The Carolina Watchman.

VOL. XXI, THIRD SERIES.

Leading

The

-

1

TH

T

F

L

T

H

t

RG

 \triangleright

Z

Q

:0:-3

Furniture Dealer and Undertaker

C

Z

ME

BE

F

H

E

Р

RC

×

 \mathcal{O}

Z

5

. -

G. W. WRIGHT,

IN SALISBURY.

Is now offering the Largest and Best Assorted Stock of Furni-

ture ever brought to this place.

PARLOR SUITS!

PARLOR SUITS!

price \$75.00.

\$60.00.

\$45,00.

Mohair Crush Plush at \$60.00. Former

Silk Plush at \$50.00. Former price,

Wool Plush at \$35.00. Former price,

BED ROOM SUITS!

BED ROOM SUITS!

Walnut at prices that defy competition.

A LARGE STOCK

A LARGE STOCK

Antique Oak, Antique Ashe, Cherry and

SALISBURY, N. C., THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 1890.

NO. 43.

ELECTROCUTED! The First Legal Death by Electricity on Record.

> KENNLER, THE WIFE MURDERER, BEAD. AN AWFUL TIME WITH AN AWFUL AFFAIR --THE ELECTRRIC BUTTON BURNS

THROUGH THE SKIN INTO THE FLESH.

AUBURN, N. Y., Aug. 6 .- With a short, sharp shock, painless so far as gress to its final fatal conclusion. the world will ever know, the soul of-When the straps had been adjusted grew business like. William Kemmler was separated from to the body and limbs, the warden the body at 6:40 o'clock this morning. placed his hand on Kemmler's head

A cap adjusted to the head of a man and held it against the rubber cushion. bound captive in a strange looking which ran down the back of the chair. chair, a lever quickly swung around the arc of a semi-circle, a quick conthe opposite side of the room. Before vulsion, a sudden revival of muscular they had followed the warden in his action, another turn of the lever, a movements. Then the condemned pause, a room filled with sickening man made one or two remarks in a fumes, and twenty-seven witness of the

perfectly clear, composed tone of voice: FIRST ELECTRICIDE IN II STORY "Well, I wish everybody good luck" knew that the death of Tillie Ziegler | was one of them, and "Durston, see had been avenged in law, and the crime that things are all right" was another. of William Kemmler expiated, so far as Deputy Vieling unfastened the thumb screws which held the figure "4" at human hands could force its expiation. An execution is always a ghastly the back of the chair in place, and besight. A lynching has about it an at-tendant excitement, born of hurried, which held the saturated sponge pressboisterous action, which lends an arti- ed against the top of Kemmler's head. ficial strength to the nerves of partici- The warden assisted in the preparation

pants and onlookers alike. But the by holding Kemmler's head. slow solemnity of a public execution,

the quiet, formal preparations for a judic al killing are depressing enough to weaken the nerves and undermine the courage of the bravest. At 6:38 the doors at the right of the execution chair leading toward the down.

everything is all right." Two or three times he repeated these tenth second expired, he cried out: run up to its highest speed. phrases. Warden Durston reassured "Stop." "Stop," cried other voices As the auxious group stood silently himself over one hundred years ago."

would be with him all through. But the man at the lever. A quick move- a pungent and sickening odor. it was not fear that Kemmler felt. It ment of the arm and the electric curwas rather a certain pride in the exact- rent was switched off. There was a ness of the experiment. He seemed to relaxation-but the straps held it so have a greater interest in its success firmly in the chair that there was not the door and give the quick order to his than those who made the preparations a quarter of an inch varation in the

"HE'S DEAD,"

said Dr. Spitzka, calmly, "Oh, he's stood at the side of the special corresdead," re-echoed Dr. McDonald with Kemmler's eyes were turned toward firm confidence. The rest of the witnesses noted their acquiesence. There was no question in the mind of anyone ed one iota of pain.' but that the stiff, upright object before them was lifeless.

This was the programme; this the inevitable effect. The next question was, what was to be done with the body.

Dr. Spitzka stepped forward and under the microscope. It was found called attention to the appearance of when the body was spread out on the nose, which, he s id, had an undoubted post mortem color. No one disputed this. Dr. Spitzka turned around in a business-like way and pointing to the harness said: "Oh, undo that. Now the body can be taken to the hospital."

