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THE DAILY FREE PRESS.

THE WEATHER: Clearing tonight, fair and warmer Thursday.

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OLD NORTH STATE NEWS AND GOSSIP

ODD AND INTERESTING HAPPENINGS.

Encouragement for Farmers in State Weekly Crop Bulletin.

It Has Been a Good Week All Around, but More Rain is Needed—Corn and Cotton Planting Practically Completed—Rice Coming Along Finely—Ground Dry and Hard—Short State Stories.

The Weekly Crop Bulletin of the North Carolina section of the climate and crop service, says for the week ending Monday, May 12:

"Another most excellent week for the progress of farm work was experienced, and where sufficient rain fell the weather was very favorable for the growth of crops. However, drought has been intensified over many counties by the total absence of precipitation, and from these points many unfavorable reports were received. Very beneficial showers occurred in many localities on the evening of the 7th, and it is thought that the moderate rain of Sunday night was general over the eastern half of the state where it was most needed. While more rain is required for crops in the drier localities, especially for wheat and oats, for transplanting tobacco, and to bring up late planted corn and cotton, it appears that no positive damage to crops by drought has resulted so far. The temperature averaged quite high, in spite of two cool days, on the 8th and 10th, the mean being about 5 degrees above the daily normal. The amount of sunshine was also abundant. The temperature conditions have been favorable, except that growth was slightly checked by cool nights during the latter portion of the week. Farmers have been so active everywhere that a large number of crop correspondents report farm work now well up, and that crops are clean and well cultivated; in many sections the ground is now dry and hard.

"Planting corn and cotton are practically over, except that many bottoms have still to be planted in corn. Early corn looks healthy, has grown fairly well and in the south portion is over 18 inches high; the crop is being cultivated generally. There are some complaints of damage by chinch bugs and cut worms. Late corn is not doing so well. Late planted cotton is coming up slowly and unevenly on account of the lack of sufficient moisture, so that good stands are not yet assured; light rains have benefited much of the crop; chopping to stands is actively underway. The most serious effect of the drought has been to delay the transplanting of tobacco, and in many sections plants are getting over-sized; the rainfall Sunday night fell over the section where most needed and will give an impetus to the work of setting out tobacco plants, which is now under way in the most important central northern counties. Peanuts are being planted. Rice has come up nicely. Wheat and oats need rain and are heading low; spring oats are well advanced in growth. Complaints of damage by potato bugs are more numerous than for several seasons past. Sweet potatoes have sprouted, but slips will be scarce. The strawberry crop was somewhat cut short by dry, warm weather which ripened berries too small for market. Pastures have made slow growth during the week.

"Rains reported for the week: Goldsboro .36 inch, Charlotte .24, Greensboro .88, New Bern .82, Marion .56, Raleigh .71, Wilmington .70, Merton 1.02, Hendersonville 1.06, Henrietta .58, Mocksville .74, Settle .50."

Son and Father in Fatal Affray.

Greenville Reflector: Hardy Harrington, colored, and his son Sam were both at Parker's X Roads, two miles from town, Saturday night. Sam had been at work cutting timber in the woods, and his father wanted a division of his wages. Sam said he had only been partially paid off and could not divide the little he had. Hardy then began watching Sam's movements, and about 10 o'clock saw him spending some money. This angered the father, who went up to the boy, grabbed him by the waistband of his pants and with the other hand began raking a knife across the boy's breast, abusing him and telling him what he would do to him if he opened his mouth. Sam was so frightened that he did not open his mouth, but he did open fire on his father with a pistol. Only one out of five shots took effect, but this one entered the breast and may prove fatal.

Fatal Jump From a Train. Charlotte News: Mr. E. H. Abernethy, a resident of Gaston county, met an awful death at Griffith's station, five miles south of Charlotte, Columbia, S. C.

Augusta division of the Southern, Saturday night. It is supposed that he boarded No. 34, the Southern's last north bound train at Rock Hill. As this train does not stop at Griffith's, the supposition is that Mr. Abernethy attempted to get off and in jumping from the train his head struck the five-mile post. When the body was found blood was oozing from the mouth and ears. The skull was badly crushed in several places and it is thought the neck was broken.

