

# THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

Devoted to the Protection of Home and the Interests of the County.

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(W. V. HARRIS, Editor and Proprietor.)

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NO. 5

## BILL ARP NOW RESTS.

### HAS BEEN BUSY ANSWERING LETTERS ON A FRAUD.

#### In Old Politics to Quiet Town—Written of a New Era, and Emulates on Why Most of Us Like to Read Lee.

#### Bill Arp in Atlanta Constitution.

My special note, the letters and children of this blessed land have been neglected of late, for I have had a mass of it in taking care of myself. For a month past I have been perplexed and burdened with a correspondence that I could not avoid. I have answered more than a hundred letters concerning the Monticello fraud, but that trouble is now about over and once more I am calm and serene. It was always my various enterprises. Nothing equal to it has ever occurred in the South. One woman writes that she has written over eleven hundred letters. The work covered by it and the victims who suffered is astounding. My correspondents are all women, dependent, struggling women, and they flock the land from West Virginia to western Texas. I hear that Monticello has surprised and amazed, which means, of course, that the army of these agents will have to surrender and be resigned. Blessed are they who expect nothing, for they shall not be disappointed.

Just now there seems to be a lull in the excitement that has agitated the press and the public for some time past. The negro has almost retired from discussion and in the same unoccupied creature he has always seen Professor Stone, who has been studying them in Mississippi, says that in the delta where they constitute 87 per cent of the population they are more contented, more industrious and more law-abiding than in any region that he has visited. Maybe Bishop Turner is right and they can take care of themselves if left to themselves. But my philosophy is, let the problem alone and let it work out its own solution, and it may take twenty years, it may take fifty, but it will solve itself.

#### Kings and Presidents.

#### Washington Post.

Here is a so-called humorous item which goes through the American press credited to the London paper: "Leopold, King of the Belgians, was recently holding a conversation after a public reception with one of his familiar courtiers to be on easy terms with the extreme section of socialists. 'What impression,' asked the King, laughingly, 'do I make on the socialists?'" "One of the leaders observed to me," was the reply, "that if you had not been King of the Belgians, you might have been president of the Belgian republic."

"Thanks, very much," said the King with a laugh, "but tell me, you, who are a medical doctor, how would you like to be made a veterinary surgeon?"

Possibly that incident never occurred, but, however that may be, it fairly gives a sound opinion that is generally prevalent in monarchial countries and not entirely absent from the Republic. King Leopold is made, by the London paragraph, to subscribe to the idea that the presidential office is less dignified and desirable than that of an hereditary ruler, if we may apply that term to a man who does very little ruling at any time and is usually the slave of conditions against which he can make no effective protest.

Strangely enough, that notion obtains in England, whose government is far more democratic than ours and whose King or Queen is a mere figure-head. The incumbent of the British throne comes to the position through the accident of birth, not by the choice of the people, and when he gets there, he is the House of Commons, rule the kingdom and the emperor (the ministry, not the King, is the instrumentality through which they rule. The incumbent of the throne is not even permitted to have and to hold any political opinions, but is required to sign, according to the changes of the political winds, but an English King has the privilege of spending large sums of the people's money in keeping up a show, and despite their rock-ribbed democracy, the English people really enjoy the dazzling spectacles, the medieval mummery, with which King Edward is distinguishing his reign.

The contract between the plain, sober facts of the British system of government, a government built directly upon and responsible to the people, and the gorgeous displays made by English royalty with the delighted approbation of the sovereign people, presents one of the most interesting problems. Who can solve it?

The asset of the people has an incomparably broader title to office than birthright. And the President of the United States, under our Constitution, has more actual authority than is possessed by any other ruler except an absolute monarch. The veto power, the appointing power, the initiation of legislation and negotiation of treaties constitute a broad field of potential activity. We do not think there is any exaggeration in the assertion that the Presidency of this republic is the most honorable and the most responsible office on earth. And its grandeur is enhanced by the simplicity with which it is always characterized. In its surroundings and marks its performance of official duties. Perhaps if the position—if it occupied were a mere figure-head—we might have Presidents who would try to dazzle the eyes of the populace with artificial pomp and pageantry.