The warden replied that he could

clamped in place, Kemmler said: "Oh, versation took but a moment. Dr. in diameter." The heart, lungs and quit when he did had not a voice in you'd better press that down further, I Balch was bending over the body look- other organs were taken out and found of the house should:

to be in good healthy condition. They piece was unclasped and pressed further Suddenly he cried out sharply, "Dr. will be preserved for further examina- throug the window or run for the McDonald, see that rupture." In a tion. The brain also was taken out, potrol wagen?"

had set in.

his assistants: "Take your time; hand, and, as the seconds flew by, he room threw the current on and off as if it had been carried around the don't be in a hurry. Be sure that noted their passage. Dr. Spitzka, too There was to be no mistake this time country since the days of Columbus, looked at the stop watch, and as the about the killing. The dynamo was and when he was looking at it he said:

"This harp was made by Givoni

"Who was Givoni? Why don't you ask who George Washington was?"

"Well, it's my opinion that you have been swindled on the instrument. and I fear you are too old to take up such music."

Do you? That's a nice way to encourage a husband! I seee now why so many men run ont nights. [not only saved forty dollars in buying this harp, but I'll make your heart ache at least completely. Dr. Fell, who with jealousy before the month is over. pondent of the United Press, turned

He began to trum. He held his and said: "Well, there is no doubt about one thing: the man never suffer- head on one side, ran out his tongne and picked away at the scale, and he had been going about five minutes The autopsy was begun about nine when the cook opened the door, becko'clock. It was in charge of Dr. Jenoned me out, and whispered: kins, of New York, (who handled the

"I give you notice that I shall leave after supper to-morrow!"

"Why, what is it?" I asked.

blood from the body for examination "Him-Mr. Bowser! He'll bring pooks and ghosts about. I have already been taken with palpitation of table that a very severe rigor mortis the heart. Mercy! but listen to those voices of the dead calling out to each There was little relaxation, and it was other across their graves! Mrs. Bowwith difficulty that the corpse was ser, it's the wonder of the people that straightened out. On examination it you don't commit suicide! was found that the second electrode had

Mr. Bowser thrummed until I had to carry baby up stairs to quite his not let any of the witnesses go until and into the flesh at the base of the howls, run until the ends of his fin-When the cap had been adjusted and he had their certificates. All this con- spine, making a scar nearly five inches gers were sore, and he wouldn't have

"Why don't some one throw a rock

The examination of the brain showed said he was a grandson of the late

THE CAP ADJUSTED.

guess; press that down." So the head ing at the exposed skin.

execution room opened, and Warden While it was being done Kemmler moment Dr. Spitzka and Dr. McDon- and it too will be carefully examined. Next day a dark-skinned man who

burt him, and that he (Durston) doorway and called out: "Stop" to from it a white vapor bearing with it

THE BODY WAS BURNING.

Again there were cries to stop the cur assistants. The current stopped and for it, and who were watching its pro- position of any part of the frame. then there was a relaxation of the The quiet little group around the chair body. No doubt this time that the current had done its work, if not well,

knife), Dr. Daniel, Dr. McDonald and

Dr. Spitzka. Dr. Fell prepared the

BURNED THROUGH THE SKIN

KEMMLER'S CRIME.

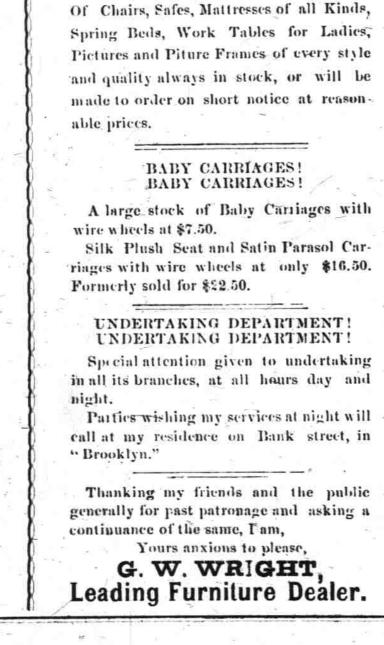
itself one worthy of only passing notice,

and had it not been for the method of

dissipation and debauchery. Kemmler was the son of a Philadel-

The Bowsers.

THE HARP.





