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VOL. II. NO. 7. MARION, N. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 1897. Price $1 Per Year, in Advance.

RACES AT THE STATE FAIR

At Salem Female Commencement 27 States Were Represented.

BUTLER PETITIONS FOR PARDON

Mill Owners Rather Blue--An Old Branding Iron--Charter for a Brewery.

Below is given the official [illegible] ... North Carolina State Fair [illegible]

[illegible]

John N. [illegible], Secretary, Raleigh, N. C.

[illegible]

[illegible] ... attend.

REVIEW OF TRADE.

People Are Actually Doing More Business Than They Realize.

Messrs. R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade for the week ending May 28th, says in part:

"People are actually doing more business than they realize. They reckon by values but these are much lower than in any previous year of prosperity and leave little margin for profit. In quantity there is almost as much business being done as during the years of greatest prosperity and, though the increase in population would call for more material expansion the comparison is not discouraging. The recovery is slow, hesitating and gradual, but more has been done on the whole in May than in April, while returns of April showed the volume of business only [illegible], smaller than that of the best year heretofore. Yet hesitation is doing its work every week, and multitudes are waiting, because of legislation at Washington, who ought to be filling the demand for labor and the products of labor.

"Events have proved that the crop of wheat going out is much larger than any of the markets expected, and Western receipts for the week were 31 per cent. larger than last year, while Atlantic exports have been for four weeks 8,415,329 bushels, flour included, against 4,377,137 last year. At this season actual receipts count rather than predictions, and the truth is that the country has exported an extraordinary quantity of wheat and flour, and yet has so much to spare that the May option has declined nearly a cent for the week. With liberal interior supplies the price has declined a fraction for corn.

"Manufacturers have especial causes of delay owing to the possible competition with foreign goods largely imported, but there has been no set back in prices.

"The iron manufacture gains in spite of the closing of some furnaces.

"Failures for the week have been 233 in the United States, the smallest in many weeks, against 259 last year, and 27 in Canada against 29 last year."

RIOT IN COLUMBIA.

Militia and Ball Players Mix Up--One Student May Die.

A special from Columbia, S. C., dated the 28th, says: While two companies of local militia were standing their annual inspection on the athletic grounds of the South Carolina College, a foul ball struck by a student engaged in a ball game at the other end of the grounds struck the horse of Major R. [illegible], an officer on Adjutant General Watts' staff. The militia had only been given permission to use half of the grounds, but Gen. Watts immediately requested the ball players to withdraw until the troops could march out in quitting the field. This the students refused to do, and the police refusing to interfere, Gen. Watts ordered the troops to advance. The students resisted and soon broke through the line. A general riot followed, in the course of which a policeman was knocked senseless and a student named McGill had his head crushed, from the effects of which he may die. Professor of [illegible] [illegible] was knocked down by a student. The [illegible] advanced at night [illegible] and were [illegible] [illegible].

The police [illegible], the [illegible] students and the soldiers were marched back to their armories.

MAY MEAN INDEPENDENCE.

An Important Conference Concerning Cuba.

It is definitely settled that the most important conference yet held in America in connection with the Cuban cause will assemble in Philadelphia shortly. General Palma will preside. With him will be Quesada, the Cuban charge d'affaires. They are going there, it is stated, to prepare plans that may meet with the entire approbation of the administration at Washington.

It is said that as soon as Senator John Sherman became Secretary of State he sent for Quesada to have a long and careful talk with him. That interview has had more to do with the conference than any one thing that has occurred in Cuban affairs since the inauguration of the war two years ago. To some it seems to mean that the autonomy of Cuba will be demanded. To the extremists it appears that independence and then alliance with the United States will be the result. The Cubans say that they have reason to believe that the McKinley administration is going to carry out the policy upon which McKinley became President.

Havemeyer Goes Free.

At Washington, D. C., Henry O. Havemeyer, the Sugar Trust president, was acquitted in Judge Bradley's court of contempt before the Grey investigation committee of the United States Senate. It was not unexpected. The judge directed the jury to return a verdict of not guilty. Lawyers expect a similar decision in the case of John E. Searles, secretary of the Sugar Trust. The decision is a distinct victory for John G. Johnson, the Philadelphia lawyer.

Tennessee's Treasury Empty.

The Tennessee State Treasury is empty and every day warrants are being turned down for want of money with which to pay them. There are now over $[illegible] of warrants outstanding and by July 1st, when the semi-annual of $[illegible] is due the State will be something over $[illegible] behind.

May Order Investigation.

