

Interest Revived in Stanly County Bond Case

Rumored Decision Holding the Bonds Valid—A Moonshiner Wants to Be Baptized

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 19.—Special.—A rumor has reached here that the United States Circuit Court of Appeals will affirm Judge Simonton's decision in the celebrated Stanly county and Wilkes county bond cases. It will be remembered that Judge Simonton held that the claims of W. N. Coler & Co., representing the bondholders, were just and should be paid by the counties concerning the indebtedness. While no opinion has been announced by the Circuit Court of Appeals, it is understood that Judges Boyd and Morris agree in an opinion affirming Judge Simonton. It is said that Judge Goff does not concur in being of the opinion that the bonds are not valid.

When I called on Judge Boyd for confirmation of the rumor he said the opinion had not been filed. These are two of the most celebrated cases that ever came on in North Carolina and have attracted a great deal of attention from the beginning. The predicted opinion of the Circuit Court of Appeals will create a genuine sensation in certain quarters. The counties have resorted to every means under cover of the law to escape payment of the indebtedness created on the bonds were voted. Judge A. H. Avery, of Morganton, who is in Greensboro today on other business, represents the counties in the litigation. Judge Boyd has received the following unique letter from a gentleman in Surry county:

"Dear Sir—William Marsh, who was convicted of removing spirits at the last term of the United States Court in Greensboro and sentenced to three months imprisonment in the Surry county jail, has professed religion and is very anxious to be baptized according to the rites of the Baptist church. He insists that I write you and ask if he would be permitted to be carried to Fish river by the jailer and baptized by

some minister of the gospel. I think he could endure his confinement better if this ordinance was administered to him, and then he would be ready for the kingdom."

Judge Boyd has been waiting for favorable weather conditions, and now that the elements are considered just right for a genuine baptizing, an order of court will probably be issued today directing the jailer to take the convicted prisoner, securely handcuffed, to Fish river and have him immersed under the chilling water.

The venerable David Wharton, Guilford's oldest citizen, and one of the oldest men living anywhere celebrated his ninety-eighth birthday yesterday as he fits a man of his spry years. Mr. Wharton lives with his son, a short distance north of Greensboro, and despite the weight of his ninety-eight years, is in sound health. His mind is active and vigorous and he has lost none of his interest in the affairs of the day. He spends the time in conversing with friends, walking around the farm and reading. He is a constant reader of the Greensboro Patriot (to which he has been a subscriber for eighty years) and the Presbyterian Standard. About a year ago Mr. Wharton was seriously ill and his life was despaired of, but the aged man had no idea of dying, and in a few weeks, to the great surprise of all who knew him, he was walking around the farm in the enjoyment of his accustomed health and strength.

Mr. C. S. Guthrie, the rich New Yorker who recently purchased a large tract of land near Whitsett in the eastern part of the county, has expended about \$15,000 in improving and beautifying the place. He has built an elegant residence, as large as a hotel, as a man in the community expressed it, and large barns and dog kennels. His lavish expenditure of money has bewildered the neighbors, all of whom are very proud of the distinction that has come to them. One of Mr. Guthrie's friends has purchased land in the community and will build during the coming spring.

The Hunter Manufacturing and Commission Company will shortly open an office in the Southern Loan and Trust Company building, from which the commission business will be transacted.

Worn Out?

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city will own when the purchase is made, the city will erect a city hall and market house. It is proposed to have an alley way 24 feet wide from Mulberry street, an alley 20 feet wide from Ash street, an alley 15 feet wide from John street, and an alley way 20 feet wide on each side of the market house leading in from East Centre street. This will make the market accessible from all directions.

Besides making concessions in the matter of alley ways and other inducements the property owners in that locality propose to give the city \$1,000 in cash. While the location was not decided on this account, still it is a very near contribution and will help considerably toward purchasing the property. There were a great many other sites offered the city, but the inducements were not so many and the advantages no near so numerous.

