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Capital \$50,000.00

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A. G. MYERS, Cashier.

DIRECTORS:

R. P. Rankin, C. N. Evans, Edger L. ve, J. A. Glenn, Dr. J. M. Sloan, R. R. Haynes, Robert A. Love.

It is the purpose of this bank to open for business on the first business day of the New Year, and it respectfully solicits a share of the banking of the community, as well as of the country at large.

It will be the policy of this institution to afford equal accommodations extended in National institutions of the larger cities. The legal rate of interest, 6 per cent, will be the rate of discount extended to customers carrying balances with the bank, and 4 per cent interest will be paid on certificates of deposit running ninety days or longer.

We extend a cordial invitation to the public to visit us at the banking rooms formerly occupied by the Gastonia Banking Company, assuring you that we will be pleased to see you, whether it is your purpose to deal with us or not.

A. G. MYERS, Cashier

PORT ARTHUR STRONG AS SIX SEVASTOPOLES.

Correspondents Say the Feats of the Japanese Army at Port Arthur Almost Stagger Belief—“Incomparably Gallant,” Says Togo.

Tokio, Dec. 26.—Foreign correspondents just returned from Port Arthur declare that fortress to be the strongest place ever besieged. They say the things accomplished by the Japanese almost stagger belief, even when seen. They do not think any other army in the world would have made such progress under such conditions.

They compare Port Arthur with six Sevastopoles, all situated on hills and arranged in mutually supporting groups connected by tramways and telephones, and backed by a massive wall that masks the movements of troops from one to another.

Port Arthur undoubtedly will be captured, but meanwhile the correspondents strongly deprecate the oversanguine tone of the journals which, ever since August, have been creating the expectation of a speedy reduction of the fortress, thereby depriving the Third Army of a part of the credit due to its really wonderful achievements.

Indignation has been aroused in Japan in consequence of rumors that Holland is about to place Sabang at the disposal of the Baltic Fleet. A prominent journal argues that, failing to receive just treatment from so-called neutrals, Japan's duty is to adopt measures of self-protection.

All the Japanese journals commenting on Togo's announcement of the destruction of the fighting power of Russia's Pacific Squadron and the consequent release of a portion of the blockading fleet, strongly eulogize the long, unflagging efforts by which this result has been achieved just in time to allow a brief respite before the navy has to meet the Baltic Fleet.

In particular they applaud Togo's generous language in emphatically attributing final success to the investing army, to which he applies the epithet “incomparably gallant.” The papers say such language toward the sister service is worthy of a true soldier and constitutes the best guarantee of effective co-operation between the Army and Navy.

Details of the recent torpedo attacks upon the battleship Sevastopol show that the seas constantly broke over the decks of the torpedo boats, and that the clothing of the men during the continuous snowstorm froze immediately, impeding motion. Six searchlights turned from three directions upon the Sevastopol showed that she was lying close in shore in six fathoms. She had protection setting on three sides only.

Catawba River.

Yorkville, S. C., December 23rd. Catawba river was frozen over last Tuesday for the first time since February 1892; but it does not require anything like as much cold to freeze the river now as formerly—at least not in that portion affected by back water from the dam of the Catawba Power Company.

This information comes from Mr. G. L. Suggs, who lives near Wright's ferry. He was in Yorkville on Wednesday and talked interestingly about the river, with which he had been acquainted nearly all of his life. “It used to be,” said Mr. Suggs “that the river froze over only in intensely cold weather, and it would take a spell of about a week to do the work. That was the situation in February 1892. Ice formed to a thickness of about 2 1/2 inches and then came a fall of snow. People were able to walk across on the ice and a great many did so; but your humble servant was not among the number.”

“The building of the dam has changed conditions very considerably. We have not had a practical demonstration until this year; but the weather has not been anything like as cold as in 1892. With such weather as we had in 1892, I think the river would now be frozen to a thickness of 5 or 6 inches instead of only 2 1/2 inches as then. It would be thick enough to allow the driving of loaded wagons across in safety.”

Thomas E. Watson has incorporated in New York a company to publish and circulate a monthly periodical. It will be called “Tom Watson's Magazine.” The capital stock is \$125,000.

It's \$1.50 a year now.

EVERY WOMAN IS BEAUTIFUL.

Anyway, Tastes are so Divergent that Some one Besides Herself Thinks so.

Nicola Greeley-Smith in New York World. A show girl engaged for a forthcoming New York production was dismissed some time ago on the statement from the manager, so she asserts, that she was not beautiful enough, and, needless to say, she straightway sued the unfeeling and unappreciative manager for damages.

A question arises as to whether or not she, or any other woman for that matter, is entitled to compensation for any sin cast upon her personal pulchritude. Far be it from one with the slightest amateur knowledge of law to discuss the legal aspects of a problem so intricate. But from the point of view of outraged femininity the young lady is undoubtedly entitled to the heaviest damages she can collect.

Surely in the eyes of every man with the least claim to gallantry all women are beautiful. True, in the inmost privacy of their hearts they may admit that some are lovelier than others. But all women are beautiful. Else wherein lies the efficacy of “rats,” false hair, rouge, eyebrow pencils, and all the innumerable paraphernalia of the modern belle?

