

## URGENT APPEAL.

A Lady Writes Concerning the Destitute Cubans in Florida. (Communicated.)

An earnest Christian lady, formerly of North Carolina, but now residing in Ocala, Florida, writes to a friend in Raleigh and the following extract from the letter speaks for itself.

"There is one matter I want you to talk over with some friends and I will give you some facts. There is great need among the Cuban refugees in Tampa. Our pastor who often visits his friends, Rev. J. V. Cova, in Tampa, gives a most touching account of the destitution of these people. Some of the men with large families, who have been earning a scanty living, are now out of employment on account of closed factories. Could you not get your church and as many others as will to unite in sending a box of clothing to Mr. Cova for distribution? Our pastor says they need everything. Many of them were made to leave Havana on short notice without anything in the line of baggage. I know that the churches usually send missionary boxes every year, and you may think the field has been already cleaned, but I imagine that clothing which might not be quite good enough for your missionary box would be very acceptable to these refugees. It will be a deed of mercy to help them.

"Our pastor told of one little girl three or four years old, quite a pet of his, who when he was there last looked so pale and thin that he enquired of Mr. Cova if she had been sick. To his horror and amazement Mr. Cova replied that she had not been sick, but her father had been out of work for a month, and that he really could not procure sufficient food for his large family, that often they had only one poor meal a day. This man was in good circumstances in Havana. Of course this is only one of the many, many cases that might be given.

"The people in Florida are less able to help them than almost any other State I imagine, and yet they are doing what they can."

## MEETING CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Raleigh Chamber of Commerce met in special session last night, President Haney presiding, to take some steps towards securing the Federal prison at Raleigh. The object of the meeting was explained.

Mr. R. H. Battle moved that the thanks of the Chamber be extended to Judge Gurnell, Chairman of the Penitentiary Board, Claudius Dockery and Assistant Attorney General James Boyd for the interest they have taken in having the State prison here designated as a Federal prison. The motion was carried.

Mr. R. H. Battle moved that a special committee of five, with Mr. John Nichols as chairman, be appointed by the President of the Chamber to take such immediate action as shall be necessary for the permanent establishment of a Federal prison here and report to the Chamber at the next meeting. The motion was adopted.

This committee is composed of Messrs. John Nichols, R. H. Battle, A. M. McPheters, Sr., J. E. Pogue and George Allen.

The Chamber passed resolutions thanking the Board of Aldermen and County Commissioners for extending Morgan street, and the S. A. L. for placing the handsome bridge over their track.

The following resolution, introduced by Mr. Pogue, and heartily seconded by Mr. Battle and Mr. McPheters, was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That we, the Chamber of Commerce of the city of Raleigh, N. C., now in regular session, sincerely believe that the demands for such an institution are imperative, and that the self-sacrificing and untiring efforts Dr. L. A. Scruggs are very deserving of commendation and encouragement, and that through which he is a public contributor to the general health of our city and State, as well as of the South.

## JUDGE ARMFELD INVITED BUT DECLINED.

The Vance monument in Asheville will be dedicated May 10th and the committee of arrangements has invited Senator Daniel, of Virginia, and Hon. R. F. Armfield, of Statesville, to deliver addresses on that occasion. Judge Armfield has been forced to decline the invitation, as his physical condition will not admit of his making an address. This is to be regretted, as his address, were he able to deliver one, would be worthy of the man and the occasion.

The Statesville band has offered to furnish music at the dedication free of charge and it is probable that its offer will be accepted.—Statesville Landmark.

An old resident of South Greensboro says that eighteen years ago on the 17th and 18th of March one of the biggest snows of the season fell. He says it was seventeen inches deep by actual measurement. We trust he is not predicting such a record breaker this year.—Greensboro Record.

## ANOTHER REDUCTION

### Rates for Firewood on all Roads Reduced

## MORGANTON OFFICE

### Commission Refused to Require Western Union Telegraph Company to Move Their Morganton Office to Town

—Pearson Voted for Petition

The Railroad commission met again this morning.

The first matter before the commission was the reduction of rates on firewood on all the railroads of the State. This reduction, which goes into effect immediately, was embodied in a circular introduced by commissioner Pearson and unanimously adopted by the commission.

The text of the same is as follows:

"Circular in regard to freight rates on firewood: In car loads released, loaded and unloaded by shipper, 10 cords minimum:

Ten to fifteen miles, per cord 45 cents. Fifteen to thirty miles, per cord 50 cents.