B-hind him walked a spruce way. He was dressed in a suit of new clothing, a sack coat and vest of dark, gray material, trousers of a mixed yellow pattern, and a white shirt, whose polished front was exposed directly below a little bow of lawn of a black and white pattern. This was William Keinmler, the man who was about to undergo the sentence of death. Behind him walked Dr. W. E. Houghton and Chaplain Yates. Kemmler was you." softly. by far the

COOLEST MAN IN THE PARTY. partly open. A man stood in the He did not look about the room with any special degree of interest. He hesdoorway. Behind him there were two itated as the door was closed behind other men. Which of them was to him, and carefully locked by an attend- touch the lever and make the connecant on the other side, as though he did tion with the chair was not known. Warden Durston says it will never be not know exactly what to do. "Give me a chair, will you ?" said known.

the warden. Some one quickly handed The dynamo in the machine shop him a wooden chair which he placed was running at good speed and the in front and a little to the right of the volt metre on the wall registered a execution chair, facing the little circle little more than 1,000 volts. Warden of men. Kemmler sat down com- Durston turned to the assembled docposedly, looked about him and then up tors--those immediately around the and down without any evidence of fear execution chair-and said: "Do the or of especial interest in the event. doctors say it is all right?" His face was not stolid; it was not in-Hardly a minute had elapsed since different. He looked, if anything, as the adjustment of the strap. There though he was rather pleased at being was no time for Kemmler to have

the centre of interest. weakened, even if his marvelous cour-Warden Durston stood at the left of age had not been equal to the test of the chair, with his hand on the back the further delay.

of it, and almost at the moment that But there was no fear that he would Kemmler took his seat, he began to have lost courage. He was as calm in the chair as he had been before he en speak in short, quick periods. "Now gentlemen," he said, "this tered the room, and during the process is William Kemmler. I have warned of his confinement by the straps which him that he has got to die, and if he held him close.

has anything to say, he will say it." At the warden's question, Dr. Fell As the warden finished, Kemmler stepped forward with a long syringe in looked up and said in a high-keyed his hand, and quickly, but deftly, wetvoice, without any hesitation, and as ted the two sponges which were at the though he had prepared himself with electrodes-one on top of the head, and the speech: "Well, I wish every one the other at the base of the spine. good luck in the world, and I think I am | The water which he put on them was going to a good place, and the papers impregnated with salt. Dr. Spitzka have been saving a lot of stuff that answered the warden's question with isn't so. That's all I have to say." a sharp "all right," which was echoed With the conclusion of the speech by others about him. "Ready," said he turned his back to the jary, took Darston again and then

"GOOD-BYE."

off his coat and handed it to the war-This disclosed the fact that a den. He stepped to the door, and through hole had been cut from the band of the opening said to some one in the

the trousers down, so as to expose the next room (but to whom will probably base of the spine. never will be known with certainty): When his coat was off, Kemmler

"EVERY THING IS READY." turned in the direction of the duor In almost immediate response and through which he had come into the as the stop watches in the hands of room and began to unbutton his yest.

