GRAHAM, N. C.

TUESDAY ... MARCH ... 25 ... 1879 ... die begeit

E. S. PARKER

SCHOOL GRAHAM, N. C.

D.A. LONG, A. M.

SUFFICIENT CAPITAL

intelligent criticisms of ortl Cirolina matters— education: I, social and

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(Charlotte Observer.)

The scene of the tragedy was in the middle room of the offices of the State treasury in the capitol building. The State treasury is located upon the ground floor of the building and immediately in the corner at the intersection of Marietta and Forsythe streets. The room was about twelve by fifteen foot in dimensions. about twelve by fifteen feet in dimen-alous and was used as a sitting room and dosk office by Col. Murphy, clerk to the treasurer. It was the one into which the vault opened. In it the parties met and the affray occurred in the presence of State Treasurer Renfree, Capt. Neims, the principal keeper of the penitentiary, and the tax collect Glimer county, Mr. P. H. Milton. THE CAUSE OF THE TRACEDY.

We have endeavored to get at the nected account made up from the states speak about them. They are to the eflect as below given.

THE CONVICT LEASE ACT passed by the General Assembly in 1876, ich the couvicts of the State ed to companies formed and d as "ponitentiary companies." Due of these companies was composed of everal gentlemen, among whom were denator Gordon, B. G. Lockett, W. B. Lowe and Colonel C. B. Howard. The covicts of the State are divided in a certain manner between these companies for a fixed sum per amount for each conemployed by the lessed arms, in mines and in ctions, etc., as they ma profitable. The a sub-lessed finder

convicts engaged in Agricultural labor-upon a farm in Taylor county. General Gordon has been for some time anxious to sell out his interest in the lense and sever his connection with the employ-ment of convict labor under this system. He has been endeavoring to do so for-some mentile, and, when Colonel Alston. who has always been a warm personal riend of General Gordon, left Washington a few thays ago, General Gordon give him a power of attorney to sell his interest in Penintiary Company

No. 2.
THE BIDDING AND BARGAINING.
It appears that Mr. Jesse Walters, of Albany, who is a representative from Dougherty county in the present legislature, had been in correspondence with General Gordon upon the subject of this interest and was desirous of purchasing the same. When General Gordon plac-ed the interest in the hands of Colonel Alston for sale he wrote to Mr. Walters informing him of the fact and suggesting that he see Col. Alston concerning the matter. Several days ago Mr. Walters came to this city with the view of meets ing Col. Alston and negotiating about the interest offered for sale. Col. Alston reached the city from Washington on Sunday last and on Monday had an inter. view with Mr. Walters. In the mean time Mr. Cox, who was a neighbor of General Gordon and Col. Alston and an ntimate friend of many years standing of the latter, had decided to get out of the lease business himself, and some arrangement had been made between him and Mr. Walters upon that subject also. The substance of it was, as we learn, that in the event Mr. Walters purchased the Gordon interest upon advantageous terms he would also take Mr. Cox's interest upon terms satisfactory to the latter. Upon this account Mr. Cox was particularly asxious that the Gordon share should be passed over to Mr. Walters, and naturally set himself to the task of aiding this result. When Mr. Walters and Col. Alston met, however, the former would not consent to pay the price demanded by Colonel Alston, which was \$4,000. Col. Alston was acting as the agent of General Gordon, and was anxious, as his friend and agent, to realize from the sale a sum that would free General Gordon from the lease withut loss. In other words, that amount of money would have just covered the expenses of General Gordon in the trans-action. Col. Alston refused to make better figures and Mr. Walters said he would not buy and bade Col. Alston adieu. This to Col. Alston was an uslerstanding that negotiations were at an derstanding that negotiations were at an end in that direction. He looked elsewhere and found a party who would buy in the person of Col. C. B. Howard, one of the co-lessees. Col. Howard agreed to purchase the interest for \$4,000, and it is said a portion of the purchase money was paid to make the bargain certain.

TRYING TO BREAK THE BOND. When the fact was made known that

them.

hop he went to the State capitol and entered the office of the State treasurer. He met there Col. Renfroe, Col Howard and others and spoke of the entire

Sams, we learn, who had been in the em-ploy of Cox. He brought word to Alston that Cox

WAS READY AND WAITING

for him, and to come on and see it out, or fight it out like a man! Alston asked Sams if Cox was drinking, and Sams replied that he did not know, but that he was very much excited.

