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## GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed Into Brief Paragraphs.

Viceroy Tak, at Canton, says the foreigners at Peking were safe July 22d.

Li Hung Chang is said to be detained at Shanghai by the allied powers, on suspicion.

The advance of the allies from Tien Tsin is now said to be determined on a day or two.

The Democrats, Populists and silver Republicans have fused on a joint state ticket in Kansas.

The Russian admiral is ordered to bombard Chinese coast towns on confirmation of massacre of the legations.

China proposes to give a safe convoy to the foreign legations to Tien Tsin on a guarantee that no advance will be made on Peking.

The discovery of the fact that China has made the same request to all the allied powers for mediation leads to the belief that she is not sincere, but playing for delay.

At Chicago, Wednesday, an explosion occurred in the chemical department of the Windsor Celluloid Collar company, setting fire to the building and resulting in the death of four women and minor injuries to four other persons.

William Hardy, an engineer at the Richmond Locomotive and Machine works, met a horrible death Wednesday night. He was caught in the wheel of his engine and almost ground to pieces. Hardy was 28 years old and married.

The postoffice department makes public the report of Assistant Postmaster Gen. Bristow on his investigations into the postal frauds in Cuba. He shows that Neely, Reeves and Rathbone were all implicated in the peculations. Neely's delinquency amounts to \$131,000.

The gold Democrats met at Indianapolis Wednesday and decided not to put up a ticket. When W. B. Haldean, proprietor of the Louisville Courier-Journal and member of the national executive committee, arose a sensation was sprung. The speaker declared his intention of supporting Bryan and Stevenson. Mr. Haldean in 1896 contributed much aid in actively raising funds of the campaign and maintenance of the work of the gold Democracy, and was a member of the auditing committee of that party.

### NO HOPE FOR THE LEGATION.

Cumulative Evidence of Their Massacre Is Being Continually Received.

London, July 26.—Mr. Conger's letter, the substance of which has been transmitted to the United States secretary of the navy, through Capt. Thomas, has increased the belief in London that there is no hope for the foreign legations in Peking and that the elaborate fabric of dispatches which the Chinese are building to persuade the civilized world that the ministers are still alive is only intended to enable them to gain time to complete preparations for warfare.

### They Want to Trade.

News-Observer.

Information has been received to the effect that in certain localities Republican managers are ready to give two votes for the amendment to one for the legislative ticket. This is proof positive that they have given up the fight for the amendment and are centering all their strength on the legislature.

Democrats should be on their guard. "Forewarned is forearmed."

## FREEDOM IN SIGHT.

In a Few Months Cuba Will Have a Constitution and a Government.

Havana, July 25.—In accordance with instructions from Gov. Gen. Wood, a decree will be published fixing the third Saturday in September as the date for the election of delegates to the constitutional assembly. The assembly will meet on the first Monday in November, when the relations of the Cuban state with the United States will also be arranged. After a constitution is drawn up an election will be held and a government chosen, to which the representatives of the United States will deliver the government of the island. The province of Pinar del Rio will elect three delegates to the assembly, Havana eight, Matanzas four, Santa Clara seven, Puerto Principe two and Santiago seven.

### Snow Fleas.

One of the strangest of all specks on snow is the snow flea—no mimic flea, but an actual living and very lively midget, whose swarms sometimes cover the snow in patches as black as ink or convert large spaces of its surface to a dark gray color. They are creatures of the thaw. I have seen patches, says William Hamilton Gibson, two feet in diameter moving like a dark shadow across the meadow, and I remember once when a boy walking on the snow crust over a field of several acres that was everywhere peppered with their millions.

The books tell us that the insects live in moss and lichens and the rocks and bark of trees, from which they emerge for exercise in mild weather. This theory is probably warranted by the facts, but it will be no easy task so to convince many a rustic philosopher whom I know and to whom these fleas are as much a celestial shower as the snow itself.—Boston Transcript.

### Limits to His Gratitude.

"I feel that I ought to make some acknowledgment to the people who were so kind to us during my late wife's last sickness," said Mr. Phroogle, "and I would like to have you insert this card of thanks in a prominent place in this week's paper."

