

FRESH GOSSIP
OF THE OLD
NORTH STATE.

ODD AND INTERESTING HAPPENINGS.

An Astonishing Revelation Concerning Public Schools—A Widow Going North to Marry a Man She Never Saw—Court Clerk Hobbed—New Industry for Fayetteville—Scarcity of Shad.

The State Superintendent of public instruction finds that in the 76 counties which ask for aid for public schools more than 50 cent. of these schools have under 65 pupils. In Cleveland county there are only 10 pupils in one district, and the school fund for that district is \$14.60. The State was asked to give \$1.40 so as to make the amount for four months pay of the teacher \$16. It is an astonishing revelation. It shows what a farce a lot of the public schools are.

Greensboro Record: Mrs. Sallie Brown, of Mt. Airy, a rather handsome young widow, passed through Greensboro en route to Warwick, Mass., to marry a man whom she had never seen face to face, though she carried with her his photograph. The courting had all been done by correspondence. It is a good thing the Lord takes care of us and it is earnestly hoped he will not forget the real Widow Brown.

Mr. Herbert Smith, clerk of the court of Duplin county, went to Wilmington to deposit \$2,000. He attended the theatre with two friends and when he went to retire at the hotel found that his pocket book had been cut and the money taken. The pocket book was found in a gutter. All the money, \$1,700, was gone, but the \$300 in checks remained untouched. There is no clue to the robbers.

Robesonian: The dead body of Jim McEachern, colored, was found in a juniper bay in Smith's township near Maxton. As there were marks of violence on his body an inquest was held by coroner Ed McKee. The finding of the jury was that McEachern was killed by a falling tree while cutting juniper poles.

"Barnes and Jessup company" has been incorporated to buy and sell rosin and products of pine trees. The principal office is at Fayetteville and the capital stock is \$10,000, with the right to increase to \$100,000. The incorporators are Ralph Jessup, N. G. Wade, C. H. Barnes, A. H. Slocomb and L. E. Slocomb.

The "Greensboro Canning, Pickling and Sauer Krout Company," of Guilford, has been incorporated with \$100,000 capital stock, but business may be begun with \$10,000.

The shad are very scarce this year. The usual spring catch in the Cape Fear at Wilmington is 60,000, but this year the number will not exceed 30,000. Most of these shad are shipped to New York. The price now is very high, some roe shad bringing as high as \$2.50.

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS.

State Normal Offers Opportunity for Improvement.

The authorities of the State Normal and Industrial College desiring to render every possible service to the educational interests of the State have decided to offer women teachers an institute of one month.

This is intended especially for those teachers who desire to better equip themselves for their work, but who, for various reasons, are unable to pursue the full course.

A matriculation fee of \$5 will be charged which will entitle the person paying the same to all lectures, library privileges, use of textbooks, etc. The only additional expense will be for board and laundry, both of which will not cost more than \$3 a week.

In the department of Pedagogy, lectures on the best methods of teaching all the common school studies will be given, and the students will have an opportunity to spend some time in the Practice and Observation School.

In addition, lectures and laboratory work will be offered in the different departments of science.

Besides the regular faculty of the State Normal and Industrial College, we shall have with us several city superintendents and other prominent educators to deliver special lectures.

The institute will begin April 26th and close May 24th.

It is your intention to avail yourself of this opportunity, or if you desire further information, please write to

CHARLES D. McIVER,
President.

Plan for a New Flag.

Washington, March 30.—Representative Shafroth, of Colorado, introduced a bill, prescribing the size of the field of the United States flag and the arrangement of stars. The field shall be square and one-third the total length of the flag. The stars of the thirteen original States are to be in a circle, surrounding the stars of the thirty admitted States in the form of a star, with the stars of the last two admitted States (Wyoming and Utah) temporarily one on each side of the interior star.

HOW EASTER
WAS CELEBRATEDA Golden Day for St. Mary's Parish
in its New Church.

Large Congregation Saw the New Church, Listened With Pleasure to the New Vested Choir and Heard Good Sermon by the Bishop and the Rector—Services in Other Churches.