Senator Jones, of Nevada, chairman of the committee on contingent expenses of the Senate, has not yet called a meeting of his committee for the consideration of the Tillman resolution making sensational charges in relation to the sugar schedule of the tariff bill. It is believed to be probable that the resolution will be reported to the Senate, and that the Senate will order an investigation.

Asking for Aid.

The waters of the Rio Grande continue to overflow into the city of El Paso, Texas, and there are over 500 homeless families as a consequence. The government at Washington has been asked for aid, especially for tents.

Missionaries in China Massacred.

Private advices per the steamer [illegible], which arrived at San Francisco, Cal., on the 28th says that Rev. Father Nazell, who is in charge of the chapel at [illegible], China, has been murdered and it is feared that others will be massacred.

TILLMAN'S RESOLUTION.

Majority of Senators Favor Investigation--Charleston Sanitarium.

Saturday a poll of the United States Senate showed a predominant sentiment in favor of the Tillman investigation resolution. If ignored by the committee the Senate will probably discharge the committee and consider the resolution without committee action. Senator Jones, of Nevada, chairman of the committee, speaking for himself, said that he believed the resolution would be favorably and promptly reported.

Senator Jones, of Arkansas, a member of the committee, is interested in prompt committee action. He is largely interested in a patent for manufacturing cylindrical cotton bales instead of rectangular bales. Searles, secretary of the sugar trust, now on trial, is president of the company and invested his money in the enterprise, it is alleged, at the instance of Senator Jones. The senator said that he courted the fullest investigation. Senator Tillman is satisfied that the investigation will be made. It is believed that a special committee will be appointed with Senator Tillman as chairman.

A bill to establish a sanitarium at Castle Pinckney was introduced by Senator Tillman. It will be followed by a resolution calling on the Secretary of War for estimates of the cost of erecting necessary buildings and improving the grounds. Col. Kaufman and Capt. [illegible] saw a number of Senators in reference to the project and later, accompanied by Corporal Tanner and General Burdett, both Grand Army men, called at the War Department to the Secretary Alger.

COMMITTEE WILL ACT ON IT.

Senator Jones, of Nevada, chairman of the committee which controls the contingent expenses of the senate, to which was referred the Tillman resolution for an investigation of the reports of speculation in sugar stocks by senators, has conferred informally with his colleagues on the committee and an agreement has been reached to report the resolution back to the Senate.

Senator Tillman says that when it is reported he will insist upon prompt consideration and that if it is not soon reported he will move the discharge of the committee.

THE RUIZ REPORT.

It Agrees With the Statement Made by Consul General Lee.

Habana, via Key West, Fla., May 31.

Of the two reports understood to have been sent from Habana by the commission investigating the death of Dr. Ruiz, the one by Mr. Calhoun, who represents the United States, and the other by Dr. Congosto, the Spanish consul at Philadelphia, who acts for the Spanish government, the former will, it is said agree with the statement of Consul General Lee that Dr. Ruiz died from concussion of the brain, the result of violence, after solitary confinement more than thirteen days, regardless of his treaty rights.

Consul General Lee declined at yesterday's session of the commission to question the witnesses, who were interrogated only by the Spanish representatives. Consul General Lee will shortly make a report on the Ruiz case, and Mr. Calhoun will make a further report on other matters, such as the money question, the condition of American interests and the general suffering due to Captain General Weyler's style of campaigning. Consul General Lee's position is just what it was in February last. He held that Spain is responsible, since Ruiz died, because he was deprived of his treaty rights. The exact facts as to how Dr. Ruiz received the blow which killed him, Gen. Lee and Mr. Calhoun could not learn, because half of the witnesses examined by the commission were prisoners, and it is believed were afraid to testify fully. The remaining witnesses were the jailers who would not testify so as to incriminate themselves.

The relief of suffering Americans by Consul General Lee goes on daily. Several hundred have already been assisted.

The Graeco-Turkish Peace.

Constantinople, May 31. -- (By Cable.) The ambassadors of the powers in their reply to the porte's note of May 28th saying the Turkish government consents to negotiate for peace, provided the Greek commanders first sign an armistice and that as soon as this is done the Turkish government will negotiate the peace conditions with the ambassadors, the treaty to be signed by the Turkish and Greek plenipotentiaries in Thesally, announced today that they do not object to the conclusion of a military armistice and will take steps at Athens with the object of securing it. But in the meanwhile they are of the opinion that the discussion of the peace conditions should begin without delay.

The Presbyterian Assembly Adjourns.

