

THE GLEANER

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T. B. ELDRIDGE, Editors.
J. D. KERNOLLE

MURDEROUS ASSAULT ON THE PRESIDENT.

The attempt to assassinate President Garfield, the particulars of which will be found in another column, is one of the greatest outrages that has been perpetrated in this country in years. It is a blow, struck not only at the life of a citizen, but against the chief magistrate of the United States, and through him, at the whole people. The whole country is filled with sorrow and indignation. From all quarters have been sent to the National capital, messages of sympathy with the President and his family, and condemnation for the act that has laid him at death's door. The Republic stands aghast at the attempt on the life of the country's head, for it is a national calamity.

There has been some attempt on the part of two or three influential Republican journals that represent a faction, to invest the attempted assassination with political significance, and to make it appear to be the work of the political enemies of the President in his own party. Happily there is nothing to support the idea. It is almost universally accepted that Guiteau is insane. We sincerely hope that he is.

We are truly glad to be able to inform our readers, that although the President was dangerously wounded, his recovery may reasonably be expected. We earnestly hope that he may be restored to the people again.

Mr. Best has obtained possession of an important link in his North Carolina system, having leased the Atlantic and North Carolina Rail Road, at forty thousand dollars a year. The Wilmington and Weldon Rail Road Company also proposed to lease the road at the same price. Mr. Best wants to obtain possession of the North Carolina R.R. Road from Goldsboro to Raleigh, and from there he intends to build a direct line to Salisbury. If he cannot obtain control of that part of the road he will build a road from Goldsboro to Raleigh. His surveyors are already at work locating the route. The terms of the lease require him to begin work on the Midland within three months and finish it within three years, or forfeit the lease. He has already taken possession of the road, which he calls the Atlantic Division of the Midland Railway.

Mr. Best is now trying to regain possession of the Western North Carolina Rail Road, by means of which he will have when the central link is built, a continuous line from Tennessee to Morehead City. Whether he will succeed in getting the road into his hands or not we cannot say. The Richmond and Danville Company is disinclined to give it up, but Mr. Best thinks that he can force them to surrender. That he can do nothing of his intentions in regard to connections beyond the Tennessee line, but suppose he contemplates securing possession of roads that will make a through line from the great cities of the West to the North Carolina seaboard.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Best may be able to carry out the idea of a North Carolina system that originated with Governor Morehead. It ought to be accomplished and it appears reasonable to believe that it can be. With much the larger part of the line already built, traversing a country rich in natural resources, with the great West at one end, one of the finest harbors on the coast at the other, the prospect is indeed flattering.

We would like to see great support on the coast of North Carolina, and Beaufort Harbor offers all the natural advantages for such. The water is deep enough to float vessels of great draught. It is protected by sand banks which stand as walls between its calm waters and the great Atlantic, while the terminus of rail road communication is within a half hour's sail of the ocean. Truly it does seem as if there are grounds for hoping that Beaufort Harbor may at no very distant day, become a scene of no inconsiderable importance. Mr. Best's enterprise has our warmest wishes for its success.

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When the attempt was made to drag prohibition into politics and saddle the Republican party with the odium of opposing it, we said that the executive committee had exceeded its powers, and that the party would not endorse its action. Events since then have verified all that we said and the prediction that the party would repudiate the action of the committee. Prominent Republican papers denounced the act in plain terms, and men who lead the party, in all quarters of the State, have raised their voices against it, while the rank and file of the party will vote as they choose, the mandate of the committee to the contrary notwithstanding. We say now, as we have heretofore said, that prohibition is not a party issue. It is a great question involving issues upon which the people may divide or unite without regard to party affiliations. The action of the committee is a dead letter and will not affect the result of the election next month.

In another column will be found the opinions of some leading Republicans. They leave no room for doubt.

THE QUILL DRIVERS AT MOREHEAD CITY.

On the morning of the 24th the knights of the pen and scissors, to the number of forty or fifty, left Winston in a special car to spend a few days in Morehead City at Dr. Blacknall's magnificent hotel, in response to an invitation from the doctor to visit him in his home down by the Old Ocean.

At Durham W. T. Blackwell got on the train with a large basket filled with long cut tobacco and cigarettes which were distributed among the editors who showed their appreciation of his kindness by beginning a vigorous puffing which they kept up for some time. We have no doubt that at this writing some brother of the quill is deriving solace from Durham cigarette smoke.

Leaving Durham a short time afterward found us at Raleigh, where the train stopped but a few minutes, and then we hurried away to Goldsboro where we expected dinner, but the telegram that had been sent to order canteens failed to reach the hotel; so we had to skimpish around for snacks. We found something to stay our hunger, and then we were off for Newberne, where we saw the most water we had seen in five years. The train passed slowly through the streets and across the long bridge, then quickened its speed, and we were carried rapidly to Morehead City where we arrived at half past eight o'clock P. M. We were glad to be there for the ride was long and we were all tired. A few minutes later found us in the dining room, where we made up for lost time by partaking of seaside fare in a way that left no doubt in the minds of the waiters as to our appreciation of our supper.

