

THE HICKORY DEMOCRAT.

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THE INNOCENT SUFFER

The Innocent in the State Prison While the Guilty Have Gone "Scot-free."

Hampton Kendall and John Vickers were tried at the February term of the Superior court of Caldwell county for the murder of one Lawrence Nelson. They were convicted of murder in the second degree and sentenced to twenty-four and twenty-six years respectively at hard labor in the State penitentiary. They appealed and the case was argued before the Supreme court by Messrs. Lawrence Wakefield, R. Z. Linney, Mark Squires, and Jones and Whisnant for the defendants. This court upheld the lower court and Kendall and Vickers thought that the future contained nothing for them but a long term of years in prison. They denied their guilt from the very first and tried to prove an alibi; but it was no easy task to account for the twenty-four hours of Sept. 25, 1906, and all their actions during that time, five months afterwards.

The testimony of Onah Grier, was what convicted Kendall and Vickers. From her testimony, it appeared that the defendants approached her and Mag Lewis and offered them five dollars to get Lawrence Nelson out in the woods as they wanted to thrash him for something he had said. That after Nelson was enticed in the woods Vickers and Kendall came up and began to quarrel with him and finally Vickers shot Nelson from which wound he died, and his body was not found until the eleventh of December following. The other woman, Mag Lewiss was not put upon the stand.

At various times Mag Lewis has stated to different parties that Kendall and Vickers were not guilty and that the reason she did not go on the stand was that she did not care to get her "sweet-heart" in trouble. Last week a bench warrant was issued for her and she was arrested and carried to Newton. She here testified that Vickers and Kendall had nothing to do with the killing and were not even present, but that Sam Green did the killing and that one George Jenkins helped to remove the body and conceal it. Her testimony as to the time the shot was fired and the place where the killing took place is corroborated by that of Rev. Chas. Clark, who swore that on his way to preaching Sunday night he passed Lawrence Nelson, May Lewis, Onah Grier, and a man, whom he believed was Sam Green on the railroad track. That about fifteen minutes afterwards he heard the parties quarrelling and also a pistol shot. Mag swears that it was Green that Mr. Clark saw and also that Jenkins saw Clark coming and dodged in the woods.

The testimony of Onah Grier as given at Newton conflicts with that given by her at the trial in Lenoir. At the first trial she swore that no one was present at the killing, but Vickers, Kendall and another man she did not know; now she admits that Sam Green was present.

From the testimony there seems to be no doubt but that Vickers and Kendall are innocent, but it will be hard to convict Green and Jenkins on the testimony of a woman, who knowing that innocent men were being tried for their lives and hearing them sentenced to a

A MEMORIAL MEETING

The Round Dozen Book Club, of Hickory Honors the Memory of the Dead.

Hickory, 31.—On the 30th day of October the Round Dozen Book Club held its regular meeting at the beautiful home of Mrs. C. C. Bost.

Owing to the death of John Charles McNeill, for whom many competent critics are claiming a place among the South's foremost poets, it was decided to dispense with the regular program and to turn the meeting into a McNeill memorial.

The house had been brilliantly decorated with autumn leaves and potted plants. Hand painted souvenir cards, representing a scene in autumn, were distributed among the guests, containing beautiful quotations from Mr. McNeill. It was noted by more than one that the meeting was held in the same house and the room where John Charles McNeill gave his first public reading from his own poems and many pleasing incidents of the pleasant occasion of which he was the central figure, were recalled. The photograph, smiling down upon the gathered guests, recalled his graceful image, standing in the soft glow of the shaded lights, as he turned into spoken, words the fanciful thoughts that had gone singing through his brain.

"In some lone garret let me write, Not thronged with guests as here tonight.

Where beauty, passing in and out,

Is sweeter seen than sung about. When stranded in some place I shall recall you, face by face, As now you seem, 'twill then be time

To cast this radiance into rhyme, Your radiance which I would might cheer My wifeless heart throughout the year."