#### Copied from the Good.

#### Champ Clark, of Missouri.

I will never vote a cent to pay any man's expenses to go to England, or elsewhere, to help crown a King. We went out of the coronation business on the 4th of July, 1776.

## WHY INDIANS PAINT.

### An Explanation of the Custom Given by a Former Indian Agent.

#### St. Paul Dispatch.

The question why Indians paint their faces so hideously, has long puzzled people interested in the habits of the aborigines. The other night the question came up at a club in St. Paul. A former Indian agent said that he had heard but one legend bearing on the point.

"I was sitting at a campfire one night," said he, "in a village of Jacuilla Apuchca, listening to the stories and legends that were being told, when I propounded the old question again, hardly expecting even the expression of ignorance that hides so many of the thoughts of the Indians.

"To my surprise, however, I received the answer that I least expected. An old fellow who had sat all the evening listening to the stories without changing his attitude, grunted and straightened up as he heard the question. Proceeding with all due solemnity, he told the following legend:

"Long ago, when men were weak and animals were big and strong, a chief of the red men who lived in these mountains went out to get a deer, for his people were hungry.

"After walking a day he saw a deer, and shot at it; but the arrow was turned aside, and wounded a mountain lion, which was also after the deer. When the lion felt the sting of the arrow he jumped and bounded after the man, who ran for his life.

"He was almost exhausted, and when he felt his strength giving away, he fell to the ground, calling on the big bear—who, you know, is the grandfather of men—to save him.

"The big bear heard the call, and saw that to save the man he had to act quickly; so he scratched his foot and sprinkled his blood over the man.

"Now, you know that no animal will eat of the bear or taste of his blood. So when the lion roared the man he smelled the blood and turned away; but as he did so his foot scraped the face of the man, leaving the marks of his claws on the blood-smeared face.

"When the man found that he was unharmed, he was so thankful that he left the blood to dry on his face, and never washed it off, but left it until it peeled off.

"Where the claws of the lion scraped it off, there were marks that turned brown in the sun, and where the blood stayed on it was lighter. Now all men paint their faces that way with blood, and scrape it off in streaks when they hunt or go to war."

#### As to Rights of Way.

#### Toronto Mail.

Although the intelligent liberality that has been displayed by York county's citizenship with reference to road building during the past few years has been of a most gratifying nature on the whole, still there have been some notable exceptions, including some exhibitions of littleness that can only be comprehended with considerable difficulty.

The effect of a good road in enhancing the value of land through or by which it runs, can be appreciated by most people of average intelligence. It is pretty well understood, too, that although the subject is not worthy the utmost endeavors of any and every department of government—municipal, county, state or national, the only means by which good roads can be secured, is individual liberality. This, however, is not to be expected except in a sufficient number of generous, broad-minded people to do the work, regardless of the little selfish fellows who are willing to reap all the benefits without contributing to the cost.

# FREE

## Return to your dealer five Virginia Brights cigarette FOIL wrappers, and he will give you one package of Virginia Brights Cigarettes

There is no better "Bright Virginia" cigarette

### A Southern Bibliophile.

#### New York Evening Post.

The case of the Western book-buyer is matched by that of a southern bibliophile. The story about him is told by a young woman of this city—one of the few of her sex who are collectors in the true sense of the word. A summer or two ago she was visiting a famous English bookery, when the proprietor asked her if by chance she knew of a collection owned in certain towns in the South. "The case," said the binder, "is a peculiar one. Each spring I used to receive a rare and beautiful edition, say of such a book as Milton's 'Paradise Lost,' Spenser's 'Faerie Queene,' or Bunyan's 'Pilgrim's Progress,' with instructions to put on it the best binding I could design for \$275 to \$108.10, or whatever the sum might be.

The fact that the cost of the binding was invariably reckoned down to the odd cent finally roused my curiosity. After considerable inquiry I found that my collector keeps the village store in a little town in your Carolinas, too small to appear on the ordinary map. On the first of every January he takes account of stock and determines his profits. Then he divides his gains for the year amounting to a certain ratio. Such a per cent he lays by for investment; such a per cent for the purchase of a general library; another portion for the binding of the book he bought the year before.