"We are obliged to make a charge for these notices," replied the editor of The Weekly Blizzard, looking over the manuscript, "and this will cost you \$1."

"Then you needn't publish it," rejoined Mr. Phroogle. "I am not quite as grateful as all that comes to."—Chicago Tribune.

### Her Reason.

"Why did Mrs. Frizzington, the rich widow who furnished all the money for the business she and you have started, want the name of the firm to be 'Routle & Frizzington' instead of 'Frizzington & Routle,' as it ought to be, seeing that she is much more heavily interested than you?"

"She didn't want to be referred to as 'the senior partner.'"—Chicago Times-Herald.

### Inconsistent.

"You keep me waiting so long!" complained the customer.

"Madam," said the worried grocer, who was economizing in his business by employing only one clerk, "ain't you the woman that was in here yesterday kicking about short weights?"—Chicago Tribune.

## MR. SIMMONS' COMPLAINT

To the Civil Service Commission of Unlawful Partisanship of Federal Officials.

Washington, July 25.—The civil service commission today received a complaint from F. M. Simmons, chairman of the Democratic State executive committee of North Carolina, against the activity of federal officeholders in the State campaign. It is dated at Raleigh, July 23d, and encloses a letter Chairman Simmons has addressed to President McKinley, alleging "meddlesome conduct and pernicious activity" of federal officials.

Mr. Simmons says he is gathering affidavits to submit to the commission, showing violation of the civil service laws.

Mr. Simmons says that ever since the inception of the campaign federal officials have been daily openly using their official positions and power to control both the Republican and Populist conventions and coerce voters.

Mr. Simmons says that the entire federal office-holding body in the State, he understands, have been asking for campaign funds, and he adds, it is charged that dispositions of offenses against the liquor laws are frequently dictated by politics.

## DUCKED IN HORSE FOUNTAIN.

Jack King Punished for Distributing Campaign Literature for Butler. Trial of Two of His Assaultants.

Wilmington Messenger.

Jack King was taken by a party of young men in the fifth ward Monday night and given a ducking in the horse fountain, corner Fifth and Castle streets. He was charged with having distributed anti-amendment and Populist campaign literature in that ward Monday for Senator Marion Butler.

A promise was exacted from King that he "would not do so any more."

He went before Justice of the Peace J. J. Fowler yesterday morning and caused the arrest of two of them, Thomas M. Simmons and William Branch, on the charge of assault and battery. The justice said evidence showed the accused to be guilty and asked them what they had to say for themselves. Simmons said that he thought it "no crime to wash a dirty henchman of Butler's like King was." King addressed the court, saying that he thought the young men did not realize what they did and asked that the court not inflict any punishment.

## PUT BACK ON THE TRAIN.

Fusion Speakers Are Not Wanted At Warsaw.

Warsaw, N. C., July 25.—Davis and Person, fusionists, were billed to speak here tomorrow. They came up on the "shoo fly" train tonight, expecting to get off, but were met at the train by a delegation of 50 red shirts and put back on the train. Big preparations are being made for the entertainment of Hon. C. B. Aycock, who will speak at Kenansville tomorrow. If this fusion gang returns they will be met with a carriage and escorted to Kenansville to hear Aycock speak, with a view of reforming them. Duplin is for white supremacy by 1,000.

## The Fusionist Drag-Net Is Three Tickets.

Raleigh, July 26.—The fusionists have had printed three separate and distinct tickets.

One of them—the fusion ticket, headed by Thompson—is meant to be voted by all good Populists and Republicans.

The other two—straight Populist and straight Republican ticket—are meant, to use Butler's and Holton's own alliteration, "for fool folks who are against fusion."

The fusion ticket was printed by Barnes and has already been distributed. The straight tickets are now being printed by Uzell and are not meant to be thoroughly distributed.

They are just a blind "for fool folks who are against fusion."

The plan is to distribute a few of the straight tickets at places where it is positively known that there are Populists or Republicans who will not vote a fusion ticket, and might, unless they can get a straight ticket, support the Democratic nominee.

