

FROM THE WIRES.

Montgomery, Ala., April 22 — Reports from the country surrounding Montgomery indicate that a great deal of the cotton which was up has been killed by the present cold weather.

Washington, April 22 — Figures received at the State department compiled by J. W. Stevenson, director of the Chinese Inland mission, showed that the total number of foreign missionaries killed in China during the recent disturbances, including the children, was 186. Of these 28 adults and 8 children were Americans.

St. Mary's, W. Va., April 22 — A terrific natural explosion occurred in the Commercial hotel early this morning. The entire building, a large frame, was a mass of flames when the startled citizens rushed from their homes at the report. The building was entirely destroyed and today the ruins are being searched for bodies. Four are dead.

Cape Town, April 22. — Albert Cartwright, editor of The South African News, who was arrested in February on a charge of seditious and defamatory libel in having published in his paper a statement that Lord Kitchener had secretly instructed his troops to take no prisoners, has been convicted and sentenced to one year's imprisonment.

Wichita, Kans., April 24 — Mrs. Carrie Nation, Mrs. Lucy Wilkita, Mrs. Julia Evans and Mrs. Lydia Muntz appeared before Judge Dale today in the district court and failed to give bond. They were taken to the county jail and will remain there until a bond of \$500 each is approved or until their trial at the May term of court for "joint smashing."

Pekin, April 22 — Gen. Voyron, the commander of the French troops in China has informed Gen. Chaffee that 10,000 French soldiers will leave China next May.

Paris, April 24 — A dispatch to the Figaro from Rome says Mgr. Falconio, the papal delegate in Canada, will succeed Mgr. Martinelli as papal delegate in the United States, and that Mgr. Zealeski, the papal delegate in the West Indies, will succeed Mgr. Falconio.

New York, April 24 — It was reported at the navy yard today that Rear Admiral Bowles, chief of the bureau of construction and repair at Washington, had been offered a place as the chief executive officer of a new ship yard combination that is to be organized in the near future. At the yard no one would discuss the matter. It was reported that Rear Admiral Bowles would receive a salary of \$50,000.

Liston, April 24 — A slight earthquake shock was felt here at 3:30 this afternoon. A violent shock was experienced at 4:30 this afternoon during which several persons were thrown down and bruised.

Montgomery, Ala., April 23 — The people of Alabama voted today on the proposition to call a convention to assemble in this city May 21 to adapt the State constitution to the needs of the present day. An exceedingly light vote was polled through the State, and the returns indicate that perhaps five-sixths of the counties voted in favor of a convention being held. The principal reforms which the convention has in view are suffrage, the courts, the terms of public officers and the abolishment of so much local legislation.

Albany, N. Y., April 24 — Gov. Odell today signed the bill authorizing women taxpayers in villages and towns to vote on propositions to expend money for public purposes.

London, April 24 — A London firm is promoting the old scheme of buying up bonds which the southern States issued during the reconstruction period and which, later, were repudiated by the State governments. The papers exploit the enterprise, urging bondholders to come forward. There is considerable local interest in the repudiated bonds, which are largely held here. One bank is reported to hold a majority of the Arkansas issue.

Union, April 25 — Randall Dwylop, a negro, had two of his mules killed yesterday by the 10:15 train. He was crossing in a cut and did not hear the train. One of the mules was knocked about 50 feet and killed, and the other died while on the way home.

San Francisco, April 25 — Edwin H. Conger, United States minister to China, accompanied by his wife, daughter and Miss Pierce, arrived from China this afternoon on the steamer Nippon Maru.

Atlantic City, N. J., April 25 — The three masted schooner Emma C. Knowles, Capt. Rogers from Charleston, S. C., April 14 for Fall River, with a cargo of lumber, was sighted six miles off this city today, almost a total wreck. There was no life on the vessel, and the fate of her crew is unknown tonight.

Athens, Tenn., April 26 — As the outcome of a recent temperance crusade the office of the McMin Citizen was raided during the night. The presses were overturned and the type was dumped into a stream nearby. The Citizen published temperance editorials during a recent election. This is supposed to have caused the raid.

Apportionment of Dispensary Funds.

SHARE EACH COUNTY GETS FROM THE SCHOOL FUND MONEY.

