

The Chronicle,

WILKESBORO, N. C.

MISAPPLIED SYMPATHY.

Baltimore Sun.

Sympathy with those in distress is a very human and a very admirable emotion. "One touch of nature," says the poet-philosopher, "makes the whole world kin." It is difficult to understand, however, the grounds of the sympathy which scores of women displayed for the Biddle brothers, the convicts who escaped from the Pittsburg jail and were shot and mortally wounded by the officers who pursued and captured them. These men had done nothing heroic. They were criminals convicted of killing a man whose house they had entered for purposes of burglary. To this crime they had added another, a detective having been shot and killed by one of the brothers when they were arrested last April. These men were desperadoes and seem to have richly deserved the extreme penalty of the law. They were tried, convicted and sentenced to death, and would have been hanged two weeks ago if they had not been respited by the Governor of Pennsylvania. Last Thursday, through the assistance of the wife of the jail warden, they escaped from prison, but were overtaken by the officers. In the fight which followed the convicts received wounds which proved mortal, while the woman, their accomplice, the victim of an extraordinary infatuation, was shot either by the officers, by herself, or by one of the convicts. "Women," says a dispatch to The Sun, "specially sought admission to see the spectacle of the dying villains in jail. Sympathy was expressed on all sides for the dying murderers. Some women were even so bold as to lay their hands on the foreheads of the convicts, and few had any hesitancy in expressing sorrow for them." It is a sad thing for strong and healthy young men, who ought to earn honest living, to take to burglary and murder. When they undertake to live at the expense of the lives and property of others they become a menace to society, criminals of the most dangerous type, not heroes, and for its own protection society must make them pay the penalty of their murderous deeds. They had no sympathy for the man whom they murdered in his own house, no sympathy for the detective whom they killed while he was trying to do his duty, no sympathy for the woman who left her home and children and went to the convicts to commit other crimes against society. It is a sad story, a story of thrilling interest, a story as extraordinary as any to be found in the pages of fiction. But the central figure in this tragedy are not men over whom women should shed tears of maudlin sympathy. There was nothing fine or inspiring in what they had done. They were simply murderers and burglars, not men of noble character and sturdy manhood unjustly convicted of crime. The one person in the tragedy for whom sympathy might be felt is the woman who betrayed her husband and brought disgrace upon her children. Probably she will receive only the contempt of her sex, while the dashing outthroats and thieves will have barrels of tears wasted on them. It is a strange world, and of all the mysteries in it woman is the greatest.

CHERRY TREE MEN UNDER BOND.

RUTHERFORDTON, Feb. 7.—W. H. Hester, H. L. Clower, C. D. Wilkie, G. W. Rollins and C. F. Geer, of the cherry tree concern, who have been on trial for the past two days charged with having used the mails for fraudulent purposes, were bound in a bond of \$1,000 each for their appearance at the next term of the Charlotte Federal Court. This makes 11 of the cherry tree men who have been bound over, and there are yet other arrests to be made. District Attorney Holton and C. E. Enteman left for Greensboro last evening.

Elisha Garland, a young man from Bakersville, N. C., may soon be sent to the penitentiary. A few months ago he enlisted in the army under circumstances that were entirely fraudulent. He forged the name of both his father and the witnesses to the enlistment papers, and a letter from Adjutant General Corbin to-day states that the young man will be tried by a general court martial. Corbin sent Moody samples of the writing of Garland's father showing both the signatures forged by his son and the genuine signatures. Garland is only 18 years of age and is one of the best known families of Mitchell county.

The end of the Stanly and Wilkes bond cases is perhaps not yet. The counties have the right of appeal from the adverse decision of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals at Richmond to the Supreme Court of the United States and the reasonable supposition is that they will exercise it. It may take somewhat the course of the James-Howard case, from Rowan in which case has been established, the fact that there are endless chains in other things than cherry tree transactions.—Charlotte Observer.

