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VOL. I. NO. 49. MARION, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 1897. Price $1 Per Year, in Advance.

DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON.

The Noted Washington Divine's Sunday Subject.

SUBJECT: "Vicarious Sacrifices."

TEXT: "Without shedding of blood is no remission."—Hebrews ix., 22.

John G. Whittier, the last of the great school of American poets that made the last quarter of a century brilliant, asked me in the White Mountains one morning after prayers, in which I had given out Cowper's famous hymn about the "fountain filled with blood," "Do you really believe there is a literal application of the blood of Christ to the soul?" My negative reply then is my negative reply now. The Bible statement agrees with all physicians and all physiologists and all scientists in saying that the blood is the life, and in the Christian religion it means simply that Christ's life was given for life. Hence all this talk of men who say the Bible story of blood is disgusting, and that they don't want what they call a "slaughter house religion," only shows their incapacity or unwillingness to look through the figure of speech toward the thing signified. The blood that on the darkest Friday the world ever saw oozed or trickled or poured from the brow, and the side, and the hands, and the feet of the illustrious sufferer, back of Jerusalem, in a few hours coagulated and dried up and forever disappeared, and if man had depended on the application of the literal blood of Christ there would not have been a soul saved for the last eighteen centuries.

In order to understand this red word of my text we only have to exercise as much common sense in religion as we do in everything else. Pang for pang, hunger for hunger, fatigue for fatigue, tear for tear, blood for blood, life for life, we see every day illustrated. The act of substitution is no novelty, although I hear men talk as though the idea of Christ's suffering substituted for our suffering were something abnormal, something distressingly odd, something wildly eccentric, a solitary episode in the world's history—when I could take you out into this city and before sundown point you to five hundred cases of substitution and voluntary suffering of one in behalf of another.

At 2 o'clock to-morrow afternoon go among the places of business or toil. It will be no difficult thing for you to find men who by their looks show you that they are overworked. They are prematurely old. They are hastening rapidly toward their decease. They have gone through crises in business that shattered their nervous system and pulled on the brain. They have a shortness of breath and a pain in the back of the head and at night an insomnia that alarms them. Why are they drudging at business early and late? For fun? No. It would be difficult to extract any amusement out of that exhaustion. Because they are avaricious? In many cases no. Because their own personal expenses are lavish? No. A few hundred dollars would meet all their wants. The simple fact is the man is enduring all that fatigue and exasperation and wear and tear to keep his home prosperous. There is an invisible line reaching from that store, from that bank, from that shop, from that scaffolding, to a quiet scene a few blocks away, a few miles away. And there is the secret of that business endurance. He is simply the champion of a homestead for which he wins bread and wardrobe and education and prosperity, and in such battle 10,000 men fall. Of ten business men whom I bury nine died of overwork for others. Some sudden disease finds them with no power of resistance, and they are gone. Life for life. Blood for blood. Substitution!

At 1 o'clock to-morrow morning, the hour when slumber is most uninterrupted and most profound, walk amid the dwelling houses of the city. Here and there you will find a dim light because it is the household custom to keep a subdued light burning, but most of the houses from base to top are as dark as though uninhabited. A merciful God has sent forth the archangel of sleep, and he puts his wings over the city. But yonder is a clear light burning, and outside on the window casement is a glass or pitcher containing food for a sick child. The food is set in the fresh air. This is the sixth night that mother has sat up with that sufferer. She has to the last point obeyed the physician's prescription, not giving a drop too much or too little or a moment too soon or too late. She is very anxious, for she has buried three children with the same disease, and she prays and weeps, each prayer and sob ending with a kiss of the pale cheek. By dint of kindness she gets the little one through the ordeal. After it is all over the mother is taken down. Brain or nervous fever sets in, and one day she leaves the convalescent child with a mother's blessing and goes up to join the three in the kingdom of heaven. Life for life! Substitution! The fact is that there are an uncounted number of mothers who, after they have navigated a large family of children through all the diseases of infancy and got them fairly started up the flowering slope of boyhood and girlhood have only strength enough left to die. They fade away. Some call it consumption. Some call it nervous prostration. Some call it intermittent or malarial indisposition. But I call it martyrdom of the domestic circle. Life for life. Blood for blood. Substitution!

Or perhaps the mother lingers long enough to see a son get on the wrong road, and his former kindness becomes rough reply when she expresses anxiety about him. But she goes right on, looking carefully after his apparel, remembering his every birthday with some memento, and, when he is brought home worn out with dissipation, nurses him till he gets well and starts him again and hopes and expects and prays and counsels and suffers until her strength gives out and she fails. She is going, and attendants, bending over her pillow, ask her if she has any message to leave, and she makes great effort to say something, but out of three or four minutes of indistinct utterance they can catch but three words, "My poor boy!" The simple fact is she died for him. Life for life. Substitution!

About thirty-six years ago there went forth from our northern and southern homes hundreds of thousands of men to do battle for their country. All the poetry of war soon vanished and left them nothing but the terrible prose. They waded knee deep in mud. They slept in snowbanks. They marched till their cut feet tracked the earth. They were swindled out of their honest rations and lived on meat not fit for a dog. They had jaws all fractured and eyes extinguished and limbs shot away. Thousands of them cried for water as they lay dying on the field the night after the battle and got it not. They were homesick and received no message from their loved ones. They died in barns, in bushes, in ditches, the buzzards of the summer heat the only attendants on their obsequies. No one but the infinite God, who knows everything, knows the ten-thousandth part of the length and breadth and depth and height of the anguish of the northern and southern battlefields. Why did these fathers leave their children and go to the front, and why did these young men, postponing the marriage day, start out into the possibilities of never coming back? For the country they died. Life for life. Blood for blood. Substitution!

