

MURDER NEAR RAEFORD.

A Cold-Blooded Murder Christmas Eve—Murderer Brought to Jail.

Henry Richardson, colored, was brought to Lumberton Sunday night by Deputy Sheriff F. J. Adams, of Raeford, and lodged in jail to await trial on the charge of murdering Rias Colfax, also colored, Saturday night. It seems to have been a deliberate and cold-blooded murder. Both the dead man and Richardson lived and worked on the plantation of Rev. T. H. Walters, near Raeford. From the best information obtainable it seems that Richardson and Colfax had a disagreement about some matter Saturday night at the home of the latter. Richardson left but returned later armed with a shotgun. When he again sought admittance to the Colfax home Colfax's wife asked her husband if she must open the door, and Colfax told her to admit him, that he would not do anything. As the door was thrown open Colfax, who was sitting in front of the fire, turned to look in the direction of the door and Richardson fired immediately. Both Colfax's eyes were shot out and death soon relieved him of his suffering. Richardson made no attempt to escape and when arrested by Deputy Adams stated that he had been thinking for some time of killing Colfax. He made no bones over it, stating frankly that they got into a quarrel, one word brought on another, and he got tired of it and killed Colfax. Richardson had been drinking but neither of the men was drunk.

MURDER OR ACCIDENT?

Coroner's Jury Not Satisfied and Holds Young Negro.

David Carter, colored, was killed Monday while hunting on the farm of Mr. W. H. Maxwell, near Dundarrach, in company with two other colored boys, Neill H. McAllister and Walter Currie—all of them boys between 15 and 20 years old—and as a result of the inquest held Tuesday by Coroner G. E. Rancke, McAllister is held on the charge of murder. It was claimed that Carter came to his death by the accidental discharge of his own gun as he was trailing it behind him, but the shot ranged downward instead of up, entering the right side just below the ribs, and the jury did not believe that version of the affair. According to the testimony of both the boys with Carter, McAllister had both his own and Currie's gun at the time, so the jury gave as its verdict that the deceased came to his death by a gun-shot wound at the hands of McAllister. Some of the witnesses testified that there were two shots, while others said there was only one. Deputy Sheriff T. C. Barnes went to Raeford after McAllister this morning and will bring him to jail to-night.

Prof. G. G. Page Weds in Fayetteville.

Wilmington Star, 25th.

Prof. G. G. Page and bride, formerly Miss Lillie J. McMillan, who were married in Fayetteville Sunday, passed through Wilmington Monday on their bridal tour. The ceremony took place Sunday morning at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. McMillan, 817 Winslow street, Fayetteville. The bride was one of the most charming young ladies of Fayetteville, and during the two years she resided there made a host of friends who wish for her a most joyous married life. Prof. Page is principal of Harmony Heights Academy, Maxton, N. C. During the five years he has been in the school work he has made an enviable record and his many friends throughout this and other States have watched with interest and pleasure his achievements. Prof. and Mrs. Page will be at home in Maxton after January 1st.

Prof. and Mrs. Page spent Tuesday night and yesterday in Lumberton with Mrs. Anna Thompson, at the dormitory, and went last evening to Maxton. Prof. Page was formerly principal of a business school here.

