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FRESH FACTS IN A FEW LINES

ITEMS OF INTEREST TO EVERYBODY

Many Short Paragraphs Condensed for Busy People

There are about 5,000 women stenographers in Pittsburgh.

A German has invented an electric sand pump for cleaning stone buildings. The largest church in the world is St. Peter's, at Rome, accommodating 54,000 persons.

Theatrical stage employees have ninety local unions and more than 4,000 members.

Galway, Ireland, wants to be made the home terminal port of the proposed new Canadian mail route.

The Women's Butchers' union at the Chicago stockyards has 600 members. St. Louis has a similar union.

General Joubert's silver fitted jaunting car, which was captured in South Africa, is now at Woolwich arsenal.

There are about 15,000 convicts in the prisons of England, whose maintenance costs about \$3,000,000 a year.

Clusters of filberts containing twenty-nine separate nuts have been plucked at Templecombe, Somerset, England.

Copper in certain druggists' supplies has been traced to copper rivets used in the driving belts of the manufacturing machinery.

In a fortnight's fishing on Oulton Broad, Suffolk, England, a lady and her husband landed 2,539 roach between them.

About 16,000,000 tons of freight are annually carried on the Ohio river, which has a length of 1,000 miles from Pittsburg to Cairo.

A belief in witchcraft still prevails in parts of Lancashire, England; also in the Isle of Man and still more strongly in the Hebrides.

It is announced that the British museum has purchased the ten pound aerolite which fell recently at Crumlin, County Antrim, Ireland.

Authorities of British Columbia have established traveling libraries for the benefit of the numerous lumber and mining camps in that province.

Endeavors are being made to amalgamate the Austrian, French and Swiss Alpine clubs for the purpose of securing more control over the guides.

In a cemetery in Middlebury, Vt., is a stone erected by a widow for her loving husband bearing this inscription: "Rest in peace—until we meet again."

Six monster apples gathered at Pulham, Norfolk, England, measured thirteen inches in circumference and weighed together three pounds and two ounces.

Turkish women do not come into control of their private fortunes until after marriage. After that they can dispose of one-third of it without the husband's consent.

A Hint For the Future.
"It is a source of great happiness to me, my dear," remarked Mr. Baxter to his life's companion, "that no one can ever with truthfulness point to you as a woman with a past."

"Yes, James," replied Mrs. Baxter, "it should make you happy, and as tomorrow is my birthday it will make me happy to have everybody point to me as a woman with a present."—New York Herald.

Different Investments in Mind.
Julius—Would you like to live your life over again?
Edgar—No, but I'd like to spend over again all the money I've spent.—Stray Stories.

Insuperable.
"Smithers is positively the most insuperable man I ever saw."
"Yes; I never knew him ever to entertain an idea."—What to Eat.

Italians and Meat.
Italians of the poorer class are noted for their general good health. This is to some extent attributed to the fact that the working people of Italy eat less meat than those of any other European nation.

From Manila to Australia.
During a voyage from Manila to Australia the ship is out of sight of land for two days only.

WHERE THE WORLD HOLDS COUNSEL.
A sage once said: "Of all our possessions the newspaper is the most valuable. It is the meeting place where the world holds counsel." The newspaper is made, like everything else, with an idea of superiority. That it shall have prestige is one of the caves of its makers.

The same line of argument may be applied to tobacco.

The people make the news for the paper, and the editor gives it to the world in satisfying form. Nature supplies us with tobacco. Given to the smoker in Piedmont Cigarettes is one of the satisfying forms in the making of which the manufacturers of Piedmont Cigarettes have excelled.

SPORTING NOTES.

Miss Hecker, the women's golf champion, never plays the game during the winter.

Catcher Billy Maloney may be transferred to Jimmy Collins by the Cincinnati club.

Ban Johnson denies that either Reach or Angus is behind the New York American League club.

Under the orders of his physician, "Philadelphia Jack" O'Brien has been compelled to call off all his fights for the next few weeks.

Four horses will try to lower the world's trotting record next season. They are Cresceus, The Abbot, John A. McKerron and Lord Derby.

The ice yachting championship of the United States has been held for five years by the Jack Frost, also champion of the Hudson river.

Jockey "Skeets" Martin, now under contract to W. C. Whitney, is to ride H. B. Duryea's Aceful, the American bred three-year-old, in the English Derby.

J. A. R. Elliott, the famous marksman, is now in New York, where he will prepare himself for a few pigeon matches and get in trim for the summer circuit.

Jake Gettman, the crack center fielder of the Eastern League club of Buffalo, intends to leave that organization and join the National League club in Philadelphia.