But we need not go so far. What is that monument in Greenwood? It is to the doctors who fell in the southern epidemics. Why go? Were there not enough sick to be attended in these northern latitudes? Oh, yes. But the doctor puts a few medical books in his valise, and some vials of medicine, and leaves his patients here in the care of other physicians and takes the rail train. Before he gets to the infected regions he passes crowded rail trains, regular and extra, taking the flying and affrighted populations. He arrives in a city over which a great horror is brooding. He goes from couch to couch, feeling of the pulse and studying symptoms and prescribing day after day, night after night, until a fellow physician says: "Doctor, you had better go home and rest. You look miserable." But he cannot rest while so many are suffering. On and on until some morning finds him in a delirium, in which he talks of home, and then rises and says he must go and look after those patients. He is told to lie down, but he fights his attendants until he falls back and is weaker and weaker, and dies for people with whom he had no kinship, and far away from his own family, and is hastily put away in a stranger's tomb and only the fifth part of a newspaper line tells us of his sacrifice—his name just mentioned among five. Yet he has touched the farthest height of sublimity in that three weeks of humanitarian service. He goes straight as an arrow to the bosom of Him who said, "I was sick, and ye visited Me." Life for life. Blood for blood. Substitution!

In the [illegible] professions I see the same principle of self-sacrifice. In 1846 William Freeman, a pauperized and idiotic negro, was at Auburn, N. Y., on trial for murder. He had slain the entire Van Nest family. The foaming wrath of the community could be kept off him only by armed constables. Who would volunteer to be his counsel? No attorney wanted to sacrifice his popularity by such an ungrateful task. All were silent save one—a young lawyer with feeble voice that could hardly be heard outside the bar, pale and thin and awkward. It was William H. Seward, who saw that the prisoner was idiotic and irresponsible and ought to be put in an asylum rather than put to death, the heroic counsel uttering these beautiful words:

"I speak now in the hearing of a people who have prejudged prisoner and condemned me for pleading in his behalf. He is a convict, a pauper, a negro, without intellect, sense or emotion. My child with an affectionate smile disarms my careworn face of its frown whenever I cross my threshold. The beggar in the street obliges me to give because he says, 'God bless you!' as I pass. My dog caresses me with fondness if I will but smile on him. My horse recognizes me when I fill his manger. What reward, what gratitude, what sympathy and affection can I expect here? There the prisoner sits. Look at him. Look at the assemblage around you. Listen to their ill suppressed censures and their excited fears and tell me where among my neighbors or my fellow men, where even in his heart I can expect to find a sentiment, a thought, not to say of reward or of acknowledgment, or even of recognition? Gentlemen, you may think of this evidence what you please, bring in what verdict you can, but I asseverate before heaven and you that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the prisoner at the bar does not at this moment know why it is that my shadow falls on you instead of his own."

The gallows got its victim, but the post mortem examination of the poor creature showed to all the surgeons and to all the world that the public was wrong, that William H. Seward was right and that hard, stony step of obloquy in the Auburn courtroom was the first step of the stairs of fame up which he went to the top, or to within one step of the top, that last denied him through the treachery of American politics. Nothing sublimer was ever seen in an American courtroom than William H. Seward, without reward, standing between the fury of the populace and the loathsome imbecile. Substitution!

In the realm of the fine arts there was as remarkable an instance. A brilliant but hypercriticised painter, Joseph William Turner, was met by a volley of abuse from all the art galleries of Europe. His paintings, which have since won the applause of all civilized nations—"The Fifth Plague of Egypt," "Fishermen on a Lee Shore In Squally Weather," "Calais Pier," "The Sun Rising Through Mist" and "Dido Building Carthage"—were then targets for critics to shoot at. In defense of this outrageously abused man a young author of twenty-four years, just one year out of college, came forth with his pen and wrote the ablest and most famous essays on art that the world ever saw or ever will see—John Ruskin's "Modern Painters." For seventeen years this author fought the battles of the maltreated artist, and after, in poverty and broken heartedness, the painter had died and the public tried to undo their cruelties toward him by giving him a big funeral and burial in St. Paul's cathedral, his old-time friend took out of a tin box 19,000 pieces of paper containing drawings by the old painter, and through many weary and uncompensated months assorted and arranged them for public observation. People say John Ruskin in his old days is cross, misanthropic and morbid. Whatever he may do that he ought not to do, and whatever he may say that he ought not to say between now and his death, he will leave this world insolvent as far as it has any capacity to pay this author's pen for its chivalric and Christian defense of a poor painter's pencil. John Ruskin for William Turner. Blood for blood. Substitution!

What an exalting principle this which leads one to suffer for another! Nothing so kindles enthusiasm or awakens eloquence, or chimes poetic canto or moves nations. The principle is the dominant one in our religion—Christ the martyr, Christ the celestial hero, Christ the defender, Christ the substitute. No new principle, for it was as old as human nature, but now on a grander, wider, higher, deeper and more world-resounding scale. The shepherd boy as a champion for Israel, with a sling toppled the giant of Philistine braggadocio in the dust, but here is another David, who, for all the armies of churches militant and triumphant, hurls the Goliath of perdition into defeat, the crash of His brazen armor like an explosion at Hell Gate. Abraham had at God's command agreed to sacrifice his son Isaac, and the same God just in time had provided a ram of the thicket as a substitute. But here is another Isaac bound to the altar, and no hand arrests the sharp edges of laceration and death, and the universe shivers and quakes and recoils and groans at the horror.

All good men have for centuries been trying to tell whom this substitute was like, and every comparison, inspired and uninspired, evangelistic, prophetic, apostolic and human falls short, for Christ was the Great Unlike. Adam a type of Christ, because he came directly from God; Noah a type of Christ, because he delivered his own family from the deluge; Melchisedec a type of Christ, because he had no predecessor or successor; Joseph a type of Christ, because he was cast out by his brethren; Moses a type of Christ, because he was a deliverer from bondage; Samson a type of Christ, because of his strength to slay the lions and carry off the iron gates of impossibility; Solomon a type of Christ in the affluence of his dominion; Jonah a type of Christ, because of the stormy sea in which he threw himself for the rescue of others. But put together Adam and Noah and Melchisedec and Joseph and Moses and Joshua and Samson and Solomon and Jonah, and they would not make a fragment of a Christ, a quarter of a Christ, the half of a Christ or the millionth part of a Christ.

