

H. A. LONDON, Editor.

The Haywood murder trial at Raleigh should impress upon all persons the injustice that is often done persons charged with crime by condemning them in public opinion before hearing both sides.

For some days after Haywood shot Skinner very few persons, if any, believed that there had been an altercation or that the latter had struck the former.

And yet, after all this evidence was heard in the trial last week, the presiding judge stated that he could not see how the counsel for the state could have any doubt that there had been a struggle and a blow struck.

Here was a case where public opinion generally condemned the prisoner as a cold blooded murderer and insisted that he ought to be hanged.

GREENSBORO has done credit not only to herself but to the State by the very great success of her grand "Reunion" held there last Monday and Tuesday.

It was a big undertaking, but Greensboro was equal to it and made it a grand success. Never before has there been such a gathering of non-resident natives of this State.

Truly does it seem as if there is no limit to the public spirit and hospitality of North Carolina's most progressive city!

The Auditor's report for the fiscal year ending November 30th, 1902, is at last being printed, and being distributed.

This long delay is utterly inexcusable, and is another illustration of the necessity of our next legislature compelling the more prompt printing of all our public documents.

It was about five months after the legislature adjourned before the laws were published and distributed, and the journals of the last legislature have not yet been published.

All this long delay is utterly inexcusable and is certainly not very business like, and it is hoped that the next legislature will prevent its recurrence.

The State fair and Confederate reunion will attract a large crowd to Raleigh next week, and if the weather is favorable it will be a most pleasant occasion.

This fair promises like all its predecessors to be the greatest one that has ever been held at Raleigh. Persons attending it cannot be too careful with their money, for besides the pick pockets there will be all kinds of "half-way" shows to entice the unwary.

We have never been able to understand how all these fakes promote our agricultural and industrial interests.

Washington Letter.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

Washington, Oct. 8, 1903.

A little more than four months ago Postmaster General Payne declared in an interview that reports of the scandals in the post-office were "hot air" and a "stump speech."

Today thirty persons, including a former postmaster general, four heads of the division, and two assistant attorneys of the Postoffice besides an ex-congressman, a New York state senator and a Pennsylvania mayor, stand indicted and awaiting trial for defrauding the government through the Postoffice Department.

Against one official four, against another six and against several of them two or three. On Monday the Washington grand jury was dismissed and its last act was to announce thirteen indictments against ten men.

The names on the list are James N. Towner, Harrison J. Barrett, George W. Beavers, W. Scott Towers, James T. Metcalf, August W. Maclain, Norman R. Metcalf, Harry C. Hallenbrook, William T. Doremus and George E. Green.

The trial of these men will begin during the present session of the court and they are expected to drag along through the winter and next summer. The funds may be divided into three classes: the taking of commissions on supplies purchased by the department, the accepting of considerations in return for allowing fraudulent concerns to use the mails and the incorrect charging of expense accounts to the department.

Among the latest indictments the most interesting is that of Towner. He is nearly eighty years old and has held high positions in the Postoffice Department for many years.

At one time during the Presidency of General Grant he was Postmaster General. Before his removal he was Assistant Attorney General for the Postoffice. As such he was chief legal adviser to the department.

He is the very one, who with his nephew-in-law, Barrett, allowed the misuse of the mails by "get-rich-quick" concerns. The report of Fourth Assistant Registrar will be ready by Oct. 15th. It is said to consist of 150 typewritten pages. This will practically end the investigation, unless the Republicans carry out their present intention of calling for a congressional investigation.

Washington was startled last Monday by the news that an armed homicide was arrested at the White House when he had come in a vain attempt to see the President. The watchman expected him as he had sent his photograph a few days before to Secretary Lodge with a letter asking for an interview with the President.

The police officers tried to induce him to leave quietly, but he refused and in a dispute which followed he drew a revolver. He was disarmed at once and carried off to the police station. On his way there he struggled with his guard who was severely injured by the glass of the window which was broken during the scuffle. The police later learned that the man was a Dane named Peter Elliott and that he had just come to Washington from Minneapolis, where he spent his time trying to invent a perpetual motion machine. He was pronounced insane and was sent to an asylum.

