

## MURDERED FAMILY SET HOUSE AFIRE.

### Terrible Tragedy Near Salisbury, Saturday Morning, Negroes Arrested.

Greensboro, N. C., July 14.—One of the most horrible tragedies in the history of Rowan county occurred near Barber's Junction, about forty miles from this city, this morning. Between the hours of 1 and 2 o'clock unknown persons entered the home of Isaac Lyerly, a well known farmer, while its occupants were asleep, killed Mr. Lyerly, his wife and two of the youngest children, fatally wounded the third and then fired the house.

The parents and the three children were sleeping in the front room on the first floor there being two older daughters sleeping up-stairs who were awakened by the smoke and flames from below. The two girls descended the stairs to awaken their father and mother. On reaching their room they found their father and mother and the three youngest children lying on the bed, their heads were crushed and their faces badly disfigured.

The two older daughters, Mary and Annie, aged 18 and 16 respectively, managed to carry the dead bodies from the house and extinguish the flames. Then they ran to the nearest neighbor, W. B. Barber's, and told the story of the tragedy. There being no officers of the law at this place, R. R. Milligan, train dispatcher on duty at that hour, was notified and he wired the news to the sheriff at Salisbury, who started at once to the scene with bloodhounds and a posse of armed men. Bloodhounds were also sent from Winston-Salem to assist in the pursuit.

Three negro men and a negro woman, George Erwin, Jack Dillingham and Mitchell Graham and his wife, have been arrested and put in jail at Salisbury on suspicion of complicity in the crime.

Excitement is intense in the neighborhood and there is talk of lynching.

#### CHARLOTTE FOR SAFE KEEPING.

Charlotte, N. C., July 14.—Sheriff Julian, of Rowan county, tonight brought to this city for safe keeping Neal Gillespie, his son, John Gillespie, Jack Dillingham and wife, Geo. Erwin and Henry Lee, negroes, charged with the murder of Isaac Lyerly, his wife and two children near Barber's Junction last night. There was nothing to indicate a lynching at Salisbury but the sheriff thought best to move the prisoners. The coroner's jury tonight fastened the crime upon all the prisoners.

#### GOVERNOR OFFERED REWARD.

Raleigh, N. C., July 14.—The Governor was notified by telegram this morning of the terrible tragedy near Salisbury and at once issued orders for bloodhounds to be sent from the penitentiary and also made proclamation of a reward of \$350 for the murderers. Later it was learned that there were no bloodhounds at the State's prison except two untrained animals and they were on the Halifax county State farm. News of the tragedy caused much interest here and everything possible was done at the executive offices to assist in bringing the fiends to justice.

#### NEGROES MADE THREATS.

Mr. Matt L. Webb, a white man who had worked with Nease Gillespie, alias Nease Graham, a large mulatto, about 40 years old, reported that he had heard the negro use the following language: "Old man Lyerly can cut that wheat and thrash it but he will never eat it or get the money for it."

This recalled something that Mr. J. G. Lyerly, a son by a former wife, had heard his father say, Nease Gillespie, who is a saw mill hand for Mr. John Dellinger, moved into one of Mr. Isaac Lyerly's cabins last fall. He, his son and step-son agreed to work so much land if they took the house. A section for wheat was laid

off. The Gillespies sowed part of this, but finding that they could get plenty of work at good wages did not sow the entire lot. This, not being according to contract, worried Mr. Lyerly, who spoke to Nease and was, in turn, cursed. Finally, however, the matter was settled by Mr. Dellinger, the saw mill owner, agreeing to pay house rent for Gillespie. Nothing more was heard of the wheat until some time ago, when it had been cut by Mr. Lyerly, who was preparing to have it thrashed.

Monday Nease Gillespie went down to Mr. Lyerly's home and asked him what he was going to do with the wheat.

"Why, I am going to thrash it and use it," said Mr. Lyerly.

"You will not," declared Nease.

Hot words followed and Mr. Lyerly ordered the negro out of his yard. It was here Gillespie told his landlord that he would kill him or die in the attempt if he used the wheat without giving him a share of it.

It was after this that Nease told Mr. Webb that Mr. Lyerly might cut the wheat, but he would never eat or sell it. Gillespie had been very insolent to Mr. Lyerly.

The crowd which gathered at the Lyerly home heard of this threat of Gillespie and went to his house to arrest him. The negro had gone to his work, a mile or more away, but his wife became frightened and ran to the home of Mr. Dick Files, a neighbor, and begged him to protect her, saying that she would be hanged for killing the Lyerlys when she had nothing to do with it.

#### SAID GILLESPIE KNEW OF THE CRIME.

"I don't know anything about it, but my husband said," said Gillespie's wife.

