

STANDARDS DYNAMITED

Train Full of Soldiers Blown to Atoms.

GREAT LOSS OF LIFE

The Cubans Terrified the Troops and Captured Great Quantities of Arms, Killing Officers and Soldiers.

SANTIAGO, Cuba, Dec. 23.—An express train left here to bring back Spanish soldiers wounded in a dynamite explosion...

Crossed by Girl and Cape.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. READING, Pa., Dec. 23.—As a result of the jury's verdict the other day, acquitting and sustaining the story of Miss Clara Gable...

Have Trouble at Mayfield.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. MAYFIELD, Ky., Dec. 23.—Special trains today brought armed negroes and whites to town. They are prepared for a fight...

Annapolis Launched.

By Cable to the Press-Visitor. ELIZABETH, N. J., Dec. 23.—The United States gun boat Annapolis was launched at 10:30 this morning in the presence of a large crowd.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Editor Bailey's Pamphlet on Their Distressing Condition.

Editor J. William Bailey of the Biblical Recorder, who has interested himself in the betterment of the public school system of the state, has prepared a neat and interesting pamphlet on the distressing condition of the public schools in North Carolina...

Mr. Bailey discusses the school question in his brief treatise with learning and ability. He furnishes valuable information which will be of interest to all those who have given the question study.

Editor Bailey quotes the Constitution: "Each county of the state shall be divided into a convenient number of districts, in which one or more schools shall be maintained at least four months in every year; and if the commissioners of any county shall fail to comply with the aforesaid requirements of this section, they shall be liable to indictment."

In commenting on this, the author says: "It is now twenty-eight years since this constitution was ratified by the people; but in no one of these years has this article of the constitution been complied with."

Mr. Bailey said in discussing the matter today that the legislatures of previous years had put off making appropriations to public schools, but that at this session the question of allowing an appropriation sufficient to run the schools four months would be brought up before any other matter carrying an appropriation with it.

Editor Ayer said today that the public school question would be the most important to come before the legislature. Ohio Wilson and Maj. Grant favor increasing the appropriation so that the schools can run four months. It will require an additional \$150,000 appropriation for the schools to increase the school period from twelve weeks to four months.

A RAILROAD SCHEME.

The Midland Pacific Transcontinental Line to be Revived.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The long-abandoned Midland Pacific Railroad which was designed to be a great transcontinental route, is likely to take definite form in the shape of the sale soon of \$40,000,000 worth of bonds for the building of the line.

It is expected that English capitalists will take the entire issue of bonds, and the survey preliminary to the sale will be made by a representative of Sir Benjamin Baker, the eminent engineer, in the spring-time.

The Midland Pacific Railroad scheme first became prominently mentioned in railroad circles about twelve years ago. It was fostered by many distinguished men, and was intended to be a formidable rival of the Central and Union-Pacific lines.

The promoters of the plan saw in it vast riches, as it would open up all regions, mining country, wheat belts and vast tracts of farming lands and place them within easy reach of transportation to all the great centers of trade.

The present transcontinental lines do not run within 200 miles of this region and its vast resources are yet undeveloped and in an embryonic state because they cannot now be profitably developed.

A charter for the Midland Pacific was obtained and authority granted to cross the Yellowstone Park. The route was carefully surveyed and the projectors spent altogether \$150,000 in the survey and preliminary details.

At that time, in the '80's, it was estimated that the cost for building and equipping the line would be \$40,000,000, and it was confidently expected that the issue of bonds could be entirely floated in this country.

Hon. Byron G. Daniels was consulted by one of the Midland Pacific directors. The director suggested that Col. Daniels broach the \$40,000,000 bond loan among the Britons, and placed him in possession of all the papers and maps bearing upon the subject.

Col. Daniels went abroad and laid the matter in all its details before many London bankers and financial solicitors, but all refused to handle the loan and attempted to discourage his efforts.

Finally Col. Daniels secured an interview with Sir Benjamin Baker, one of England's most distinguished civil engineers. He it was who was consulting engineer of the Canadian Pacific railroad and who also designed the great plan of piping water from Wales to London.

Sir Benjamin examined at great length all the papers in Col. Daniels's possession, and after several weeks' consideration of the matter entered into a contract for \$15,000 to make another survey of the Midland route for the purpose of demonstrating its feasibility to English capitalists.