The new board running track for the use of the Harvard track squad is now completed. It is the best that the university has ever had and is modeled after the Boston A. A. track.

WATERFALLS IN JAPAN.

They Are Almost Countless and Are Used as Shrines.

The waterfalls of Japan are almost countless. There is one at every turn, and where there was not one in the beginning the Japs have made one, for it is their passion. Every little garden has a fall or two, and it would not be considered a garden at all without it. There are many very beautiful ones in various parts of the country, and they are all of them shrines visited by thousands of pilgrims every year. They do not pray to them as to a statue of Buddha, but they first pass up a little paper prayer on a convenient rock and then sit down in rapt attention and gaze at the falling water for hours, taking an occasional cup of tea at a little teahouse which always stands close at hand.

The Japs are great at making pilgrimages anyway. When a man has reached the age of forty-five, he is supposed to have raised a family which will in the future take care of him. About the first thing he does on retiring is to start on a series of pilgrimages. Sometimes he joins a band of fellow pilgrims, or, if comparatively wealthy, he sometimes takes his wife and a minor child and makes the pilgrimages by himself. These pilgrim bands can always be seen moving about the country. They carry little banners with the name of their city and district marked on them, and when they have received good entertainment at a teahouse or hotel they hang one of their banners up in a conspicuous place as a testimonial. Often a band of pilgrims will travel from one end of the country to the other, visiting every temple and waterfall in the land.

Lavish Entertainments.
In the palmy days of the French monarchy sumptuous entertainments of royalty were not uncommon. To entertain a queen for a week the Comte d'Artois rebuilt, rearranged and refurbished his castle from threshold to turret, employing 900 workmen day and night. The Marshal de Soubise received Louis XV. as his guest for a day and night at a cost of \$90,000. "I hear," said his majesty to the marshal, who owed millions, "that you are in debt." "I will inquire of my steward and inform your majesty," replied the host, hiding a yawn behind his hand.

Three of a Kind.
Stalate—Why, my watch has stopped. Miss Willing—And so has the clock. Stalate—Then I suppose I may as well stop awhile longer.—San Francisco Examiner.

A Credit to Both.
"Does she favor her father or her mother?"
"Well, I should say the sort of compliments both of them."—Detroit Free Press.

A Proposal.
"Dear me! But we're supposed to have reached the age of discretion."
"On the contrary, we've passed it, thank heaven!"—New York Life.

Raiment.
First Actor—I am having a new suit of clothes made.
Second Actor—I am having a pair of socks—niti!—Indianapolis News.

"The nicest and pleasantest medicine I have used for indigestion and constipation is Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets," says Melard F. Craig, of Middlegrove, N. Y. "They work like a charm and do not grip or have any unpleasant effect." For sale by J. E. Hood Druggist.

A BATTLE WITH BANK ROBBERS

ATTEMPT TO ROB MOCKSVILLE BANK

Vice President and Cashier Have Warm Encounter With the Cracksmen

Charlotte Observer, 26.

At 2 o'clock this morning an ineffectual effort was made to rob the bank of Advance at Mocksville. Expert cracksmen broke open the vault and stole some loose metal currency, but were interrupted before they had time to open the time lock safe inside the vault.

At about 2 o'clock Mr. T. J. Byerly, the cashier of the bank, who rooms in a building close to the bank, heard two explosions, which he thought came from the bank. He aroused the vice president of the bank, Mr. James McGuire, Jr., and arming themselves with guns and pistols the two young men started at once for the bank. When they came close to the building they saw that the door was open. As Byerly started to enter a man inside fired on him with a Winchester rifle. Byerly and McGuire both returned the fire, and a fusillade ensued. The cashier and vice president fired ten shots and the would-be robbers answered them almost shot for shot. No one was struck.

When the firing was over it was found that the cracksmen had fled. A hurried examination of the bank showed that no damage was done beyond ruining the vault, which has a massive steel door one and a half inches thick. This had been torn off by nitro-glycerine. Mr. Byerly stated over the phone this morning that there was every indication that several professional robbers were engaged in the attempted robbery.

The whole town of Mocksville was aroused by the occurrence and efforts were made to surround the place and prevent the robbers from escaping. As The Observer goes to press the cashier and the other officers of the bank are trying to get a special train to bring bloodhounds into Mocksville in order that the dogs may get on the trail of the cracksmen before it gets cold.

TEA ROOT CARVINGS.

Fantastic Wooden Objects That Are Fashioned in the Orient.

The fantastic wooden objects which come from the far east and are known as tea root carvings have long been the basis of a prosperous industry in the populous city of Fuchuan. Strictly speaking, the name is a misnomer. Some of the carvings are made from old tea roots and tea trunks, but the vast majority, nine-tenths at least, are made from the roots and trunks of hardwood trees.