He forsook a throne and sat down on His own footstool. He came from the top of glory to the bottom of humiliation and changed a circumference seraphic for a circumference diabolic. Once waited on by angels, now hissed at by the brigands. From afar and high up He came down; past meteors swifter than they; by starry thrones, Himself more lustrous; past larger worlds to smaller worlds; down stairs of firmaments, and from cloud to cloud and through tree tops and into the camel's stall, to thrust His shoulder under our burdens and take the lances of pain through His vitals, and wrapped Himself in all the agonies which we deserve for our misdoings and stood on the splitting decks of a foundering vessel amid the drenching surf of the sea and passed midnights on the mountains amid wild beasts of prey and stood at the point where all earthly and infernal hostilities charged on Him at once with their keen sabres—our Substitute!

When did attorney ever endure so much for a pauper client or physician for the patient in the lazaretto or mother for the child in membranous croup, as Christ for us, as Christ for you, as Christ for me? Shall any man or woman or child in this audience who has ever suffered for another find it hard to understand this Christly suffering for us? Shall those whose sympathies have been wrung in behalf of the unfortunate have no appreciation of that one moment which was lifted out of all the ages of eternity as most conspicuous, when Christ gathered up all the sins of those to be redeemed under His one arm, and all his sorrows under His other arm and said: "I will atone for these under My right arm and will heal all those under My left arm. Strike Me with all thy glittering shafts, O eternal justice! Roll over Me with all thy surges, ye oceans of sorrow!" And the thunderbolts struck Him from above, and the seas of trouble rolled up from beneath, hurricane after hurricane, and cyclone after cyclone, and then and there in the presence of heaven and earth and hell—yea, all worlds witnessing—the price, the bitter price, the transcendent price, the awful price, the glorious price, the infinite price, the eternal price, was paid that sets us free.

That is what Paul means; that is what I mean; that is what all those who have ever had their hearts changed mean by "blood." I glory in this religion of blood. I am thrilled as I see the suggestive color in sacramental cup, whether it be of burnished silver set on cloth immaculately white or rough hewn from wood set on table in log hut meeting house of the wilderness. Now I am thrilled as I see the altars of ancient sacrifice crimson with the blood of the slain lamb, and Leviticus is to me not so much the Old Testament as the New. Now I see why the destroying angel passing over Egypt in the night spared all those houses that had blood sprinkled on their doorposts. Now I know what Isaiah means when he speaks of "one in red apparel coming with dyed garments from Bozrah," and what the Apocalypse means when it describes a heavenly chieftain whose vesture was dipped in blood," and what Peter the apostle means when he speaks of the "precious blood that cleanseth all sin," and what the old wornout, decrepit, missionary Paul means when in my text he cries, "Without shedding of blood is no remission." By that blood you and I will be saved—or never saved at all. Glory be to God that the hill back of Jerusalem was the battlefield on which Christ achieved our liberty!

REVIEW OF TRADE.

Larger Purchases for Consumption Cannot Longer Be Delayed.

Messrs. R. G. Dun & Co.'s review of trade for the past week, issued Saturday, says: "Though steadily increasing business is still much below its volume in former years of prosperity, and many express disappointment. Yet there is some gain every week, with more hands at work and more mines in operation, and the sure result, larger purchases for consumption, cannot be long delayed. In some branches it is felt already. There is a larger distribution of finished products, and the demand for commercial loans has sharply increased, especially in dry goods and the iron and steel branches.

"The progress of the iron and steel industry is hindered by uncertainty regarding the cost of lake ore for the coming year, though the repeated adjournment of producers' meetings is interpreted as evidence that an agreement will be ultimately reached. It is reported that Norrie ore at $2.75 will be taken as the basis, which would imply about $2.35 for Mesaba ores, but until the question has been settled many important transactions are deferred. While there is no great activity in finished products, the demand steadily increases. Contracts for several great buildings at Chicago are pending, and for a good many bridges and other railroad works, and the demand for wire nails and for wire does not abate, neither the demand for black sheets required in the tin plate manufacture. Although shipments of boots and shoes are almost as large as many previous years, it is announced that one or two of the largest works have closed for want of orders. At the same time many other concerns are taking very large orders, it is claimed, at prices below those generally quoted. No change whatever appears in quotations of leather this week and the Chicago market for hides fluctuates with a slight change reported downward. While manufacturers of cotton goods are looking forward with much confidence, the present demand is not equal to expectations, nor has the curtailment in production of print cloths accomplished the desired change in condition. The buying of wood, mainly of a speculative character in expectation of new duties, continues remarkably large. Sales at the three chief markets for the past week were 10,801,800 pounds. No great increase has yet appeared in the demand for goods, although a few more mills have found enough orders to start, perhaps in part anticipating a future demand. The expectation of new duties does not influence the woolen goods market as might be expected.

"The volume of business indicated by clearing house exchanges is smaller than last year. The average of daily exchanges for the month is 3.3 per cent. less than last year.

"Failures for the week have been 216 in the United States, against 261 last year, and 30 in Canada, against 49 last year."

Chicago Grain and Produce.

CHICAGO, Saturday.—The leading futures were as follows:

	Open.	Close.
Wheat:		
March	73¾@74	73¾
May	74¼@75	74¾
July	73¾@¾	73¾
Corn:		
March	23¼	23¼
May	25¼	24¼
July	25@26¼	25¼
Oats:		
March	16¾	16¾
May	17¼	17¼
July	18¼	18¼@¼
Mess Pork:		
March	....	....
May	8 95	8 85
July	9 07½	8 97½
Lard:		
March	....	....
May	4 30	4 27½
July	4 40	4 37½
Ribs:		
March	....	....
May	4 87½	4 80
July	4 90	4 82½

Liverpool Cotton Market.

Liverpool, Saturday. Futures—Closed firm.

March	3 59@60
March and April	3 59@60
April and May	3 59@60
May and June	3 59@60
June and July	3 59@60
July and August	3 59@60
August and September	3 57@58
September and October	3 51@52
October and November	3 46@47
November and December	3 45 s
December and January	3 44@45
January and February	....

