

A TEXAS TRAGEDY.

A Girl's Fickleness and a Lover's Desperation—Two Bloody Deaths, and All for Love.

[From the Atlanta Constitution.]

Dr. Spalding, of Kimball, Texas, writing to his brother, Rev. Dr. Spalding, of this city, says:

I wish to write you this morning a truthful account of a tragedy which transpired here a few days ago.

There is a wealthy farmer living three miles below Kimball, on the west side of the Brazos river, near Powell Dale church. His name is G. D. Greer. He has several brothers living there—wealthy, influential, good citizens. They came originally from Georgia. He had two daughters just grown—Miss Willie, eighteen years old, and Miss Annie, sixteen—both handsome, intelligent, amiable, and beloved by all who knew them. The oldest was an unusually sweet girl. She always reminded me of Miss Julia B., daughter of Judge T. J. B., of Madison, Ga. She joined the Baptist church last summer. She was, in fact, everything that any man could wish in a daughter.

About 12 months ago a distant relative of Capt. Greer's first wife (the girls were children of a second marriage.) Robert Simms, a young man, a stock raiser, passed through here on his way to Colorado, to which place he was driving his herds. Stopping among his relatives, he became enamored with Miss Greer. Whether they were engaged or not is not certainly known. She probably loved him, as perhaps any sweet girl eighteen years of age would love a handsome, fearless, rich young man who might court her love. And yet she feared him, for he had killed a man in a difficulty, so it is said, in the Southwest part of the State. He went away, however wearing her ring and still wearing his. He kept up a correspondence with one of her uncles, to whom he seemed to be very much attached.

Eight months ago, a young, good-looking, tall, egotistic, self-reliant Baltimore chap secured board at Esquire Lane's (seven miles below the home of Captain Greer, the father of Miss Greer), and commenced the practice of physic. He met Miss Greer, courted her in that (to the ladies) irresistible manner for which he was just fitted. They became engaged, and were to be married on the 11th of November, 1875. Saturday morning, October 23, Miss Greer came to town to make some minor purchases for the occasion. Her father had gone with his cotton crop to Dallas, and was to return that evening. He was bringing her bridal outfit. On the Thursday before, Bob Simms returned, having received a letter from his uncle stating that Miss Greer was soon to be married. He called on Miss Greer, found out the state of her feelings, chided her, told her they were made for each other, and that no other man should ever claim her as wife.

Saturday morning he gave a friend, with whom he was staying, a letter from his sister, saying, "Answer this letter to-morrow if I do not return. I am going up to Capt. Greer's, and if I never return wind up my business." He went over, called for Miss Willie, who was with her mother and Dr. Frazer, but betrothed, in the sitting room. When asked for, Miss Willie said: "Doctor have you your pistol, I am afraid of Bob; he said he would kill me; shall I go in if you like." All three then went in.

Simms asked Miss Willie to walk with him in the garden; she declined. He then asked her to walk out on the back porch, as he wished to have a good-bye chat with her. She went out on the back gallery; he followed, pulling the door to after him. The mother heard them conversing and heard him say: "And you are the cause of it," heard her sob; heard her say: "O, don't do that, Bob." Then bang! bang! bang! went his six shooter; then a pause, then bang again. The mother threw open the door. There lay her beautiful daughter dead on the gallery. One shot entered near the heart, (the first I think) one entered the left eye and came out at the back of the head, the other entered the centre of the forehead and came out also at the back of the head. He must have supported her with his left hand while shooting her.

Near her lay Robert Simms. The fourth shot he had fired through his own head, from back to front. The Doctor ran out, turned the murderer's horse loose, and ran to the next house to get a gun. A runner was sent to meet her father, who was a few miles off, on the Dallas road, coming home. His agony, I hope, neither you nor I may ever have.

Next day, Sunday, they brought her body here to Kimball and buried it. His body they carried to a grave-yard near Powell's Dale, where it was buried. We are all sad, for we all loved her.

Five large foreign vessels at the wharf in Wilmington last week.

PREMATURE OLD AGE IN FEMALES.

The Rev. Hubbard Winslow, in the Journal of Health makes the following faithful remarks in relation to the exercises of the mental powers in this country—remarks if attentively read, will, we hope, stir up our young females to a greater degree of intellectual activity, and to those admirable exercises which are the results of liberal culture, and, consequently, of a more health-imparting and life-sustaining influence.

"Nor does the premature old age of which we are speaking, come of too much study. We do not begin to study in this country, as they do in Germany, nor as they do in England and France. It is a common thing among the educated ladies in Germany, to find those who can read and speak three or four different languages, and are extensively versed in mathematics and natural philosophy.