"So he has gone on for a long time. I try to give him in his binding full value to the very last cent. If his library contains—as I am told it does—forty or fifty volumes as carefully selected and bound as those which have passed through my hands, I have no hesitation in saying that this little collection must be—within its limitations—well worth crossing the ocean to see. And there it is, in the house of the country storekeeper in a tiny village of the South."

#### A North Carolina News.

#### Biblical Recorder.

No man in North Carolina seems to have been struck by the fine article in the January McClure's Magazine, in which a North Carolinian is upheld as beyond all question the hero of the Alamo, the spirit of who was the war with Mexico and gave Texas to the United States. In all the list of heroes there is not a nobler one than he. North Carolina should be proud of him, and the name of not one of her sons should be called more often, or more proudly than his. And yet the reader does not know his name! William Barrett Travis was in command of the Alamo, Colonel Bowie being ill; and he held the Alamo against the Mexicans until he fell in death, whereupon Davy Crockett took command, and he too fell. It is said of the Alamo that "Thermopylae had her messenger of defeat; the Alamo had none!" Bob North Carolina does not know that the glory of it is the glory of her son.

### Program in the South.

#### Raleigh Post.

The South is evidently coming to be an exclusively agricultural community, but is acquiring diversified industries, with the new mode of thinking that such change implies. Few ways of looking at things are always evolved by contact with new interests, and new policies prevail. New ideas of banks and banking, of money and of standards of value, are likely to develop when more money is handled and local examples abound. Already the ardent legislators to less his pre-eminence in public life. The lawyer takes on new verities in the State legislature, the corporation lawyer helping to curb the dry spell of the rustic attorney. The cotton-mill the lumberman, and the iron maker, the lumberman, and the banker and broker find their way more frequently than formerly to the halls of legislation and to State offices. The "honey-handed farmer," still predominant to the public advantage, but he gets few ideas from rubbing up against the representatives of new interests. Thus more conservative views are taken of public questions. Discussion and opinion, and rash decisions are avoided. Progress is therefore the striking feature in the South at present, in public life as well as in industrial affairs.

### Drinking and Smoking.

#### New York Press.

A. B. Heppner drinks champagne for his cocktail and with oysters, fish, roasts, and everything down to coffee. Col. V. B. Unger used to drink claret one glass at a swallow. He said it was a gentleman's drink. He slipped champagne so as not to have to take more than a tablespoonful of it at a dinner. Andrew Carnegie prefers English ale to Scotch whisky. President Roosevelt is temperate in everything except civil service reform, but his cousin, Roosevelt Schuyler, drank champagne for breakfast, luncheon, and dinner till the goat made him give it up. He smokes from the time he gets up until he goes to sleep. When he goes to bed he has a cigar in his mouth. He smokes \$6 worth of cigars a day. John Jacob Astor drinks milk punches. Gen. Lincoln's drink is strong coffee. He never smokes. Gen. Miles is supposed to drink a honey-suckle elixir. Admiral Dewey's tipple is sherry and bitters. John L. Sullivan drinks champagne for show; for business, whisky. Herman Blader, the president, secretary, treasurer, and executive committee of the Hildebrand, having half a million voters, likes Blain wine at \$17 a bottle. Joe Arthur, the playwright, takes water.

### Two New Cotton Mills.

#### Atlanta Journal.

Greensboro, N. C.—Within the next few weeks two new cotton mills will be put in operation in North Carolina. They are the Oxford Mills at Oxford and the Alpine Mills at Morganton. Each is a 5,000-spindle plant.

