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The High Point Enterprise.

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No. 49

HORRIBLE WHOLESALE MURDER!!

One of the most horrible crimes in the history of the country was committed early this morning at Barber's Junction, nine miles from Salisbury. Five people were murdered, Isaac Lyerly, his wife and three children and after this horrible deed the house was set on fire hoping to burn alive two older daughters who were sleeping upstairs and blot out traces of crime. The most intense excitement prevails throughout that section. Men have stopped their work and on horse back and afoot with guns are following the lead of the officers to get some clue to the awful crime. Robbery was the motive and the only way to account for the murders of the small children was that the murderers tried to do away with all means of identification.

The following special was received at the Enterprise early this morning:

Salisbury, N. C., July 14. Enterprise, High Point:

About 2 o'clock this morning unknown persons entered the home of Isaac Lyerly, white, near Barber's Junction, nine miles from Salisbury, and murdered

ISAAC LYERLY,
MRS. LYERLY, his wife,
JANIE, JOHNNIE AND BABY ALICE, three children.

The two older daughters, sleeping upstairs smelled smoke and rushed down to find all killed and the house on fire. They carried the bodies out and extinguished the flames, and notified the neighbors.

A club was used. Lyerly was a wealthy farmer, and robbery was supposed to be the motive. Blood hounds, officers, hundreds of citizens are searching the county but no clue has been found. The excitement is intense. Several arrests of negroes have been made.

Another Account.

Barber Junction, N. C., July 14.—Special.—One of the most horrible tragedies in the history of this country was committed near this station this morning, between the hours of 1 and 2 o'clock. An unknown person or persons entered the house of Mr. Ike Lyerly, a well known farmer, while its occupants were asleep, killing Mr. Lyerly, his wife and three of the youngest children named Janie, Johnnie and their infant baby Alice, their ages ranging from three to twelve years.

The parents and the three children sleeping in the front room on the first floor, there being two elder daughters sleeping upstairs who were unmolested and were awakened by the smoke and flame from below, the criminals having set fire to the house. The two girls descending the stairs, to where their father and mother were, on reaching the lower room a most horrible and appalling scene met their gaze. The father, mother and three children still in their beds in cold death, their heads being crushed and faces badly disfigured. Through courageous efforts the two elder daughters Mary and Addie, ages 18 and 16, respectively, managed to carry the dead bodies from the house and extinguished the flames, whereupon they ran to the next neighbor, Mr. W. P. Barber and told the awful story of the tragedy. There being no officers at law at this place Mr. B. B. Wells, town dispatcher on duty at

that hour was notified, and who promptly dispatched the news to the Sheriff at Salisbury, who started at once to the scene of the killing with blood hounds and a posse of armed men. Bloodhounds were also sent from Winston-Salem to assist in apprehending the criminals. It is unknown whether the deed was committed by a white or negro.

Mr. Lyerly being a most highly respected citizen and well known and has not at any time caused any one trouble.

From all accounts it would seem that some heavy instrument or club, possibly brass knucks were used in committing the fiendish work.

Great excitement prevails throughout the county and the sheriff with a posse of armed men and bloodhounds scouring the country and making every effort to hunt down the criminal and bring him to justice. So far there is no clue as to who committed the crime or his whereabouts.

A Late Report.

A phone message to the Enterprise at 4 o'clock this afternoon gives the information that the sheriff and his party are still out for suspects. Two or three negroes are already in jail at Salisbury arrested on suspicion. One of them has just served a term in the penitentiary for killing a man. The officers are hard at work and giving out little information. The baby child of Mr. Lyerly was shot killed outright but will not live through the day. The crime has shocked the people to that extent that they are not trying to do anything else but apprehend the guilty parties.

When the sheriff arrived at the scene in the early morning the news of the terrible affair had spread and the scene was indescribable. The hundreds of people coming with him from Salisbury were joined by hundreds along the route and by the time they reached the house there was a regular army of excited and indignant people. They had only one object in view, run down the demon. With all of the excitement, there was a cool determination to bring about the capture. When the negroes were arrested on suspicion there was no demonstration—nothing until some positive proof could be had, the circumstances leading up to which seemed to be in the possession of the officers. One of the negroes arrested is just from the pen for killing a man and there is some evidence that he had a grudge against Mr. Lyerly. The others worked for the murdered man and it is rumored that they had made threats. These negroes were lodged safely in jail, but the officers are still engaged in scouring the country. At this hour there is no fear of a lynching as the officers have not made public the evidence on which the arrests were made.