Raleigh correspondence Charlotte Observer: A newspaper man, who was traveling on a free pass on a railway in this State, yesterday got a verdict for \$5,100 damages for injuries sustained in an accident, though the pass expressly stated that the holder relinquished all right to damages. It was stated here today by an attorney in the case that the damages thus given by jury exceeded in amount the value of all the property owned by the jurors.

Earth has nothing more tender than a pious woman's heart.—Luther.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON VII, FIRST QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, FEB. 16.

Text of the Lesson, Acts v, 28-42.
Memory Verses, 40-42—Golden Text, Matt. v, 10—Commentary Prepared by Rev. D. M. Stearns.

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25. "Behold, the men whom ye put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." This was the message which was brought to the high priest, council and senate of the children of Israel as they waited to receive the prisoners whom they had arrested the evening before. Multitudes of men and women were believing, and multitudes of sick and demon possessed people not only in Jerusalem, but also from the cities roundabout, were healed. The work was going so grandly that the high priest and Sadducees simply could not stand it and so put the apostles in prison. God, whose they were and whom they served, sent an angel by night and released them from prison and sent them to the temple to continue their ministry, and there they are found teaching, instead of in the prison under the power of the authorities. They belonged to God.

26-28. "Behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine and intend to bring this man's blood upon us." The high priest reminds them that they had been forbidden to teach in the name of Jesus, and then adds this word, unintentionally giving good testimony to their zeal, but evidently forgetting that the people had cried, "His blood be on us and on our children" (Matt. xxvii, 25).

29-32. "We ought to obey God rather than men." Thus replied Peter and again accused them to the faces of being the murderers of Jesus, whom God raised from the dead and exalted with His right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour to give repentance and forgiveness of sins even to such as they were. That it is not possible to please God and to please the world lying in the wicked one is seen in Gal. 1, 10; Luke xvi, 13; Jas. iv, 4. These apostles wore in conscious partnership with the Holy Spirit, who was in them, and He, the Spirit, was the speaker through their lips, even as Jesus had said, "It is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you" (Matt. x, 20).

33. "When they heard that, they were cut to the heart and took counsel to slay them." Not only was the blood of Jesus upon them, but they were ready to bring upon themselves the blood of the apostles also. Before they killed Jesus they desired to kill Lazarus, whom Jesus raised from the dead (John xii, 10). The truth of God when not meekly received makes manifest that "the carnal mind is enmity against God" (Rom. viii, 7).

34-35. "Ye men of Israel, take heed to yourselves what ye intend to do as touching these men." The apostles, being sent out of the council for a little while, Gamaliel, a learned and honorable member, at whose feet Saul of Tarsus had been educated (chapter xxii, 3), thus begins to address his brethren. He seems to have had something of the spirit of Joseph and Nicodemus, who also were at one time members of the council (Mark xv, 43; John vii, 50). We do not know that he ever received Jesus as the Christ, but from the wisdom and spirit of this address and on the supposition that Saul would seek the welfare of his teacher we may hope that he did.

36-37. "Before these days rose up Theudas, boasting himself to be somebody." He quotes two cases of deceivers who for a time had quite a following, but in each case the leaders perished, and their followers were dispersed. The mark of a deceiver is that "he boasts himself to be somebody," while a true follower of the Lord seeks to glorify God only. The antichrist shall do according to his own will and shall exalt himself and magnify himself (Dan. xi, 36), but the Lord Jesus Christ sought neither His own will nor His own glory (John vi, 38; viii, 50), and Paul, the great apostle, determined to know nothing but "Jesus Christ and Him crucified," his mottoes being "Not I, but Christ," "Not I, but the grace of God" (1 Cor. ii, 2; xv, 10; Gal. ii, 20).