Col. Daniels, after having completed these arrangements, again saw his English capitalist friends, and was assured that the fact that Sir Benjamin Baker had agreed to survey the route was in itself a guarantee of its genuineness, and that if he reported favorably, English investors would buy all the \$40,000,000 bonds.

The Western end will have connections with Europe and Asia, as Japan proposes to run a steamship line to Seattle, and Russia is expected also to make that city the terminus of a line of ocean racers.

The projectors claim that a town site company in connection with the road will sell \$5,000,000 worth of land, and there are numerous other schemes by which the loan of \$40,000,000 may be additionally secured and paid.

A RECOUNT REFUSED.

Clerk of the Court Young Would not Produce the Ballot Boxes.

The taking of evidence in the matter of N. H. Broughton, contestant, against J. H. Young, contestee, for a seat in the General Assembly of North Carolina, was begun this morning before Justice J. C. Martin in the court house.

Mr. Broughton was represented by W. N. Jones, W. C. Douglass, C. M. Busbee and J. H. Fleming. Mr. J. C. L. Harris appeared for the contestee, Jas. H. Young.

Clerk of the court, Dan H. Young, was sworn and upon being questioned stated that he had in his possession the box purporting to contain the ballots cast at the last general election.

Mr. Young was asked to produce the boxes containing the ballots in order that a recount might be taken.

This Mr. Young declined to do, stating at the same time that he was acting on the advice of the county attorney.

After hearing counsel for the contestant and contestee in the above entitled matter, whether D. H. Young, clerk of the Superior court should be required to produce the boxes and ballots herein before mentioned, by the undersigned commissioner and justice of the peace, for the purpose of recounting said ballots and after consideration of the contentions of the said parties; the following order was made: I do hereby order that the said D. H. Young shall be required to produce said boxes and ballots which were used as the various voting precincts in Wake county at the recent election held on Tuesday, Nov. 3, '96, for the members of the general assembly of North Carolina, before the undersigned commissioner immediately, for a recount of said ballots.

Witness D. H. Young, for the reasons herein before stated and recorded, respectfully declined to obey this order.

The contestee objects to the making of the foregoing order upon the following grounds: First, That there is no authority of law therefor.

Second, That the commissioner is without jurisdiction therefor.

The contestant, Mr. Broughton, through his counsel, cited section 2861 of the Code, which gives a magistrate full powers of investigation in taking evidence. On the strength of this, papers have been prepared and a Supreme Court judge will be asked to issue a mandamus compelling Clerk Young to reproduce the boxes containing the ballots in order that a recount may be taken.

Further hearing of the case was continued by consent of the contestee and contestant until Wednesday, December 20th, 1896.

A NEW HEATING PLANT

To be Put in at the Agricultural Building—Committee so Decides.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Agriculture met in this city last evening.

The meeting was called specially for the purpose of devising methods for heating the agricultural building. The committee decided to put in a separate steam heating plant to heat the old building of the agricultural department and the new annex.

The old building has been dependent on the heating plant in the supreme court building which supplies warmth for the capitol and court buildings. The tax was too great on one heating plant and as a consequence the agricultural building was improperly heated. With the new annex, it would have been still worse.

The contract has already been given for the new plant which will be put in immediately.

Respects Rob a Train.

PRITCHARD IS COMING

Will Establish Headquarters Here Next Week.

ARRIVES WEDNESDAY

The Endless Chain, "M. B." Denies that he Ever Pledged Himself to Senator Pritchard's Re-election—Says the Populists are Free to Act.

Senator Jeter C. Pritchard, who is the Republican nominee for re-election, will establish senatorial headquarters in this city next Monday.

Mr. Pritchard's advance guard will precede him here Monday and the Hon. Jeter Cluinnatus will arrive in the city himself on Wednesday evening or Thursday morning.

Senator Pritchard and his friends realize that they have a hard fight on hand and they are desirous of getting on the battle ground early.

Hon. H. S. Hyams, secretary of the State executive committee, and also secretary to one of Senator Pritchard's Senate chairmanships will arrive Monday and open headquarters. Mr. Hyams will probably bring with him a clerk or two.

Senator Pritchard will come Wednesday to remain three weeks or perhaps for a longer time. Mr. Pritchard will remain in the city until the election of a Senator occurs.

Maj. Hiram L. Grant arrived in the city yesterday from Washington and New Hampshire, where he has been on a visit. Maj. Grant is confident of Senator Pritchard's re-election.

