

State News.

FROM CURRITUCK TO CHEROKEE.

Items of Interest gleaned From Our Correspondents and Exchanges in all Parts of the State.

If Mitchell County had been represented at the Democratic Convention, Connor's majority would have been reduced to two, for Mitchell had instructed for Brown.

Dr. Winston predicts that the A. and M. College freshmen class this fall will number 200, and that there will be 500 students in all. He bases his estimate on the number of boys who have stood entrance examinations.

Prof. P. P. Claxton, who holds the chair of Pedagogy in the North Carolina State Industrial and Normal College, has been elected to the chair of the Department of Education in the University of Tennessee. He will accept the offer.

Hickory Mercury: The Populist State Convention will soon be called. From information obtained it is very likely that there will be three State tickets in the field. This will not affect county tickets or arrangements. A citizens' State ticket would be preferable.

Charity and Children: This is a great time for toilers to take a rest. Nearly everybody except editors and farmers go off somewhere to loaf a little, or lounge, as they may prefer. We hope they may all be profited by their breathing spell and find their vacations very pleasant.

Col. Olds: Julian S. Carr, the Commander of the North Carolina division, United Confederate Veterans, says that all the arrangements are complete for the reunion of veterans at Greensboro August 19, 20 and 21. He says he expects from 1,500 to 2,000 to be present. The State tents have been secured for the encampment.

Stanly Enterprise: It is a significant fact that two of the leading men who worked to redistrict the State in the last Legislature, and were candidates for the Democratic nomination for Congress, were defeated before their district convention. We of the Eighth District, who suffer so lamentably from the change, look on with selfish satisfaction at the turn of affairs.

Elizabeth City Tar Heel: The seventeen year locust has made its appearance in the fertile fields of Pasquotank. Only the advance guards have appeared but already one can almost hear the thrumming of an army, excelling in number the house fly and mosquito. This unwelcome visitor resembles the ordinary locust in color and in noise, but any child will tell you that his size is almost double that of the fellow who comes with us annually.

Raleigh Post: A special committee was appointed Saturday by the State Board of Agriculture to select the locations for two new experiment farms, one suitable for experimenting in the cultivation of lands in the coastal plain formation and the other in the Piedmont section. It is understood that the farm for the coastal plain section will be selected somewhere in the vicinity of Red Springs, and the one in the Piedmont section will be in either Iredell or Cabarrus counties.

Morganton dispatch, 22d: Ninth District Democrats, four hundred in number, assembled here to-day and nominated E. Y. Webb of Cleveland for Congress on the seventh ballot. Messrs. W. C. Dowd and W. C. Maxwell of Mecklenburg, E. Y. Webb of Cleveland, Thomas Hufham of Catawba, and W. E. Abernethy of Burke, were placed in nomination. On the first ballot Webb received 166 votes, Hufham 62, Dowd 52, Maxwell 42, Abernethy 32. The succeeding five ballots were practically the same. On the seventh ballot Webb was nominated, receiving 178 3/4 votes.

A more disconsolate set of men cannot be found anywhere than the farmers we met in town yesterday. Every one we met was suffering from a genuine attack of the blues. They tell us two weeks ago the prospect was the largest crop of corn ever raised in Beaufort County would be harvested this year. Now on account of the continued dry weather, the fodder in some places on corn that had not tasseled was ripe enough to pull. In some places the wells are so low it is impossible to get drinking water, especially for stock, and the bear and other wild animals are leaving the swamps and taking to the highland in search of water, and are playing havoc

with pigs. Unless there is rain in the next three or four days the crop so promising a few weeks ago, will be a complete failure.—Washington Gazette.

Presbyterian Standard: The resolutions looking toward an extension of the primary system of electing the candidates for party offices, including that of the United States Senator, was stricken from the Democratic platform. This leaves the question of primary election in the counties where it was, which means a steady progress toward the primary as preferable to the party convention for nominating candidates. The next United States Senator from North Carolina will be elected by the Legislature, without immediate instruction by the people in a State primary as was the case in the last election.

