

STATE NEWS.

W. E. Goldsborough was accused by the wife of one J. A. Boliek a fireman on the W. N. C. Railroad of insulting her, and was handsomely thrashed by the husband in Salisbury.

The Charlotte Observer of last Sunday publishes a news letter from Hickory. We are very much obliged to the Observer for so kindly mentioning our delightful and prosperous town.

The N. C. Railroad proposes to put up a monument to Hon. Calvin Graves, whose casting vote as President of the State Senate, secured an appropriation to the road. It is to be at Greensboro N. C.

We notice that our esteemed Exchange, the Hendersonville Times, has been sold by the late proprietor and Editor J. D. Davis, to Messrs. C. M. Kenyon and T. K. Davis, both for the past four years residents of Washington D. C. We cordially welcome them to the newspaper fraternity, and wish them abundant success.

SLICING SIAM.

A Secret Agreement to This Between France and England.

LONDON, July 22.—It is reported to day that a secret agreement exists between France and England to slice up Siam and help themselves to territory and treasure on both sides of the Mekong river.

The agreement is that India shall occupy the Shan states and France shall take the territory on the left bank of the Mekong in Siam, or all the lower Mekong valley.

Siam is willing to pay indemnity but will not give up this rich territory without a struggle. As the French will soon be reinforced by ships and legions from home, and as England and Russia both side with France, they will have little trouble in taking all the territory wanted.

The French vessels are prepared for action to day if the ultimatum is not accepted.

A Travesty in Politics.

LAGRANGE, N. C., July 20.—Special. The citizens of this town have struck upon a novel plan to settle who shall be postmaster. The aspirants have tried the virtue of petitions and their friends' influence, but there seems to be a hitch somewhere. However, to relieve Congressman Woodard of the responsibility and settle the matter the shortest way they have agreed that when the Confederate veterans meet here the 4th of August next they are to have a shooting match, and the man or woman that "drives the cross" is to have the office. Mr. Woodard and Capt. Grainger, chairman of the county executive committee, will be invited to attend and keep the score for the boys.—[Raleigh Observer.]

The best authorities now estimate that the House of Representatives will pass the bill repealing the Sherman Silver Purchase law by a majority of fifty, and probably seventy-five. In the Senate there may be depended on for repeal the twelve votes of New England; the eight votes of the Middle States—though the two Senators from Pennsylvania voted for free coinage last Congress—the twelve votes of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan and the four votes of Maryland and West Virginia—a total of thirty-six, or within nine of a majority of a full Senate. Minnesota and Washington are depended upon to give at least three, and probably four, votes for repeal; California will give at least one, Louisiana one certainly, Kentucky one, and probably two, while Tennessee and Georgia are depended on for one each, and probably two each. On the whole, it looks as though repeal would go through the Senate by a pronounced majority. Several votes counted for repeal are not taken in the above calculation—Mills, Cokkrill and the two Senators from Mississippi.

In theory Walter Q. Gresham was President of the United States for a day, last Monday, says the Chicago Herald. Mr. Cleveland was on board Mr. Benedict's yacht off the coast of Massachusetts and Mr. Stevenson was on shipboard off the California coast, and both were outside the jurisdiction of the United States, each being more than three marine leagues from shore. This country would not suffer if Gresham were President four years, or even eight.—[Louisville Times.]

HAY FOR EUROPE.

A Scarcity of Forage in Europe Causes a Big Demand on the United States.

The farmers throughout the country have been tumbling over each other during the last few weeks to get the hay which they have held over from last season into market. Not so much so in Hickory, but throughout the United States. The occasions when American farmers have been called to supply foreign countries with hay have been so rare that this year will prove a phenomenal one in the lives of the farmers.

The first news that Europe was short of hay, and that the United States was depended upon to relieve her distress reached the United States early in May. It did not spread rapidly, and the demand was not supplied. American Consuls abroad then began to inquire of the Agricultural Department if the hay crop was short here or if there was a lack of desire to ship hay abroad. Foreign legations in this country also began to receive inquiries concerning the forage here.

