

New News of Yesterday

By E. J. EDWARDS

Camp's Ungratified Desire

Former Manager of the New York Clearing House Had Consuming Ambition to Find One Day's Exchanges Exactly Balance.

One of the most famous managers in the history of the world's largest clearing house association—that of New York city—was the late William A. Camp. He held that position for nearly a quarter of a century, and in that time he carried the clearing house through two famous panics—those of 1873 and 1893—and several lesser financial disturbances. No financial history of the country of the period from 1870 to 1894 would be complete without paying considerable attention to the activities of Mr. Camp as manager of the New York Clearing House association and the work of that institution under his management.

Recently I told of the improvised institution of research which Mr. Camp, as manager of the clearing house, conducted to test the mind's ability to count without external aid. Mr. Camp was a man of delightful whims, and this was one of them. But there was yet another whim which had even greater hold of him. It became, in fact, the great consuming ambition of his life as manager of the clearing house.

"This institution," he said to me one day, "is established for the purpose of making it possible to exchange easily the checks and drafts which the banks that are members of the association have received upon deposit or which are drawn against these banks. Every bank comes here at a certain hour of the day with checks or drafts, which they call 'items,' that have been received upon deposit within 24 hours. Then the clerks go around presenting the drafts to representatives of each bank. In that way the exchanges are effected, for every bank is credited with the drafts which it has presented for collection and is charged with the items presented to it for collection. Then, if there be any balance, the bank must pay it in to the clearing house, which settles with each bank. With this explanation in mind, you will understand the nature of the wish which has been with me every day when the Clearing House association opens.

"It occurred to me, I should think, some ten years ago, that it would be a wonderful thing if one day's exchanges in the clearing house so exactly balanced that there would be nothing to pay over. See what that would mean. It would mean that all of the sales and purchases of com-

modities which were represented by these checks and drafts and which have taken place in any one day would exactly balance one another, just as if you swapped your pocket knife for somebody else's penholder on an even basis. The more I thought of this the more anxious I became that it should happen at some time during my service as manager of the clearing house that the exchanges would exactly balance, so that there would not be a dollar to pay over to any one. And at last this became my pet ambition.

"But though this desire came to me a full decade ago, I have never been able to see it gratified. There have been a few times when exchanges which aggregated a hundred millions or thereabout have been made with a few hundred dollars' balance to pay. I remember vividly that one day I was overjoyed with the prospect that the exchanges would balance exactly. What a triumph that would have been! But I was disappointed at the last moment. And now, every day when I come here, I say to myself that I hope this is to be the day when the exchanges will exactly balance."

Perhaps a year later I met Mr. Camp again and asked him if at any time during the year the exchanges had balanced.

"No, not yet," he said, and then he added sadly: "But I feel sure it will

happen before my time here ends."

Again, some months later, I met Mr. Camp and again asked if the exchanges had balanced.

"Not yet," he replied, "but I still have hope that I will be able to report that the exchanges have exactly balanced."

Some time later, when I saw Mr. Camp after it became known that he was to retire from the management of the Clearing House association, he said to me:

"I have carried this clearing house through some severe panics. The aggregate exchanges effected here have been up into the trillions. But I have got to go away from here with one deep regret, for I never shall see the exchanges at this clearing house exactly balance. And yet it might have been, for it was all chance, and fate was against me."

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For Perfect Coffee.

Java and Mocha coffees are not superior because of the locality of their growth, but for the way they are cured. The berry's sweet pulp, according to the Tea and Coffee Trade Journal, must not be too much fermented. The thick, dry parchment shell and the thin lacy silver skin lying next the bean are unfavorably affected by overfermentation; the bean itself turns black, and, eventually, to the discriminating quaffer, the coffee will drink "off." The Arabians are careful in this process.

Entered Law at Fifty-Seven

Circumstances of the Admission of Gerrit Smith to Bar of New York State as Told by Judge Davis.

"I suppose that no lawyer who has been given a more or less prominent niche in the history of our country was older at the time of his admission to the bar than was Gerrit Smith when that event happened in his life," said the late Judge Noah Davis of the New York bench, who gained national prominence in 1873 when he presided over the trial which resulted in the conviction of that arch grafter, William M. Tweed, on charges of forgery and grand larceny.

"Gerrit Smith—the same Gerrit Smith who simultaneously was one of the country's leading abolitionists and largest land owners, the friend of John Brown through all his adventures and yet one of the three men who went on the bail bond of Jefferson Davis following his capture and imprisonment in Fortress Monroe after

the close of the Civil war—was fifty-seven years of age when he became a member of the bar of New York state. And the circumstances of his admission, which he related to me, were exceptional.

