

W. F. KIRKLAND, Editor & Proprietor. PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING. TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS: ONE COPY ONE YEAR...

It has been a week of waiting. There have been developments pushing toward an issue, but just what the issue will be, whether dripping with blood or arrayed in the shining habiliments of peace, no one can tell.

Spain's answer to the demands of this government were unsatisfactory. Congress went wild last Thursday. Grover spoke for the administration and was cheered, Bully for the Democrats and Cuban freedom and was cheered; Johnson of Ohio spoke for peace, making a powerful speech, but was booed and jeered.

Monday brought no news farther than the President's message would elaborate, specific, and vigorous, one upon which America would rush her own before the world.

Tuesday's dispatches announced that the President's message would be forthcoming the next day. The Senate was impatient and called for a vote of the murdered sailors of the Maine. The exodus of Americans from Havana began in full force.

Yesterday the news was that the President's message was against Cuban independence, but in favor of armed intervention and American control of Cuban affairs until a stable government could be established upon the island.

BILLIONS IN WORTHLESS WARSHIPS

A STARTLING POSSIBILITY OF SUBMARINE NAVAL WARFARE.



BLOWING UP A BATTLESHIP.

Will submarine boats of the Holland type revolutionize naval warfare? Are the billions of dollars invested in battleships by the great nations of the world a waste?

"Off Castle Point, in Hoboken," says he, "we were within three feet of the rocky bottom and 47 feet below the surface. Yet at that depth the engine worked perfectly, giving us a speed of nine miles an hour."

"If there was a leak of torpedo destroyers or other light hostile craft to force her to dive, she would have a very good chance of closing to within 1,000 yards of the ship, in which case she would have a 50 percent chance of hitting her bow gun."

The North Carolina lease fight is off. The Governor has arranged the matter with the Southern by the latter paying \$14,000 annual fee.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CONVENTION

Called to Meet in Dallas on Saturday April 20. Precinct Conventions on the 22d. A County Convention of the Democracy of Gaston county is hereby called to meet at the court house in Dallas, N. C., at two o'clock P. M., on SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1898.

For the purpose of electing delegates to the Judicial, Congressional and State Conventions. The precinct conventions are hereby called to meet at the several voting places in the county at 3:30 o'clock P. M., on SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1898.

For the purpose of electing delegates to the County Convention called above. The precinct convention will follow strictly the directions of the "plan of organization" adopted by the State committee.

Pursuant to a resolution of the State Committee, "all white voters who intend to vote with us in the next election and who desire the re-establishment of Anglo-Saxon supremacy and good government in North Carolina are cordially invited to participate in all our primaries and conventions."

By order of the County Democratic Committee. ROBT. L. DURHAM, Chairman. April 2nd, 1898. COTTON FIRE AT CLOVER.

Was an incendiary fire—about 400 bales of Cotton Lost. Of the destructive cotton fire which occurred at Clover Saturday night, March 20th, the Yorkville Enquirer says:

The warehouse of the Clover Manufacturing company, located some distance from the factory, was destroyed by fire last Saturday night at about 12 o'clock, along with some 400 bales of cotton.

The factory had closed down at about 10 o'clock as its usual on Saturday nights, and when the fire broke out the people in the neighborhood generally, except the watchmen, were asleep.

Altogether there were in the warehouse between 600 and 700 bales of cotton, and of these about 75 were saved, some 200 were gutted out in more or less badly damaged shape, and about 400 are a complete loss.

The real origin of the fire is unknown but there seems to be some reason for believing that it was the work of an incendiary. However, the loss is fully covered by insurance, and the principal disadvantage to the factory people will be that of trying to get together again as desirable a lot of cotton at the price now prevailing.

NEWS ITEMS

James Booker who killed his sweet-heart, Mahalley White in Waks county, August 26th, 1896, was tried in Raleigh last week and convicted of murder in the first degree.

A wind storm on last Thursday, blew down the store of A. Leach & Sons at Star, in this state. It was a large store, 100 feet long and three stories high.—Chatham Record.

From the former we learn that the young men of Chatham mills have organized an orphanage society at that place which already has 15 members. Mr. Tom Caldwell is the treasurer of this new society, which is the first of the kind we have heard of.

There are now five negro postmasters in Halifax county, and there will be another as soon as the negro recently appointed can sell out his bar-room and qualify. The Scotland Neck Democrat says people are having their papers stopped because they are unwilling to give them through a negro postmaster.

The Spindle and Loom says: Within the last ten days a plan has been developed with promise to give Shetty another cotton mill. The ground, lying on both sides of the O. R. & C. R. R. has been secured and put in as stock and a considerable amount of other stock is already in sight. The parties interested in such business.

Friday, March 18th, while the family were busy about their duties the two children of Mr. Richard Simpson who lives at Oaslippe were left in a room together, when suddenly they were heard to scream. The clothing of the younger of the two was discovered in flames and the other was quite badly burnt in trying to save the little fellow, who was so badly burned that death relieved him from his terrible agony after about six hours of suffering.—Burlington News.