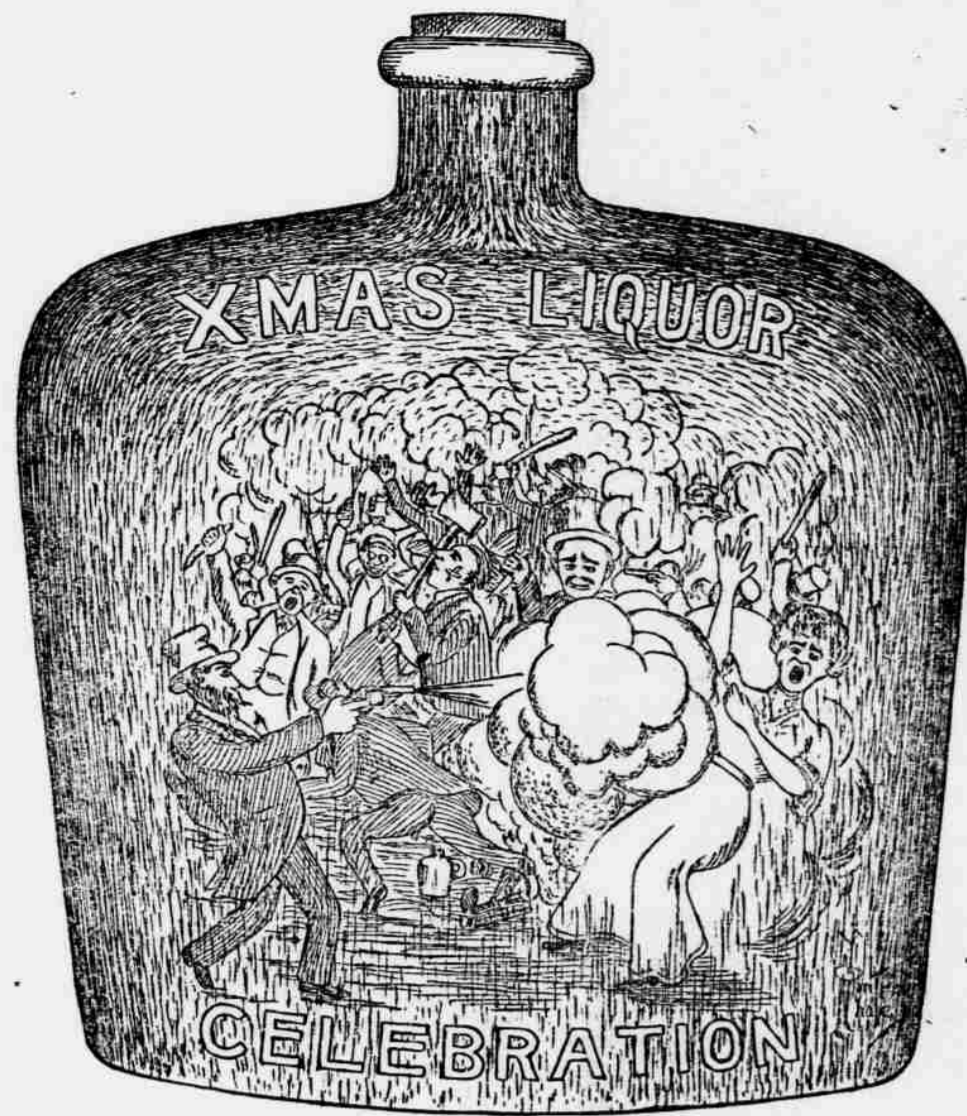
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LOCAL BRIEFS.

—“The Four Pickerts” held the boards at the opera house Friday and Saturday evenings and those who witnessed the performances they gave were very much pleased.

—The condition of Mr. W. J. Prevatt, who has been confined to his home on Fourth street with pneumonia for the past week, is improving and he is getting along nicely.

—Mr. A. Weinstein of Lumberton has purchased the entire stock of goods of Mr. M. R. Tolar at Rennert, who recently made an assignment, and will put the stock on sale at Rennert in the near future.

—Mr. C. T. Page, of Marietta, writes The Robesonian as follows: “On December 14 I killed a fine mammoth black pig, 3 years old, weighing 556 pounds. If any one can beat that I wish you would please speak at once.”

—Dr. J. C. McKenzie, who had been living at Hasty for some time, has moved to Lumberton and will make his home for the present with his brother, County Treasurer M. G. McKenzie, on Elm street.

