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Population of North Carolina Cities and Towns.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Charlotte, in point of population, is the second city in the State, and during the decade just elapsed has passed Raleigh, and in the matter of increase has left Wilmington in the rear, as is shown by the census figures issued to-day. These figures also show that the tide of immigration is towards the West and that Eastern towns and cities barely hold their own, while the Western cities and towns are rapidly increasing in population. The census bulletin issued to-day gives the figures of 1900 to which a comparison is added from the census of 1890, and is as follows:

1900.	1890.	
Asheville	14,694	10,235
Beaufort	2,295	2,007
Burlington	3,692	1,716
Charlotte	18,091	11,557
Concord	7,910	4,339
Durham	6,679	5,485
Edenton	3,046	2,205
Elizabeth	6,348	3,251
Fayetteville	4,670	4,223
Gastonia	4,610	1,032
Goldboro	5,877	4,015
Graham	2,052	991
Greensboro	10,035	3,317
Greenville	2,565	1,937
Henderson	3,743	4,191
Hickory	2,535	2,023
High Point	4,163	3,481
King's Mountain	2,062	429
Kinston	4,106	1,726
Monroe	2,417	1,896
Mt. Airy	2,680	1,768
Newbern	9,090	7,843
Raleigh	13,643	12,678
Randleman	2,190	1,754
Reidsville	3,262	2,910
Rocky Mount	2,937	816
Salem	3,642	2,711
Salisbury	6,277	4,418
Statesville	3,141	2,310
Tarboro	2,499	1,921
Washington	4,842	3,515
Wilmington	20,976	20,066
Wilson	3,525	2,126
Winston	10,008	8,018

The Failure of Natural Gas.

New York Times.
During the past two or three years the failure of the natural gas supply has been very rapid. In the Ohio field, once famous for its "roarers," and which gave gas under an initial pressure of from 450 to 480 pounds per square inch, the gas now has now initial pressure, and compression is necessary to its distribution. In the Indiana field it is estimated by experts that one-half of the total supply has been exhausted. The pressure at the wells was formerly an average of 325 pounds. Very few now deliver gas with a pressure of 160 pounds, and as a pressure of 100 pounds is needed to hold back the salt water with which the gas-bearing strata are saturated, it follows that when further weakened by continued blowing off, the wells will begin to fill up and the flow cease. About 66 per cent of the gas in the grounds has been exhausted, and of that which carries a pressure less than 100 pounds comparatively little is likely to be available. The reckless waste permitted when the supply was deemed inexhaustible is now much regretted, but in such a case ex post facto wisdom does not greatly profit those who have it.

Died From Mistaken Fright.

Fall River, Mass., Dispatch.
As the result of paralysis, caused through fear that she had swallowed her false set of teeth, Mrs. Hannah Laidlow, of East Main street, is dead at the City Hospital.
The woman was found unconscious Wednesday night, and after regaining her speech, declared that she had swallowed her lower set of false teeth. The physicians declare that the horror the woman had shown for a surgical operation, even though assured that she had not swallowed the teeth, caused paralysis and finally death.

Crazy for the Want of a Husband.

Salisbury Sun.
"Why can't I have a husband as well as other women, why can't I?" This was the wail of poor Harriet Owens when she was brought home last night by Deputy Hodge Krider. It has been told in these columns how the poor half-witted creature left the county home and wandered away to Cabarrus county, where she was wanted and how the commissioners of that county had notified the commissioners of Rowan that she must be brought back.
In pursuance of this order Deputy Hodge Krider went down to Concord yesterday morning for the woman and found her in the outskirts of the town. She protested against returning to Salisbury and resisted at first but was finally induced to come back. She says she only wanted a husband and went to Cabarrus county in search of one when the officers interfered with her plans. She will be sent out to the county home today.

Former Commissary-General of Subsistence Eagan, who was under suspension for using alleged abusive language toward General Miles, has been restored to duty, was immediately retired.

BILL ARP'S LETTER.

