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BILL ARP'S LETTER.

The papers tell us that there are yet over 300 conventions to be held this year in these United States. It looks like public affairs, political, religious, agricultural and financial are in a very unsettled condition. I wish they would settle something. There is the Philippine war, the Porto Rico tangle, the Cuban Postal steal, the negro problem, female suffrage and women's hats in the churches. There is the prohibition question, the Presbyterian creed, the germ theory, the strikes among the laborers, the trust monopolies and who are to be the running mates for Bryan and McKinley. Then there are side shows of many kinds, but nothing gets settled. When our old cook got sick and my wife asked her if she knew where we could get another she said, "Nuffe, I don't; cooks is gittin' pow'ful scarce. Better git a settled 'oman if you can find one—dese young, onsettled niggers ain't no count sense freedom cum." Looks like there is nothing settled nowadays, neither labor, nor cooks, nor women, nor men, nor theories, nor great public questions. Well, one thing has been settled at last and that is "the Barbara Freetchie" myth. The Boston Transcript of last Wednesday has three columns on the subject and gives up and says this is a finality. It publishes a letter from General Henry Kyd Douglass, of Stonewall Jackson's staff, which disproves the whole ridiculous story and closes by saying, "We men of the South set no limit to the poetic laudation of a woman, be she old or young, nor are we disposed to hold an admirer strictly responsible for the accuracy of his language, but from the Potomac to the Rio Grande the name of our Christian soldier, Stonewall Jackson, is sacred. Lift up your monuments to your own heroes and heroines and you will hear no word of protest from us, but do not cast your envenomed and spawny on the grave of Stonewall Jackson." But that is only one thing settled. One slander nailed and it has taken thirty years to do that. We thought that Ben Hill had nailed the Andersonville slander in his great speech against Blaine, but that bobs up every little while and has to be nailed again. I know a lady, and she is a lady in manners and morals, who really believes that the Federal prisoners at Andersonville were made to drink melted lead when they begged for water. She was told that thirty-five years ago and can't get over it.

We can't do anything with those people. They fought us from prejudice and have since been spending millions of money on the negro from prejudice. Every black scoundrel who has been lynched down south was the victim of their false teachings and will continue to be—thank the good Lord for His mercies. Ten years ago I wrote my first philippic against the brutes and advocated a summary vengeance and I stand by it and rejoice whenever a lynching occurs for an outrage upon defenseless women. If there is anything worse than lynching I'm for that. Let the north howl if they want to, the procession will proceed all the same. The farce at Montgomery settled nothing. The negro is here to stay and he has got to behave himself as a good citizen or take the consequences. The south needs him and if his presence keeps away the horde of foreigners that Europe is anxious to get rid of, it is a blessing. What is the matter with the negro? I don't know of a race conflict in this region except in the large cities, which are a pestilence to good morals, truth and the industry of the race is improving in the rural districts, where the white race is in the majority. A few months ago there was a call from Mississippi for negro labor and about a hundred went from this neighborhood and very soon they were missed and our farmers began to make a fuss about it, but there was no Pegleg Williams concerned in it and nobody to get mad with. One of my neighbors who had often declared that he wished they were all out of the country got mad about this sudden exodus, and said he could hire a man to break up his garden. We are hard to please and lay too much blame on the negro. I read about a young preacher who just spread himself abusing the other denominations and he was told that it wouldn't do, for the members were all mixed up by marriage and he was giving great offense. "What shall I do?" he asked. "I am obliged to abuse somebody or the people won't come out to hear me." His friend replied, "Well, then you had better pitch into the Jews. They have got no friends and are not kin to anybody but themselves." Just so, we blame the negro with the sins and corrupt methods of the politician, the politician who buys his vote with money or whiskey. The smart man who buys is worse than the ignorant negro who sells his vote. When Stephen A. Douglas ran against Lincoln for Congress he tried to degrade him in a public speech by saying that the first time he ever saw his opponent he was keeping a saloon in a one-horse town. "Yes," replied Lincoln, "I remember that. I was on one side of the counter and you were on the other. I was selling and you were drinking." That is about the

parallel between the politician and the negro. I do not feel satisfied with the sweeping exclusion of the present white primary law. I know a dozen negroes in this town who are morally, intelligently and industrially qualified to vote and I know two dozen white men who are not. It seems to me we might have a commission to select deserving negroes and place their name on the registration list. This would stimulate others to good behavior. It would have a tendency to elevate good negroes, whereas the present law cuts off all hope and all ambition. But I wouldn't give one of them a public office and no friend of the south would make him a post-master or a census taker.