Cerro Uquahar, colored, was elected constable of Woodville township at the last election. In the interval between election and holding office Cerro put in his nights stealing cotton from Wu. Hardy, colored. Cerro was indicted for larceny and with the jury was out Cerro ran away. Mr. Joshua Brown, of Kelford, occasionally puts in a lick or two of good detective work, and as a result of this Cerro is now in jail waiting trial at the next term of the court. Mr. Brown did a excellent work in locating his man.—Woodford Ledger.

Over the Water. The largest cover, it is the second largest of "readily to blast—Subsidiary to blast." The people won't have it, just the same. They're going to hold membership to themselves.—Burlington News.

Barkley's Arctic Salve. THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by J. E. Curry & Co.

WHICH DO YOU WANT?

In an ordinary department store the responsibility ENDS when a bicycle is sold; but in a bicycle store the responsibility BEGINS at that point. There may be other claims, but claims are not facts. Now ours is a



BICYCLE STORE, and no one who ever purchased a wheel of us has had to go elsewhere for satisfaction. Nothing is easier to talk about than "GUARANTEE," but it means something here.

TORRENCE BROTHERS. P. S. We sell CRESCENTS—and others.

There is No Let Up

in our sales of CLOTHING and SHOES; and we may seem to be "set in our way," which is putting it mildly, very mildly. We are indeed set in our way, and are determined to still increase our sales, by applying the same effectual methods to our Dress Goods, Notions and White Goods that prevails in our Clothing and Shoe departments. We rarely ever print our prices, but from this date, and as they arrive, will name prices across our counters, on all goods in the various lines we carry, that will insure your hearty co-operation. MORRIS BROTHERS.

MISS RUDDOCK, MILLINER.

Parlors at Morris Bros., Second Floor. Entire stock perfectly new and of the prettiest and latest styles bought after my personal selection in the fashionable millinery markets. Just arrived. Come in, please, next Saturday and Monday and see display of goods and styles, and let's talk hat news, and trimming news, and fashion news. I shall try to please you every way. I believe I can, and respectfully ask an opportunity to serve you. MISS CYNTHIA RUDDOCK.

Sundry Items—Good Things.

(And We Have Others, Too.) Sure Raising Buckwheat Flour, loose Buckwheat Flour, Cranberries, Wheatlet Wheatena, Mince Meat, Oat Flakes, Jelly, Gelatine etc. Large stocks of canned goods, Tomatoes, Corn, Peaches both Pie and Syrup—almost anything you want to eat, in fact. We want to sell YOU what you need. Yours truly, EDGAR LOVE & Co.

U. S. Man-of-War Maine.

Blown up in Spanish Waters. We have just received a large lot of Fancy Dress Goods and Notions. They are up-to-date in style and quality, and their merit, ladies, demands your investigation. We simply say "call before buying." Shoes! Shoes! Shoes! Large stock on hand and more still coming. We guarantee, and prices will please you. Shirts and Neckwear. Work shirts, Fancy shirts, and Dress shirts. Our prices in this line will surprise you. In Neckwear, we are headquarters, carrying a full line of fancy Scarfs, Bowls, and Windsor Ties—all of the latest designs. Call and see us. Thanking you for the past patronage and soliciting a continuance of the same, we are yours to serve, CLINE AND CORNELIUS.

Moore, White & Co.

—CALL SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THEIR— Heinz's Sauer Kraut, Pickles and Jellies Chase and Sanborn's Fresh Roasted Coffees, Hecker's Prepared Buckwheat, with Maple Syrup to match. Cranberries, rich, red, and delicious. Moore, White & Co.

AN EASTER SOUVENIR Will be given to each lady and child who visits The NEW YORK RACKET on Friday April 8, 1898. Very respectfully, P. T. HEATH.

Earl & Wilson's IMPROVED SECTIONAL GRATE BAR for use in steam boilers, is now on the market. If you use steam power, this is the grate to buy. Why? Economy is the 19th century axiom. Our grate is economical, as well as best in draft, and requires less fuel. Never replaced and is kept in good condition for all time at 1/2 cost of others. Costs no more now and only one third in future. Buy this grate and save time and money, and fuel and secure good results. Price 4 cents per lb. Order of EARL & WILSON, GASTONIA, N. C.

TOO LATE... PAINT your wire screen-doors and windows before it is too late to prevent from rust. Our GREEN ENAMEL will make them as good as new, and it is easily applied. We also have enamel paints in delicate tints for "Home Decoration." STOP— and see a few samples of box papers and tablets in our window. We are leaders in the stationery line. PRESCRIPTIONS. Bring us your prescriptions and have them filled, if we are not already filling them. Try us and be convinced. Most respectfully, J. E. CURRY & Co.