Miss Childers' Queer Frank. Lenoir, N. C., May 13.—Mr. Will Childers received a letter from his niece, Miss Cordie Childers, the young music teacher, who has been mysteriously missing from her home here for two weeks, last night. The letter states Miss Childers is in Sterling, Nebraska. The only excuse she gives for her strange conduct is that she did not have the nerve to say good-bye.

UPSET THEIR PLANS.

The Story of a Hurry Call For a New York Ambulance.

A young physician tells an amusing experience of the days of his ambulance service. A hurry call was received one day, and he with the ambulance was dispatched with great haste to a tenement in one of the poorer parts of the city. He climbed several flights of stairs and found at the end of a family gathered in a dismantled room, surrounded by their goods and chattels, evidently ready to move. The patient had been burned, the doctor knew, but he failed to discover signs of one until the mother of the family explained that she was the victim and amiably volunteered the information that she was ready to go to the hospital at any time. She was a remarkably healthy accident case, and the young physician explained that he would have to make an examination and learn the true nature of her injuries before taking her off.

She demurred somewhat wrathfully at this, but finally uncovered one arm, where was to be seen a bad but not serious burn of a week before. It was not a burn requiring hospital treatment, and the doctor departed, a severe tongue lashing from the would be patient following him as he hurried down the stairs, glad to get off with nothing more serious. The woman's wrath had good cause, he found upon inquiry. The family had been dispossessed, and it had been decided that the husband and children should go for a time to one of his relatives, while the wife would seek refuge in the hospital. In this way they would tide over their troubles, but the doctor's unforeseen refusal to play his part had upset their plans seriously.—New York Times.

Not So Bad.

Senator Mark Hanna and a friend were talking of the chances for a fight on the bill granting relief to Cuba when that measure reached the senate. The friend was doubtful of the outcome of the fight. "You know," he said, "that Senator Burrows of Michigan is against the bill." "Yes, I heard so," responded Mr. Hanna. "He says he will fight it to the last second," continued the doleful friend. "He does, eh?" queried Hanna musingly. "Yes, to the last second." "Well, that is not so bad," said Hanna. "Burrows is a great fighter, and he probably will fight this bill to the last second, but no longer."

"I stood in a draught with my coat off and caught this wretched cold," says the sufferer. He need not pay a heavy penalty if he follows his act of folly with an act of wisdom. Soak the feet in hot water with a few teaspoonful of Perry Davis' Painkiller in it. Take a teaspoonful of Painkiller in hot sweetened water at bed time and be thankful for so simple and speedy a way to break up a cold. There is but one Painkiller, Perry Davis'.

BODIES CREMATED IN MOLTEN LAVA

WORDS FAIL TO DESCRIBE SITUATION

Senate Raises the Relief Fund to Half a Million Dollars.

Looters Have Begun the Ghastly Work of Hobbling the Perish Corpses—Thrilling Stories of Some of the Survivors—A Rescuing Vessel's Dangerous and Splendid Work of Relief.

Fort de France, Island of Martinique, May 13.—Strange to relate, in view of the number of inhabitants of St. Pierre who were swept to death by the volcanic waves from Mount Pelee on Thursday last very few corpses have been found by those who are engaged in the work of cremating the dead bodies. This is due to the fact that the most populous quarters of the town are buried under a thick layer of lava which apparently entirely consumed the bodies of the victims.

Public interest centres in the stories of the survivors and in the efforts being made to succor the refugees. A woman named Laurent, who was employed as a servant at St. Pierre, in the household of M. Gabriel, and who was among those taken to the hospital in this city, in describing her experience, said that on the day of the terrible disaster she heard a loud report and thereupon fainting. When she regained her senses a few hours later she was horribly burned, and glancing around she saw two members of the Gabriel family still alive, but they died before assistance could reach them.

Mlle. Laurent, although she lived for some time after being taken to the hospital and was conscious while under the care of the physicians, died without being able to impart any additional information concerning the catastrophe. The work of succoring the refugees continues incessantly.

Words fail to describe the present situation at St. Pierre. A small detachment of French troops is making efforts to bury the dead, although the government seems to be uncertain as to what is to be done in this direction. Looting at the dead has begun already. While coming to Fort de France the Potomac picked up a boat containing five colored men and one white man whose pockets were filled with coin and jewelry, the latter evidently stripped from the fingers of the dead. Lieut. B. B. McCormick, the commander of the Potomac, arrested these men and turned them over to the commander of the French cruiser Sucebet for punishment. The Potomac also brought a ton of supplies to Martinique.

