

MOTHERS

We have a book prepared especially for you, which will tell you how to keep your children healthy and free from all the ailments that every child is liable to and for which you are liable to pay.

Frey's Vermifuge

Has been successfully used for a half century.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Frey, Philadelphia, Pa.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. M. L. Ham, of Morvin, was here yesterday.

Sheriff S. G. Wooten, of Bladen, was in the city yesterday.

Mr. W. T. Coke, of New Bern, spent yesterday in the city.

Mr. W. S. Boney, of Wallace, was in the city on business yesterday.

Mr. S. Korney, of Goldsboro, was among last night's arrivals in the city.

Mr. C. D. McGowan, of Willard, came down to the city on business last evening.

Miss Minnie Bishop, of Edenton, is in the city visiting Mrs. Frank P. Lamb.

Miss Hannah Way, of Allegan, Michigan, is here visiting her sister, Miss Irene P. Way.

Miss Bettie Carmon, of Fayetteville, is here on a visit to the family of Captain Sam Carmon.

The Rev. Joseph R. Wilson, D. D., stated clerk of the Southern Presbyterian General Assembly, arrived in the city yesterday and is the guest of Mrs. Tennent, on Third and Walnut streets. Dr. Wilson will go to Durham where he will for a month supply the pulpit of the Rev. L. E. Turnbull, D. D., who is now traveling in Egypt.

Colonel Bloodworth's Wonderful Gun.
Scotts Hill, N. C., March 31.
Editors Messenger:

On page 355 of the second edition of Caruther's History of North Carolina you will find an historic account of "Old Ben," the long range rifle of Colonel Bloodworth, which proved so destructive to the British garrison of Wilmington and whose famous debut was made on the 4th of July. Having read with pleasure the reminiscence in The Messenger of March 23rd, in my apology for calling your attention to that famous affair, yours truly,
L. H. McCLAMMY.

Mr. T. H. Johnson, of this city, tells us that Colonel Bloodworth was a gunsmith by trade and made the wonderful long range gun for his own use in the hunting of bears, panthers and deer. It is said he was a man of considerable means, was a member of the general assembly and presented the rifle to the state, provided a street in the capital city be named for him. There is a Bloodworth street in Raleigh. Tradition has it that while the major was hunting once at Point Peter his dogs treed several oaks in a big hollow cypress tree. It seems there was a big hole under the root of the tree leading up into the hollow of the tree, and that Major Bloodworth made use of his knowledge of the tree to try his gun on the British soldiers when they came about the water front during their occupation of Wilmington. It is said he had his blankets and provisions in the tree, and made it his hiding place while the British were here.

It surprised many visitors to the Chicago World's Fair to find that of all the blood-purifiers, Ayer's Sarsaparilla was the only one on exhibition. The reason is that Ayer's Sarsaparilla is a standard remedy, and not a patent medicine, or secret nostrum.

March Weather.
The following monthly mean temperatures and total rainfalls are reported by the United States Weather Bureau for March, 1897:

Place.	Temp.	Rain.
	Deg.	in.
Wilmington	57	1.23
Charlotte	52	6.20
Norfolk	52	4.40
Savannah	62	4.20
Jacksonville	63	3.10
Atlanta	64	5.70
Montgomery	64	12.00
New Orleans	70	4.70
Galveston	66	4.60
Tampa	72	2.40

Homes for the Delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention.
The committees of the Chamber of Commerce are at work securing homes for the delegates to the Southern Baptist convention, which holds its annual session in Wilmington from May 6th to 11th. There will be from 900 to 1,000 delegates to be provided for, and it is earnestly hoped our citizens, of whatever faith, will cordially open their doors to them. They will be here five or six days, and Wilmington should not lose the opportunity to show the generous hospitality for which it is famed.

Many people, with the notion that nature ought to take care of itself, allow a cough to plague them for weeks and months. Whereas, if nature were assisted with a dose or two of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, the cure might be effected in a very few days.

Shipping Arrived in Port in March.
From the books of Captain E. D. Williams, harbor master, we learn that during the month of March there arrived in this port 24 vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 11,320. Of this number there were 5 American steamships, 1 American brig and 13 schooners. Of the foreign vessels there were 1 steamship, 3 barks, and 1 schooner. Total number of American vessels 19, with a tonnage of 8,346. Total number of foreign vessels, 5, with a tonnage of 2,974.

