

BURLINGTON NEWS.

VOL. XIII.

BURLINGTON, N. C., WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 1900.

NO. 39

EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

CONSISTENCY.

THERE is no better index to the present great progress of civilization than the study of the situation in India. Such a lesson for consistency. The Christian Herald gives the following facts in regard to the suffering over there:

"Every time the clock strikes the hour it tolls the death-knell of at least five hundred victims in India who have died for the want of a crust. The cable operates quickly and your contributions to-day may save scores, hundreds, yes, thousands, of lives to-morrow.

How many lives will you save?
Two cents a day will support one life.

One dollar will save a life for two months.

Two dollars will save a life until the harvest.

Five dollars will save a man, wife and child until the next crop is gathered.

Ten dollars will save a whole family from death.

Twenty dollars will save ten lives for four months.

Twenty-five dollars will save them and afford them the comfort of blankets during the cold and rainy season.

Fifty dollars would save five families.

One hundred dollars would save a small community."

England has sent \$600,000 to aid these starving people—her charges, while she is spending \$750,000,000 in killing out the poor men in South Africa. A great Christian nation, spending a thousand fold more in one day in warring against a harmless people who refuse to comply with all her dictates, than she is spending to relieve the suffering of her subjects. Christ said, "I was an hungred and ye gave me no meat," and this applies to a nation as well as to an individual, and a nation which will spend millions of dollars to kill its fellow men and give a few paltry thousands to its starving, will one day be "eating grass like an ox."

There is too great a spirit of greed and show in the world to-day. The lessons of love taught by the great Exemplar are overlooked and forgotten. England has forgotten them and America is forgetting them. We are devoting our efforts and spending our money, not for the benefit of poor suffering humanity, but ar-putting it into costly churches, cold eloquent declaimers, pretending to be preachers, and are setting back in the salvation carriage, cracking our whip depending upon these things to take us safely on our journey heavenward. If another church gets a finer vehicle or horse than we have, we get envious and touch up our old church or build a new one or swap off our preacher, or if the horse gets tired of pulling, he pricks up his ears and manages to hear a call from a richer pasture, where he can be hitched to a finer vehicle, and kicks out of the harness. Too much machinery. We have our suffering millions, England has her starving and suffering millions, yet each country has spent enough money and sacrificed enough life, during one year, to put bread in the mouths of every hungry soul and send comfort to every suffering mortal. And further, the different denominations of the United States have put enough money in fine churches and stylish

furnishings during the last five years, and wasted enough time listening to these high-standing declaimers, if expended in the right direction, to have brought joy and gladness to every hungry soul and sick and tired heart within her bounds. Christianity is going to be doubted just so long as a man passes a fellow being by who is suffering and in need and pleading for help, and gives his big contribution to the band wagon, or to help feed the horse, or who goes out during the week and oppresses poor tired humanity and robs them of their dues to deposit them in the church treasury.

The devil has blinded us. We are persuing the shadow, and fail to see the substance. But then, it is easier to sit back and sleep in a comfortable church, listen to the soothing voice of the orator and join our voices with the deep tones of the organ than it is to watch by the bedside of a suffering mortal, get up at mid-night to carry bread and comfort to the poor and suffering, to go and talk and plead with the out-cast, and these things are going to continue. The world and the church are running a race. The world is spending her money killing out the poor devils who were so unfortunate as to be here, and the church is spending her money in fine rigs.

THE coal question is being considerably discussed in European countries. England's supply seems to be running low, France's is about exhausted, Austria has been importing from Germany and England, and these two countries are discovering their supply is not equal to home consumption, and attention is turned consequently to America, the great supply country for the world, for a way out of the difficulty. America's great coal mines have hardly been touched, and it is probable that before many years she will be called upon to furnish the rest of the world with fuel. This means good prices for fuel. Herein constitutes the McKinley wave of prosperity: The development of our country's great resources, the exporting of 100,000 of her population to fight in the war, the expending of millions of dollars in war ships, clothing, ammunition, etc., resulting in increased circulation, and putting the furnaces, the shops, the factories and the mills to work.

The Lieutenant Governor of Montana played a slick trick on the Governor the other day. It will be remembered that Senator Clarke of that State was contending for a seat in the Senate, and Governor Smith was opposed to his being seated. The Lieutenant Governor was in favor of Clarke's being seated. Business called Governor Smith away, and during his absence Clarke resigned his seat, and the Lieutenant, acting as Governor, immediately appointed him Senator to fill the place caused by his resignation. The Governor heard of it and hastened back, but it was too late. Clarke realizing that he would lose his seat, resigned and was appointed by the Lieutenant Governor as the Senator, and no power can deprive him of his seat now.

The government is building a torpedo boat, which will be named for Ensign Worth Bagley, the gallant young North Carolinian, who was the first to fall in the war with Spain. The boat is now under construction at the Bath Iron Works.

A NEW DEVICE.

Slot Machine That Opens the City Directory for a Cent is Invented.