The thirty-sixth annual assembly of the Southern Presbyterian church was dissolved at Charlotte, May 29th, at 2 o'clock, after a session of ten days in the First Presbyterian church of that city. The business was of minor importance. The assembly paid Dr. Goetchius, the moderator a handsome tribute testifying to his ability and efficiency. The majority of the 200 ministers left at night for their respective homes. The assembly was a notable one in many respects. There were eleven ex-moderators present. The 250th anniversary of the Westminster symbols were celebrated. Drs. Dabney and Hoge were present.

No Increase in Tobacco Tax.

Senator Daniel, of Virginia, has made a careful poll of the United States Senate on the tobacco tax and says the committee amendment increasing the tax from 6 to 8 cents will be defeated.

Changed Its Course.

The Rio Grande has changed its channel at El Paso, Texas, and a number of blocks of that city will be on the Mexican side of that river when the floods subside. It is said there are 2,500 people made homeless by the flood in that city.

Prominent Lawyer Dead.

Col. G. T. Frye, one of Tennessee's most prominent lawyers, died on the 29th of May of apoplexy. Col. Frye was a colonel in the Confederate army and a few years ago was extensively endorsed for United States circuit judge.

A Duel to Death.

At Chickamauga, Ga., a sensational duel to the death occurred between L. [illegible] Barber, chief car inspector for the Chattanooga, Rome and Columbus railroad, and Frank Osborne, a prominent farmer residing near Chickamauga. Osborne was instantly killed. A family feud of five year standing caused it.

"Why do so many modern writers seem to prefer notoriety to fame?" "Because a man has to climb for fame, but he can get notoriety by an easy tumble."--Chicago Record.

THE CONDITION OF CROPS.

Cotton Has Experienced General Improvement in Texas.

COOL NIGHTS PROVE INJURIOUS

Western Corn Planting Retarded--Southern Wheat Good, But Being Plowed Up In Illinois.

The United States weather bureau, in its report of crop conditions for the past week, says:

The week has been generally favorable for farm work, but cool nights generally throughout the states of the central valleys, lake region and middle Atlantic coast have proved unfavorable for some crops, while the need of rain is beginning to be felt in the central Mississippi and lower Missouri valleys and in the South Atlantic States.

Cotton has experienced general improvement in Texas and has made rapid advancement over the southern part of the State, where squares and bolls are forming. A decided improvement is also reported from Alabama, with favorable reports from Arkansas and Georgia. Cool nights have proved injurious in Tennessee, and but slight improvement is reported in Louisiana, where the plant is sickly and is being injured by lice. While cool nights have unfavorably affected the crop in Mississippi, it shows improvement. In the Carolinas the plant is small, but healthy. In Indiana and Ohio, where corn planting has been much retarded, rapid progress in planting has been made during the week. Planting is well advanced in Michigan and continues in Wisconsin, Minnesota and North Dakota. Cultivation has begun in southern Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska, where planting is practically completed. Considerable replanting is necessary in Nebraska, Missouri, Illinois, Kentucky and portions of Kansas, owing to poor stands. Cool nights have proved unfavorable in the Ohio valley, Tennessee and east gulf States.

The promising conditions of winter wheat previously reported in the middle Atlantic States continue, but in Kentucky the outlook is less favorable than in the preceding week. In Kansas the crop is much improved. Complaints of chinch bugs are reported in Missouri, and in Illinois the crop is unimproved and some fields are still being plowed up for corn. Harvest has begun in Georgia and Texas and will soon begin in Arkansas.

SPAIN A UNITED NATION.

Strongest Liberals Opposite the Sale of Cuba--New Loan Approved.

Madrid, May 31. (By Cable.) It is understood that Sagasta, the Liberal leader, will soon publish an important political statement which announces his unalterable opposition to the sale of Cuba, and his unyielding support and maintainance of the integrity of Spanish territory.

Premier Canovas del Castillo denies the existence of the Cabinet crisis and says he is resolved to remain in office, in spite of the abstention of the opposition from taking part in the sessions of the Cortes. The budget committee has reported favorably on the projected loan, with the Almaden quicksilver mines as security. The committee also reported favorably on the financial measures proposed to meet the expenses of the colonial wars.

England Will Withdraw.

Athens, May 27. (By Cable.) It is announced here that England has issued an official declaration that she will abandon the "Concert of the Powers" if the Turks are allowed to remain in Thessaly until Greece has paid the indemnity demanded of her.

Bread for the Hungry in India.

The Secretary of the Navy has accepted the offer of the owners of the American steamship, City of Everett, now at San Francisco, to charter that vessel for grain from California to Bombay for the future sufferers in India, at $40,000.

To Raise a Patriot War Fund.