Thirty to forty miles, per cord, 55 cents.

Forty to fifty miles, per cord 60 cents. Applicable to all railroads in the State.

On motion of commissioner Pearson the Southern Express Company was notified to appear at the next session of the commission and show cause why they should not be required to establish an up town office at Morganton.

The matter which elicited the most discussion this morning was the consideration of the petition to require the Western Union Telegraph Company to establish an up town office in Morganton.

Mr. Robt. C. Strong appeared for the telegraph company and argued that under the Nebraska decision the action of the commission must be shown to be reasonable. After discussion the petition for the removal of the office was denied. Chairman Caldwell and Commissioner Abbott voting against the petition and Commissioner Pearson for the petition. This is the first time Caldwell and Pearson have divided.

The discussion during Mr. Strong's argument was amusing. Mr. Strong said that the commission was both Judge and jury and no one who properly expresses an opinion on a case can serve on the jury on that case. He said that under this rule one of the commissioners, Mr. Pearson, was disqualified from voting in this Morganton matter.

The commission met again this afternoon and entered upon the consideration of the exceptions filed by the railroads to the new passenger rates promulgated by the commission.

## SUPREME COURT.

Hullen vs. Wilmington, argued by J. D. Bellamy for plaintiff, and Ricard and Bryan for defendant.

Worth vs. Wharton, argued by D. Bellamy for plaintiff, Geo. Rountree for defendant.

Kilham vs. Brown, argued by Jones and Boykin; A. C. Davis for plaintiff; Stevens and Beasley for defendant.

McMillan vs. Tealey, certiorari ordered on motion of Stevens and Bailey for defendant.

Worth vs. Ferguson, argued by Ricard and Bryan for plaintiff; J. D. Bellamy for defendant.

## AN HISTORIC TREE.

Several years ago the willow tree which was brought as a twig from Napoleon's grave and planted in St. Paul's church yard, in this city, was blown over in a heavy storm, and since that time has projected over the east wall. In the meantime the trunk weakened from decay and this morning broke off, falling to the pavement on Church street. The relic will be greatly missed.—Norfolk Ledger.

## THE WOODWARD-WARREN CO.

We see from the Asheville Citizen that Manager Plummer, of the Grand opera house, Asheville, has arranged with H. Guy Woodward for the latter to organize a stock company and furnish Asheville summer theatricals this year. The organization that will be known as the Woodward-Warren Stock Company, and will include members of the company which played a week in this city several months since.

## MRS. DARBY LEAVES.

Mr. W. E. Fowle becomes the Governor's Stenographer.

This morning a strange young man was found occupying a desk in the executive office next to the chair of Maj. Cade. This young man is W. E. Fowle, and he has been appointed by Governor Russell as his stenographer, the position formerly held by Mrs. Darby. Mrs. Darby will after today be at the A. and M. College as stenographer for Prof. W. A. Withers the State Chemist.

Mr. Fowle entered upon his duties today. He is distantly related to the Governor Fowle. Mr. Fowle says that he is from Norfolk, Va., but his people were originally from this State. He was educated in the Episcopal school at Alexandria, Va. It is alleged that Mr. Fowle was appointed because of his efficiency as a stenographer but why the Governor really selected him is a mystery.

The Governor's private secretary is a West Virginian and his stenographer is a Virginian.

The place as stenographer for his Excellency pays \$50 per month.

## TRANSPORTATION OF TROOPS.

The detachment for Fort Caswell will pass through Raleigh.

The detachment of troops from Fort Monroe, Va., to be sent to Fort Caswell at Southport, will, it is learned, be carried by the Seaboard Air Line via Raleigh. Just when they will come is not yet known but they are expected at any time.

The Goldsboro Argus says that not only were the people in that city disappointed yesterday, but at all stations along the line of the W. & W. R. R. there were large crowds assembled yesterday afternoon to see the soldiers, as they passed.

"The people of Raleigh will doubtless have an opportunity of seeing the soldiers. In an article on how the troops can be transported The Baltimore News says:

"We could transport 100,000 troops from the East, using New York as a basis, to Washington within 24 hours without seriously inconveniencing other traffic," said Mr. D. E. Maroney, superintendent of transportation of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad Company, newly to a query of a reporter for the News as to the facilities of his road to move troops South in the event of war between the United States and Spain.