The rapid increase of suicides in the south is alarming and provokes the serious study of our thinking people. Fifty years ago a suicide was a rare event among the white race, and never heard of among the negroes. When it did occur, it was considered an evidence of insanity. I do not recall but one instance in my youth and that was a woman who jumped into a deep well when no help was within reach. But nowadays almost every daily paper contains an account of one or more self-murders, and even negroes have taken the infection, for they will imitate every vice and frailty of the whites. Old Lewis, who is my wood chopper, asked me the other day how it was that the white folks kill "derselves so much, and de niggers dident." "Because," said I, "white folks are more easily overcome with grief, or remorse, or distress, than negroes. You negroes don't borrow trouble, nor take it hard when it does come. You don't give yourselves much anxiety about tomorrow, or next week, or next year. You don't grieve long over a death in the family; your emotional nature is of a low grade; your marriage relation is loose; in fact, it is on the decline since freedom came. The marriage records show that your legal marriages are 60 per cent. less, according to population, than in the white race, and the decrease gets less and less every year. Your young men and women don't marry; they just take up and quit when they please, and so the men don't care very much about the welfare of their children, if they have any. Besides all this, Uncle Lewis, your race has a trait of stealing little things, and this accounts in a great measure for their indifference to the laying up of something for the future; something for the winter, or the rainy days, or for old age. If the worst comes to the worst, they know they can steal or beg. If your young folks, men and women, haven't got but a dollar in the world, they will spend it for a watermelon, or an excursion, and take the chances. Now, Uncle Lewis, you remember when there wasn't a chaingang in the south, nor a heinous crime nor a brutal outrage, committed by your people, from the Potomac river to the Rio Grande. Now there are in Georgia alone over 4,000 of your people in the chaingangs, and there would be 4,000 more if all the little stealings were punished." Uncle Lewis had stopped cutting and was leaning on his ax helve. "Dat's all so," said he, "and boss I knows it, and boss what I wants to know is dis: What must we poor niggers do about it?" There is the rub. I couldn't tell him, but I did say, "Uncle Lewis, your race has got some mighty good traits, and I like to have you about us; you are kind-hearted, good-natured, easy to please, and don't carry malice or revenge in your hearts; you steal, but you don't cheat anybody. The white race won't steal, but they will cheat, or take advantage in a trade, and that is worse. If you trust a negro with anything he will not abuse your confidence, but a white man will embezzle and defraud and even the cashiers of banks will appropriate the bank's money, and falsify the books for months and years. Every race has its race traits, both bad and good. Some of your bad ones were almost run out by slavery, but they have come back again, and all your college education does not stop it. It makes it worse. There is nothing will stop it but work, constant work, every day, under some good employer. Work on the farm is your best safeguard, or work as mechanics under good contractors. Your people make good mechanics, and the white people employ them and patronize them just as willingly as they do white mechanics. The negro blacksmiths and masons get good employment here and everywhere, and as for cooking and washing and nursing, your women have it all. The two races would fit together nicely if it wasn't for politics and idleness. An idle negro is a dangerous creature and should be taken up and put to work. He is much more dangerous than an idle white man, for he has no shame, and fears not God nor regards man. If I were a law-maker, I would make continued idleness a crime, for, as Ben Franklin says, "It is the parent of vice."

I started to write about suicides, but got to preaching Uncle Lewis a sermon and got off the track. Nineteen hundred years ago Plutarch, the Greek historian, said that self-murder was cowardice, for a brave man would suffer rather than take the life that God gave him. Self-murder was a heinous crime under the old English law. The estate of the felon was confiscated, and taken away from his family. His body was buried on the highway without a coffin and a sharp stake thrust through it to mark the accused spot. Suicide was under the ban of the church, and no prayers were said for his soul. In no civilized country has suicide been justified, except in such cases as that of Saul, who fell on his sword because, as he said, "Lest these uncircumcised Philistines thrust me through and abuse me." Or perhaps that other notable case the scriptures record, that of Judas, whose remorse was so dreadful he preferred hell or anything that would be a change. But generally it is "better to endure the ills we have, than fly to those we know not of." Almost every day we read of young men and young women killing themselves because of disappointment or dissipation, or about