But there is nothing settled. The Philippine war has almost ceased to be discussed by the American people. We have ceased to feel any interest in it. It is none of our war. It is the Republican politicians' war and has cost thousands of lives and millions of money. Recruiting officers inveigled hundreds of our foolish boys into it and their distressed mothers can't hear a word from them and fear they are dead, and I reckon they are. Some of them write to me, thinking I can do something or give them some comfort, but alas! I cannot. McKinley don't care, so he is re-elected. Here is a letter that came today from a heart broken mother, Mrs. Alice A. Kibler, of Valdosta, whose son, S. B. Kibler, went to Manila with the Eleventh United States volunteer cavalry, troop K. Can anybody relieve her mind? She gets no answer to her letters. Oh, these dear, old long-suffering mothers. Their grief is a bigger thing than imperialism. It was just that way with our boys in Cuba. Their mothers could not hear from them. The officers of every company should be required to make a report of every private once a month to his parents or wife or guardian.

Well, our State and county primary is over and now we will have peace until the next one. I voted for seven county officers and only two of them were nominated. I reckon my little grandchild was right when I put her dress on wrong side before. "Gan' pa, you havent got very much sense, have you?" But then I console myself with the scriptural injunction follow not a multitude to do evil. I'll go out in the garden and pick strawberries awhile and try to be calm and serene. BILL ARP.

P. S.—As to that hat question in the churches, it can be proven either way by St. Paul, but he had no wife and advised people not to marry. I don't consider him good authority.

Admiral Dewey Never was a Candidate.

Washington Special, 18th, to Atlanta Journal. Since the Admiral and Mrs. Dewey returned from the South it has been persistently rumored that the admiral would "withdraw" from the race for President. This rumor was not based upon any expression from Admiral Dewey, but upon his failure to make any announcement of his plans or political convictions.

Yesterday Mrs. Dewey stated to a friend at the home of her mother, Mrs. McLean, that she would not have her husband President of the United States if it was in her power to prevent it.

To-day Admiral Dewey was asked for a positive statement as to his intentions. He said:

"I shall not withdraw, as has been stated, for the reason that I have never entered the race. I merely stated that if the people of this country wanted me for President I would not decline the confidence imposed. That is all. I say so yet, and in saying so I am by no means a candidate in the sense that term is used in politics. I am happy and contented as I am. I know that I have the love of the American people. I have been honored already beyond the ordinary aspirations or ambitions of man, and I am not a self-constituted seeker after any recognition. I shall always do my plain duty in whatever capacity my services may be required by my countrymen. In saying that I would accept the presidency if called upon to do so, I only answered publicly the queries of a great number of friends. That does not place me in the position of making a political fight for the office. I trust the people will understand my position."

Butler's Italian Hand.

Statesville Landmark. The following paragraph is from the platform adopted by the national convention which nominated Bryan and Towne at Sioux Falls last Thursday: "Believing that the elective franchise and untrammeled ballot are essential to a government of, for and by the people, the People's party condemns the whole-sale system of disfranchisement by coercion and intimidation, adopted in some States, as unrepresentative and undemocratic. And we declare it to be the duty of the several State Legislatures to take such action as will secure a full, free and fair ballot and an honest count." This is evidence of Mr. Butler's fine Italian hand, and this section of the platform is intended for an attack on the Democratic party of North Carolina.

She—Papa says if we get married he'll pay half the expenses of furnishing. He—Well, what about the other half?"

RULES FOR A WIFE.

There Are Seventeen of Them Recommended to Her Attention.

Many persons unable to read that most interesting book, "The Romance of Isabel, Lady Burton," may like to see the rules she wrote upon her marriage in her diary for her own guidance in the new relation—rules to whose observance she believed much of her subsequent happiness was due:

First—Let your husband find in you a companion, friend and adviser and confidante, that he may miss nothing at home.

Second—Be a careful nurse when he is ailing, that he may never be in low spirits about his health without a serious cause.

Third—Make his home snug. If it be ever so small and poor, there can always be a certain chic about it. Men are always ashamed of a poverty-stricken home, and therefore prefer the club. Attend much to his creature comforts; allow smoking or anything else; for if you do not somebody else will. Make it yourself cheerful and attractive, and draw relations and intimates about him, and the style of society (literati) that suits him.

Fourth—Improve and educate yourself in every way, that you may enter into his pursuits and keep pace with the times.

Fifth—Be prepared at any moment to follow him at an hour's notice and rough it like a man.