Columbia, April 26 — The comptroller has at last received all the reports from the various counties as to the amounts needed from the dispensary fund to make up the per capita school allowance as required by the constitution, and yesterday proceeded to make the apportionment of the school fund derived from the profits of the dispensary. Of the total amount of \$100,000 paid into the school fund by the State board, \$5,000 had to go for summer schools, and it took \$15,386 15 to make up the deficiencies. This left \$79,613 85 to be apportioned among the several counties upon the basis of total enrollment in the schools. This was yesterday done as follows, and yesterday afternoon the warrants were being sent to the several counties for the amounts indicated:

County	Enrollment	Q 100a based on Pupils	Enrollment based on Pupils
Abbeville	8,187	\$2,312 25	2,312 25
Aiken	8,280	2,338 50	2,338 50
Anderson	12,293	3,471 88	3,471 88
Bamberg	3,734	1,054 59	1,054 59
Barrowell	7,311	2,064 82	2,064 82
Beaufort	6,891	1,946 21	1,946 21
Berkeley	5,050	1,426 25	1,426 25
Charleston	12,511	3,533 35	3,533 35
Cherokee	4,599	1,298 90	1,298 90
Chester	6,254	1,766 31	1,766 31
Chesterfield	4,319	1,219 80	1,219 80
Clarendon	6,408	1,809 80	1,809 80
Colleton	5,550	1,567 50	1,567 50
Darlington	6,665	1,882 40	1,882 40
Dorchester	3,070	867 05	867 05
Edgefield	6,136	1,732 97	1,732 97
Fairfield	6,469	1,827 02	1,827 02
Florence	6,040	1,705 86	1,705 86
Georgetown	4,561	1,288 15	1,288 15
Greenville	12,752	3,601 51	3,601 51
Greenwood	6,415	1,811 77	1,811 77
Hampton	4,763	1,345 20	1,345 20
Horry	5,123	1,446 87	1,446 87
Kershaw	5,382	1,520 02	1,520 02
Lancaster	6,394	1,805 85	1,805 85
Lincoln	8,141	2,299 25	2,299 25
Lexington	5,741	1,621 42	1,621 42
Marion	7,901	2,231 46	2,231 46
Marlboro	5,327	1,504 50	1,504 50
Oconee	5,230	1,477 10	1,477 10
Newberry	8,119	2,293 03	2,293 03
Orangeburg	14,115	3,986 45	3,986 45
Pickens	4,799	1,355 40	1,355 40
Richland	7,025	1,984 05	1,984 05
Saluda	5,152	1,455 06	1,455 06
Spartanburg	13,367	3,775 21	3,775 21
Sumter	10,082	2,847 43	2,847 43
Union	5,192	1,466 36	1,466 36
Williamsburg	6,498	1,835 21	1,835 21
York	10,045	2,836 98	2,836 98
Total	281,891	\$79,613 85	
Deficiency fund		\$15,386 15	
Summer schools		5,000 00	
		\$100,000 00	

THE KING OF HANDCUFFS.

How Harry Houdini, American, Surprised the British.

When Harry Houdini, the American king of handcuffs, arrived in England, he tried to arrange for an exhibit of his skill at Scotland Yard, but the authorities refused to allow him an opportunity of putting on or taking off official handcuffs, says London M. A. P. So, accompanied by a skeptical London manager, he paid an ordinary call as an American visitor to the police headquarters. Mr. Houdini, after making the usual remarks on everything he saw and heard, casually asked a question about a pair of handcuffs. The guide took them down and answered:

"Oh, these are handcuffs impossible to remove."

Houdini was greatly interested, and the incident closed by the American visitor requesting his guide to lock the handcuffs on his wrists. Then he turned his back and succeeded in getting them off in a couple of minutes.

One of Houdini's strangest adventures happened at a big hotel in St. Paul, Minn., where he was very well known. To his surprise, he found that a couple of men occupying the rooms on either side of his own appeared to be mounting guard over him. At first he only suspected this, but after a few days he was perfectly sure that one or the other of his neighbors shadowed his every movement. One afternoon, when Houdini was sitting in his own room, he heard the sound of scuffling outside the door. Flung it open, he discovered his two unknown friends grasping a third man, who had evidently been wearing a long dark cape that was dragged on one side, showing that he was heavily handcuffed.

"We're a couple of detectives, Mr. Houdini," panted one of the men. "This fellow made his escape from jail some days ago. We knew that he wouldn't dare to go to a locksmith to get his handcuffs removed, and we suspected that he might come to you."

Bicycles are generally considered very modern inventions, but some of the Egyptian obelisks bear figures mounted on two wheeled vehicles resembling the old velocipedes.

Silk goods are said to take dyes more readily than any other fabric.

A fool forms an alliance with the straws driven by the wind; a wise man forms an alliance with the wind. — Chicago News.

The first savings bank in the United States was established in 1816.

A LIGHT IN THE YARD.

MRS. GALLUP RECOGNIZES IN IT HER SUMMONS TO HEAVEN.

But She Fails to Get Any Information From Her Husband as to the Manner in Which She Should Act When She Enters Her Home Among the Angels.

