

PISGAH HAPPENINGS.

Your correspondents vision and hearing are limited at present, to the distance of a rifle shot, so he can't hear or see, what people have to say. This close confinement is caused by trying to find the pot of money at the end of the rainbow in raising 4c. cotton, and right here, I have the most astounding news that has ever shocked the civilized world. Here it is: the South is going to present the world with 2,000,000 bales of cotton this year, free gratis. Let us hope the manufacturers will weave it into cloth and present it to the poor. No such gigantic philanthropy was ever seen before, and it is to be hoped will never be seen again. The purchase of guano goes on, and is only limited by the inability of the manufacturers to supply it. The oat crop, got the black face from the cold weather, and looks like a fellow who had received his checks from one of the feminine gender.

Tuesday night, 8 at inst. a thermometer whose degrees are limited to 120 was hung in the open air, and next morning registered at 49 above zero. This is the coldest spell we have had for years, and has brought forth a good crop of colds. The tony fellow, who would not have a thread in his suit except the natural, warp and wool, went freezing along, but the other fellow, who had the patches on was comfortable, without worrying what people would say or think.

Farin work is progressing rapidly and soon the corn will be bustled in. News here has gone into winter quarters. Every now and then though, a fellow feels for the time being that he can buy out Greater New York. Happy men! than others tap each other a little with various things, but you have all that in Sumner.

The Pisgah public school house is about the worst in the county—a perfect hell. The teachers and scholars sit and almost freeze in trying to learn a little. If the trustees hands are tied by law, so they can't use the public money to make a comfortable house, then the law makers who enacted law, ought to dig in in the Keenebec rain, thickly clad, when the thermometer is 46° below 0. School houses and churches should be very pleasant places.

Mr. F. J. Capell, who carries the mail on the star route from Pisgah to Hagood, S. C., is no doubt the champion mail carrier in the State. He walked 20 miles a day, three times a week last year, and never missed a day. Who can beat it?

The smiling face of the noted ex-widower of Smithville shows how happy he is, with his fair young bride. Another, is on the war path to conquer or be conquered, and still another, who is as impenetrable to female charms as a rock. How soon we forget the blessings of the past, scarcely remembering that they brighten as they take their flight.

Pisgah, S. C., Feb. 8.

Shiloh Letter.

A few thoughts you can put in your columns, as we like to be in the roll of your news gatherers.

Although we are where we scarcely ever hear the whistle of the locomotive we are not entirely out of the bounds of hearing and seeing a few things. One thing is certain, we have not failed to hear of smallpox, and it has had its effect. I know the scare has prevented a great many from visiting your city, but I think all fear is fast subsiding.

Judging from the amount of fertilizer that is being carted this way I would say that if the seasons are suitable we will have a plenty of 4c cotton later on.

Health is fair now.

Planters well advanced with their crops.

We are glad to say that the free schools of our township will be able to run longer this year than they have in a long time. O. K.

Shiloh, S. C., Feb. 7, 1898.

Cock Fight at Lucknow.

There was a big cocking main at Lucknow Friday which was attended by a large number of sports from various portions of the State. Newberry, Edgefield, Darlington, Kershaw, Richland, and Sumter counties were represented, and it is reported that there were two hundred cocks on the ground. The Bishopville cocks swept the field, winning a large majority of the fights, and the Bishopville crowd won a pot of money.

Bigamist Arrested.

A. J. Shelton, who has been selling sewing machines and bicycles in the Bishopville neighborhood for several months, was arrested on Saturday and carried before Magistrate J. H. Scarborough, charged with bigamy. A preliminary examination was held and on the evidence produced he was bound over for trial at the next term of court. In default of bond he was brought to this city and turned over to Sheriff Pierson and is now in jail.

Shelton had a wife in Georgia before he established himself in B-shippville, but this slight encumbrance made no difference to him, and he soon succeeded in inducing a girl, between fourteen and sixteen years old, to marry him. The girl whom he so grossly deceived was named Turner, and is said to bear an excellent reputation in the community in which she lived. Nothing is known of the antecedents of Shelton, the bigamist, but there is said to be a clear case against him.

Took a Severe Cold after the Big Fire.

After the big fire in Cripple Creek, I took a very severe cold and tried many remedies without help; the cold only becoming more settled. After using three small bottles of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, both the cold and cough left me, and in this high altitude it takes a meritorious cough remedy to do any good.—G. B. HENDERSON, Editor Daily Advertiser, Cripple Creek, Colo. Sold by A. J. China.