"The troops from the East would be sent to Atlanta over the Southern Railway Air Line, and if the latter could not furnish the equipment the Pennsylvania could run its own cars and engine through. Troops from the interior of Pennsylvania could be sent over the Western Maryland and transferred to the Norfolk and Western. The Western Maryland could handle about 25,000 troops in 24 hours. None of the railroads have made any special preparations to meet an emergency, but should the order be given they are in position to obey it without delay.

"The Southern Railway, Seaboard Air Line, Atlantic Coast Line and Virginia Central and Peninsula would play important parts in the movement of troops and war supplies. These lines are the Southern connections of the Baltimore and Ohio and the Pennsylvania, and all Southbound traffic would be transferred to them at Washington. They would also receive considerable traffic from their Western connections."

Yesterday afternoon the Fayetteville Observer said:

"We understand that the United States government has made a contract with the C. E. and V. Y. and the A. C. L. railroads for the transportation of an immense quantity of flour, about 500,000 bushels, to Key West, the C. E. and V. Y. taking it from the Norfolk and Western and delivering it to the A. C. L. at this point."

## NO WAR.

Gen. Grosvener's Utterance Regarded as Inspired.

New York, March 16.—A Washington special to the Evening World says: President McKinley is seemingly weakening before the money power. The impression is growing that we are going to have peace if we have to crawl on our knees, "peace at any price."

The crowd has apparently captured him and there is now, unhappily, simple reason to look for the fulfillment of the deep rooted misgivings as to the form in which the President will "intervene" in Cuba. The utterance of Gen. Grosvener in which he says that there will be no war with Spain since he believes Spain will make compensation if she is liable for the disaster to the Maine is accepted as inspired.

## AUTOMATIC INFLATOR.

Drop a Penny in the Slot and Have Your Bicycle Inflated.

The Julius Lewis Hardware Company of this city are agents for the "Campton Automatic Inflator." Just place your wheel beside this machine make the connection and drop a nickel in the slot and in less than ten seconds your tire is inflated. There is no danger of bursting the tire. The above company has a limited number of these unique and useful machines which will be located at different places in the city.

Those merchants who desire a machine located at their places should apply at once.

## PROMPTLY REFUSED

### Spain Wanted Our Fleet to Leave Key West

## SPAIN INQUISITIVE

### She Wants to Know What These War Preparations Mean and She Gets a Vigorous Reply—Mason's Word.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Washington, March 16.—Assistant Secretary of State Day in reply to the Spanish Minister's demand, as to what war preparations mean, is very vigorous. He says, "The preparations were not begun until Spain had tried to get a war loan."

Secretary Long says that he hopes to purchase the *Odysseus*.

## PROMPT REFUSAL.

### Spain Requested That Our Fleet Leave Key West.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Washington, March 16.—Assistant Secretary Day has refused the request of Spain to withdraw the fleet from Key West.

## REPORT READY.

Result of the Naval Board's Work Will be Known in Three Days.

By Cable to the Press-Visitor. Havana, March 16.—The indications are that the naval board's report about the Maine disaster will go north within three days, perhaps a partial statement will leave here tomorrow on the steamer *Odysseus*. Despite the occasional insinuations that commander Potter was unduly influenced by Chadwick, the board's report is sure to be honest.

## FRIDAY OR SATURDAY

Secretary Long Says We Will Hear From Board Then.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Washington, March 16.—Secretary Long said today that the Maine court of inquiry will report Friday or Saturday of this week and to meet the exigencies which will immediately follow the publication of the report there will be redoubled activity both in the army and navy departments.

## GEN. GRAHAM ARRIVES

New Commander of the South Now in Atlanta.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Atlanta, March 16.—Brigadier General Graham, commander of the South and his chief Lieutenant Adams arrived today. They were met at the depot by Col. Cook and staff from Fort Mifflin and several prominent citizens. Graham will immediately remove the offices of himself and staff from San Antonio. Manifests of war are pressing through daily.