New York Cotton Futures.

NEW YORK, Saturday.—Cotton quiet. Futures closed steady.

	Lowest.	Closing.
March	6 99	6 67
April	7 02	6 02
May	7 05	7 06
June	7 09	7 10
July	7 13	7 14
August	7 14	7 15
September	6 87	6 88
October	6 75	6 76
November	6 77	6 77
December	6 80	6 82
January	6 84	6 85
February	....	6 89

Cleveland Paid Off.

The treasury department at Washington closed up its accounts with Mr. Grover Cleveland Saturday. Secretary Gage signed a warrant in favor of Mr. Cleveland for $277.78, the balance due him on his salary as president, and it was mailed to him at Princeton, N. J. This balance completes the $200,000 to which Mr. Cleveland was entitled for his four years' services.

Total Visible Supply.

The total visible supply of cotton for the world is 3,532,226 bales, of which 3,131,926 bales are American, against 3,484,767 and 2,981,567 bales respectively last year. Receipts of cotton at all interior towns 33,084. Receipts from the plantations 113,993 bales. Crop in sight, 7,695,522 bales.

Death in the Ring.

At Philadelphia, Pa., in a boxing bout Samuel S. Perry struck Edward Gibbons a blow near the heart, and after receiving it began to vomit blood and died soon thereafter.

BLACK AS INDIGO.

Clara—I suppose the brightest moment in your life was when Jack proposed?

Cora—Brightest? There wasn't a particle of light in the room!

NORTH CAROLINA STATE FAIR

For 1897 Will be Held in Raleigh October 18th to 23d.

NEGRO COTTON MILL ASSURED

Bids for the Building to be Taken—The State's Judicial Appropriations—Raleigh's Street Railway.

The North Carolina State Fair for 1897 will be held during October, from the 18th to the 23d inclusive, on the State Fair grounds near Raleigh. As is well known, the Fair is held under the auspices of the North Carolina Agricultural Society. There was a meeting of the directors of this organization held in Raleigh, and it was at this meeting that the date for the Fair was decided upon. Col. Benehan Cameron, president, and a number of other members of the board were in attendance.

During the session President Cameron was instructed to appoint committees on premiums and for the arrangements of other details of the Fair; but these are not prepared for publication. In speaking of the Fair, Col. Cameron remarked that the prospects for the success of the event were brighter than ever before and the 1897 Fair promises to eclipse that of any previous year. The dates selected were made necessary in order to form the chain of dates for similar events in other States and will allow the presence here of attractions which could not otherwise have been secured. The special committees to be appointed by President Cameron will doubtless be made public within the next few days.

The Negro Cotton Mill Assured.

At a meeting of the directors of the Coleman Manufacturing Company, held in Concord on last Saturday, the directors examined all the correspondence and various propositions which have been made to the corporation, and have now decided that the mill will certainly be built. W. C. Coleman tendered his bond as secretary and treasurer in the sum of $10,000, and as it was signed by a large number of the best white citizens, it was at once accepted.

The subscriptions already made to the enterprise justifies the directors in empowering their secretary and treasurer to receive additional subscriptions to the capital stock. There was an assessment of ten per cent. on the stock payable inside of sixty days. The secretary and treasurer was authorized to secure the services of a competent architect, and also to advertise for bids of contractors for the buildings. It is expected that the Southern Railway will construct a switch at an early day for the benefit of the property.

Parties interested in other parts of the town have already offered to donate a sight for the mill on the line of the new proposed railroad from Concord to Aberdeen within the limits of the town, and the propositions are being considered.

The Special Appropriations.

The State Treasurer has completed a list of the special appropriations made by the last Legislature as follows: Western Hospital, $90,000, department for insane, $3,000; Central Hospital, $55,450; Eastern Hospital, $40,000; Institution for Deaf Mutes and Blind, $23,000; Institution for the blind, $34,500; State Normal and Industrial College, $12,500; University, $5,000; State line between Tennessee and North Carolina, $300; white Agricultural and Mechanical College, $5,000; Colored Agricultural and Mechanical College, $5,000; Colored Normal School, $5,000; colored State normal schools, $4,000; extra physicians for Colored Deaf Mute and Blind Institution, $750; executive mansion, $600; portrait of Vance, $500; purchase of Moore's Creek battleground, $200; Colored Normal and Industrial School at Elizabeth City, $500.

Raleigh's Street Railway.

An order has been mailed to the General Electric Company, at Schenectady, N. Y., for eight handsome new street cars. The order was forwarded by Mr. Charles Johnson for the Raleigh Electric Company and the cars are to be used in operating the street railway of that city. An order has also been forwarded for a 120-horse power dynamo and other machinery needed in the reestablishment of Raleigh's street car power house. The street car line is to be run on schedule time not later than May 1. It is expected that within the next week work will be commenced upon the new power house and will be pushed with all possible speed to immediate completion. However, the contract is not yet awarded, nor have the managers of the company determined upon the kind of material to be used in its construction.

Wilmington is being terrorized by fire bugs. Besides other recent attempts two were made Sunday. The residence of Mr. Duncan McEachern, on Seventh, between Orange and Dock streets, was found in flames. The prompt work of the department stopped the blaze. The damage will not amount to more than $100, which is fully covered by insurance. The fire was incendiary beyond a doubt. A little later another fire alarm was sent in from box 53. This time the fire bug had set fire to the store of James Durham, corner of Ninth and Orange streets. The damage amounted to $200, covered by insurance. This fire came dangerously near spreading to several wooden houses adjoining, but through the work of the firemen and the heavy rain at the time, this was prevented.

All the records and journals of the late General Assembly are now in the archives of the State. Chief Clerk E. O. Masten, of the House of Representatives has turned over the last documents from his side of the house. Speaking of State matters Masten said that the expenses of this department of the House of Representatives was not less than $1,000 less than the expenses of 1895, which, with the saving in the Senate clerical expenses of $624, gives a total of $1,624 saved by the General Assembly of 1897 over that of 1895. All the work is thoroughly up and in better condition than for many years.