love or money. They must believe there is no hereafter, or all punishment ends with this life. Surely no Christian man or woman would think of self-murder. Wait, wait, young man, young man, young woman; wait, I say—suffer and be strong; only cowards kill themselves. The soul is locked up in this casket and God only has the key. Wait and trust Him. Remorse for a great crime may atone somewhat for self-murder. Miss Morrison might have killed herself after she killed her rival, and it would have seemed heroic. When Othello discovered his great mistake in killing Desdemona, his peroration was grand as he said, "I took the circumcised dog by the throat and smote him thus," and then stabbed himself and died, for, as Shakespeare says, "He was great of heart." In ancient Greece and Rome their notable warriors sometimes killed themselves, rather than suffer the stings of defeat in battle. In Japan military officers commit what is called harskari (ripping open the abdomen) to avoid personal disgrace. But in our land the pistol or poison has superseded all other means of suicide. It would save thousands of lives if the pistol was abolished by law. Not one should be allowed in any household; they are entirely too convenient for murder or suicide or robbery or revenge. And the sale of poison should be so regulated that no one could buy it except upon the most careful inquiry as to its intended use. Human life is too sacred to be endangered by pistols and poison, for, as St. Paul says, "We are made in the image of God."

Well, we see that Mr. Crumpicker, or Stumpsucker, or some such name, from Indiana, has opened the ball at Washington with his usual screech owl howl against the south. He was in such a malignant hurry that he got in the first bill, and it is to reduce the representation of the south in congress. He reminds me of Haman, whose stomach would not digest his food as long as he saw Mordecai sitting at the King's gate. He has begun to build a gallows for us. Let him beware, for it was Haman who was hanged. Some of these rabid Republicans remind me of old Cato, the Roman censor, who hated the Carthaginians so bad that he never voted on any question in the Roman senate without adding, "And I also vote that Carthage be destroyed." But nobody cares; we will yet have a schoolbook commission in every southern state. The south is moving right along in spite of northern insults and northern literature. I see that "Barbara Fritchie" is to be played in Atlanta. I wonder if that dramatic lie will be patronized by any self-respecting southern man or woman? Many years ago a yankee troupe came to Rome with "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and we egged them out of town. That's what we done. They may abuse us from afar off, but they shan't come down here and rub it in.

BILL ARP.

The Chinese question," says the New York Herald, "is approaching a solution with that deliberation which always accompanies important events. There was a time, not so long ago, when the portents were rather lurid, and no one of the diplomats of Europe was bold enough to predict the outcome. The powers rent by apparent implacable dissensions; China was trembling at the possibility of dismemberment, and the wisest statesmen held their place, wondering what the next move would be. Germany was wild with the passion of revenge; England had made a private agreement with her, which might mean anything or nothing; Russia's Czar, who has from the start stood for peace on fair terms, was ill with typhoid, and the United States was left, with slender support, to insist on the integrity of China and an indemnity that would not throw the Empire into financial ruin. It is quite safe to say that Russia's well-known opposition to barbaric reprisals and the pacific and insistent influence of the United States led to the sober second thought which has produced a remarkable chance in the situation and created the opportunity for a settlement which will be regarded as honorable and fair. The outlook at the present moment, therefore, is decidedly encouraging."

Chicago Dust Storms Cause "Pink Eye."

A new disease which attacks the eyes and in many respects resembles "pink-eye" is said to be epidemic in Chicago. It is infectious and is not confined to any particular part of the city or class of people.

One explanation offered for the origin of the malady is that it is due to the clouds of dust which have been driven about the streets since the windy season set in.

An eye specialist who has treated a number of cases said:

"The disease was first noticed about a month ago, but during the two last weeks it has spread very rapidly and has reached the point where it may be called epidemic."