The New York Press says officers of the Cuban league have decided to attempt the raising of a fund of $2,000,000 in the United States, believing that this will enable the Cubans to establish their independence. The fund is to be raised in two ways--by donations and by the sale of gold bonds of 5 per cent., paying ten years after the evacuation of Cuba by the Spanish troops. Already about $10,000 has been raised towards this fund.

To Carry Supplies to Cuba.

The State department, at Washington, has accepted the offer of John J. McCook and E. C. Smith, of New York, to furnish free steamers to carry supplies to the destitute Americans in Cuba. Smith is a director of the Ward steamship line between New York and Cuba. He has told the State department his line would carry supplies without trouble.

A Protest from Tobacco Men.

Representatives of practically all the tobacco manufacturers in the United States, with the exception of the cigar manufacturers, met in Washington on the 29th to protest against the advance of 2 cents a pound in the tax of tobacco contemplated in the Senate amendment to the tariff bill. There were present 150 manufacturers. The meeting adjourned to present the resolution at the capitol.

One of the Best Plums.

Wednesday the following were among the nominations sent to the Senate by President McKinley: Justice--James Edmund Boyd, of North Carolina to be Assistant Attorney General. Treasury--Kenneth R. Pendleton, collector of customs for the District of Albemale, N. C.

Striking Tailors Win.

The striking tailors in New York have won their strike. More than a thousand tailors have gone back to work.

The W., N. & N. Road Ordered Sold.

At Charleston, S. C., last Wednesday, in the United States Circuit Court, Judge Simonton issued a decree ordering the sale of the Wilmington, Newbern & Norfolk Railroad. No date was fixed, but it was understood that the property would be placed on the block about the 1st of August.

Slayer of Six People Caught.

A man thought to be J. C. Dunham, who exterminated a family of six people at San Jose, Cal., has been arrested at LaGrange, Tex. His description accurately tallies with that of Dunham for whose capture a reward of $[illegible] is offered.

NEWS ITEMS.

Southern Pencil Pointers.

An international motor car race is to take place from London to Birmingham and back.

The Tredegar Company, of Richmond, Va., are the lowest bidders of 1,594 seacoast defense shells.

The boundary line on water between Maryland and Virginia will be surveyed the buoys marking it will be restored.

The Populists of Virginia hold a convention in July to nominate a State ticket.

The Tennessee courts have declared constitutional an act of the last Legislature which will save to the people $8,000,000 a year in office fees.

The vote in Virginia on the question of calling a constitutional convention has been defeated.

The ninth annual session of the American Railway Accounting officers met in Richmond, Va., on the 27th. One hundred and forty members were present. H. M. Kochensperger, comptroller of the N. Y., New Haven and Hartford Railways was elevated to the presidency of the organization. They meet next year at Atlantic City, N. J., in May.

Fire at Savannah, Ga., destroyed the wholesale grocery store of Smith Bros. Loss, $90,000; fully insured.

The iron shipments from Tennessee and Alabama during April aggregated 106,750 tons.

Captain John D. Welsh, of Florida, formerly of Erie, Pa., is a candidate for Consul General to Cuba.

Charlotte, N. C., is to have a new city directory of the latest improved plan.

Stephen R. Mallory, the new Senator from Florida, has been sworn in at Washington and has taken his seat.

General Lew Wallace is being urged as a candidate for the United States Senate in 1898, to succeed Mr. Turpie, of Indiana.

Several lives were lost and much damage wrought by electrical storms near Knoxville, Tenn.

Few people are aware of the variety of goods shipped from the South to all parts of the world. The steamer Georgia or the Old Bay Line plying on the Chesapeake Bay between Baltimore and Norfolk, recently brought into Baltimore for shipment consignments of Southern goods to Cape Town, Africa; Kingstown, Jamaica; Shanghai, China, and London, England. A part of the Chinese consignment was cigarettes made in North Carolina.

The total acreage of cotton in Texas this year is 7,433,946 acres, which is an increase of a little more than 9 per cent. over 1896, and the largest in the history of the State. Cotton is all planted, the crop being two or three weeks late, due in many cases to replanting.

James B. Eustis, ex-ambassador to France, and for twelve years a Senator from Louisiana, announces his intention of becoming head of the law firm of Jones & Govin, of New York.

Postmaster General Gary has established a free delivery postal service at Manchester, Va.

The Georgia Mutual Insurance Company, a co-operative concern, with headquarters at Atlanta, has been placed in the hands of the court. Howell Erwin was named as receiver.

Thomas M. Dick, of South Carolina, leads the class of the engineer division of the six-year naval cadets at Annapolis, Md.

All About the North.