When the cable repair ship Poney-Quartier, Captain Thiron, started on her mission of mercy she tried to pass through clouds of burning cinders and the risk of catching fire in order to reach the terror-stricken people ashore. But she succeeded in bringing to this port 456 people, mainly former residents of the village of LePrecheur. This was on Saturday last. Since then the steamer, as the result of the daring trips, has succeeded in bringing many other persons to Fort de France. On Sunday she secured 923 persons and piloted the French cruiser Sucebet and the Danish cruiser Valkyrie, who took on board fifteen hundred persons.

The path of the volcanic torrent which swept over St. Pierre is marked out in a strange manner. The vicinity of the shore, where vessels anchored, was swept by a whirlwind of volcanic gas, which ripped, tore and shattered everything in its passage, but left few traces of cinders behind. On the other hand,



THE FRENCH BATTLESHIP GAULOIS AND HER MISSION. This splendid ship is coming to America to take part in the unveiling of the Rochambeau statue, which has been presented to the United States by the French people. Comte de Rochambeau was commander of the French forces in America in 1780 and co-operated with Washington in the siege and capture of Yorktown.

the fort, centre and adjoining parts of St. Pierre are buried under a thick bed of cinders which consumed everything beneath it.

Senate Makes it Half a Million.

Washington, May 14.—Soon after the Senate convened today Mr. Cullom, from the committee on foreign relations, reported a joint resolution appropriating \$500,000, including the \$200,000 already appropriated, to be expended under direction of the president in such manner as will most promptly and efficiently relieve the stricken people of the French West Indies and St. Vincent. The resolution was adopted without comment.

SEVEN SPRINGS.

May 12. The Seven Springs High school will close its seventh annual session on May 22 and 23. The annual address by Hon. Edwin W. Keer, of Clinton, will be delivered on the evening of May 22 at 8 o'clock. The annual concert will be on the evening of the 23d.

The students of the High school are now very busy with examinations and in preparing for the closing exercises of that institution.

Mr. G. H. Roberts, of New Bern, who has been spending several days at the Springs, left for his home Monday.

Mrs. W. G. Parks and Mrs. W. G. Sutton are visiting friends near Goldsboro.

Mr. W. G. Parks is now the acknowledged champion sabreur. He flabs every day and searches for his bait in the wee sma' hours of the night. In a hotly contested ball game between Debanam-Kinsey school and Strabene aggregation against Seven Springs today the latter came out victorious by a score of 3 to 0. Batteries: Debanam-Kinsey school, Whitley and Hojges. Seven Springs, Parks and Parks. The feature of the game was the superb work of the Parks brothers for Seven Springs, striking out the first 18 men that went to the bat.

Mr. Levy Mewborne Dead.

Mr. Levy A. Mewborne, jr., died at his home about seven miles from Kinston, on Lough swamp, last night at 9 o'clock, after an illness of about two months. The remains were interred in the family graveyard this afternoon. The deceased leaves a wife and four children—one son and three daughters—all grown. He was about 60 years old, and one of the best known men in the county. He was a member of the Christian church, near his home. He had a great many warm friends in this and Greene county.

BASEBALL.

STATE LEAGUE. Raleigh 8, Greensboro 0; Durham 0, New Bern 8; Wilmington 7, Charlotte 8. Games today: Greensboro at Raleigh, New Bern at Durham, Charlotte at Wilmington.

Relative standing of the clubs to-day: Won. Lost. P. C. Raleigh..... 7 1 .875 Charlotte..... 5 3 .625 Greensboro..... 4 4 .500 New Bern..... 4 4 .500 Durham..... 3 5 .375 Wilmington..... 1 7 .125

NATIONAL LEAGUE. Chicago 2, Brooklyn 0; Cincinnati 24, Philadelphia 28; St. Louis 1, New York 3.

AMERICAN LEAGUE. Cleveland 4, St. Louis 3; Baltimore 10, Washington 3; Detroit 7, Chicago 3.

Kinston Gun Club.

The members of the Kinston Gun club are requested to meet at the Naval Reserve armory tonight at 8 o'clock. Business of importance.