With that gentle poet's face in sight and the copy of "Songs, Merry and Sad," bearing upon the fly-leaf his name where he wrote it, hard indeed it was to remember that the gentle poet had put away his books and pencil forever and that the visions of glorious sunset by mountain, streams and wood, the call of the partridge from the dim twilight hill, the sight of the autumn flowers flaring scarlet and gold in the clear sunlight, it seemed strange indeed that we should see and hear such sights and sounds through the poet's magic no more.

Mrs. C. C. Bost, his hostess on the occasion of his visit and reading to the club, paid a beautiful and impressive tribute to the personal characteristics of the poet who had been a much-prized friend. Mrs. Thomas M. Hufham gave a most interesting sketch of his life, showing his achievements and his even greater promise. Mrs. J. F. Allen read a discriminating but sympathetic estimate of his poems and Mrs. L. R. Whitener read an excellent criticism of his fables, which were enjoyed alike by old and young. Mrs. J. L. Murphy sang beautifully "Rest for the Weary," and more than one eye was dim as thoughts came of this gifted child of fancy who had found the rest, deep and lasting, for which he sought so long in vain.—Hickory Cor. Charlotte Observer.

Mr. Rufus Isenhour visited his parents in Salisbury last week.

long term in the State prison, would not open her mouth to save them. The whole case is a dirty one from the beginning to the end. Jenkins and Green are now in jail at Newton.

A Hallowe'en Frolic.

Miss Mabel Miller entertained a number of young friends at a genuine old time Hallowe'en party Thursday night. They were received at the door by a small but very lively ghost whose flowing garments interfered very much with the giddy dance it kept up. The hall and porch were lit by pumpkin lanterns and a black cat would have scowled from a white sheet, if somebody hadn't carried it off down to the Methodist church yard where it greeted the guests untimely. When the fortune-telling began, the young people were invited into a room that looked like a nook of the Autumn woods. Trees covered with golden and crimson leaves mingled their branches. Autumn leaves made a thick carpet over the floor. There was no light save the glimmer from the open fire and the pumpkins. Across one corner a sheet was stretched and on red Autumn leaves the fortunes of the guests were inscribed. Each was blind-folded, and chose his dietary blindly, as in life. Then the three fateful bowls were presented, and each blindfolded victim was given another chance. In the parlor Mrs. S. F. Watson told the guests the names of their future partners in life, and predicted to the young ladies the employment of their future husbands. A ghost story was then recited in due form, with chills down your back at the right spots. One poor young man will never have his fortune told any more. His best girl didn't seem to have any name, at least none was given, the bowl test predicted bachelorhood, and, when he picked his destiny, it was as follows:

The Yadkin Valley Fair drew the biggest crowd that ever gathered in Salisbury at one time, so say the artists in numbers. This fair seems to have been a success in every way, so far as learned.

The Noble Red Man has been giving some more trouble. The Ute Indians at Thunder Butte, South Dakota, thought themselves ill-used by their agent, Maj. Downs. From representations made by Capt. Johnson, it seems there is little doubt the tribe has been harshly treated. The Navaj troubles in southern Utah and New Mexico are at an end, with three Indians killed.

The new railroad bridge near Fort McKinley, in course of construction over the Pasig river, Philippine Islands, collapsed, carrying 60 men down with it. Three Americans and 20 Filipinos were injured.

The great railroad strike in the British Islands will cause terrible suffering if it lasts much longer.

Governor Glenn will speak in Huntersville to-night.

James McKay, a young man who had only been in Asheville a short time, went for a hack drive with a man who was almost a stranger to him. When a few miles from the city, he was attacked and badly beaten, robbed and left in an unconscious state by the road side. The police arrested Horace Melton and the black driver. McKey identified Melton, and part of the money stolen from the young man was recovered.

Young Ernest Hardwick, son of Dr. Hardwick, was desperately injured Wednesday night, it is supposed by a fall from a train at the railroad fill at the Catawba river bridge, ten miles this side of Statesville. He was unconscious when found but came to his senses enough to ask for friends. It is feared his injuries are mortal. The Landmark states that his friend Mr. Pope, of the Statesville depot force had him taken to the hospital at Asheville.

The Corporation Commission have issued orders that union depots are to be established at Wadesboro and Lincolnton. We don't know so much about Wadesboro, but Lincolnton will not get her depot before she needs it. And oh, Hickory! But let us have peace.

