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Metters of Interest Condensed Into Brief Paragraphs.

The treasury has shipped to the south to move the cotton crop \$10,840,000 against \$4,525,000 up to same date last

The Chinese Imperial family decline to return to Pekin and have established their capital 300 miles still further in the

The population of the District of Columbia is 278,718 as against 230,802 ten years ago; an increase of 48,826 or 20.9 per cent.

Martin C. Fosnes, acting director general of posts in Havana, is removed to Las Animas hospital, suffering, it is believed, from yellow fever.

The census bureau announces that the population of the state of Delaware is 184,785, as against 149,141 in 1890, an increase of 16.242 or 9.6 per cent.

The state mine inspector estimates that the coal output of Alabama for this year will approximate 9,000,000 tons, an in-crease over last year's production of 1,250,000 tons.

Bourke Cockran, of New York, is suffering with sub-acute laryngitis in Kan-sas City. His physician has ordered him to cancel his speech-making engage ments for the present.

At Elberton, Ga., at a called session of the superior court Monday William Branch, the negro who murdered George D. Bell, was indicted, tried, convicted and sentenced to be hanged on October 19th.

At Bennington, Vt., Monday, in the municipal court, Dennis M. Blackmer, municipal court, Dennis M. Blackmer, who was being arrainged on the charge of feloniously assaulting a ten-year-old girl, rose in his seat and shot himself in the forehead. The wound will undoubtedly cause his death. He is a well known resident of Bennington, sixty years old, and married

To Cure a Cold in One Day

A gentleman was admiring his pigeons the other afternoon, when he ird a curious "thud" and saw o his birds drop from a window sill to the ground.

Turning round, the gentleman was just in time to see a small boy in the lane drop a catapult and run.

After a short chase the culprit was

"You young scoundrel?" ejaculated the angry owner of the pigeon. "What do you mean by coming and shooting

'Please, sir, I didn't mean to do it," whined the captive. "I-I didn't shoot at the pigeon."

"Come, come," said the gentleman, "don't make matters worse. I saw the bird fall, and if you did not aim at it how came you to hit it?"

"Please, sir," blubbered the boy, "the geon got in the way. I-I was aiming at the winder."--London Tit-Bits.

Cold Expands Them.

A civil engineer who is in Alaska has ritten home to Chicago that the rails a the Chilkoot Pass railway expand with the cold instead of contracting, as they would be supposed to do. A temperature ranging from 12 degrees to 40 degrees below zero F. would not appreciably affect the length of rails, but severer cold than that would be attended with expansion. This is cerminly an exception to a law of nature, although water shrinks as it cools until 19 degrees F. is reached, when it beins to expand.

The drill instructor's face turned arrived in the with rage as he rated a raw tish recruit for his awkwardness.
"Now, Rafterty, you'll spell the line ith those feet. Draw them back inantly, man, and get them in line!" afferty's dignity was hurt.
"Plane, sargint," he drawled solemn-

"they're not mine; they're Micky solan's, in the rear rank?"

Free of Charge.

Iny adult suffering from a cold settled the breest, bronchitis, throat or lung sables of and nature, who will call at suple Marston Brug Co., will be proteed with a sample bottle of Roscher's

mething for Bryan Populists as Well as Democrats to Think About.

About.

Fayetteville Observer.

The excellent Statesville Mascot, one of the best Democratic papers in North Carolina, contains the following editorial:

"When the Democratic State convention declared for the senatorial primary, voting therein was limited to those who voted the Democratic ticket at the State election in August. When the State committee met on Sept. 6th to provide machinery for holding the primary, Maj. E. J. Hale, editor of the Fayetteville Observer, proposed that those who would vote for Bryan and the Democratic candidate for congress in the November election should also be permitted to vote in the primary. Maj. Hale argued that thousands of Populists would vote the Democratic ticket in November if a chance was given them to vote for senator.

"Just before the meeting of the commit-

thousands of Populists would vote the Democratic ticket in November if a chance was given them to vote for senator.