Commenting on the Democratic platform, the Biblical Recorder says: "No mention was made of a Reformatory for youthful criminals, or of using the swamp-land funds for building free-school houses, or of putting an end to employing children in factories or of revising our legislation with regard to the liquor traffic. These are live issues in North Carolina and while we regret that they were not noticed, we hope the people will make demands on the candidates with reference to them. The only State issues mentioned in the platform are the Amendment (conditional as explained above), maintenance of free school policy, good roads and good government in general."

The hot winds which prevailed for a few days are reported to have damaged cotton quite much. A few farmers report the shedding of leaves. In 1884 it is said that no rain fell from July 4th till November, yet there was a large cotton crop made. It is probable that the first half of that year was not as dry as has been the first six months of this.—Twenty counties are using convict labor on the roads, thirteen are using improved machinery, four have recently abandoned entirely the old labor system and now work the roads by taxation. These four are Forsyth, Edgecombe, Gaston and Lenoir. Eighteen are using partly the labor and partly the taxation system, while 52 use the old labor system.—Tarboro Southerner.

Manufacturers' Record: Application has been made for chartering the North Carolina Central Railroad to build a line from Concord to Fayetteville.—The contract for building the extension of the Raleigh & Cape Fear Railroad from Fuquay Springs to Lillington has, it is reported, been awarded to A. & C. Wright of Richmond. John A. Mills is president and general manager.—Concerning the Graham, Burlington & River Falls Street Railway Company, Mr. E. W. Myers, civil engineer, writes to the Manufacturers' Record that the main line will be six miles long from Burlington via Graham to Haw River. A fifteen-mile branch from Graham will reach River Falls via Swepsonville and Saxapahaw. Contracts are expected to be let soon.

Asheville Cor. Charlotte Observer: The proposition has been seriously advanced in some Republican quarters that it would be the part of wisdom to endorse the Democratic nomination of Judges Connor and Walker, thereby making the nomination of these gentlemen unanimous, with a view to securing Democratic assistance in the effort to encompass the defeat of Judge Clark, an end that is devoutly hoped for by Republicans. Such Republicans argue that neither their party nor the State has anything to fear in the election of Judges Connor and Walker, and moreover, that hundreds of Democrats would regard the endorsement of these gentlemen as an act of liberality which would strengthen their inclination to vote against Judge Clark. But while this suggestion has been heard in high places, it is not likely that it will meet with favor generally. The friends of Judges Cook and Timberlake would doubtless voice an objection, and much confusion would result. It was pointed out this morning that there would even be a great deal of difficulty about printing the tickets and both parties would do no end of scratching. Judge Timberlake had an ambition to be nominated as Chief Justice, but will interpose no further objection to the plan to nominate some such man as Hill, of Halifax, or Patterson, of Winston. As Judge Timberlake now occupies this attitude the assumption seems fair that he has assurances of strong support for the nomination of Associate Justice.

MOORE COUNTY SETS PACE FOR STATE.

Will Have Rural Library for Every School Also a Teacher's Library.

During the progress of the Moore County Teachers' Institute at Carthage last week a pace for the other counties of the State was set in the matter of the provision of public and school libraries. The County Board of Education announced that they would appropriate \$10 to every school that would raise \$10 for a library, the county having already provided for the six libraries under the rural school library law. In consequence of the offer of the board forty teachers of public schools pledged themselves to raise the money to establish the libraries in every school in the county. Subsequently the teachers asked the County Board to establish a teachers' library at Carthage for the exclusive use of the public school teachers of the county and the Board appropriated \$130 for this purpose. A number of valuable books were donated for this library. The County Superintendent of Public Schools was designated as custodian of the teachers' library, the books to be kept in the Superintendent's office.

In addition to this a movement was inaugurated looking to the establishment of a public library for the town of Carthage. One citizen offers a desirably located site and another says he will raise the money for the purchase of the books. The establishment of the library is assured.—Raleigh Post.

EDUCATIONAL RALLIES.

Conference at Hickory August 13 and 14 Dates of Rallies Arranged For.