The carvings are almost invariably made in two parts, a pedestal and one or more human figures fitted to the latter by pegs and holes. The former is made from a root and the latter from a trunk. The roots are selected with considerable care. They must be comparatively free from dry rot, decay and worm holes and must possess a rude symmetry. They are cleaned, scrubbed and scraped and sawed to about the desired size; then the artist with chisel, gouge, knife and pinchers removes rootlets and roots until the figure is completed.

The simplest design is a three legged pedestal, of which the base is a rough cylinder of wens and knobs. Any number of legs may be used. A curious specimen seen by the writer in the Grand hotel, Yokohama, has fifty legs, while the body has been so treated as to suggest a horny centiped. A second type of pedestal is the mushroom. A third type is an animal form, such as the buffalo, tiger, unicorn, elephant or dragon.

Nearly always the chest is guided by humor or satire. If it be a saint who is depicted, the look of piety or suffering is replaced by a leer or drunken grimace; if it be a warrior, every limb and muscle is molded so as to suggest decrepitude or a desire to run away.

Quang Ti, the invincible soldier prince, is frequently portrayed standing on one leg, with the other extended like a professional rope balancer.—New York Post.

The Battle of Tours.
The battle of Tours in 732 A. D. is said to have been the most murderous on record. Three hundred and fifty thousand men in all were killed.

A German Superstition.
It is believed in Germany that the oxen are endowed with speech on Christmas eve at midnight. But to hear them it is necessary to pit ferr leaves in one's boots.

Bargain Counters in Paris.
The bargain counter flourishes in Paris as in the retail stores of this country. "Occasion" is the sign by which it is known, and the Parisian housewife is not a whit behind the housewife of America in knowing how to take advantage of it.

The Suez Canal.
The actual cost of making the Suez canal was \$24,150,000.
Fever gallous; wears longer. Devos.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE

TOO MUCH TALK BY THE LAWYERS.

A Bill to Limit Pleadings. To Keep First Cousins from Marrying

Monday, January 26.

It is confidently expected that the Democratic caucus will choose a senatorial candidate tomorrow night. There is a general desire among the supporters of all the candidates themselves, to have the caucus over. Every proper agency that could be employed has been used to secure support by all the candidates. They all realize that they have done all they can do, and are beginning now to wish to know their fate. The end is believed to be near at hand. Tomorrow night will probably witness the close of the memorable struggle—the most memorable that has been witnessed in North Carolina in fifty years.

SENATE.

Senator Webb introduced a bill to break up the "talk, talk, talk," of lawyers in court. He proposes that each judge allow only a given time for argument. The bill was referred to the judiciary committee.

Senator Blow is at work to put more money into the treasuries of the graded schools. He introduced a bill providing that fines and penalties imposed and collected by mayors and chief officers of cities be paid over to the graded schools. At present these go to the general school fund of the county.

The Pamlico, Oriental and Western Railway company's amendment to its charter to allow a vote on subscriptions to its capital stock by districts, townships, cities and towns through which it passes, or which are interested, went through all right. Senator Warren explained that he had investigated the original bill and found that the amendment was not contrary to any laws. That county commissioners could call an election without petition, for a county. He found that Newbern and Craven county were interested and that the terminus of the road was to be in Newbern, where people desired to vote on the subscription at once. He had no objection to the bill and hoped it would pass.

A number of petitions asking for temperance legislation were read.

A bill to authorize an election for an issue of \$10,000 in bonds for a graded school building in Mt. Olive passed second reading.

An amendment increasing allowance for clerical force in insurance department from \$1,000 to \$1,600 passed final readings and was enrolled.

Bill to increase the commissioners of Carteret county from three to five, and naming Abe Lee and Allan Taylor as the two new commissioners, passed final readings, ordered enrolled.

Senator Warren introduced a bill to amend section 54, chapter 9, laws of 1901, by which persons are to be allowed to sell books, periodicals, papers and literary productions without paying peddler's tax. Referred to finance committee.

HOUSE.

A large number of petitions from various counties for temperance legislation again came in. This is now almost a daily occurrence.

Several bills of considerable interest were introduced. One was to prevent the intermarriage of first cousins. This amends section 1810 of the code to make it read: "All marriages between any two persons nearer of kin than second cousins shall be void."

A bill by Mr. Fuller, of Durham, makes it unlawful for any person to sell liquor to an idiot or lunatic, as well as a minor. It is amendatory of section 4077 of the Code, which prohibits liquor dealers to sell to persons under 21 years of age.

