

The Smithfield Herald

Published Every Friday Morning.

BEATY & LASSITER,
Editors and Proprietors.

Entered at the Postoffice at Smithfield, Johnston County, N. C., as Second-class Matter.

Rates of Subscription:
One Year, Cash in Advance... \$1.00
Six Months, Cash in Advance

THE NORTH POLE FOUND.

At last man has stood on the northernmost point of the globe—at the North Pole. Such was the news flashed around the world from Copenhagen, Denmark, Wednesday. And the great explorer who has performed this wonderful and dangerous feat is an American—Dr. Frederick A. Cook, of Brooklyn, New York. He has been absent for more than two years and his wife had not heard a word from him since March, 1908. The furthest point reached previous to Dr. Cook's trip was by Commander Robert E. Peary, in 1906, when he pushed forward to within two hundred miles of the pole. For nearly four hundred years men have been searching for the pole, beginning with the trip of Sir Hugh Willoughby in 1553, when 62 people found their graves among the icebergs of the farthest North. Expedition after expedition has been taken since that time, nearly every one resulting in the loss of life, the greatest loss being the third Franklin voyage in 1845, when 135 went away to return no more. In all, more than seven hundred people have lost their lives in the vain attempts to find the North Pole. Commander Peary is now somewhere in the regions of the frozen North and may reach the Pole before he returns.

Pistol-Toting.

The Texas legislature at its latest session imposed a tax of 50 per cent on the gross receipts derived from sales of pistols in that State. This was done with a view to making pistol-toting more expensive. In other communities it has been sought to make the act of carrying deadly weapons concealed a felony, punishable by confinement at hard labor in the penitentiary. Another remedy considered is to make it felony to manufacture, offer for sale, or have in possession a pistol "the barrel" of which is less than eighteen inches in length.

Given a fool, who is a coward and an egotist, and then make this creature drunk, and put a pistol in his pocket, and the chances are seven of a possible ten that there will be a murder in that fellow's haunts before midnight. There are more homicides of that sort perpetrated in this land of the free every calendar month of the year than all the casualties of battles on land and sea of the late war with Spain. The country is got to be too high-toned to legally hang its murderers, and hence there has grown up the demoralizing practice of lynching them.

Trials in courts of criminal judicature are too frequently travesties on justice. Bribery and perjury are all too common. Perverted sentimentality has too free swing. Criminal lawyers practice too freely the infamies of the shyster. The right of appeal adds enormous weight to the leaden feet of justice. We have interpreted the gospel. Better ten men be shot down in street fight than that one red-handed murderer pay the penalty of his crime on a gallows erected by the law.

Next to drunkenness, the cowardly practice of pistol-toting is responsible for more illegal violence in this country than any other cause, and the two go together. Few sober men care to tote a pistol, and perhaps 90 per cent of the pistol toters are moved to the habit by their indulgence in too much fighting whisky.

The defect of the American character is the lax administration of the criminal statutes. It is the immunity from punishment that emboldens our criminal classes. Stop pistol-toting and a great advance will be made in civilization.—Washington Post.

Putting It Gently.

The sages of the general store were discussing the veracity of old Si Perkins when Uncle Bill Abbott ambled in.

"What do you think about it, Uncle Bill?" they asked him. "Would you call Si Perkins a liar?"

"Wall," answered Uncle Bill slowly, as he thoughtfully studied the ceiling. "I don't know as I'd go so far as to call him a liar exactly, but I do know this much: when feedin' time comes, in order to get any response from his hogs, he has to get somebody else to call 'em for him."—Everybody's Magazine.

High Rolling.

