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MR. A. A. SHUFORD.

His Experience At The Atlanta Exposition

There is an old Methodist hymn which runs somewhat like this in the beginning:

"This is the way I long have sought and mourned because I found it not."

We found out something Thursday of last week which will do for a Christmas Idyl.

When the versatile Mr. Josephus Daniels, the live editor of the Raleigh News and Observer was in Atlanta in October last attending and viewing the sights in the Exposition he was attracted to a pay lunch booth by the vociferous and sonorous appeal of an elegant old school gentleman who emerged out the welcome sound, "Aunt Jimmy cakes!"

There is a gentleman in Hickory who is the President of the 1st National Bank, President of the Granite Falls Cotton Factory, one of the Catawba County Commissioners and also Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Catawba County.

In the afternoon of that day we were standing on the street talking with him when we saw Mr. Josephus Daniels coming up the street.

Before leaving Hickory for the Exposition Mr Shuford placed a copy of that issue of the Raleigh News and Observer in his inside pocket. When he got out on the Exposition ground at Atlanta he hunted up this place. From the picture and the description given by Editor Daniel, Mr. Shuford recognized the old gentleman and the place as soon as he came to it at the Woman's Building.

Mr. Shuford said he got ashamed and never went back the next day or any more. Now don't you think, Mr. Josephus Daniels laughed and said to Mr. Shuford: "You owe me a dollar and a half, and I want you to pay it right now."

Then we left Mr. Daniels wrangling for his claim of a dollar and a half on account of his half of what Mr. Shuford would have had to pay for his two dinners which he got on account of Editor Daniels, cut and article in the News and Observer.

We Hickory people can sometimes have more fun than a mule can pull down hill with the wagon pushing.

A Wonderful Story.

The other day a tiny bird tapped at the window of Mrs. Nansen's home at Christmas.

Instantly the window was opened and the wife of the famous Arctic explorer in another moment covered the little messenger with kisses and caresses.

The carrier pigeon had been away from the cottage thirty long months, but it had not forgotten the way home. It brought a note from Nansen stating all was going well with him and his expedition in the polar regions.

About two and a half years ago the Fram left European waters for a trip to the north pole. From the day when she entered the Black sea of the north no word has been received. It is conjectured that the vessel is somewhere near the pole, but during two long years of silence the friends of the explorer heard nothing until a day or two ago.

One day last month Nansen took a carrier pigeon, fastened a missive to it and turned the bird loose.

The frail courier darted out into the blizzard air. It flew like an arrow over a thousand miles of a frozen waste, and then sped forward over another thousand miles of ocean and plains and forests, and one morning entered the window of the waiting mistress and delivered the message she had been awaiting so anxiously.

We boast of human pluck, sagacity and endurance, but this loving little carrier pigeon in its homeward flight after an absence of thirty months has accomplished a feat so wonderful that we can only give ourselves up to the amazement and admiration which must overwhelm every one when the marvelous story is told.

Mrs. Nansen's pigeon is one of the wonders of the world.—Constitution.

Stevenson's Unpublished Novel.

"St. Ives," the novel left substantially complete, and unpublished, by Robert Louis Stevenson at his death, is described as purely a romance of adventure. It is the story of a French prisoner captured in the Peninsular wars, who is shut up in Edinburgh Castle; there he falls in love with a Scotch girl who, with her aunt, frequently visits the prisoners.

Mr. Sidney Colvin—himself an author and critic of rare ability and a master of style—says of this novel that "as a tale of adventure, manners, and the road, which is all it was meant to be, it will be found a very spirited and entertaining piece."

From S. S. McCLURE, Limited 30 Lafayette Place, New York.

Paralyzed White Denouncing Cleveland.

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 21.—Dr. W. P. Palmer, one of the most prominent citizens of Richmond, and commander of the Richmond Howitzer during the late war, while condemning President Cleveland's Venezuelan message, was paralyzed and has not been able to speak since. His condition is critical and little hope is entertained of his recovery.

Ex-Senator M. W. Ransom has written to Hon. Kope Elias to procure for him 40 pairs, home knit, Macon county, woolen socks for the use of his sons.—Franklin Press.

Doesn't the Minister wear socks also?

ABSENT TWENTY-THREE YEARS.

A Colored Man Raised in Caldwell County Returns from Arkansas to See His Old Home.

