

The Franklin Press.

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Editorial.

Dr. W. A. Rogers has introduced a bill to protect game birds in Macon.

Rogers has introduced a bill to validate certain grants in Macon county.

The second \$100,000 apportionment has been sent out by the Supt. of Public Instruction, to enable counties to have four months schools. Fifty-nine counties receive aid. Macon county gets \$2,096.60; Clay, \$283.07; Jackson, \$214.68; Graham, \$430.35.

The temperance people owe a debt of thanks to Representative Davis, of Haywood, Chairman of the Liquor Traffic Committee, for his valued leadership in the preliminary fight for the Ward bill. He is a veteran legislator and knows how to bring things to pass.—News and Observer.

Hon. W. A. Rogers has sent THE PRESS a copy of the amended public school law relative to the attendance of children in the public schools of Macon county, with a request to publish. As it was received just before going to press after the forenoon, about full, it can not be published till next week.

On the 20th ult. there was an explosion at the Virginia mines near Birmingham, Ala., and about 160 miners were entombed and lost their lives. Evidence found by the rescuers indicates that after the explosion, which resulted from a "windy shot," due to overcharging, the "after black damp" permeated the mine, making it impossible for anyone to live in it.

The Sylvan Valley News says: "If any person has any spare change they would like to wager that W. J. Bryan will not be president of the United States if he and

Rural Free Delivery Mail Boxes.

As there is a good deal of misunderstanding on the part of the people about rural free delivery mail boxes we publish the following for their information:

Those living on rural delivery routes who want to be served by the carriers must erect boxes by the roadside of some pattern and manufacture approved by the post-office department, and they must be of sheet iron or sheet steel and galvanized, and must be erected at the cost of the person desiring to be served, and in the manner prescribed by the regulations of the Department.

"Each box must be erected by the roadside, so that the carrier can easily obtain access to it without dismounting from his vehicle. The same box must not be used for more than one family, except in the case of near relatives or those residing in the same house."
"Persons neglecting or refusing to comply with these conditions will be regarded as not desiring rural free delivery, and the rural carrier will be directed not to serve them."

Work on the Isthmian Canal.

The canal commissioners of the Isthmian Canal recently returned to New York, and report substantial progress in the actual work of digging the great ditch. Professor Burr made the following statement:

"The committee on engineering of the isthmian canal commission state that they found the work generally in a more advanced condition than they expected. The great Culebra cut, the detail of construction that will take the most time and money, the chief engineer has installed and has at work three large American steam shovels and is erecting five more. Four thousand laborers are now at work on different portions of the work and 1,000 more have already been engaged in the West Indies and Central America. Substantial progress is therefore being made.

State Council Jr. O. U. A. M. in Session.

(Special to News and Observer.) Goldsboro, N. C., Feb. 21—The State Council of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics convened in this city today with a large delegation present, and State Councilor Cobb, of Morganton,

NEWS BRIEFS.

Will Springs, a negro, who a few weeks ago killed a police officer S. B. Cole, and also shot S. B. Nabors, who were attempting to arrest him, was tried at Charlotte last week and was convicted of manslaughter, and was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary. Cole was without authority to arrest Springs and fired at him first, and the judge charged if Springs had not fired on Cole after he fell he should have been acquitted.

R. J. Reynolds, the president of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., of Winston-Salem, is said to be the wealthiest man in North Carolina.

The Waynesville Courier says: "At last Waynesville is to have paved streets. The contract for the paving of Main street has been let to the Chattanooga Paving and Construction Co., and the work is to begin by March 15th, and be completed by June 15th."

Meeting of Press Association.

The following call has been issued by J. B. Sherrell, secretary of the Press Association: There will be a meeting of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina Press Association at Concord, on the third day of March, at two o'clock p. m., for the purpose of fixing date and arranging for next meeting at Kenilworth Inn, Asheville, N. C., and such other business as may come before it.
J. B. SHERRELL, Secretary.

Work Commenced.

(Clayton (Ga.) Tribune.) A force of men began work on the Scott's Creek tressel to-day. The road is to be at Dillard the 28th day of May.

Special Session of the Senate Called.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The president today issued a proclamation convening the Senate in special session at 12 o'clock noon on March 4, to "receive such communication as may be made by the executive."

Sergeant Challenges, Then Shoots.

Wilmington, N. C., Feb. 22.—Thomas Harris, 27 years old, of

A Poem for Today

A SONG OF PEACE

By John Ruskin



JOHN RUSKIN, the eminent English art critic and author, was born in London, Feb. 8, 1819, and died at Coniston, England, Jan. 20, 1900. He was educated at Oxford, where he gained the Newdigate prize for a poem. Ruskin was heir to a large fortune and after his graduation from Oxford studied painting. Many of his books are on subjects connected with art, but he devoted much time and thought to sociological studies. He held professorships at Oxford and Cambridge. The list of Ruskin's books comprises many titles.

PUT off, put off your mail, ye kings, and beat your brands to dust; A surer grasp your hands must know, your hearts a better trust. Nay, bend aback the lance's point, and break the helmet bar; A noise is in the morning winds, but not the note of war!

Among the grassy mountain paths the glittering troops increase; They come! they come! how fair their feet—they come that publish peace; Ye, Victory, fair Victory! our enemies are ours, And the clouds are clasped in light and all the earth with flowers.

Ah! still depressed and dim with dew, but wait a little while, And radiant with the deathless rose the wilderness shall smile; And every tender, living thing shall feed by streams of rest, Nor lamb shall from the fold be lost, nor nursing from the nest.

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An Animal Story For Little Folks

The Dog's Mistake

A clown had a bulldog over whom he smeared a lot of paste and then covered him from head to feet with feathers. It made a very funny looking fellow of the dog, and everybody went to the circus to see him. They sold many pictures of themselves, and when the people put the money on the stage the clown would pick it up and keep it to buy food for them both and pay their board.

"Why should the clown take the money?" said the dog to himself. "I



THEY SOLD MANY PICTURES.

am the show, and I sell all the money I make." So he bit the clown's hand and sent him home with a swollen hand and it deserved pop-

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