One of the evil results of the prosperous period which is in the past—and painfully so—is the habit of extravagance which it bred, and which has reached all classes of people. A gentleman who lives in one of our cities told us not long ago that he knew of cases in which heads of households had mortgaged their homes for money to buy automobiles; and that he knew of clerks in dry goods stores making \$50 and \$75 a month who rode about town in handsome machines. It is very nice for a man with sufficient income to warrant it to invest a thousand or fifteen hundred dollars on a luxury like an automobile, but it is not healthy for anyone to encumber their homes to provide these handsome and costly rigs. We are in the midst of a panic as severe as has been known for fifty years, but we are living at the same high rolling rate that was born of prosperous times. After a while something is going to break, and the man who is traveling at too high a speed will get a jolt. We hope a halt will be called before it is too late. Gradually we may expect the better times to which we are all looking, will come, but the abnormal, unnatural prosperity of the past decade will hardly return. The immediate task ahead of us is to adjust ourselves to the new conditions, do less business on paper, and more on the substantial basis of cash. We must learn to pay as we go, or not go. We must walk if we cannot afford to ride. We must stay at home rather than borrow money to go abroad. We must even be content with modest churches that we ourselves are able to build, rather than erect splendid temples on money furnished by the banks. We would say to our young men: Live within your income. Do not spend your salary in advance of its payment. Have the courage to say no to the pressure so peculiar to our time, that would drive you in debt for things you can do without. We are rolling a little too high. We would better alight and start on old mother earth where everything is solid and safe.—Charity and Children.

The Cigarette Evil.

Learning that Hudson Maxim, the leading gunpowder and high explosive expert in this country or in the world, has strong convictions and valuable information concerning the cigarette evil, the editor of Boy Magazine requested an article for publication and circulation. No more valuable contribution to the anti-cigarette cause has been made than the following letter:

"As I promised I will now give expression to my opinion concerning the cigarette evil. There has been so much said upon the subject already that it is difficult to present any new facts or ideas; but no new ideas are needed to warrant the most antagonistic attitude toward the cigarette. Nevertheless, the cigarette has its defenders as does every other poisonous drug, although in my opinion, the cigarette is about the least defensible. One of the most common errors of the defenders of the cigarette is the confounding of cigarette smoking those that are the products of civilization. Carbonic acid gas is a poison but it is an ingredient of the common air and we are used to it. We exhale carbonic acid gas with every breath as one of the products of combustion of carbon with oxygen in the blood. But the system has no acquaintance with carbonic oxide and has no defense against the insidious enemy. Taken into the lungs, it enters the blood with which it reacts and which it disintegrates. The blood of persons poisoned by inhalation of illumination gas, rich in carbonic oxide, is found to be coagulated.

Nature has more or less fortified the human economy against the intrusion and the effects of poisons, however virulent, with which we habitually come in contact. Thus it is that poisons we encounter in a state of nature are not as insidious or pernicious as with tobacco smoking in general. While I am no friend of the cigar or the pipe, and believe that the use of tobacco in other forms is but the lesser evil, I hold that the cigarette is in a class by itself and its evil effects are not those common to users of tobacco in other forms. The smoker of the pipe and cigar finds his injury in the nicotine, while the nicotine of the cigarette is far less virulent than the deadly carbonic oxide and other products of its poisonous combustion. The cigarette burns poisonously.

Owing to the loose structure of the cigarette, its combustion is modified and destructive distillation proceeds with combustion, and owing to the incompleteness of oxidation, carbonic oxide is largely produced instead of carbonic acid. This carbonic oxide inhaled into the lungs enters the blood undisturbed and the damage it does is in direct proportion to the

quantities inhaled. Carbonic oxide when inhaled in small quantities produces faintness, dizziness, palpitation of the heart and a feeling of great heaviness in the feet and legs. These are exactly the effects of the cigarette and the depression and nervousness which follow as a reaction make the victim crave some balm or tonic for his malaise. He is then led to consume the drug in ever increasing quantities.

This progressive use of the cigarette is especially true with boys in the period of rapid growth. The wreath of cigarette smoke which curls about the head of the growing lad holds his brain in an iron grip which prevents it from growing and his mind from developing just as the iron shoe does the foot of the Chinese girl.

In the terrible struggle for revival against the deadly cigarette smoke development and growth are sacrificed by nature, which in the fight for life itself must yield up every vital luxury such as healthy body, growth of brain and mind.

If all the boys could be made to know that with every breath of cigarette smoke they inhale imbecility and exhale manhood; that they are tapping their arteries as surely and letting their life's blood out as truly as though their veins and arteries were severed; and that the cigarette is a maker of invalids, criminals and fools—not men—it ought to deter them some. The yellow finger stain is an emblem of deeper degradation and enslavement than the ball and chain."

Plenty in India.