38. "If this counsel of his work be of men, it will come to naught." He may have remembered these words, "The Lord bringeth the counsel of the heathen to naught; He maketh the devices of the people of none effect" (Ps. xxxiii, 10; see also Isa. viii, 9, 10 for very strong words in this connection). It is a great comfort to the true believer to know that they that are against him shall be nothing and as a thing of naught, and that no weapon formed against him can prosper (Isa. xl, 12; liv, 17).

39. "If it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it, lest haply ye be found even to fight against God." It is written that "every purpose of the Lord shall be performed," and "The Lord of Hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass, and as I have purposed, so shall it stand," and again, "The counsel of the Lord standeth forever, the thoughts of His heart to all generations" (Jer. ii, 29; Isa. xiv, 24; Ps. xxxiii, 11).

40. "They commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus." With the repetition of this ungodly and rebellious command, they are beaten and let go. How the devil hates that name at which every knee shall yet bow and concerning which every tongue shall yet confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father! (Phil. ii, 10, 11.) Jesus had told His disciples that they would be delivered up to councils and be scourged and brought before governors and kings for His sake (Matt. x, 17, 18).

41. "Rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name." What a glorious reality is the Lord Jesus to those who can take such treatment, not only without resentment, but even joyfully! Backs scourged and bleeding, full of pain physically, but full of joy inwardly—how great is the grace of God! They were already tasting that which Paul was afterward told concerning the great things he must suffer for Christ's sake (chapter ix, 16).

42. "And daily in the temple and in every house they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." Thus they obeyed God rather than man and were ready for next beating or imprisonment for so doing whenever God might see fit to let it come. As Peter and John said, they could not help doing it like Jeremiah, when tempted to speak no more in His name, they had such a burning fire within them that they were weary if they did not speak; or, like Elisha, they felt that they would burst if they did not speak (Acts iv, 20; Jer. xx, 9; Job xxxii, 18-20).

BILL ARP'S LETTER.

Atlanta Constitution.

I was ruminating about the little unpleasantness that is going on amongst our neighbors at Rome. My comfort is that it is not as big a thing as they think it is and will soon pass away. After the election is over the leaders will apologize all round and make friends and the dear people have time to reflect and wonder what fools the leaders made of them. A friend writes me that there is nothing in it but ring politics—who shall run the machine, who shall have the offices. Whiskey is in the background, but the main thing is office. As Leonard Morrow once said at a public speaking, "Boys, don't let 'em fool you. They are just side wipin' round huntin' the orthography of a little office." Carlisle said "England has a population of 30,000,000—mostly fools," and just so there are enough fools in every county or community to elect a man if he can get them all. He is pretty safe if he can get a majority of them. "Dispensary or no dispensary," that is the question that is now stirring Rome and Floyd county. Well, we know all about it here in Cartersville, for we tried the saloons for years and they did so much harm we abolished them and they will never come back here again—never. Now we are trying the dispensary; in fact, we have two of them, one in Rome and the other in Atlanta. We wouldn't have one in our town or county for anything. The farther off the better. The easier whiskey is to get the more will be drunk. Dawson, in Terrell county, has had a dispensary for nearly four years. The sales for the first year were \$26,000. The second year were \$39,000, the third year \$56,000 and this year will probably run to \$75,000. You see, it takes the boys some time to find out how easy it is to get it, but the consumption goes on and on, increasing and the people take comfort in that the profits increase their school fund and lessen their taxes. No matter if it impoverishes the poor and makes drunkards of their young men. That is of no consequence.

Now, our dispensaries are most too near. I wish that the consumers had to get their supplies from Cincinnati or Baltimore. That would cut the jug business down one-half at least. The common people could't wait so long and so nobody but uncommon people would get any hardly. It would be a long time between drinks, as the governor of North Carolina said to the governor of South Carolina. There is bound to be some drinking going on if they knew that the world was going to be burned up tomorrow. "All we can do," said a good man to me yesterday, "is to make it hard to get and regulate its sale and consumption." This man had had experience with young men who drank on the sly. He used to drink habitually himself, but found the habit was growing on him. He wanted it offener and more of it, and so he quit short two years ago. He said "that there was but little difference between open bar-rooms and the dispensary, so far as the better class of young men were concerned. A dollar bottle in a room with three or four friends was about as bad as the dollar spent for drinks in a bar-room."