—Mr. and Mrs. W. C. West and children of McColl, S. C., came to Lumberton last Friday and have been visiting at the home of Mrs. West's parents in East Lumberton. Mr. West is thinking of locating in Lumberton and returned Tuesday to McColl to wind up his affairs there.

—Rev. L. W. Curtis of Hamlet, evangelist for Fayetteville Presbyterian, will preach at the Presbyterian church here Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. and at Baker's chapel in the afternoon at 3 o'clock. Rev. W. R. Minter, of Lincolnton, who has been called to this church, will preach here Sunday after next.

—David Davis, an Indian who lived near Pembroke, was killed while hunting Monday by the accidental discharge of his gun. It seems that in stooping to pick up a squirrel which he had killed and which fell near a stump his gun was in some way discharged and the entire load entered his body just below the heart.

—Mr. Thos. J. White, of Concord, district manager for the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co., spent Tuesday and yesterday in town and paid while here the death claim of the late D. P. Shaw, who carried \$2,500 insurance on his life in the Northwestern. Mr. White has visited Lumberton frequently during the past two years and is well known here.

—Mr. J. H. Turner has resigned the position he held with Messrs. White & Gough as salesman and returned Sunday to his former home at Norwood, Stanley county, where he owns a farm and will either engage in farming or enter the mercantile business. Mr. Turner has many friends here who regret his decision to leave.

—One of the large plate-glass windows in the front of the grocery department of Messrs. Caldwell & Carlyle was smashed Saturday morning when one of their dray horses became frightened at a firecracker and backed the dray to which it was hitched into the window. The window has been boarded up until the glass can be replaced.

—Miss Anna McLeod of Lumberton was one of the four ladies who won a European trip in the Fayetteville Observer's contest, which closed last Friday night. The other ladies are Miss Helen Slocumb of Fayetteville, Miss Annie Geddies of Fayetteville, R. F. D., and Miss Della Matthews, and the last-named will be chaperone of the party. They will sail in July.

20 or 25 years. The funeral service was conducted by Rev. E. M. Hoyle and the interment was made in the family burying grounds about 6 miles from town, where Mr. William Bryant, a brother of the deceased, lives. Besides Mr. Wm. Bryant, another brother, Mr. C. M. Bryant, who lived with the deceased, and two sisters, Mrs. Fannie Batten, of Howellsville, and Mrs. Ella Ray, of Dillon, S. C., survive.

A JAIL DELIVERY.

Two Prisoners Cut Through a Guaranteed File-Proof Steel Bar and Escape.

Cutting through a steel bar that was guaranteed to be proof against any sort of cutting tools with which prisoners might chance to be supplied, two prisoners, both colored—Jno. W. Powell (a man of many aliases, Jones among them) and Elijah McGeachy, awaiting trial on charges of retailing and disposing of mortgaged property, respectively—escaped from the jail some time between midnight and 5 o'clock yesterday morning and have not yet been recaptured. A third negro, Henry Richardson, whose alleged cold-blooded murder of another negro is mentioned elsewhere in this paper and who was in the cell with these two, got out into the corridor and the rest would have been easy for him had not Mr. E. B. Floyd, son of Jailer J. H. Floyd, who was away from home at the time, appeared on the scene in time to cut off his escape. Mr. Floyd having been waked by Gus Hunt, a Croatian prisoner on the first floor.

The bar that was removed was sawed in two at the bottom, presumably with a hack-saw, and sawed a little on each side at the top and then broken. And yet this same bar was from the steel cells with which the jail was equipped some time ago and which were guaranteed to be case-hardened and file-or-any-other-old-thing proof. Indeed, Sheriff McNeill was told at the time that he might feed the prisoners on hack-saws and files and things for all the difference it would make in so far as the prisoners getting out was concerned. And it is marvelous, too, how the men escaped through the small opening made by the removal of this one bar. It is about 15 inches long and not more than half that wide, and yet a man weighing 180 pounds got through. After getting into the corridor the rest was easy. At the very place where some other prisoners some time ago dug a hole through the wall—which isn't any great shakes of a wall for a jail, as has been proven before this—the men made a hole and let themselves down by means of bed-clothing tied to other bars.