"It is clearly proved that the high cultivation of the intellect is favorable to protracted youthfulness, and long life. Highly educated men and women on an average, live longer and enjoy more even and pure health than those of little or no culture. The mind is life, the very essence of life, and where there is more of that which imparts life and vigor to the body. It is believed that thousands in this country annually die some twenty years sooner than they would, had they bestowed a higher cultivation upon their intellect. We must be more intellectual and less sensual—more of that which dies not, and less of that which dies, if we would invigorate and prolong whatever of us is mortal. The truth is, after all, very plain—this country can claim the honor of wearing out intellectually. But hundreds are daily dying through mental rust. Why does the man of business languish and die soon, on retiring to enjoy in idleness his gains? Just because the life-giving power—the mind—ceases to act. Rust, stagnation, disease, gloomy spirits and death, must inevitably come.

THE DEAF AND DUMB ASYLUM.

Jones went to the deaf and dumb asylum the other day to inspect the institution. Upon entering he encountered a man, evidently an inmate, and he at once endeavored to explain to the man, by making signs with his fingers, that he wanted to look through the place. The man also made signs, which Jones could not comprehend. Then Jones made other and more elaborate motions which set the man at work with great violence, and for the next ten minutes they stood in the hall gesticulating and twisting their fingers, without being able to comprehend what the other meant. Finally Jones became angry, and in an outburst of wrath, exclaimed: "O, get out, you idiot! I'm tired of bothering with you."

Whereupon the man said, "That's just what I was going to say to you." "O, you can speak can you? Then why didn't you do so, and not keep me standing motionless to you? I thought you were deaf and dumb." "I came here to inspect the asylum," said Jones, "and I took you for a patient."

"That's what I came here for, and I thought you were an attendant," said the man.

Here Jones and the man shook hands and hunted up a genuine attendant.

A Husband and wife celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of their wedding, and when quite a little circle was gathered about them, the husband with not a little self-complacency, said: "Here my wife and I have been married for twenty-five years, and in all that time neither of us has ever spoken to the other an excited or unkind word." "Thunder," said the witty Dr. M., "what a stupid time you must have had of it!"

At one time the celebrated John Bunyan was a wagoner, and he cursed and swore as any other vulgarian upon the highway. The sequel of his life we need not relate. The pious John Newton was once a pirate, and Murrell, the robber, was converted in a penitentiary, and afterwards devoted his life to the Christian ministry.

She used to meet him at the gate with a kiss, and a smile like morning light; but now she comes to the door in a dingy calico wrapper, and shoes down at the heel, shades her eyes with her hand, looks earnestly, to make sure it is him, and care worn, inquires, in a voice that seems to need oiling: "Did you bring that butter?"

Charles Dickens said that "the first external revelation of the dry rot in man is a tendency to lark and lounge; to be at street corners without intelligible reason; to be going any where when met; to be about many places rather than any; to do nothing tangible, but to have an intention of performing a number of tangible duties to-morrow or the day after."

THE UNFORTUNATE BOY.

He was a boy with a red head and a most unfortunate faculty for getting into mischief. The entire family unites in making him feel small and mean. Yesterday morning he knocked a twenty-five cent vase off the table. His mother heard the rumpus and came running into the room and exclaimed—

"Now what under the sun possessed you to do that. You're forever blundering around into some mischief. Why don't you try and be more careful, you great booby?"

And then his sister, who is married, came down stairs and began—

"Well, John you've gone and done something else. Ain't you never satisfied unless you're making trouble?"

The frightened John stooped to gather up the broken pieces, when his sister's husband came in and learning the trouble, began—

"If I'd thought there was such a blundering fool in the family, blast it I would have married into it!"

Then the old man, who had been sitting at the table, heard the rumpus and came sailing in. He grasped the unfortunate John by the ear, and as he ran the poor boy around the room, and bumped him over chairs, he exclaimed—

"I'll learn you to come around here smashing up valuable property. What do you mean by it, any way? Think I'm made of money, don't ye, and can buy oceans of vases for you to destroy. Now you go out and tackle that wood-pile till school-time, and if you don't work smart I'll take an strap ye."

And as John bent wearily over the saw horse his brain evolved schemes for killing his sister's husband in cold blood, stealing the spoons and other valuables, and joining the first pirate that came along—Danbury News

Look here, gentlemen why is this howl against ladies' striped stockings? It is your solemn duty as a respectable citizen to walk along the street with your eyes on a level with second story windows, and its none of your business what kind of stockings are shown on the cross walks. Anything is preferable to a barefooted woman.

