

State Library

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KEEP IT UP-TO-DATE.

# THE DAILY FREE PRESS.

THE WEATHER:  
Cloudy tonight and Sunday. Probably rain.

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Price Two Cents.

## FRESH GOSSIP OF THE OLD NORTH STATE.

Odd and Interesting Happenings From Every Section.

### An Obstinate Wilmington Man Would Not Stay Dead Long Enough for a Funeral—20th Century Educational Fund—An Obstinate Sheriff—Crime at Durham.

Mr. Jackson Davis, an aged citizen of Wilmington and a veteran of both the Mexican and civil wars, was reported dead and it was thought by his niece, with whom he resided, that he was dead. The local camp of veterans, of which he was a member, had made all arrangements for the funeral and the pastor of the deceased man had been called in. The camp of veterans had been called out to attend the funeral and after all this fun the old man woke up. The funeral was postponed.

The special committee appointed by the Presbyterian Synod to raise \$300,000 for the twentieth century educational fund, feel greatly encouraged. Dr. Stagg has entered earnestly upon the work and has already succeeded in raising a considerable sum, something like \$60,000. It was determined to press the matter of generous contributions upon the whole State, and particularly to try to secure one hundred men who will give \$1,000 each to the fund. The notes will be payable in one, two and three years for all contributions. Mr. John R. PERRY was elected treasurer of the twentieth century fund.

The secretary of State has found a valuable book. In it are listed the deeds from the sheriffs from 1798 to 1810 for lands on which taxes were not paid and which lands the sheriffs deeded to the State. About 1,000,000 acres are thus covered, including 200,000 of the "Allison grants" in Crain and adjoining counties.

Durham is now in the midst of an epidemic of crime which for boldness has never been equalled in the history of the town. The latest is a horse theft on a prominent street in broad daylight. Mr. W. P. Clements hitched his horse and transacted some business. When he went for his horse it was gone. Search was begun and the horse was recovered next morning, but the negro thief escaped.

The Democratic county executive committee have requested the sheriff of Chatham county to let them look over his books of receipts in order that they may find out what white men in Chatham have not paid their poll tax. Their object was to have all such delinquents notified in person, so that they may pay their poll tax before May 1st and be able to register and vote. This request was refused by our fusion sheriff. His action has created indignation among the white men of Chatham.

Governor Aycock has commuted the death sentence of Andy Jackson of Lincoln county to life imprisonment at hard labor. During September term of Lincoln county court Jackson was convicted of burglary in the first degree and sentenced to be hanged. Then on February 24 a reprieve was granted by the governor to March 20th and now comes the commutation to imprisonment at hard labor for life in the State's prison.

McNair and Wooten, extensive general merchants and fertilizer dealers at Maxton, N. C., have filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy in the United States court at Raleigh. The liabilities are \$31,448.38, of which \$31,495.01 is in security claims. The assets are \$31,081.08, of which amount \$22,241.02 is in open store accounts.

A young son of Mr. E. S. Shoaf, of Tyro, Davidson county, was accidentally killed Thursday afternoon. He was out hunting with his brother when his gun was in some inexplicable way discharged, the contents of a single barrel entered the lad's left side. He died before a physician arrived.

The forty-second annual State fair of North Carolina, will take place at Raleigh, October 27th to 31st next. Plans for improvement now under way, and the fair of 1903 will eclipse all others. Write for prospectus list, for advertising and other privileges to Joseph E. Pogue, secretary, Raleigh, N. C.

The waste room at the Keebler cotton mill caught fire Thursday. The building and contents were entirely destroyed. The main building caught fire but the contents were extinguished. The loss is about one thousand dollars.

### The Parmelee Library.

It is to be hoped that the representative of the Parmelee library will be successful in securing the number of subscribers requisite to the establishment of a mail delivery to Kinston. If the value of this service was known no one would hesitate. A \$5 membership secures a book each week; a \$7.50 membership two books a week, delivered by payment of 15 cents every two months for carrier fee. Membership also gives access to all the leading magazines at 50 to 80 per cent. reduction.