Such a ticket, however, will be offered them by the managers only as a last resort, all Republicans and Populists alike being urged to vote fusion.

## It Will Not Be Changed.

News-Observer.

The Black-and-Tan speakers have already started the lie that the legislature will meet again in order to make some change in the amendment just before the election. It was well that the Democratic joint caucus anticipated this lie by declaring "that at said adjourned session, beginning the 30th day of July, 1900, no legislation shall be passed, changing in any way whatever, the constitutional amendment as submitted by the general assembly at its session held in June, 1900."

The amendment as submitted in June as "one indivisible plan of suffrage" will be voted on at the election on the second day of August, and it will be ratified by more than 50,000 majority. Watch the prediction!

## A STORY OF DAN RICE.

The Great Clown Did Not Forget the Tent Man's Bill.

One story of Dan Rice, the veteran circus clown, illustrates his strict sense of honesty and gratitude for favors. Once he was stranded in Cincinnati, the story goes, and was unable to start a show on the road because he had no tent and could not raise money to buy one. The tent Rice needed would be worth \$2,500. The manager of a tent concern sent for the clown one morning and, taking him to his factory, showed a big tent that was just finished. Rice looked at it with hungry eyes. He turned away, with a sigh.

"Fine tent, don't you think?" asked the canvas maker.

Rice looked back at it over his shoulder, with another deep sigh.

"It's yours," said the tent man.

Rice was like a playful kitten in an instant.

"I believe there is a lot of money in you yet," said the canvas man. "You take that tent and start your show, and if you ever get money enough to pay me for it the price is \$2,500."

Within two weeks Rice was on the road with a show and began a successful career. For 15 years he never referred to the tent, although he often met the man who made it. One afternoon he asked the tent man to be his guest at one of his shows, then in Cincinnati. The two sat looking on, and Rice remarked:

"Fine show, don't you think?"

The canvas man declared that it certainly was.

"By the way," added Rice, "here's that \$2,500 I owe you." He took a roll of bills out of his pocket and handed it to the tentmaker, who pocketed it without unrolling it. The old tent man loved to relate this story and always declared that the great men of this country were P. T. Barnum, John Robinson and Dan Rice.—New York Mail and Express.

## THE BABY'S LITTLE JOKE.

It Worried the Fat Man, but He Tried to Enjoy It.

It happened in one of the late trains. Everybody was trying to get to sleep, and when the voice of a baby was suddenly lifted up in a robust wail it was not met with expressions of joy. It cried steadily from Spring Garden street to Columbia avenue. Then it accidentally dropped a pasteboard box it had. A very stout and, like his kind, very affable man across the aisle stooped heavily and picked it up.

The child stopped crying as it took it and promptly dropped it again. The man, thinking it an accident, picked it up once more. This time the baby actually smiled, and as he threw it down audibly cooed with delight. The man looked distinctly uncomfortable and became interested in something outside the window. The child looked at the box a moment, then at the man, and, seeing nothing else, resumed his wail, with much added wind. The look of despair resettled on the face of the woman with the headache, and she gave a convulsive shudder as she felt her head beginning to jump.

She gave one awful glance at the baby and then leaned over to the stout man, back of whom she was sitting.

"My dear sir," said she, "I have a violent headache, and I am in misery. Won't you please pick up that box again?" And with a highly artificial smile he complied. Out of pure courtesy he became a box lifting automaton, his piles of adipose making each stoop come harder. But when he wiped the perspiration from his brow and staggered out of the car at Germantown he got a grateful smile from the afflicted woman, as well as every other passenger, that he felt paid him.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

## Origin of the Boat.

Only lately has the original boat been found in use and among the savages of the south sea islands. There the natives take the stump of a tree whose roots offer a good seat, and, launching this primitive craft, they paddle around as contentedly as if there was no such thing as a European steamer, and, to tell the truth, they do not suspect its existence.

There can be no doubt whatever that in this stump boat we have the original method of transportation by water. Accident certainly contributed to this discovery.

A tired swimming savage found a log floating near him. He grasped it and found that it held him above water. He mounted the log and used a floating branch to propel the log.