A representative of the Enterprise was in Salisbury yesterday and learned many additional facts concerning the murder at Barber's Junction of the Lyerly family and the attempt to get the negroes out of the jail there. It is said that there were at least 4,000 people around the jail and in the crowd at least 900 yards of rope. The crowd had no leader apparently. Every one who went there to take any part was a leader. All they wanted was a chance at the negro brutes who had committed one of the most fiendish crimes in the history of the State. This demonstration did not take place until the evidence of the negroes' guilt was conclusive. Saturday afternoon the negro boy had confessed to what he knew and told of the plot. He directed the officers to the weapons and the lamp. The bloody axes were found at the places mentioned and nearby was the lamp in the bushes, which the woman held while the bloody work was going on. The bloody clothes were burned. The axes and the

tons from the clothes also found at the place mentioned by the boy. The lamp was carried to Salisbury and exhibited in a window, around which there was a crowd all day Sunday. The axes were in the possession of the sheriff. Old man Gillespie tried to wash the blood from the axe he used but did not succeed altogether. The boy after his confession was taken out to the convict camp, not for safe keeping exactly but to get him out of the way of the curious.

With this conclusive evidence it is not a matter of surprise that the citizens of Rowan county determined to make quick work of the murderers. The mob was composed of people from all the surrounding country, not only from Rowan but from adjoining counties. Nothing but the quiet, rapid movements of Sheriff Julian saved the negroes that night. The men are in jail at Charlotte where they will not be molested if there is a speedy trial.

The Funeral.

The burial services were held yesterday at Unity Church, nine miles from Salisbury and were attended by hundreds of people from the surrounding country. Scores of people went from Salisbury. The four were buried in one grave. The remaining children who are making their home with relatives in the neighborhood were at the funeral. There were probably thousand people in attendance. The services were conducted by Rev. Spence of the Presbyterian church.

Negroes in Charlotte Jail.

The Charlotte Observer this morning gives the following about the negroes now in jail:

An Observer man went to the county jail yesterday and saw the negro men who are charged with the murder of the Lyerlys at Barber's Junction last Friday night. Nease Gillespie, or Mich Graham, is a tall yellow negro, with muddy eyes and kinky hair. He weighs about 174 pounds and is muscular, well-built and strong. His face wore a hunted, frightened appearance yesterday and seemed as meek as a lamb. His hands are horny and hard from labor. Nease is the negro who, it is alleged, lead in the butchery at the Lyerly home. Some believe that he did the work single handed and alone. It is possible that he did. There existed evidence of but six licks. To a casual observer, who saw the house, the dead bodies and the disorder generally, it seems probable that one man killed the four persons. Here is the theory that is advanced along that line: A powerful negro, like Nease, could have entered the first-floor sleeping room of the Lyerlys from the hall door, lifted his axe and dealt Mr. Isaac Lyerly the blow on the forehead; Mr. Lyerly, being a large, healthy man, could have risen after the lick fallen forward to the foot of the bed on his face and received the second lick on the back of the head. From the way the body lay, the death-dealing weapon could have been used as described. In the meantime, little Johnnie, who was sleeping with his father, could have been getting up. One blow on the top of the head with the blade of the axe dispatched him. By this time Mrs. Lyerly was up and preparing to leave her bed, when the assassin wheeled almost in his tracks and drove his axe to the eye in her head. She fell back on her side, but was given a parting blow on the temple, just above the ear. Little Alice, who lay as if she had slept through it all, was struck a crushing blow with the pole of the axe.

A half dozen licks, swift and certain, could have done the work. The only trouble with this plan would have been the lack of light. The night being dark, the murderer could not have seen without a lamp. It was generally believed Saturday that Nease Gillespie used the axe, while a pal held the light.

If the confession of Henry Gillespie, a young son of Nease, is true several negroes took part in the crime. Jack Dellingham, who the neighbors of the Lyerlys believe to be an accomplice of Nease is a small, light-colored negro, with bright eyes and clean face. He appears to be about 30 years of age. He was very uneasy yesterday. George Erwin, John Gillespie and Henry Lee are young negroes. They are the sort of dorks that wear

Mr. Powers at Thomasville.

In the Observer's account of the successful meeting of the orphanage, July 5th, we notice the following reference to the speech of Rev. O. L. Powers, pastor First Baptist church, of this city.