Famine and plague are the usual terrible accompaniments of crop failures in India, where three hundred million people are dependent upon the yearly outturn of the harvests. This year the outlook for good crops is very promising. There have been plentiful rains and the chances are favorable for a season of health and plenty. Last year the short crops in Hindustan inflicted a money loss upon the people estimated at not less than \$200,000,000. The people of the United States rejoicing in their own abundance, will gladly note the prospective plenty for the swarming millions of the East during the next 12 months.—The Philadelphia Record.

The Cost of Gambling.

The Italian government does not hesitate to publish the statistics about its system of lotteries. Last year the people invested in them over \$16,000,000. Of this, the government kept a little more than half its revenue and for expense of administration. The winning buyers of tickets received less than half.

But that is only a part of the story. It appears that the gambling instinct is coincident with ignorance. Thus, in Como, where 17 per cent of the dwellers are illiterate, the average expenditure for lottery tickets is 20 cents per inhabitant in a year. In Naples, where 54 per cent are illiterate, this investment soars to \$2.80 per capita. It is the boast of the government that these lotteries are honestly conducted. If that be true, and if investors get back less than half their ventures, what is the percentage won by "fortunate" gamblers in this country? There are no statistics upon which to base an accurate answer. But it has been calculated that in one game in Chicago the odds were such that if ten men with \$10 each should "sit in" during one hundred turns of the card, every one of them would be "broke," even if the game were "on the square." It is said also that the odds on horse-racing are so nicely calculated that the chances of winning are even less.

Perhaps experience, as in other forms of folly, is the most thorough school-master in gambling, if the dearest. But the Italian statistics seem to prove that ignorance and stupidity are characteristic of those who persistently woo the false goddess of chance. The evil of lotteries, however "honestly" conducted, is the same as the evil of all forms of gambling; that is, the stimulation of the desire to gain without rendering an honorable equivalent. The sin goes back to the inhibition of the Decalogue: "Thou shalt not covet." Not money, but the love of money, is the root of evil.—The Washington Herald.

Scientific Jottings.

In the last ten years 325,000 persons have emigrated from England to the farms of Canada.

Taking the average for the world around, less than half of the babies born live to be fifty years of age.

Recent experiments seem to indicate that bees have the homing instinct like the pigeon.

Multum in Parvo.

Only 30 per cent of the inhabitants of Sicily are able to read and write.

A Business Proposition

Is what is offered to every advertiser who has an opportunity to use the columns of

The Smithfield Herald

Judicious advertising never failed to pay and the man or firm who has used the columns of THE HERALD regularly, changed his ad often, and given it the same attention he does other parts of his business, has never failed to reap results. THE HERALD is the

Oldest and Best Newspaper Published in Johnston County

and therefore the best advertising medium. There are several reasons for this: It treats all advertisers alike and none are given ads free as an inducement to get future business. We know our space is worth something because a well-written ad placed in our columns will bring results. Its circulation is a bona fide one, and that class of circulation is the only one that counts with a professional advertising agent. If you have not been using the advertising columns of THE HERALD, try them and be convinced.

Rates Very Reasonable

For 30 Days

We offer a fully warranted Open Buggy, stick seat, any trimming desired at \$45.00

We offer a fully warranted Top Buggy, Beautiful Finish for only \$55.00 Best values ever offered in Johnston County.

Harness in Every Style And at Every Price

We have recently received a Car Load of Nissen Wagons. None better made. We offer 4 Mowers and Rakes at COST in order to make room for other goods. Horses and Mules for Sale Every Day in the Year, except Sundays.

Buy Our Flour, Try It, If not Satisfied Return It, And Get Your Money

We Are Headquarters For Shoes, Dry Goods, General Merchandise...

We have orders for all your Cotton

WE LEAD! OTHERS FOLLOW!!

Truly,

The Austin-Stephenson Co.

Smithfield, N. C.

FOR RENT—Store house on the corner of Webb and Railroad street. A good place to draw business with the right man. Apply to T. R. FULGHUM, Selma, N. C.

RED TAG enamel ware. Special sale. Cotter-Stevens Co.

\$1 Will secure for you the best Newspaper published in the county for a whole year \$1
The Smithfield Herald