When the news at last began to spread that Europe wanted hay it spread with lightning rapidity. It was a situation for which thousands of farmers had been waiting many years. It has been the custom to send a limited quantity of hay to market in the summer and early fall and store the rest in the hope that it would be worth \$20 a ton, an increase of \$2 to \$3 over usual rates. On several occasions this has happened. Even in their wildest dreams they never hoped to get \$30 a ton, and when the news that Europe was waiting for their surplus stock reached them their anxiety to supply the demand can be imagined.

Hundreds of tons of hay from Iowa, Wisconsin, Nebraska, Indiana, Kentucky and other States have been pouring into New York, Baltimore, Norfolk and other seaboard ports. Tramp steamers have been loading at some of the Brooklyn wharves for some weeks, and many shiploads already have been landed abroad. Still the cry comes that more is wanted.

The fact that the first demand was not made known until several weeks after the lack of forage throughout Europe grew pressing created considerable distress there, especially in France. In both England and France the price was frequently as high as \$50 a ton. It has been reported that the lack of forage in France has necessitated the slaughter of a large number of cattle to prevent them from suffering from lack of food.

A representative of the big commission house of Williamson & Rickerson of New York says that judging by the way the American farmers are striving to supply the foreign demand for hay, Europe would soon have what she needs. "All the hay in the market" he said, "is last year's crop. None of this year's hay has come in yet. The immense quantities coming here show how the farmers have been hanging on to it. We are getting queries from farming districts in almost every section asking us how much we can sell hay for, and if we can get more for it. Market men who have never heretofore paid much attention to hay are buying it in this city for from \$17 to \$20 a ton, and sending it abroad. We have been getting \$30 a ton for it abroad, and the persons to whom it is consigned pay the freight, which is about \$10 a ton. This makes it cost them \$40, and by the time the consumers get it the price must reach the neighborhood of \$50—a phenomenal price."

The cause of the scarcity of the foreign crop of fodder as they call it, or forage, is said to have been the dry weather last year. The same condition of affairs exists this year. As if they doubted this, the farmers are busy unloading all their old hay, and thousands of tons are pouring into every port where it can be shipped. Still in this country no scarcity of forage is threatened, because the yield this year promises to be big enough to supply every demand made upon it.

Meantime the farmers of our section here in North Carolina should save every pound of hay this year they possibly can.

China Takes a Hand.

TREN TSIN, CHINA, July 20.—Advices received here this morning from Peking state that China has determined to help Siam in her trouble.

Siam pays tribute to China, and the Chinese Government and fleet will resist the attack of the French vessels.

HE WOKE 'EM UP.

A Stranger in Chicago Starts a Whole Hotel.

There is stopping at the Great Northern an old countryman who was in former years an intimate acquaintance of Col. Say, the night clerk. He went out to the hotel some time after midnight feeling a bit frisky as he had sampled many kinds of "corn juice" during the day. Presuming upon his acquaintance with the night clerk, he opened the gate and went behind the counter to show the clerk how to attend to his business. While Col. Say's attention was called away the old fellow sat down on a stool behind the counter and innocently leaned his broad and weary back against about thirty of the push-buttons of the annunciator.

An electric wire connects these buttons in the rooms above with gongs which make a peculiar and astonishing amount of noise, especially when they start suddenly after midnight and keep up the racket without cessation. Well, when the old man leaned his back against the annunciator the noise began upstairs, but, of course, he didn't hear it, so he continued to sit there and push the buttons. Many people had left calls so as to catch their trains. They got up and began to dress, but they couldn't imagine why the deafening noise continued after they had pushed the button in response to signify that they were up. The others were panic stricken. The halls were soon filled with men and women in all kinds of dishabille. Each door as it was opened let an additional noise into the hall. With the oaths of the men and the screams of the women it seemed a perfect bedlam. People became mixed up and got into the rooms with others whom they had never seen.

One man after the scare was over, never discovered that he was in the wrong room until, getting in bed, he almost mashed a "baby." Of course there was a rush for the office. The clerk opened his eyes and grabbed his gun as every body fired questions at him at once. He said he couldn't explain it—that they must be crazy. Then he looked around and saw the old chump sitting on the stool with an innocent, insane, toothless smile stretching across his sun-bronzed face. Col. Say pulled him up by the collar and told him what he had been doing.