Hall's Vegetable Sicilian Hair Renewer has restored gray hair to its original color and prevented baldness in thousands of cases. It will do so to you.

SOME RAILWAY RUMORS.

Settled That Atlantic Coast Line Will Encompass the Purchase of the Wilmington, New Bern and Norfolk—Such Action Would Checkmate Several of its Rivals—Renewed Talk of Coal Piers at Southport Morgan I. interested.

The Norfolk Virginian of yesterday says:

"That the Atlantic Coast Line, or at least the Wilmington and Weldon division of that big system will embrace the Wilmington, New Bern and Norfolk railway when that road shall be thrown on the market by foreclosure sale, there now seems no doubt of. Mr. Warren G. Elliott, president of the Coast Line, was at Old Point yesterday, but asked what his road's course will be regarding the matter, he said: 'Vice President Newcomer about stated our position the other day when he said that the Atlantic Coast Line will be a bidder at the sale. Whether we will be successful depends—'

"This is all the president would say, but notwithstanding both his and Mr. Newcomer's guarded statements, it is generally believed that if the road can be purchased at anything like a reasonable sum the Atlantic Coast Line and the Wilmington and Weldon system, however, do not intend to pay too dearly for the whistle is clearly apparent.

"The Wilmington, New Bern and Norfolk would about complete the Coast Line's system in Eastern Carolina, and it would also checkmate the new line from Washington to Durham and beyond, by which it is proposed to connect the Seaboard Air Line and the Norfolk and Western with Eastern Carolina. It would also be a first class part of the Norfolk, Wilmington and Charleston railway should that proposed line ever be built.

"This line, however, will probably never be built, not for some years at least, although a route for it has been surveyed, but its proposed spur from Wilmington to Southport, on the Atlantic, is very likely to be constructed soon. The necessary surveys have been made, the charter is in existence, and, what is more, J. Pierpont Morgan and a syndicate of Philadelphia capitalists are said to be behind the scheme. If the road is built, it is very probable that several very fine coal piers will be constructed at Southport, and if this is done, some business in coal shipping will, of course, be diverted from Norfolk, but it is not believed that it will amount to enough to hurt this port at all.

"The only advantage will be that ships will be able to escape Hatteras and its storms by going to Southport. This, however, is a condition to be met and dealt with in the future."

How a Cape Fear Man Made Money on Wasps.

We take the following from a recent issue of the New York Post:

"Along the banks of the Cape Fear river, in North Carolina, are lowlands, behind which lies a higher level, or bench. The lowlands are subject to more or less frequent overflows by freshets, which are destructive to crops planted thereon. A number of years ago a farmer, residing in the vicinity, made a very comfortable sum of money by insuring his neighbors' crops against these freshets. His unvarying success as an insurer was for many years a profound mystery to the people of the region. The years when he declined to insure were invariably years of destructive overflow. The years when he was willing to insure were equally certain to be seasons of exemption from disaster.

"In the earlier days of New England this man's meaning of the future would have brought him some of the wisdom and experience as a dabbler, if not an adept, in black art. In the middle ages of Europe he would probably have been revered as a prophet and saint. Yet his information came from no occult source. Observations had shown him a certain species of wasp, which built its home in the ground, built some years on the lowlands and some years upon the higher level. Experience taught him that when the wasps built on the lowlands there were no freshets, and when they built on the higher ground the water would come during the season be submerged. The man had simply noted a little instance of that little understood prescience manifested by certain insects and animals, a better knowledge of which might even be of service to our national flag, if it was only at his death that he revealed his secret."

FIRE STATISTICS.

There Were One Hundred and Thirty-Eight Alarms and Ninety-Four Fires in Wilmington in 1896—The Loss Was \$44,404.86.

From the report of the national board of underwriters for 1896, we learn that from January 1st to December 31st of that year there were in Wilmington 133 alarms of fire and 94 fires from which there was a loss of \$5 and over. Of the total number of fires 83 were in wooden buildings and 6 in brick buildings.

Seventy-nine fires were confined to the buildings in which the fire originated, and 14 fires extended to adjoining buildings. There was one conflagration.

These fires immediately involved \$14,000 worth of property and the loss thereon was \$4,494.86. The insurance thereon was \$38,950. The insurance loss was \$43,183.56. Loss over and above insurance \$1,311.