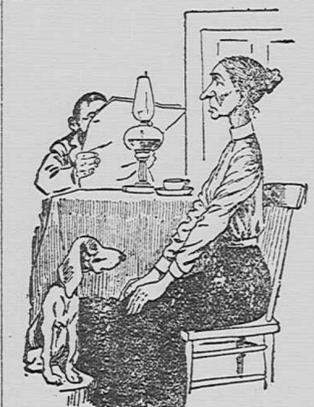
(Copyright, 1900, by C. B. Lewis.)

When Mr. Gallup sat down for the evening, he had his newspaper on his knee and Mrs. Gallup was singing "Rock of Ages" and clearing away the supper table. He had been reading for a quarter of an hour when she quietly entered and sat down and said:

"Samuel, I don't want to disturb you nor make you feel bad, but I feel obliged to ask you a few questions. Last night at midnight Mrs. Watkins saw a light moving around in our back yard. It was a light which bobbed up and bobbed down and dodged this way and that, and when it finally went out it gave a great wink and a splutter. It was what they call a ghost lantern, Samuel, and it meant that there would be death in this house within a week. It'll be my death, of course. I've got 27 different ailments, with heart disease thrown in, while you are as healthy as a cornfield. Yes; it'll be me, but I'm not weepin' over it. I'm sittin' right here as calm as catnip, but I want to know some few things."

Mr. Gallup must have known of her presence, but he was too deeply interested in his paper to recognize it. He had found an article which said that a bedbug could be boiled in water for four hours and then come out with his ambition undaunted.

"I shall go to heaven when I die, of course," continued Mrs. Gallup as her voice broke a little. "I order go there. Any woman who has whitewashed the cellar every spring for 27 years, besides makin' soft soap, cuttin' carpet rags, dyin' over old clothes and makin' one corset last her for 13 years, will go to heaven on the jump. What bothers



"I'M SITTING RIGHT HERE AS CALM AS CATNIP," she, however, is how I'm goin' to act arter I git there. You know how company allus frustrates me. If three or four of the neighbors come in, I'm allmost sure to fall off my cheer or knock over sunthin'. How's it goin' to be when I git up there and meet a hull pasture full of angels? There'll be millions of 'em, Samuel, and they'll all be lookin' at me and wonderin' who I am, and I'll be so upsoat that I'll fall over my own feet."

She paused to wipe the tears from her eyes with the palm of her hand, but as she had asked no direct questions Mr. Gallup finished the bug article and turned to one on the care of clotheslines.

"I don't want to be looked at and p'inted out and made fun of up there," said Mrs. Gallup as she sat with her eyes on the carpet. "All night long last night I couldn't sleep for thinkin' that some of the angels would turn up their noses at me and want to know what on airth I was doin' there. You remember Sarah Jane Bixby, who died two years ago? Sarah was snippy and sassy. If she went to heaven, it would be jest her way to want to know why I'd come flyin' up there, with my rheumatiz and back aches. I'd have to sass her back, and then what would happen? Angels do sass each other sometimes, don't they, Samuel?"

If Mr. Gallup had ever given the matter a thought, he was too busy to discuss it. The statement was right before his eyes that 1,000,000 miles of clothesline went to destruction every year for want of being hung up in the wood shed when not in use, and he was reflecting on the carelessness of humanity in general.

"I may git up to heaven in the night, when all the angels are asleep, and so I'll slip in all right. I hope that'll be the way, because it'll give me a chance to kind of git used to the place before daylight. Do you think they have any breakfast up there? Mrs. Watkins says they don't, but I don't really see how they git along without it. I know I should feel a goneness all day without breakfast. And I want you to look at me, Samuel, and see if I'm the humblyest woman ever born. I have read that when die we are changed as in the twinklin' of an eye. I hope it's so. If it ain't, then I can't expect no good times up there. Them angels will be p'intin' out my top shoulder, my big feet and my wabby knees and whisp'erin' to each other that I'd better staid down on airth among the cabbages. Nobody as knows me can call me obstinate or sot, but I'll be snuffed if I propose to die and become an angel to be made fun of. You'll be on my side about that, won't you?"

Mr. Gallup heaved a long sigh and seemed about to speak, but no word came. He had finished with the clothesline and struck an article about the "reasoning powers of the crow, and the most direct question from Mrs. Gallup would have passed unheeded. Her tears fell for two or three minutes, and then she asked:

"And how about the beds up there? You know we've slept on a feather bed ever since we was married, and I've allus bin particular to smooth it down

from head to foot. I've got used to feathers, and if I changed off I'd jest lay there and kick around all night long. Do they hev beds, Samuel, or do they keep on flyin' around all night long and singin' "I've Reached My Home at Last?" Seems to me that flyin' and singin' all day would be enough unless I feel stronger than I do now. You orter know these things, Samuel, and you orter tell me so I'll know what to depend on. I might stand sass from a thousand angels, but I do want my own bed when night comes, and if one of my headaches comes on unexpectedly I want to know that I kin hev a cup of tea. Mrs. Watkins says they don't drink tea in heaven, but I don't see how she kin know."