"Well, I'll be darned," was all he said then, but as the people started upstairs, he said: "I'm sorry I disturbed the good people, but who'd ha' believed that darn board could make all that noise when it only had a man's back leaning against it." Then he went over and began to push a white spot on the new postal-box. He thought he was ringing for the elevator.

Silver Refused.

CHICAGO, July 24.—Notice was posted to-day in the United States sub-Treasury to the effect that silver would not be received. During the day many employes of banks brought in sacks of the white metal to get currency in exchange, but they had to shoulder their loads and go again as they came. There is more silver lying around uncounted behind the rails of the sub-Treasury than the force can handle.

On every shelf and in piles on the floor, canvas sacks filled with dollars and other coins are stacked up until there is hardly room to get about. "We are unable to handle the big amount of silver we have on hand," said one of the officials, "and until it can be all counted and cleaned up we will not receive any more over the counter. For some time past great quantities of silver have been brought here by banks to be exchanged for currency, until the amount has become greater than we can handle, and we have had to call a temporary halt. This is all there is to the matter."

"Bill" Breckenridge of Kentucky, said to be a silver-tongued orator—(whatever that appellation in the present exigencies of the emergency, as Col. Emmett Logan would say may mean) and Hon. Judge Horr, of Michigan, met in joint debate on the raging Chatauqua stump, (or some other appropriate place) in Atlanta Ga., recently and discussed the tariff. We guess the question is settled. It however, furnishes us with the problem before us, that we are in favor of "Reform," whatever that is.

POLICY OF THE PRESIDENT.

The Sherman Law Must Be Repealed Unconditionally.

NEW YORK, July 23.—The World is enabled to-day to announce authoritatively the immediate policy of President Cleveland and his administration in regard to the approaching special session of Congress. Briefly, it will be as follows:

First, silver reform by the absolute and unqualified repeal of the Sherman law; second, tariff reform to be prosecuted in accordance with the pledges of the party, as soon as, but not before, the finances of the country are again upon a stable basis.

Mr. Cleveland is annoyed and exasperated at the unexpected interference with his tariff reform plans, but he is not discouraged. He proposes to meet the silver question in the same straightforward manner that has characterized his handling of tariff matters.

Mr. Cleveland's advice to the coming special session of Congress will be for the repeal at once of the Sherman silver law. He believes that any complications of this issue with amendments, substitutes or similar propositions, will be detrimental to the purposes of the repealing act, which are not so much for the purpose of working any instant change in the financial system of the country as for the restoration of business confidence throughout the land.

From information at his command, Mr. Cleveland has no doubt that his policy will be adopted by the House of Representatives, after discussion and consideration. It is in the Senate that the trouble will come.

What will follow the repeal is a matter that will not be injected into the present fight, if the administration has its way. That further financial legislation will be needed, the President considers probable, but what its nature shall be is a matter for future determination. The first thing to be done is to clear the ground. When that is done, the question of construction can be considered on an intelligent basis.

A Freak of Lightning.

WAVERLY, Neb., July 16.—During a severe storm about 6 o'clock last evening a bolt of lightning struck close to the Lutheran parsonage, and soon afterwards a strange frothy-like substance was discovered oozing out of the ground and forming a heap of foam nearly as large as a water bucket, about eight feet from the house. Examination showed it to be the place where the lightning had entered the ground, boring a smooth hole about 3 inches in diameter down in an exactly perpendicular direction. A cord with a weight attached was lowered to the bottom and it measured 25 feet, with 2½ feet of water. For several hours a strong odor was emitted, which, however, finally disappeared. Experiments were made by dropping down pebbles which produced a distinct splashing sound in the water. The strange well has been visited by large numbers of curious people.