After finishing our repast, we were assigned to a comfortable room with Bro. Carr of the Rose Hill "Amateur." We will remark in this connection, that it was all a mistake about our being located in the attic, for we had a nice comfortable room, comfortably furnished and supplied with the modern hotel conveniences and accommodations. The Atlantic Hotel has one hundred and fifty rooms with accommodations for five hundred guests. Every room is supplied with water and the electric bell, good beds and other furniture. The table is supplied with an abundance of good eating. The usual amusements of summer resorts are to be found opposite the hotel, and boats and bath houses are near the back door. The ball room is one of the finest on the coast. A good band discourses sweet music every night while the light footed visitors trip gaily over the smooth floor. Dr. Blacknall is a sort of ubiquitous man who is always looking after the comfort of his guests, but never in the least officious.

There is no necessity now for North Carolinians to go abroad to find a seaside resort. Morehead City and the Atlantic Hotel are all that is necessary for a delightful place to spend the hot months of Summer. If any readers of this article intend visiting a good place to sniff salt water and find first class entertainment, we advise them to go and see Dr. Blacknall.

During the two days that we spent at Morehead, we sailed on the sound and out on the ocean, visited Fort Macon, bathed in the surf as it rolled in from the broad Atlantic, trolled for fish without catching any (the captain of the boat said that there was not wind enough to induce the fish to bite,) and raced with a rival boat to Beaufort and back.

On Sunday we attended church at Beaufort. On our return, we were caught in a small gale with a big rain, and had to take refuge on board the U. S. Revenue Cutter Golfax, which lay at the railroad wharf nearly a mile from the land, where we had to wait until after three o'clock, when the rain slack-

ing up, we were taken on a hand car to our hotel, where dinner had been waiting for us a long time. It did not wait long after we got there, for our unwilling stay on salt water gave us a ravenous appetite.

On Monday morning, we gave Dr. Blacknall and Morehead City a reluctant farewell, and then we sped away for home. We were more fortunate in our arrangements for dinner at Goldsboro, than on the down trip, for it was ready for us when we arrived there. The Bonitz Hotel set out good fare for us without charge; but the time allotted for eating was brief; so we bolted our food in a hurry, and had to rush for the train just as our dessert came to the table. We were sorry that we did not have longer to stay and do justice to the good cheer, but we did the best we could.

The rest of the journey was uneventful. We reached home about seven o'clock P. M. tired and dusty, but delighted with the week spent at Winston and Morehead City. If our present intentions hold good, we shall attend the meeting of the association at Elizabeth City next year, where we hope to meet our brothers and sisters of the quill again, to each of whom, we extend our hearty good wishes for their prosperity and happiness.

The Charlotte Observer of last Monday contained a leading editorial in regard to the attempted assassination of the President, in which he referred to his ante-presidential history, which was written so as to be by no means creditable to the nation's head, whereupon the citizens held an indignation meeting and sat down on the editor. It is the sentiment of the people of Charlotte that enough of bad things was said about Garfield before the attempt on his life, and that they do not approve of kicking a man when he is down.

The Fourth in other Places.

Ten thousand people from Guilford, Randolph, Forsyth and other counties celebrated the Fourth at High Point. A monster prohibition meeting was the principal feature. Hon. A. S. Merrimon and other distinguished orators addressed the people.

A big prohibition meeting was held in Salisbury. Judge Dick delivered the address.

The Guilford Grays drew a large crowd to Greensboro. The procession formed in front of Benbow Hall, and from there they marched to Edgeworth grove where Miss Nellie Dixon, on behalf of the ladies of Greensboro, presented them with a beautiful flag, making a very pretty and patriotic speech. Captain Neil Ellington accepted the present for the company and pledged the honor of his men to keep it unsullied in peace or war. Mr. James M. Leach Jr., of Lexington was then introduced, and delivered an address which is complimented on all sides as being very fine.

At night, a lawn party was given at the grove, and a ball at the McAdoo House.

Is Prohibition a Party Question.

The Opinions of Leading Republicans.

WHAT HON. W. A. SMITH SAYS.

My opinion is that the Republican Executive Committee has neither the power nor the authority to bind Republicans to vote for or against Prohibition. Republicans and Democrats voted for the prohibition bill regardless of party in the Legislature, and will do the same in the coming election. And now for the Republican Executive Committee to issue a bull against prohibition, thinking it can gain a temporary advantage by joining the devil against the Democratic party is a copartnership that older heads would never have consented to. Any attempt that the Republican Committee may make to prove the Democratic party a temperance party will be a failure, as it has a national reputation to the contrary and no one in the country will believe such glorious news even from the Republican Committee. I for one am opposed to the Democrats having the honor of being the father of this prohibition bill, and wish the honors to be divided evenly on this question. It is not a party question and cannot be made so.