But the bar-rooms are a nuisance in any town and a disgrace to its refinement. If they are allowed at all they should be on some side street where ladies do not frequent or have to pass. Keep them out of sight and out of smell. Of course, the drinking habit cannot be stopped by law, nor can the sale of whisky be stopped as long as the government allows its manufacture: Our people can drive over to Cherokee and buy what they want from the government distillery. There is no such thing as prohibition and never will be until the dawn of the millennium. This thing began with old Noah and had its ups and downs all through the Bible history. It never was sanctioned. It never was prohibited except to the priests in the tabernacle. "Drink not in the tabernacle lest ye die," saith, Moses. All of those old time people kept some on the sideboard. Joseph and his brethren drank together and were merry. David speaks of wine that maketh glad the heart of man. Solomon says, "Give strong drink to him that is ready to perish and wine to those that be heavy of heart." But when he was sobering up from a spree he said, "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, for at the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder." I heard a judge of our circuit say that the wind up of a spree was the most wretched and forlorn mental condition that could befall a man. Said he, "Away in the dead of night I have gotten up and gone to the well in my night shirt and drank and drank of the cooling water until I could hold no more. I wanted to bite a branch in two and swallow the upper end." Nabal got drunk and became as a stone, and Benhadad and thirty-two kings all got drunk together after a battle. Jeremiah, the prophet, tried to make the Rechabites drink wine with him, but they would not, for their father had enjoined them, and Jeremiah blessed them for obeying their father, and said, "Thus saith the Lord the house of Jonsadak, the son of Rechab, shall not want for a man to stand before me forever." Zachariah seems to have wined at the indulgence, for he said, "Corn shall make the young men cheerful and new wine the maids." I wonder if that was sure enough corn liquor. The aged women were enjoined not to drink much wine, wherein is excess. King Ashashuerus got drunk and ordered Queen Vashti to come before him and she refused, and did right and the old rascal deposed her. Hosesa saith that wine takes away the heart. Isaiah was hard against it, and says, "Their tables are full of vomit and filthiness and there is no place clean upon them." Habakuk says, "Woe unto him that

giveth his neighbor drink and putteth the bottle to him."

But this is enough of scripture. From that day to this the excessive use of spirituous liquor has gone on in all nations, carrying ruin in its train, degrading kings and disgracing presidents and neither law nor precept nor preaching nor the pleading of women has been able to stop it. The dispensary is more respectable in its surroundings than the saloon. There is no gathering of roughs and toughs at its door and women can walk by without being insulted or disgusted as they pass. I do not believe that it lessens the use or abuse of whisky. Nothing will do that but home influence and religious training and public opinion. It takes everything to combat it and keep it in check. I have before me the last official statement of the dispensary business in South Carolina and it is amazing to see how it is growing. It is now the largest and most important business in the state—its aggregate sales for the past fiscal year being a little over \$2,900,000, and over \$500,000 net profits, and of these profits and the stock on hand the school fund is entitled to \$611,354, and the state has on hand \$640,000 of stock. The profits pay hundreds of officials good salaries besides accumulating an enormous school fund. I have traveled a good deal over the state and found public opinion much divided upon the questionable morality of the system. But it pays financially and the question of educating the negro with taxes from white people does not raise such a protest as long as the sale of whisky pays it, especially when the negro is the dispensary's very liberal customer.