These losses include one fire across the river, on Edgemoor Island, on September 24th, causing a loss of \$16,663.94. Deducting this from \$43,183.56, leaves the actual insurance loss in the city proper of \$26,519.92.

Russia's Plan for Government of Crete

London, March 20.—In the house of commons today G. N. Curzon, under foreign secretary, announced that on March 25th M. Nelidoff, Russian ambassador at Constantinople, had communicated to his diplomatic colleagues at the Turkish capital copies of a telegram which he had received from the admiral commanding the Russian warships in Cretan waters, urging the appointment of an European governor for the island of Crete, with full power to act and also urging the withdrawal of the Turkish troops from the island, as the admirals of the foreign squadrons were of the opinion that such action was necessary. Mr. Curzon said that the government of Great Britain supported the suggestions made by the Russian admiral and that the powers had the matter under consideration.

Mr. Clarke supported the motion made yesterday by Hon. Edward Blake, for a readjustment of the taxation in Ireland. He believed, he said, that it had already been proved that Ireland was unduly taxed. (Nationalist) requested that the bill be referred to a committee.

In the house of lords today the Duke of Devonshire moved the second reading of the educational bill.

The Winchester Graves—Honor to Whom Honor is Due.

Wilmington, N. C., March 31.
Editors Messenger:

The following appeared in The Raleigh News and Observer about a fortnight ago. I do not know what response has been made to Mr. Blacknall's suggestion, nor do I know who has any particular authority in the matter, but it would certainly be exceedingly appropriate if Rev. Mr. Averett were assigned to the duty referred to, because of his peculiar association with the movement to mark the North Carolina graves at Winchester, and his services connected therewith, as well as his capacity to fitly represent the state on such an occasion. He is a native of Onslow county, was "a good old rebel" and sincerely loves the memory of his comrades in arms.

A. M. WADELL.

"To the Editor:

"I take it that the graves of the North Carolina soldiers in the great Stonewall cemetery at Winchester, Va., will be marked by June 6th, Memorial day."

"That day should be North Carolina day. A North Carolina orator should deliver the address. I am sure that the Winchester people will gladly accord us that privilege."

"There is one North Carolinian pre-eminently worthy, one who originated and has been the heart and soul of the movement to mark our long neglected graves in that glorious Valhalla. No other North Carolinian should be thought of in that connection. That man is the Rev. James Battle Averett, of Lenoir. He married a Winchester woman, one of the ministering angels who softened the cruel path to the grave of so many of our kith. As the chaplain of Ashby's command, and later of Stonewall's brigade, he had a personal experience of the march of the troops in the valley. He is loyal to our past. He is an eloquent man. In no hands can the fame of our confederate dead be more safely entrusted."

"The press of the state would do well to advocate his being chosen. We owe it to him for the good work he has done in this connection; we owe it to our Winchester dead because he is the right man. Just the man they would have chosen."

O. W. BLACKNALL.

"Kittrell, N. C., March 15."

Wilmington's Three Mayors.

The Baltimore Sun of yesterday says: Wilmington, N. C., has three mayors just now, and three boards of aldermen; and still it is not happy! The situation is too earnest a reminder that the city is under the thumb of the republican combination which now holds the Old North State in the hollow of its hand, to impart any of the happiness and contentment which it has been and will be. It is due, among other things, to a protest and a fighting to the last ditch on the part of the really representative people of the city against an oligarchy established by the recent legislature, which was itself an outrage on the people of the state, and which placed in the hands of the governor for partisan purposes only, the right to appoint the government of the largest city in the state. North Carolina's and Wilmington's fate may well be a warning to the people of all other southern states and cities against the evil of democratic dalliance with political elements outside the pale of the democratic party. Let us beware!

Goldsboro Locals.

(Correspondence of The Messenger.)
Goldsboro, N. C., March 31.
Dr. G. W. Blacknall, of Raleigh, who has lectured the Atlantic Hotel at this city for the season, returned from there today on his way to Raleigh. He says he has a force of hands at work getting ready for the opening, May 15th.

Mr. H. A. Tucker, of your city, is here looking after the Goldsboro branch of the Southern Express Company. The Southern Express Company is having its office here thoroughly overhauled, and when completed will be very pretty. Mr. J. J. Bowen has been its popular agent here for near five years.