Near the home of Gillespie was a freshly burnt spot, where a straw bed and other things had been fired since daylight. Those who graveled in the charred place found pieces of clothing, and a spoonful of scorched blood. Some spaces from the house a bloody shirt, which had been boiled and was still wet, was discovered in a weed patch. These bits of evidence, when put together, make an interesting and convincing story.

Gillespie's wife was hysterical and wild. She talked two ways, but the officers believe that she gave her husband away to Mr. Files. Gillespie is described as a fussy negro.

Revenge seems to have been the motive for the bloody murder. There were more than \$150 in the house, and not a cent of it was taken.

Mr. Isaac Lyerly was a well-to-do man. He leaves an estate worth about \$8,000.

#### YOUNG NEGRO CONFESSES.

Barber's Junction, July 14.—Henry Gillespie, a young son of Nease Gillespie, this evening made a confession to the effect that his father and John Gillespie committed the crime and that the other negroes arrested were implicated. Henry Gillespie was at the scene of the killing all day and on being questioned this evening he became frightened and made a confession to Mr. E. A. Barber, constable, and in the presence of W. A. Thompson and others. He was then taken into custody. He said the elder Gillespie and his son John killed Mr. Lyerly, his wife and the little boy, Jonnie, and fatally injured the little girl, who died this evening, and that the other negroes arrested were implicated in the commission of the tragedy.

#### BLOCKADE STILL CAPTURED.

Durham N. C. July 14.—Revenue Officers Merritt an Jordan yesterday afternoon captured two blockade stills of nine gallons capacity in the northern part of Durham county, about nine miles from the city. The stills were new ones, and from the surroundings in which they were found, were being prepared for operation. They were brought to the city and destroyed.

Buy one of our Mosquito Canopies and sleep in peace. We are sole agents for the Dixie Canopies. Andrews & Waddell.

## THE ROBBERS FAIL.

### Seek to Entice Cashiers Hicks And Dorsett From Home.

Spencer, N. C., July 14.—At 2:30 o'clock this morning an unsuccessful attempt was made by unknown parties to entice A. W. Hicks, cashier of the Wachovia Loan and Trust Company, at Spencer, from his home to the bank presumably for the purpose of forcing the cashier to open to safe at the dead hour of night. A caller at the door awakening the family of Mr. Hicks stated that a prominent gentleman of Winston-Salem was at a hotel and had sent for the cashier to come at once.

Knowing the gentleman whose name was given to be in Europe, Mr. Hicks told the caller there was some mistake and demanded his name. The stranger, who was a white man of good appearance, insisted on getting the cashier out of his home, but finally fled and it is believed joined a party of robbers on the street. Officers are working on the case, which caused a sensation in Spencer, but are without a clue.

A similar attempt was made at the same hour upon J. K. Dorsett, cashier of the bank of Spencer.

#### YELLOW FEVER IN LOUISIANA.

La Place is not on a through or long railroad. It is on the Mississippi river twenty-nine miles above New Orleans, in the parish of St. John Baptist. The town is perhaps ten miles from Lake Pontchartrain, along the shores of which the Illinois Central railroad is laid. The distance between it and any railroad in Alabama is simply the distance to New Orleans, and Lake Pontchartrain lies in the way. Perhaps a more isolated place near New Orleans could not have been selected. and Dr. Irion, president of the Louisiana state board of health, is watching the locality closely, employing in the meanwhile all possible precautions.

But Louisiana certainly should punish the physician in charge of the case severely. He knew his duty, having formerly been the health officer of St. Johns parish, but he neglected, or rather intentionally refused to report the case until July 7, twelve days after its development. The patient is now well, but in the twelve days many mosquitoes may have bitten him. An example should be made of the offending doctor, who preferred the whims of a patient to the public health and the welfare of perhaps the entire south. His name is Montgut, and he needs an allopahitic done of Louisiana law.

It is regrettable that Texas greed and states' rights nonsense kept the marine hospital service from taking charge of the yellow fever situation in and about New Orleans. It is the danger point of the country, and ever will be in the respect of yellow fever. As the law was finally passed the general government will have charge of maritime quarantine, and the state boards will control the situation on shore. Dr. Irion is president of the Louisiana state board of health, and upon him falls the task of seeing that the case at La Place does not become a focus of infection. There were many cases of the yellow fever in 1905 at La Place.