A statue of Peter Cooper has been unveiled in New York.

Mills at Somersworth, N. H., have decided to shorten hours of labor.

In its legal controversy with the Supreme Lodge, Knights of Pythias, of Detroit, Mich., the Improved Order Knights won a victory.

John F. Johnson gets ten years in the penitentiary for wrecking the Logansport (Ind.) bank while he was president.

A woman at the John Hopkins hospital, Baltimore, Md., has leprosy. It is thought she contracted the terrible malady a number of years ago while in the West Indies.

A company has been formed at Richmond, Ind., to build an electric traction line in Nicaragua.

Indians at the Pima Reservation, in Arizona, are constructing an airship in which they hope to fly from a mountain top.

The Chicago Times-Herald says steps looking to the formation of a powerful alliance in opposition to the Bell Telephone Company are to be taken for mutual protection and development.

A head-end collision between a freight and a passenger train occurred at American Falls, twenty-five miles west of Pocatello, Idaho, causing the death of nine men and the serious injury of eight others.

At St. Paul, Minn., Congressman F. G. Stevens has been indicted on the charge of an overdraft of $2,200 in his account with the Minnesota Savings Bank at the time when he was a trustee and acting president of the bank.

At Fremont, Ohio, a verdict of $7,500 has been returned in favor of Mrs. Addie M. Smith against the estate of the late Rutherford B. Hayes. Mrs. Smith sued for $25,000 damages for permanent injuries received in a runaway caused by a mastiff dog owned by the Hayes family.

Under a bill which passed the Illinois Legislature the Chicago aldermen will be paid $1,500 a year each.

Manufacturers of the Indiana gas belt at Anderson are organizing to preserve the natural gas fields.

A monument to the heroic men who met death in a fire on the World's Fair Grounds, Chicago, was dedicated Tuesday.

New Jersey has had a good roads law for six years. In that time she has expended $1,400,000 in road making and has three hundred miles of solid, permanent highway--"mostly macadam"--to show for it. The county assumes two-thirds of the cost and the State the other third.

Miscellaneous.

The Southern Wholesale Grocery Association held its sixth annual convention at Nashville, Tenn., on the 27th.

North Carolina postoffice appointments: Bovett, Wilson county, W. F. Rowe; Bardesville, Greene county, J. H. Savage; Hermitage, Ashe county, Lydia Farmer.

Consul General Lee has cabled the State Department at Washington from Havanna that the amount of supplies he has now on hand there for the relief of American citizens in distress is abundant and will last for some time.

FIFTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Report of the Proceedings from Day to Day.

SENATE.

May 24th.--The debate on the tariff bill began in the Senate with crowded galleries, a large attendance of Senators and the tariff leaders of the House. Senator Aldrich made the opening speech, which lasted for almost an hour and a quarter, adopting an easy conversational style. His speech was the official utterance of the finance committee, and, in a sense, of the Republican side of the chamber. Without making invidious distinction between the two bills, Mr. Aldrich clearly stated, as the belief of the finance committee, that the House bill would not yield revenue adequate for the needs of the government. Mr. Vest, one of the Democratic members of the finance committee, followed with a statement in opposition to the bill. Mr. Cannon, of Utah, a silver Republican, closed the debate for the day by urging that the protection should be so distributed as to aid the farmers.

May 26th.--The first vote on the tariff bill was taken in the Senate. It came after a two hours' debate on the item of boracic acid, which, although comparatively unimportant, afforded an opportunity for the first alignment of the various elements. Mr. Vest, of Missouri, a Democratic member of the finance committee, moved to make the rate on boracic acid three cents instead of five cents per pound, as provided by the committee. This presented a direct issue between the committee and the opponents of the bill. The amendment was defeated, yeas, 20; nays, 34. The resolution was agreed to authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to employ any suitable ship in forwarding relief supplies to India. The final conference report in the Indian appropriation bill was agreed to.

May 27th.--The Senate made good progress on the tariff bill, disposing of about ten pages. Several votes were taken during the day, the finance committee being sustained in each case by majorities varying from 6 to 15. The drug schedule was under discussion and the debate was largely technical. Occasionally, however, it branched off to general phases of the tariff, although at no time during the day was there a speech of more than five minutes duration. Before calling up the tariff bill final conference report on the sundry civil bill was agreed to, including the provisions suspending until March 1 next the executive order creating exclusive forest reserves.