Dr. P. L. Murphy, superintendent of the State Hospital at Morganton, with Dr. Isaac M. Taylor, the first assistant physician, and Mr. F. M. Scroggs, the steward of the institution, have in mind the establishment of a private asylum for the treatment of insanity and inebriety. They have had strong inducements to go to Atlanta, but all their inclinations are to remain in North Carolina. Among all points in the State they are said to prefer Charlotte.

The expenses for the election contests for seats in the legislature aggregated $1,591. The legislature cost, in all, about $72,000 which is about the same figure as for 1895.

NEWS ITEMS CONDENSED.

Southern Pencil Pointers.

Fire in the mailing room of the Richmond, (Va.,) Dispatch caused damage to the amount of $2,000.

Col. A. E. Buck, the Georgia Republican leader, according to the Atlanta Constitution, is to get the Japanese mission with $12,000 a year salary.

John D. Smith, a negro preacher, was shot dead at Scottsboro, Ala. He was charged with outraging the wife of a white farmer.

J. R. Littlejohn assaulted his wife, at Danville, Va., beating her with a stick. He was arrested and locked up and later was found dead in his cell, having taken laudanum.

Mr. D. A. Tompkins, a leading manufacturer of Charlotte, N. C., contributes to last week's Manufacturers' Record an article in advocacy of greater flexibility in banking methods.

Fletcher Kennedy, a prominent young man of Clayton, Ala., committed suicide by taking some drug. He left a letter stating he was out of employment and could get nothing to do.

The report that Governor Bradley, of Kentucky, had respited Walling, one of Pearl Bryan's murderers, is not true.

In the trial of the mayor and chief of police of Knoxville, Tenn., for their part in the recent riot they were acquitted.

The building occupied by the Western Union Telegraph Company, at Charlotte, N. C., was gutted by fire Sunday morning. Loss, $6,000.

The annual meeting of the grand lodge of Independent order of Odd Fellows of the State of Florida, met in Jacksonville Monday.

At Sheffield, Ala., on Sunday eleven hundred bales of cotton were burned and the damage is placed at $45,000, most of which is covered by insurance. The compress was destroyed, it being the largest in northern Alabama.

At Jackson, Miss., A. A. McKenzie was arraigned on the charge of passing counterfeit silver dollars, and in default of $500 bond, Commissioner Mosney ordered him to jail to await Federal Court in May.

Governor Jones, of Arkansas, has decided to issue a call for an extra session of the legislature. He said the appropriation bills have not been passed and he has no funds with which to run the State government for the next two years.

At Houston, Texas, Walter Hughes was shot dead in attempting to kidnap a daughter of Frank Dunn, a wealthy resident of that city. The purpose of the would-be-kidnapper was to keep the girl in captivity and demand $40,000 ransom for restoring her to her parents.

A washout on a branch line of railway extending from Shellmound, Tenn., to the convict mining camp at Cole City, Ga., caused the wreck of a switch engine and the death of the engineer, J. T. Stewart. The fireman, by name of Cogle, received internal injuries that will prove fatal.

All About the North.

Ten persons were injured and one killed in a wreck on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad near Oakland, Md.

Representative Lambert charges gross corruption in the Iowa Legislature. The Speaker of the House has resigned, and demands an investigation.

The Pacific Loan and Homestead Association, of Chicago, has gone under, the stockholders charging that the secretary of the concern got away with $232,000.

Engineer Monroe Ray and Fireman John Cody were killed in a railroad wreck near Danville, Ill.

Chicago (Ill.) plumbers have demanded an increase of twenty-five cents a day, and if refused will strike.

The Phenix Savings Bank of Phenix, R. I., suspended payment and refused deposits for the first time in its history.

William E. Harding, sporting writer for the New York Daily News, died of pneumonia. He was about 55 years old and was born in Canada.

The sugar refinery at Williamsburg, N. Y., belonging to the American Sugar Refining company, after a shut down of over five months, has opened with a force of nearly 500 men.

The firm of Whithman & Keith of Brockton, Mass., shut down their shoe factory Tuesday afternoon, summarily discharging its 250 employes. Rumors that a strike would occur in a few days was the cause of the lockout.

Unemployed men and women to the number of several hundred held a mass meeting in Chicago, at which they launched a "declaration of independence" against "King Plutocracy."

Chas. Z. Lincoln, of Albany, N. Y., Governor Black's legal adviser, has completed the preparation of the two anti-trust bills which are intended to carry out the recommendations of the Lexow trust investigating committee.

At Fort Wayne, Ind., W. E. Colerick, a prominent young lawyer, and his fiancee took carbolic acid. He was found dead and she in an unconscious condition in the hall of her home.

Miscellaneous.

Reports from Washington say that Gen. Wade Hampton's condition is greatly improved.

Orders have been sent out from Washington to secure increased vigilance on the part of the vessels now on filibustering duty off the South Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

The Australian steamer Oceanic, from Sydney to Melborne, was robbed of $25,000 in gold.

The Crown Prince of Japan is dead.

The Railway Mail Service Mutual and Benevolent Association met in San Francisco.

Judge Brown of the United States Circuit Court declined to take bail in the case of Turkish Consul Iasigi, who is wanted in Boston on a charge of embezzlement, but granted a motion to place him in the custody of the United States District Court.

The family of Consul-General Lee will return to the United States within two weeks. This is thought to be preparatory to a change in the consulship.

The French line steamer Ville Saint Nesaire, which sailed from New York March 6th, bound for the West Indies, was founded at sea off the coast of Hatteras and seventy lives were lost. Only four souls have as yet been found to tell the tale of privation and death.

It is said the Spaniards have sustained very heavy losses in Pinar del Rio province. A government train was blown up and 160 men killed.

Geo. E. Bennett, formerly of Pennsylvania, committed suicide at Fayetteville, N. C., by drinking four ounces of laudanum. He left a letter attributing his reason for suicide to a faithless wife.

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Report of the Proceedings from Day to Day.

SENATE.