"Smith went to congress in the mid-fifties from a New York district. About that time a runaway slave, known as Jerry, had made his way across New York state, had been traced to Syracuse, and from that city had been able to cross Lake Ontario into Canada. So the United States marshal, acting under the fugitive slave law, was not able to lay his hands on Jerry and return him to his owner; but he did secure evidence, as he thought, which justified the arrest and prosecution of several citizens of Syracuse charged with aiding and abetting the escape of a runaway slave. One of these men was Moses Somers, at that time the editor of the leading paper of Syracuse. The men were accordingly arrested and taken to Albany to be arraigned before the United States district court.

"As soon as Gerrit Smith heard of the arrest of the men—his home was at Peterboro, a short distance from Syracuse—he hurried to Albany, offered himself as their counsel, had his offer accepted, and appeared in the United States court with the accused men. Smith, let me explain, for years had appeared before the state and federal courts, but he had never been admitted to the bar—he had always appeared as next friend, a matter usually very easy of arrangement in the old days. But in this particular case the court, which had long been suspected of pro-slavery leanings, refused point blank to permit Mr. Smith to appear as next friend for the accused men, even when Mr. Smith protested vigorously that he had the right so to appear, and the cases were adjourned for a day to give the prisoners opportunity to obtain counsel who were members of the bar.

"Late in the afternoon of that day Judge Ira Harris of the state supreme court and afterwards United States senator—the father of the Miss Harris who sat in the box with President Lincoln the night of his assassination in Ford's theater, called Mr. Smith before him.

"Mr. Smith," said Judge Harris, "I have just been told that the United States court this morning refused to receive you as counsel for the men who are accused in the 'Jerry' case, on the ground that you have not been admitted to the bar. Now, if you will come into my court tomorrow morning I will admit you to the bar ex gratia. You certainly have every qualification needed, and I have the right to admit you."

"So, the next day, Gerrit Smith, who had studied law in his early manhood and had a wonderful knowledge of it, appeared before Judge Harris, was asked a few questions, was admitted to the bar, and received from the clerk of the court his certificate. Then he went to the United States court room and said to the judge there that he was now a member of the bar of the supreme court of New York state and showed his certificate. He further stated that he was present to appear as counsel for the men accused in adding the slave known as Jerry to escape. There was nothing for the court to do but recognize him as counsel, and he managed the case so well that the prosecution of his clients was soon abandoned by the federal authorities. It was the first and last case that Gerrit Smith won as a lawyer."

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Fine Art Nut Cracking.

"That new maid is a genius," said the young housekeeper. "She has even found a use for the cooking thermometer. Nobody ever used it to cook with. After I finished my course in the school of domestic sciences I bought a splendid thermometer because the teachers said I ought to. I paid \$5 for it. It had a solid iron bulb, and was warranted to stand any amount of wear and tear. In spite of my determination to cook by rule, that thermometer was a white elephant in the kitchen until the new maid came. She uses it to crack nuts with."

COL. CORNELL DEAD

AN EMINENT CIVIL ENGINEER

HAS PASSED AWAY AFTER A SHORT ILLNESS.

WAS SIXTY-NINE YEARS OLD

Col. and Mrs. Cornell Were Making

Plans to Celebrate Their Golden

Wedding Anniversary Next Decem-

ber—Was a Man of Keen Intellect.

Winston-Salem.—Col. O. H. H. Cornell, an eminent civil engineer, died here after a brief illness with uramic coma.

His distinguished father, Ezra Cornell, was a partner with Samuel F. Morse, who first conceived the idea of the telegraph instrument, and together they built and owned the first Western Union Telegraph Company. The father was also a founder of Cornell University. Colonel Cornell was a brother of Alonzo Barton Cornell, of New York. He was 69 years old and was a native of Ithaca, N. Y. He was married December 3, 1861, to Miss Mary Louise Conkling, in Dryden, Thompson county, N. Y., and was educated at Cornell University. Colonel and Mrs. Cornell were making plans for celebrating their golden wedding anniversary next December.

A man of keen intellectual gifts, Colonel Cornell was one of the most interesting of men. His work as a civil engineer took him to many sections of the country where he had overcome natural obstacles and planted civilization in undeveloped regions. Not only was he highly versed in his chosen profession, but he was familiar with all the forces arising during the formative period of the nation and his knowledge of these things made him a most interesting conversationalist.

Colonel Cornell was chief engineer of the Southbound Railroad and in this magnificent specimen of the engineer's art he has left a monument to himself that will endure.

Represented in Moving Pictures.

Asheville.—Asheville, with other cities of the South, is to be represented in moving pictures on the circuits covered by one of the largest moving picture houses in the country. The Vitagraph Motion Picture Company has sent here C. L. Fuller to secure views in and around Asheville, including Sunset Drive and Vance monument. The idea is to have the views of ten cities in the South on one film 1,000 feet long, giving 100 feet for each city. The film will be sent over the circuit covered by the company and this has some 8,000 moving picture theaters throughout the country.