J. S. Blizell, of Blizell Bros., returned yesterday from New York, where he has been purchasing his firm's spring stock of dry goods. This firm is a very popular one, and it is remarkable to see the success they are having.

I notice quite a lot of corn being loaded here and as near as I can ascertain it was sold to the superintendent of the penitentiary by one of our citizens for seed corn to be planted on the state farm.

Funeral of Mr. E. T. Coghill.

The funeral of the late Eugene T. Coghill, who died in Wilmington, N. C., last Sunday morning, took place yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock from Venable Street Baptist church, and was conducted by Rev. Dr. J. S. Dill, the pastor. The pallbearers were members of the Uniform Rank of Pythians, as follows: J. B. Heck, H. D. Burkholder (of Wilmington), D. W. De Sylvia, W. S. Tucker, A. A. Evans, and W. Gratznowsky, of this city. There was a detachment from the 10th North Carolina regiment, and a large attendance. Captain Cunningham sang very tenderly "Good Night." The remarks of Dr. Dill were very impressive.

The interment was made in Oakwood, with full Pythian honors.

The floral designs from the lodge of which deceased was a member were quite handsome and numerous.—Richmond Times, March 31st.

The Rev. Mr. Kramer at Halifax.

(Correspondence of The Messenger.)
Halifax, N. C., March 30.
Rev. Jas. W. Kramer, pastor of Brooklyn Baptist church, Wilmington, is in Halifax aiding Rev. J. McNaughan, pastor of the Baptist church here, in a meeting of days. His sermons are strong, forceful and pungent, and are presented in the most lucid and tangible manner. His preaching is attracting large crowds and much interest. The designs from the lodge of which deceased was a member were quite handsome and numerous.—Richmond Times, March 31st.

Booklen's Arnica Salve

The Best Salve in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no cure required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by R. R. Bellamy.

THE DROSS NECK MURDER.

Additional Witnesses Testify Before the Jury of Inquest at Their Adjourned Meeting Yesterday—They Returned a Verdict That Walter Pemberton Came to His Death at the Hands of Simon Prince or Henry Shepard.

Pursuant to adjournment on Monday morning, the jury of inquest investigating the murder of Walter Pemberton, colored, whose brains were blown out in the difficulty at Jim Whitley's house in Dross Neck, Saturday night, met yesterday at 10 o'clock a. m. in the grand jury room at the court house.

Josephine Pigford, colored, was the first witness sworn, and her testimony was as follows: "I live on Chadbourne's hill, in this city. At 11 o'clock on the night of the murder I was at my home, when Will Lord, colored, came to the door and called out Ed. Moseley, colored, who was in the house with me. Lord told Moseley he wanted to borrow a hat, and said the necessary things, and then he went to Mary Houston's house, but he told Moseley he did not take time to find out whether anybody was hurt or not. Lee Blocker afterwards came to my house and said a man got shot in Mary Houston's house. He said the man who got shot was Walter Pemberton, a section hand on the Carolina Central. Blocker said he was shot in the forehead, over the left eye, but he did not know who shot him. Witness asked Blocker who was in the house when the shooting occurred. He said Will Townsend, Jim Townsend and Henry Cole. The first witness Will Townsend came to my house and said he was in Mary Houston's house Saturday night, and when the shooting started he could not get out. He was holding a lamp during the trouble, but when he saw Pemberton fall he threw the lamp into the street and jumped out of the window. Witness said she knew the house was kept by Jim Townsend (Whitley) for gambling purposes, because she, Walter Pemberton and Mary Houston had played a 2-cent skin game a week before the shooting, in the presence of Lee Blocker and Frank Hamer, both colored."

Frank Hamer, colored, was called and sworn: He testified as follows: "I was in Mary Houston's house on Saturday, a week before the trouble. I was standing around watching some of the boys play cards. At that time I saw Josephine Pigford, Mary Houston and Jim Whitley playing. I have seen gambling going on in the house and have gambled there myself before that."

