

PRESIDENT TAFT ATTENDS CHARLOTTE CELEBRATION

Three Days' Carnival in the North Carolina City Marks the Anniversary of the Famous Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence.

Charlotte, N. C.—With three days of military drills, band concerts, speeches, athletic contests and other kinds of entertainment, the one hundred and thirty-fourth anniversary of the Mecklenburg declaration has been celebrated, and all North Carolina is happy in the knowledge that its pet legend has been recognized by the president of the United States; for Mr. Taft gave the occasion the official sanction of his presence and was the chief feature of the celebration.

The carnival began Tuesday noon when the Charlotte fire companies gave an exhibition of their skill and speed. At three o'clock there was a drill by a body of United States cavalry and a band concert at the fair grounds, followed by a league ball game. The evening was given up to a drill by the Charlotte drum corps and a concert by three bands.

Governors' Day Program.
Wednesday was designated as governors' day and the main event was the delivery of addresses by Gov. Kitchin of North Carolina and the chief executives of several other states, at the fair ground. These were preceded by a big athletic meet and followed by a cavalry drill, military maneuvers and band concerts, with another ball game thrown in for good measure.

Two events made the evening notable. The first was a May musical festival at the Auditorium which enlisted the services of a number of ex-



President Taft.

cellent soloists and a large and well trained chorus. The second was an illuminated parade given by the Order of Red Men.

President Taft Arrives.
Just at ten o'clock Wednesday morning the booming of a 21-gun salute by the Charlotte artillery notified the people that President Taft had arrived on his special train. Nearly all the inhabitants and the thousands of visitors were at the station, and as Mr. and Mrs. Taft alighted from their car they were greeted with a mighty roar of applause. A special reception committee took the distinguished guests in charge and conducted them to the Selwyn hotel, where they were welcomed by Gov. Kitchin, Senators Simmons and Overman and the mayor of Charlotte.

After meeting all the committeemen and their wives, Mr. and Mrs. Taft, together with Mrs. Stonewall Jackson, the governor and mayor and other distinguished visitors, were escorted by a guard of old soldiers to a reviewing stand and witnessed a great parade of all the military and civic organizations that could take part in the celebration.

Mr. Taft Speaks Twice.
A second installment of the music festival in the Auditorium was graced by the presence of the city's guests, and then all returned to the reviewing stand, where President Taft delivered an address. His words were listened to with close attention and frequently elicited loud applause.

Later in the afternoon the president made a speech to the colored people and the students of Biddle university. From 8 to 9:30 in the evening Mr. and Mrs. Taft held a public reception in the parlors of the Selwyn hotel and shook hands with thousands of people.

Military drills, band concerts and other entertainments were provided for the crowds all Wednesday afternoon and evening, and the great celebration closed in a blaze of glory.

Old Controversy Renewed.
The people of North Carolina, whose proudest boast has been that their ancestors were the first Americans to throw off the yoke of British rule, now rejoice in the feeling that President Taft has recognized the justice of their claim, but the century-old controversy has broken out afresh. Many historians refuse to accord to the pioneers of Mecklenburg county the honor that is thus accorded them. These historians allude to the story as "the Mecklenburg myth," and thereby arouse the anger of North Carolinians.

According to those unbiased investigators who have looked most deeply into the matter, the Mecklenburgs did hold a public meeting on May 31, 1775, and did adopt resolutions

quite abreast of the public sentiment of that time, but not venturing on the field of independence further than to say that these resolutions were to remain in force till Great Britain resigned its pretensions. In 1793, or earlier, some of the actors in the proceeding endeavored to supply the record from memory, unconsciously intermingling some of the phraseology of the Declaration of July 4, which gave the resolution the tone of a pronounced independency. Probably through another dimness of memory, they affixed the date of May 20, 1775, to them.

Case for Mecklenburgers.
The case for the Mecklenburgers is set forth as follows: In 1818 there arose a great rivalry between Massachusetts and Virginia as to which commonwealth should receive the credit for the Philadelphia document, and the controversy was brought up in congress. It was at this time that Davidson, a representative in congress from North Carolina, announced that Mecklenburg county had declared her independence 13 months before the promulgation of the document in Philadelphia.

While the statement created some surprise it resulted in an investigation into the facts as to the Mecklenburg declaration. This inquiry was made by Nathaniel Macon, who presented North Carolina in the senate, and through Gen. Joseph Graham and Representative Davidson, Senator Macon received from Dr. Joseph McKnitt Alexander, the son of John McKnitt Alexander, a full account of "the event," which Dr. Alexander said he had "copied from papers left by his father." This statement, which included the May 20th declaration, Senator Macon sent to Raleigh, N. C., and it was published in the Register on Friday, April 30, 1819.