The board of aldermen held a meeting last night and decided to take charge of the electric light plant on the first day of January. The board decided to buy the plant some weeks ago and the price agreed upon was \$25,000. The only action last night was the ratification of the date and a decision when the same should go into effect. The bonds with which the city will pay for plant have not been disposed of up to the present, but the finance committee of the board are negotiating their sale and are, of course, trying to dispose of them at the lowest rate of interest possible.

Last night in eastern Goldsboro at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lewis, their daughter, Miss Katie, was married to Mr. James Franklin.

Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Grady have issued invitations to the marriage of their cousin, Miss Cora E. Grady, to Mr. P. C. Frizzell at their home in North William street, Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

Mr. Taylor Gleaves has qualified before the clerk of the Superior Court of Wayne county as receiver for the Great Eastern Railroad and notifies all creditors of the road to present their claims to him at Goldsboro within the next thirty days. This is the railroad that started from Fremont for Snow Hill, the capital of Greene county.

It is some time off yet, but in order that the public may not lose sight of the event we mention the fact today that the members of the Eclipse Steam Fire Engine Company will give a banquet and ball on the night of December 31st. The proceeds from the affair will be devoted to the purchase of articles needed by the company.

Tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock the East Goldsboro Land and Investment Company will hold an auction sale of town lots in East Goldsboro.

Chief of Police Freeman received a telegram today from the authorities at Dover asking for the arrest of Emil People, a man of ginger cake color and medium height. The message did not specify the crime with which the negro was charged.

A FURNITURE EXPOSITION

High Point Manufacturers Take the Matter in Hand

High Point, N. C., Dec. 19.—Special.—What will be known as the Southern Furniture Exposition will probably open in High Point the coming spring. There was a large and enthusiastic meeting of our manufacturers in the mayor's office when this question came up. Thirty-five of the factories here were represented, and all of them gave the movement their hearty endorsement. A committee composed of Mr. M. J. Wrenn, Dr. W. G. Bradshaw and Mr. Char. Ragan was appointed to look after a suitable location and ascertain the cost of buildings, etc. It is thought that a building 100 by 200, four stories, will answer the purpose. The exposition will be under the direction of a stock company, and the very best buildings that can be had will be erected. It will require plenty of space and excellent light. It has been apparent for some time among furniture men of the South that the annual exhibit must come, and it seems to be the universal opinion that High Point is the place. It will mean much for the furniture business of the South.

A meeting of the Southern Furniture Manufacturers' Association was held here yesterday. Representatives from a number of the factories were in attendance. The business transacted was of a private nature, and all that could be learned is that the business before the association was disposed of satisfactorily to all.

COOPER—SOUTHERLAND

Kenansville the Scene of a Beautiful Church Wedding

Kenansville, N. C., Dec. 18. Correspondence of The Morning Post. The Presbyterian church was the scene

Where and What to Buy For Christmas

No Groceries, No Toys, No Hardware, No Silverware,

But Dry Goods in the broadest sense, and with that, only reputable and dependable merchandise admitted. The various stocks just now are at their topnotchfulness, suitable for personal or Christmas gift uses. In the Cloak and Suit Department new styles can be seen almost daily giving hardy shoppers opportunities seldom offered before. In the MILLINERY DEPARTMENT can be seen the latest styles of both foreign and domestic designers, at a price less than cost of production, namely, **50 per cent or one-half original price.** This cut price includes all trimmed and untrimmed hats for ladies and misses.

Holiday Blankets

White, Red, Gray and Fancies' Price-range is amply extensive to suit every price, while quality is the best; of fine California wool, and made by the Muncy Co., which in itself is a guarantee for quality and make. **Blankets from \$1 to \$15**

Holiday Umbrellas

We don't believe there's a person in Raleigh whom we can't satisfy as to an umbrella, whether it be purchased for personal use or as a gift. Umbrellas for Children, Ladies or Men. Plain or fancy handles. **Prices range from 45c to \$15**

Holiday Gloves

Perfect, new Kid Gloves that will make a most acceptable gift. White, black and colors. All lengths and sizes. Prices range from \$1 to \$3. Then if you wish to cover those cold hands with warm Woolen Mittens or Gloves you'll find no trouble in securing them here, either for children or adults.

