of imitation.

At the time of his death he was attending an adjourned session of the legislature in the city of Raleigh, to which he was elected a member as senator of the eighth district in 1898. Here, as elsewhere, the true character of the man was shown. He was true to his constituency and filled, at great sacrifice to himself, the position with honor and credit.

He died suddenly, without notice, at the home of J. A. Jones, on the morning of June 14, 1900.

The news of his death cast a gloom over the town and filled our people with sorrow. He was one of nature's noblemen. All loved him. May we all so live as to meet him in the home of the good.

Now, whereas, We, the official board of the Kinston M. E. Church, South, are desirous of giving expression to our appreciation of his fidelity and lofty Christian character, be it resolved,

1. That we rejoice that a life of such purity and usefulness has been permitted to be lived in our midst and that this life has been transplanted into the land of pure delight.

2. That in the death of Brother Jackson the church in all its departments has lost an earnest and zealous supporter, a wise counsellor and a faithful and consecrated Christian.

3. That while we mourn our loss in his death, we humbly bow to the will of our Heavenly Father, who doeth all things well, and rejoice that our loss is his gain.

4. That we extend to his bereaved wife and relatives our heartfelt sympathy, and pray God to give them grace in full measure to sustain them in this trying hour.

5. That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon our minutes, a copy be sent to his bereaved wife, and that they be published in THE FREE PRESS and Advocate.

J. W. COLLINS,
J. J. STEVENSON,
J. J. BIZELL,
Committee.

Fights in Convention Committee Room.

Philadelphia, June 20.—The committee on credentials after an all night session adjourned at 6 o'clock a. m., having completed all its business. A lively fist fight between two Texas delegates over a question of veracity occurred at 4:30 o'clock just after the committee had listened to arguments from contesting delegates in that state.

Immediately after this row, two colored delegates began to make violent threats and warlike demonstrations to each other. This trouble also involved a question of veracity. They were dragged apart without difficulty. In the Tennessee contest, the Brownlow people won a clean victory over the Evans faction, the committee confirming their claim to seat in the convention.

Is Cured a Cold in One Day

Take Laxative Balm. Quinine Tablets. All druggists sell the money if it fails to cure. K. W. Thayer's signature is on each box.

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

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

Charlotte beat Statesville playing ball Wednesday, 6 to 4.

The Lumberton Robesonian is changed from a weekly to a semi-weekly.

William W. Hyams of North Carolina, has been appointed a West Point cadet from the State at large by Senator Pritchard.

Troy Examiner: We hear the cry from every portion of the country that hired help is the scarcest this year that has been since the "oldest inhabitant could remember."

Bartlett Berry, Jr., a young man about 30 years of age, committed suicide at the home of his mother near Morganton Tuesday night by shooting himself through the head with a 44-calibre pistol. Liquor the cause.

At Wilson Wednesday the trial of John Jefferson, white, for the assassination of Capt. Calvin Barnes, his landlord, last August, was begun. He confessed killing Barnes while the latter was in a buggy with two little grandsons. He was convicted at a previous trial, but was given a new trial by the supreme court.

Reidsville Webster's Weekly: An encouraging sign of substantial progress is the quantity of agricultural machinery the farmers are buying. They are using drills, sulky plows, disc harrows, mowers, binders, etc., in their work—i. e., the wide awake ones are—and are thus saving money. It has been no uncommon sight the past week or two to see a farmer driving out of town seated on a reaper and binder.

Fayetteville Observer: Revenue Officer Z. F. Long is out of pocket \$55, and no fault of his own. A day or two ago he was stamping a number of barrels of whiskey at L. L. Stone's still at Silver Springs, near Fayetteville, and had just pasted a \$55 stamp on a barrel when he was called away on some other business, and on his return, after an absence of fifteen minutes, he found a billy goat chewing on the last remnants of it, having gnawed it entirely off.

Washington Messenger: Capt. David Hill, of the steamer Hatteras, informs us that on last Sunday a party of colored people, fourteen in number, left Makeleville for Wheatons to attend church. The boat was small and when crossing Pungo river they encountered a squall, the boat capsized and the whole party were drowned. None of the bodies have been recovered. The boat was discovered upside down. All the party were employed on Mr. Samuel Snell's farm at Makeleville.

Tarboro Southerner: Bailey Hudson who was arrested Monday, near Scotland Neck, on a warrant issued by Mack Pittman, of this county, charging him with an attempted assault on a negro girl named Sadie Tillery, was lodged in jail here this morning in default of \$300 bail. He is about 22 years old and rather repulsive looking. In his attempted crime he was ferocious. The screams of the girl brought assistance, just in time, as she had been choked into unconsciousness, and all the strength of the colored man who ran to her assistance was required to make him desist. Hudson, when he realized what he had done, ran away.

AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

McKinley's Order of Amnesty To Be Announced. Is Expected To Cause Aguinaldo's Surrender.

Manila, June 20.—Gen. MacArthur will tomorrow formally announce President McKinley's order of amnesty. Beaumano, Paterno and other prominent Filipino leaders are greatly pleased, as they believe that under the amnesty they can bring about the surrender of Aguinaldo, who they declare is ready and willing to consider the peace platform adopted by the Filipino leaders with a few insignificant exceptions.

Several meetings of the leaders were held quietly in Manila last week. They are encouraged by the progress they are making with the natives and the authorities here. Tomorrow an important meeting will be held at which the amnesty decree will be read.

It is the consensus of opinion of the foreigners, the better class of Filipinos and the Spaniards, that Aguinaldo will be in Manila shortly as the result of the decree and of the negotiations of the Beaumano party.

Now that the rains have fairly begun, life in the country districts is a great and prolonged hardship.

Preparations are being made at Cavite to move a majority of the marines to China in the event that developments there require them.

A Sprained Ankle Cured Quickly.

"At one time I suffered from a severe sprain of the ankle," says Geo. E. Cary, editor of The Guide, Washington, Va. "After using several well recommended medicines without success, I tried Chamberlain's Pain Balm, and am pleased to say that relief came as soon as I began its use and a complete cure speedily followed." Sold by J. E. Hood.