What about the part that woman is taking in this liquor business? What does all this mean that Bishop Coleman, of Delaware, has recently asserted in a public sermon preached in New Jersey. He says that the whiskey habit is actually decreasing among the men of the north, but it is rapidly increasing among the women, not only the fashionable women, but the middle classes. His assertion caused a committee to be appointed who quietly frequented the hotels and eating houses and ladies' restaurants and a large majority of the women took wine or beer or whisky or cocktails with their meals, and very many took no meals and ordered drinks only. The committee unanimously reported that the bishop's assertion was the truth. If this be so, God help the country. Our southern women will be all that will save it.

When I was a student in college at Athens in 1845 the wonderful discovery of Dr. Long and his use of anaesthesia was the talk of the town, and our professor of chemistry, Dr. LeConte, made it the subject of a lecture to his class. In 1846 a dentist by the name of Lombard came there and proposed to extract teeth without pain by the use of what he called mortus lethane. He extracted a jaw tooth for me and it was a success. But it was whispered around that Morton had stole Dr. Long's discovery and process and as he was a Boston yankee the friends of Dr. Long were very indignant. Enough of this for the present. I only wished to say how gratified I was that the committee appointed to select our to greatest Georgians have given Dr. Long the first place. The medical world has done him honor in all countries and Morton and Jackson have been relegated to the rear, where they belonged. They were pirates.

But about the second place the committee had better go slow and consider carefully when they meet again. They had better consult the old men and especially the veterans of the civil war. Some things are forgiven, but not forgotten. The veterans would not presume to say who should be selected, but only who should not.

ADMIRAL SHELBY AT HICKORY AND ASHESVILLE.

HICKORY, Feb. 7.—Admiral Shelby was given a great ovation here this evening when he appeared on the rear platform of his private car to greet the large crowd of enthusiastic admirers who had gathered in the station yard to welcome him.

Besides the fitting words of gratitude expressed for the admiration shown him, the naval hero spoke in the highest terms of nature's beauty along his journey's route through the mountains of western North Carolina.

The admiral spoke of our beautiful country not being more advertised to the world, saying that its wonders should be known to all the outer world. The short stay here was taken up in hand-shaking, as both sexes were anxious to grasp the hand of the admiral.

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Feb. 7.—ADMIRAL SHELBY

was given an ovation here this afternoon on his way from Knoxville to Washington. The train stopped 20 minutes and during that time Mrs. Shelby was presented with a large bouquet by local Knights Templar and the admiral spoke briefly to the throng at the station.

Robt. L. Durham for Solicitor.

Gastonia News. Robt. L. Durham, Esq., of our town has announced his candidacy for the office of Solicitor in this the twelfth judicial district composed of the counties of Mecklenburg, Cabarrus, Gaston, Lincoln and Cleveland. Mr. Durham has many friends all over the district and will make a strong candidate. A number of years practice of his profession and his sober habits ought to eminently fit him for the office he seeks. The only other candidate in the field so far announced is the present incumbent J. L. Webb, Esq., of Shelby, and it is thought that he may withdraw.

To eat or drink too much, to play too much, to work too much, or to grumble too much—all these are equally pernicious.—John Wagstaffe.

FREEDOM FOR THE FARMER.

Atlanta Constitution.

It is not too late in the season for southern farmers to form themselves, each into a committee of one, to strike for the freedom of their farms and themselves from the cormorant credit system. The south has not raised a crop since the civil war upon a cash basis. The reasons preventing it are too well understood to need re-amping now. The question that is pertinent pivots on the present reasons why our farmers should begin the work of self-emancipation from the old incubus policy.

Much looking to that end has been accomplished in the past thirty years. Better farm methods and machinery have been gradually introduced by progressive farmers, crops have been rotated and intensification of cultivation practiced. The results are seen in the larger percentage of farmers who are out of debt, who are farming on cash principles, raising home supplies and rationing their own employees. Every such one is the envy of his neighbors. They call him "lucky" and let it go at that, without an effort to emulate him.