The next educational conference corresponding to the ones at Greensboro and Charlotte, will be held at Hickory, August 13 and 14. It is desired to have all of the county superintendents of the western counties, who did not attend either of the other conferences, to be present at this one. The management will be under the direction of the State Executive Committee of the Southern Educational Board, composed of Governor Aycock, Dr. Chas. D. McIver and Superintendent J. Y. Joyner. There will be present besides these ex-Governor T. J. Jarvis, Dr. Geo. T. Winston, and ex-State Superintendent Chas. H. Mebane, and several distinguished visitors from other States. It is the especial desire to touch all of the western counties at this conference.

In order to aid the work of this meeting, and to increase the enthusiasm in the different counties, the following rallies, with speakers, have been arranged for:

- Asheboro, July 31.—Prof. J. B. Carlyle.
Boomer, Wilkes County, August 2.—Prof. Carlyle and Hon. R. B. White.
Jefferson, August 4.—R. B. White.
Pinnacle, Stokes County, August 6.—Prof. Carlyle and R. B. White.
Dobson, August 8.—R. B. White.
Yadkinville, August 8.—Prof. Carlyle.
Thomasville, August 8.—Dr. Geo. T. Winston.
Taylorsville, August 11.—Dr. Geo. T. Winston.
Granite Falls, August 15.—Dr. McIver, Superintendent Joyner, ex-Governor T. J. Jarvis.
Lenoir, August 16.—Dr. Winston, Dr. McIver and ex-Governor Jarvis.
Boone, August 18.—Dr. Winston.
Hayesville, August 21.—Dr. Winston.
Peach Tree, Cherokee County, August 23.—Dr. Winston.

The arrangement for the educational rallies in the counties east of Greensboro will be completed by the end of this week.

Superintendent J. T. Alderman, of the Henderson Graded School, began a one-week educational campaign in Alamance County on Monday. Beginning with August 11, he will canvass Orange County with County Superintendent Maddy; Superintendent Graham, of the Charlotte Graded Schools, will assist County Superintendent Hefner in Lincoln County, beginning August 4th.

Educational rallies for Cleveland County, Rutherford County and Davie County will be arranged for about the middle of August.—News and Observer.

There was a genuine sensation in Greensboro last week when it became known that Mrs. Ida Stafford (age 35), wife of a well-known Greensboro man, had eloped with Mr. Harding (age 25), both having been highly respected. They were captured in Norfolk, but released and allowed to go on to New York.

General News.

WHAT THE DISPATCHES TELL.

The News Boiled Down and Presented in Convenient Form for Busy Readers.

Of the 76 enlisted men in the Philippines who died between May 9 and June 11, 32 were victims of cholera.

J. Pierpont Morgan is said to be planning a merger of the principal railway lines in the South with a capital of \$400,000,000.

John W. Mackay's body is to be brought to America and interred in the superb mausoleum in Greenwood Cemetery, New York.

It is said that Captain Richmond Pearson Hobson is to marry Miss Letitia Stevenson, daughter of former Vice-President Stevenson.

Floods on the Upper Mississippi river have recently caused damage of \$6,000,000 or more, covering an area of about 700 square miles.

The War Department last week received a dispatch from Manila stating that four American school teachers had been murdered by natives.

Salisbury's resignation is said to have been a surprise to the King, the Premier declaring that he resigned because he was losing his memory.

Standard July oats touched the highest point in thirty years on the Chicago Exchange last week, and closed at 67 cents, exactly on a par with the July corn prices. This is a novel situation, the difference in price usually being about ten to fifteen cents in favor of corn.

The Secretary of War has issued an order announcing the retirement from active service by operation of law of Major-General John R. Brooke, commanding the department of the East, "terminating a period of over forty years of efficient, honorable and distinguished service on the active list of the volunteer and regular army."

SEEMS TO DISPROVE KOCH'S THEORY.

Tuberculosis May be Communicated to Human Beings from the Cow, Says Dr. Garnault.

Paris, July 25.—Dr. Garnault, who, on June 17, inoculated himself with matter taken from a consumptive cow in order to disprove Prof. Koch's theory that it is impossible for human beings to catch tuberculosis from cattle, has written to the Temps announcing that the inoculation has produced tuberculosis tumors. He says this proves that man is quite as susceptible to bovine tuberculosis as any other animal. He again inoculated himself July 15, by inserting under the skin of his left arm a fragment of tuberculosis matter from the liver of a diseased cow. The second inoculation was performed because he feared that the tuberculosis of the skin resulting from the first would remain too long superficial. The second form of inoculation when performed on a guinea pig inevitably causes death within eight weeks. This will give an idea of the risks Dr. Garnault is running.

