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GENERAL NEWS.

Matters of Interest Condensed Into Brief Paragraphs.

The Chinese minister at London says peace negotiations have actually begun at Peking.

The census returns for the state of Arizona show a population of 123,212, an increase since 1890 of 104 per cent.

Mr. Kruger has postponed his departure from South Africa for Europe until October 20th. He will land at Marseilles.

Bryan's tour of New York Wednesday extended to Albany via Hudson. He had large and enthusiastic audiences everywhere.

Pittsburg beat Brooklyn playing ball Wednesday, 10 to 0. This makes two games for Brooklyn to one for Pittsburg for the world's championship.

It is now stated that the alleged imperial edict ordering the punishment of the Chinese high officials was forged to delay military activity of the allies.

The full demands of the Anthracite coal miners have been granted by the mine operators, and the miners are expected to return to work by next Monday.

M. M. Dolphin, of Kansas City, has been elected president of the Order of Railway Telegraphers, vice W. V. Powell removed. Dolphin formerly was first vice president of the order.

A dispatch from Lord Roberts under date of Pretoria, Oct. 16, reports a number of minor affairs, but says that the only incident of importance was the surrender of Theunis Botha, a brother of Gen. Botha, at Valkarust, Oct. 13th.

The bazaar for the benefit of the homeless Galveston orphans, which began Monday night in the Waldorf Astoria, New York, was closed Wednesday night by Mark Twain. The management estimates the net receipts for the three nights at between \$25,000 and \$30,000.

The New York Yacht club has accepted Sir Thomas Lipton's challenge for the America's cup. At a special meeting of the club Wednesday night resolutions were adopted by the terms of which the commodore of the club is authorized to appoint a committee to formally accept the challenge.

The Mystery of Radium.

The substance called radium emits radiations resembling the X rays without the application of work or energy from external sources and without appreciable loss of weight. This seems to be inconsistent with the law of the conservation of energy, but the mystery is explained by the calculations of M. Becquerel, which show that a loss of weight so infinitesimal that in a thousand million years it would amount to no more than a milligram would suffice to account for the observed effects. According to this explanation the emanations from radium consist of material particles. But how infinitesimally minute must those particles be!



If sarsaparilla and the other vegetable ingredients that go into the best are good as a medicine, then Ayer's Sarsaparilla is good. If not, we are humbugs.

Your doctor will tell you which, because he can have the formula of Ayer's Sarsaparilla any time for the asking.

If you are tired, half sick, half well, if one day's work causes six days' sickness, get a bottle of the old Sarsaparilla. Get Ayer's, and insist on Ayer's when you want Sarsaparilla.

J. C. AYER COMPANY, Lowell, Mass.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla, Ayer's Hair Vigor, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, Ayer's Ointment.

New York's Slavery.

When New York city owned a slave-ship is told in an article in Pearson's Magazine. The greatest impetus was given to the slave trade by the act of parliament of 1684, which legalized slavery in the North American colonies. This does not mean that slavery was unknown in what is now the United States before that time, because as early as 1620 a Dutch man-of-war landed and sold 20 African negroes at Jamestown, Va.

In 1626 the West India company imported slaves from the West Indies to New York city, then New Amsterdam. The city itself owned shares in a slave-ship, advanced money for its fitting out and shared in the profits of its voyages. This recognition and encouragement may account for the astounding fact that in 1750 slaves formed one-sixth of the entire population of New York. The general prevalence of slavery is shown by the fact that at this time there were 67 slaves in New York's small suburb of Brooklyn, and that in London itself there were resident 20,000 slaves.

Slaves were at that time publicly dealt in on the London exchange. No wonder the traffic in human flesh was a recognized commerce, and that in 1771 the English alone sent to Africa 192 ships equipped for the trade and with a carrying capacity of 47,146 slaves per trip.

A Tricky Dog.

Not long ago a very fat spaniel was introduced into the house where a fox terrier had always been the master. The latter was told, however, to behave well to the newcomer and not to bully him. So the two seemed fairly friendly and in the end got in the habit of taking short rambles together.

However, the fox terrier was evidently of a thoughtful disposition and on one occasion came across a bank, or wall, which was easy enough to leap off, but there was greater difficulty in returning. The fox terrier sprang down the bank and enticed his heavy companion to follow, with the result that the latter could not get back, while the former, by reason of his greater activity, was easily able to do.

Now the terrier saw his opportunity, returned home and cruelly left his companion lamenting. Never did the former seem happier or gayer than on that day when he had once more the sole run of the house, and he sulked when later on the spaniel had been found, assisted up the wall and brought home.