"Just before the meeting of the committee this writer was talking with Chairman Simmons when two of his friends came up with a copy of Maj. Hale's resolution. One of these friends of Chairman Simmons, said 'if this passes, there are hundreds of Populists throughout the State who will vote for Bryan and the Democratic candidate for congress in order to vote against you, for the Populists hate you more bitterly than they do any other Democrat in the State. If I were you, I would oppose the resolution.' Mr. Simmons did not hesitate a moment, but said: 'I am fully aware, gentlemen, that what you say is true. The Populists hate me as they do no other Democrat in the State, and I believe many of them will vote our ticket for the purpose of voting against me, but I don't believe there will be enough of them to defeat me. Even if there were, a Democrat will be elected to the senate, and these Populist votes may insure. North Carolina's electoral vote to Bryan and the election of nine Democrats to congress from the State. Just at this time when the Republican party is threatening the south with reduced representation in congress and the enactment of another force bill, when a Republican president and congress be elected. By extending the qualifications for voting in the primary as suggested in this resolution we may secure votes for Bryan and our nominees for congress. The loss of one or two congressmen from this State might mean a Republican congress. I want my friends not to condices. I want my friends not to condices.

gress. I want my friends not to consider me, but the interests of the Democratic party, and I hope they will vote for the resolution."

"When the committee met Mr. Simmons' friends did vote for the resolution and it was adonted.

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"Now we understand there are many Populists throughout the State who openly boast that they will vote the Democratic ticket 'in order to get a chance at Simmons.' We hear of some of them in Iredell county. It is hoped that Democrats will see to it that Chairman Simmons' patriotic devotion to the Democratic party when he knew it would be hurtful to his individual interests, will not go unrewarded. F. M. Simmons is above all a patriotic Democrat."

We referred to the patriotic action of Mr. Simmons, as recounted above, in the editorial announcing The Observer's support of his candidacy for the senate. That, and the fact that all the McKinley elements in the Democratic party are arrayed against Mr. Simmons, determined The Observer's course.

Under the circumstances, and in view of the fact that it was due to The Observer's effort that the Democratic primary

of the fact that it was due to The Observer's effort that the Democratic primary door was opened to the Bryan Populists, we think we may with propriety ask all who avail themselves of the privilege of voting in that primary, thus obtained, to cast their votes for Mr. Simmons, the senatorial candidate who has shown himself to be most completely in alignment with Mr. Bryan's principles and policies. If Mr. Simmons' friends in the committee had voted against the resolution admitting the Bryan Populists it would have been defeated.

But what an appeal the patriotic action of Mr. Simmons, as described by Editor Watts in The Mascot, makes to the lovers of justice in the Democratic rank and file to see that he loses nothing by his unseithed course!

Sentiment for Bryan Opens Steel

Notice has been given that the converter and billst mill of the Illinois Steel company and the plant of the Pressed Steel Car company will start again next

As a result 1,000 Joliet workingment the expected to be out of employment util after election are preparing to go

A RED FIRE COMPANY.

IT STARTED OUT TO SHAKE THINGS UP IN JERICHO.

Pap Perkins, the Postmaster, Tells How the Enthusiastic Organisation Was Busted Up by One of Lish Billings' Pranks.

[Copyright, 1900, by C. B. Lewis,]

The Jericho fire company, which consisted of 40 men, 10 pails, 2 axes and a ladder and all painted red except the men, is no more on earth. It was organized 13 years ago and never turned out to but one fire. Nobody had found any fault with it, however, up to two months ago, when Reube Holdfast came into the postoffice one day and says to me:

"Look here, Pap, this town of Jericho is deader'n a doornail, and unless sunthin kin be done to rouse her the moss on our backs will be a foot long in another year."

"What kin you do?" says I.
"That's what I've bin thinkin of fur the last month. We can't git up dog fights nor hoss races, and nobody will go in fur a brass band or a camp meet- the company up ag'in to give her three in. The only thing I kin think of is to resurrect the fire company and boom her fur all she's wuth. If we kin git things a goin red hot, Jericho will wake up and push to the front till Chicago won't be in it. I'm gittin figgers together fur a speech, Pap, and you jest lay low fur three or four days, and you'll hear sunthin drop."