That old chestnut about a white man's Republican party in the South is once more being talked about by those who hope to get Federal offices under the next administration.

An advertisement, like a cigar, should be so good that the first whiff or impression will cause a man to finish it.

STATE NEWS.

Jubal Gooch, a farmer, was killed by his young son at his home, nine miles from Raleigh on the 11th. Jubal was drunk and was cruelly beating his wife. The son interfered, when the father drew a knife and chased him. Then the father returned to his cruel beating. The son returned, got a gun and blew out the father's brains.

The police census of Wilmington now being taken promises at the end of first week of enumeration to very much exceed the population granted by the Census Bureau. All along there has been dissatisfaction at the manner in which the government enumerators went over the territory and a police census has been contemplated ever since they finished their work.

Mr. David Steel a farmer who lived near the Iredell line in Rowan county, was killed Saturday by a falling limb. It appears that he had felled a tree from which a limb had broken off and lodged in a near-by tree and while he was working on the tree which had fallen, the limb was dislodged and struck him on the head crushing the skull. Mr. Steel was about 40 years old and leaves a widow and five children.

The trial of a number of Populists for criminal libel, which was expected to create a big flurry at Duplin Superior Court last week, ended rather quietly Friday. The bills of indictment were quashed and all the defendants discharged. This was after the court had overruled a motion by the defence to have the cases removed to Sampson county, where defendants lived. It is thought that the tame ending of the affair is due to a private understanding between counsel of the opposing sides.

Dr. Kilgo at Conference.

When the name of J. C. Kilgo was called at the N. C. Conference at Newbern last week, he arose and addressed the conference. After a few remarks in which he said that he would not stand up in this meeting if he had one iota of malice in his heart toward any man, Dr. Kilgo turned to Bishop Morrison and said: "May I speak to the conference with reference to the trial through which I have passed recently?" Bishop Morrison answered that the conference would be glad to hear from him. He then continued and in his remarks referred to the now famous case in part as follows:

"I have tried to do my best in the work I have been called to do in your State. I have tried to be a brave man. I do not look back, nor do I ask God to let me see in the future. The place you have put me is always in the front of the firing line. I am trying to do my duty where you have put me. I have tried to be true to my boys, and any man who can hold the confidence and love of two hundred boys under the ordeal through which I have recently passed has reason to be thankful. The other night when I reached home and two hundred boys met me at the depot and every boy assured me of his confidence in me, I felt that my work had not been in vain.

"I do not ask to stay at Trinity College. I did not ask you to put me there, and I do not ask to stay. One thing I do ask is that I may have a place in my church and the confidence of my brethren. My brethren, you have stood by me; you almost broke my heart yesterday with your expression of love. I thank you for it; it is a resurrection of power to me. I bring to you the expression of appreciation of my companions, Brothers Odell and Duke, for your action in our case, and I pray you may never have to suffer what I have been called on to suffer."

The Decline in the Price of Cotton.

Cotton took a tumble Monday of as much as 60 points but regained part of the loss afterward. The net decline was about 25 points or 1/4 of a cent. The cause was the appearance of the government crop report estimating the 1900-1901 crop at 10,109,000 bales. The government is usually accurate in its estimates, hardly ever underestimating the crop. The report can hardly be described as a surprise, the most careful and impartial observers of this year's crop had put it at about 10,000,000 bales. A large number of farmers have sold their cotton at the comfortable price of 10 cents or even a little better, but still a very large proportion of the growers are holding their cotton, either in warehouses or on the farms, expecting higher prices.

Vanderbilt's Wealth.

New York, Dec. 11.—The official schedule of the late Cornelius Vanderbilt's personal possessions, filed today with Surrogate Fitzgerald, shows that his personality on the day of his death, September 11th, was valued at \$62,999,867.53.

The income he enjoyed from his personality was \$1,739,290, which was less than 4 per cent. of the market value of the stocks and bonds which he owned.

SAM JONES ON HIS TRAVELS.