Easter was a day of double rejoicing for the rector and parishioners of St. Mary's Episcopal church. It was Easter and it was practically the dedication of the new edifice. There were three services, all largely attended, and the auditorium being filled to overflowing in the morning and afternoon. Rt. Rev. A. A. Watson, bishop of eastern North Carolina, conducted the service and preached the sermon in the morning, taking for his text "Christ is risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that sleep." In a mission talk preceding the sermon his reverence urged the parishioners to deeper spirituality, saying outward manifestation amounts to nothing without it. The rector felicitated the congregation upon the success which has attended the organization of a vested choir. It was indeed a pleasant innovation, the fresh faces and voices being given added charms by the black caps and white vestments. The interior will be very attractive when finished and the acoustic properties are excellent. The floor is double, with heavy paper lining, which deadens the sound of walking. The lecture and altar furniture are of solid quartered oak and the large cross is of solid old brass, a memorial to Ruth, daughter of Mr. S. H. Abbott. This week the new stained glass windows, costing \$1,300, will arrive and be put in place. The new auditorium seats 100 more than the old. The old wooden church was burned on February 18, 1900, and while the new brick edifice has been slowly rising and taking form the congregation has been worshipping where it could, and the parishioners manifested their thankfulness at getting back "home" by liberal Easter offerings.

The Sunday school had its celebration in the afternoon and it was a very interesting and attractive scene. Over \$25 was contributed from the pyramids.

Another large congregation assembled in the evening, when the bishop conducted the ritual and the rector, Rev. J. H. Griffith, Jr., preached the sermon from the same text, a coincidence, as that preached from by the bishop in the morning. The service and the day ended with the recessional.

At Christian Church.

The church was tastefully decorated for Easter. At the morning services the pastor, Rev. W. G. Johnston, took his text from Romans 8, 37-38, his subject being "The Basis of Our Hope of Eternal Life." The evening was taken up with exercises by the children of the Sunday school. The pastor made announcement that a revival meeting will be commenced tonight, the subject of the sermon being "Need of Our Reliance Upon God." Song service begins at 7:30 o'clock.

At Methodist Church.

A large congregation attended all the services at the M. E. church yesterday. The church was beautifully decorated for Easter. In the morning the pastor, Rev. N. E. Coltrane, chose his text from First Corinthians 15-14, his subject being, "If Christ is Not Risen Preaching is Vain." In the afternoon the W. M. S. held Easter services and in the evening a program of songs and recitation was carried out by the Bright Jewels.

The Free Press is receiving a large quantity of new job type, rules, etc., this week. Our Job Printing Department is being gradually equipped to turn out any job of printing that may be ordered. We believe that even now no town in the State, no larger than Kinston, has near so well equipped job printing office as that of THE FREE PRESS. The people of Kinston and neighboring places are showing their appreciation of the efforts of THE FREE PRESS to give them good and up-to-date service by extending it a constantly increasing patronage.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S VISIT
TO THE CHARLESTON EXPOSITION

BIG PROGRAM ARRANGED FOR APRIL 9

While President is Being Dined Mrs. Roosevelt will Receive.

Imposing Parade Will Be a Feature and North Carolina Troops Will Be in It—President's Party to be Shown All the Sights—Will Visit the Tea Farm and Magnolia Grove.

Charleston, S. C., March 31.—President Roosevelt has decided to visit the exposition at Charleston on Wednesday, April 9th.

He will leave Washington on Monday afternoon, April 7, reaching Charleston Tuesday morning, April 8, spend the day in visiting the site of the navy yard, the forts in the harbor and the jetties. Tuesday night he will be entertained at dinner by the city of Charleston.

While the dinner to the president is in progress, Mrs. Roosevelt will give a reception to the ladies of the Woman's Department of the exposition and their invited guests.

On Wednesday, April 9, the president will be escorted to the exposition grounds by a great military procession in which the soldiers from Charleston and the visiting soldiers from North Carolina and the other southern states will take part.