At 11 o'clock the literary address of the occasion was delivered by Rev. O. L. Powers, of High Point, and a more beautiful, chaste, uplifting and ennobling address has not been heard here during the history of this great institution. His theme was "The Realization of a Dream," and he held the tremendous audience spell bound from start to finish. He spoke without manuscript or even notes and in a clear, well-rounded voice pictured this dream of life in such magnetic way that he drew all hearts to him, even the little children could understand and appreciate it. This man, who is fittingly named Powers, is certainly a rising young man of power, and not only the Baptist denomination but all Christians should delight to honor him. The church at High Point should count itself fortunate in having such a pastor.

Accused Man Suicides.

LANCASTER, Pa., July 13.—Special.—Leonardo Delle Ca, accused of murder, committed suicide in jail here this morning by hanging.

The stockholders of Southern Car Company had their annual meeting last night and after going over the affairs thoroughly it was decided to increase the capital stock to \$150,000 and the subscription books will be open at once.

The increase is demanded by the large increase in business of the company and the necessity for the enlargement of the plant. The company has made a splendid showing and now have orders booked as far ahead as 1907. This is one of the best plants in the South and has a great future before it. The management is perfect in its system and the stockholders were gratified at the splendid showing the company has made during the past year. The output of this company stands first among the trade wherever known.

The following official announcement relative to proposals for site for postoffice will be of interest to all. It was received this morning.

Advertisement for Federal Building site.

Treasury Department,

Office of the Secretary,

Washington, D. C., July 12.

Proposals will be received to be opened at 2 o'clock p. m., August 22, 1906, for the sale to the United States of a suitable site, centrally and conveniently located, for the Federal building to be erected in High Point, N. C. A corner lot, approximating 120x130 feet, is required. Each proposal must be accompanied by a diagram of the land, showing the widths of the adjacent streets and alleys, the grades and the character of foundations obtainable, etc. Any improvements on the land must be removed by the vendor within thirty days after written notice, and the vendor shall pay all expenses connected with furnishing evidence of title and deeds of conveyance. The right to reject any proposal is reserved. Each proposal must be sealed, marked "Proposal for Federal building site at High Point, N. C." and mailed to the secretary of the treasury (supervising architect), Washington, D. C.

L. M. Shaw, Secretary.

The New Depot.

The Enterprise went down this morning and had a talk with the contractor about the new depot—which seems to be a slow proposition. He said that there would not likely be any more long delays as all the material they had to wait on was in sight.

wristbands of leather. None of them seem to be of a high order of intelligence.

The wives of Gillespie and Dellingham were left at Salisbury.

Saturday those who gathered at the Lyerly home were orderly and conservative. There were but few indulged in trash talk. If the negroes had not been taken to Salisbury when they were, before the thing out of the ordinary might have happened.

The Lyerlys live in a good Scotch-Irish community. The farmers are men of sense and education.

MR. BRYAN TALKS.

Makes Himself Understood on Matters on Which He Has Been Quoted.

London, July 12.—William J. Bryan having had the opportunity of reading American newspapers, consented today to discuss some of the questions which have been raised since he has again become prominent as a Presidential possibility. He said:

"I notice that I am described as a conservative and in order that there may be no misunderstanding on that subject permit me to say that in one sense I always have been a conservative. The Democratic politics are conservative in that they embody old principles applied to new conditions. There was nothing new in principle in either of the platforms on which I stood. We were accused of attacking property when in fact the Democratic party is the defender of property because it endeavors to draw the line between honest accumulation by honest methods on the one side and predatory wealth and immoral methods on the other. It is to the interest of every honest man that dishonesty should be exposed and punished; otherwise the deserving are apt to suffer for the undeserving. If, however, by the word conservative they mean that I have changed my position on any public question or moderated my opposition to corporate aggrandizement they have a surprise awaiting them. I am more radical than I was in 1896 and have nothing to withdraw on economic questions which have been under discussion.

"The only question we discussed in 1896 upon which there has been any apparent change is the silver question. We contended for more money and urged the free coinage of silver as the only means then in sight of securing it. The increased production of gold has brought in part the benefit we expected to secure from the restriction of silver. The per capita volume of money in the United States is almost five per cent. greater now than it was in 1896, and the benefits brought by this increase have not only vindicated the quantitative theory of money but have proven the benefits of the larger amount of money. No advocate of the gold standard can claim the triumph of his logic.