I am now in the midst of the gas belt of Indiana. Towns are thick and thrifty everywhere in the natural gas belt, because natural gas is the cheapest and best fuel in the world. For heating, cooking and manufacturing purposes it stands alone. All these towns are reaping a harvest now and give evidence of prosperity unmistakable. I will spend this week on the lecture platform in this belt and am impressed profoundly with the life and rush, the glow and hustle on the people. Everything prosperous except the churches; as a rule the liveliest towns have the dearest churches. Saloons, Sabbath desecration, gambling, etc., are marked features of prosperity. Its bad logic and false reasoning that asserts that "wide open" towns are most prosperous because they are run wide open. I heard a fellow on the train declare that the temperance towns were dead and the towns which were run wide open were the prosperous towns. I asked him did he drink and gamble and give the libertine. He said: "No, sir, I don't drink, gamble nor am I unclean." I said: "If you think saloons, gambling halls and bawdy houses give prosperity, you then, sir, ought to go in all over." No he replied, I know they will not add to my prosperity. Then, said I, whose prosperity do they contribute to? He took to the woods. A city is but a multiplied individual, and what is not good for an individual is not good for one hundred thousand individuals.

Let the fools drink, gamble and debauch, but I propose to do neither, and I will beat any man to the tank who does do them.

I see Hoke Smith's sentiments expressed in the Journal last week have been very generally copied throughout the country, he gives a sensible delivrance of the situation.

It's nonsense to talk of the reorganization of the Democratic party. The Bryanites are in the majority and will come out on top in any effort in that direct line. Bryan, Jones, Stone, Altgeld & Co. are in charge and you can't put them out, and you can't sidetrack Bryan until you can sidetrack the crowd who run with him. Bryan has the Democratic party by the tail and won't turn loose.

Unless the Democrats revolutionize their platform they had better hold on to Bryan. No candidate could have run as well on the Chicago platform as Bryan did in 1896 and has he did in 1900 and as well as he will run in 1904. When the Democrats change platforms then they will get rid of Bryan; not before. The Chicago platform will continue to beat any candidate for the presidency that will run upon it for 100 years to come. If I believed in the Chicago platform I would hold on to Bryan as my candidate. Any man who can poll nearly 7,000,000 votes running on the present Popocratic-Democratic platform is the perpetual, legitimate candidate. How would Hill, Patterson, Whitney or Grover Cleveland run on that platform? They could not walk, much less run.

Whenever the brains of the Democratic party comes to the front again, then the Democratic party will have a new platform, and perchance, a victorious candidate in the field. But I am not concerned, as I am a Wooley man of the prohibition stamp.

By the way, who will be the next governor of Georgia? Who will succeed Senator Clay if he does not succeed himself?

Henry G. Turner ought to be our next governor, Hoke Smith our next senator, if Steve Clay does not want it longer. Senator Bacon is perhaps the strongest man Georgia has in Washington, and Lon Livingston catches more "possums" than any dog in Georgia has in that neck of the woods, and Georgia wants "possums, not only for supper, but all the year round. Georgia has a number of good men in congress, but if you want something done, get Lon.

I spent last Sunday in Cincinnati at the Grand Hotel. I met there my old friend Claude Bennett. I enjoyed his company and conversation. He is conducting a congressional information bureau in Washington City, with great success and numbers among his clients the leading lawyers and business firms of the United States.

I also met my friend Dr. Gunsalus, of Chicago. He lectured in Atlanta last week and was en route home from there. Gunsalus is a genial gentleman and bright as a star. He said one of his good church women said to him that he was less spiritual as he gained in avoiduipois. I told him he might realize that there was some philosophy in the statement of the good old woman in Paris, Tenn., who in telling her experience, said she was getting so large and fat that she feared she would have trouble walking the narrow path.

I close this tour at Muncie, Ind., Friday night and spend Sunday at home and begin a three weeks' tour, again, December 3, at Huntsville, Ala. I am about holding my own physically. Yours, SAM P. JONES.