Association Closing Session.

Fayetteville.—The closing day's session of the Cumberland Baptist Association, meeting in the First Baptist church of this city, was devoted to the interest of periodicals and temperance. The report on periodicals was made by J. A. Farham, editor of the Fayetteville Index, while an address on this subject by Rev. Hight C. Moore of Raleigh was listened to with interest by the association.

Continues to Improve Terminal.

Wilmington.—The Seaboard Air Line continues to improve its terminals in this city. Mr. J. A. Wallace, the well-known railroad contractor, with a force of 18 or 20 hands, is now engaged in doing some extensive grading in the northern section of the city. It is understood that the Seaboard will not only lay several additional tracks in that section but that a roundhouse will be provided.

There Are Over 1,200 Tax Districts.

Raleigh.—Information from the state department of education is that there are now over 1,200 rural local tax districts in North Carolina with reports of new ones coming in steadily. From Gates county Superintendent Costen reports an additional district carried unanimously, this making eleven local tax districts in Gates county.

Col. Ludlow Re-Elected President.

Winston-Salem.—At the annual meeting of the Winston-Salem board of trade with remarkably large representative number in attendance, Col. J. L. Ludlow was re-elected president by acclamation in recognition of his magnificent leadership of the organization during the last year. The membership now totals 629. Other officers were re-elected. The report of Secretary and Treasurer J. S. Kuykendall showed a vast amount of definite results secured by the organization during last year.

District Attorney's Son Injured.

Winston-Salem.—Master Theodore Holton, a young son of United States District Attorney A. E. Holton, was painfully injured at his home on Southside by the explosion of a dynamite cap, which injured his left hand and one of his eyes. The explosion occurred in the house. He was carried to the hospital where the amputation of three fingers was found to be necessary. The extent of the injury to his eye is not yet known although he could not see out of it at last report.

FROM ALL OVER THE STATE

The Latest News That Has Been Collected By the Editor From Many Towns and Counties.

Greensboro.—The cotton crop is at least four-fifths open in North Carolina, and if the same thing prevails throughout the South the published estimates of a bumper crop are too large.

Greensboro.—Farmers should be careful to at least save all the peas they will need for seed and some to spare. They should remember that last spring seed peas sold for \$2.50 to \$3 per bushel.

Raleigh.—The names of sixty patronesses for the great marshal's ball to take place in connection with state fair were announced, there being thirty-five ladies in other parts of the state and twenty-five from Raleigh.

Oxford.—Tobacco market very active in Oxford. Over two hundred thousand pounds sold at prices very satisfactory to farmers. Sales lasted until six o'clock. Prices are getting higher every day.

Winston-Salem.—Snow Butler, a negro, was acquitted of murdering Charley Graves, another negro, by the use of poisoned liquor, the jury returning the verdict without delay and with the concurrence of the selector, in the superior court.

Elizabeth City.—Attorneys for W. J. Saunders, in the case of the United States against W. O. Saunders, for using the mail for the dissemination of indecent literature accepted a verdict of guilty and Judge Connor fined him \$100 and costs in the case.

Asheboro.—The management of the Randolph agricultural fair and homecoming week is kept busy these remaining two weeks, before its commencement October 31. Thousands of people are expressing themselves of their intention to attend every day of it. Many people from other states, who were born here, are coming.

Hickory.—The revenue officers remain active in this section of the state. Two cases have been disposed of before United States Commissioner L. R. Whitener this week. George Harrison of this city was tried but for lack of evidence was released. Zeb Stamey was tried and was held in bond of \$500 for his appearance at court.

Raleigh.—An official statement of the expenses of the city of Raleigh for the past seven months shows a total expenditure of \$76,371, the biggest item being \$17,000 for street maintenance and improvement and the second largest \$12,000 for the police department. The item of administrative department was \$8,000 and that of health and sanitation \$9,000.

Charlotte.—The Seaboard Air Line Railway came to the relief of the city of Charlotte in the water famine of the past summer, offering the use of its engines, tracks, and the services of employes at actual cost, presented its bill to the city at a meeting of the water board the sum being \$1,415.31. This bill will be settled without delay.

Newton.—Mr. J. F. Holler, merchant of Cline's township, tells us that the farmers of that section are not having much of their cotton ginned. They are picking it and doing up their other fall work and postponing the ginning till they are ready to sell. He says cotton and corn are both better in Cline's than people thought they would be. Cotton is almost as good as last year.

Raleigh.—Raleigh is to hold an election October 31 on the triple question of the sale of the present city market house and apply the proceeds to the sinking fund of the municipal bonded indebtedness, sell it and provide a new modern market on the block in the rear of the present market; or to remodel the present building. There is in progress an entirely new registration for this election.