On arriving at the exposition grounds the president will be formally welcomed to the city of Charleston by Mayor Smyth and to the exposition by President Wagner. After the speaking ceremonies, which will take place in the auditorium on the exposition grounds, the president and his party will be conducted to the Woman's building on the grounds, where they will be entertained at luncheon by the Woman's Department.

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After visiting the several principal buildings and viewing the exposition the President and party will be taken to Summerville and entertained at dinner at Pine Forest Inn by Capt. Wagner, the president of the exposition company.

On Thursday morning, April 10, the president and his party will be taken to the tea farm and afterwards to the beautiful magnolia gardens on the Ashley. Upon returning to Summerville in the afternoon he and his party will be entertained at luncheon by Capt. Wagner at the Pine Forest Inn and Thursday evening will leave Summerville for Washington, arriving at the National Capital early Friday morning.

It is expected that there will be a great demonstration at the exposition in honor of the president and from reports that have been received the day will be the most brilliant of the entire exposition period.

For The Complexion.

The complexion always suffers from biliousness or constipation. Unless the bowels are kept open the impurities from the body appear in the form of unsightly eruptions. DeWitt's Little Early Bitters keeps the liver and bowels in healthy condition and remove the cause of such troubles. C. E. Hooper, Albany, Ga., says: "I took DeWitt's Little Early Bitters for biliousness. They were just what I needed. I am feeling better now than in years." Never gripe or distress. Safe thorough and gentle. The very best pills. J. E. Hood.

Indicate Your Bowels with Ease.
Candy Cathartic, pure constitution forever.
10c. 25c. If C. C. C. fail, druggist refund money.

The Bargain Counter.

SPRING HAS COME.

We mean, of course, our line of Bed Springs. You should inspect them. You will find them all bargains. We have a complete stock of Furniture and can supply any of your needs in that line. Give us a trial.

QUINN & MILLER.

YOU DON'T MEAN IT!

I certainly do, and it is good for either Bread or Pastry. How can he do it? He simply bought one car load at the right time and the right price, and it is right Flour—\$4.50 per barrel while it lasts—at

W. M. CARROLL'S,
Staple and Fancy Grocer.

North Street.

IF YOU ARE

once a customer of ours you will always be. We keep a full stock of Staple and Fancy Groceries and can fill any of your housekeeping wants in that line. Give us a trial. We'll treat you right.

J. H. ALEXANDER,

General Store.

BARGAINS IN PRINTING

We have some more of those Letter Heads, Note Heads, Bill Heads and Statements in fine quality colored bond papers, pink and blue. They are good value for price charged. If in need of some stationery examine these goods before making your selection. Letter Heads 500 for \$1.75, 1,000 for \$3.00. Note Heads 500 for \$1.35, 1,000 for \$2.25. Fine Old Hampshire Bond pink Note Heads 500 for \$1.65, 1,000 for \$2.65. Fine blue or pink Bill Heads, 7x8 1/2 inches, 500 for \$1.40, 1,000 for \$2.40. Statements, elegant quality bond papers in blue, pink, lemon or salmon, 500 for \$1.50, 1,000 for \$2.50.

WE LIKE TO EAT.

So does every healthy person, especially when they have something nice. If you buy your groceries from us you will have it and it won't cost you more than it's worth either. Just stop our wagon or phone your order. It will have prompt attention.

LAROQUE & ROUNTREE,

The Up-to-Date Grocers.

THE RIDING SEASON

is here, so come and trade your old wheel for a new one and make the extension of life easy.

KINSTON CYCLE CO.

COME UP.

Yes, if you buy your Seed Oats from us they will beyond a doubt. We also have a large stock of Hay, Grain and Feed. We are headquarters for everything in our line. Come to see us.

NEUSE MILLING CO.

W. A. LaRoque's late stand.

ARE YOU ONE

who is going to build or anticipate building? If so we wish to let it be known that we can furnish on receipt of order Framing and Box Boards, cut from Long Leaf Pines, also all kinds of Dressed Lumber. Come and examine our stock and get our prices before purchasing. Thanking our customers for past patronage and hoping to renew same, we remain, Yours truly,

THE GAY LUMBER CO.

Prompt Delivery.