Since then the fox terrier has repeatedly got the spaniel down the same place, with the usual result, and seems to glory in his mischievous act. Whether the "fat dog" will learn to avoid temptation to such a ramble remains to be seen.—Buffalo News.

How "David Harum" Came to Be Written.

An interesting little anecdote is told about how "David Harum" came to be written. It is rather pathetic. It seems that Mr. Wescott, the author, was the kind of man who could do pretty much anything—paint a picture, plan a house or compose a sonata—but he had never made much money, so when he became ill and realized that he might not live long and would leave his family with little or no money he was desperate.

"Write a book," suggested a friend and neighbor to him one day when they were talking over the situation.

"I did make an attempt at it once," answered Mr. Wescott. "I tried a love story, but I couldn't make it go."

"Add a little local color to it," said the first speaker. "Take one of the people about here that you know and work him up—old —, for instance," mentioning a character familiar to them both. "He'd be first rate."

"That's a good idea!" exclaimed Mr. Wescott, and the result of this conversation was "David Harum," and yet "David" was never in the story at all as it was first conceived.—Anna Wentworth in Woman's Home Companion.

Belaying His Jaws.

Shark stories, with some reason, are commonly received with incredulity. A well authenticated anecdote, however, is told of Dr. Frederic Hill, an English surgeon of distinction.

A man fell overboard in the Indian ocean and almost into a shark's mouth. Hill, who was standing close to the rail, grabbed a belaying pin and without hesitation jumped to save the sailor.

The great brute was just turning on his back to bite, when Hill drove the belaying pin right through both jaws. Both men were got on board again unharmed.

"Perhaps that fellow won't want another belaying pin. Has any one got a spare shirt in hand? This was my last," were the only words of the rescuer.

TURN ON THE LIGHT.

Who Can Best Represent the People of North Carolina in the Senate.

Editor Webster's Weekly:

In your paper of Sept. 20th, you undertook to show that Mr. Simmons was not in favor of silver and that he was in part responsible for the adoption of amendments by the last legislature to the anti-trust bill, which destroyed its effectiveness. In my reply I think I proved that your allegations as to silver were based entirely upon the report of a debate between Mr. Simmons and Butler, copied by you from The Caucasian, and that this report was false and at variance with the utterances of Mr. Simmons in favor of silver in the State convention of 1896, which you at the time editorially approved.

I also showed that Mr. Simmons had no connection with the anti-trust bill, one way or the other. In your paper of Oct. 4th, you reply to my communication, and not only insist upon the original charges, but introduce new ones. Suppose we see how it stands upon the original charges and then discuss the new ones.

How does Simmons stand on silver? You say, upon authority of The Caucasian, and from the fact that you do not find any public utterance from him in favor of silver in 1894, that he was not sound in 1894. You also say The Caucasian ought to be believed and that you have never seen its report contradicted by any Democratic paper. Will you publish the editorial from the Goldsboro Argus of Oct. 1st, 1900, which I mailed you last week, and let your readers see that a Democratic paper does deny it?

My communication has, however, had the good effect of having you admit that in 1896 Mr. Simmons was to use your words, "pronounced for silver," but you complain that you cannot find anything he said for silver before that time.

You quote from the Fayetteville Observer, an able paper, edited by a gentleman of honor and ability, an article condemning Mr. Simmons for agreeing to the platform, as chairman of the platform committee of the congressional convention of the 3rd district in 1892. Do you not think it would have been fair to show what Mr. Simmons had done that was condemned? He was condemned not because he did not favor free silver but because he was more pronounced in its favor than the national Democratic platform of that year.

If you will turn to the Fayetteville Observer of Aug. 18th, 1892, you will find an editorial criticizing the platform adopted at Clinton, and showing how it differed from the national platform of 1892, in which the editor says of the Clinton platform: "In the next place the Clinton platform demands the immediate passage of a bill for the free and unlimited coinage of silver (meaning at the old ratio of 16 parts of silver to one of gold.)" The words in parenthesis are the words of the editor of The Observer, not mine.

The editor then proceeds to show that the Clinton platform is a stronger declaration for silver than our national platform of 1892.

This shows the record of Mr. Simmons all right on silver in 1892. Indeed, it was in advance of his party, for in 1892 he advocated in the congressional convention held at Clinton, the plank on silver that was practically incorporated in the national platform of 1896, and is now the law of the party. Democrats all over the State of North Carolina, wherever he spoke in 1894, know that he then favored free silver. You say he was "pronounced for silver" in 1896, and he says he stands squarely upon the national platform today.

Against this you have the declaration of Butler in The Caucasian, which is denied by a Democratic paper. Do you not think I have convicted you of bringing a charge against Mr. Simmons which you cannot sustain?