## MASON'S STATEMENT

Stop Hoping Spain and Cuba Will be Free.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Washington, March 16.—Senator Mason of Illinois has given out a signed statement in which he says: "Much, but not all, depends upon the report of the board of inquiry. It may free Cuba without war. The Maine disaster is a separate matter. It is as an accident we ought not to ask for money indemnity. It blown up by an outside influence we cannot in honor demand a cash indemnity. The Spanish flag will be humiliated by yielding territory not to us but to the Cubans. Leaving the Maine out, we have good and sufficient reasons for demanding the freedom of Cuba. There need be no war, if the Maine incident is eliminated. Cuba will free itself if we grant belated rights, so they can trade with us, borrow money, make seamen and sailors independent. Stop interfering and respecting the independence of Cuba will solve the question."

## EXCITEMENT AT KEY WEST.

The Return of the Court of Inquiry Created a Sensation.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Key West, March 16.—The court of inquiry arrived early this morning. No explanation is given of their sudden return. Their unexpected return sent a thrill through Key West. All expectations and suspense. The reticence of the members of the court and their inscrutable and grave faces revealing only a shadow of the awful responsibility has aggravated the general excitement.

## ST. LOUIS OFF.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. New York, March 16.—The St. Louis said this morning.

## INSPECTING FORTIFICATIONS.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. New York, March 16.—General Miles is here inspecting the fortifications.

## BUYING STEAMERS.

By Cable to the Press-Visitor. Berlin, March 16.—Spanish agent Sandevis is negotiating for a number of old slow steamers of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company.

## CONTRACT COMPLETED.

By Cable to the Press-Visitor. London, March 16.—The final contract for the purchase of the Brazilian cruisers Amazonas and Almirante Abrouha has been completed. It is denied that Spain is trying to raise money in London.

## ADJOURN IN APRIL.

Congress Has Little Left to Do Now. Washington, March 16.—Speaker Reed said today that Congress will adjourn the middle of April. Arrangements are being made to that end. The appropriations bills are now well under way and several have already been passed. An effect has gone forth that there will be no currency river and harbor or bankruptcy legislation. There is nothing for Congress to do after passing the money bills if Cuba is side-tracked.

## WINCHESTER COMPANY.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. New Haven, March 16.—The Winchester Repeating Arms Company will run a part of their factory on twenty-four hour a day schedule in order to fill the government orders.

## GUN MOUNTED.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Fort Smyler, March 16.—The new twelve inch rapid firing gun was mounted this morning.

## GREAT FIRE.

The Emerson Piano Company in Chicago Burned Out.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Chicago, March 16.—The immense building of the Emerson Piano Company on Wabash Avenue is burning and is beyond control. The National Music Company is burned out. Lyon & Healey are in great danger. There is difficulty in preventing the flames from crossing the street. Several have been injured.

LATER—It is reported that twelve were killed in the fire. Three bodies have been recovered. Fifteen of the injured jumped from windows.

## SHIPPED TO KLONDIKE

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Milwaukee, March 16.—The first cars of rails to be used in constructing the first Klondike railway were shipped today.

## PRESERVING ORDER.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Victoria, March 16.—The Steamer Islander from Skagway brings news that the military and a committee of hundred and one have driven the goldbugs away and are preserving order.

## DUBOSS' HONORED.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Washington, March 16.—Duboss has been appointed knight commander of the first class order of Isabella d'Aranda. This is in recognition of Duboss's services during the delicate period of the present emergency.

## REPORTED FAVORABLY.

The Senate Committee Favors Hawaiian Annexation.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. Washington, March 16.—The Senate Foreign relations committee reported favorably the joint resolution for the annexation of Hawaii.

## TODAY'S MARKET.

### THE MOVEMENT IN NEW YORK AND LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

By private wire to W. A. Porterfield & Co., Company.

### NEW YORK COTTON.

Months	Open	High	Low	Close
March	5 94	5 97	5 95	5 97
April	5 98	5 95	5 92	5 95
May	5 98	5 92	5 91	5 92
June	5 98	5 91	5 90	5 91
July	6 03	6 05	6 00	6 04
August	6 06	6 08	6 03	6 06
September	6 01	6 03	6 01	6 03
October	6 01	6 04	6 01	6 03
November	6 04	6 03	6 00	6 03
December	6 00	6 03	6 02	6 03
January	6 02	6 03	6 01	6 03

Tone steady, sales 75,000.

### LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.

Liverpool, Mar 16—4 p. m.