#### A KIDNAPPER CLUBBED.

### Policeman Knocks Him Down And Rescues Boy He is Bearing Away.

Atlantic City, N. J., July 14.—An alleged attempt on the part of an Italian, Joseph Contora, to kidnap five-year-old Edward Teafy on the Boardwalk today came near resulting seriously for Contora, at the hands of an infuriated crowd. The Italian picked up the lad and started off on a run with him in his arms. A big crowd was soon in pursuit. A policeman overtook the would-be kidnapper, knocked him down and rescued the boy.

## THE LYNCHING TRIAL ON

### A True Bill is Brought Against Zeke Lewis, Charging Him With Being One of the Lynchers of Gwyn Johnson, and the Policy of the State to Try Each of the Defendants Separately is Plainly Indicated.

R. L. Gray, in Raleigh News and Observer.

Monroe, N. C., July 16.—The first day of the trial of the twenty-two citizens of Anson county who, it is charged, on May 28th forced a way into the jail at Wadesboro and took therefrom and lynched J. V. Johnson, the slayer of Gwyn Johnson, resulted in the bringing of a true bill against Zeke Lewis, the determination by the court of the right of the State to change the venue from Anson to Union county and developed the policy of the State to try each of the defendants separately.

Several motions to quash the indictment against Lewis were made and denied. One of these was aimed at the alleged want of power under the statute to bring an indictment in a county other than that in which the crime was committed. Another at the alleged unconstitutionality of such change and a motion was lodged for a continuance and removal, for that the judge in his charge had used expressions tantamount to an instruction that the jury should find the defendant guilty.

For the State appear Solicitor Robinson, John T. Bennett, of Wadesboro, and R. B. Redwine, of Monroe. For the defense, J. A. Lockhart, H. H. McLendon, T. L. Caudle, Fred Cox, of Wadesboro, and A. M. Stack, F. F. Griffin, J. C. Sikes, Williams & Lemmonds, Monroe, Adams, Jerome & Armfield, and R. L. Storms, of Monroe.

The sensational feature of the day was the scrimonious character of the charge of the judge to the grand jury. The allegation made by the defense that he instructed the jury that the defendants were guilty was not sustained by his words, but his voice and manner were such as to cause a profound impression.

In that necessity comes in the spirited conflict referred to between people and judge. The court is pitting himself and his office against the desire of the crowd. He made no bones of accepting the situation. Kept as it was within the technical proprieties which hedge a court, Judge Shaw's charge to the grand jury was in effect a prosecuting speech. It was evident that he felt the odds against which the State's case will be conducted keenly. The knowledge raised in him the battle thrill. He put the law to the jury with almost brutal earnestness. He hammered home the uncompromising truths of the facts in a way that suggested physical blows. He referred indignantly to the stories of influences at work in the county and left the jury practically with this bone to crack:

It is conceded that a crime has been committed. The men who took Johnson from the jail and killed him are guilty of murder in the first degree. It is not the jury's place to question the law. If the State brings the evidence against the defendants to show their guilt, there is only one way in which they can escape, through perjury, a failure in their oaths on the part of the grand jury to return a bill, by the petit jury properly to render their verdict or by the officers of the court to do their duty.

He laid particular emphasis upon perjury and in concluding exclaimed dramatically, that, so help him God, if there should be in this case a miscarriage of justice, the responsibility would not be his; that he had made mistakes in the past, but that in this case he would say in advance that if justice miscarried the skirts of the court would be clear.

He warned the jury that many friends of the defendants were here, and that not all of these had come for a good purpose. If anyone spoke to them, "send his name to the court and I will promise that he will not

talk to anyone else outside the county jail for a few days."

Referring to the crime of the lynching and to the reports that the men involved were of the "best citizens" in that county, Judge Shaw said that "regardless of the character of the man he was a human being charged with crime, and he was entitled to the protection of the Constitution and laws of the State, and by a crowd of cowards he was killed."

"When I say cowards," almost shouted the court, "I mean what I say; talk about good citizens doing a thing, like this. I don't believe it. It's the lawless element."

He declared that the statement that the mob was composed of "good citizens," had been made for the purpose of hiding the real transaction.

## SUDDEN DEATH AT MOREHEAD

### Young Billy Boylan, of Raleigh, Succumbs to Heart Failure, While Talking With V. M. I. Classmate.

Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock, while sitting in a lower window of the Atlantic Hotel ball room with a V. M. I. classmate, "Billy" Boylan, as he was familiarly known by all his friends, son of Mr. Billy Boylan, of Raleigh, and a universal favorite, suddenly gasped for breath, which even his companion barely noticed, and fell backward to the floor dead.

Nothing could have been more sudden, a flash of lightning could not have caused a more instant death. There was not a movement of the lifeless form as it lay upon the floor, not the twitching of a muscle. Death was instant.