"Say, give me change for a nickel, I want to use the city directory," is the cry that soon will be heard in every drug store in Chicago if the plans of a young inventor are carried out. The inventor has devised a penny-in-the-slot machine for directory owners. It consists of a boxlike arrangement. A penny dropped into the mechanism opens the book, which remains open as long as the hand is held on it. The removal of the hand allows the box to close.

The plan is for the company controlling the machines to furnish the directory and to divide the profits with the owner of the store in which the device is placed. There are between 600 and 700 drug stores in the city which have directories, and these, it is expected, will be the largest patrons of the proposed company. Hotels, railroad ticket offices and cigar stores also will use the invention, and the promoters expect to reap a great harvest of coppers. One of the machines was placed in the Rock Island city ticket office, and in a few hours 127 people had patronized it.

The Chicago Directory company, however, is somewhat skeptical. A representative said that the scheme had been tried extensively in New York, where it had failed through lack of patronage. It was doubted if it could be made to pay in Chicago.

FIND A PREHISTORIC GRAVE.

Workmen Excavating in Sandusky Valley, Near Bucyrus, O., Uncover Tomb of Former Resident.

A prehistoric grave, built of stone, has been unearthed in the Sandusky valley, in the eastern edge of Bucyrus, O. Prof. William Miller, of the State Archaeological and Historical society, has made an examination of the grave, and under his supervision excavations were made. He pronounced the structure to be a grave of ancient origin, but the skeletons were not found.

The grave was discovered by workmen engaged in making excavations for a fence. They came upon some stone of peculiar quality and form, which proved to be the work of prehistoric inhabitants of North America. The structure is of yellow clay, eight feet below the surface, in the south bluff of the Sandusky river. There appears an east and west wall without cement, facing to the south. Four feet north is another wall of the same kind parallel to the first. The width of the walls is 18 inches. Between the walls were found stone and dirt filling, which had evidently fallen in from the top.

The stone is peculiar. The blocks are of irregular and fantastic shapes, similar to waterworn limestone. They are of much lighter color than ordinary limestone. There is no stone of the character in or near the Sandusky river.

BANKERS' ICE CREAM SEIZED

The Boxes Are Confiscated Because They Were in Imitation of Gold Coins.

Ice cream boxes at banquets must not in any way represent the gold coin of the country. Forgetting this, the committee preparing for the annual banquet of the State Bankers' association planned to serve the ices at the banquet in pasteboard boxes in imitation of a pile of eight huge gold coins, with milled edges. The top coin represented the reverse of the ten-dollar gold piece. The ordinary motto, however, was changed to read "In God We Trust." The imitation coin was two-thirds larger than a double eagle.

Chief William P. Hazen, of the United States secret service, heard of the suspected counterfeit, and decided that the manufacture of such articles was prohibited. His agents seized the cast and model and the chief declared them forfeited. Chief Hazen said there was no difference between a poor man and a banker in the eyes of the law.

Turkish Women and Their Fortunes. Turkish women do not come into control of their private fortunes until after marriage. After that they can dispose of one-third of it without the husband's consent.

Don't Like the Spelling.

The "Puerto" Rico idea, says the Chicago Tribune, will never become popular with this busy people.

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North Carolina in War.

The News and Observer gives the following interesting figures pertaining to North Carolina's record in the Civil War as gathered by Gen. Jas. B. Fry from the Confederate archives attesting the claims of North Carolina for valor and sacrifices made for the cause. It gives some figures showing how the State's record compares with the whole and with the next highest to her.

Of officers killed there were 2,086. North Carolina's part 677, South Carolina's 360. Of enlisted men the total killed was 50,868. North Carolina's part was 13,845. South Carolina's 8,827.

Of officers who died of wounds there were 1,246. North Carolina's part was 330, South Carolina's 257.

Of enlisted men who died of wounds there were 20,324. North Carolina's part was 4,821, South Carolina's 4,478.

The totals of deaths by disease was 59,297, North Carolina's part was 20,602, Virginia's 6,947.

The deaths from all causes was 139,821. North Carolina's number was 40,275. South Carolina's 17,682.

Gen. Gordon had all this in mind probably at the reunion at Nashville, Tenn., when the following incident occurred: The business session was proceeding when the North Car-

olina delegation arrived. It formed on the outside and marched in column. As the head of the column crossed the threshold the "Tar Heels" broke out with the song of "Dixie" making a perfect din and confusion. The meeting had to suspend till they were seated and hushed. Gen. Gordon was equal to the occasion and said, "North Carolina has a right to disturb any meeting in view of her glorious record.

Three cheers for North Carolina!" They were given with a roar to shake the windows, when the General said, now let North Carolina keep quiet.

In connection with the coming eclipse of the sun, that occurs on May, 28, 1900, it is a strange coincidence that one of the most famous eclipses was that on May 28, 586, B. C. This was predicted by Thales one of the seven sages of Greece, and it put a stop to the war between the Medes and the Lydians. So great was the awe caused by the cessation of the light of the sun that the contending hosts threw down their arms and made peace.

In Washington it is said that Secretary Long's chances of being nominated for the Vice-Presidency are greater than those of any man thus far mentioned.