Boston, Feb. 5.—Six firemen, including a district chief, a captain and a lieutenant, were killed at a fire here this morning, which burned out the interior of a 5-story building on Merrimack street occupied by G. W. Bent & Co., manufacturers of beds, bedding, etc.

The General Assembly

Caughman's Separate Coach Bill Passes The House.

Columbia, February 5.—Special to The News and Courier. The House today fought hard and continuously on the separate coach propositions. Mr. Caughman introduced a bill to simply require separate coaches for first class passengers, and provided for a second class car. The railroad committee proposed a substitute bill carrying out the separate coach idea, but to deal liberally with the railroads that make no money on their passenger business, thought it best to compromise the points under debate and at the same time to carry out the separation of the races. The plan was substantially the same as that in operation in Georgia. It provided for a uniform rate of three cents, which was a slight reduction of the first class rate and a slight increase of the second class rate. The House killed the Caughman bill at one time, and fought and wrestled for hours over amendments, when suddenly the Caughman bill was passed, and the parliamentary situation was such that no amendments could be offered, although even the best friends of the bill were ready to have amendments to the bill.

This is the same legislation that year after year has been killed in the Senate.

The House passed Mr. Ashley's fertilizer tax bill, after acceptable amendments had been agreed upon. THE CAUGHMAN BILL AS PASSED.

The bill as passed reads as follows: Section 1. That all railroad companies engaged in this State as common carriers of passengers for hire shall furnish separate apartments in first-class coaches or separate first-class coaches for the accommodation of white and colored passengers: Provided, equal accommodation shall be supplied to all persons, without distinction of race, color or previous condition, in such coaches.

Section 2. That any first-class coach of such carrier of passengers may be divided into apartments, separated by a substantial partition, in lieu of separate coaches.

Section 3. That should any railroad or railroad company, its agents or employees violate the provisions of this Act such railroad or railroad company shall be liable to a penalty of not more than five hundred dollars nor less than three hundred dollars for each violation, to be collected by suit of any citizen of this State, and the penalty recovered shall be equally divided between the citizen bringing the suit and the State of South Carolina.

Section 4. That the provisions of this Act shall not apply to nurses on trains, or to relief trains in cases of accident, nor to through vestibule trains.

Section 5. That the provisions of this Act shall not go into effect until July 1, 1898.

Section 6. That all Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed.

NORTHERN BOOK AGENTS "ON TOP"

Mr. Bacot requests the publication of the following:

I desire to spread upon the Journal my reasons for asking leave to withdraw from the public files of the House "A bill to protect the children of this State from the baneful influence of wrong instruction," to wit:

That it may be returned to the Daughters of the Confederacy, from whom it emanated, to remain in their holy and safe keeping, lest the purity of its white folds be sullied by contact with the foul hands of the miscreant horde of "book agents," who for several days past have flocked around and in the State House lobbying against the bill in order to save from moral ruin the reputations of mendacious authors, and themselves and their principals from pecuniary loss; and one of whom, immediately after the bill was indefinitely postponed last night, telegraphed North, "We are on top"—all wretched creatures, who, "the poison of saps" being "under their lips," as well as their pens, would poison and attempt to poison the minds of young children for the sake of pelf, and also to gratify feelings of animosity. Their money and their feelings perish with them! T. W. BACOT

February 5, 1898.

Getting Down to Work at Last.

A Large Number of Bills Were Disposed of Yesterday—The Adjournment Issue Raised.

Columbia, Feb. 7.—The house started in early with its work this morning, and by agreeing to consider only such bills as would provoke no discussion succeeded in doing about as much work as it accomplished since the session began. A big pile of bills, most of them local and unimportant in character, were disposed of before the usual hour for recess. Among them was the measure providing for the enclosing of the Confederate monument, the bill to include in Greenwood county certain portions of the counties of Abbeville and Edgefield, the bill to prohibit the

destruction of nests of certain birds, the resolution looking to the establishment of a reformatory for youthful prisoners, the bill reappointing Dorchester and Colleton counties, giving the former one representative and the latter three, and a great many other bills. There were no features of the day's session. Mr. Winkler acted most acceptably as speaker during the day. Mr. Bacot rose to a question of personal privilege and disavowed any intention to impugn the motives of any member in the reasons he had spread upon the journal for withdrawing his impartial history bill.

A Gallant Soldier and Courageous Gentleman Slain.

FEARFUL CRIME OF NEGRO OUTLAW.

Special to The State.