W. R. Junker and N. M. Jones have been added to the employees who are to be tried for tampering with the mails in the Charlotte postoffice. If they don't watch out they won't have enough help left to open the mails.

State News

One of the most terrible items of news printed in any North Carolina paper recently is that from High Point telling of the treatment received by a little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Field. The parents had let the little girl, only four years old, visit relatives by the name of Sheaf in Thomasville. These people, man and wife, got drunk, tortured the child until they thought her dead, then threw her, tied in an old tow sack into an outhouse. Her left arm was broken, skull crushed, leg badly bruised, bad bruises over the body. The people of Thomasville wished to lynch the fiends who did the work, but were restrained with difficulty. If ever lynching were justifiable, it would be in this case.

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States marshal.

James Calloway, a negro who killed his landlady, Elizabeth Harris in New York, and who was traced to Raleigh and arrested in Salem has been sentenced to "not less than 20 years nor more than his natural life-time." This is under the new law in New York.

The negroes of Macon, Ga., are holding an agricultural fair in Macon. Mayor Bridges Smith of Macon opened the fair with a speech in which he praised them for their advance in the industrial arts.

The Wilkesboro Chronicle makes note of the ruling by Judge Ward in regard to the pay for jurors and witnesses. This is to the effect that when a man serves both as juror and witness in the same case he can only draw pay in one capacity. Witnesses in more than one case will be paid simply by their time, and will not draw double pay. This sounds like common-sense, and some of us can hardly see how any other rate of payment could be expected.

About two miles from Rhod-hiss Saturday night while William Helton and his cousin, Johnnie Helton, a lad of fifteen, were out possum hunting, William cut down a tree in such a way that it fell on the lad killing him instantly.

George Greenlee, the colored detective, arrested William Sanders, alias John Jones, in Asheville Thursday. Jones is wanted in New Berry, S. C., for the brutal murder of his wife and daughter.

The elections in different states are not causing any great excitement outside state bounds. New York will elect but two state officers, two judges of the court of appeals, who will be elected next Thursday. But the elections of county officers are stirring up as much strife and commotion as state elections usually do. For one thing, these come closer home to all the people. Ohio holds her first election under the new law which separates municipal from general elections. The contests in Cincinnati and Cleveland over the mayoralty are said to be aggressive, to say the least. In Columbus, the great issue is the Sunday and midnight closing of the saloons.

The report is that E. H. Harriman has bought the Central of Georgia, but this is not certainly known. The Harriman lines would thus have another outlet on the Atlantic.

On the last day of October, 100 saloons closed in Knoxville as a result of the Pendleton law under which cities in Tennessee can re-incorporate without saloons. The temperance forces in Knoxville won by nearly two thousand last March.

Banks throughout the South are using every means to prevent anything like a run, following the troubles in cities further North. The press generally holds that the strength of financial circles is in the small banks which are prosperous in the extreme.

One of our citizens who occasionally wipes the dishes for his wife, became tired of the job and refused, saying that "it is not a man's work." Not feeling disposed to lose his help she brought the Bible out to convince him of error and read as follows from II Kings 21:13: "And will wipe Jerusalem as a man wipeth a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down." It is needless to say that he is still doing his occasional stunt.

Debts.

There needs to be an awakening of the public conscience of the subject of contracting debts. Too often debts are made with no thought of where the money with which to pay them is to come. Renewed interest in this subject is awakened at this time for the reason that in many towns associations known as, "Bad debt collecting association" are being formed. As we understand these, the object is for the merchants to protect against the dead beats in the town. That the merchants need protection against these deadbeats no one will deny, but there are cases in which the honest man needs protection against a certain class of merchants. We refer to that class who encourage the boys to contract debts without the knowledge of the parents. No merchant should say to a boy, "Now if there is anything you want, just come and get it whether you have the money or not. It will be all right." By this means many merchants induce boys to go into debt and are real enemies of the boy's welfare and do the parents of those boys a real injury. We have heard of merchants instructing their clerks somewhat after this fashion, "If such and such a boy comes in and wants anything let him have it; the old man is all right and he cannot afford to repudiate a debt contracted by his son." This is wrong and while there is protection being sought for the merchant it might be well for the suffering parents to organize in such a manner as to cause those merchants who do business with boys without letting the parents know to realize the true character of their methods of conducting business. Merchants who use special inducements to get the boys to go into debt with the hope of collecting it out of "the old man" are not to be pitied if they fail to collect some time. The making of a debt is a very serious matter. The honor and veracity of the contracting parties are at stake and no one has a right to act so that the good name of any one suffers. Debtors, pay what you owe; Creditors, be careful how you sell on time.