Sixth—Do not try to hide your affection for him, but let him see and feel it in every action. Never refuse him anything he asks. Observe a certain amount of reserve and delicacy before him. Keep up the honeymoon romance, whether at home or in the desert. At the same time do not make prudish bothers, which only disgust, and are not true modesty. Do not make the mistake of neglecting your personal appearance, but try to look and dress well to please his eye.

Seventh—Perpetually work up his interest with the world, whether for publishing or for appointments. Let him feel when he has to go away that he leaves a second self in charge of his affairs at home, so that if sometimes he is obliged to leave you behind he may have nothing of anxiety on his mind. Take an interest in everything that interests him. To be companionable a woman must learn what interests her husband, and, if it is only planting turnips, she must try to understand turnips.

Eighth—Never confide your domestic affairs to your female friends.

Ninth—Hide his faults from every one and back him up through every difficulty and trouble.

Tenth—Never permit any one to speak disrespectfully of him before you, and if any one does, no matter how difficult, leave the room. Never permit any one to tell you anything about him, especially of his conduct with regard to other women. Never hurt his feelings by a rude remark or jest. Never answer when he finds fault, and never reproach him when he is in the wrong, especially when he tells you of it, nor take advantage of it when you are angry, and always keep his heart up when he has made a failure.

Eleventh—Keep all disagreements for your own room, and never let others find them out.

Twelfth—Never ask him to do anything—for instance with regard to visiting other women, or any one you particularly dislike; trust him and tell him everything, except another person's secret.

Thirteenth—Do not bother him with religious talk; be religious yourself and give good example; take life seriously and earnestly; pray for and procure prayers for him and do all you can for him without his knowing it, and let all your life be something that will win mercy from God for him. You might try to say a little prayer with him every night before laying (sic) down to sleep, and gently draw him to be good to the poor and more gentle and forbearing to others.

Fourteenth—Cultivate your own good health, spirits and nerves, to enable you to carry out your mission.

Fifteenth—Never open his letters, nor appear inquisitive about anything he does not volunteer to tell you.

Sixteenth—Never interfere between him and his family; encourage their being with him, and reward everything he wishes to do for them, and treat them in every respect (so far as they will let you) as if they were your own.

Seventeenth—Keep every thing going, and let nothing ever be at a standstill.

If Mr. Pearson is really "conscientious" as to his title seat in Congress, in recognition of the universal opinion among honest people to the contrary, he should follow the example of Mr. Bacon of Georgia, resign at once and appeal to the people of the district at the next election. His resignation would compel an election, and the people could say in November whether or not they prefer him or Mr. Crawford to represent them. Now let the Duke come to the scratch in a way that can settle the matter beyond dispute. He surely cannot be afraid to trust the people.—Raleigh Post.

The News and Observer has received a this year's corn tassel, about six inches long, from Mr. J. G. Saylor, of Dann. This is the first of the season.

BIBLE READING.

Prof. Thwing Finds "Ignorance About the Bible" a Growing Phenomenon.

Baltimore Sun. In a recent issue of The Century Magazine "Ignorance about the Bible" is found by Rev. Dr. C. F. Thwing to be a growing phenomenon. The young men and young women of the present generation are far less familiar with the Bible than were their fathers and mothers at the same age. They do not read the Bible as much and are not obtaining equally the literary benefit had from constant acquaintance with its admirable English. This conclusion is derived from the result of test examinations set for boys in an Ohio university and for girls in an eastern woman's college. Twenty-two passages containing simple Biblical allusions were selected from Tennyson's poems and a freshman class of 34 men and a like class of 51 women were asked to explain them. The men were from northern Ohio, central New York and western Pennsylvania; the women from New England. They were representatives of families in the enjoyment of average incomes and had opportunities above the average. With one exception all had ecclesiastical connections. Yet the men answered but 43 per cent of the questions correctly and the women 49 per cent. Only one—a young woman—answered all the questions correctly.

Of the 85 students hardly over 20 knew anything of "the crown of thorns;" 40 were ignorant of Cain, Esau, Ruth and the tomb in which Christ was laid; 30 did not recognize the incident of Moses' striking a rock for water or Jacob's wrestling with an angel; 66 remembered nothing of Jonah's gourd, while an allusion to Hekziah floored 75. The girls were pretty well up on the story of Lot's wife, but of the 34 men only 22 bore it in their memories. This same number of male students were stumped by a question relating to "pearls and swine," and 40 of the girls missed a reference to the guilt of Iscariot. One of the answers, indeed, made the amazing statement that Iscariot meant the cross, while another told of Ruth "grieving for her children." These were surpassed in an answer which seems to assume that Jonah's gourd was the emetic that caused "the whale" to cast Jonah ashore. Taking the answers together, they appear to Dr. Thwing to justify the conclusion that the present generation are growing up to paganism. The Bible, he thinks, is no longer a force in American literature and theology. "Young people do not read it much, or if they do are not impressed by it."