Holiday Handkerchiefs

Hundreds of different sorts, and dozens upon dozens of each kind. Specially selected for holiday season, and by far the most comprehensive collection in the State. But that's not all. They are most moderately priced.

Holiday Suggestions

- FUR SCARFS, FUR STOLES, FUR COLLARETTES, FUR MUFS, LACE CURTAINS, PORTIERES, ART SQUARES, PRETTY RUGS, TABLE DAMASK, FINE TOWELS, TRAY COVERS, TABLE NAPKINS, BROOCHEES, HAT PINS, BELT PINS, CAPES, RAGLANS, JACKETS,

Holiday Suggestions

- SILK DRESS SKIRTS, VELVET DRESS SKIRTS, SILK PETTICOATS, SILK WAISTS, COTTON PETTICOATS, KNIT PETTICOATS, DRESSING SACQUES, FACE VEILS, HOSIERY, UNDERWEAR, CORSETS, COSET COVERS, BELTS, CHATALAINE BAGS, POCKET BOOKS, COMBS, HAIR BRUSHES, BED SPREADS, COMFORTABLES,

Bear in mind, all Millinery at Half Price.

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Egyptian Cotton Cannot Rival the American Crop

Baltimore, Dec. 19.—(Special)—Col. Alfred B. Shepperson, the recognized cotton statistical authority of New York, is of the opinion, after a careful study of the situation, that there is not the slightest probability that the cotton crop of Egypt will ever add to the world supply enough to appreciably affect the price of American cotton. He makes this statement in an article in this week's issue of the Manufacturers' Record, detailing the results of his special study of the irrigation works under construction at Assouan and Assiout on the River Nile. He writes:

"Egypt is an almost rainless country, the average yearly rainfall at Alexandria for the past thirty years being only about eight inches. No crops of any kind can be grown except by irrigation, and the River Nile is the only source of water supply. The Nile is a swift and turbulent stream, and its muddy waters deposit upon the irrigated fields a sediment exceedingly rich in fertilizing properties.

The cultivable soil of Egypt consists only of the valley which can be reached by the water of the Nile. Beyond this limit there is only a barren waste of sand and desert utterly impossible of cultivation. The Nile valley is quite narrow, ranging from five to nine miles in width—a mere ribbon of green verdure in a setting of brown sand. A 'low Nile' therefore, has always meant 'lean crops,' and a failure of the flood a failure of the crops.

"In order to hold back the water of the great river, so that from its banks and through irrigation canals it could be directed to the fields as needed, the irrigation works known as the 'Barage,' a few miles north of Cairo, were completed in 1863. They were strengthened and improved in 1890 and served their purpose for a time, but with the increase of the cultivated acreage north of Cairo and the extension of cultivation in the valley south of Cairo, it was evident that larger and better facilities for water supply were needed. A contract was therefore made by the Egyptian Government in February, 1898 with Messrs. John Aird & Company of Scotland for the construction of extensive irrigation works at Assouan and Assiout to be entirely completed by July 1st, 1902."

Col. Shepperson describes the extent of these works and says: "The Nile begins to rise about July 1st and the flood usually reaches its greatest height in October. Even should the works be finished in July, 1902, a year before the date specified in the contract, it is evident that the first cotton crop to be much benefited would be the

crop to be planted in 1903, as cotton is planted in April and May. It is not usual for contract work to be finished before the time agreed, and, therefore, it seems quite probable that the cotton crop of 1904 will be the first one to be affected by the new works.

"The chief purpose of the construction of the works at Assouan and Assiout was to safeguard the crops of the land now under cultivation. There will doubtless be some extension of acreage, but this will be chiefly in upper Egypt where the cotton is much inferior to that of lower Egypt, and brings a considerably lower price. Valued correspondents in Alexandria who are prominent merchants and also largely interested in the cultivation of cotton write me in respect to acreage that they believe lower Egypt will benefit but little as the area under cultivation has already reached a point from which an increase becomes difficult. Upper Egypt will benefit to a much greater extent, but the increase in acreage there will be gradual, as it will depend upon the canalization, (or building of canals to take the water to the fields) which will be made. The chief object of the new dams was to remove any danger of scarcity of water for irrigation purposes in lower Egypt, and not in view of any very extensive increase in acreage."