Before the week was out everybody in town knew that sunthin was up, and one evening Reube shot off his speech to the postoffice crowd and made a big hit. He had the number of fires and the losses in the United States fur the last fifty years, and he shewed how a fire company kept down taxes, reduced insurance and was the mainspring of liberty. He pictured the town of Jericho in ashes fur the want of sunthin to spuirt out a configration, and when he went on to describe wid-



WEST WHOOPING DOWN THE ROAD. ders lookin into the embers fur the bones of their husbands and husbands shovelin over hot coals in search of the remains of wives and children even

Joe Truelove was seen to wipe a tear from his left eye. Fur once everybody seemed to be agreed, and when Reube was named fur foreman of the compa-ny nobody kicked. Before the meetin closed it was resolved to buy two more

palls and another ladder and that the company should be uniformed.

Jericho woke right up. Real estate began to jump, Tom Bigelow put down six rods of new sidewalk, and Homer Lee repainted his barn and put new hinges on his gate. People who came over from Dobbs Ferry and witnessed the specific of anterprises went because alous of the town, and a lightnin rod an said that the hustlin reminded din of the early days of Kansas City and Denver. It wasn't a week before the Widder Taylor's smokehouse got fire at midnight, and Peleg Scott g the alarm bell in a way to turn hull town bottom side up in five lits. That fire company went at a conflagration to conker or die, and I might the red tongoed flames of truction had bin doubted out, and truction had bin doused out, and icho was safe. In a leetle speech ich follared the fire Equar Danvers I that Home in her painlest days er equaled the occasion, and Phile-Johnson declared that the thanks

to feed their hogs. Some idea of what sort of a royal jubilation it was kin be gathered from the fact that one grocery alone sold 16 lemons and 7 cocoanuts durin the day. It was Reube Holdfast's idea that a fireman should always be on duty, and he advised every member of the company to wear his uniform day and night. When the first thunderstorm came along, the fire bell rang, and the company turned out and stood ready to rush to the spot if lightnin hit anythin. If there was a dog fight in front of the town hall, the company come rushin up, and if anybody's team ran away or a kitchen stove got red hot there was a dash of red shirted heroes. Jericho was boomin, but Reube wasn't satisfied with her progress. He got his company out and marched them to Sunday church and to Thursday evenin prayer meetin. There was a lawsuit over a cow between Jim White and Aaron Tompkins, and the fire company was present in full uniform. Old Mrs. Hopkins was taken sick, and the doctor said she must go, and Reube felt it his duty to march the company up to her house and bid ber a last farewell. Her sickness took a turn fur the better, and she begun to git well, and Reube marched

cheers fur not dyln. After about a month there was only one thing lackin. The fire company nad turned out fur everythin but a fu-neral, but death had obstinately refused to gin it a show. There was a lot of old folks with asthma and liver complaint and a lot of babies with whoopin cough and measles, but none of 'em would die. Reube used to go around achin fur it, and he'd drop into the

postoffice occasionally to say to me: "Pap, if some one would only die, I'd turn out the boys in a way to jump Jericho 100 years ahead. Them red pails and axes and ladders would jest be an offset to the mournin, and the way the boys would stand around on one leg and look solemn would be a plcture to beat an old master. How's your heart disease, Pap?" "Better, thank you."

"I was in hopes it was wuss. Thar's wuss men nor you, Pap Perkins, but if you'll only die our fire company will proud fur the rest of her days."

Reube was on the watch day and night fur a funeral, and he'd almost made up his mind to turn out the company fur the next cow that died of holler horn when a crisis come like a flash. Owin to his lame leg Lish Billings hadn't j'ined the fire company, but he was an old and respected citi-zen who could beat anybody in town at a game of checkers. Tharfore when the news come that his well had caved in on him and buried him under ten feet of airth the fire bells rung and red shirts went whoopin down the road. Mrs. Billings didn't seem to care very much whether they got Lish's body or not, bein it was already buried, but they was determined to hev it fur a funeral. They worked all the arternoon and all night, and at intervals Reube had the bells toled fur the dead. Nobody in Jericho siept. The well kept cavin in, and the firemen kept workin like heroes to clear it out. It was 8 o'clock next mornin when they found Lish's old hat. As it was passed up to Reube he shed tears and turned his head away. Philetus Johnson was jest remarkin that Lish's loss was our gain or something of that sort, and the diggers down in the well were lookin fur arms and legs, when Lish himself appeared in the crowd. He seemed to be in good health and speerits, and he carelessly remarked to the fire company that he was much obleeged fur savin him a week's work. Nuthin was said fur about a minit, but presently Beube Holdfast wiped the tears from his eyes and asked:
"Lish, whar you bin since yesterday

"Up stairs in the house," says Lish.
"What was your objeck?"
"To boom Jericho by gettin up a funeral. Thar's my old hat, and you kin take it along and bury it in good

shape."