William Lord, colored, was sworn and testified as follows: "I was over in Whitley's house about 7 o'clock on the night of the shooting. Among those there I saw Henry Shepard, Simon Prince, Walter Pemberton and Jim Whitley. When I went in they were all sitting around talking, but I saw the firing of the shot being fired in the house some time ago. I heard Simon Prince say to Henry Shepard, 'Why in h— don't you pay me?' Shepard said, 'I'll never do it.' Prince said, 'If you don't pay me I'll shoot h— out of you.' Shepard said, 'Can't I shoot as well as they would shoot?' I said, 'Prince said, 'Why don't you pay me, Henry?' I lent you money when you needed it.' Shepard replied, 'I'll never pay you till I get ready,' and then Prince repeated that he would shoot Shepard. Both walked towards each other as if they would shoot. I said to another man, 'I believe them d— niggers is going to shoot,' and made haste to reach the door, followed by several others. I made good time leaving the house, and lost my hat in the hurry. While I was running I heard the firing of the shot. I saw a man run out I saw Prince and Shepard standing on opposite sides of the fireplace. I never noticed where Pemberton was. Pemberton had no words with Prince and Shepard while I was in the house."

The witness answered several questions that were asked, but no additional facts were elicited.

The following report by Dr. J. C. Shepard, county superintendent of health, was presented to the jury: "Gentlemen of the Jury of Inquest: On yesterday, the 28th day of March, I examined the dead body of a colored man in the city of Wilmington whose name I understood to be Walter Pemberton. I found the cause of death to be a gunshot wound of the head, located on the forehead above the left eye. The ball was located six inches from the orifice of the wound, having passed directly through the brain and lodged in the back part of the same."

J. C. SHEPARD, M. D.

"Supt' Health."

Coroner Jacobs then stated that the testimony was closed and asked all but the jury to retire. After going over the testimony, the jury in fifteen minutes returned the following verdict: "That the deceased, Walter Pemberton, came to his death from a gunshot wound in the head, by the hands of Simon Prince or Henry Shepard."

Two Lives Saved.

Mrs. Phoebe Thomas, of Junction City, Ill., was told by her doctors she had Consumption and that there was no hope for her, but two bottles of Dr. King's New Discovery completely cured her, and she says it saved her life. Mr. Thos. Eggers, 139 Florida st., San Francisco, suffered from a dreadful cold, approaching Consumption, tried without result everything else then bought one bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery and in two weeks was cured. He is naturally thankful that it is such results, of which these are samples, that prove the wonderful efficacy of this medicine in Coughs, and Colds. Free trial bottle at R. R. Bellamy's Drug Store. Regular size 50c. and \$1.00.

England Opposed to the Blockade.

Vienna, March 31.—It is understood here that the blockade of the ports of Crete shall be continued. The admirals commanding the warships of other foreign nations in Cretan waters, however, desire the continuance of the blockade and that blockade of the Aegean gulf also be established. This last proposal, it is believed, will be adhered to by the continental powers, provided England's assent to it can be obtained.

CASTORIA.

The family signature of *Dr. H. P. S. S. S.* is on every wrapper.

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AFTER THE RAILROADS.

The Inter-State Commerce Commission Calling for All Bills of Lading for Grain Since April 1st, 1896 From Railroads Running East From Chicago.

Chicago, March 30.—All the eastern railroads which enter Chicago, except the Chicago and Grand Trunk, have received notices from the inter-state commerce commission to forward to their office at Washington on or before April 10th all bills of lading and other evidence of shipment of grain and grain products and packing-house products between April 1, 1896, and March 1, 1897. This notice created some surprise and concern among the freight officials, who have been inclined to regard lightly the published announcement that the commerce commission, aided by the Chicago board of trade investigation next month, intended to make a searching inquiry into the giving of reduced rates. The omission of the Grand Trunk from the list was agreed to be a mistake, although the impression gave rise to general charges that this road had been foremost in rate cutting. Chicago officials say the evidence desired will be prepared as soon as possible, and they are afraid to be caught furnishing false statements to the commission. An important meeting of presidents, general officers and traffic men connected with the western roads will be held in the Rookery tomorrow. It is understood that the plan to be carried out in view of the supreme court's recent decision, has already been prepared by a committee. The committee is to maintain the Western Freight Association and a bureau of statistics and information. This is rendered necessary chiefly because the five members of the board of administration are under two-year contracts to the association and their salaries are \$10,000 each, and the railroads cannot utilize their services in any other manner. To the railroads interested the bureau will really be for the purpose of enforcing the maintenance of uniform rates by each road acting as a spy and informer on the charges and threatening expense to the inter-state commerce commission. For every secret violation of the law in making discriminatory rates which may be discovered by a competitor. There is to be a verbal contract embracing the salient features of the present agreement, omitting the direct penalty clause. This agreement is to be on violators of the law is considered the only way to prevent secret rate-cutting.