"The system of rotation of crops is general, and the new acreage, like the present, will be devoted each year to the crop which then promises to be the most profitable. Less than one third of the cultivable land of Egypt is now devoted to cotton and it is unlikely that cotton will get even this proportion of the increased acreage. Egyptian cotton commands a much higher price than our upland cotton because of its special adaptability to certain purposes and the comparatively small crop. If the supply be largely increased, however, the price will inevitably decline and this will curtail production."

Southern ports seem likely, according to the Manufacturers' Record, to make a record for 1901 as exporters of breadstuffs. During the eleven months of the year the value of these exports has increased at all ports from \$218,409,371 in the same period in 1900 to \$252,507,046, a total of \$34,157,675. The increase at Southern ports have been, at Baltimore, from \$20,823,283 to \$30,444,731; Newport News, from \$14,214,928 to \$16,502,457; Norfolk, from \$3,151,928 to \$3,504,739; Galveston, from \$8,805,084 to \$11,786,938; Mobile, from \$1,317,770 to \$1,613,537; New Orleans, from \$10,081,730 to \$26,528,335. The total increase at Southern ports was \$26,147,230 against a net gain at all other ports, the Pacific Coast included, of \$8,010,445.

City Hall and Market Location Settled at Last

Goldsboro Will Now Take Another Step Forward. City Will Own the Electric Plant

Goldsboro, N. C., Dec. 19.—Special.—As long as the much mooted question of city hall and market house location has been settled by the board of aldermen, who met this morning and decided by a vote of five to four to accept the East Center street location. This question has been before the board for the past three weeks and secret meetings and caucuses have been held. The board decided that they could not please everybody and, therefore, tried to please

the majority. Whether they have done this much or not remains to be seen. A final decision is a relief to those who have been so anxious about the matter. The decision arrived at this morning was the result of much effort and deliberate action and the public should appreciate the spirit in which the board have acted in the matter all along.

The city already owned 59 feet front on East Centre street, just north of the property of Mr. Asher Edwards, and the decision this morning was to purchase 69 feet adjoining the city property from Mr. S. W. Isler. This will put the city property right up to the old Great Eastern building, which the owner Mr. L. D. Gully proposes to tear down and to erect substantial brick buildings in its stead. On the lot 119 feet front and 210 feet deep which the

of a beautiful wedding Wednesday evening at 6 o'clock, the contracting parties being Miss Annie Southerland, a popular young lady of this village, and Mr. Willard Cooper, a prominent young business man of Wilmington. The church was very artistically decorated with bamboo and holly, and was filled to overflowing with friends of the happy young couple. The groom entered with his best man, Mr. John Freeman. The bride came down the middle aisle, dressed in a handsome going-away castor dress, accompanied by her brother, Mr. John Southerland, who gave her away. They were preceded by the bridesmaids, Misses Mary Cooper and Mariah Loftin, and the two little flower girls.

The marriage ceremony was impressively performed by Rev. W. M. Shaw, pastor of the bride. The ushers were Messrs. Nick Shine, A. F. Williams, Jr.,

Herbert Smith, Ed Jones of Wilmington, Charles Southerland and D. L. Carlton. The wedding march was charmingly rendered by Miss Emma Cooper.

Immediately after the ceremony the couple left for Charleston, where they will spend some time at the exposition. The Superior Court, which has been in session here for the past two weeks, adjourned last Saturday. Judge O. H. Allen presided and made fair and impartial decisions. The judge is a native of this county, and of course Duplin is proud of her noble sons. Many of them have left her borders, among them being judges, lawyers of the first type, and prominent business men. The idea of a reunion of them has been suggested in connection with the old veterans' association which convenes here the 8th August next. This is a good idea, and we hope it will be carried out.

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