KING EDWARD'S CONDITION CAUSES GRAVE CONCERN.

Another Operation Will be Necessary in the Fall and Doctors Will not Predict the Consequences.

London, July 24.—A high court official who has seen King Edward many times since the operation was performed upon his Majesty yesterday gave out the following statement:

"With the utmost precaution the king will get through the postponed coronation, though it is likely he will not go to London until the night before the ceremony, and afterward will immediately return to Cowes. The reason for having the coronation so soon is a grave one as the king's physicians believe he will never be so well again.

"The operation, which was far more serious and complicated than any one was led to believe, revealed diseased conditions involving a large portion of the intestinal cavity. The operation removed the immediate danger and gave a chance for a rally, which the king wonderfully availed himself of, but the conditions are still such that a second operation is only a question of time.

"The operation will probably be performed in the autumn. Of the king's chances from this operation the doctors are unwilling to predict. The king is eager to be crowned soon for the sake of the empire, feeling that it would be unsafe to postpone it longer."

PRESIDENT PALMA HOPEFUL.

He Thinks that Cuba Will Emerge Victorious from the Present Crisis.

Havana, July 22.—The Union Espanola quotes President Palma as saying in an interview that he has great hopes that the country will emerge victoriously from the present crisis. President Palma said:

"If American syndicates have bought all our cigar factories and considerable land, besides a number of smaller estates, it is because of faith in the economic future of Cuba. Moreover, Senor Terry, who is a planter, admits that a price of three reals per 25 pounds of sugar offers a profit, which, though not very great, makes it worth while for those to cultivate sugar who can avail themselves of the best methods. Furthermore, we are approaching a day when sugar bounties will be suppressed and when Cuban sugar will be able to compete with the European product and there are besides favorable symptoms of reciprocity with the United States. With these reasons as a basis, we may hope that the economic future of Cuba will soon improve. When once the economic problem is solved the political situation will not present difficulties. The inexperience regarding official organizations is compensated for by the good sense of the people. Annexation is not the way to save Cuba as it will not come when the present population of Cuba would benefit by it, but when the Americans choose; that is, when the influence exercised by the Latin element in Cuba shall have ceased."

DEATH OF JOHN W. MACKAY.

John W. Mackay, an American citizen, died in London Sunday evening and to-day buildings in all the principal towns of the United States and in cities in even the remotest parts of the world are draped out of respect to one who from 1851 to about 1860 wielded a pick in trying to uncover gold in California and Colorado, and often found it hard to make the dust he collected pay for his "grub stake." The dead man leaves an estate valued at millions. By reason of his connection with the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company the visible signs of mourning are carried to all the world in the shape of the regulation black which hangs across the doors of his company's offices in many lands.

There is always something interesting in the life of a man who becomes a "captain of industry" by his own efforts in such a short period of time. We like to consider the career of a man who, working as a day laborer less than half a century before, passes away at the head of vast interests and in the possession of more of this world's goods than he really knows what to do with. Was Mackay merely lucky as the world uses that term, or was he the man of ability that his career would indicate? There is reason to believe that he at least had the tenacity of purpose which demands success, for it is related that "in 1863 Mackay formed a partnership with Flood, O'Brien and Fair. In 1871 this famous mining quartette purchased the site of the Bonanza territory, north of the Ophir Mine, on the celebrated Comstock ledge. They began work on a lode abandoned by Sharon and other large operators. The enterprise was a fruitful source of ridicule in mining circles, nothing but financial disaster being freely predicted. Without losing heart or patience, the four men continued, expending a half-million dollars in prospecting operations. The ledge was struck and over \$110,000,000 was added to the world's stock of precious metals."