May 28th.--In the Senate, Tillman, senator from South Carolina, made a sensational speech on the sugar trust in which he openly charged Senator Smith, of New Jersey, of speculating. He also presented a resolution for the appointment of a special committee of five Senators to investigate charges of speculation by Senators while the tariff bill was before the finance committee. The resolution was referred to the committee on contingent expenses, and it is thought that an investigation will be ordered. Aldrich, in charge of the tariff bill, answered Tillman in a sweeping denial of all irregularity on the part of the finance committee and specific denial of charges that the sugar trust had dictated the sugar schedule to the tariff bill. Considerable progress was made on the tariff bill thirteen paragraphs being covered. Several votes were taken during the day, but the finance committee had a liberal majority in every instance. The Democratic members of the finance committee made a strong effort to reduce the rates of window glass, but their amendments to this effect were defeated.

May 29th.--Progress on the tariff bill in the Senate was checked, the plate glass paragraphs proved a source of controversy lasting throughout the day. As a result, little more than a page of the bill was disposed of. The finance committee succeeded without difficulty in resisting proposed amendments from Democratic members of the committee, although each amendment was debated at great length. Senator Quay succeeded in carrying a motion to adjourn over the Decoration Day celebration on Monday. The debate on Senator Jones' amendment to the plate glass schedule lasted two hours, and on a yea and nay vote was defeated 21 to 29. Senators Heitfield, Kyle and Pettigrew voted with the Democrats, and Senator Jones, of Nevada, with the Republicans.

HOUSE.

May 27th.--The Cuban resolutions were taken up in the house and read after Lewis (Dem.) had proven to the Speaker, at some length that foreign relations was always a privileged question. The resolution having been read the Speaker promptly declared it out of order, and said such a resolution could be introduced in the regular course and could be referred to an appointive committee, after which the House adjourned until the 31st.

A Good-Roads Law.

A good-roads law just enacted in Arkansas provides for a road commissioner in each county, whose expense accounts are to be under the supervision of the county court. There are to be several road districts in each county, each under the care of an overseer. All males between the ages of 18 and 45 are required to work on the roads at least five days in each year, or to pay one dollar for each day. Persons failing to pay fines for misdemeanors shall also work on the roads. At the discretion of the county court a road tax not to exceed three mills may be levied.

Old Tombs Torn Down.

The city prison (New York City) better known as the tombs, has been torn down and a much larger prison is to be erected on the same site.

An $8,000,000 Mortgage.

A mortgage for $8,000,000, given by the Lehigh Valley Coal Company to the Girard Life Insurance, Annuity and Trust Company, of Philadelphia, has been filed for record in Chicago. The mortgage bears 5 per cent. interest and the entire debt matures May 1, 1907.

France's foreign legion is the last refuge for adventurers of all nations. In one company there were serving recently a Roumanian prince, who was suspected of having murdered his brother, a German count, who had been a lieutenant of the guards and on the Emperor's staff; an Italian lieutenant colonel of cavalry, dismissed for cheating at cards; a Russian nihilist escaped from Siberia; a former captain in the English Rifle Brigade, and an ex-monk of Notre Dame, suspended for immorality. The legion is always used for dangerous service in which the government does not wish to employ regular troops, as the men have no care for their lives.

Madge--Oh, yes, we had a real lively time, Simmons and I. It cost us nearly $50. Wickwire--Yes. I saw Simmons this morning, and he told me he spent $45.--Indianapolis Journal.

OLD-TIME CAMP MEETINGS.

A Social and Religious Feature of the Rural South.

NOTHING LIKE IT IN THE NORTH

At Any Time, and Even at the South Its Distinctive Characteristics Have Passed Away.

[W. R. Davie in the Charleston (S. C.) Sunday News.]

Among the many good things which were "wiped out" by the war was the old fashioned country camp meetings in the South. Camp meetings there are still, and doubtless will be for generations, but never again such as before the war might be found in almost every country south of the Potomac, Ohio, and Missouri.

The modern religious function of which we read at Martha's Vineyard and other points in the North, and the dwarfed and disappointing invitation yet indigenous to some part of Dixie, have about the same relation to the glories of the ante-bellum originals that the modern tournament, with its cheap and gaudy tinsel, affected gallantry and puerile sports, have to the pomp, pageantry and circumstance of the mediaeval joust.

Africas slaves was as essential to the success of the ideal camp meeting as oil to salad or mint to julep. Abundance of personal service, loyal, trained and intelligent, involuntary, if you please, but none the less cheerful, contented and efficient, was the very wine of the past, for past it was, albiet not named in the calendar or dedicated to any especial saint.