MONDAY.—The extraordinary session of the Fifty-fifth Congress was opened by reading the President's proclamation convening it. Sixty-eight Senators answered to roll-call, and the galleries were filled to overflowing. Mr. W. A. Harris, of Kansas, was sworn in as successor to Mr. Peffer. After appointment of a committee to notify the President and the House that the Senate was ready to begin its duties, a recess was taken until 2 p. m. At this session the President's message was read and referred to committee, and on motion of Mr. Allison, Republican, of Iowa, the Senate at 3:35 p. m. adjourned until to-morrow at noon.

TUESDAY.—Many bills were introduced and referred, among them bills from Mr. Allen, Populist, of Nebraska, directing the foreclosure of the government lien on the Union Pacific Railroad; to prevent over-capitalization of companies doing an inter-State carrying trade; to prevent professional lobbying; to preserve the purity of national legislation, and to increase the circulating medium. A bill to facilitate the construction, working and maintenance of telegraphic communication between the United States, the Hawaiian Islands, Japan and Australia, was introduced by Mr. Chandler. Also a bill to provide for the twelfth and subsequent censuses. A bill for a government telegraph was introduced by Mr. Kyle, Populist, of South Dakota, and one to amend the immigration laws by Mr. Lodge, Republican, of Massachusetts. A new Nicaraguan Canal bill was introduced by Mr. Morgan, Democrat, of Alabama. Also a bill to create a board of trustees of the Union Pacific and Central Pacific Railroad Companies to fund their bonded indebtedness. Bankruptcy bills were introduced by Senators Hoar, Republican, of Massachusetts, and Nelson, Republican, of Minnesota. Altogether there were 438 bills introduced and referred, most of them coming over from the last Congress. After a short executive session, at which today's nominations were referred, the Senate at half past 3 adjourned till Thursday next.

THURSDAY.—After a two day's recess the Senate re-assembled and a large number of bills, most of them survivors of the last Congress, were introduced and referred. Gear, (Rep.) of Iowa, from the committee on Pacific railroads, reported the bill, which was pending last session, for the adjustment of the government debt through a commission, to consist of the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of the Interior and the Attorney-General. It was placed on the calendar.

The constitutional amendment for the populer election of United States Senators was introduced and will be debated Monday.

At the close of the morning business the Senate proceeded to the consideration of executive business—the arbitration treaty. Morgan made a speech against it. A long debate is in prospect.

FRIDAY.—The calendar of business in the Senate this morning contained only four items: The notice by Mr. Turpie (Dem.) of Indiana, of his intention to address the Senate in favor of the proposed constitutional amendment to make United States Senators elective by the people. The amendment itself, which is on the table, and the two Pacific Railroad bills which were reported Thursday. The number of bills introduced in the Senate since Monday last, up to this morning was 768. Mr. Butler, Populist, of North Carolina, to establish a postal telegraph system; and one by Mr. Chandler, Republican, of New Hampshire, as to first and second-class mail matter. On motion of Davis, (Rep.) of Minnesota, acting chairman of the committee on foreign relations, the Senate at 12:50 p. m. proceeded to executive business, and at 4 p. m. adjourned until Monday.

The Senate confirmed the following nominations: Charles U. Gordon, postmaster at Chicago; John Hay, of the District of Columbia, ambassador to Great Britain; Horace Porter, of New York, ambassador to France; Henry White, of Rhode Island, secretary of embassy at London; Perry S. Heath, of Indiana, to be First Assistant Postmaster General.

HOUSE.

MONDAY—The opening of the Fifty fifth Congress in extraordinary session was witnessed in the House today by an immense corwd. Alexander McDowell, clerk of the last House, called the House to order. The election of Speaker was then proceeded with, the result being: For Mr. Reed, 199; for Mr. Bailey, 114; for Mr. Bell, 21; for Mr. Newlands, of Nevada, 1. The President's message was read and referred, on motion of Mr. Dingley, to the committee on ways and means. Mr. Dingley then introduced his tariff bill, which was also referred to the committee on ways and means. Permission was given to the committee on ways and means to sit during the session of the House and to have all necessary printing done, and then, at 4 p. m., the House adjourned until Thursday next.

THURSDAY.—The Speaker laid before the House the recommendations of the Postmaster General for an appropriation of $200,000 to be immediately available, to enable the government to defray the necessary expenses of the postal congress which will assemble in Washington in May next. The Department finds itself in the embarrassing position of having the congress on its hands, and with no means to provide for its reception and entertainment. Henderson (Rep.), of Ohio, stated the committee on ways and means would not be ready to report until Friday, therefore he moved that the house adjourn until then. This was agreed on without division, and at 12:16 the House was declared adjourned by Speaker Reed.

FRIDAY.—The first executive day of the House of the Fifty-fifth Congress gave every indication of an unusually lively session. Dingley, from the committee on ways and means, returned the tariff bill with the recommendation that it do pass, which, with the accompanying report, was placed on the calendar, and the general debate will begin Monday and end Thursday. The vote on the passage of the sundry civil bill was: Yeas, 157; nays, 73. The Republicans only voted for it, all others against it. The reading of the general deficiency bill was completed at 8:10 o'clock, but its third reading (by title) was ordered without a division, and the bill was then passed—131 to 83. One minute later the House adjourned. The Democratic members of the ways and means committee have authorized Mr. Bailey, of Texas, to prepare the minority report on the tariff bill. It will be laid before the House on Monday next.

SATURDAY.—The first week of the extraordinary session of the Fifty-fifth Congress closed with to-day's session of the House of Representatives. The record made is extraordinary. The tariff bill has been reported, and an order regulating its discussion adopted. Four appropriation bills, which failed to become laws in the Fifty-fourth Congress necessary for the prosecution of important parts of the public service, carrying a total of over seventy-two millions of dollars, have been passed, with the exception of one paragraph as they were finally agreed upon by the last House. Two of these, the agricultural and Indian, were considered and disposed of. The former, appropriating $3,182,950, was passed, as had been the sundry civil and general deficiency bills Friday without change. One feature of the Indian bill provoked much opposition and was finally stricken out, by unanimous consent, before the bill passed. This was the paragraph opening the gilsonite or asphalt lands in the Uncompaghre reservation, Utah, to entry under the mineral laws, which the Senate added to the bill. The debate on the tariff bill will begin Monday.