Chester, Feb. 7.—About 2 o'clock this afternoon a big mulatto negro walked into the Exchange bank and presented a check made to the order of a well known citizen of this city; on the back an endorsement was forged, evidently being the negro's handwriting. Cashier White refused payment and told the negro that he must obtain identification. The holder of the check promptly replied that he could do it, and went out on the street and re-requested assistant policeman Capt. James K. Marshall to go with him to the brick house on York street. The policeman assented and allowed the negro to take the lead. Instead of going up York street he took Saluda street and just as he arrived at the intersection of Walnut and Saluda streets, near Attorney A. G. Brice's residence, some one called to Capt. Marshall, and as he turned, this scoundrel, who had lied about the check all the way through, swiped out a 48-calibre revolver and shot the policeman twice, killing him instantly. He placed the muzzle of the pistol just below Capt. Marshall's blind eye and pulled the trigger just as the captain turned, the ball entering the cheek and lodging somewhere about the throat; the second ball entered back of the ear. Just at this time Attorney R. B. Caldwell came to the rescue of Capt. Marshall. He eased the wounded man to the ground, who exclaimed, "I am dying;" then took the pistol out of the policeman's strap and fired every ball at the fleeing murderer. The negro fired back twice at Mr. Caldwell, but neither was touched. About this time the news had reached police headquarters and 15 minutes later a posse of 50 mounted white men, including Sheriff Corwell, Chief Morgan, Mayor Spratt, Dr. Davega, A. W. Love and others with the sheriff's bloodhounds were on the trail of the murderer fleeing for his life. He was overtaken six miles north of the city about 4.30 o'clock and was shot twice by Mr. A. W. Love.

Mr. Love was on a very spirited animal and when the negro was first seen he put spurs to his horse, fairly burning the wind through plowed field and thickets, until he overtook the fugitive. It was after the scoundrel had shot twice that Mr. Love opened fire upon him. Had the crowd been with him at the moment his body would have been riddled with bullets, but after Mr. Love had shot him down he began interviewing him and when the posse arrived they decided to bring him to jail.

The negro is supposed to be the man who robbed a mail bag at the Rock Hill depot some nights ago, as the check he presented had evidently been mailed to a party here. He gave his name as Tom Jones, then again as Anderson.

The street from the jail to the court house has been crowded all the afternoon with hot-headed, determined, excited men and it was with great difficulty that the officers of the law succeeded in getting the murderer securely jailed.

Lynching is openly talked of, and the worst is feared by some. The Lee Light Infantry, of whom the deceased was captain, will guard the jail to-night.

At this hour, 6 o'clock, excitement runs high, but Sheriff Corwell is in charge of the jail, and has the backing of a great many cool heads. Capt. Marshall has been policeman here for the past 15 years and was a popular and efficient officer. He was major of the Third regiment and took a great deal of interest in military affairs in the State. He fought through the war and was a brave and nifty soldier, losing his left eye while participating in a heated battle. He was a warm-hearted, fine-looking man and made a splendid appearance as a militiaman. He leaves a wife, six children and a large circle of friends to mourn his death.

Blanco's Failure; Weyler's Legacy.

Blanco, when he left Havana last week to "take the field," carried with him \$300,000 with which to corrupt the patriotism of Cuban generals. The only result of his excursion into bribery is that he is forced to hand over the bulk of this fund to his lieutenant, Pando, to enable him to buy supplies, and to transport his defeated and disheartened troops in the Cauto Valley out of reach of the assaults of the victorious insurgents. Now Blanco is about to return to Havana, by one route or another, north or south; but it is noteworthy that he is to make at least part of his retreat to his capital

by sea. Should he march by land, the bothersome Cubans might make him walk Spanish. That his arrival in Havana, repulsed in bribery and defeated in arms, is likely to be the signal for another outbreak of violence by the enraged Spaniards, is indicated by the explosion of a bomb in that city yesterday.

The latest military success of the Spanish troops, officially reported by Spanish authority is the capture of six women and eight children in Santa Clara province. The report does not say how many troops were employed to achieve this brilliant exploit; but there must have been many, since it required three Spanish columns to murder Aranguren and his sweetheart, four Cuban soldiers and a boy. But while these deeds of daring may not be altogether satisfying to Spanish valor, the heart of Weyler may glow over the continued success of his plan of making war by starvation of non-combatants. In far Madrid that hater of humanity may read with keen enjoyment the official figures of the mortality in the city of Santa Clara, which a year ago contained 12,000 inhabitants, during 1897:

January, 78 dead; February, 114; March, 333; April, 524; May, 539; June, 531; July, 655; August, 645; September, 630; October, 884; November, 1,037; December, 1,011.

This mortality of 50 per cent. obtains among the pacificos all over Cuba. The dead speak with silent but awful eloquence of the imperative necessity of the restoration of peace.—N. Y. Mail and Express.