Gen. Geo. B. McClellan is going to reside in Baltimore. He was interviewed by a reporter in that city on Friday, and found to be "thoroughly identified with the Democratic party."

Raleigh Council No. 227, Friends of Temperance reorganized some time since under favorable auspices. It is holding meetings and large accessions are being made to its members from the leading citizens of Raleigh.

Dr. Linderman director of the mint thinks the gold and silver productions in this country next year will reach \$100,000,000 of which the Comstock lode will furnish one-half.

A census just taken of the beggars of Paris gives the total number at 62,250. Of these 27,480 are women, 14,500 men, 13,060 girls, and 12,210 boys.

Gen. W. R. Cox lectured before the Cadets of the Bingham School at Mebaneville on Friday night the 15th. His subject was the subjection of Physical Science to the uses of modern man. The lecture is highly spoken of.

The Concord Sun is reliably informed that Judge Cloud has not tried a single civil action at the fall term on his circuit. Wonder if it would not be popular to abolish courts altogether.

The republican majority in Pennsylvania is just 14,150. Grants majority in the same State was 136,000. Yet the radicals bring out their roosters.

During the last three months 1,400 horses, 67 donkeys and five mules were killed in Paris for public consumption.

The Grand Lodge of Masons of North Carolina will meet in Raleigh on the first Monday, the 6th of December.

A New York jury has fixed the value of a lot at \$100. A man, the toes of whose foot had been run over by a street car, sued the company, laying his damages at \$5,000, or \$1,000 a toe. The jury thought this estimate too high by \$4,900, and brought in a verdict for \$500, or \$100 a toe—which was too bad.

"Henry, why don't you keep a supply of gloves in your pocket?" said an Albany young lady to her escort to the Opera House recently; you would at then have to run out after every act, and I don't see why you are so awful fond of gloves, anyhow!"

Col. Margo, late treasurer of Virginia, was tried before Judge Guignou at Richmond on Tuesday for embezzling. He was declared by the court, upon the testimony of experts, to be insane, and was acquitted upon this ground.

"A man who would maliciously set fire to a barn," said good Elder Parsons, "and burn up a stable full of horses and cows, ought to be kicked to death by a jackass, and I'd like to be the one to do it."

Nolay little boys in Cincinnati are told right in the centre of the mind 'hoops of every five miles there is a little lump of gold, which can be easily dug out with a penknife.

Grant is improving in oratory. He talks as flippancy about the "rag baby," and lies with as much composure as if he were an old hand at the business.

The New York Bulletin says that Minnesota farmers have realized profits the past season largely in excess of any previous year.

It is related that a New Hampshire minister recently portrayed the history of Jonah after the following style: "I seem to see Jonah passing along the road to Nineveh; I seem to see him entering the office, buy his ticket and pay for it; I seem to see him walk upon the vessel; I seem to see them lift their anchor and the stately ship moves grandly out upon the broad Atlantic."

A calculation has been made of the number of persons the great cathedrals of the European continent will hold. St. Peter's at Rome holds 54,000 people; the Milton Cathedral holds 37,000; St. Paul's at London, holds 25,000; St. Sophia, at Constantinople holds 23,000; Notre Dame, at Paris, holds 21,000; the cathedral at Pisa holds 13,000; and Marco, at Venice, holds 7,000.

An old man at the end of a law suit of many years' duration, which had reduced him to poverty, on hearing that the case had been decided in his favor, expressed his feeling as follows, in an impromptu written in the hall court:

By cost impoverished, and grown old in woe, I've gained my suit, and strut in tattered clothes! I've gained the suit, let gladness rend the hall! The man who lost it has no clothes at all!

The following is found as an item of information in most of our exchanges: "The fortune of Gen. Grant is now no less than \$1,000,000, and is still growing. In 1850 it was less than \$700 a year," and this "Franklin Pierce was the only President who went out of office with a cabinet as originally appointed," yet nobody seems to have thought of putting this and that together.

A yoke of oxen weighing 3,500 pounds, while being trained for the fair at Boothbay, the other day, hauled 8,800 pounds. A bystander made a wager that the same weight of men would haul as much. The men were selected and easily accomplished the feat.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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R. T. FULGHUM, Editor, Raleigh, N. C.

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

ALAMANCE COUNTY

In the Superior Court.

Wm. Patterson Guardian of the Person of Martha Jane Shoffner, Daniel Leoley and wife Elizabeth Shoffner, Plaintiffs.