### Prepare for the Primaries.

The time for holding primaries to nominate town aldermen and mayor is now nearly upon us and yet the situation is as placid as could be imagined. Does this mean the calm before the tempest? The time for holding the primaries heretofore has been the first Monday in April. It hasn't yet been called by the executive committee, but no doubt will be called according to custom heretofore prevailing. Only one person has as yet announced his candidacy, Mr. J. T. Skinner, to be one of the aldermen in the third ward. The Free Press stands ready to publish a card announcing the candidacy of all desiring honors at the hands of the public. [LATER.—Since writing the above a card has been handed in announcing the candidacy of Mr. J. C. Warner, as one of the aldermen from the third ward.

### What Tarboro Says About Pannill Roof Paint.

Pannill Paint saved the Bank of Tarboro from being flooded during the heavy rain, and the leaks were stopped while it was raining. It required 3 men to catch water with tubs, so bad did the bank leak, and the Pannill Paint deserves good credit for its quick relief in stopping the leaks. The roof has stood 14 inches of rain and snow, and has not leaked a drop. The company has a large force of expert painters here at work, they have painted the Tarboro cotton factory, Hotel Farrar, two tobacco warehouses and stores and dwelling roofs all over the city and the work is more than satisfactory. They will before leaving paint every roof here. It is a wonderful paint and does all that is claimed for it. The Standard Oil Co., American Tobacco Co., N. & W., A. C. L., and N. Y. B. & S. use this roof paint.

### NEWS NUGGETS.

Cecil Rhodes, the man who began the trouble in South Africa, is very ill and his death is daily expected.

Adam E. Witrous, leading editorial writer of the New York Press, committed suicide by shooting.

Gen. Lord Methuen has been released by the Boers and is in the hands of a British surgeon. His wound is healing.

Boston's great strike is broken and the city breathes easier. There was imminent danger of a coal and produce famine.

Gov. Montague, of Virginia, has vetoed the joint assembly resolution appropriating \$300,000 for pensions for Confederate veterans on constitutional and technical grounds.

### A Chinese Exposition.

Preparations are making for an exhibition of American goods and manufactures in the Crystal Palace, London, next summer. Good luck to the project. This again brings to mind the fact that American business men ought to be up and doing about a great, permanent, effective exposition in China, with branches in several of the larger cities and with additional ramifications, such as "traveling shows," which could be moved from place to place through that most densely populated section of the globe, says Harper's Weekly. We have comparatively little to do with military and political troubles there. We are China's friend, and we hope China recognizes the sincerity of our friendship. Other nations may balk and squabble and hold multitudinous councils, but the plan for Americans is to make an organized demonstration of that which we have to offer in the products of our fields and mines and mills. Ours is a path not of war and intrigue, but of open, honest commercial dealing, and it would be worse than folly to let this opportunity escape through sheer negligence.

### A Carnegie College Yell.

Mr. Carnegie's new educational institution will not be complete without a college yell, and it ought to be something that will be characteristic and at the same time, if possible, convey a compliment to its eminent founder, says the Washington Times. Something like the following might do:

Kilns and kilnshops  
Beds and beds  
Hoot man! Hoot man!  
Hah! Hah! Hah!

### You Know What you are Talking

When you take Green's Tarragon Cat Food because the formula is plainly printed on every bar showing that it is simply fair, and contains no artificial dyes, no poisons, no opiates, etc.

## SHIP SUBSIDY BILL UNDER CROSS FIRE.

### WOULD BENEFIT CAPITALISTS MOST.

#### Senator McLaurin, of Mississippi, Speaks Convincingly.

#### American Ship Building is Booming and Needs No Help—Bill Providing for Election of U. S. Senators by Popular Vote—House Passes Postoffice Bill.

Washington, March 14.—Throughout the session of the senate the ship subsidy bill was under consideration. The measure was discussed by Mr. Foraker of Ohio, Mr. McLaurin, of Mississippi, and Mr. Harris, of Kansas. Mr. Foraker supported the bill, although he admitted that he would have preferred to build up the American merchant marine by the levying of discriminating duties. He was willing, however, to defer to the judgment of the majority, that the pending measure embodied the better plan.

Mr. Foraker asserted that the International company—the American line—had made no money by carrying the mails under the postal subsidy act, and did not care for a renewal of its contract.