At that period the South was intensely moral, a large majority of the wealthiest and most intelligent and refined people lived exclusively in the country, and the towns, with few exceptions, were mere sub-rural aggrigations of discontented exiles from their plantation homes, drawn together by the necessity of educational facilities, of recruiting wasted fortunes by the profits of trade or the duty of filling for a time the political offices of State or county, district or parish.

Chafing under the restraints and limitations of urban life, these weary exiles looked forward with impatience to the time when they, too, might return or assume the pleasures, dignities and social responsibilities of country homes. The size of the plantations, less the result of choice than necessity for the employment of numerous slaves, segregated the country people, and rendered the home, rather than the neighborhood or town, the social unit, competence, leisure, the virtues of a dominant and superior race, and a standard of intelligence and education rarely, if ever, attained elsewhere by a strictly moral people, rendered this home the purest and sweetest as it was the most charming, this world has known.

Men and women, however, are gregarious, long for the companionship of their kind and the isolation of their delightful moral homes, rendered necessary some opportunity of mingling with their fellows. To meet at regular and convenient intervals in the interest of religion afforded laudable pretext, and the camp meeting was the result.

The leading religious denominations in the South then were the Methodist Episcopal, South, (with decided emphasis upon the geographical suffix), the Missionary Baptist and the Presbyterians in the order named. The Protestant Episcopal never obtained footing in the country districts save, perhaps, in Virginia and the tide water regions of the two Carolinas.

A METHODIST INSTITUTION.

Of these the Methodists, owing largely to its semi military organization and the zeal, fervor and enterprise of its devoted ministry, was "pre-eminently the pioneer church. With "rifles, axe and saddle-bags" the ubiquitous "circuit rider" followed close upon the piquet guard of civilization. In every white settlement arose Methodist Church buildings, and to these, at the expense of untold labor and the risk at times of life itself, ministered the indefatigable disciples of John Wesley.

The emotional service, religious enthusiasm and numerous conversions incident to the popular annual religious festivals, were peculiarly acceptable to the Methodist ministry, and powerful factors in the upbuilding of that sect; hence it was that a majority of the camp meetings were held under the auspices of that denomination. The missionary Baptist followed, but at a perceptible distance, their congregational system affording less favorable opportunity for such work. In the older and denser populated districts the staid and conservative Presbyterians occasionally yielded to the social instincts of their communicants, but, broadly speaking the camp meeting was a Methodist religious festival, and partook largely of the characteristics of that intense and emotional order.

THE CAMP GROUND

usually embraced fifteen or twenty acres laid off in a square, and its location was generally determined by the fortuitous conjunction of level sandy soil, ample shade and abundance of pure spring water; add to this accessibility, and the vicinity of numerous well-to-do planters, and the location was ideal. Around three sides of the square were built from twenty to forty so-called "tents," in reality rough but substantial, sound cabins, of two rooms each, with passage way between. Of these rooms, one was devoted to each sex, while the covered passage way formed the common sitting room. Back of the tents, lean-to sheds afforded shelter to the tables in case of rain, but in good weather these were spread beneath the trees, and all meals taken "al fresco," a little further back were the cook shed and barbecue pits, and still further, often reaching beyond the lines of the grounds, were the wagons with forage, the horses, vehicles of guests, and the camps of the slaves.

"THE STAND" OR "THE ARBOR."

In the centre, as near as might be, of the grounds, "the Stand" or "Arbor," a huge wooden shed, covered with [illegible] boards, was erected, with capacious pulpit and ample "altar," at one end, while rude benches for the congregation filled the remaining space. Here the services were conducted, and the attention centered at the religious features of the feast gradually overcame its social character in the progress of the "Revival." Finally the "camp grounds" was usually named for the nearest church of that denomination, and generally incorporated as a place of worship under that name, placing it under the protection of the law.

Some weeks beforehand the local minister announced the time of the meeting. This was usually during the interval between the cultivation and the harvesting of the crops, in country parlance "during lay by time."

Around the sides and ends of each room scaffolds, strong and wide, were built, which filled with straw and furnished with pillows and the necessary bedding, afforded a resting place for the guests and host, side by side. Young and old, rich and poor, they slept in true camp military style, absolutely without distinction, save of sex.

The earthen floors of the rooms and passage way was covered with wheat or oat straw, fresh and sweet, to the depth of a foot or more, renewed as occasion required, and here the "overflow" resultant upon excessive attendance or or unusual popularity of hosts, found resting place.

At the appointed day--say Thursday--before the fourth Sunday in August--the "tenters" began to move in. It being a time of rest and leisure upon the farms almost one half the negroes, and all the teams were employed. Details for this service were eagerly sought by the slaves, for besides the joy of a crowd, dear to the negro heart, loomed up the prospect of unlimited rations from the white folks' table, (after their betters had eaten), and uncounted dimes and quarters as the reward of cheerful service to generous guests.

