

WRONG MAN GOT THE REPRIEVE

How Ability to Write Helped a South Carolina Convict.

FOR ANOTHER FREE BRIDGE

Action of Manchester Council to be Brought to Attention of Legislature—Mr. Ferguson Out for the Council—Other Manchester Notes.

Manchester Bureau, Richmond Times, No. 1102 Hull Street.

Justice Meredith, who is well known in Manchester, having lived here for a number of years, but now of South Carolina, was in the city yesterday and a caller at the police station, where he interested the men on duty with the customs and habits of the people of his place.

He tells one amusing story, among several of his hair-raising lynchings, of two negroes being in jail in South Carolina and they were sentenced to be hanged on the same day. One of them could read and write, while the other could not. The negro who could not read had a lot of business to attend to, so asked his companion in misery to write a letter for him to the Governor, asking for a reprieve of thirty days.

The reprieve came and then there was consternation, for the letter was written on his right hand, and the idea sprang into the head of the smart negro, and he signed his own name to the letter, knowing that there was everything to gain and nothing to lose.

MR. FERGUSON COMES OUT.

Mr. W. B. Ferguson has announced himself for the City Council from the Fourth Ward. Mr. Ferguson is one of the best known men in this ward, and has been urged by his friends for a long time to run for office.

WILL HAVE TWO BILLS.

Hon. D. L. Toney, the representative in the Legislature from Manchester, has two bills, which are of the most interest to the residents of this city, which he will press for passage during the term that the House is in session.

PERSONALS AND BRIEFS.

Andrew Huband, a white man, was arrested yesterday by Officer Grant, who found him in a bad condition near Henry Street. He will stand a hearing before Squire Cheatham this morning.

Rev. Mrs. A. C. Berryman, of Swansboro, who has been sick for the past week, is now able to be out.

Miss Pearl Lum, who has been sick for the past week, is now able to be out.

There will be a pie party at the residence of Mr. C. A. Raines, in Swansboro, to-night at 8 o'clock for the benefit of West End Church.

COAL CONSOLIDATION.

One of the greatest mergers in country's history contemplated.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 19.—The Post to-morrow will say:

Plans for one of the greatest coal mining companies in the world, the consolidation of the Pittsburgh Coal Company, the Monacaheela River Consolidated Coal and Coke Company, and practically all of the competing companies in the Ohio, West Virginia and Illinois fields, are again attracting attention in financial circles.

Your Liver Will be roused to its natural duties and your biliousness, headache and constipation be cured if you take Hood's Pills Sold by all druggists. 25 cents.

Berry's for Clothes WINTER WINY-TER

King Winter's rule is now limited—TOP-COAT SEASON. Here's over 250 light-weight Coats from last fall—the early cold snaps we had account for it.

Wint'ered them, and they're in as fine condition as the day they entered our store; only the price has faded. Here's the extent: \$8.50 and \$10 Top-Coats at \$5.00 \$12.50 Top-Coats at \$7.50 \$15 and \$18 Top-Coats at \$9.75

ON BERRY & CO. MEN'S & BOYS' OUTFITTERS GREAT FLOOD OF BILLS PRESENTED

Delegated C. A. Heermans (Rep.) of Montgomery, presented in the House yesterday a bill providing that the work of the Constitutional Convention, when completed, shall be submitted to the present electorate for ratification or rejection.

Hon. Pembroke Pettit, of Fluvanna, who is here to attend the meeting of the State Board of Fisheries, tells a good joke on his aged and distinguished father.

Senator J. Cloyd Byars, of Bristol, is an enthusiast on the subject of good roads, and is preparing a bill on the subject, which he will shortly introduce.

Hon. C. M. Wallace, Jr., yesterday presented his bill dividing Clay Ward and making two wards thereof. The line proposed is as follows: Up Belvidere Street from the river to Franklin Street, up Franklin to Laurel, down Laurel to Park Avenue, out Park Avenue to the city limits.

Hon. T. D. Jennings, of Lynchburg, says Senator Glass is still detained at his home by sickness and will probably be unable to return here for several days.

There was a meeting of the Republican members of the House and Senate at the Capitol yesterday, the exact object of which could not be learned.

PYTHIANS WILL MEET IN ROANOKE

Grand Lodge Will Hold the Next Convention in Southwest.

GRAND OFFICERS ELECTED

Mr. James W. Gordon Chosen Grand Chancellor of Virginia—Lodge May Complete Its Work and Adjourn To-Day.

The first day's work of the Grand Lodge of Knights of Pythias of Virginia included morning, afternoon and night sessions, at which there was a good amount of business transacted, including the election of officers and selection of Roanoke as the next place for holding the annual convention.

The officers elected are: Grand chancellor, J. W. Gordon, of Richmond; grand vice-chancellor, George C. Cabell, Jr., of Danville; grand prelate, Rev. John H. Dickinson, of Essex county; grand keeper of the records and seal, W. A. Edwards, of Norfolk; grand master, J. C. Exchange, G. L. Courtney, Richmond; grand



At a meeting of the Southside Democratic Club, of Monroe Ward, held at 223 South Second Street, Tuesday, it was decided to hold open meetings at the above place, beginning Thursday, February 27th, and every Thursday during the campaign, to afford the different candidates a chance to express their views.

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Signet Rings! The increasing interest in "Family" has brought into prominence the old-time custom of wearing a Signet Ring, bearing on its face one's monogram or crest.

Both Candidates to Speak Before the Fulton Democrats To-Night.

Mayor Taylor and Captain McCarthy have accepted invitations to appear before the Fulton Democratic Club, at Donohue's Hall, to-night.

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RALEIGH'S PLANS FOR AUDITORIUM

To Buy the Academy of Music and Enlarge It.

THE RED MEN'S ORPHANAGE

Governor Aycock Pardons Three Prisoners From the Penitentiary—A Wife Slayer Found to Have Killed Her By Accident.

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 19.—The latest toward securing a creditable auditorium for Raleigh is an offer which was made by the directors of the Raleigh Auditorium Company to-day to buy the Academy of Music. The proposition is to give the owners, of which the North Carolina Methodist Orphanage is the principal, \$15,000 in ten 5 per cent. bonds. It is believed that the proposition will be accepted, and in the event that it is an adjacent vacant lot will be purchased and the Academy enlarged so that it will seat at least 6,000 people. Its capacity is now 1,800.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 19.—Mr. Ezeriah Armstrong, died this morning at 11 o'clock at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. Esch Steere, a short distance from the city in Dinwiddie county. Mr. Armstrong, who was in the seventy-third year of his age, was a man of fine character and unusual intelligence.

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CONDENSED SCHEDULE

Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railway. Leave 4:07 A. M. daily, through train from Byrd-Street Station for Washington and beyond; 6:45 A. M. daily, from Main-Street Station for Washington and beyond; 8:54 A. M., except Monday, from Byrd-Street Station for Washington and beyond; 11:30 A. M., except Monday, from Byrd-Street Station for Washington and beyond; 2:00 P. M., except Monday, from Byrd-Street Station for Washington and beyond; 4:30 P. M., except Monday, from Byrd-Street Station for Washington and beyond; 7:15 P. M., except Monday, from Byrd-Street Station for Washington and beyond; 9:45 P. M., except Monday, from Byrd-Street Station for Washington and beyond.