COTTON FARMING.

How Two to Four Bales Per Acre Are Made on Very Poor Land.

We have not the slightest desire to assist in any manner in bringing about an increase in the number of bales annually raised throughout the Sunny South in general nor in Mississippi in particular, but we do desire that Southern farmers everywhere should realize the fact that the same 6,000,000 to 10,000,000 bales that are now raised annually may be just as easily, just as surely and far more economically and profitably raised on one-fourth the area it is to-day, leaving the other three-fourths to be put in provision crops, fruits or grass. We have had the good fortune to see and walk over many Georgia farms—farms, too, that were worn out and washed away many years ago—that are now made to produce from one to four bales of cotton per acre. This condition of things is made possible and actually brought about by the "intensive" system of culture and liberal yet economical fertilization.

As early in the new year as the weather will possible admit of, the old cotton stalks are "knocked," or cut, the roots are then plowed up with straight shovel; green cotton seed are then strewn in this shovel furrow at the rate of ten to twelve bushels per acre; two half-shovel furrows are next thrown on the seed to prevent the loss of ammonia; in a few weeks this small bed is opened with a long, narrow scooter and 200 to 300 pounds of some good commercial fertilizer distributed in this furrow; phosphate and potash being all sufficient, the cotton seed furnishing the necessary nitrogen; the land is then bedded out and out with straight shovel and is now ready for the reception of the seed. Under this plan, persistently followed, Georgia farmers have succeeded in so increasing the fertility of the soil that with a slight increase in amount of fertilizer used and a favorable season four bales per acre have rewarded their efforts.

A good heavy cow-pea stubble turned under will be found to be fully as beneficial to the coming cotton crop as the cotton seed; either one will supply all the nitrogen needed; but in the absence of a cow-pea stubble, the cotton seed should by no means be neglected. Stable manure may be used instead of either of above, but the fact should be kept in mind that all three of above are "nitrogenous" fertilizers, and are used mainly for the amount of nitrogen they contain; and either one, or all three need the addition of phosphates and potash in liberal quantities (seventy-five pounds of Muriate of Potash or 300 pounds of Kainit, with 200 pounds of Acid Phosphate) per acre in order to make a complete fertilizer that shall be at once properly balanced and duly proportioned. If the peas have been properly fertilized (with 200 to 300 pounds Acid Phosphate and 200 to 300 pounds of Kainit), which they always should be when the object in raising them is that may be turned under as fertilizer, it would be hardly necessary to apply any additional fertilizer directly to the cotton. Georgia farmers break their lands deep (eight to ten or even twelve inches) once about every three years; they say it does not pay to break them deep any oftener. In this deep breaking, the land is broken with a two-horse turning plow, plowing about one inch deeper than the surface soil, thus gradually deepening the soil. No crops are planted here at all without fertilizer being applied, and in the sandier portions of the State the farmers seem to be unanimous in the declaration that "Potash is the element that is most needed" and that "any fertilizer that does not contain as much as four per cent. of it is not worth applying." Cotton here is planted in four foot rows, barred off with half-shovels and cultivated the entire season "with cotton scrapes"—i. e. "heel-sweeps."

Caught Up with the Herd.

Southern railroads have a reputation for slow travel, and in some cases it is well merited. A western traveling man making a trip on these lines suffered a great deal of annoyance from this particular failing, but up to the time of the following incident he had enjoyed himself immensely guying the conductors, trainmen or any persons having to do with the roads about their rapid transit. He was traveling one afternoon on an exceptionally slow train, which came to a stop every now and then without any apparent cause. After expressing himself very audibly to the passengers he resigned himself to the inevitable and dozed off into short naps, which were interrupted by the sundry jerks of the train, at which he complained. The passengers showed their annoyance at these complaints by angry looks. The conductor had excused the engineer in every possible way. The last apology had been that cattle obstructed the track. The train had started again and proceeded about ten minutes when it halted with a jerk. Up waked the impatient traveler and petulantly remarked: "Dear dear! I suppose, conductor, this worse than slow train has struck another herd of cattle." "Struck another one! Not much," replied the conductor. "We've simply caught up again with the first herd we ran into; that's all." The traveler subsided and the conductor was left in peace.—Harper's Round Table.

ONLY ONE VOICE BETWEEN THEM.

"Then," said Mr. Watts, describing the church entertainment to his wife, who had been too ill to go, "the Jones girls got up and sang a solo——"

"A solo?" asked Mrs. Watts. "How could two persons sing a solo?"

"They only had half a voice apiece."

A DOUBLE HANGING.

Jackson and Walling Pay the Death Penalty.

Saturday at Newport, Ky., the once promising lives of Scott Jackson and Alonzo Walling, the young dental students, paid the penalty on the gallows for the murder of the sweet faced country gil, Pearl Bryan, of Green Castle Ind., and the extinguishing at the same time of the tiny spark of life that had driven her to desperation through fear of open shame. The scene was Fort Thomas and the date February 1st, 1896. The victim was decapitated to prevent identification and the head has never been located. The arrest, trials, "confessions" and the awful sequel have been largely of the spectacular order, especially the closing hours of the tragedy at Newport, Ky. Walling's fate seemed swaying in the balance, and the 5,000 people, with a plentiful sprinkling of richly uniformed militia acting as guards, waited with interest at highest tension for the springing of the fatal trap, or the announcement of the clemency extended by Governor Bradley.

At 11:40 the double track was sprung and they swung in mid air twenty minutes before the horrible work of strangulation was completed. The hour originally set was 7 o'clock, but almost as the start was made for the gallows Jackson made another "confession," in which he said Walling was not guilty of "willful murder." Again the Governer was appealed to at Frankfort by wire, Jackson himself telegraphing: "Walling is not guilty of this crime, but I am." Finally, the Governor, after patient investigation of Jackson's tardy attempt to save his comrade, including a long-distance telephone consultation with Judge Helm, the trial judge, and the attorneys in the case sealed anew the doom of both by declaring against further delay.