A. E. ROBERTS, Secy and Treas.

The Best Prescription for Malaria. Chills and Fever is a simply of Quinine Tartrate. Quinine Tartrate. It is simply the best and quickest in a Malaria Cure. No cure—No Pay. Price 50c.

FRESH FACTS IN A FEW LINES

Happenings Throughout the Universe

The compulsory adoption of the metric system in England has been advocated by 172 members of parliament.

British warships are to be painted green this season in order to complete the tests of the best color for war purposes.

The "pari mutuel," or French government tax on race course betting, has produced \$15,130,400 during the past five years.

During the last year the United States fish commission distributed to various waters more than 2,000,000,000 fish and eggs.

London is now considering a proposal to have the streets along which the coronation procession will pass decorated by stage painters.

Germany's colonies are five times as big as herself, those of France eighteen times and Britain's ninety-seven times bigger than herself.

A farmer near Urbana, N. Y., found eighty mice which had made nests in the fleece of his sheep. The sheep did not seem to mind the intruders.

But little notice was taken in Holland of the anniversary of Queen Wilhelmina's wedding, and so reference to it whatever appeared in the leading Dutch papers.

It is semi-officially announced in Lisbon that the king of Portugal will be represented at the coronation by the Crown Prince Louis Philippe, who is only fifteen years of age.

Pingpong has taken Berlin by storm. One band of players has already opened a luxuriously appointed clubroom fitted with twelve tables, and a Berlin pingpong championship tournament is being championed.

In settlement of the claims for indemnity made by those Italian subjects who were expelled from the Transvaal the British government has paid down £12,000, which will be divided among 120 individuals.

A Russian engineer, M. Berislowski, has recently discovered extensive deposits of ozokerite (mineral wax) in the extreme north of Finland. The deposits are located on the Kemijoki river and are said to be very rich in paraffin.

The viceroy of India has announced a detailed scheme for utilizing the £250,000 subscribed in India for the Queen Victoria memorial in building a great hall of classical architecture of white Pentelicon marble to be brought from Greece.

Ex-soldiers will in future be employed as clerks in all departments of the British war office. Preference will be given to such as possess first class certificates of education or have been invalided from active service by wounds or sickness.

In consequence of the severe weather in France droves of wild birds have begun ravaging the fields around Tarbes, and the inhabitants are organizing bear-hunts in self defense. Up to the present nearly fifty of the animals have been killed.

According to statistics, the number of cases of murder in Italy range from 0.2 per million of the population in Milan to 156.7 in Naples. Offenses against property are reversed, Milan showing 7,549.6 per million against 4,002 in Naples.

Before the date of inauguration day is changed the house will have to agree to Senator Hoar's resolution setting it on the last Thursday in April, and then the proposed amendment will have to be submitted to the legislatures of the states and agreed to by three-fourths of them.

Under the emperors the population of Rome was more than 2,000,000. During the middle ages it was reduced to 14,000. When Victor Emmanuel made the city his capital, it was 184,000. In 1880 it had increased to 312,000. In 1890 to 451,000 and in 1900 to 500,610. The estimated population in 1902 is 550,000.

It is announced that an institute for the application of the light treatment has been established in Vienna. It is to be operated on the model of that of Professor Flinsen at Copenhagen and is to be partially under the control of the municipal government. The emperor, who is one of the founders, it is said, has contributed 10,000 crowns.

Khartum is not the Khartum we have hitherto pictured. In lieu of the mean, crumbling huts facing the mouth of the Blue Nile there now stands a stately, indeed a regal, palace, substantial villas, red bricked and European stamped barracks and last but not least as a sign of the times the building upon which floats an ensign with the words "The Bank of Egypt."

Halifax leads all Atlantic ports in the shipment of apples to Europe this season. The figures show that the Purveson, Allan and Donaldson lines of steamers have carried since the gathering of the fruit crop a total of 187,555 barrels of apples. In addition many shipments were sent via St. John, Montreal and Boston, so that the total shipments from Nova Scotia this year will exceed 200,000 barrels.

MISSING STRIP PICTURE.



THE MISSING STRIP IS TO BE FOUND IN THE PICTURE. CUT OUT AND FIT IN BLANK SPACE.