PLANTATION PREPARATIONS.

All was now hurry and bustle upon the plantations. Hogs, sheep, goats and cattle, fatted expressly, were slaughtered and prepared for the barbacue pits. Poultry was caught and penned, flour sweet and fresh from the mill, corn meal by the bushel, hams and breakfast strips fit for the king's table, drawn from the dusky depths of the smoke house, vegetables from kitchen gardens, potatoes from the patch, fruit from the trees, honey from the "gums" and melons from the vines, were piled high upon the wagon loads of corn and forage, straw and furniture, which found their way to the grounds, nor was the fragrant and delicious blackberry, scuppernong or muscadine wine, the potent and seductive cherry bounce, and small, but indispensible supply of "apple-Jack," or "old corn" forgotten.

The merry darkies chosen to help worked with a will, and wakened the late and early echoes with choice selections from last year's "meeting," while their less fortunate fellows consoled themselves with the reflection that on Sunday all might attend and enjoy to the utmost this delightful oasis, lying midway in the weary desert, reaching from Christmas to Christmas.

THE PREACHERS' TASK.

By Thursday night nearly all the "tenters" were settled, and a few of the visiting ministers had arrived. Upon the principle of putting the best foot foremost, and out of deference to the cloth "the Preachers' tent" was the first upon the right of the square, and the last built and equipped upon the ground. At this tent the "presiding elder" (if a Methodist camp ground) was master and titular chief, and to its support, both in provisions and attendants, were contributed all and more than was needed by the rival tenters. It was dedicated to the exclusive use of the ministers and their families, and within its sacred precincts no layman, save upon special invitation, was supposed to enter for food or refreshment. This tent, like the others, was arranged for the separate accommodation of the sexes, and here the families of the ministers met and formed friendships and acquaintances to be severed, alas, by future assignments of the Bishop.

To the hard-worked and often ill paid Methodist ministry the camp meeting was the source of unalloyed pleasure. It meant release for a season from the monotonous duties of the circuit. It meant social and professional intercourse. It meant increase of church membership, and of prospective pay. It meant opportunity for the display of those peculiar gifts which brought preferment from the Bishop, at the suggestion of the presiding elder. It meant bounteous cheer, mental, physical and spiritual, and more than all, let us believe, it meant a gracious outpouring of the Divine spirit and more zealous and willing workers in the Master's vineyard. Certain it is that none enjoyed the camp meeting more and none labored so hard for its success.

A short sermon from the local minister on Thursday "at early candle lighting" inaugurated the meeting and at an early hour the weary audience sought rest from the labors of the first day.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

What is probably the smallest complete illuminating plant ever constructed has just been built by A. Graner, an electrical engineer of Philadelphia. He has devised and constructed a small light for vehicles which throws a beam penetrating the darkest gloom and clearly revealing all objects at a distance of 100 feet ahead. The point of light projected by this tiny lamp can be clearly discerned as it moves across a surface more than 200 feet away. The device is nothing less than a miniature searchlight. The light is supplied by the smallest storage battery that has ever been utilized for lighting. Heretofore it has been necessary to use large batteries weighing from 60 to 100 pounds for this purpose, but the inventor has managed to make a 5½-pound battery supply a light for fifteen hours without any perceptible diminution in its power. This battery can be recharged by a few bluestone jars. If a central station is inconvenient, it can be more quickly done at one of these generating plants and at a cost which makes the electric light quite as cheap as an inferior oil lamp. Another noteworthy feature of the lamp, says the Record, is an ingenious method of establishing the connection between the lamp and the battery without the necessity of making the wire connections. The battery once fixed in its place under the seat remains there until its power is spent. The lamp, however, for the purpose of protection from thieves or accident, may be taken off and put on at pleasure. As the lamp is put into its place the current is made through the brackets which support it. If desired the lamp can be fixed on the tongue of the carriage instead of the dashboard.

Peary May Find the Pole.

Civil Engineer R. E. Peary has been detached from duty at the New York navy yard and granted five years leave of absence. This action has been taken by Secretary Long to enable the officer to prosecute his arctic explorations.

The World's Fair for 1903.

President M. E. Ingalls, of the Big Four and Chesapeake and Ohio railways, proposes that the next world's fair be held at Cincinnati in 1903 to celebrate the centennial of Ohio's admission into the Union.

Durham's Public Building.

The United States Senate committee on public buildings have agreed to report favorably the bill providing for a public building at Durham, N. C., to cost $125,000.