

The Lenoir Weekly News.

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PRIZED NORTH CAROLINA FLAG.

It Was Borne by a State Regiment in the First Battle of the War.

Richmond (Va.) Times.

The State of North Carolina has in its great museum in Raleigh one of the most interesting and historical of all the flags used during the civil war. It is known as the "Bethel" flag, taking its name from the first regular battle of that great struggle. It was fought in Virginia June 10, 1861, and in it the First North Carolina Regiment of Volunteers lost Henry A. Wyatt, the first Confederate soldier killed in a pitched battle. The First North Carolina Regiment was formed of companies which had responded to the Governor's call long before North Carolina had seceded from the Union, the date of this State's secession being May 20, and some of these companies had been in possession of the coast forts since early in April, 1861. The regiment was mobilized at Raleigh, its Colonel being Daniel Harvey Hill, who afterward rose to be Lieutenant General.

The regiment was hurried to the front, and so it was its fortune to be at Bethel. Some of the Federal forces had been behind a dwelling house during the fight on the battle ground, and five men volunteered to burn it. Wyatt, a youth under twenty, was one of the five, and another was Robert H. Bradley, now Marshal of the North Carolina Supreme Court. The five were members of Company A. from Tarboro, N. C. A bullet which came, it seems, from Federal troops in a piece of woods near the house, struck Wyatt and mortally wounded him. He was a native of Virginia, but had lived at Tarboro, where he was employed, and he is buried in Plat K. in the great Hollywood Cemetery, at Richmond.

The First Regiment was so gallant in this action that the State Convention, then in session, ordered that the word "Bethel" be inscribed upon its flag. "Stars and Bars," the number of stars in the field of the flag being only eight, as up to that time only eight States had seceded, North Carolina being the eighth.

Close by the flag in the museum is the smokestack of the noted Confederate ram Albemarle, which was built in a cornfield on the Roanoke River, and which played such havoc among the Federal fleet in the North Carolina sounds, the smokestack bearing the marks of more than two hundred shot, shell and bullets.

The Albemarle, it will be remembered, was sunk as she lay at her wharf at Plymouth, Lieutenant Cushing, of the United States Navy, having, with extraordinary personal daring, exploded a torpedo under her, his act being one of the most gallant in the annals of warfare. A piece of the armor of the Albemarle is beside the smokestack, this armor having been made from old railroad iron taken in North Carolina and sent to the Tredger Iron Works at Richmond, where it was rolled into plates not quite two inches in thickness.

Judge Council.

Goldboro Argus.

Our police officers say that since the recent term of Superior court, blind tigers have been scarce and hard to find. We would like to have Judge Council with us just one more court and some juries like we had at the last term and whiskey selling will be a thing of the past. He deals with criminals in a manner calculated to teach them to respect and obey the law.

Federation for Methodists.

Birmingham, Ala., May 9.—At today's session of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, south, a plan of federation was introduced in a resolution offered by James A. Anderson and others.

It proposes that the southern conference appoint commissioners with a view to forming a federal council, to be composed of like commissioners from the Methodist Episcopal Church, the purpose of which council shall be to prepare and submit to the ensuing general conferences of the two churches, respectively, such a plan of federation as shall divide all American Episcopal Methodism into not less than three administrative bodies. The resolution was referred.

The conference adopted that portion of the report of the committee on boundaries giving the north Georgia conference four years more in which to clear the matter of changing its boundaries. The request of the pastors of Knoxville that the boundaries of the Holston conference be better defined was concurred in. The committee on itinerary reported by non-concurrence in memorials from various conferences asking that the authority to license local preachers be transferred from the district to the quarterly conference.

The special committee named to consider concerning the new statement of Methodist faith and doctrine recommended the passage of the resolution proposed, with the understanding that the preparation of the statement shall be undertaken by the commission only when such co-operation of other representatives bodies of Methodists shall have been secured as shall make it an expression of world-wide Methodism.