Another bill to divide the school fund between the races according to taxes, was introduced.

Among the bills introduced were: To establish wreck districts in Carteret county; to provide for appointment of cotton weighers for the towns in Pitt county.

Bills passed: To allow fishing with hand lines from bridges in Craven county; to authorize commissioners of Carteret county to levy a special tax; to increase the number of commissioners of Wayne county.

Earthquake in Mexico.
Mexico City, Jan. 25.—News has been received here by the Minister of the interior, of earthquakes and volcanic disturbances near Orizaba, State of Chiuhshua. Nanatoma Mountain has been riven in twain and the atmosphere is filled with fine volcanic dust. An earthquake at midnight on the 23rd was terrifying to the inhabitants, and the people were filled with consternation.

Don't Worry

This is easier said than done, yet it may be of some help to consider the matter. If the cause is something over which you have no control it is obvious that worrying will not help the matter in the least. On the other hand, if within your control you have only to act. When you have a cold and fear an attack of pneumonia, buy a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and use it judiciously and all cause for worry as to the outcome will quickly disappear. There is no danger of pneumonia when it is used. For sale by J. E. Hood Druggist.

The Value of Cotton Seed.

Cotton seed have become a product of the farm that takes a very prominent place among the many crops of North Carolina farmers. But few people know the money value to the farmers of this State that they bring.

The following from the Charlotte Observer shows of what value this used-to-be comparatively worthless product is to the farmers in North Carolina:

"It is astonishing," said a cotton seed buyer yesterday, "to see the amount of money the farmers of this county get for their cotton seed, a product which a few years ago was considered absolutely worthless. I have been buying seed and selling meal and hulls for five years now, and in so doing have handled \$30,000 per year, or \$250,000 for the five years. The seed from the cotton raised in this county amounts to 23,000,000 pounds per year. At the present time seed are selling for 27 cents per bushel, or 90 cents per hundred pounds, and at this price the cotton seed raised in Mecklenburg county would be worth over \$200,000.

"In the United States when a crop of 10,000,000 bales of cotton is grown there is about 1,000,000,000 pounds of seed, which at the present price of the product would be worth about \$9,000,000. There is no getting at the value of the oils, meal and hulls which is made from the seed. The price named above is the amount the farmer gets for the raw product.

"Several years ago, before the value of cotton seed became known, millions of dollars worth of seed were wasted every year. The seed makes excellent manure and the raw seed are very good cow feed, but this was not known and they were left in piles to rot and waste. Just before the cotton oil mills were established, however, most of the seed were used for manuring land, some one discovered that they were of value for that purpose. Even after the mills were built the hulls were allowed to waste, for up until a few years ago their value as stock feed was unknown. The evolution in this product has most certainly been wonderful."

Cut to Death by a Negro.

Washington, N. C., Jan. 26.—Saturday night at Hunter's Bridge, of this county, George M. Latham, a white man, became involved in a difficulty with Rufus Woolard, colored. Latham was cut in three places and died in a few minutes. Woolard made his escape to the woods.

The facts leading to the murder are these: Several people were in a store, among the number Latham and Woolard, both of whom were feeling good. An argument led to quarreling and a fight ensued, resulting in Latham being cut to death. A two inch gash was made on the abdomen, which entered the abdominal cavity and three inches long was made on the right thigh, severing the femoral artery, and a slight cut on the hip.

Latham had the reputation of being a good citizen, and the negro bears a good character in that community. Benj. Oden, colored, arrested the murderer in the woods near the scene of his crime this morning. Oden brought the prisoner direct to this city, and placed him in jail. A posse of over one hundred men have been searching for him since Saturday night. Woolard claims he did the cutting in self defense. He says Latham was advancing upon him and he could not keep him off until he cut him. Woolard is 20 years old.

A Struggle With English.

American tourists abroad often comment upon the literal translation into English of notices in foreign languages. The well meant efforts of landlords and others to convey in the language of the visitor the meaning of the native often produce laughable results.

A Washington citizen found this notice posted in his room in an Alpine hotel:

"Hasten, the venerable voyagers are earnestly requested not to take clothes off the bed to see the sun rise for the color changes."—Washington Star.

Our Paper Money.

"The man who is ever ready to bet on anything said suddenly to a group of members of the club, 'I'll bet a case of catchup to a bottle of curry powder that there isn't a man in the party that can name the denominations of United States paper money.' All lost, and all were abashed when he mentioned \$1, \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000. Most men are unaccustomed to handling notes above \$100, and few ever saw one of \$10,000."—New York Press.

Food Alters Animals.