Reube called off his company, and they marched back to town with solemn tread. They hadn't put away their red water palls before folks was laughin at 'em, and before sundown the doom of the fire company was scaled. Lish Billings had thrown 'em down, and the public was guyin and cidicults. When the To'clock mail had bin distributed, Reube stood up in the postoffice and said:

"Fuller citizens, wharas this 'ere town of Jericho don't seem to approclate enterprise, yightance, heroism and booms and wharas she'd ruther be at the mercy of the fire found then to have her disastrous confingations equirted out, now therefore resolved that this hand of heroes be dishunded and Jericho hin go to thumbar?"

If Quan-

Interesting North Carolina Items In Condensed Form.

Tink West was shot and fatally injured Sunday night by Joseph Flynn, at the latter's home, four miles from Kerners-

John Abrams, a white man living in the suburbs of Raleigh, has been arrested for bigamy. Both wives will appear against him. One lives in Raleigh. The other lives six miles from Raleigh.

At Greensboro Monday, the trial of the Winston registration cases were post-poned until April, 1901, term federal court. The Burke county registration cases are set for trial in the federal court

next week at Statesville. At Henderson F. M. Marrow, on Monday, for manslaughter, was sentenced to four months in jail, to pay the State counsel one hundred dollars and pay all court costs; also to give the child of the dead woman seventy-five acres of land. Mr. Marrow was not confined in jail, but

was hired out. Greensboro Record: Hon. J. C. Buxton, of Winston, Democratic nominee for congress from the Eighth district, who was in the city today, says he will defeat Mr. Blackburn by at least 1,500. Mr. Buxton has canvassed several of the upper counties in his district, and from what he knows, together with the reports received, says he feels sure of his ground.

At the junction of the A. C. L. and Southern Railway, seven miles from Goldsboro, Saturday night, Arter Snipes, a young man of 18 years, got his foot caught in the frog joining the two roads, and his leg was torn from his body at the hip. He was dragged for a distance of several hundred feet when he fell, the car wheels cutting his body in two, also crushing the top of his head off, the brains falling out in a heap.

Asheville Citizen: The county school

Asheville Citizen: The county school board, through County Attorney Murphy, has brought two suits against the city of Asheville for the recovery of fines imposed for violation of the State laws and collected by the city. The suit is in line with the decision mentioned some time ago in The Citizen which said that these fines belonged to the school fund. One suit for \$65,000 seeks the recovery of all fines collected since the passage of the act giving these funds to the schools. of all fines collected since the passage of the act giving these funds to the schools, and the other is an application for an in-junction and mandamus against the city to compel it to pay over the fines that are now being collected. The case will formally come up for hearing before Judge Allen at Franklin on the 9th, but it has been agreed that it is to be con-tinued to Cherokee court to be held on the 24th. the 24th.

MURDER IN AYDEN.

Colored Man Kills His Step-Son.

Greenville Reflector.

We learn by telephone from Ayden of a brutal murder that has been committed there. John Hargett, colored, had a step-son about 8 or 9 years old. He has been in the habit of getting in a rage with the boy and at times beating him unmercifully. He gave the boy a severe whipping on Sunday night. Monday night he beat the boy again, and people living near by say all at once the boy's screams ceased. This morning the man went to a mill in Ayden to get some lumber, saying the boy had died and he was going to make a coffin for him. He was at once suspected of having killed the boy and was arrested. An investigation showed that the neck and back of the boy were broken.

boy were broken.

Coroner Laughinghouse is in Ayden this morning holding an inquest over the



A hornet's nest is comfort itself, compared with living with a man with a liver.

Is life worth living so: you ask. That depends upon the liver. And a million livers depend upon Aver's Pills.

J. C. AYER COMPANY,