The South's Battle Abbey.

Trustees of the Confederate Memorial association at a meeting held at Atlanta definitely determined upon Richmond Va., as the place to build the Confederate Museum. One hundred thousand dollars was donated by the late Charles Broadway Rouse toward the founding of a Battle Abbey in the South, provided a like sum could be raised by popular subscription. In the report submitted by the treasurer of the association, it was shown that all of the additional amount had been obtained and pledged.

NARROW ESCAPE
OF HINES' MILL.Effective Apparatus and Good Work
Prevent a Conflagration.

Alarm Sounded When a High Wind Was Blowing and Caused Consternation—Splendid Work of the Mill Force, Aided by the Cotton Mill People and Other Citizens—Damage Was Slight.

An alarm of fire was sounded a few minutes after 1 o'clock today, and when it was learned by the people who flocked out in the streets that it was the large lumber plant of Mess. Hines Bros. the excitement was intense.

The fire was first seen by one of the hands shortly after the mill had resumed work after the dinner hour.

The alarm was quickly given and with the thorough organization that this plant has for fighting fire everything was gotten into preparation, and in a few minutes four streams of water were playing on the flames. This was followed a few minutes later with a stream from the Kinston Cotton Mills, and later, as soon as the fire engine could travel the long distance, a sixth stream was put into operation. In the meantime, the engineer of the lumber plant had turned on live steam into all the four dry kilns.

It was hard to get at the flames in the inside of the kiln, but after it was smothered sufficiently by the live steam the doors in the east part of the kiln were raised and a flood of water poured in. Later the doors to the west end were raised and the work of completely extinguishing the flames was accomplished. The Dread-Not Hook and Ladder company were on hand and lent service where possible. Altogether it was as pretty fighting of fire as could be imagined. Everything was done with precision and judgment. The doors of the dry kiln were kept closed until the fire was smothered sufficiently to open them without danger.

The fire caught on the west end slightly below the roof, on side of dry kiln known as No. 2, starting counting No. 1 from the south side. It is supposed to have caught from sparks from the smoke stacks.

A strong north westerly wind was blowing and had the fire gained sufficient headway, the saw mill would not have burned.

It is hard to estimate the damage until it is learned how much lumber was consumed or injured. The kilns were filled at the time.

Surgeon's Knife Not Needed.

Surgery is no longer necessary to cure piles. DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve cures such cases at once, removing the necessity for dangerous, painful and expensive operations. For scalds, cuts, burns, wounds, bruises, sores and skin diseases it is unequalled. Beware of counterfeits. J. E. Hood.

Among the greatest sufferers from the industrial depression in Germany are the foreign workmen imported in rush times. The demand for them was especially great in the mining and building industries and in the textile establishments of southwest Germany. Circumstances have now greatly changed, and the native German workmen have raised an outcry against their employment.

In Poland and Lithuania there is a very large export from Russia of old galoches, which are subsequently melted down and made into new galoches and other India rubber goods. Russia proper is the chief exporter of old galoches, only a comparatively small quantity being exported from Poland, where galoches are less used than in the rest of the empire. Most of them are sent to America for manufacture.

According to the notes published by the municipal laboratory every year, an average of 6,000 specimens of milk are taken for analysis from the different milk sellers of Paris. Of these about 2,000 are generally found to be adulterated. During the course of last year no fewer than 1,335 summonses were served on defaulting dairymen, but only about 200 were fined or condemned to various terms of imprisonment.

TIMELY TOPICS
TERSELY TREATED.

Short Local Stories, Editorial Notes.

Well, so long March—see you next year.

Nearly everybody predicted that there would be a fire today.

Straw hats on the men were a feature of Kinston's Easter parade.

Easter rarely fails to be a fine day and yesterday was one of the finest.

We have to raise the "dust" to pay the street sprinkler for laying the dust.

An exchange says "next Sunday 'is' Easter." It "is" not Easter until it has "come."

Episcopal brethren are to be congratulated upon their pretty church and its vested choir.

This weather again makes timely the old adage, "Stick to your flannels until they stick to you."