Sheriff E. C. McNeill and Deputy T. C. Barnes have been searching for the missing men since but no trace of them has been found.

At the request of the commissioners of Granville Governor Kitchin has ordered a special term of superior court in Oxford to try Nathan Montague, the negro who outraged, murdered and burned Miss Mattie Sanders, and murdered her father, J. L. Sanders, and burned his little granddaughter, Irene Overton, burning all three bodies in the Sanders residence, which he set on fire to hide his crime. The court is to convene January 16, with Judge George W. Ward presiding.

CHRISTMAS TREES.

The Methodist, Gospel Tabernacle and Other Sunday-Schools Have Delightful Entertainments Monday Evening.

One of the most delightful occasions of the Christmas season was the Christmas tree and entertainment at the Methodist church Monday evening. The church was filled to its capacity, many from other Sunday-schools being present, and some stood throughout the exercises without the least sign of weariness. The exercises preceding the distribution of gifts were short and simple, consisting of songs, responsive readings led by Supt. W. E. Jackson, and a talk by Rev. E. M. Hoyle, pastor of the church. Then a collection for orphans was taken.

The decorations were exquisite and before the eyes of all during the rendering of this short programme was a beautiful tree that made one feel that this was a veritable fairy-land. Everybody understood that all that went before was merely preliminary, so, though there had been no lack of interest up to that time, when Supt. Jackson announced—after lighting all the candles on the Christmas tree, behind which there was the most really-truly looking fireplace and fire, with stockings hanging all around—when Supt. Jackson announced that Santa Claus had not only promised to be present but had promised to bring Mrs. Santa, why the children stood on tip-toe with expectation. And then Mr. and Mrs. Santa entered from the front and marched down the center aisle, Santa talking all the while and hailing heartily Supt. Jackson, Bros. G. M. Whitfield and John Pitman and other well-known Sunday-school workers; and he said he had a letter from Rockingham for brother Josiah Poole, who was not present. Then the classes were asked to come forward, one class at a time, and all were given presents, teachers and every body; and there was enough and to spare. All the time Santa and Mrs. Santa were busy shaking hands with the little folks and others and helping to distribute presents, and Santa kept up his talk. Santa, be it known, was none other on this occasion than Mr. George Brietz, superintendent of the Dresden Cotton Mills, and when Mr. Brietz's class went forward to get presents Santa declared that was the best-looking class he had seen yet—it was a class of young ladies—and more than the usual ripple of merriment swept over the crowd when he called to “Brother Hoyle” and asked if that class was not fuller than usual. Mrs. Santa was represented by Miss Sallie Edwards. Both she and Santa carried out their parts to perfection, and altogether the occasion was most successful and delightful. Those who had charge of the decorations deserve special commendation, for they certainly did their

work after the manner of artists.

At the Gospel tabernacle Monday evening there were also delightful exercises in keeping with the season and a Christmas tree loaded with good things for every member of the Sunday-school. There was also a Christmas tree at Baker's chapel, Mr. W. K. Bethune, superintendent, Monday evening.

On the same evening the West Lumberton Baptist Sunday-school—at the National Cotton Mills—had a Christmas tree, also one of the Baptist Sunday-schools at the Lumberton Cotton Mills—East Lumberton. The other Baptist Sunday-school in East Lumberton had its tree Sunday evening.

Christmas in Lumberton.

Barring a few drunks, mentioned elsewhere in this paper, Christmas passed off very quietly and orderly in Lumberton—orderly with the exception of the drunks and quietly with the exception of frequent setting-off on the days and nights immediately before and after Christmas Day of fireworks. Christmas Eve day the weather was villianous, but even so the streets were thronged from early morning till late at night with eager shoppers passing to and fro and in and out, and the trade, according to the testimony of many merchants, was better than it has been for many Christmases past—perhaps the best ever. Taking the trade throughout the month up to Christmas, it was exceedingly good. If the weather had been pretty Saturday more people would have come to town, no doubt, but even as it was all the merchants sold out practically their entire Christmas stock.