Justice.

Church News.

The twenty-eighth session of the Wesleyan Methodist annual conference will convene at Hickory, on Nov. 13, 1907, in the Wesleyan Methodist church (formerly the old Presbyterian church.)

Also revival services will begin Saturday night, Nov. 2nd, and will continue until conference. Everybody is cordially invited to attend these services. I am requested by the president of the conference to announce that sister Mary Lane Clark, one of our returned missionaries from Africa, will be with us during the conference session. You who have never been interested in missionary work in foreign fields ought to come and learn something as to the need of sending the gospel to those who sit in darkness and the valley and the shadow of death.

Let us remember it was a missionary spirit that has given the gospel to us.

Yours for Jesus,
Rev. J. N. Patton, Pastor.

Mr. W. A. Self spent last week in Rutherfordton on professional business.

"Talk with Haithcock" is the heading of Mr. Haithcock's real estate advertisement which appears in this issue. Those desiring to buy real estate will find it to their interest to see Mr. Haithcock, now at new offices over McComb Bros. Store.

Professional Cards.

D. L. RUSSELL
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
Prompt attention given to all matters of Legal Nature
Office:
Main St., Russell Bldg., Hickory

Dr. T. F. Stevenson
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON
Residence formerly occupied by Dr. W. L. Abernethy
Office at Home
Calls answered at all hours
Phone 295 - Hickory, N. C.

Dr. Walter A. White
DENTIST
Office over Menzies Drug Store
Hickory, N. C.

DR. W. B. RAMSAY
DENTIST
Office: Second-story Post Office
Hickory, N. C.

Hickory Markets.

Corrected every week by the leading grocery men
BUYING PRICES BASED ON FIRST-CLASS QUALITY

Corn, per bushel	70
Oats, per bushel	65
Peas, per bushel	1.25 to 1.50
Potatoes, Irish, per bu	50
Potatoes, sweet "	50
Onions, per bushel	60
Spring Chickens	12 1-2
Hens, per pound	.8
Roosters, per pound	.03
Butter, per pound,	12 1-2 to 20
Eggs, per dozen	20
Wheat, per bushel	1.00

COTTON MARKET
Strict Good Middling 11 1-2
Good Middling 11 1-4
These are prices paid to wagons.

Administrators Notice.
Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of J. W. Nichols deceased all persons are notified to present their claims against said estate within one year from date below bar will be plead All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make prompt payments. This 23rd day of October 1907.
S. E. Killian, Administrator.

Notice! Notice!
Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of J. W. Nichols deceased all persons are notified to present their claims against said estate within one year from date below bar will be plead All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make prompt payments. This 24th day October, 1907.
Thomas M. Hufham Atty. (D. E. Nichols, Administratrix.

Sale of Valuable Land.
By virtue of an order of the Superior court of Catawba county made in an action therein pending wherein Mrs. Lina A. Arthur, W. A. Stille, Mrs. G. A. Weston, Mrs. Ruffin Swindell and others are plaintiffs and Mamie, Charlie, and Neppie Brothers, infants defendants, the undersigned commissioner appointed by the court, will resell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, in front and from the steps of the First National Bank of the City of Hickory, N. C., on

SATURDAY, NOV. 30th, 1907 - at 12 o'clock M. the following described property
One two-story frame shingle roof dwelling, situated in West Hickory, near the Hickory shops, on South Morganton street, south of railroad near property of Willie Wilfong, and known as the Dick Maynard property

The above property is well located and very desirable, and is sold for partition among the tenants in common, heirs of the late Maj. James A. Weston. The bidding to begin at \$935. Terms are cash upon confirmation of sale by the court. Final sale.

George McCorkle, Commissioner.