Dr. Alexander's Story.
Dr. Alexander related at length how the farmers of Mecklenburg county in the spring of 1775 had called a convention to be composed of two delegates from each settlement in the county to meet May 19 to devise means for the assistance of the "suffering people of Boston and to extricate themselves from the impending storm." "Official news, by express, arrived of the battle of Lexington," according to Dr. Alexander's report to Senator Macon, and the influence of the news from Lexington, he added, resulted in the unanimous adoption of the Mecklenburg declaration of independence.

The declaration, as written by Dr. Brevard, and approved by the convention on May 20, 1775, reads:
"1. Resolved, That whosoever directly or indirectly abetted or in any way, form or manner countenanced the unchartered and dangerous invasion of our rights, as claimed by Great Britain, is an enemy to this country—America—and to the inherent and inalienable rights of man.

"2. Resolved, That we, the citizens of Mecklenburg county, do hereby dissolve the political bands which have connected us to the mother country, and hereby absolve ourselves from all allegiance to the British crown and abjure all political connection, contract or association with that nation, who have wantonly trampled on our rights and liberties and inhumanly shed the innocent blood of American patriots at Lexington.

Declared Themselves Free.
"3. Resolved, That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people, are, and of right ought to be, a sovereign and self-governing association under the control of no power other than that of our God and the general government of the congress to the maintenance of which independence we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes and our most sacred honor.

"4. Resolved, That as we now acknowledge the existence and control of no law or legal officer, civil or military, within this county, we do hereby ordain and adopt, as a rule of life, each and every one of our former laws, wherein, nevertheless, the crown of Great Britain never can be considered as holding privileges, immunities or authority therein.

"5. Resolved, That it is also further decreed that all, each and every military officer in this county is hereby reinstated in his former command and authority, he acting conformably to these regulations. And that every member present of this delegation shall henceforth be a civil officer, viz., a justice of the peace, in the character of a 'committeeman,' to issue process, hear and determine all matters of controversy, according to said adopted laws, and to preserve peace and union and harmony in said county, and to use every exertion to spread the love of the country and fire of freedom throughout America, until a more general and organized government be established in this province."

Blessings of a Diet.
Nowadays it's a godsend for a man to get rheumatism. Instead of filling him up with salicylic acid, iodine of potash and other atrocities to tear out his insides, intelligent physicians put him on a diet. When they cure him of being a hog they cure him of his rheumatism and everything else from a murderous liver to the disposition of a fiend.—New York Press.

MARRIAGE KNOT HAS BEEN UNTIED

MRS. HELEN KELLY GOULD IS GRANTED A DIVORCE FROM FRANK J. GOULD.

DISPOSITION OF THE CHILDREN

Charges Made Against Mr. Gould by the Referee Are Upheld by the Court—No Provision for Alimony.

New York City.—Mrs. Helen Kelly Gould was granted an interlocutory decree of divorce from Frank J. Gould by Justice Gerard in the supreme court. The decision was rendered on the report of Edward G. Whitaker, as referee, who decided that charges made against Mr. Gould had been proved.

Mrs. Gould is allowed the sole custody of the two children of the marriage, Helen Margaret and Dorothy Gould, from December to April, both inclusive, and the defendant may have them from May to November, subject to certain modifications. The defendant is held responsible for the education of the two children and also for their medical attendance. No provision is made for alimony for Mrs. Gould nor is the name of any co-respondent mentioned by her referred to.

After setting for that the referee has found that the material allegations in the complaint have been established, Justice Gerard says in his order: "And it appearing to the satisfaction of this court that the defendant has been guilty as charged in the complaint, it is ordered and decreed that the said motion be granted and the report of the referee confirmed in all respects and the marriage dissolved."

The Goulds were married in this city on December 2, 1901. Mrs. Gould is a daughter of the late Eugene Kelly, the banker, and is wealthy in her own right, having inherited a large fortune from her father.

NEW FUEL FOR POWER PLANTS

John Jacob Astor Has Applied for a Patent for a Machine to Utilize Peat Deposits.

New York City.—Col. John Jacob Astor has applied for a patent for a machine which, it is hoped, will make possible the utilization of peat deposits as a fuel for power. The current number of the Scientific American, containing an account of the process, says that Col. Astor intends to present it to the public in the hope that it may be of wide general use.

Col. Astor is about to try out his invention at his own place, Rhinecliff-on-the-Hudson. He will erect a 150-horsepower plant and attach it to a stone crusher. If the peat gas succeeds in running this it is believed an interesting engineering advance with far-reaching effects will have been achieved.