But if you cannot support Mr. Simmons on account of his record for silver not being up to your standard, how can you support Gen. Carr? Please read carefully, and give your readers an opportunity to read, the following letter from Gen. J. S. Carr to Mr. Geo. H. DeSaussure, secretary of the Southern Bankers' association, and I call your particular attention to the following paragraph in the letter:

"The south, being an agricultural section, requires better banking accommodations than we enjoy. The truth is, we must have better facilities or we are

AUGUST FLOWER.

"It is a surprising fact," says Prof. Hootes, "that is my travels in all parts of the world for the last ten years, I have met more people having used Green's August Flower than any other remedy for dyspepsia, deranged liver and stomach and for constipation. I find for tourists and salesmen, or for persons filling office positions, where headaches and general bad feelings from irregular habits exist, that Green's August Flower is a grand remedy. It does not injure the system by frequent use, and is excellent for sour stomach and indigestion." Sample bottle free at Temple's Maritime drug store. Sold by Dealers in all civilized countries.

virtually ruined. The provisions of the national bank act, as at present constituted, do not afford the accommodation we need and must have. The Fowler bill, in my judgment, does, and at the same time furnishes the country a good, sound, safe banking circulation, elastic in its operation and firmly fixed upon a gold basis."

MR. CARR ENDORSES FOWLER SCHEME.

The Well Known North Carolinian Approves Caucasian's Currency Plan.

Atlanta Constitution, Dec. 21, 1897.

Mr. George DeSaussure, secretary of the Bankers' association, and the most active promoter of the Bankers' convention recently held in Atlanta to discuss the currency problem, is in receipt of the following letter from Mr. J. S. Carr, the prominent North Carolinian who participated in the proceedings of the convention. Mr. Carr writes:

DURHAM, N. C., Dec. 18, 1897. Mr. George H. DeSaussure, Secretary Southern Bankers' Association, Atlanta, Ga.

MY DEAR SIR:—I am of the opinion that the plan of currency reform outlined by the Hon. Charles N. Fowler, member of congress for New Jersey, and submitted to the Southern Bankers' association of Atlanta, at its last session, is a wise solution of the present vexing currency question.

Mr. Fowler's plan funds all the obligations of the government in a 2 per cent. gold bond. These bonds he would make the basis of bank circulation, and require the banks to redeem all their notes in gold coin. By funding the entire debt into 2 per cent. gold bonds, which would be impossible but for the fact that the banks are required to carry them in consideration of the favors they receive, the people or the government, indeed, according to the people—by the Fowler bill, will save more than \$15,000,000 per annum in interest on the bonded debt.

Again, we must recognize the fact that the parity of our different kinds of money, silver, paper, and gold, has been maintained at an enormous expense to the people, or the government. Indeed, according to the figures of the actuary of the treasury department, at an average cost of \$21,000,000 per annum, or \$359,000,000 for the seventeen years from 1879, the date of specie resumption, to 1896.

This cost to the people, or the government, by Mr. Fowler's bill is transferred to the banking institutions of the country, which must maintain the standard by the currency redemption of their notes in gold coin. This will, it must be observed, result in a net saving to the people, or government, of more than \$25,000,000 per annum. Mr. Fowler's bill also provides for a guarantee fund, paid into the treasury of the United States government for the protection of note holders, so that there could not be a bank note panic.

The bill provides for such a supply of a sound circulating medium, equally distributed over the country, as the needs of the country require, and for lack of which most of our troubles are chargeable. The operation of the Fowler bill is the only remedy I have seen presented that carries with it merit worthy of success.

And lastly, what is to my mind of still greater importance to the people of the country, all depositors of national banks are to be insured against loss in case of bank failure through a tax upon deposits paid into the United States treasury for their protection.

The statistics on page 78 of Mr. Fowler's speech (and the statistics were furnished by the actuary of the treasury, and are therefore to be relied upon) show that since the inauguration of the national system in 1863, if all the assets of the failed banks had been absolutely nil, a tax of less than one-third of one per cent. would have been sufficient to recoup the depositors, dollar for dollar. But as it was, the assets of the failed banks, where the accounts have been closed paid 75 per cent. of the depositors, so that the tax of only one-twelfth of one per cent. would have been required to meet the deficit, which is practically nothing.

The south being an agricultural section, requires better banking accommodations than we enjoy. The truth is, that we must have better facilities, or we are virtually ruined. The provisions of the national bank act, as at present constituted, do not afford the accommodations we need, and must have. The Fowler bill, in my judgment, does, and at the same time furnishes the country a good, sound, safe banking circulation, elastic in its operation and firmly fixed upon a gold basis.