It is surprising how circumstances alter animals. The savages of the Amazon region feed the common green parrot for generations with the fat of certain fishes, thus causing it to become beautifully variegated with red and yellow feathers. In like manner the natives of the Malay archipelago, by a process of feeding, change the talkative lory into the gorgeous king lory.

The Manager Realizes It.

"There is something elevating in music," said the artist.
"Yes," answered the manager. "Music certainly has the effect of stimulating lofty ideals as to salary."—Washington Star.

It was to combat and expose quacks and fools that laughter was invented.—Thackeray.

OLD NORTH STATE NEWS AND GOSSIP

ODD AND INTERESTING HAPPENINGS.

Clipped and Rehashed From Our North Carolina Exchanges.

Insurance Commissioner James H. Young has offered a reward of \$200 for the arrest of the person or persons who set fire to the residence of Mr. B. F. Montague at Raleigh.

Owing to the caucuses and the bad weather the Red Men's fair did not yield so much money as was expected, and it is said that something like \$2,000 will be the figure. However, that is a nest-egg for the Red Men's orphanage.

Mr. H. A. King, of Raleigh, sustained an accident at Moncure Sunday night that may cost him his right arm. While repairing some parts of his engine he lost his footing, falling to the ground and sustained injuries that will lay him up for several days.

Troy: Dr. Ben Atkins, a young physician of some prominence, was arrested Wednesday charged with assault with intent to commit rape upon Clara Ingold, an operative in the Smitherman cotton mill, who works at night. Atkins is under bond.

Greensboro, Jan. 25.—At a meeting of the Good Roads club, held in Guilford county last night, that organization endorsed a plan to build between 100 and 150 miles of macadam road in five years at a total cost of \$300,000. A bill authorizing an election to vote the necessary bonds was agreed upon for submission to the general assembly.

Greensboro, Jan. 25.—Henry McAdoo, aged twenty-five years, was found on the railroad track here at 1 o'clock this morning with both legs broken and his skull crushed. He died two hours later. So little blood came from his wounds that physicians who attended him were led to believe that he was stunned by a blow on the head and then placed in the way of a passing train.

Greensboro, Jan. 25.—The board of aldermen of Greensboro have up for consideration a novel proposition. It is an amendment to the city charter, whereby each alderman will receive a salary of \$200 a year. Under the amendment, also, each alderman has \$4 deducted from his salary every time he misses a board meeting and \$2 every time he misses a meeting of a committee to which he belongs.

Winston-Salem, Jan. 24.—A collision between a double header freight and a work train occurred on the Norfolk and Western, near Stanley tonight. The trains met on a sixty-five foot trestle. Two of the engines went through the trestle. Engineer Wiley, of the work train, was killed. Engineer Spencer, of the freight, was fatally injured. Several others of both crews also were injured, but not seriously.

Raleigh special to Charlotte Observer: It is understood that the Catholic church at the orphanage here will be dedicated in May and that Cardinal Gibbons and several bishops will be asked to honor the occasion by their presence. The cardinal is greatly beloved here, as some thirty or thirty-five years ago he was in charge of St. John's, the then Catholic church in this city, which stood at the southeast corner of the capitol square.

The three-year-old child of Mr. Horace Read, living near Triverty, fell Thursday morning and stuck a knife blade into its head, just above the temple. In trying to get it out the mother broke the blade and a part was left in the child's head. The blade was very small and Dr. C. W. Downey does not know how deep it went or how much of the blade was broken off in the head. It is a serious accident and may prove fatal. The blade went through the skull and to remove it the skull would have to be cut.

Durham, Jan. 24.—In the superior court today the case of Kelly against the Durham Traction company, came to an end by the jury allowing the plaintiff judgment for \$400. This is the first judgment yet rendered against the company. Kelly sued for \$1,000 for false arrest. Kelly and several boys were on the cars one night last summer and were arrested for refusing to pay their fares. They claimed that they had paid and the suit followed. There is another suit of the same kind on docket, but it will not be decided at this term of court.

Asheville: George W. Vanderbilt has bought all the Davidson river lands together with the water power that has for years been the motive power of the mill there. Mr. Vanderbilt already owns the upper lands on Davidson river, but this deal brings him down and identifies his interests as far down as the Transylvania railway, and it is understood that he will erect a railway station at the point where the tannic extract plant is being located. Mr. Vanderbilt will also improve the approach to Biltmore. The river bank at the Asheville end of the Swannanoa bridge will be excavated so that the river, having a wider channel will not overflow. The bridge will be extended.

For a bad taste in the mouth take a few doses of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. Price 25 cents. Warranted to cure. For sale by J. E. Hood Druggist.