One day last week there alighted from the east-bound passenger train of the Southern Railway in Hickory a colored man who boarded the Daisy Line for Lenoir. He was born in Caldwell county about 40 years ago and left there 23 years ago and went to the great State of Arkansas where he now resides; has got a good farm well equipped and where he married and is rearing a family.

He met us on the train coming down. He told us all about Arkansas and what he has done these 23 years. He was formerly a slave of the Dooleys in Caldwell. His name is Albert P. Powell, but he says Dooley is his right name. He comes to see his old friends and acquaintances. He is one of the landed proprietors out in Arkansas and told us about how he and the other cotton growers out there "laid low" this year when the hands wanted them to pay 70 cents per 100 pounds for picking cotton and that they ultimately got their cotton picked at the old price of 50 cents per 100 pounds.

Albert said he had money and also had cotton in the warehouse of his cotton factors at Memphis and they begged him to let them loan him some money on it, but he didn't need it and wouldn't take it. He looked out at the car window and said: "I used to ride across in the wagon from Morganton here to Lenoir and I know some of this looks natural. But, said he, this here down here towards this place what they call Hickory I don't know it. How does it git from Hickory to Lenoir. Is they got any good stables? But my ticket reads to Lenoir."

He said he like to got hit hard last year in his crops, but that this year he had hit it hard. Said, "I've made 3,000 bushels of corn on less than 50 acres of land, and I made more money off a less number of bales of cotton this year and got cotton in the warehouse." He made a little over a bale to the acre, and he has 130 acres in cultivation. Said, "Bless goodness! I don't see how dese people here live. I haven't seed a foot of ground kept over here on the river bottoms, where I would stic my plow." He is rather sarcastic about farming in this country, but he says these are the best people in the world and he "just wants to see his young master."

He Was Right.



Irving Henry: My name is Norvald! And my father feeds his flocks upon the grampion hills of Scotland—in the Neck.

Tammanyite: Hold! Gist hold up right thair. I know yer. Yer name is Mit Trout and yer owe my nither fifty cents fer washin.

Irving Henry: Aint a man got no showing in this world or the next? I'll stab ye!

The Exposition Medals.

The Cotton States and International Exposition will deliver its diplomas and medals before the close of the fair, which ends on December 31st. This announcement was made by President Collier, and considering the fact that the World's Fair medals are not all delivered yet, the promptness of the jury of awards at the exposition is considered exceptional, especially as the jury is composed of men who are active in their professions and located at widely remote points.

The total number of medals awarded is 1,543 and the number of diplomas 1,546. The list of medals and diplomas includes 36 diplomas of general recognition to exhibiting States and foreign countries accompanied by gold medals, seven diplomas of grateful recognition without medals, 134 grand prize gold medals and diplomas, 414 diplomas of honor with gold medals, 444 silver medals and diplomas of excellence and 495 diplomas of honorable mention with bronze medals.

GENERAL NEWS.

The President signed the Venezuelan Commission. It is therefore now a law.

The New York banks hold \$17,088,800 in excess of the requirements of the 25 per cent. rule.

Gladstone cables that only common sense is required to insure peace between England and the United States.

The Senate of Brazil has cabled President Cleveland a message of congratulation upon his message regarding the Venezuelan question.

Ex Secretary of the Navy Richard W. Thompson says there is in the State Department a formal assent by England to the Monroe doctrine.

There was a somewhat less panicky feeling on Wall street, due largely to the denial of Rothschild that he would withdraw \$25,000,000 of gold from America.

Speaker Reed has announced the names of the committeemen of the House and N. C. gets a tolerable good showing, but it seems that Maine and New York and Pennsylvania dominates.

Senator Squire of Washington has introduced a bill to increase the efficiency of naval reserve vessels by providing that all engineers on those shall be full-fledged citizens of the United States.

North Carolina had the severest shock last week she has had in many years so far as catastrophe goes. A coal mine at Cummock, formerly known as Egypt, had a coal mine explosion from fire damp, and thirty nine men were killed. The Raleigh, Charlotte, Wilmington and other daily papers of the State gave full accounts of it, as also did many of the weekly papers but want of space prevents our giving a full account of it. Suffice it is fortunate the catastrophe is no worse than it is.

Practically Agreed Upon.