The cause of this state of things the learned doctor finds in the fact that young people nowadays have a great deal of reading matter thrown in their way—perhaps too much. "The world has become," he says, "a world of books, a world of magazines and a world of newspapers." Many persons under 70 years of age can recall a time when the Bible, "Pilgrim's Progress" and Fox's "Christian Martyrs" constituted 50 per cent of the family library. A weekly newspaper and a Patent Office report were the only other interesting literature in easy reach. Now this is all changed; books, magazines and papers of all sorts are abundant and cheap, so that the Bible has many rivals. The removal of the Bible from the public schools, diminished attendance at church on Sunday, decline of family prayers, omission of grace at meals—these are other signs of the times. The Sunday-school does not, the doctor thinks, take the place of home instruction as to the contents of the Bible. The tendency, he says, is toward worship of the Divine person, reducing the Bible to the level of other books. The Bible, in short, does not hold the place it deserves in the instruction of the young at the present time.

Holton's Backdown.

Charlotte News. On the 9th of May Chairman Holton requested that arrangements be made for a joint canvass of the State by the Democratic and Republican candidates for State officers. After waiting two weeks and thinking the matter over, the Republican chairman has at last replied, declining the joint canvass. His letter is a literary freak. He does not discuss the point at issue at all, but quotes from various speeches of politicians in the campaign of 1898, and then appends this highly original paragraph:

"With the most common reason and lawless logic, I demand the best for the peace and prosperity of the State to decline your offer of a joint canvass. The Republican party has the honor to decline your offer. If you wish to have a joint canvass, you must first be willing to have your name placed before them. They have no objection to your name being placed before them. They have no objection to your name being placed before them. They have no objection to your name being placed before them." Mr. Holton declines to discuss the matter with the Democratic chairman's letter is a virtual declaration of the fact.

In the race for happiness always results in a tie.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.

Baltimore Sun, 18th.

At last the Transvaal has been invaded in force by the British. General Sir Archibald Hunter, who it was rumored had gone to the relief of Mafeking, has really been marching up the Vaal valley. Lord Roberts reports that Hunter has occupied Christiansburg, a few miles north of the Vaal and about 220 miles southwest of Pretoria.

It will be remembered that some time ago Lord Roberts asked the garrison at Mafeking to hold out until May 18. That day has arrived, and London momentarily expects to hear—but has not heard—of the garrison's relief. Reports that Colonel Baden-Powell refused the recent attack, capturing Commandant Eloff and 90 other Boers, are now given full credence in the British capital.

General Buller has occupied Dannhauser, 12 miles north of Glencoe, Natal, and is pressing on toward Laing's Nek, to which place the Boers are retreating. He estimates at 7,000 the number of burghers who have been retreating from the Biggarsberg mountains.

A dispatch from Vredefort, Orange Free State, says the Americans who are fighting with the Boers have been losing heavily. It also states that Col. Blake's Irish Corps was captured at Kroonstad. Col. Y. F. Blake is an American, and his corps has done some of the hardest fighting in the war. The capture of this body of men has not been reported from any other source.

Baltimore Sun, 21.

Peace rumors are flying fast in London as a sequel to the delirious rejoicing over the relief of Mafeking. One of the reports is that a telegram, addressed personally to Premier Salisbury by President Kruger, has been received at the Foreign Office proposing terms of peace. The message, it is said, is "couched in an exceedingly humble strain." Official confirmation of Mafeking's relief has not yet been received from British sources, but that the town is free is not doubted. It is rumored at Lorenzo Marquez that the relief column captured the entire besieging force, with its cannon.

At Pretoria it is said the Boers will defend Johannesburg and that they are rallying around General Botha for further fighting. A report comes from Durban that there is a plot at the Transvaal capital to oust President Kruger and surrender the Transvaal to Lord Roberts.

Baltimore Sun, 22nd.

Details of Mafeking's relief are slowly beginning to arrive in London. The relief column, it is now learned, entered the town last Friday, though the actual work of relief, it is believed, was accomplished before.

It was a race for the British to get there. The troops marched so swiftly that a body of Boers sent to intercept them was surprised and had to chase the British so as to head them off. Finally the burghers got the lead and attacked the relief force, but were repulsed, and the march continued.

Lord Roberts cables from Kroonstad that Col. B. T. Mabon commanded the relief column. The column advanced from the south and consisted of a composite force of 2,300 men, which was joined by Colonel Plummer from the north with about 1,500 more. The junction was effected at Jammaasibi.