When the need of a cable between the United States and the Orient became apparent Mackay made a proposition to the government to lay the line without a bonus from the United States, and immediately began to make preparations for the building of the cable. It is said that he was greatly interested in the project and had been in London personally attending to some of the details of the business, and only a few days ago a ship with a section of the completed cable on board left London for the Pacific coast to begin connecting our outlying possessions with the mainland. It is sad to think that the head of the movement could not have lived to see in operation the first submarine telegraph line across the Pacific Ocean. But when it is completed it will bear his name and his memory will be honored to some extent for the speedy completion of a big undertaking.—Charlotte Observer.

McLAURIN WILL NOT ACCEPT.

Declines Position on Court of Claims Bench—Stung by Paper's Saying He Sold Himself for Office.

Oyster Bay, N. Y., July 21.—President Roosevelt is in receipt of a letter from Senator John L. McLaurin, of South Carolina, declining the proffered appointment to the vacancy on the bench of the United States Court of Claims. The President much regrets Senator McLaurin's decision, as he believes that McLaurin's Senatorial experience and his career as Attorney General of South Carolina would have rendered him a particularly good addition to the Court of Claims.

The President is now uncertain what he will do about Senator McLaurin. It is understood that he is anxious to appoint him to some position in recognition of what the President regards as his services to the country and his demonstrated ability in public life. Senator McLaurin's letter is couched in the most positive terms and evidently was based in particular upon a newspaper article which accompanied the letter. The article stated that the Senator had sold himself for the prospect of getting such an office as that offered to him. It can be said, however, that the President regarded such a type of accusation as beneath notice and sincerely regrets that Senator McLaurin should have deemed it necessary to pay any attention to it.

AMERICAN FARMS ARE WORTH SIXTEEN BILLION DOLLARS.

Average Size of Farms 146 Acres, 49 Per Cent Improved—In 50 Years the Number Quadrupled—The Total Value of Farm Products for the Year 1899, \$4,739,118,758.

Washington, July 22.—The census bureau yesterday issued a bulletin giving the condition of agriculture in the United States for the year 1900. It shows that there were at that time 5,739,657 farms in the entire country which were valued at \$16,674,694,247. Of this amount \$3,560,198,191, or over 21 per cent, represented the value of buildings, and \$13,114,492,056, or over 78 per cent, represents the value of lands and improvements other than buildings. The value of farm implements and machinery was \$761,251,550, and of live stock \$3,078,050,041. These values, added to the value of the farms gives a total value of farm property amounting to \$20,514,001,838.

The total value of farm products for the year 1899 is given at \$4,739,118,752, of which amount \$1,718,990,221 was for animal products, including live stock, poultry and bee products.

The bulletin places the average size of farms in the United States at 146 acres, and it is stated that 49 per cent of the farm land is improved. The total acreage for the entire country was 841,201,546.

The number of farms in the United States has increased in every decade for the last fifty years, and so rapidly that in 1900 there were nearly four times as many farms as in 1850, and 25 per cent more than in 1890. The total acreage of farm land, also, has increased but up to 1880 less rapidly than the number of farms, thus involving a steady decrease in the average size of farms. Since 1880, however, the total acreage has increased more rapidly than the number of farms so that the average size of farms has increased. The total area of improved land had increased in every decade since 1850.

A comparison by States indicates that the most important States in the agriculture of the country are, beginning at the West, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York. Together they contribute 44 per cent of the total value of farm property and 38 per cent of the total value of farm products. Texas leads with the greatest number of farms, 352,190, and also with the highest acreage 125,807,917. But only a little over 15 per cent of the farm lands in Texas was improved, and the value of the farm land in Texas was less than in Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York, Missouri, Iowa or Illinois, being \$962,476,273. Missouri ranges second in the number of farms having 284,886. Other States having more than 200,000 farms are: Alabama 223,220, Georgia 224,691, Illinois 264,151, Indiana 221,897, Iowa 228,622, Kentucky 231,667, Michigan 203,261, Mississippi 220,803, New York 226,720, North Carolina 224,637, Ohio 276,719, Pennsylvania 224,248, Tennessee 224,823.

The live stock farm lands of the country are put down at a value of \$7,505,284,273, or more than 36 per cent of the whole; the hay and grain lands at \$6,379,548,543 or 31 per cent of the whole, dairy products over 8 per cent; cotton over 5 per cent. There are 512 coffee farms in the country, valued at \$1,932,915.