The fiat hath gone forth in England calling the white stockings back into vogue, writes Eugene Field. England is always and forever making a mess, and when it comes to fashions in feminine apparel England is particularly infelicitous. Our pretty tasteful fashions all come from Paris. White stockings have never gone out in Germany; tabooed elsewhere, they have continued in favor with the average Teuton frau. And in England the older ladies have continued to wear white cotton hosiery. It is well known, we think that Mrs. Gladstone has never incased her nether limbs in any but white cotton stockings. But the white stocking is a horror—an offense unmitigated and not to be palliated. Let England decree or do what she pleases, she can not win or drive us back to the ridiculous old heresy, the absurd abomination of white hosiery. The one article of feminine dress in which man's taste is properly deemed infallible is the hosiery, and in America mankind is a unit against the white stocking.

Iron Visiting Cards.

In Berlin, instead of pasteboard, iron visiting cards are used. They are dead black in color, of the usual size, and the name is engraved in silver. The pieces are so thin that more of them can be packed into a card-case than of the paper ones.

GENERAL NEWS.

China promises help to Siam, Russia promises help to France, England waits to see which side will pay her best in territory.

France claims the left, that is, the Eastern bank of the great Mekong river in Siam, without setting any definite bounds as to how far North or East she will go.

Congressman W. C. Breckinridge of Ky. who was reported as engaged to Miss Madeline Breckinridge Pollard of Lexington, has just married Mrs. Louise Scott Wing, of Louisville Ky. Miss Pollard was a clerk in the Interior department at Washington, and made the then famous remark on Gen. Sherman's death, that the devil had gotten his own.

The Nawab of Rampur, the Hindoo princeling who has reached Chicago in his tour of the world, is only seventeen years old, but he is reputed to be a highly accomplished youth and one of the most intelligent of the under rulers of India. He is very rich and possesses many rare and costly jewels. The Nawab arrived in San Francisco two months ago and has since been in Alaska, the Yellowstone Park and the Yosemite Valley.

A. J. Drexel's will gives \$100,000 to the German Hospital of Philadelphia, \$1,000,000 to an Art Gallery there, \$1,000 per year to Miss E. C. Stanley, \$1,000 each to all servants who had been 5 years in his family, \$100 a year for as many years as they have been in service to the clerks of the banking house, \$1,000,000, each to three grand children named Biddle, arranges that his estate shall buy Geo. W. Childs' share in the Public Ledger, after Childs' death, gives \$1,000,000 each to three grand children named Paul, and half a million to their father, gives \$50,000 to each executor and ties up about 20 or 25 millions for his descendants except the Pauls and Biddies, to be divided 21 years after the death of his last surviving grandchild, among the issue then living.

GALLAGHER RETRACTS.

He Now Says His Confession Was All a Hatched up Scheme.

PITTSBURG, Pa., July 20.—At 1:30 o'clock this afternoon Patrick Gallagher, the confessor, requested the presence of Warden Wright in his cell in the penitentiary. The warden responded at once. Gallagher said: "Warden, I have been in here all night and wish to say to you now that the confession made by me yesterday was all a hatched up scheme, and that I was dragged into it. I wish now to retract everything that was said in that confession and wish you would send for the attorneys interested, as I will decline to sign the confession." The warden immediately notified District Attorney Burleigh and Attorney Porter by telephone and they hurried to the penitentiary with all haste. After three hours talk with Gallagher, the district attorney came out and said that Gallagher had declared under oath that every statement he made yesterday was absolutely false and that he, Dempsey, Beatty and Davidson are guilty as indicted. He broke down and cried like a child. Warden Wright says Gallagher had a big bundle of manuscript which he took as the foundation of his little speech, and which he told was prepared for him on the outside of the penitentiary.

Enormous Wheat Deficiency.

ST. LOUIS, July 19.—The Journal of Agriculture, of this city, treating editorially of the condition of the present wheat crop and the probable advance in prices, says the best American and European authorities agree that the world's deficiency will be at least 100,000,000 bushels.

Cinnamon Kills.

"No living germ of disease can resist the antiseptic power of essence of cinnamon for more than a few hours," is the conclusion announced by M. Chamberland as the result of prolonged research and experiment in M. Pasteur's laboratory. It is said to destroy microbes as effectively, if not as rapidly, as corrosive sublimate.

All The Letters.

The sentence "John quickly extemporized five tow bags" contains all the letters of the alphabet.