Passenger officials of western roads met today and decided to continue the mileage and clergy permit bureau of the Western Passenger Association. The general organization will be obtained for the purpose of compiling statistics and disseminating them for general information.

Messrs. Newman of the Great Northern, Munroe of the Union Pacific, Boston of the Canadian Pacific, and Bissell of the Santa Fe, were here today on their way to New York to attend a meeting of eastern railroad men. The question is to agree on a division of westbound trans-continental business.

A. A. Russell, general passenger agent of the St. Paul and Duluth road, has resigned.

Efforts to Supply the Tug Monarch With Coal.

Key West, Fla., March 30.—Last night customs officials at this port detected the steamer Clyde and schooner Cora taking on coal, and failing to satisfy the officials as to the disposition of the same, an inspector was detailed to duty on board the schooner Cora with instructions to proceed with her and see what disposition would be made of her cargo. Captain H. H. Williams, of the Cora, refused to take his vessel out with the officer on board and the steamer Clyde proceeded at once, and when about sixteen miles from Key West the cutter struck on horse shoals and came back in a badly damaged condition. The large wrecking pumps on board were set going and kept her from going down. At 9:30 o'clock this morning the steam tug Monarch was brought into this port from the cutter Winona. Yesterday morning the cutter, acting under instructions from the collector of customs, left this port to cruise along the coast, and when off Bahia Honda harbor, thirty miles to the northward, sighted the Monarch, which was anchored there waiting for coal. An officer was sent on board with instructions to take her to Key West. Her arrival here caused considerable excitement. This is the second time within ten days that an attempt has been made to supply the Monarch with coal from this port. Last week the George W. Childs was reported as having supplied her with coal. Captain Lewis formerly of the Three Friends, is on board the Monarch.

Incendiary Fire at Portsmouth, Va.

Norfolk, Va., March 30.—There were three more attempts of incendiary fire in Portsmouth last night. These, following the great conflagration of Monday morning, that swept away a large portion of the city, and is now positively known to have been of incendiary origin, have thrown the inhabitants of the city into such a nervous state that sleep is almost impossible. The police last night discovered the attempted incendiary in time to prevent a repetition of the calamity of Sunday. The mayor today issued a proclamation offering a reward of \$500 for the conviction of any person guilty of originating the fires.

Cretean Peasants Being Starved by the Blockade.

Athens, March 31.—The Cretean refugees who have arrived here have made an appeal to the heads of the European states, praying in the name of humanity that the blockade of the Cretean ports by the warships of the powers be raised in order that supplies of food may be admitted to the island, thus averting the famine which threatens thousands of helpless men, women and children in Crete. The Red Cross society has made an international appeal for aid for the inhabitants of the island. The armed insurgents are able to obtain provisions by going to the coast for supplies, but the people living inland are destitute.

Opposition to the Sugar Trust.

Albany, N. Y., March 31.—The New York Sugar Refining Company, of Long Island City, the Doecher Company, to operate in opposition to the sugar trust, was incorporated by the secretary of state today. The company will carry on the business of manufacturing, refining, purchasing, selling and disposing of all kinds of sugar, molasses, syrups and other matters used in the refining of sugar. The company will begin business with \$200,000.

RAILROADS REORGANIZING.

Trying to Build a New Traffic Association That Will Not Violate the Law as Laid Down in the Recent Supreme Court Decision.