Against Joel Shoffner and wife Katie, William Shoffner, Milton Leoley and wife Barbara, George Shoffner, Jno. T. Fogelman and wife Francis of full age and George Ingle, Siddle Ingle, Jno. Amick, Sarah Amick and Jane Amick, Defendants.

RELIEF. SPECIAL Proceedings.

State of North Carolina, To the Sheriff of Alamance County—GREETING

You are hereby Comanded to summon the defendants above named if they be found within your County to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court for the County of Alamance within twenty-five days after the service of this summons on them, exclusive of the day of such service, and answer the complaint which will be deposited in the office of said Clerk within ten days from the date of this summons: And the said defendants take notice that if they fail to answer the complaint within that time the plaintiffs will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Herein fall not and of this summons make due return.

Given under my hand and the seal of said Court.

This 15th day of October 1875.

W. A. ALBRIGHT, C. S. C. Alamance County.

In the above entitled action it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that the defendants, Milton Leoley and wife Barbara are proper parties to this action and that they are non-residents of the state, it is ordered: That in lieu of personal service of the summons upon them, publication be made for six successive weeks in the ALAMANCE GLEANER a newspaper published weekly in Alamance county, North Carolina.

W. A. ALBRIGHT, Clerk, Superior Court Alamance County.

Done at office in Graham this 15th day of October 1875

SUPERIOR COURT.

Alamance County.

John S. Shaw as admr. of the estate of Earl Howell Deed, vs. Freeman Howell and John Howell, Alexander Howell, Drury Howell, John Howell, James Howell, Polly Howell, Martha Howell, Elizabeth Howell, Alexander Howell, Elizabeth Fane, James Howell, Margaret Howell, and heirs at law of John Howell, decd., heirs at law of James Howell, heirs at law of Judy Cousins decd., Mary Ann Hart, Defendants.

RELIEF. Special Proceedings.

State of North Carolina, To the Sheriff of Alamance County—GREETING

You are hereby Comanded to summon Freeman Howell, John Howell, Alexander Howell, Drury Howell, John Howell, James Howell, Polly Howell, Martha Howell, Elizabeth Howell, Alexander Howell, Elizabeth Fane, James Howell, Margaret Howell, and heirs at law of John Howell, decd., heirs at law of James Howell, heirs at law of Judy Cousins decd., Mary Ann Hart, Defendants. In the above entitled action it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that the defendants above named if they be found within your County to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court for the County of Alamance within twenty-one days after the service of this summons on them, exclusive of the day of such service, and answer the complaint which will be deposited in the office of said Clerk within ten days from this date of summons: And let said defendants take notice that if they fail to answer the complaint within that time the plaintiffs will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Herein fall not and of this summons make due return.

Given under my hand and the seal of said Court.

This 26th day of October 1875.

W. A. Albright, C. S. C. Alamance County.

In the above entitled action it appearing to the court that, The heirs at law of John Howell, the heirs at law of James Howell, the heirs at law of Judy Cousins and Mary Ann Hart are all proper parties to this action, and that their names and numbers are unknown and after equity cannot be ascertained, say Mary Ann Hart. It is therefore ordered, that in lieu of personal service of summons upon them publication be made in the ALAMANCE GLEANER, a newspaper published weekly in Graham, Alamance County North Carolina for six successive weeks.

W. A. Albright, C. S. C. Alamance County.

Done at office in Graham this 26th day of October 1875.

ALAMANCE COUNTY.

In the Superior Court.

George W. Swenson, Agent, vs. James Gibbs, John Pentland, and A. J. Jones.

RELIEF.

State of North Carolina, To the Sheriff of Alamance County—GREETING

You are hereby Comanded to summon James G. Gibbs, John Pentland and the Defendants above named, if they be found within your County, to be and appear before the Judge of our Superior Court; at a court to be held for the County of Alamance, in the Copy House in Graham on the 2nd Monday before the first Monday of March 1875 and answer the complaint which will be deposited in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of said County within first three days of said term, and let said defendants take notice that if they fail to answer the said complaint within that time, the Plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint.

Hereof fall not, and of this summons make due return.

Given under my hand and seal of said Court, this 29th day of October 1875.

W. A. ALBRIGHT, C. S. C. Alamance County.

In the above action it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the defendants J. G. Gibbs and John Pentland are non residents of the state. It is ordered that the summons in this action be published once a week for six successive weeks in the ALAMANCE GLEANER in lieu of personal service of the summons on said defendants.

JOHN KEER, Judge, Superior. court. 7th Judicial Dist.

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