"How many populists are pledged to support Mr. Pritchard," the Major was asked.

"There are none so far as I know. We just believe that the Populists are honest and that they will stand by their promise two years ago. There was an implied understanding in the recent election with populist candidates for the legislature that they should support our candidate for the Senate. They were elected by Republican votes and they know that we had nominated a candidate for the Senate in our State convention."

"As for the story that Judge Russell has senatorial ambitions, there is no truth in it at all," remarked Maj. Grant. "Judge Russell would not accept the position."

The election of a Senator will come before the legislature two weeks after that body meets. The Republicans prefer a joint caucus as can be imagined, but the Populists will hardly consent to this.

The Caucasian prints at its mast-head today: "On more than one occasion extracts have been made from editorials in The Caucasian and sent over the country by the Associated Press as coming from Senator Butler, when the editorials were written by the managing editor from a local standpoint. To prevent a recurrence of impressions thus conveyed, the editorials written hereafter by Senator Butler will be signed 'M. B.'"

"M. B." the fox Senator from Honeycutt's, presents two choice editorials to the readers of the "Cowky"—largely attacks on Pritchard.

"M. B." who may some day be designated "The Great Unknown," writes: "We notice that the Winston Republican charges that Senator Butler was elected to the Senate on the express condition and obligation that a Republican should be elected in 1897. The charge is wholly and absolutely incorrect. Neither Mr. Butler nor his party made any condition, either directly or indirectly, to secure his election for the long term."

"The only shadow of ground on which this charge can be made is the off-hand statement made by Senator Butler, after he was elected, to the effect that he favored a continuance of the co-operation, and such an arrangement of its terms as would secure the re-election of Senator or some one standing as he stood then. When this statement was made by Mr. Butler, he not only had not made any agreement to that effect, but there was not a single Populist or Republican in North Carolina who had the least idea that he would make such a statement. He simply, on his account, expressed his individual opinion as to what would be a desirable future policy between the two parties."

"If the populist state committee

ADAMS WONT RESIGN.

Will Hold His Court in Wake in January, 1897.

Mr. Spencer Adams, who was re-elected Judge of the Fifth district last November will preside at the January term of Wake Superior Court and not Judge O. H. Allen as was erroneously stated. This will be Mr. Adams first court.

There were many rumors flying around after the election to the effect that Mr. Adams would decline to serve as Judge. It was stated with positiveness that Mr. Adams would resign as soon as Judge Russell was inaugurated and that he would retain his old position as clerk of the court of Caswell.

Mr. Adams' friends say he has no idea of resigning.

Mr. Adams has had little experience as practicing attorney, but his acquaintance with courts while clerk of the court will be of great value to him.

TODAY'S MARKETS.

New York, Dec. 23. Market quotations furnished by E. B. Cuthbert & Co., 30 Broad street, New York, and 305 Wilmington street, Raleigh, N. C., over their special wire:

Table with columns: MONTHS, OPENING, HIGH, LOW, CLOSING. Rows for January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December.

Closed steady sales 153,100 bales.

The following were the closing quotations on the New York Stock Exchange today:

New York Stock Market.

Table with columns: Sugar, American Tobacco, Burlington and Quincy, Chicago Gas, Des. and Ott. Feed, General Electric, Louisville and Nashville, Manhattan, Rock Island, Southern Preferred, St. Paul, Tennessee Coal and Iron, Western Union.

Chicago Grain and Provision Market.

The following were the closing quotations on the Chicago Grain and Provision market today: Wheat—December, 76 1/2; May, 81 1/2. Corn—December, 22 1/2; May, 25 1/2. Oats—December, 16 1/2; May, 19 1/2. Pork—January, 7 5/8; May, 7 7/8. Lard—January, 7 1/8; May, 3 3/4. Clear Rib Sides—January, 3 80; May, 3 97.

Liverpool Cotton Market.

Table with columns: December, January, February, March, April, May, June. Values in cents.

Closed steady, sales 12,000 bales.

A Pleasant Incident.

Today when the force, who make the PRESS-VISITOR bright and attractive every day, assembled after the dinner hour, Mr. J. N. McRary, who has since the foundation of the Press and more lately of the PRESS-VISITOR been the right-hand stand-by of the composing room of the office, informed Mr. Greek O. Andrews, editor-in-chief, that the gentlemen in the composing room desired to have a word with him.