At the time the warden was drawing some of the witnesses registered $6.42\frac{1}{2}$. the space of time was. No one was no 1-1-1"That if their wives led them around the interfering drapery of his shirt the electric current was turnel on. anxious to give the signal to stop. "You intend to?" by the nose as you do me that they'd All dreaded the responsibility of of- "Yes. I feel the need of something through the hole in the trousers and There was a sudden convulsion of the wipe out the family and then commit cutting it off, so as to leave the little frame in the chair. A spasm went fering to the man a chance to revive to make home more pleasant-to offer snicide! 1 must have looked sweet over it from head to foot, confined by or to give again at least those appear- more diversion during the long hours dawdling over that old harp!" surface of flesh, against which one of the straps and springs that held it ances of returning animation which of evening. I think I shall learn the "You did. I told you that it was the electrodes was to press, absolutely Warden Durston called atten- firmly so that no limb or other part had started and so horrified the witness harp." nonsese you trying to learn music at tion to the fact that it was not neces- of the body stirred more than a small a few minutes before. "At your age?" your age, "That's it! Thats what I expected Some of the witnesses hurried away sary to remove his vest, and Kemmler fraction of an inch from its resting "My age! There you go! Am I a from the sight. One of them lay down to hear! I am neither blind, speechless thousand years old? Am I five hurcalmly buttoned it again and carefully place. nor cripple1. Pliny went at it and faint and sick. The twitching that the muscles of dred? Am I even one hundred, that arranged his tie. "Don't hurry about It takes a long, long time to tell the learned six languages after he was this matter," said the warden; "be the face underwent gave to it for a you keep flinging it at me? Music! seventy years old." moment an expression of pain, but no story. Why, I've more music in my big toa perfectly cool. "Well, I suppose you brought home It seemed a long time reaching a clithan you have in your whole body. cry escaped from his lips, which were He was perfectly cool. He was by the harp? free to move at will. No cry came max. Mrs. Bowser, this is the limit. You all odds the coolest man in the room. "Yes. It's a beauty, and I bought In reality there were but seventyhave gone far enough. Now beware! forth to suggest that consciousness lasted more than an infinate small threes conds in the interval which clap- it cheap. It's a real Givoni, and I When his tie was arranged he sat The world is ready to turn!" though he were sitting down to dinner. fraction of a second -beyond the cal- sed between the moment when the first bought it of a man who was hard up. Bat next morning the word was Warden Duston stood on the right and culation of the human mind. The sound issued from Kemmler's lips until Got it for \$35, and it's worth \$70." as pleasent as June, and when a crowd body remained in this rigid position the response to the signal came from "And you will try to learn to play George Viele, of Albany, on the left. of a dozen boys paraded up and down, They began immediately to adjust the for seventeen seconds. The jury and the dynamo foom. It came with the it?" strap around Kemmler's body, the con- witnesses, who had up to this moment same suddenness that had marked the "Certainly. I had one beson this each harping on a piece of that harp, demned men holding up his arms, and remained seated, came hurriedly for- first shock which passed through Kemm afternoon, and in less than a month I'll ward and surrounded the chair. There ler's body. The sound which had astonish you." or heard any thing .- Detroit Free was no movement of the body beyond horrified the list ners about the chair "You will practice in the garret GAVE EVERY ASSISTANCE. Press. the first convulsion. It was not a was cat off sharply as the body once When the straps had been adjusted suppose? Not by a jugful! I shall practice about the body, the arms were fastened down and then the warden leaned over sleeves, beund hand, foot, body and The slimy ooze still dropped from "Not by a jugful! I shall practice The slimy ooze still dropped from right here! That is, there won't be The Greensboro Werkman thinks and parted his feet so as bring his legs even head, with a heavy frame-work the mouth and ran slowly in three much practice about it, as I shall be that the return to the whipping post as pressing down on the top or his skull, lines down the bead and into the grey playing tunes by Saturday." near the legs of the chair. a punishment would lessen cr. as ... still with the stillaess of death. Dr vest. Twice there was a twitching of He macovered and brought in a When the straps were being arranged, Kennuler said to the warden and McDonald hold his stop watch in his the body as the electricans in the next greasy ill-sharped harp, which teched North Carel na.

"Well, I want to do the best I ald had bent over and were looking said: can; I can't do any better than that." where Dr. Balch was pointing at a that it was hardened directly under the Givoni, came up and gave. Mr. Bowser looking, broad-shouldered little man, Warden Durston took in his hand the red spot on the hand that rested in spot where the electric current had a lesson, and the cook, who had almost full bearded, with carefully arranged leather harness which was to be ad- the right arm of the chair. The in- come in contact with the skull, and consented to stay, suddenly rose up justed to Kemmler' head. It was a dex finger of the hand had curved that the blood at that spot was harden- and rushed after her bundle. When muzzle of broad leather straps which backward as the flexor muscles con- ed, showing that the current had had ready to go she whispered to me: went across the forehead and the chin tracted, and had scraped a small, hole direct action on the brain. of the man in the chair. The top in the skin at the base of the thumb strap pressed down against the nose of on the back of the hand. There was of Kemmler until it flatted it down nothing strange in this alone; but slightly over his face. As the barness what was strange was that the little was put in place Dr. Spitzka, who was ropture was dripping.