Alston told Sams to go back and say o Cox that he would not come to meet him, but for Cox to attend to his own business, and he, Alston, would attend to his; that he wanted no difficulty with | Col. Alston, when he arose from his Cox, and that it would do neither one of them any good to shoot the other. The oung man went away, and it is supposed told Cox what Alston had said.

Alston then got up and, as Governor upon his return. He met the Governor on Foreyth street and told him all the facts in the matter, and remerked that he believed, in justice to himself and family, and in self-defense, he ought to get a double-barreled shot gun

KILL ED. COR ON SIGHT.

The Governor at once dissuaded hi from any such idea, and told him that the matter could be arranged peacefully; that he would send word to Cox and try to calm him and in his cooler moments endeavor to harmonize affairs. As the Governor then went on to his office Alton stopped at Peter Berron's restaurant on Forsyth street, and said as he had had no dinner he would go in there and get

omething to eat.

Alston went into Berron's and the

The fact appears to be that Cox first encountered Alston in the parbor-shop of Dougherty Hatchins, on Marrietta street about noon. He asked Alston into the back room to talk, and Alston in the the back room to talk, and Alston in the fact with How and and the recind the trade with How ard and make the one with Walters would pay more than Howard for he interest at atake.

Cot. Alston replied to him that it, was now impossible to do that thing. He had soft to lloward and the redemants and, lie had offered the refusal of the share to waters and he had declined to take the same.

Alston subsequently returned to the parties of the parties.

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and shut it. He then turned and advanced them and catching each by the shoulder with his hands, but as he did so again

BOTH MEN DREW THEIR PISTOLS and began to fire at each other with great rapidity. Capt. Nehns fell back upon the table, and Treasurer Ren-troe, and the other man were standing in the room next to Marietta street and near the door while Col. Alston was standing in front of the stove.

chair, had his coat buttoned across his breast, but he unbuttoned it and drew his pistol from an inner pocket. His was a self cocking oistol, and this enabled him to get the first shot at Cox, the ball striking Cox on the left side of the Colquitt was at dinner, he started out upper hp and penetrating the mouth and to find the Governor or intercept him jaw. Cox then got into the corner and jaw. Cox then got into the corner audifred at Alston, but missed him and the ball went into the wall behind. Alston then fired twice in succession, his second ball striking Cox in the left hand, fieshy part between the thumb and tore-finger, and the third shot guing wild and burying in the plastered wall about a foot from the floor close to Cox—so close, it appears, to have gone through the breast portion of his coat as he stooped and leaned sadeways to avoid the shot. Cox then rose and fired his second shot, the ball ponetrating the gight temple of Col. Asten about a

ard and others and spoke of the entire transaction with Cox at the barber-shop.

While he was thus engaged in conversation a messenger arrived from Cox.

This person was a young man named afternion of him but seeing that the floor but the first that the had core for. He went to the front door of the room and attempted to shut it. Treasurer Rentroc told him related to the floor but the floor, but Cox paid no Ky, it is related that he lost his breaks he inquired of her than the floor but t

writerfand to a them in the realistic language of the west, that he ie't as though the could not be spared to a penceful death, but that he should seeke day, die with his boots on!' He said this to Captain Ed. Mercer, one of his most device a duffers, and when yesterday Captain Mercer looked upon the dying form of his friend he recalled the almost prophetic word. And when the body was carried to a bed chamber the faithful friend friend followed it and temically drew from the teet of Col. Alston the boots in which he stood when he was shot down. He did not want to see that shot down. He did not want to see that prophecy juffiled to its letter.

WEAT YOU WILL NOT BE SORRY

You will not to sorry for hearing be.

for judging.

For thinking before speaking.

For holding an angry tongue,

For stopping the ear to a tale-bearer.

For disbeleiving most of the ill re-

For being kind to the distressed
For being patient toward everybody.
For doing good to all men.
For speaking evil of no one.
For being courteous to all.
Secretary Evarts says he sees everybody who calls on him. When a man