NEW FIELD FOR COLLEGE MEN

A Practical Street Railway Training School Has Been Planned by a New York Man.

New York City.—A practical street railway training school, the first one of its kind in the country, has been planned by Oren Root, Jr., general manager of the Metropolitan Street Railway Co. The expenses of the school, which will be open to college and scientific school graduates, will be borne by the railway company. The pupils will be paid living wages while taking the two-year course.

The difficulty of obtaining high-class men who are willing to begin at the bottom and learn the street railway business was what led Mr. Root to try the experiment. The prospectus of the school and application blanks have been mailed to the presidents of 19 colleges and scientific schools.

ST. PAUL PIONEER-PRESS SOLD

It is Understood that the Two Papers Will be Issued from the Dispatch Plant.

St. Paul, Minn.—The Pioneer-Press announces that the owners of the St. Paul Dispatch have purchased the controlling interest in the Pioneer Press. The announcement says:
"Our reasons for making the sale were, first, that the price was satisfactory. The stock of the company was widely scattered and much of it in the hands of owners not in a position to take business risks. Further, the wide distribution has always made difficult the concentration of authority so necessary in newspaper management."

It is understood that the evening edition of the Pioneer Press will be discontinued and that the two papers will be issued from the Dispatch plant.

Insurance Broker Suicides.

New York City.—"Come at once to the Grand hotel. I'm up here and must see you on earnest business." This was the message Charles E. Sexton, an insurance broker, gave to his son over the telephone. Carrington Sexton, the son, an architect, hurried to the hotel and, entering a room his father had engaged, found him unconscious and dying from six bullet wounds. Sexton shot himself in the mouth, death ensuing a few hours later. The insurance broker was 63 years of age.

CLARK STATUE UNVEILED

ACCEPTED BY GOV. DENEEN FOR PEOPLE OF ILLINOIS.

Statue of the Soldier and Explorer, Erected by the State of Illinois, is Dedicated at Quincy.

Quincy, Ill.—Illinois' tribute to Gen. George Rogers Clark, the revolutionary soldier and explorer, an heroic bronze statue, was unveiled in the presence of an immense concourse of people. Gov. Deneen accepted the monument on behalf of the people of the state.

The statue, which is nine feet high, is the work of Charles J. Mulligan of the Chicago Art Institute. The base of the monument, designed by W. Carlys Zimmerman of Springfield, the state architect, is of gray granite on a cement foundation and is 18 feet high.



Statue of George Rogers Clark.

The monument was obtained at the instance of Senator Campbell S. Hearn of the Thirty-sixth district. Several years ago when Senator Hearn, who was a confederate soldier, was eating dinner at the Planters' hotel in St. Louis, Col. Henry Watterston of Louisville, Ky., came and took a seat opposite him. Col. Watterston soon began to tell of George Rogers Clark and his work. He expressed the opinion that Illinois should build a monument to his memory. Senator Hearn at once declared that it should be done, and at the next session of the legislature introduced the bill that provided for the memorial.

CUTS CHILDREN'S THROATS

Woman Then Slashes Her Own—Two of the Children and the Mother Are Dead.

East Hampton, Conn.—Mrs. Jennie Carsten, 38, wife of Louis Carsten, formerly a sea captain, killed two of her children and herself at the Carsten farm near here. She cut the throats of the children and then her own. She also slashed the throat of a third child, a boy, and, while he is in an extremely critical condition, he may recover. It is believed that Mrs. Carsten was out of her mind.

Mrs. Carsten lived long enough to reply to her husband, when he asked the reason for her acts: "I wanted to die and I wanted to take the children with me. I didn't want to leave them." It was stated by her husband that she had been subject to mental trouble and that she had at one time, had treatment in a western sanitarium. They had moved to the country from Brooklyn, N. Y., last November, for quiet.

TRADE CONDITIONS IMPROVE

The Domestic Agricultural Conditions Are Excellent—Fine Showing in Iron and Steel.

New York City.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says:
Almost every development, except the lengthening debate on the tariff, is favorable, and the gains made in spite of the tariff disturbance are a fair indication of what may be expected when that is out of the way. The domestic agricultural conditions are excellent, and yet the prices of farm products continue to advance.

The area of improvement in iron and steel is rapidly widening, and a notable event of the week is the restoration of wages by the independent producers. The reports of the railroads are of steadily increasing business.

Struck Baby, Threw It Into Pool.