The inmates of the county home were made to rejoice Christmas Day, when they were bountifully supplied with good things to eat by the good people of Lumberton. Miss Lizzie Caldwell always sees to it that these unfortunates are remembered Christmas times and many people of the town responded liberally to her call for provisions this time, as usual. There were turkeys, chickens and other good things galore, two boxes for each one, one of cooked provisions and one of fruit, and these things were distributed by Miss Caldwell's adopted daughter, Miss Gertrude McConaughy, and Mr. W. K. Bethune, who carried them out in Mr. Bethune's auto, which was filled to its capacity. The treat was expected and was gratefully received.

There were no special services at the churches Christmas Day. Christmas trees and other Sunday-school exercises are mentioned elsewhere. Monday was observed as holiday, the banks and business houses being closed. The cotton mills closed down Friday afternoon and started up again Tuesday morning, while the plant of the Kingsdale Lumber Co. was idle from Friday night until this morning, when work was resumed.

Mr. P. McL. Alford, of Maxton, was a Lumberton visitor yesterday.

THE FINAL SUMMONS.

Mrs. Mary E. Sinclair Passes Away in Raleigh—Well Known and Highly Esteemed in Lumberton, Where Remains were Interred Yesterday.

Mrs. Mary E. Sinclair, formerly of Lumberton, where she was well known and held in the highest esteem, died at 8 o'clock Tuesday morning at the home of her son, Mr. D. C. Sinclair, in Raleigh, where she had been sick for some time. The remains were brought to Lumberton Tuesday night accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Sinclair and Miss Nannie McQueen, the latter a sister of the deceased of Mayesville, S. C., and were taken to the Presbyterian church, from which the funeral took place at 11 o'clock yesterday morning. The services were conducted Rev. Dr. J. M. Rose, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Laurinburg, and the interment was made in the cemetery on Fifth street, where rest the remains of her husband, James Sinclair, who died in Lumberton in 1878. The pallbearers were: active, H. B. Jennings, A. T. McLean, W. I. Linkhaw, E. B. Freeman, C. B. Skipper and F. W. Dick of Wilmington; honorary, J. A. McAllister, M. G. McKenzie, ex-Judge T. A. McNeill, A. Nash.

The deceased was about 68 years old and was a native of Lumberton, where she lived until four years ago, when she moved with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Sinclair, to Elizabethtown, moving thence to Raleigh with them two years ago. Her circle of acquaintances was wide and all who knew her loved her. She was a consistent member of the Presbyterian church. Besides the only son, Mr. D. C. Sinclair, chief clerk at the Yarborough hotel in Raleigh, the deceased is survived by three sisters—Mrs. S. N. Dick of Lumberton and Mrs. Robt. Chaffin and Miss Nannie McQueen of Mayesville, S. C.—and one brother—Mr. H. C. McQueen of Wilmington—all of whom attended the funeral. Miss Sue Moore McQueen of Wilmington, daughter of Mr. H. C. McQueen, and Mr. F. W. Dick of Wilmington, a son of Mrs. S. N. Dick of Lumberton, were also among the out-of-town people who attended the funeral.

Mr. Warren B. Bryant Passes.

Mr. Warren B. Bryant, aged 61 years, died Monday at 12 o'clock at his home two miles from town on the Elizabeth road. He had been in bad health for several years, but had been confined to his bed for only three or four weeks. Mr. Bryant was for a number of years a salesman in Lumberton, having been employed by the late Berry Godwin and for a few years by O. C. Norment & Co. He was also associated for a year or so in the mercantile business with the late Gus McLean. He lived on his farm, where he died, for about