standing near the chair, said softly, "THIS MAN IS NOT DEAD." "God bless you, Kemmler." And the Cried Dr. Spitzka, Faces grew condemned man answered, "thank white grew white and fell back from

the chair. Warden Durston sprang The door leading into the room to the doorway and cried, turn on the phia butcher, and was bern Mry 9, 1860. He eked out an existence as a huckster where the switches were arranged was

urrent. But the current could not be turned on. When the signal to stop had 1887, when he married a weoman named minutes when one of the gentlemen asked: come the operator had pressed the lit- another husand living, and two days tle button which gave the sign to the after his marriage Keminler eloped with eng neer to stop the dynamo was al-Tillie Ziegler, also also a married woman tre registered an almost imperceptible months. current. There was a rapid response, Quarrels were frequently for both were but quick as it was it was not quick addicted to drink, and Kemmler always enough to anticipate the signs of what brutal in his disposition, frequently abusmay or may or may not have been re-turning consciousness. As the group of horror stricton wite

As the group of horror-stricken witnesses stood helplessly by, all eyes fixed a hatchet with which he struck her three on the chair, Kemmler's lips began to times mostly about the head. The womdrop spittle, and in a moment more, an was dead before he had finishel his his chest moved, and from his mouth

came a heavy stertorius sound, quickening and increasing with every respiration-if respiration it was. There was no voice but that of the warden, erving to the operator to turn on the

current, and the wheezing sound, half groan, which forced itself past the front door one night this winter he did tightly closed lips sounded through the (it so softly, and he made so little nois still chamber with ghastly distinct- in the hall that I suspected something ness.

wrong. He came into the sitting-room Two thousand volts were sent looking rather sheepish and like a man through the body in the chair. How who had something on his mind: but long it was kept in action no one I asked no questions and he volunteered knows To the excited group of men no information until after supper. about the chair it seemed an in in- Then he suddenly asked:

work.

terminable time. For the men who Do you keep up your plano pracstood in front of the volt metre in tice?"

"Oh, yes. You hate music, and so I the adjoining room and threw the switch lever backward, time had no don't play when are you here." "I hate music! What are you talkmeadurement.

Dr. Daniel, who looked at his watch | ing about?" "You have often compared my playexcitedly and who throughout had an approximate idea of the time at ing to the sounds of beating on an old

least, said that it was four and a half tin pan. minutes in all. The warden's assis- "Well, of course, you are a poor tants who stood over the dynamo, said player, and your voice is cracked; but that on the second signal the machin- so far as music is concerned -real ery was run three and a half minutes music-it fills my soul with joy."

"But you never sing or play." altogether. It will never be known with any degree of accuracy what "Haven't had time heretofore, but

"I'm sorry, mum; sorrow for you hit's left! If h child dies, send me word, and I'll do all in my power." AUBURN, N. Y., Aug. C .- The crime Mr. Bowers took four lessons in all for which Kemmler was executed was in and then he told his teacher that his services woul be no longer required. paying the death penalty would have He took the last two lessons in the attracted little attention; for the mur-derer and his victum had lived only in On the evening of the last lesson he brought in the harp just as a couple of the neighbors came in. He prompty responded to an invitation to show off, but had not labored two about the suburbs of Philadelpia until

"Have you any particular object in that, Mr. Boswer?"

"Of course he has," replied the other. most at a standstill and the volt me-buffalo and lived there for eighteen It is an imitation of a great calamity in Japan-buildings shaken down by earthquake-flames devouring the ruins -husbands shouting-wives praying -children sobbing-dogs barkng etc. Is it your own composition. Mr. Bowers? rage Kemmler attacked his mistress with

"Why-why, don't I play alright? The teacher said I was making wonderful progress.

They beckoned him on into an alley and held a conference. What was said I do-not know, but when Mr. Boswer came in he looked very pale, and the first thing he did was to give MR, BOWSER TAKES A FEW LESSONS ON the harp a kick that opened all the joints and prepared it for the crash When Mr. Bowser unlocked the which came when he flung it out doors.

> Mr. Bowser, have you gone crazy?" demanded.

"No, ma'am, but I've got a few vords to say to you."

"What have I done?"

"Done! Done! Who coaxed mo "The grandson of Givoni. He had an old harp he wanted to get rid of and he stuck you for a flat and get twice its worth."

"Stuck me for a flat!" he shouted as he walked around on the cat. "And why! Because I was willing to swindied to keep place in the family. You had your mind set on a harp and a harp you must have.

"Mr. Bowres! What did I want of harp?"

"Heaven enly knows, -But for yon I should never have tried to play on it. What do you suppose Greene and Davis said?"

"That you are a dunce."