W. A. SMITH.

JUDGE RUSSELL, LATE MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE WILMINGTON DISTRICT, ON THE ISSUE.

The attempt to commit the Republican party to free whiskey and legalized drunkenness, will, in my opinion, be repudiated by the great mass of that party in the State. Prohibition is a great political question, but so far as the old parties are concerned, it is entirely non-partisan. The Republican Committee had nothing to do with it. No Republican who is capable of entertaining a conscientious conviction, whether Prohibitionist or Anti-Prohibitionist, will be influenced by the action of a committee who assumes without authority to transfer and assign the party without regard to the views and convictions of its members.

D. L. RUSSELL.

Attempted Assassination of President Garfield.

As the President, accompanied by Secretary Blaine, was entering the depot of the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad at Washington Saturday morning to take the train for Long Branch, he was shot twice by a man named Charles Jules Guiteau who had been lying in wait for him. This occurred at 9:20 a. m. The first ball from the assassin's revolver struck the President near the left shoulder and passed out by the shoulder blade; the second struck him in the back over the left kidney. The President turned at the first shot and fell forward on his knees at receiving the second bullet. Postmaster-General James and others of the party who had preceded him rushed to his assistance. The assassin was instantly overpowered and arrested. The President was carried to a room on the floor above, medical aid was summoned and stimulants administered. The great strong man thus basely stricken down soon rallied from the shock and was borne in an ambulance to the White House, where efforts were made to ascertain the nature of the wounds. The gravest fears were entertained. The patient remained conscious, conversed cheerfully and hopefully, but his pulse was high, he was suffering some pain and internal hemorrhage was believed to be taking place. Morphine was hypodermically injected and he became easier.

AT THE DEPOT.

The first shot not being noticed by the President or his companion, the second and the fatal one found Mr. Blaine on the sill of the door, who instantly called for help. It is believed that the second shot was intended for Secretary Blaine. Guiteau wanted to be consul at Paris. Last fall he bored Blaine with simple-minded letters proposing to take the stump in Maine, and was not regarded as a useful man in the campaign. He has been stopping at the Riggs House, and has shown no peculiarities during his stay to lead to the belief that he is of unsound mind. Secretary Blaine's private secretary says from what he knows of the persistent appeals of Guiteau that he must have intended to shoot Blaine. The second shot gave him a very narrow escape.

Col. Jameson, who was to have had charge of the President's party, was the first to communicate the sad news to the cabinet officers. From the scene to the rear of the train was a distance of perhaps 200 feet. As though drawn by an invisible power the presidential party in a second was surging toward the room where the prostrate President lay. Five members of the cabinet were then present, Messrs. Blaine, Wadsworth, Lincoln, Hunt and James. In a few minutes Attorney General MacVeagh, who was at his office when the deed was done, had arrived. The President's son Harry, scarcely realizing what had happened, stood ready to fight or die in his father's defence. The scene beggars description. A beautiful summer morn, warm and tranquil as the face of nature in early spring, encouraged the brightest thoughts and happiest feelings in the hearts of the company that was to journey with the President. Now their countenances were black with sorrow. "President Garfield assassinated," exclaimed Secretary Hunt. "Impossible." No, if a meteoric stone had singled him out as its victim it could not be more improbable. Secretary Lincoln realized in an instant his position. The son of an assassinated President and the Secretary of War of another victim by the assassin's hand, he quickly gave the order for the troops stationed at the arsenal to hold themselves for immediate orders. The same was done by the Secretary of the Navy, who directed that the marines should be held for similar orders. Meanwhile word was sent to Surgeon General Barnes, Drs. Norris, Lincoln and Woodward, requiring their immediate presence at the depot. With the messengers trooping over the pavements it was not long before every part of Washington was informed of what had happened, and the fact became generally known. Then a crowd soon assembled, and in less than ten minutes Sixth street and B street were packed with people, and the news of the horrible affair flew from mouth to mouth and spread over the city like wildfire and cries were raised to lynch the assassin, but a strong force of policemen summoned by telephone arrived promptly on the scene and preserved order. In the meantime the President had been carried to a room up stairs and the physicians summoned. Subsequently he was conveyed to the White House, as stated above.

Mr. and Mrs. Garfield's Expression of Gratitude.

The Secretary of State furnishes the following, with a request that it be given the widest possible circulation.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, July 4-11 P. M.

To the Press.

On behalf of the President and Mrs. Garfield, I desire to make public acknowledgement of the very numerous messages of condolence and affection which have been received since Saturday morning. From almost every State in the Union, from the South as bountifully as from the North, and from countries beyond the sea, have come messages of anxious inquiry and tender words of sympathy in such numbers that it has been found impossible to answer them in detail. I therefore ask the newspapers to express for the President and Mrs. Garfield the deep gratitude which they feel for the devotion of their fellow-countrymen and friends abroad in this hour of heavy affliction.

JAMES G. BLAINE,
Secretary of State.

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May 16 '81.