Demand Indemnity of Spain.

With all deference to the inner wisdom of our diplomats, in both Washington and Madrid, we venture the assertion that there is no time like the present for our Department of State to press to immediate settlement the indemnity claims against Spain for damage to citizens of the United States in Cuba. It is our traditional policy not to worry a nation in financial distress with bills of this character. That is why we patiently accept postponement of claims against Turkey. But Spain asserts that autonomy in Cuba is a success, that the island is virtually pacified and that her troops are merely doing police duty against bandits. Of course, this assertion is known to be nonsense, for the insurgents have repulsed every excursion of the Spaniards, have driven their troops out of nearly all the territory of the island, cooped them up in fortified garrisons and whipped them within sight of Havana itself. But the Spanish Government formally declares that its sovereignty over Cuba is established. With sovereignty goes responsibility.

Logically, then, Spain should pay the costs of its failure to maintain order in its province. There are many of these claims, but the one most prominent in the public mind is that of the widow of Ruiz, who was murdered in a Spanish jail, where he was imprisoned in admitted violation of treaty rights. Spain has just sent Blanco on a vain mission of bribery, armed with \$300,000 to corrupt Cuban patriots. If Spain can afford to try to spend money in that lavish fashion, she can afford to pay her bills to the United States. She has barred herself from leniency by her pretense that she is not embarrassed by a war in Cuba. Press the claims, the Ruiz claim and all of them, to speedy settlement. That will be a diplomatic method to compel the Spanish Government to admit that it lies when it avers that it controls Cuba to day.—N. Y. Mail and Express.

Statistics furnished to this journal by M. Hyde, the statistician of the Department of Agriculture, present one particular feature of interest regarding the yield and value of the cereal crops for the year 1897 as compared with the preceding year. This is that with a decreased total production, as compared with 1896, the cereal crops of 1897 brought a higher value than those of 1896. The same is true as regards the crops in detail, except in the case of wheat and rye, whose yield for 1897 showed larger quantities than for the year before. Corn led all the other in both quantity and value with a yield of 1,902,967,933 bushels. This represented a falling off of over 380,000,000 bushels as compared with the year preceding, but higher prices increased the value by a little over \$10,000,000. Wheat, the next crop in importance, showed a yield of 530,149,168 bushels in 1897, with a value of \$428,547,121, again of over 102,400,000 bushels and of nearly \$118,000,000 in value as compared with 1898. Oats, the third in importance of the great cereals, yielded a crop of 698,767,809 bushels, valued at \$147,974,719, a decrease of over 8,500,000 bushels, but an increase of nearly \$15,500,000 in value as compared with the year preceding. The three crops mentioned, together with the smaller crops of barley, rye and buckwheat for 1897, were valued at \$1,121,295,766, an increase of over \$149,200,000 as compared with 1896, though the yield showed a decrease of over 286,000,000 bushels.—Bradstreet's.

A fifty barrel roller flour mill will be built in Spartanburg.

Gov. Ellerbe has been invited to attend a reception to be given on the evening of the 16th by President and Mrs. McKinley.

Official Bossism.

Washington, Feb. 7.—Bossing is catching. Mr. McKinley is now trying his hand at bossing Congress, or to be more exact, the republicans in Congress. Each republican has been notified that the administration does not intend to recognize the belligerence of the Cubans, nor to intervene, either peaceably or by force, so long as present conditions continue to exist in Cuba, and that every republican who seeks in any manner to agitate the question in Congress will be considered an anti-administration man, and be so treated by the President. How is that for a bit of high-handed muzzling? Senator Mansson, of Illinois, is one of the republicans who doesn't intend to be muzzled on the Cuban question. He says he will this week offer a resolution instructing the President to demand peace in Cuba, which he believes he can bring about at once, and he added: "Something must be done, and I will at least give the Senate a chance to do a lot of talking. It is a shame that our government permits such a state of affairs to exist in Cuba."

There is a probability that Mr. McKinley and the Czar of the House may lock horns over the latter's programme for the House. Mr. McKinley wishes the House to pass a financial bill carrying out some of the recommendations of his message, and Mr. Reed has said that the House should not pass a financial bill. If Mr. McKinley doesn't back down, there is likely to be a hot time in the old House.

Czar Reed will soon have another fight on his hands. He has said that no river and harbor bill should be passed by the House at this session, but the committee is going right ahead and preparing a bill and by a judicious distribution of appropriations, it is believed that enough votes can be secured to pass the bill regardless of the Czar, and its members say the attempt to do so will certainly be made.