At first it was thought the young man had fainted. Friends sitting near went quickly to his assistance, Ladies rushed to their rooms for restoratives, several doctors, including Drs. Primrose, Duffy and Hoke, were promptly at his side; but, while they ceased not in exhausting every effort, their experience and examination told them he had already "crossed the harbor bar," and yet they hardly knew how to face the anxious throng of the popular young man's friends hovering over him and say to them "he is dead."

His young sister, Miss Josephine, his idol, and for whose pleasure he had gone to Morehead, had but a few moments before passed him and spoken with him, on her way to her room, and she was now the object of tenderest solicitude. Strong hearted men wept at the thought of her, while the ladies of the hotel gathered and hurriedly and tearfully consulted as to how to break the news to her. It was terrible, it beggars description. The speechless anguish of those sympathetic faces as they contemplated the unspeakably sad situation.

While the young man's remains were tenderly borne to his room several of Miss Boylan's lady friends from Raleigh went to her room—let us not follow them there. Their mission is too sad for pen to portray.

The father of young Boylan was notified by telegram of the sad and sudden ending of his young life, and the remains were prepared for the casket, and, accompanied by his sister and a number of friends, came up to this city on the late train last night, and were taken on to Raleigh for interment.

The young man was about 19 years of age and was sitting in the window with Mr. Kennon Borden, of this city, and together they were looking through the V. M. I. annual, of which institution they had been classmates last session, when the end so suddenly came as described above.

The physicians say that his death was instant, and was due to heart failure.

Chicago has a saloon limit—one saloon to each 500 population.

**CASTORIA.**  
The Kind You Have Always Bought  
Beware the Signature  
*Cast. A. Fletcher*

## STATE FIREMEN.

### Annual Session In Asheville. Officers Elected—Goldsboro Wins Honors.

The annual session of the State Firemen's Association, held last week in Asheville, seems to be the greatest in its history. The business session and the annual election of officers was held on Tuesday night.

President McNeill was enthusiastically re-elected. Mayor Boyden was in the same way re-elected first vice president; J. F. Mandry, second vice president; W. C. Von Glahn, secretary; R. G. Taylor, treasurer; R. E. Lumsden, statistician.

E. T. Whitin, of Charleston, in well chosen words, presented to President McNeill, a handsome loving cup.

The parade this morning was participated in by all the visiting firemen and their apparatus. The line of march was over the principal streets, and thousands of residents and visitors watched the marching firemen and commented on the handsome apparatus. All the wagons and reels and horses were decorated with many colors, while the firemen wore badges pinned to neatly fitting uniforms and attracted much attention. It was a great day for the North Carolina fire ladders.

The first event of the tournament was the steamer contest between Newbern and Goldsboro on Pack Square. Newbern won the quick water prize and also the distinction of lowering the world's record.

Goldsboro won the long distance prize.

There was one purse of \$100 for quick water with 60 per cent. to the winner and 40 per cent. to the loser, also a \$100 purse for the long distance water, with the same per cent. to winner and loser. The two steamers were rolled to the tank located between the fountain and the city hall shortly after the parade and preparations made for the contest. Newbern had the first show. At the signal Fireman E. P. H. Brison went to work with a vim. His complete knowledge of the machine at once won for him admiration, and shortly when water was shown in record-breaking time, applause burst from the Newbern admirers. The Newbern team got up steam and showed water in two minutes, six and one-half seconds, reducing the world's record just 22 1/2 seconds. Newbern threw water 219 feet and 10 1/2 inches.

Goldsboro came next and showed water in three minutes, 22 1/2 seconds. Goldsboro shortly redeemed herself, however, by putting the stream beyond the Newbern mark amid shouts and applause from the Goldsboro admirers. Further, and still a little further, crept the Goldsboro stream, until the distance of 227 feet and nine inches was reached. This was the day's record, and the contest ended with Newbern winning one prize and Goldsboro the other.

A world's record was broken three times this afternoon. Fully 5,000 people witnessed the event.

Raleigh walked off with all first prize money and the honors.

The first contest was the horse hose wagon. The rules call for a run of 300 yards, the laying of 288 feet of hose, attaching a nozzle and showing water 50 feet. The world's record for this was 30 1-5 and the State record 30 4-5. This afternoon Raleigh Rescue No. 1 made it in 28 seconds; Asheville in 29 1-5; and Durham in 29 8-5, winning first, second and third prizes respectively.

Newbern, Eclipse of Goldsboro, Kinston, Statesville and Capital of Raleigh, made zero, the teams failing to get the nozzle on. The record of teams was: Goldsboro, 31 seconds; Henderson, 32, and Rocky Mount, 30 3-5.

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