We are convinced that thousands of southern farmers can begin with the present season and in less than three years be their own bankers and independent of supply house, western slaughter house and northwestern flour mills. They will be able to walk among their fellow-men unmortgaged and indifferent to the holder of the guano note and the date of delivery to the man with the store account!

Plant corn! There is no better, healthier, cheaper food for the southern palate, blood and bones than good corn. Its value is surely appreciated, else we would not annually buy such tremendous quantities of it out of western elevators.

Why not raise it at home? If some men can grow rich trading in it, with commissions, freights, insurance and interest added, why cannot the southern farmer make the same money by raising it on his own cheaper lands and with the saving of all those incidental and price-enhancing charges? We insist that the highest wisdom and economy should determine every intelligent southern farmer to make himself independent on the corn issue.

Plant corn! Sow oats! They are a necessary and valuable crop. Our lands will produce them with as much certainty as those of other sections of the country and surely with less cost then they can be imported from distant states.

In the fourteen southern states, with nearly a third of the population of the union, and that population principally engaged in agriculture, we raise in 1900 only 83,998,256 bushels of oats. If we need oats in the same ratio as our fellow-citizens generally, our share would be 269,000,000 bushels, and of that amount we raised less than one-third. There is one big sluice gate through which our southern money flows to enrich other sections. Sow oats!

Make hay! It costs less money to encourage grass and cure it into hay than to kill it off the farm. The hay crop of the union is 50,000,000 tons. We do not raise one-fourth the hay in the south that we use. If a farm won't raise anything else it can be made to raise hay and hay pays a handsome dividend on the land and labor invested in its production. Make hay!

The first crop of cotton, accompanied by sufficient food products and cereal crops for home use, that shall be raised in the south on a cash basis will immediately double the value of every acre of farm land in the section on which that feat is possible. Every farmer who can perform the deed will find himself twice as rich in assets, credit and independence.

The time is the present and the opportunity is one that has at the end of it more hard, glittering, world-conquering gold than lies at the end of summer rainbow or the Skagway trail!

Confidence of the right sort is very seldom misplaced in an editor, but when all sorts of news is wanted suppressed from the paper for selfish reasons and no other, the editor is justified in "kicking." People read the papers not for information or news they already possessed of, but happenings they know not of. This is the editor's stock in trade and serves to make his paper interesting to the general public. The public look to him to find out by hook or crook anything that may be of interest in a general way to a community. They don't want anything that has been retailed from mouth to mouth before it appears in their paper, else they say, "Why don't you print something new? We knew that some time ago," etc. On the other hand an infuriated subscriber called and says, "What _____ did you print that for? I'll tell you when I want anything printed." Indeed, and is it only an editor's prerogative to print just what people call and want printed? We had supposed such matter was what was known as an advertisement and was paid for at so much per line or inch. It seems as though the poor editor is mistaken in all directions that he may think news may be acceptable to all parties. Consequently, not being able to suit every one, we continue to do the best we can, trusting to consequences.—Tryon Bee.

The Kind She Was After.

"Lounge," echoed the salesman. "Yes, ma'am. This way please. What kind of lounge would you like?" "I'd like one," said the sharp-featured woman, "that can get right up and kick a man out of doors when he comes home and throws himself down on it with his muddy feet and growls and scolds because he has to wait two minutes for his supper. That's the kind I'd like, but I'll have to take what I can get, I reckon. What's the price of this one with the green cover?"

Russia's Gigantic Railroad.

Ago Herald.

The Suez canal has a future rival in the Nicaragua canal, and a present rival in the Siberian Railway which will soon be opened for traffic from end to end. As soon as the Manchurian branch is completed St. Petersburg and Pekin will be linked together. The other cities of Europe will share of course in this great work, and no doubt very important changes in the world's commerce will follow.

In the course of ten years Russia has expended on this great road \$172,525,000, and the total cost will exceed \$250,000,000. The distance from St. Petersburg to Vladivostok is 6667 miles, to which must be added 1,019 miles more in order to reach Pekin from Harbin—in all 7,686 miles, and yet the first class fare is to be but \$128, the second class \$87, and the third class \$46.