Representative Terry, of Arkansas, tersely stated a great truth, during the little debate in the House which accompanied the attempt by democrats to get action upon a bill to compel the administration to bid up to the full indebtedness, principal and interest, of the Kansas Pacific railway, when it is sold, when in reply to a taunt from Representative Dazell, of Pennsylvania, that he only wanted to have government ownership of railroads, than railroad ownership of government. During the same debate, Representative Bailey, of Texas, said: "On this side we believe the government can collect the debt, and as a prudent creditor that it should collect every dollar of it." The republicans oppose this legislation on the ground that the President already has sufficient power. It is to prevent the abuse of that power by a settlement that will not include full payment of principal and interest that the democrats desire the legislation.

Representative Norton, of Ohio, who sharply criticised the present pension law and its administration was taken to task by Representative Ray of N. Y., who charged him with attacking the Pension Bureau and the administration. After denying that he had attacked either the President or the Commissioner of Pensions, Mr. Norton turned to Mr. Ray and said: "With due amenities and courtesies of debate, if the gentleman says that I did, he lies in his throat." Mr. Ray did not reply, and nobody looks for a pistols and coffee for two as a sequel. Times have changed.

Although a considerable number of Senators had made personal requests of Mr. McKinley to allow Mrs. Kenna, widow of the late Senator Charleston W. Va., Mr. McKinley has ignored those requests in response to the demand of Senator Elkins and has nominated Mr. O. A. Petty to succeed Mrs. Kenna. But Mr. Petty will have to be confirmed by the Senate before he gets that office, and present indications are that he will not find that altogether easy.

At a conference of silver republicans and populists, attended by every Senator and Representative of both parties, the plan for a general co-operation in the Congressional campaign with the democrats was unanimously ratified. It was also the unanimous sentiment that Mr. Bryan was the logical candidate of the allied silver forces in 1900. It was also decided that ex-Representative Towne, chairman of the silver republican National Committee, should be sent to Oregon, where the Congressional election will be held in June, to aid in carrying out the co-operation plans in that State.

Representative Williams, of Mississippi, has fattened the contents of the pigeon holes of the House committee on Foreign Affairs by offering a resolution calling on the Secretary of State for all the information in his possession as to the progress made by Spain in its attempts to get the Cubans to accept autonomy and the condition of the reconcentrados (non-combatants) of Cuba. The resolution is timely and ought to be acted upon, but there is little hope that it will be. Nothing can get before the House without the Czar's O. K.

Cotton Crop of '96-'97.

Its Distribution by States—Sea Island Cotton—Acreage and Prices.

Washington, Feb. 7.—A circular issued by Statistician Hyde of the agricultural department, gives considerable information concerning the cotton crop of 1896-97, its value, the amount purchased by mills and the acreage planted. It shows that the total cotton crop of 1896-97 amounted in commercial bales to 8,532,705, made up by the following States:

Alabama, 833,789; Arkansas, 605,643; Florida, 48,730; Georgia, 1,299,340; Idaho Territory, 87,702; Kansas, 61; Kentucky, 414; Louisiana, 567,251; Mississippi, 1,201,000; Missouri, 24,119; North Carolina, 521,795; Oklahoma, 35,251; South Carolina, 936,463; Tennessee, 236,781; Texas, 2,122,701; Utah, 123; Virginia, 11,639.

Stated that the large and increasing amount of raw cotton taken directly from the current crop by mills from the cotton growing States is more than ever an important factor in estimating the annual production. Ten years ago only about 6 per cent. of a crop of 6,500,000 bales was used by those States, while during the year 1896-97 they used more than 11 per cent. of a crop of over 8,500,000 bales. The number of mills in operation during the year was 402, the number of spindles 3,344,327, and the number of bales bought 981,891.

The investigation of the production of Sea Island cotton shows that the crop of 1896-97 was the largest on record, the States of Georgia, Florida and South Carolina and Texas having produced 104,368 bales. The next largest crop was that of the preceding year, estimated at about 93,000 bales. The production of Georgia was 64,668 bales; that of Florida 26,431 bales; South Carolina 10,769; Texas, 2,500.

The total value of the upland crop was \$285,810,606, which gave an average price of 6 65 cents per pound of that sold, and the total value of the Sea Island crop \$6,000,958, an average price of 16 58 cents per pound.

The total acreage during 1896-97 was 23,273,209, the number of bales raised 8,532,795, an average of .37 bales per acre.

St. Valentine's Day is near at hand. A large stock of Valentines at H. G. Osteen & Co's Book Store.



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