The unusual scene was presented in Birmingham tonight of a full blooded African addressing at the First Methodist church an audience which was so large that standing room in the great building was at a premium.

The Rev. W. S. Shepherd, missionary to the Congo Free State, and fraternal delegate to the Methodist church, was the speaker, and for an hour and a half the audience hung upon his words as he related his thrilling experiences as a missionary in the heart of the Dark Continent.

Near the close, as he spoke of the great work the church is doing by making possible the spread of Christianity in that country, appealing for more men to aid in the work, many of the bishops of the church and prominent visiting churchmen, as well as hundreds of the audience, were touched to tears by the speaker's appeals for further effort among the African tribes.

High Point Aroused.

Charlotte Observer.

High Point, May 9.—The committee appointed to ascertain the amount of damage that will result and also to secure options on rights of way for the new railroad are prosecuting their work and will be ready to report at the next called meeting, which will likely take place the last of the present week. High Point is thoroughly aroused over the very promising prospects of a competing line and is doing her part in the matter to secure it. In fact, she will do anything reasonable to secure the road, for it is a necessity. It is safe to say that the road will come, for there is unlimited capital behind the project and it will prove a paying business.

The road will connect with the Seaboard Air Line and it is believed that this road is a real promoter of the enterprise, although

the gentlemen here have not said so. In fact, they have not made public what road the line would connect with, but there are only three great trunk lines where a connection could be made: the Seaboard Atlantic Coast Line and the Norfolk & Western. To a committee appointed at the meeting the exact line with which connection will be made was made known, and these gentlemen are well satisfied. It is expected to have the road in operation between here and Thomasville and on to the end of Capt. Jones, line inside of two years, if the deal is made.

Veterans of Lower Creek Township

Editor The LENOIR NEWS:

Thinking it might be interesting so some of your readers to know that Lower Creek township boasts of having more living Confederate veterans than any township in the county and possibly more than any rural township in the State.

Veterans' names:

Henry Steele, M. E. Thompson, El Coney Austin, Thos. Barlow, J. B. Coffey, M. D. Smith, G. R. Clark, G. W. F. Harpør, George Taylor, L. J. Swanson, Sampson Swanson, J. A. Dula, S. M. Whitner, John Sides, A. P. Puett; A. C. Sherrill, Ira Sherrill, G. D. Sherrill, Smith Barlow, Thos. Absher, Dr. J. C. Blair; Harrison Davis, Arthur Adams, Largent Bean, Louis Holder, John Mundy, Isaac Palmer, Gordon Morrow, Samuel McDade, Wm. McDade, J. G. Hall, John Barnett, Marcus Barnett, S. J. Sherrill, James Bryant, C. A. Tuttle, Henry Knox and Henry Wilson.

In home guard service:

J. G. Ballew, Vandiver Teague, L. S. Hartly, J. T. Powell, Lee Hartly and Smith.

C. L. COFFEY.

Strawberry Crop Immense.

Charlotte Observer.

Wilmington, May 8.—The movement of strawberries is still the absorbing topic of conversation in transportation circles. The crop will be fully 50 per cent. greater than last year, according to some authorities. On account of the great depression in prices, however, it is not expected that all the berries will be picked. The quality this year has not been up to the standard but the quantity has been immense. With the unexpected development of the great yield the wonder is that the transportation people have not encountered more serious difficulty in taking care of the shipments.

Mad Man "Holds Up" a Church.

Geneva, May 9.—A dramatic incident has just occurred in the church of the village of Horn, a few miles from Lucerne.

During the communion services a lunatic who had escaped from an asylum in the vicinity, rushed into the building, and, leveling his rifle, ordered the congregation out of the church.

The people rushed behind the pews, pillars and choir, leaving their vicar, an old man, to face the madman. The courageous vicar approached the lunatic and succeeded, after some time, in calming his anger and taking away his rifle.