The light rails of the construction period are to be replaced at once with heavy rails, and the entire roadbed and rolling stock are to be brought up to the highest European standard. At present Lake Baikal is crossed by steamers or sleighs, but the road around the lake will be completed before the end of next year.

Asia will soon be well equipped with railroads, for the Germans are building a line from Constantinople to the Persian Gulf, the Chinese will soon have an east and west line touching the western bounds of the empire, where it will meet Russian lines, and Russia is connecting her Caspian territory with the Siberian railroad. The world grows smaller year by year, and after a while South America and Siberia will be as accessible to the globe trotter or the commercial agent as an American state is to-day.

The St. Louis Exposition.

Charlotte Observer.

An interesting circular letter in behalf of the St. Louis Exposition, which is scheduled to be held in 1903, has been received from Drs. Wm. C. Green, Wm. McPheeters and Wm. Webb, Maj. Francis T. Bryan, Capt. Edmund P. Creedy and Messrs. Jesse M. Battle, Robt. B. Dula and Henry R. Strong all natives of North Carolina now living in St. Louis. They are anxious that their native State should not miss this opportunity to show to the world her natural resources, her manufactures, her industries and the varied products of her fertile soil; that they may "become known in every quarter of the globe," and these gentlemen add that "being on the ground and in close touch with the management of the fair we believe that we can render valuable assistance to the people at home in this enterprise, and we are anxious to cooperate with them in getting together a display that we could look upon with pride."

Accompanying this circular is another which gives some idea of the magnitude of the scale upon which this exposition is planned. It "will be approximately twice as big as any former international exposition. The Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia covered 236 acres, the Paris Exposition of 1899-1900, 836 acres, the Columbian Exposition at Chicago 638 acres, the Pan-American 850 acres. The St. Louis World's Fair will cover 1200 acres. The construction cost of the Paris Exposition was \$9,000,000, that of the Columbian Exposition \$18,322,000 and the total cost of the Pan-American Exposition was \$10,000,000. The estimated cost of the St. Louis World's Fair will be \$30,000,000."

These North Carolina gentlemen resident in St. Louis will recognize a North Carolina phrase when we remark that it is evident from the above figures that their adopted city intends next year, to "open the big blade."

Shiftless People.

Charlotte Observer.

There is not anything more pitiful than a small family of shiftless people, especially in an adverse year. All hands lose—the farmer and the man who furnishes him supplies. There is no end of this hand-to-mouth, week-to-week sort of farming in this part of the State. A merchant here whose lifelong business has been the furnishing of food supplies, fertilizers, etc., to farmers "on time," called our correspondent's attention the other day to a most miserable object and wee begone mule, which was tied to a awning post in front of the merchant's store. "Look at that," said he. "That is all I get for \$125. I furnished the stuff and took a mortgage on the mule and some other things. This is all that comes to me out of it." The mule was only half the usual size. In his eye was the look one sees in the eyes of the "man with the hoe," in the picture so familiar, with brightness and hope faded out. The writer said to the merchant: "How about the man who owned the mule? Let's talk about him. What is his situation since yours is so bad?" The merchant really hadn't thought much of the other fellow. "He is here," he said. "He brought in the mule. He can live on the wind." Yes it must have taken something more substantial than wind to carry him along last year. "What will you do with the mule?" was asked. "Sell him for \$10 or \$15," was the reply. The poor beast looked on while the talk was in process. His side of the story would be interesting.

There's Such Thing as Riding a Free Horse to Death as Governor Yates, of Illinois, Learned.

When he was elected Governor the express company gave him a frank. He used it to ship all his furniture to Springfield, but when recently he sought to frank his old cow through "dead head" the express company called a halt and told the Governor that there was a limit. Some folks will act the hog if they get a chance.—News and Observer.