The following were the closing quotations of the Liverpool cotton market today:

March 19th  
March and April 3 1/8  
April and May 3 1/8  
May and June 3 2/8  
June and July 3 2/8  
July and August 3 3/8  
August and September 3 2/8  
September and October 3 2/8  
October and November 3 1/8  
November and December 3 1/8  
December and January 3 1/8  
Futures closed quiet.

### CHICAGO GRAIN AND PROVISION MARKET.

The following were the closing quotations on the Chicago Grain and Provision market today:

Wheat—May 104, July 84, Corn—May 29 1/2, July 30, Oats—May 25 1/2, July 24, Pork—May 9 9/8, July 9 8/2, Lard—May 5 5/2, July 5 1/2, Clear Rib Sides—May 5 00, July 5 07.

### NEW YORK STOCK MARKET.

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

St. Paul	90 1/2
Northwestern	1 1/8
Rock Island	8 1/2
Southern Preferred	24 1/2
Louisville & Nashville	50
Chesapeake & Ohio	20 1/2
Con Gas	180 1/2
American Tobacco	18 1/2
Missouri Pacific	6 1/2
Manhattan	10 1/2
Western Union	97 1/2
Burlington and Quincy	94 1/2
Jersey Central	9 1/2
U. S. Leather	5 1/2
Sugar	12 1/2

## SHORT STATEMENTS

### Minor Matters Manipulated for the Many

## AROUND IN THE CITY.

### Put-Pourri of the News Pictured on Paper

Points and People Pertinently Picked and Utfully Put in Print.

Col. R. Champerlin left the city today.

Miss Susan Heck has gone to Baltimore.

G. B. Aldford of Holly Springs is in town.

Mr. S. J. Britt, of Henderson, is in town.

Mr. T. H. Sprinkle of Charlotte is in town.

R. J. Pence, of Rockingham, is in the city.

Major James W. Wilson has gone to Weldon.

Mr. John Brady of Gatesville arrived yesterday.

S. A. Edmund, of Lambertson, is at the Yarbors.

Mr. John Jones is quite sick at Forestville.

Mr. Morrison Caldwell of Concord is at the Yarbors.

Mr. W. S. Primm left today on a business trip.

Mr. Charles Cook, of Warrenton, is again in town.

Mr. Frank McNeill of Wilmington is here attending court.

Ex-Congressman Thomas Settle, of Greensboro, is in the city.

Mr. Henry Mount, editor of the *Wilmington Mirror*, is in the city.

Miss Mabel Massey left this morning for New York city on a visit.

Adolphus Williams was placed in jail today for violating the revenue laws.

Miss Elizabeth Chesire has returned from a visit of several weeks to relatives in Tarboro.

Ex-Congressmen James W. Ferguson, of Waynesville, is in the city to spend a few days.

Misses Josephine and Sally Deane left this morning for New York to purchase goods for their millinery store.

Rev. Dr. W. S. Lacy and Mrs. Lacy leave Friday for Raleigh, N. C., and will spend several weeks in that State.—Norfolk Ledger.

Oscar E. Dudley, late captain of Company B, Third Regiment of the State Guard, who now lives in New York, sends Governor Russell his services.

Plans are being perfected for the organization of an early date of another council of the Union Order of United American Mechanics in this city.

The regular monthly meeting of Christ Church Chapter Brotherhood of St. Andrew will be held tonight at 8 o'clock in the chapel.

The trial of Lamar Bailey for defaming the Confederate monument will be concluded tomorrow afternoon, the hearing beginning at 10:30.

The William Fulmer before the Mayor yesterday for an affray was not the Fulmer, who is porter at Heardt and Heardt's drug store.

This paper inadvertently stated yesterday that Mr. J. C. L. Harris was attorney for Bell in the Bailey trial, whereas it should have been that he was attorney for Bailey.

The Mayor this morning tried Mrs. Josephine Aston, a novel for assault upon Mary Tate, colored. He decided that this was a case of malicious prosecution and taxed Mary with the costs.

Claudius Dockery says the officers of the company which will edit the *Republic* at Rockingham are elected. He is president, and the directors are J. M. Smith, H. C. Dockery, Z. F. Long and W. A. McCarroll.

Mrs. Mattox, the wife of Commander Mattox, president of the Board of Inquiry, who have been investigating the cause of the destruction of the battleship *Maine*, is playing at Ford's Opera House in Baltimore this week.

We learned from the crew of the north-bound A. C. L. train last night, that that train had to side track yesterday afternoon for a special,