The male members of the congregation subsequently conducted the madman to the asylum, whence his flight had not been noticed.

If a girl wants to get rid of an undesirable suitor all she has to do is to appear on the stage of action with her hair done up in curl papers.

Losses to Be Paid at Once.

San Francisco, May 9.—Financial interest today centered in the announcement made by the insurance companies that in the immediate future they would pay losses of the fire sufferers. It is believed that most of the money will be put in general circulation and when it is distributed will relieve the people of San Francisco as no other means could.

This news was welcome, not only to the policyholders but also to the banks that have been doing their best for the public with resources at their immediate command necessarily limited.

With the announcement that losses will soon be paid, the insurance interests have made the concession that salvage operations on property swept by the flames may proceed with. Policyholders may save anything they can find without risking the loss of their claims for insurance.

To a great extent the work of demolishing walls and clearing away debris has been postponed because of doubt regarding the attitude the insurance companies would take.

At the meeting of the reconstruction committee today a resolution was adopted declaring that the wages for public and private employment at ordinary and unskilled labor should be \$2.50 for nine hours. These rates have been fixed by the building trades council.

General Greely has asked employers to pay their men something at least, daily, so that they may be able to pay for their meats.

"We are establishing fifteen cent kitchens all over the city," said General Greely, "and if all the men employed could have their wages promptly paid it will greatly assist the work of relief."

Today's application for relief show a decrease of 10,000.

Cresses Made Him Rich.

New York Sun.

"That fellow over there is the Water-cress Croesus," said the clerk in an up town hotel, nodding in the direction of the theatre ticket stand, where a big, fine-looking man of 40, well dressed and apparently accustomed to New York hotel surroundings, was buying tickets for a party of friends.

"Fifteen years ago," continued the clerk, "he was a poor devil down in the mountains of West Virginia, with nothing but what he could earn as a laborer and no prospects. One day he went to Baltimore as a caretaker with a load of cattle.

"There he dropped into a bar-room and saw a plateful of water-cress on the bar. He made some inquiries about where it came from, what it cost, etc., and went back to the West Virginia mountains thinking, 'He knew a piece of swampy ground where water-cress grew abundantly, and he figured that there might be money in shipping it to Baltimore. He made inquiries and found that he could buy the ground for \$5 an acre. It was only a few hundred feet from the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, but the nearest shipping point was four miles away.

"He talked the venture over with a cattleman for whom he worked and got his promise to help him. On his next trip to Baltimore a deal was closed with a commission merchant to handle shipments of water-cress, and the cattleman's influence with the railroad people was sufficient to exact a promise to put in a siding long enough to hold four freight cars.

"On returning home the cattleman advanced \$100 and the whole swamp was bought. Within a

month the railway siding was in and the water-cress Croesus was gathering and shipping a car load a week.

"Croesus repaid the cattleman before six months. The next year he put up a little shop where his crates were made. He soon cleared out all the other growth in the swamp, planted more water-cress and in another year had a solid bed of 20 acres. He found that by building a dam he could extend the swamp over nearly 100 acres further down the valley, but he did not build it until he got the ground.

"Water-cress requires no cultivation and no replanting—nothing but water and harvesting. It produces throughout the year, and costs nothing but the wages of the men who gather it.

"Croesus soon extended his market to Philadelphia, New York and other cities and his fortune was made. Now he has nothing to do but spend his income and let the water-cress grow.

"No, he is not the only water-cress producer, but I guess he's the only one who ships it in ear-load lots to all parts of the country."

Club Aids N. E. A. Convention

The Commercial Club of Indianapolis is bending every effort for a successful meeting of the National Editorial Association, which convenes there June 12th. There are but few cities which can boast of an organization so active and interested in all municipal affairs as this body of Indianapolis business men. Founded sixteen years ago, the club has been a constant factor in the growth and development of the city. Its mission is to give substantial assistance to every branch of manufactory and trade, to lend its influence in shaping legislation in the interest of Indianapolis and the State at large, to encourage closer personal and business relations between its members and the merchants of the State, to advertise the city and exploit its many advantages as a manufacturing city and a place of residence. In all movements for the welfare of Indianapolis the Commercial Club has been foremost and in its members delegates to the National Editorial Association will find men who stand for municipal progress.