Mr. John B. Collins then presented, on behalf of the force, a Christmas remembrance with the hearty good will and cordial best wishes of the force. Mr. Andrews accepted the gift in appropriate remarks in the course of which he took occasion to say that he appreciated the thoughtfulness and esteem of those associated with him in business, was entirely a surprise and unexpected, yet he desired to say spontaneously that he appreciated their remembrance from the source from which it came more than the best gifts of wealth or luxury. It marked the pleasant and cordial relations which have existed between the management of the PRESS-VISITOR and the men of the typographical fraternity of Raleigh, who have helped to make it since its organization and we sincerely hope that these pleasant relations will continue throughout many Christmas-tides.

The Southern Railway's Chattanooga vestibule did not arrive here until 2:30 this afternoon.

Herrman Died a Poor Man.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. New York, Dec. 23.—Adelaide Herrman appeared today before Surrogate Welles and applied for letters of administration on the estate of her late husband, Alexander Herrman.

Mrs. Herrman declared the property left by the magician to be worth not more than \$2,000. Her petition sets forth that the debts far exceed the value of the estate.

Will Not Support Pritchard.

Augustus Shaw, the populist senator from Robeson, was asked by the Fayetteville Observer if he was going to vote for Pritchard for United States senator he indignantly exclaimed, "No, sir, and I know of no true populist who will."

SHORT STATEMENTS.

Minor Matters Manipulated for the Many.

AROUND THE CITY.

Port-Pourri of the News Pictured on Paper—Points and People Pertinently Picked and Pithily Put in Print.

Mr. Palmer Dalrymple and bride, of Jonesboro, are here on a visit.

Mr. Plummer Green, of Warrenton, died yesterday. He will be buried today.

The University Glee Club will appear here January 4. A programme full of novelty and attraction is promised.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Maxwell have returned from Manly, and are stopping with Mrs. Maxwell's mother 104 W. Martin street.

Revenue officers from here made a raid into New Light township Saturday night, and captured an illicit distillery of fifty gallons capacity.

Rev. Dr. Tuttle will probably preach his farewell sermon at Central church Sunday night. Mr. Tuttle's successor, Rev. Mr. Glenn will reach here next week.

Governor Carr has made requisition on the governor of Virginia for Nat Wilson, who is wanted in Caswell county, on a charge of larceny. Wilson is now under arrest at Danville.

The freight office of the Seaboard Air Line will be closed on Christmas and New Years day. Also all freight trains will be annulled on same days.

Miss Mary E. Garrett, of Baltimore, Md., daughter of John W. Garrett, asks \$7,000 a year from the estate for the care of her brother. H. S. Garrett, who is weak-minded. She also wants \$150,000 for the Baltimore poor association.

The only and original John Y. McRae is organizing a battalion of soldiers for the Cuban war. He wants recruits for his delicious handmade cigars and now is the time to enlist. The first contingent of the troops is now on exhibition at his Fayetteville street store.

In response to an advertisement which appeared in the PRESS-VISITOR a few days ago Mrs. Annie H. Landis wishes to announce that she can furnish rooms and table board for as many as eight during the legislature at Park Place, North Blount street at \$20 per month.

An old landmark is being removed from the corner of Morgan and Dawson streets. The old Briggs residence, one of the oldest residences in the city is being torn away and will be replaced by two elegant, modern residences. The property was purchased by Messrs. S. W. Wynne and W. B. Hutchings and each of the gentlemen will build.

The statement published a few days ago to the effect that the expenditures in the Department of Agriculture was something over \$58,000 is incorrect. The department expended \$48,719, and a good part of this was for permanent improvements and additional buildings. There is a special fertilizer tax, the proceeds of which are employed in meeting the expenses of the Agricultural department.

XMAS WEATHER.

It Will be Fair and Colder Tomorrow Night—The Same Xmas.

Weather dispenser von Herman very kindly offers a cold, fair day on Xmas eve. The prospect is that we will have the same variety of weather Christmas day.

The local weather forecast for Raleigh and vicinity is fair tonight and Thursday and colder Thursday night.

The storm has moved rapidly from the Lake region eastward to the north Atlantic coast. On the north-west side colder weather follows, with snow from Boston, New York and Philadelphia westward to Marquette. The weather over the entire south and west continues fine. A new high pressure area, with moderately colder weather, has appeared in the northwest. The barometer is so continues high in the Gulf region. The temperature has risen in the southern portion of the country.



JUDGE A. C. AVERY.