Durham.—Desperate and insane, the doctors believe, as the result of pellagra, W. A. Carver, aged 40, and an operative in the Durham hosiery mill, shot himself through the head in an outhouse in his yard. Carver had threatened to do this before but his family kept his gun from him. He secured it and went out, the report later apprising the family of his violence. He leaves a wife and four children.

Newton.—Monday, October 23, will be made interesting at Catawba College by the inauguration of Prof. J. F. Buchheit as president of the institution. For this event one thousand invitations will be sent out. Among the guests will be numerous educators from other institutions.

Winston-Salem.—News was received here that Mrs. Bruce Craven, of North Wilkesboro, accidentally shot herself with a pistol and that while the wound is regarded as quite serious, her condition is favorable. The attending physician thinks she will recover.

Durham.—Notwithstanding all the talk of hold, the crop, a large part of the cotton of the South is marketed about as soon as it is ready for the market, and this is perhaps one of the reasons why prices are always lower at about this time of year.

Raleigh.—Cotton farmers cannot prevent gambling in their staple and tobacco farmers are at the mercy of the trust. But both can fight their enemies, and while waiting for public officials to enforce the law equally can help themselves by raising more hog and hominy and reducing their cotton and tobacco crops.

FLYING MACHINE AT MECKLENBURG FAIR

THE UNITED STATES MARINE

BAND WILL GIVE CONCERT

ON OCTOBER 25.

LARGE CROWD IS EXPECTED

Will Have Aeroplane Flights on the

26th and 27th With Many Other

Costly Free Exhibitions—Some of

These Are Given Below.

The people of North and South Carolina will soon have their first opportunity to see real aeroplane flights. Mr. C. F. Hamilton, of the Curtiss school of aviators, who have won more aviation prizes than all other American flyers combined, has contracted with the management of the Mecklenburg fair to make two flights here, Thursday and Friday, October 26 and 27. The fair officials have been careful to include in the contract the provision that the aviator must remain in the air for at least 3 minutes during each flight and that he must ascend to a height of at least 1,000 feet, thus assuring spectacular performances which will no doubt prove the greatest drawing card of the present fair. The provision is further made that if there are no flights there shall be no pay, in which event the aviator would lose heavily, since he would have to pay all of his expenses, freight, etc.

With the aeroplane flights the last two days of the fair and the world-famed United States Marine Band on Wednesday, the 25th, and other less notable free attractions during all four days the fair people are giving probably twice as costly free and special attractions this year as they have ever given before, and the difference will no doubt be reflected in the increased attendance.

It is of interest to note that the State, through Mr. F. S. Puckett, assistant director of the State test farms, has arranged for a widely diversified exhibit at the fair, including an exhibit of the handsome Percheron stallion and grade Percheron colts from the Fredell farm. The exhibit of the state has been heartily welcomed, since it adds incalculable value to the educational features of the event. It will consist of a variety of corn, showing height of stalk, height of ears on the stalk, size and shape of the ears, size of the cob and museum jars showing differences between the yields of the different varieties and the number of years these varieties have been tested. The different varieties of wheat and oats are to be exhibited, showing both the height of the stalk and the grain, also museum jars showing the differences in yields per acre of the different varieties for the number of years they have been tested under average conditions.

There will also be an exhibition of the varieties of cotton that have proven best adapted for the general crops on the several test farms that grow cotton.

Has Predicted An Earthquake. New Orleans.—According to Father Frankhauser of Loyola College, slight tremors and earth shocks which have been recorded on the seismograph at that institution he believes to be the forerunner of a more serious quake, probably of a destructive character, which will likely occur within a few days. A slight shock, apparently on the continent and at a distance of about 700 miles was registered. Another shock of minor importance was shown by the instrument and it grew in intensity until a disturbance of greater intensity than the two previous ones was recorded. Father Frankhauser says according to the best calculations available the disturbance is located somewhere in Mexico.

Light on Long Ago Murder of Rulers. Vienna.—Curious revelations about the conspiracy at Belgrade which ended in the murder of King Alexander and Queen Draga in 1903 are being published in the Servian capital by M. Novakavitch, a lawyer. He says: that on the evening before the murders he obtained a quantity of chloroform, as it was the intention of the regicides to chloroform the Royal pair, and carry them off to his vineyard, where they were to have been kept prisoners until the plot had completely succeeded.

To Investigate High Food Cost. Geneva.—The Swiss Government has ordered three separate departments to open an inquiry concerning the high cost of living in Switzerland and the ever increasing price of food-stuff. The inquiry is too to be made from three points of views, the custom tariffs, the Swiss laws on the control of food, and the way tariffs, so that the exact effect which each of these factors has on the cost of living may be determined at an early date. There is general discontent in this country especially among the lower classes.