### Mr. Way's Red Fox.

#### Yorkville Register.

Notwithstanding rumors to the contrary during the past few days, Mr. Way's red fox is still doing business at the old stand and promises many another good race before he finally gives up the game. A party of hunters gave it out the other night that they had caught the fox. They did not make a positive claim to that effect but stated that the dogs were still after it when they had to go to bed, and being unable to call the dogs off, they were confident that they had made an end of the game all out in the long run. The local sportsmen interested are very much concerned at this story, but the more experienced sportsmen only smile their eyes and smile knowingly. But while the fox is having a good time, the sportsmen—those who know all about the game—are enjoying the situation just as much. With each race they are getting more information. Last week they began to discover different "burying grounds" the fox has established. By burying grounds are meant the places where the animal is disposing of his chickens. Whenever he makes a raid on a hen roost and gets several chickens that he is able to dispose of, he buries the surplus at convenient spots. There has been found one place where he had 11 chickens buried and another place where he had two or three more. Of course, if the hunters desired, they could easily shoot the fox at one of these places; but they are not after anything like that. Unless they can run the fox down in a fair and square race they do not want him at all.

### Bygone on Ed Curran's Work.

#### Stanton Enterprise.

John McLendon, colored, the prince of stillsters and one of a family of twenty-eight brothers, has reduced living to the minimum. He actually lives on 34 cents a week—that is, when he buys his own railroad. Here is a month's supply for him: 4 feet of flour, 60 cents; 1 box of baking powder, 50 cents; 1 box of molasses, 15 cents; salt, 1 cent. Only a short while back he could buy meat at 5 cents a gallon and meat at 2 cents a pound. When corn bread grew two months ago, he would tie a fat chook of meat to a string and grease his throat well, when the bread would go down without further trouble. These are facts, John is a good bright fellow, has a fairly good education and is an industrial laborer.

### In the Wake of the Cherry Tree.

#### Savannah Leader.

A female lace drummer has been doing Salisbury, Charlotte and other towns. She sold the only real thing in lace—an article which could be had in the local stores for 25 cents a yard for \$3, \$4 or \$10, according to the quality of the customers. The Sun thinks the women got about \$100 in Salisbury. Now the female victims of the lace fabric are in Salisbury and when their cries of distress are in the air, but if it is lace it's something else. The people must be dumheaded.

### After the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company.

#### Columbia Co. Yorkville Register.

The fight against the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company, instituted by the attorney general at the instigation of the general assembly, has become rather complicated. The attorney general began action in the state courts to annul the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company's charter on the allegation that it had violated the anti-trust laws of the state. The company's attorney took steps to have the case removed to the United States court, whereupon the attorney general presented to the general assembly the propriety of repealing the company's charter. Upon this proposition the legislature has not acted, and it will be of interest to know what course will be pursued. Apparently there has been no politics in the fight, but the Charleston Evening Post, which is thoroughly independent in politics, suggests: "Attorney General Bellinger is pushing after the statute quite earnestly, and the politicians who put him on the trail may regret that they called him. Their plan was for him to drive the game for their shooting out to run it to earth himself."

### New York Real Estate.

#### New York Press.

A dozen years ago an acquaintance of mine and his brother-in-law bought a house in Thirty-fourth Street for \$40,000. Just before the Venetian ultimatum of Grover Cleveland they had an offer of \$80,000 for it. They were holding out for \$95,000 with a good chance of getting it, when the Venetian ultimatum knocked values for \$60,000. They held on to it right along. Later it was bid up to \$100,000 again. Then they got an offer of \$100,000 and there was a long wait. Meanwhile the Thirty-fourth Street changes have to be removed on the inside. One day a real estate broker walked in and asked them if they would take \$100,000. They didn't think they would. Would they consider \$110,000? They didn't know. They thought it over and decided if it was worth \$10,000 to come back on it, it was worth \$10,000 more. Then \$120,000 was offered; then \$125,000; then there were rapid jumps up to \$160,000. They haven't sold. I suppose they will get more than \$200,000. Real estate holds a sure thing in Wall Street when you hit it right.

### Corporation Members to Meet in Greensboro.

#### Greensboro, N. C.—An important meeting of prominent carpet manufacturers of the United States and southern States will be held in Greensboro on February 25th, at which time exhibits will be made of the lines represented and a presentation of samples by the buyers made. One-twenty of the leading carpet and rug manufacturers of the country have engaged space for exhibits and it is expected that 700 or 800 southern dealers will be here during the four days. All the railroads in the surrounding states have granted reduced rates.