"I believe in bi-metallicism and I believe that the restoration of silver would bring still further prosperity, besides restoring par in exchange between gold and silver using countries but I recognize, as do all other bi-metallicists whom I have met abroad, that the unexpected and unprecedented increase in gold production has for the present removed the silver question as an issue.

"While the money question has waned in importance, other questions have been forging to the front and to those questions we must apply the same principles we applied to the money question, and seek to secure the greatest good to the greatest number by legislation which conforms to the doctrine of equal rights for all and special privileges to none.

"On the new questions many will act with us who were against us on the money question, for notwithstanding the discussion of that question, millions did not understand it and were frightened into opposition. We cannot expect the support of any one who is interested in taking advantage of the people either through trusts or through any other illegitimate form of business. Our efforts should be to distinguish between those corporations which are legitimate and those aggregations of wealth which are organized for purposes of public plunder and appeal for support to those only who are willing to have the government protect each person in the enjoyment of his own earnings.

Welcome All True Friends.

"The newspapers have been trying to create friction between what they call 'old friends' and 'new friends' in politics. Those are friends who are working towards a common end, and each campaign brings so some extent a new alignment. In 1896 the party lost many Democrats and was recruited by a great many who had been Republicans up to that time and we welcomed them. In 1900 some came back who were against us in 1896, and we did not shut the door against them. I have no idea that the party will require tickets of admission in the coming campaign. Usually parties are so anxious to secure recruits that past differences are not emphasized if there is a sincere agreement on present issues. I do not know that we can find a better plan than the Bible plan, which admits the eleventh hour comer to a place in the vineyard, and to share the reward with those who began

earlier. I think this is sound politics as well as a sound religion provided the new recruit comes to work and not to interfere with the other laborers. But of course, when an overseer has to be selected experience cannot be left out of consideration."

Running from Warrant.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, July 13.—Special.—John D. Rockefeller will not return to Forest Hill his estate here this season. This decision follows the issuance of a warrant charging him with violation of anti-trust law. Dr. Biggar, his Cleveland friend, has made this statement to Rockefeller's associates.

The Southern's New Steel Car.

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Special.—The Southern Railway has just put into service what is said to be the first steel passenger car for general use on any road. It is said the car could not be telescoped and is non-combustible.

Dreyfus Measures Approved.

PARIS, July 13.—The army commission to which Dreyfus and Picquart promotion measures were referred met this afternoon and unanimously approved them. The commission consists of members of parliament appointed to consider all questions relating to the army.

Senator Newlands Injured.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 13.—Special.—United States Senator Newlands of Nevada is suffering from a broken collar bone the result of being thrown from a horse near San Mateo. He had a narrow escape from death.

Last year a large silver loving cup was offered as a prize to the fire company in the State making the most progress during the twelve months. It was difficult to decide the matter at the meeting at Asheville yesterday, High Point and Statesville being close contestants. It is left to the executive committee after reviewing the reports of both towns the award will be made.

The High Point boys were complimented by the press as making the best appearance of any company in attendance which is a high compliment. High Point did not take the horses this year and therefore did not enter the races.

Another Outbreak.

ST. PETERSBURG, July 13.—Special.—After several months comparative quiet there was a demonstration of working men at the Russian capital this morning. A crowd consisting of several hundred workmen and sympathizers met in Newsky Prospect and started to march toward the winter palace carrying red flags singing revolutionary songs. The police shortly after the line began to move ordered the marchers to disperse. The workmen refused to obey the order, however, and the police charged the crowd. When order was restored two workmen had been killed and many injured. The remainder of the marchers scattered in all directions.

President on Picnic.

OYSTER BAY, July 13.—Special.—President Roosevelt and family are enjoying a basket picnic today at Eaton's Neck Sound. If the weather continues fair will continue their frolic. At 10 a. m. in two row boats, the President rowing one and Teddy, Jr., the other, with a hamper of lunch, fishing tackle, base balls and bats, with target rifles they left Sagamore and mean to enjoy the day.

Don't forget the big sale at Moffitt's commencing Saturday, July 21.

The largest sale in the history of the business will begin at Moffitt's Saturday, July 21, and will last for only ten days.

Bargains! Bargains! Such a vast display of bargains have never been shown in High Point as will be on display at Moffitt's big sale.

Free! Free! A handsome pair of Queen Quality Shoes will be given away to the person holding the corresponding number to the one we hold, issued from our cash register at the end of this ten days sale.

Look up Moffitt's ad. They have change in this issue advertising the biggest sale in the history of the business. Bargains of every description will be found at this sale.