A New County

News and Observer.

Asheville, N. C., May 5.—The 1907 General Assembly will be asked to create a new county in this section of the State. It is learned here that there is a movement on foot to take a part of Buncombe, Haywood and Madison and form a new county, with Canton, the home of the big pulp mill, as the county seat. It is said that the greater number of people in the proposed new territory will be favorable to the new county proposition, although opposition will doubtless come from the three counties.

Indianapolis Transportation Facilities.

Indianapolis has eighteen railroads, reaching all the important cities of the Central West, and fourteen interurban electric lines and connections extending from twenty-five to seventy-five miles in every direction. These bring into Indianapolis an enormous trading population. From a radius of fifty miles more than 25,000 manufacturers and dealers come to Indianapolis for their supplies. Editors and publishers will visit Indianapolis in June, the occasion being the annual convention of the National Editorial Association.

News Items.

The ninth district Democratic congressional convention will meet in Lincolnton July 2nd.

The tenth district Democratic congressional convention will meet in Asheville June 30.

The Commencement exercises of Greensboro Female College embrace May 20 to 23rd this year.

A hailstorm did much damage in the Poplar tent section of Cabarrus county Wednesday evening.

E. B. Bellum, car inspector at Spencer, was run over by a switch engine Friday night and a leg cut off.

A painter named Busbee was struck and killed by a train at Salisbury while walking on the track, last Sunday.

The Mercury says that J. S. Setzer, of Hickory, has 100 hens that bring him a net revenue of \$10 a month. He gets about 150 dozen eggs a month.

Mr. Jack Reach, superintendent of Balfour Granite Quarry near Salisbury, was shot and perhaps fatally wounded by a negro whom he had discharged last Tuesday evening.

Mr. T. C. Bowie, of Ashe, was married to Miss J. L. Davis, at her home near Charlotte last Tuesday. Mr. Bowie is a prominent candidate for the Democratic nomination for Congress in this district.

W. F. Shankle, of Stanley county, who had been in the employ of the Southern railway but a few days, was killed on the railroad yard in Danville Friday. His remains were sent to his old home for burial.

The Observer says the property of Rev. L. D. Noel, pastor of East-side Presbyterian church of Charlotte, has been attached for long standing debts due Charlotte merchants. The amount is \$190.

John Owens, who was fatally cut by Chas. Brady, in Providence township, Rowan county, April 25, died Sunday night. Brady escaped and has not yet been captured. His father, who was implicated in the difficulty, is in jail. Later.—This report is an error. Owens was improving at last accounts.

In a shooting affray at Rougemont, just across the Durham line in Orange county, Friday, Andrew Pool was instantly killed and John Laws died Saturday morning from injuries received. The tragedy was the result of a feud between Pool and Laws. One report says that after Pool was shot by Laws some one, who is not known, fired the shot that inflicted the fatal wound on Laws.

Reuben Crane, a student of the Asheville School and the son of wealthy Cincinnati parents, was helping fellow students gather dogwood blooms near the school Friday afternoon, when one of the students, who was in a tree, accidentally let a hatchet fall. Crane was standing underneath the tree and the hatchet fell on his head, the blade penetrating the skull and inflicting a dangerous wound.

W. A. Gautier, of Sampson Co., who was sentenced in the Federal Court to a term of three years in the penitentiary, completed the sentence last week and was brought to Clinton and tried for the murder of B. G. E. Daugherty, an officer, while resisting the United States marshal in the arrest for the first offense. He was convicted of manslaughter and sentenced to 15 years in the penitentiary.