Mr. McLaurin, of Mississippi, followed Mr. Foraker. He was opposed not only to the bill, he said, but to the principles it represented. Whatever is given by the government as a subsidy, Mr. McLaurin charged, would simply be a contribution to the dividends of those engaged in shipping instead of for the purpose of encouraging ship building in the United States, all reports tending to show that industry is now experiencing a boom such as it has not had in 50 years.

In conclusion, Mr. McLaurin said he was as anxious as any Republican senator to rehabilitate the American merchant marine but he would rather see the American flag float over one American merchant vessel than to see one stained with the taint of money which did not legitimately belong to its owner.

Mr. Harris opposed the measure, particularly on the ground that it was not constitutional. Mr. Harris made the point that the United States now was paying more to the American line for the carrying of ocean mails than was paid to foreign ships for greater service.

Senator Penrose introduced as an amendment to the pending resolutions providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people.

### Who Morals of Animals.

It may be questioned whether animals have any conception of morals as we understand the term, but in a general sense it would certainly seem that they have. In the social sense there is no doubt as to the answer. To take a well known instance, the ant family have evolved a most complicated social system which apparently works to perfection, and that is more than can be said for any human system. In order, cleanliness, care of offspring, provision for future wants and military discipline no civilized society can compare with theirs. They are slaveholders, it is true, but they treat their slaves with every kindness and consideration, and the warrior ants defend them in time of danger.

Another excellent example is furnished by the beaver. During summer it leads a solitary life, but at the approach of winter communities are formed, building operations commence, stores are laid up as soon as the dwellings are completed, and every individual of the community recognizes clearly that the interests of the family and the colony come first. In their family life they, in common with many other animals, offer an example which might well be copied not only by savages, but also by civilized communities.

### The Return Trip.

Passenger (on steamer en route to Europe)—The steamer appears to be empty. Don't emigrants ever return to the old country?

Captain—Oh, yes; but they always go back in the first cabin.—Chicago News.

### How to Cure the Grip.

Remain quietly at home and take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as directed and a quick recovery is sure to follow. That remedy counteracts any tendency of the grip to result in pneumonia, which is nearly the only serious danger. Among the thousands of thousands who have used it for the grip, not one case has ever been reported that did not recover. For sale by J. E. Hood.

...a proposition to increase the number of senators in proportion to population. It proposes an additional senator for every ratio of 500,000 persons, who shall be elected by direct vote of the people.

The House passed the Postoffice Appropriation Bill. The only amendment of importance was one to incorporate in the bill the provisions of the bill to classify the rural free delivery service, passed a few days ago.

### New Way to Help a Strike.

Norfolk was thrown into a fever of excitement by the report that at the car barn in Hunterville, there were two well developed cases of smallpox, it being claimed that an imported motor man had brought the disease with him from Philadelphia. A thorough investigation was made and it was learned that the story had been manufactured of whole cloth. The street car companies are getting all the men they need and say having nothing further to do with the strikers. Disorder continues.

### The Jailer Jests.

"What brought you here?" asked the temperance advocate who was visiting the prison.

"I'm a wife beater," replied convict No. 41144 gruffly.

"Another case of lick'er," murmured the jailer, who, despite his occupation, was a man of no little humor.—Philadelphia Record.

### What the Baby Needed.

"Papa," said Tommy, "little brother is a week old tomorrow, isn't he?"

"Yes."

"Let's you and me give him a birthday present."

"Very well. What shall it be?"

"Let's buy him a wig. He needs that more than anything."

### A Choice of Professions.

"If I had not been brought up a deacon," says Dr. Hole of Rochester, "there are three other vocations I should have liked to have followed—master of a pack of hounds, head gardener in a large nursery or a bookseller. I think the last is the best of the three."

### His Gray Hair.

Sunday School Teacher—Remember, children, always respect gray hair.

Tommy Traddles—Well, my pa does not.

Sunday School Teacher (in astonishment)—What makes you think that?

Tommy Traddles—He dyes his whiskers.—Exchange.

### Some Famous Echoes.

There is a famous echo on the Rhine between Coblenz and Bingen which repeats a word seventeen times, while in the sepulcher of Metella, the wife of Sulla, in the Roman Campagna, there is an echo which repeats five times in different keys and will also give back with distinctness a hexameter line which requires two and a half seconds to utter. Brewster mentions an echo on the north side of Shipley church, in Sussex, England, which repeats twenty-one syllables.