It was but a step from the log to the more comfortable seat of a tree and another step from the branch propeller to a shapely paddle.

## STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items in Condensed Form.

Rowan county promises 2,000 Democratic majority.

It is now estimated that there are not more than 8,000 genuine Populists in the State.

The year just closed has been the most prosperous in the history of the Baptist orphanage at Thomasville.

At Montezuma Tuesday night J. L. Barner shot and instantly killed Reuben Burleson. It was in self-defense.

The fusionists have gotten a big campaign fund and will spend it trying to carry the legislative tickets in the close counties.

There were 3,000 people at a grand rally at Nashville Wednesday. C. B. Aycock and E. W. Ponspoko. There was a big barbecue.

Republicans are criticizing Republican State chairman Holton's poor management, and say he is the worst chairman the party has ever had but that he will never resign.

The Lumberton Robesonian announces that D. E. McBryde, of Hale Springs township, who was a Populist member of the legislature in 1896, favors the constitutional amendment.

Senator Pritchard has recommended D. A. Tompkins, of Charlotte, to fill the vacancy in the industrial commission caused by the resignation of Mr. Smyth, of South Carolina, which takes effect September 1.

Greensboro Telegram: Mr. H. H. Reynolds, of Winston, a tobacco salesman, has filed a petition in bankruptcy with the clerk of the federal court at this place. His liabilities are \$119,278.87, with assets to the amount of \$500.

It is reported here that a few days ago down at Clingman some white Republicans persuaded some negroes to trash out a few Democrats. But the negroes undertook more than they had bargained for. The three or four Democrats broke up a few guns in knocking negroes down, after which the negroes very willingly gave up their contract and made tracks without hesitation or mental reservation.

## What an Infamous Business.

Wilmington Star.

So far every registrar who has been arrested in this State has been arrested on the affidavit of a negro which affidavits were drawn up by white instigators and then sworn to by their negro tools. Whether they knew what was in these affidavits or not or what they were really intended for may be a matter of doubt with some of them, but there is no doubt as to the negro on whose affidavit Registrar Williams, of Rose Hill, Duplin county, was arrested. At the trial before U. S. Commissioner Mallard, Tuesday, this negro let the cat out of the bag and swore that he didn't know that the paper he swore to was for the arrest of the registrar, that it was shown to him by two Republican-Populist white men, that they didn't read it to him, that he didn't know what was in it, but supposed it was something they were going to send to Butler, which would count the same as a vote. As the conspirators depended upon the testimony of this man to prove their case, of course the only thing to do was to release the registrar, which was done. But if it hadn't been for the bold front shown by the Democrats who gathered at Rose Hill to see that justice be done Mr. Williams, and for the further fact of this confession by the negro affidavit signer, the probabilities are the conspirators would have had things as they wanted them, and Mr. Williams would have been held in heavy bond for trial by the federal court.

What an infamous business this is! These white conspirators find an ignorant, pliant negro whom they could use, fix up an affidavit for him, don't let him know what is in it, tell him that it was for a different purpose than that intended and then get him to swear to it, and on the strength of that perjured paper have Mr. Williams arrested and brought before a commissioner of their own crowd. Who is the guilty party in this business, this ignorant negro who did what he was told to do and was in ignorance of the paper he swore to, or the white conspirators who planned this infamous proceeding and the two white men who used the negro to carry it out? The negro deserves punishment for permitting himself to be used, but these white villains who knew just what they were doing ought to go to the penitentiary.

## Heartburn.

When the quantity of food taken is too large or the quality too rich heartburn is likely to follow, and especially so if the digestion has been weakened by constipation. Eat slowly and not too freely of easily digested food. Masticate the food thoroughly. Let six hours elapse between meals and when you feel a fullness and weight in the region of the stomach after eating, indicating that you have eaten too much, take one of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and the heartburn may be avoided. For sale by J. E. Hood, Druggist.

## WILLIE, THE OFFICE BOY.



Why does his boss love Willie so? The angry people cry. 'Cause Willie loves his boss, you know, And that's the reason why. —New York Evening Journal.