The Southern Bankers' association will do well not only to advocate it but press its passage by congress.

I would have been pleased to advocate Mr. Fowler's measure before our convention at Atlanta, had I then been familiar with its provisions. I have since studied the bill and confess to my admiration of it.

Very truly yours,
J. S. CARR.

I also call attention to the following extracts from Mr. Fowler's speech at the Southern Bankers' association, as reported in the papers, at which Gen. Carr

STATE NEWS.

Interesting North Carolina Items In Condensed Form.

Gov. Russell opens the Raleigh fair next Monday.

Mr. T. A. Clark, a prominent citizen of Weldon, died Wednesday, aged 70 years.

The State has chartered the Tyson Hosiery company, of Lynn, Polk county, capital \$50,000, L. N. Wilcox and others stockholders.

The Tarboro bank has won its case against the Security company on the bond of its defaulting cashier, in the superior court at Tarboro.

Mr. Brenizer, of Charlotte, lost his suit for \$20,000 against Henkel, Craig & Co., for injuries sustained by his wife by a runaway near Blowing Rock.

Representatives of furniture factories will go before the corporation commission with petition for reduction and equalization of their freight rates.

The city authorities of Greensboro offer \$75,000 for the water works in that city. The water plant is in the hands of a receiver. If the offer is not accepted the city will install a new system.

The congregation of the Second Baptist church of Atlanta, Ga., has decided to call Rev. John E. White, secretary of the Baptist mission board of North Carolina, to fill the pulpit of that church.

Tarboro Southerner: Emma Brooks, a colored woman on the farm of Lam Lawrence, locked her 1-year-old child in the house and went off. The house caught fire and the little one was burned to death.

An 8,000 gallon benzine tank on a railroad car at High Point exploded Wednesday night. There was but little fire in the tank but the detonation shook High Point from center to circumference. The damage done was slight.

By new rules adopted by the national meeting of live stock sanitary boards of the United States, all cattle from North Carolina may, between Nov. 1st and Dec. 31st, be admitted into northern markets without restriction if shipped by rail.

Greenville Reflector: At a quarter to 10 o'clock Wednesday night, at his home on Third street, Mr. Joseph J. Dancy passed away, after an illness of some weeks. He had passed his 78th year, and was the oldest native born citizen in Greenville. His wife died a few years ago and he leaves no immediate family.

Raleigh Cor. Messenger: It will be remembered that Mr. Shepherd, of Greenville, has sued Bernard, United States district attorney, for damages for seduction of his wife. The supreme court has decided with the court below that the husband must give the dates of such criminal intimacy and thus make the allegation specific.

Salisbury Truth-Index: Frank Gibbons, of Davidson county, who was cut by Early Goode at a corn shucking in Davidson county last week, died Sunday afternoon from the effects of his wounds. Early Goode and his father, Henry Goode, were both caught and placed in the Lexington jail immediately after the cutting, but the latter has since been released.

A special from Shelby to the Charlotte Observer says that burglars entered the store of S. S. Mauney, at Cherryville, by prying the door open with a pick Tuesday night, blew open the safe, took out \$400 in cash and all the land notes and mortgages belonging to Mr. Mauney. There is no definite clue to the parties, though a man named Moore was arrested on suspicion.

The Democrats arrested in Johnston county by federal officers on charges by Massy demanded an immediate hearing, but the commissioner put the hearing off until the 29th, the day Simmons speaks there. It is suggested that fusionists probably thought there would be some disturbance there that day owing to the great crowd, and that they would get some excuse for attacking the validity of the election. The citizens arrested are prominent—some of the best men in Johnston county.

The last legislature abolished the office of chief shell fish inspector, held by Theophilus White, fusionist, and created seven oyster commissioners, at \$400 a year each. White sued to retain his office and also to get the entire \$2,800. The supreme court said he could not be ousted during his term and also that he was entitled only to \$400. The auditor and treasurer declined to pay this, saying the act of the legislature named the seven commissioners. On Thursday the supreme court by mandamus forced them to pay the \$400 to White.

HERE'S AN AIRSHIP RIGHT.

She Obeys the Helm Perfectly, Going Through Various Manoeuvres.

Fredericks, Oct. 17.—Count Zeppelin's airship ascended this afternoon, was steered against the wind and put successfully through various tacks and manoeuvres. It was then sailed in the direction of Imbodenstadt.

The airship, after a short flight, remained poised in the air for forty-five minutes at a height of 600 metres and then safely descended to the lake.

(CONTINUED ON SECOND PAGE.)