Mr. Gallup was not directly appealed to, and as he was reading that a crow had been known to feign death to avoid having a crowbar thrown at him he made no sign.

"Waal, I've made up my mind to a few things," said Mrs. Gallup as the silence grew painful. "I'm goin' up to heaven to do the best I kin. I'll be nayburly with all the angels I meet and let 'em understand that I don't want no more'n my share of harps and wings and things. If I don't find anythin' to eat or any beds to sleep on, I shan't raise no fuss nor go into hysterics, the way Mrs. Taylor did at camp meetin' last year. Yes; I'll put up with things as I find 'em and make the best of it, and I won't be jealous if a few of 'em hev better clothes on or kin sing better'n me. That's how I'll act, Samuel, and then if they pick on me they'll git as good as they give. I kin be sass'd and pick'd on jest so fur, but arter that they want to look out. Would it put you out any, Samuel, if I died at night instead of in the daytime? As I said, if I died at night I could slip into heaven without any fuss, but if it's goin' to make you any extra trouble I'll perish by daylight. What will be the most convenient hour fur you?"

There was deep silence. Mrs. Gallup's tears made no thud as they fell upon the carpet, and Mr. Gallup was reading with bated breath that an ostrich covers 13 feet of ground at every stride when in full flight. The clock ticked, the silence grew deeper, and the cricket on the hearth fell into a doze. Then Mr. Gallup suddenly laid aside his paper, stretched his arms and legs, with a "Ho-hum!" and looked around to find Mrs. Gallup asleep in her chair. She hadn't gone to join the angels—not yet. M. QUAD.

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Atlantic Coast Line.

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Condensed Schedule. Dated April 8, 1901.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH.

	No. 55	No. 56
Leave Wilmington	8:45 p. m.	
Leave Marion	6:40	
Arrive Florence	7:25	
Leave Florence	8:00 p. m.	8:00 a. m.
Arrive Sumter	9:15	3:58
Leave Sumter	9:15	9:23
Arrive Columbia	10:40	10:55

No. 52 runs through from Charleston via Central R. R., leaving Charleston 6:25 a. m., leaving 8:02 a. m., reaching 8:50 a. m.

TRAINS GOING NORTH.

	No. 54	No. 53
Leave Columbia	8:40 a. m.	8:16 p. m.
Arrive Sumter	9:05	5:35
Leave Sumter	8:05	8:24
Arrive Florence	9:20	7:35
Leave Florence	10:00	
Leave Marion	10:35	
Arrive Wilmington	1:25	

Daily except Sundays. No. 42 runs through to Charleston, S. C. via Central R. R., arriving Marion 6:04 p. m., leaving 6:43 p. m., Charleston 8:30 p. m. Trains on Conway Branch leave Charleston 11:50 a. m., arrive Conway 1:31 p. m., returning leave Conway 3:40 p. m., arrive Charleston 5:20 p. m., leave Charleston 5:35 p. m., arrive Broad 8:10 p. m., returning leave Broad 8:10 a. m., arrive Charleston 11:27 a. m. Daily except Sunday.

J. R. KENLY, Gen'l. Manager.
E. W. SHERSON, Traffic Manager.
R. V. PIERSON, Gen'l. Pass. Agen.

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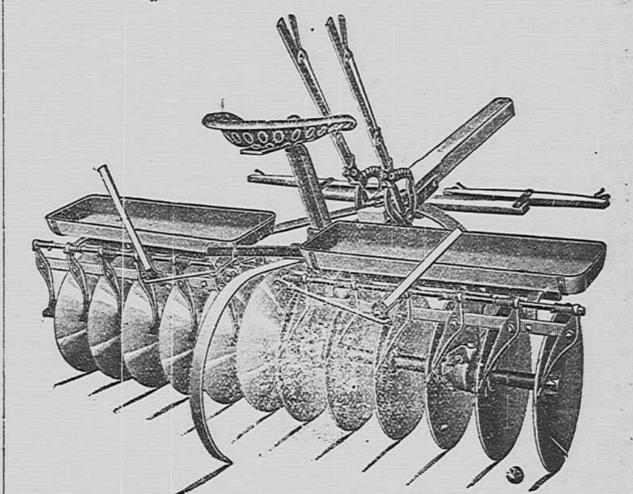
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H. HARBY.
Sumter, S. C., April 12, 1901.

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