P. S.—How did the legislative committees get back off their last jaunt? Any of them been in for repairs since the Valdeota trip? S. P. J. Marion, Ind.

WHAT CHINA OWES TO CHRISTIAN SENTIMENT.

Baltimore Sun.
In an address before the the Society of Ethical Culture in New York on Sunday, the Chinese minister compared the teachings of Confucius with the principles of Christianity. "There is," he said, "a gulf between practice and performance. At this very moment Christian missionaries are calling for bloodshed and vengeance, and Christian armies are devastating the land, sparing neither age nor sex." This is scarcely an exact statement of the case. Undoubtedly some of the missionaries adopted a policy of vengeance wholly inconsistent with the religion which they profess to teach. Atrocities of the most shocking character have also been committed by European soldiers. But those who advocated a policy of revenge were but handful compared with the great body of Christian people. It was the influence of the latter which has been decisive not the influence of the minority, and for this the Chinese Minister has cause for profound gratitude and thankfulness. When the first outrages were committed by the Chinese, and later when the foreign Ministers were attacked by the Boxers and Imperial soldiery at Peking Christendom was startled and in some quarters barbarous treatment of the Chinese was advocated. But when the sober second thought asserted itself the demand for moderation was heard, and China was saved from the horrors of what some called a "holy war," but what would have been a war of devastation and vindictive revenge.

In averting such a war the United States has played a conspicuous part. It is true that there are extremists in this country, as in Europe, who would have pursued a different course from that which this Government has adopted. But these radical elements were far from comprising a majority of the American people and their counsels were given little weight. When our Government announced its policy it evoked derision from the European extremists, but it was indorsed and sustained by the conservative element, not only in this country, but throughout the world. The final ratification of this policy by the European powers is due in perhaps a larger measure than Minister Wu has realized to the influence of Christianity. If China had been called to account by Turkey, for instance, it might have suffered a punishment compared with which the demands of the powers are extraordinarily moderate. So, if "Christian missionaries have called for bloodshed and vengeance in China, and Christian armies have devastated the land, sparing neither age nor sex," the broader Christianity of the world has called a halt upon such methods and has toned down the demands of the extremists. Minister Wu should feel grateful, on behalf of his country, to those professors and exponents of Christianity who have saved China from wholesale devastation, despite the opposition of Christian extremists.

China has been treated outrageously in the past by Christian nations. It has been robbed of territory, the religious and national sentiment of its people have been contemptuously ignored or defied, and much of the resentment which its people cherish toward foreigners was justified. But having entered into treaties with Western nations China was bound by the most solemn and binding obligations to protect the lives and property of foreigners. No doubt so able a diplomatist and practical a man as Minister Wu realizes fully that, whatever the provocation, the Imperial Government of China had no right to join with revolutionary subjects in making war upon unprotected foreigners without regard to sex, in massacring scores of missionaries, destroying mission property, and finally capping the climax by attempting to kill the foreign Ministers. Whatever the grievances China may have had, the Imperial Government was not warranted in the course which it pursued, and had to be called to account for its "crime against civilization." Undoubtedly some of the European powers, in inflicting punishment upon the Chinese, have themselves been guilty of "crimes against civilization" equaling in savagery to the Boxers. Upon the whole, however, enlightened, broad-minded Christian people have condemned the crimes committed by "Christian armies" as unreservedly as Minister Wu, and in addition they have insisted upon a policy of humanity and moderation in the final settlement with China. Minister Wu and his country are under lasting obligations to such Christians for the influence they have exerted in behalf of a just and equitable settlement with China.

Davidson College is in fine condition with a large attendance. We learn from the Richmond Central Presbyterian that the president, Rev. Dr. Shearer "has within the last few weeks made another liberal gift to the building fund of the new laboratory, this time \$500. This check together with that of another generous friend of the college, who insists as on other notable occasions of even more conspicuous kind that his name be withheld from publication, supplies the needed money, and the finely equipped laboratory will be ready for service."

—The Florida trains on the South-eastern go on about the 15th of January.