### Had Been There.

"There is no doubt," said the student of law, "that many people have been imprisoned, although innocent of any crime."

"I know that by sad experience."

"You don't say so! Let's have the story."

"There's no story to it. I merely had the bad luck to be drawn on several juries that were locked up over night."—Washington Star.

### Witty Actress.

A leading actress, who is notably well "billed" all over town and country, observed to the interviewer: "Of course I can't get on without 'biling' and," she added slyly, "a little 'booging.' Do I use powder? Why, of course. What do you think? And, my dear sir, I shall now depend on you—for the powder—oh, dear, no—for the puff!"

### The Best of Reasons.

"Why do you bring this to me?" thundered the weary editor, thrusting the manuscript back into the hands of the poet.

"Because," replied the bard timidly, "I have no stamp."—Boston Post.

### GAUSTIC GERSTER.

#### Comment the Singer Made on a Kiss That Patti Received.

While the rivalry between Patti and Gerster in San Francisco in 1884 was at its height it was made known that General Crittenden, governor of Missouri, had given Patti a kiss. Thereupon Mme. Patti was interviewed, when she spoke as follows:

"I had just finished singing 'Home, Sweet Home,' last Thursday evening when a nice looking old gentleman, who introduced himself as Governor Crittenden, began congratulating me. All of a sudden he leaned down, put his arms around me, drew me up to him and kissed me. He said, 'Mme. Patti, I may never see you again, but I cannot help it, and before I knew it he was kissing me. When a gentleman, and such a nice old gentleman, too, and a governor of a great state, kisses one so quick that one has not time to see and no time to object, what can one do?"

The following dialogue on the subject between Mme. Gerster and a reporter who had interviewed her was afterward published:

Modest Reporter—I suppose, Mme. Gerster, you have heard about that kissing affair between Governor Crittenden and Patti?

Mme. Gerster—I have heard that Governor Crittenden kissed Patti before she had time to resist, but I don't see anything in that to create so much fuss.

Modest Reporter (interrogatively)—You don't?

Mme. Gerster—Certainly not. There is nothing wrong in a man kissing a woman old enough to be his mother.—Argonaut.

### A Medieval Psychologist.

Professor Munsterberg of Harvard, whose specialty is psychology, relies to some extent on the point of a good story in enforcing his positions in abstract demonstration. He has one on the association of ideas that will illustrate.

A medieval magician—more accurately called "fakir" nowadays—announced that he had invented and had for sale a magic pot. If certain rather common stones were mixed and placed in the pot, with a certain portion of water, and the whole shaken diligently for an hour, the stones would turn to gold provided that during the hour the operator should not think of a hippopotamus. The fakir sold a great many for fabulous sums, and not one of the purchasers ever demanded a return of the money. The fakir knew his business. He was in advance of his age in psychology. In his skill in permanently fixing in his customer's minds the association of that old pot and a hippopotamus.—Boston Herald.

### Theater Audiences.

Have you ever noticed that theater audiences always assemble in the reverse order to the prices of admission? The cheapest seats are occupied first and the most expensive ones last.

Those who go to the extreme back upper perches are always on hand before the doors are open and wait with heroic patience to be admitted. Those who occupy the seats a little lower in position and a little higher in price come next. Then the balcony begins to fill from the back downward, from 75 cents a seat in the back rows, through \$1 and \$1.50 to \$2 down in front.

On the orchestra floor is the same condition of affairs, those who occupy the most expensive seats entering just before the curtain rises or shortly after it is up, while the boxes are usually not occupied until the first act is well under way.—New York Herald.

### "Commence" or "Begin."

Commence or begin? The best writers, and the best speakers, also, prefer "begin" to "commence" for all everyday purposes. The reason for this preference is not, as some have said, that "begin" is older, for "commence" is of very respectable antiquity; nor is it, as others have said, that "begin" is of Anglo-Saxon origin, for words of French or of Latin origin that have been fully adopted into our language are just as good English as native words. It is rather that "begin" has the strength of simplicity, whereas "commence" has fallen into disrepute from being associated with the cheap snery of writing.—Elizabeth A. Wilbey in Ladies' Home Journal.

### Easy Figuring.

Ascum—I suppose you haven't had time to figure out yet how much your cashier took?