Colonel Baden-Powell, the resourceful commander at Mafeking, proved his skill to the last. Lord Roberts cables that in the assault May 13, when the Boers occupied the Kaffir village, near the main town, they were surrounded. Of the burghers 108, including Commandant Eloff, a grandson of President Kruger, were captured and 29 were left behind dead or wounded. The others retreated.

Mafeking will be used by Lord Roberts as a base from which to threaten Johannesburg. He is hurrying troops to the lately besieged town. Roberts' cavalry have advanced close to the Vaal from the south. In Natal Buller delays while the railroad is being repaired. It is said that the Boers still hold Laing's Nek. They are also likely to make a stand at Klip Riversberg, south of Johannesburg.

President Kruger, it is stated in London, has made no recent overtures for peace.

Five Thousand People Lynch a Negro

PUEBLO, Colo., May 23.—A mob of five thousand lynched Calvin Kimbren, a negro who assaulted and murdered two little white girls who were inmates of the Pueblo Orphans Home. The lynching was at half-past 1 o'clock this morning. Women cheered as the negro swung from the telegraph pole. Officials of the Grande ordered all trains to be stopped at the stations for fear a mob would board the train and seize the negro. The train was stopped before they reached Pueblo. They were then taken to the station and hanged. The suffering of the mob was terrible. The suffering of the mob was terrible. The suffering of the mob was terrible.

GENERAL NEWS.

Death invaded the American Methodist Episcopal Conference in session at Columbia, Ohio, Saturday, claiming Rev. R. M. Cheeks, editor of the Southern Christian Recorder, of Atlanta, dying of locomotor ataxia.

The Presbytery of Washington has drafted an overture to the general assembly of the Presbyterian church for the adoption of the creed now in use by the free church of England as a substitute for the present confession of faith.

The government has decided to abandon Port Royal, S. C., as a naval station and establish a station at Charleston. After spending great sums of money at Port Royal it has been decided that the place will not answer for a naval station. Its abandonment means a clear loss of more than \$1,000,000 to the government.

The Rowan Granite Company was chartered Monday. The incorporators are E. B. C. Hambley, Geo. J. Whitney and T. J. L. Stevenson. The company is organized for quarrying granite and other rock. It is chartered for sixty years, and the capital stock is \$100,000. Its place of business is in Salisbury.

Ray Wilson White, instructor in the law department of the University of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, was found dying late Saturday night. He expired, shortly after being removed to the Presbyterian Hospital, without recovering consciousness. His murder is pronounced the most brutal, as well as the most mysterious, which has confronted the police in recent years.

The Rockingham Anglo Saxon reports that at Hamlet Tuesday night King Strickland, an employe of the railroad yard there, shot John Galvin, an engineer. Galvin was passing Strickland's house when the latter hailed him and shot at him with a shot gun. The load took effect in both Galvin's legs, one of them being broken. His injuries are serious but are not expected to prove fatal unless blood poisoning ensues. Strickland is in jail at Rockingham. It is said that he alleges insults to his wife as a cause for his action.

A Municipal Election May Be Taken Into the Courts.

Raleigh Correspondence Henderson Herald. There is a report current here that at the municipal election Monday in the town of Hendersonville the Democratic officers held the election under the general election law enacted by the Legislature at the session of 1899. A number of people are said to have been rejected under the operations of this law who were entitled to register under the election law which applies to towns and cities. The attention of United States District Attorney Holton has been called to the Hendersonville election and he proposes to indict the offenders under the United States statute which was lately invoked in Kentucky before Judge Walter Evans. An effort will be made to get an adjudication on this question before the August election. If this view can be made to hold before the United States Court it will give those tribunals jurisdiction over the election officers throughout the State. This is the object sought by the Republicans and Populists.

The Mooresville correspondent of the Charlotte Observer says that during the storm Thursday night lightning struck a tree standing near a hog pen at Triangle, in Lincoln county, and killed six hogs that were in the pen. The hogs belonged to Mr. J. R. Cherry.



A Woman Only Knows

what suffering from falling of the womb, whites, painful or irregular menses, or any disease of the distinctly feminine organs is. A man may sympathize or pity but he can not know the agonies she goes through—the terrible suffering, so patiently borne, which robs her of beauty, hope and happiness. Yet this suffering really is needless.

McELREE'S Wine of Cardui

will banish it. This medicine cures all "female diseases" quickly and permanently. It does away with humiliating physical examinations. The treatment may be taken at home. There is not continual expense. The suffering is banished. The suffering is banished. The suffering is banished.