The ways and means committee of the house met in secret session Saturday night and the general outline of a measure was practically agreed upon but the details have not been completed. The sentiment was unanimous that no gold bonds should be authorized but that a bill on the lines of Mr. Reed's amendment of last year should be drawn up, and with that should be coupled some tariff changes for the purpose of raising additional revenue. The details of the tariff changes will furnish the most difficult task in framing the bill. There is practical unanimity of sentiment, so far as can be learned, among the Republican members of the committee for a duty on wool and compensating duties on woollens. The Western members want the duty on wool to be at least eight cents per pound, but the indications are that it will not exceed five cents. There is some discussion of a proposition to make a horizontal increase on all the schedules except sugar of from 15 to 20 per cent., but that it is opposed in certain quarters as being not on protection lines.

It seems probable, therefore, that wool and woollens, lumber and various other articles will be selected. It seems certain that there will be a time limitation of two years or three months on the life of the tariff provisions of the bill.

The course of the Senate is weak will depend largely, if not entirely, upon the men which affairs shall take in the House.

Haywood Poteet, the sweet singer of Chipper-ville, is only 46 years old and was married at the early age of seventeen. They have had 12 children to bless their hearth—twins coming three times. All this in 22 years, the first birth not occurring till 2 years after marriage. This beats the record so far as we are advised—Wor-ganton Herald.

Great Scott! How happy are they who expect but little.

There was a big fire on the Midway at the Atlanta Exposition Monday morning at 4 o'clock, and one man named Thompson a few months only from the Island of Ceylon was burned to death. It was the "Lawson Catering Co., building next to the Mexican Village which burned." The other occupants narrowly escaped. A woman jumped out at the window and let \$1,000 in cash to be burned.

HERE IS THE WEATHER.

Examine it and Take Your Chances. During the winter we will have twenty three snow-storms.

Christmas promises to be very cold throughout the Northern, Western and Central regions, with colder weather than usual to the far South.

The cold prevailing in most parts at the end of 1895 will begin to moderate in the West about January 3, and on the 2d, 4th, 5th and 6th a great storm will prevail over the Southern States. Blizzards and snow, followed by cold wave.

The second storm period will run from the 10th to 13th. Thunder and lightning to the South, but great cold will follow.

The third storm period is from the 15th to 19th.

The fourth and fifth storm periods are from the 21st to 25th and from the 27th to 31st.

The storms starting the last days of January are apt to break into lightning and thunder on the southern flanks the first days of February. Rain and sleet, with heavy snows to the north, will result, followed by a bitter cold wave. The 7th, 8th and 9th are storm days. The 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th constitute a marked storm period. Lightning and thunder most likely. Do not be, therefore, off your watch against the cold to follow. The 18th, and days thereabouts, call for watchfulness. Watch the 26th to 29th; storms of great energy, if not cyclones, are possible.

As will be seen from the above, the indications are for a hard January and February. We look for the hardest winter that we have had for years. We advise the people to prepare. January 27 to 31 will be the battle ground.

Free Silver is in Sight.

The condition of affairs confronting the treasury department was possibly never more critical than at the present time. That Secretary Carlisle is greatly alarmed lest gold should go to a premium and the credit of the United States be partially destroyed abroad is no longer a secret. It is now a practical certainty that within the next few days the sixty-five millions of gold in the treasury will be demanded by New York bankers for exportation. A more critical condition has never existed save possibly in 1873, when American securities were sold by Europeans in great quantities.

Many members of Congress believe that it is now an opportune time to throw off the policy of Great Britain with relation to a gold standard, and to step boldly to the front and throw open the American mints to the free and unlimited coinage of silver as well as gold. We can no longer rely upon the Rothschilds to float our bonds and supply us with gold. A rupture between the United States and England means that the American must take care of their own securities and that all international stocks today held by London bankers will be dumped on the market for sale at any figure obtainable.

He Explained It.

The Madison Advertiser says that two young men of Madison were looking over The Constitution one day this week and came across an article in which was used the following expression, "Anglo-saxonize your minds, my friends."

"Well," said Jim, "that's some pumpkins, I guess, but what on earth does it mean, Bill?"

"Great Scott, man, where was you raised?" replied Bill. "That's the slang way of saying, 'Go off and soak your head!'"—Atlanta Constitution.

His Rocky Goal.

I admire the rosy dawning of the morning on her cheek. For pearls each time she opens her lips I diligently seek. I shiver at the coldness of her frowning brow of snow. When lightning blazes from her eyes, for cover do I go. The midnight blackness of her hair strikes chill into my soul. The path to her affection is my rocky, weary goal.—Chicago News.

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