It is conceivable that the circumstances might arise under which it would be pardonable, though not proper to mention to a lady that her brother had been lynched for horse stealing. Under sufficient provocation one might even be forgiven for implying that the casque of Minerva covered more wisdom than her own carefully fluted pompadour. But tell her that she is not beautiful? Never, while there is an atom of chivalry in the human breast.

To be beautiful is the supreme desire of the feminine heart, the ultimate aim of her existence. And when she has devoted days, months, and years to accomplish this purpose there should be no man brute enough to intimate that she has failed.

Besides, how can any one man decide what is or is not beautiful? There are just as many standards of beauty as there are men and women. Savages have a decided preference for high cheek bones and flattened noses, the Mongolian race for saffron complexion and slanted eyes. Even among civilized races there could not be two things more widely divergent than the popular and artistic standard of beauty—the one round, rosy, the other long, languorous, and none too well fed. It matters not how beautiful a stage favorite may be, when she faces a new audience for the first time there will always be found persons who will go away declaring that they don't understand what the public see in her to rave over. And they will be thoroughly sincere in their bewilderment.

On the other hand, there is scarcely a newly made chorus girl too green or gawky to attract favorable attention from one or two persons in the house. Could there be a greater difference than that which exists between the ideals of men and women, the former admiring emmanse, the latter in detail. There is no absolute standard of beauty. That offense is merely the standard of regularity, which may, of course, be co-existent with beauty, but is by no means necessary to it. Surely tastes are divergent enough for every woman to be considered beautiful by some one besides herself.

BURNING THEIR COTTON.

Farmers of Clay County, Ga., Make a Bonfire of Their Share of the Surplus 2,000,000 Bales.

Macon, Ga., Dec. 26.—A special to The Telegraph from Fort Gaines, Ga., says the farmers and merchants of Clay county met to-day at Fort Gaines and decided to burn their share of two million bales of surplus cotton. A starter was made to-day when a bonfire was made of cotton on the streets of Fort Gaines. It is not yet determined where it will stop. They have decided to set the pace and are moving determinedly. A large crowd paraded with wild whoops and yells and much spectacular ceremony. The object is to show that the farmers are ready to sacrifice a few bales for the benefit of the masses. The fire is still burning and excitement is increasing.

It's \$1.50 a year now.

END OF A FARCE.

The Springfield Lynchers Have Not Been Brought to Justice.

Richmond News-Leader. In March last Springfield (O.) had a most flagrant case of lynching of negroes, due to race hatred. The benighted and barbarous South never showed up worse in respect of such a matter, all things considered; and professing to be horrified over the outrage, the “better element” of Springfield swore a mighty swear that the perpetrators should be speedily and summarily punished. Springfield was to set the world an example of swift justice and clear its reputation at any cost, and suffer who might. It was in evidence, undenied and undeniable, in fact, that the civil authorities had indignominously failed to do their duty in protecting the man and the brother from the vengeance of the mob. A grand jury was summoned and scored these delinquents, but did not indict any of them. Then commenced a most ridiculous farce, consisting of a long drawn-out and continuous effort on the part of the various authorities to dodge the blame, each official striving to put it on the other fellow. At the same time it appears that each fellow was perniciously active in avoiding doing anything that would militate against the cause of the rioters.

The grand jury, with a good deal of bombast and fustian, also gave the judge of the local criminal court a “setting up” for having in the past been too lenient with criminals, and finally, in a burst of duty and face-saving indicted several men merely for rioting, when the judge who had been the object of the grand jury's criticism had pointed out that the offense of the indicted was murder, no more and no less.

Now, after all these months, one of the rioters, who was under indictment, has been brought to trial, and in the face of the judge's declaration that the defendant's guilt was established, the petit jury has acquitted him. The whole affair, from beginning to end, goes to prove that public sentiment, from the highest to the lowest classes, was with the rioters and is another most striking and significant commentary on Northern reflection upon the South's failure to punish lynchers.

DOTS FROM BESSEMER.

Christmas Visitors—Santa Claus at the Methodist Church.

Bessemer City, Dec. 28.—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ramsey left Friday for a visit to Lincolnton. Mr. and Mrs. K. W. Buck and Miss Helen Buck are spending the holidays in Atlanta. Mr. Will Burke returned Tuesday from Christ School, Arden, N. C.

Dr. and Mrs. W. S. Hay and son left Friday for Alledale, S. C. They will be absent a week. Mr. Norman Lynch, of Winston-Salem, spent Sunday with Dr. and Mrs. J. L. Lynch. Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Anderson, of Newell, are guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Whitney.

Dr. D. A. Garrison spent Monday at Concord. Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Robinson and son Horace, of Warrenton, N. C., are guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Smith.

Mr. Lawrence Fronberger who has been attending school at Lenoir College Hickory, is spending the holidays with Mr. E. L. Fronberger. Mr. W. R. Barnett will leave Wednesday for Melrose, Florida. Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Mason of

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- Handkerchiefs. All linen, plain and embroidered, each 5c to .10
- Plain lawn and Swiss embroidered from 5c to .50
- Kid Gloves. Special offer of these gloves
- In brown, champagne, and white at 99c. Regular \$1 goods.
- P. W. L. brand, white and black .99
- La Rome real kid, black only .99
- Fur and Furs. Black, brown, sable, and Isabella fox, \$5 to .100
- Black and brown Isabella coney, from \$1.25 to \$2.50

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