Few towns of the size of Kinston made a braver show in its Easter parade than that which made Kinston streets blossom like a rose garden. None could show a greater percentage of handsome costumes, pretty hats and pretty faces under them.

The "Confederate Tea" to be given tomorrow (Tuesday) night at the opera house is another opportunity offered the public to show its appreciation of the Confederate soldier and of the efforts of the ladies to care for the indigent soldiers in their declining years. All the roses should not be placed on the graves, but instead, let them sweeten the home and chase away the stifling gloom. All are invited and much pleasure is expected.

It is hoped the worst is over in The Free Press office and real progress will now begin. The sick have recovered and two gentlemanly young printers, Messrs Moser and Binker, have arrived from Philadelphia, the work rooms have been overhauled and rearranged and the force and equipment are now equal to present demands. The paper will be better and will be issued and delivered promptly and printing orders will be filled with neatness and despatch.

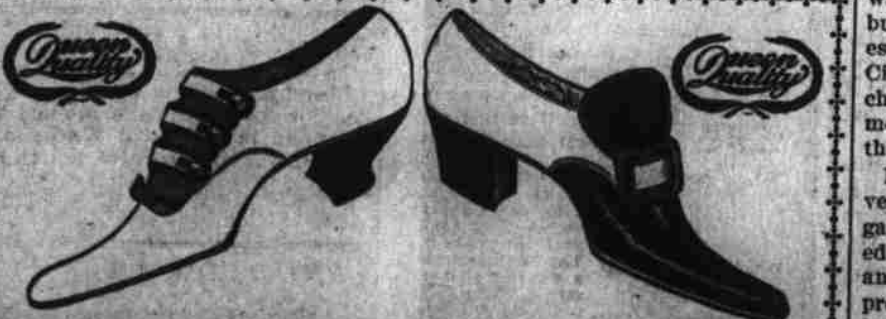
The circulation of the DAILY FREE PRESS was increased nearly 100 last week by the newsboys' tourney which began on Wednesday. The race for first prize and first honor has already waxed hot and the boys are after each other with grim determination. It is a nice thing about this tourney that everybody is benefited. The boys get their pay and the prizes, the subscriber gets the best little daily in the State, the paper gets the circulation and the advertiser gets the trade.

HAVE YOU GOT IT?

Go 'way chile an' lemme 'lone!
Doan' yo' pestah me!
Kase Ah'm des mos' tuckah'd out—
Tiah'd ez Ah kin be.
Hit's so wahm heah in de sun,
Ah kin skawly keep
Frum a noddin, noddin, twell
Ah'm des gone ter sleep.
Ah'm tiah'd out 'om ma bald
Clean down tuh ma beeh;
Ah declar Ah'm mos' too tiah'd
Fo' tuh eat my meal.

Ah done feel dis way ev' y' spring—
I ain't laxy neevah.
Hit aint no dang'us kind er thing.
Hits on'y jes' spring fevah.

Four years old today! With this number THE FREE PRESS completes its fourth year and begins its fifth volume. It affords the publisher great pleasure to say that the new year will begin under the most favorable auspices in every particular, and we expect that the progress of the year to come will be greater in volume and scope than in all the four years preceding. THE FREE PRESS was born in the spirit of progress which has pushed Kinston ahead during these four years and during the march it has always been the guidon which has led to success and extension of commercial importance. As close as has been the tie between the town and the newspaper in the past we hope it will be stronger and closer in the year to come and we shall constantly endeavor to make THE FREE PRESS more worthy of the friendly public feeling toward it, and even an increase of the generous patronage which has been awarded it. Kinston for Kinstonians and Kinston against the world shall ever be its cry.



GOOD NEWS FOR THE LADIES!

Our spring line of QUEEN QUALITY OXFORDS, in all of the newest styles, just received, and we would be glad to have you come in and see them.

GIVEN AWAY! We are giving with every pair of Shoes or Oxfords we sell a beautiful large size picture of the QUEEN LOUISE OF PRUSSIA, painted by the great artist, Leon Moran.

S. H. LOFTIN,
KINSTON, N. C.