Jackson is said to have left still another written confession to be published, or not, as his friends may see fit. The one of Thursday, diabolically trying to shift a part of the crime on an innocent man, both Jackson and Walling acknowledged this morning to be a fake. As there was objection to receiving the body of Jackson for burial in the Green Castle Cemetery, it was shipped this evening over the Big Four to his former home at Winisnoe, Maine. Wallings body was taken to Hamilton, Ohio, by his family for burial.

OHIO RIVER AND CHARLESTON RAILWAY COMPANY.

Schedule In Effect Monday, January 4, 1897, at 8 o'clock, A. M.

NORTHBOUND.

Eastern time.	No. 35. A M	No. 11. A M	No. 33. P M
Lv. Camden	8 30	.....	2 30
DeKalb	9 00	.....	2 50
Westville	9 15	.....	3 02
Kershaw	10 45	.....	3 15
Heath Springs	11 05	.....	3 30
Pleasant Hill	11 15	.....	3 35
Lancaster	12 05	.....	3 55
Riverside	12 35	.....	4 10
Springdell	12 50	.....	4 20
Catawba Junct'n	1 50	.....	4 30
Leslie	2 00	.....	4 38
Ar. Rock Hill	2 20	.....	4 49
Lv. Rock Hill	4 00	.....	4 54
Newport	4 20	.....	5 09
Tirzah	4 40	.....	5 15
Ar. Yorkville	5 00	.....	.....
Lv. Yorkville	5 40	.....	5 30
Sharon	6 05	.....	5 45
Hickory Grove	6 30	.....	6 00
Smyrna	6 40	.....	6 10
Blacksburg	7 10	8 00	6 30
Earls	....	8 20	....
Patterson Sp'ns	....	8 30	....
Shelby	....	9 10	....
Lattimore	....	9 40	....
Mooresboro	....	9 50	....
Henrietta	....	10 00	....
Forest City	....	10 20	....
Rutherfordton	....	10 50	....
Millwood	....	11 05	....
Golden Valley	....	11 25	....
Thermal City	....	11 35	....
Glenwood	....	12 00	....
Ar. Marion	....	12 20	....
	P M	P M	P M

SOUTHBOUND.

	No. 32. A M	No. 12. P M	No. 34. A M
Lv. Marion	....	1 30	....
Glenwood	....	1 50	....
Thermal City	....	2 15	....
Golden Valley	....	2 20	....
Millwood	....	2 45	....
Rutherfordton	....	3 05	....
Forest City	....	3 35	....
Henrietta	....	4 00	....
Mooresboro	....	4 15	....
Lattimore	....	4 25	....
Shelby	....	5 30	....
Patterson Sp'ns	....	5 45	....
Earls	....	5 55	....
Blacksburg	8 30	6 10	8 40
Smyrna	8 50	....	9 05
Hickory Grove	9 05	....	9 25
Sharon	9 20	....	9 50
Yorkville	9 35	....	10 20
Tirzah	9 47	....	10 45
Newport	9 51	....	10 55
Ar. Rock Hill	10 10	....	12 55
Lv. Rock Hill	11 00	....	....
Leslie	11 13	....	1 15
Catawba Junct'n	11 25	....	1 50
Springdell	11 38	....	2 05
Riverside	11 48	....	2 35
Lancaster	12 05	....	3 55
Pleasant Hill	12 28	....	4 25
Heath Springs	12 32	....	4 35
Kershaw	12 45	....	5 30
Westville	1 00	....	5 55
DeKalb	1 12	....	6 15
Ar. Camden	1 30	....	6 50
	P M	P M	P M

All trains daily except Sunday.

No. 32 has connection with the Chester & Lenoir Railroad at Yorkville, S. C., with the Southern Railway at Rock Hill, S. C., with the Seaboard Air Line at Catawba Junction, S. C., with the Lancaster & Chester Railroad at Lancaster, S. C., and with the South Carolina and Georgia Railway at Camden, S. C.

No. 33 has connection with the South Carolina and Georgia and Georgia Railways at Camden, S. C., with the Lancaster & Chester Railroad at Lancaster, S. C., with the Seaboard Air Line at Catawba Junction, S. C., with the Southern Railway at Rock Hill, S. C., with the Chester & Lenoir Railroad at Yorkville, S. C., and with the Southern Railway at Blacksburg, S. C. Nos. 34 and 35 will carry passengers.

Nos. 11 and 12 have connection at Shelby, N. C., with the Seaboard Air Line, at Marion, N. C., and Blacksburg, S. C., with the Southern Railway.

S. B. LUMPKIN, G. P. A.
SAM'L HUNT, President.

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Well Worth Trying For.

In the word BEAUTIFUL are nine letters. You are smart enough to make fourteen words, we feel sure, and if you do you will receive a reward. Do not use a letter more times than it occurs in the word BEAUTIFUL. Use only English words. The Household Publishing and Printing Co., proprietors of The Household Companion, will pay $20.00 in gold to the person able to make the longest list of English words from the letters in the word BEAUTIFUL; $10.00 for the second longest, $5.00 for the third, $1.00 each for the next five, and $2.00 each for the next ten longest lists. The above rewards are given free, and solely for the purpose of attracting attention to our handsome ladies' magazine, THE HOUSEHOLD COMPANION, containing [illegible] pages finely illustrated, Latest Fashions, articles on Floriculture, Cycling, Cookery, General Household Hints, etc., and stories by the best standard authors, published monthly, price 50 cents per year, making it the lowest-priced magazine in America. In order to enter the contest it is necessary for you to send with your list of words FOURTEEN 2-cent stamps, or 25 cents in silver, which will entitle you to a half year's subscription to THE HOUSEHOLD COMPANION. In addition to the above prizes we will give to everyone sending in a list of fourteen or more words a handsome silver [illegible]. Lists should be sent as soon as possible, and not later than April 20, 1897, so that the names of successful contestants may be published in the April issue of THE HOUSEHOLD COMPANION. We refer you to any mercantile agency as to our standing.

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