Chicago, March 31.—The Western Joint Traffic Bureau is to be the name of the freight association which is now called the Western Freight Association. The text of the new agreement, which has been prepared by a committee of trunk line officers, was submitted today to lawyers for the lines interested, who will examine the document with a view to determining its legality in the light of the trans-Missouri decision of the supreme court. If the attorneys find no objection to the agreement on that score, it will be reported to the presidents, general officers and freight men connected with the western roads at their meeting tomorrow, and no doubt adopted. The agreement is defined to be for the purpose of arranging providing and distributing joint tariffs and rates, and to make satisfactory division of joint rates between the companies over whose lines the joint traffic moves, and in order to properly comply with all laws and state commissions, without interference, however, with the individual freedom of any line or company in the making of rates for the handling of its own local and competitive traffic, and for the purpose of providing tariff statistics and securing compliance with the decisions of the inter-state commerce commission and of the courts. The bureau is to be under the supervision of a board of five commissioners to be elected by the presidents of the roads, and the present board of administration will constitute the new board. Members of the bureau will be required to furnish the board such reports of freight traffic as the board may require, and rates as may be required by the board. The duty of the board is to distribute this information among the members of the bureau. All divisions of joint through rates, except those between proprietary lines are to be fixed by the board. The board is empowered to call a meeting of the representatives of the lines as often as it deems advisable. The agreement is to be effective tomorrow and continue in force until December 31, 1898, when the contracts with the members of the present board expire.

The general sentiment of railroad officials, when interviewed today on the bill introduced by Senator Foraker permitting pooling among roads, was that such a measure was necessary to avert the ruin of roads, and they hoped it would pass quickly as a relief in the present emergency.

RESTORED TO HEALTH.

If you are suffering with any skin or blood disease, Rheumatism, Catarrh, Ulcers, Old Sores, General Debility, etc., send stamp to the Blood Balm Co., Atlanta, Ga., for book of wonderful cures. This book will point the way to speedy recovery.

Botanic Blood Balm (B. B. B.) is manufactured after a long tested prescription of an eminent physician, and is the best building-up and blood purifying medicine in the world. Beware of substitutes. Price \$1.00 for large bottle. For sale by Druggists.

ONE IN A THOUSAND.

One summer, several years ago, while railroaded in Mississippi I became badly affected with malarial and cholera, which impaired my health for more than two years. Several offensive ulcers appeared on my legs, and nothing seemed to give permanent relief until I took of Botanic Blood Balm (B. B. B.), which cured me entirely.

M. D. LANE, Deveraux, Ga.

WIND AND FIRE.

An Oklahoma Town Wrecked by Cyclone—Then Burned—A Long Death Roll.

Guthrie, Okla., March 31.—A received here at 1 o'clock this morning from Chandler stated that nineteen dead bodies had been taken from the ruins. The wrecked buildings were on fire and burning fiercely. Many of the injured undoubtedly met death by fire, while pinned fast under the debris. In one building five injured people were burned to death and at another place the bodies of three young children have been taken out. Another telephone message received at 2:30 o'clock this morning asked for help and rescue parties immediately started from Guthrie and nearby towns. The message said that the entire business portion of the little town burned after being wrecked by the wind. The scene was described as terrible and almost beyond description. Several of the injured became temporarily insane and rushed up and down the street in a state of delirium. The main street of the town is a mass of dead and injured people and teams and wagons, buckles, trees and debris from the buildings. Every building but one on the main street was wrecked and burned, including the court house, postoffice, News and Democrat offices, Lincoln county bank, New York store and several hotels.

James Woodyard and wife, of Eldorado, Kas., visiting at Chandler, were instantly killed; their little daughter was fatally crushed and was badly hurt. John Dawson, of Lincoln, Neb., a lawyer, was burned to death. The police last night discovered the attempted incendiary in time to prevent a repetition of the calamity of Sunday. The mayor today issued a proclamation offering a reward of \$500 for the conviction of any person guilty of originating the fires.

Telegraphic Sparks.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone declares that the story recently published here that his father has learned to ride a bicycle is a hoax.

Ex-United States Senator Angus Cameron, of Lacrosse, Wis., who has been in poor health for some time, died here Tuesday night from general debility.

It is reported tonight at Frankfort, Ky., that Senator Linney will be for Hunter tomorrow. He has been one of the leaders for the anti-Hunter republican faction.

At Springfield, Ills., Judge Allen, of the United States court, has issued an order for the sale of the Peoria, Decatur and Evansville railroad, unless the interest due on \$1,700,000 is paid before May 3rd.

It is reported that negotiations have been passing between Turkey and Greece looking to a settlement of the Cretan troubles. Whether these negotiations have taken place since those that were reported in the middle of March does not appear.

A dispatch from Larissa, Island of Cyprus, says that a number of Cyprian volunteers and Greek reserves have embarked for Crete on board the Greek steamer Erene, which was endeavor to run the blockade of that island.