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.—Mrs. Mary Boch of the village of Rudyard is under arrest here pending an investigation of the death of her two-months-old baby, which was found dead in a pool in the woods. She is thought to be demented and is said to have confessed that she killed the infant by striking it on the head with her fist before throwing it into a pool.

Guilty of Killing Her Mother.

Clayton, Ala.—Mrs. Hattie Pope was found guilty of the murder of her mother, Mrs. Mary King, at Montevallo, on March 4, and was sentenced to serve 99 years in the penitentiary.

Tried to Banish Evil Spirits.

Seattle, Wash.—R. C. McIntosh, 41, a ranchman, was found in his log cabin with his hands and arms so severely burned as to require amputation. McIntosh said he had tried to rid himself of evil spirits.

The Place to Buy Cheap
—IS AT—
J. F. PARSONS'

DROPS
TRADE MARK
CURES
RHEUMATISM
LUMBAGO, SCIATICA
NEURALGIA and
KIDNEY TROUBLE

"S-DROPS" taken internally, rids the blood of the poisonous matter and acids which are the direct causes of these diseases. Applied externally it affords almost instant relief from pain, while a permanent cure is being effected by purifying the blood, dissolving the poisonous substance and removing it from the system.

DR. S. D. BLAND
Of Brewton, Ga., writes:
"I had been a sufferer for a number of years with Lumbago and Rheumatism in my arms and legs, and tried all the remedies that I could gather from medical works, and also consulted with a number of the best physicians, but found nothing that gave the relief obtained from 'S-DROPS.' I shall prescribe it in my practice for Rheumatism and kindred diseases."

FREE

If you are suffering with Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Kidney Trouble or any kindred disease, write to us for a trial bottle of 'S-DROPS,' and test it yourself.

"S-DROPS" can be used any length of time without acquiring a "drug habit," as it is entirely free of opium, cocaine, alcohol, laudanum, and other similar ingredients.

Large Size Bottle, "S-DROPS" (500 Doses) \$1.00. For Sale by Druggists.

SWANSON RHEUMATISM CURE COMPANY,
Dept. 85, 160 Lake Street, Chicago, Ill.



If you are a business man, did you ever think of the field of opportunity that advertising opens to you? There is almost no limit to the possibilities of your business if you study how to turn trade into your store. If you are not getting your share of the business of your community there's a reason. People go where they are attracted—where they know what they can get and how much it is sold for. If you make direct statements in your advertising see to it that you are able to fulfill every promise you make. You will add to your business reputation and hold your customers. It will not cost as much to run your ad in this paper as you think. It is the persistent advertiser who gets there. Have something in the paper every issue, no matter how small. We will be pleased to quote you our advertising rates, particularly on the year's business.

MAKE YOUR APPEAL

to the public through the columns of this paper. With every issue it carries its message into the homes and lives of the people. Your competitor has his store news in this issue. Why don't you have yours? Don't blame the people for flocking to his store. They know what he has.

The Home Paper Gives you the reading matter in which you have the greatest interest—the home news. Its every issue will prove a welcome visitor to every member of the family. It should head your list of newspaper and periodical subscriptions.

C. G. SCHMIDT'S
HEADQUARTERS FOR
Popular Bakery,
FRESH BREAD,
PIES,
FANCY CAKES,
ICE CREAM,
CONFECTIONERY

Daily Delivery. All orders given prompt and skillful attention.

Enlarging Your Business

If you are in business and you want to make more money you will read every word we have to say. Are you spending your money for advertising in haphazard fashion as if intended for charity, or do you advertise for direct results?

Did you ever stop to think how your advertising can be made a source of profit to you, and how its value can be measured in dollars and cents. If you have not, you are throwing money away.

Advertising is a modern business necessity, but must be conducted on business principles. If you are not satisfied with your advertising you should set aside a certain amount of money to be spent annually, and then carefully note the effect it has in increasing your volume of business; whether a 10, 20 or 30 per cent increase. If you watch this gain from year to year you will become intensely interested in your advertising, and how you can make it enlarge your business.

If you try this method we believe you will not want to let a single issue of this paper go to sleep without something from your store.

We will be pleased to have you call on us, and we will take pleasure in explaining our annual contract for so many inches, and how it can be used in whatever amount that seems necessary to you.

If you can sell goods over the counter we can also show you why this paper will best serve your interests when you want to reach the people of this community.

JOB PRINTING We can do the finest class of printing, and we can do that class just a little cheaper than the other fellow. Wedding invitations, letter heads, bill heads, sale bills, statements, dodgers, cards, etc., all receive the same careful treatment—just a little better than seems necessary. Prompt delivery always.