Bank President—Oh, yes. We knew in a very short time.

Ascum—Why, I thought he took a great deal.

Bank President—Exactly. We merely had to count what he left.—Philadelphia Press.

### International Inquiry.

"Why do you English people insist on calling an elevator a 'lift' and a pie a 'tart'?" inquired the young woman.

"Really," answered the young man who came over to get married, "I can't say. I was about to ask you why so many people here call a lit an 'elevator' and a tart a 'pie.'"—Washington Star.

### La Grippe Quickly Cured.

"In the winter of 1898 and 1899 I was taken down with a severe attack of what is called La Grippe," says F. L. Hewitt, a prominent druggist of Winfield, Ill. "The only medicine I used was two bottles of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It broke up the cold and stopped the coughing like magic, and I have never since been troubled with Grippe." Chamberlain's Cough Remedy can always be depended upon to break up a severe cold and ward off any threatened attack of pneumonia. It is pleasant to take, too, which makes it the most desirable and one of the most popular preparations in use for these ailments. For sale by J. E. Hood.

### The Best Prescription for Malaria.

Chills and fevers, a build of Green's Tarragon Cat Food. It is simply fair and contains no artificial dyes, no poisons, no opiates, etc.

## THE GREAT TRIAL NOW UNDER WAY.

### Interesting Court Scenes in Wilcox's Fight for Life.

#### Jury Obtained More Easily Than Was Anticipated, But 300 Men Were Rejected—The Real Battle Begun Thursday—Wilcox Keeps Up a "Front."

After keeping court open continuously until 9 o'clock and examining more than 200 talemans, the jury in the great murder trial at Ellsworth City was completed and court adjourned to 10 a. m. Thursday for the beginning of the battle.

This is the jury: C. W. Belongia, mill employee; Caleb Walker, butcher; G. F. Derricksen, veneer factory owner; Paul White, S. H. Reid, Pendleton Bright, S. S. David, Stewart Jennings, farmers; James G. Nash, bar-keeper; W. A. Jackson, machinist; Josiah Overton, S. W. Williams, (negro) farmers.

The crowd in the afternoon was said to be the largest which ever assembled in the court house. Wilcox was brought in at 2 o'clock promptly and sat beside his father, former sheriff, Tom Wilcox. A few feet in front of the prisoner sat Justice W. H. Croysey, the dead girl's father.

District attorney Ward addressed the prisoner in these words: "These good men will be called upon to pass between your life and your death. You may challenge them, or any of them. You shall be heard."

The prisoner wore his usual calm demeanor, but he blanched slightly as he stood and heard the prosecutor's words.

Some of the things which disqualified jurors were non-ownership of land, having served on a jury within two years, kinship to the prisoner and not having paid 1900 taxes.

The prisoner is a Republican. All the white jurors are Democrats, but it is believed they will bring in as conscientious a verdict as any twelve men who could be gotten in Pasquotank. Here is a phrase used by the clerk with every juror pronounced competent: "Juror, look upon the prisoner; prisoner, look upon the juror. Do you like him?" An affirmative answer signifies acceptance. If the answer is "no" the person is counted among the twenty-three he is privileged to strike off.

Business begun promptly yesterday morning in a court room packed almost to suffocation. Dr. J. E. Wood, the first witness in the Wilcox trial, told in graphic terms the story of the finding of Miss Croysey's body and gave minute details of the autopsy over which he presided.

Dr. Fearing's cross-examination was not concluded when court adjourned for the day. The next witness to be called is the county health officer, Dr. J. E. Wood.

Dr. Fearing minutely described the postmortem examination, saying there was no water in the lungs or stomach, which prove that the girl was not drowned.

When Wilcox was brought into court he looked fresh and happy, chewed gum contentedly and watched proceedings with a languid interest.

In many instances merchants are leaving their stores, professional men their offices, mechanics their shops, fishermen their boats, farmers their fields, all to hear the Wilcox trial. Most of them can't hear much when they come.

A section within the rail was filled with well dressed women. They had come away ahead of time. That was the only way they could have reached the seats reserved for them.

This sort of thing will not continue, however, as the court issued a rule that nobody else should be allowed in the court house except witnesses. He said it would soon be so crowded lawyers could not transact their business.

### Typewriter paper for sale at The Free Press office.