It was also learned that on the preceding Sunday he followed the President to church and shook hands with him after the service. This fact shows the utility of the President's guard, for had Elliott so desired he might have shot the President as he shook hands with him, though it is probable that the President would have quickly disarmed him. The incident has led to another discussion of the Chief Executive's body guard. The present secret men are detailed from the Treasury Department without any special authority and therefore regarded as a kind of makeshift. There is a constant talk of introducing a bill at the next session providing for a regular guard detailed from the War Department. It is said that the members of the President's cabinet will advocate such a measure.

The negroes of the District of Columbia continue to organize the republican party. At a recent meeting at which many members of the suffrage League were present, the president of the League declared that the colored people were going to create a stir if their liberties were taken away from them. Another speaker added, "Let us not be led astray by talk of industrial education and holding of property. If they can steal our ballot they can steal our property."

500 Families Rendered Homeless.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

Petersburg, N. J. Oct. 11.—For nearly 18 hours Patterson has been at the mercy of the Passaic river.

The waters have maintained a height sufficient to cut off the western half of the city from the eastern, and almost all means of communication by bridges has been destroyed. Three bridges below the Valley of the Rocks still stand, but it is impossible to live in reaching them. Seven other bridges in the city have been carried away, and their loss alone is half a million dollars.

The inundation of the low-lying districts of the city has resulted in incalculable damage to property. The flood, however, is beginning to recede. A number of buildings fell today and many others have been undermined. If they do not fall they, at least, will be untenable. Spruce street hill is falling away piece-meal, and only a little more dirt and stones separate the falls basin from the big black race through which millions of gallons of water are rushing every hour. The gate house is in a very weakened condition, and is liable to go if Spruce street full breaks much further.

Mayor Hinchcliffe, who has been at this point all night and today, superintending the work of strengthening the dikes and the water gates, regards the situation as most critical. One hopeful sign at this place is that the water has fallen several inches since morning.

All day long boatmen have been at work rescuing people from the flooded districts. The suffering in the first and second wards has been intense, as it was almost impossible to reach the residents there. Several hundred persons were removed from houses surrounded by the flood and ready to collapse at any moment. A dozen or more of the houses later did collapse and floated down stream. The damage to mill property is chiefly from the submersions of portions of the plants and great quantities of products. Thousands of men, women and children will be out of employment for a long time, and it seems altogether probable that this flood will cause the city of Patterson a greater direct loss of money and property than the fire nearly two years ago. The gross loss was \$1,000,000, with an insurance of \$2,000,000. The loss today is estimated at considerably more than \$2,000,000 with no insurance.

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While the republicans fail to come to an agreement on financial legislation Secretary Shaw continues to relieve an imaginary money stringency. Since Sept. 1, he has placed \$18,489,200 of the public money in circulation. He has accomplished this by depositing government money in the national banks to the credit of the Treasury and by redeeming United States bonds below their par value. It is now announced that the republicans will appoint a joint committee to examine into the needs of currency legislation.

An anti-saloon league was organized at Concord Friday night.

Beach Strawn With Wrecks.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

Norfolk, Oct. 11.—The north-east gale that has raged over this region since Thursday has tonight practically spent its power, but for miles and miles along the Virginia coast the beach is littered with wreckage, and throughout this entire section of the country devastation lies in the wake of the storm.

Thousands of people crowded trains to the coast today, and saw the wrecks of the big barges Ocean Belle and Georgia near Virginia Beach. There is nothing left but an indiscriminate tangle of debris along the shore at Dam Neck to mark the end of the three-masted schooner Nellie Howlett. The body of Captain George Evans of the Georgia washed ashore late last night two miles south of Seatack life-saving station. The body of George Deeters, the colored seaman of the same vessel, has not been recovered.

The rescue of the remaining three negroes of the crew by the surfman, W. A. Capps, of Seatack station, was one of the most heroic acts in the history of the surfmen of the Virginia coast. Capps, while two miles from any other human being and patrolling his stretch between the stations, saw one negro over a hundred yards off-shore in the roiling surf. Without a moment's hesitation at the peril he was facing, he stripped and plunged into the sea, that was already a seething mass of wreckage from the barges, and after a half hour's battle, single-handed and alone, brought the unconscious man ashore. He had not recovered his breath before he disappeared through a rift in the spume, another form, and once more he went into the surf. This time, by reason of his exhaustion, his struggle was a lawyer one, but he eventually succeeded in saving the negro. Placing the two men under the lee of a cliff, he started back to the station to give the alarm, when he saw the third negro in the waves, and for the third time he plunged in and brought an unconscious man ashore. Capps did not cease his work until all three men had been carried to the station, and at night he resumed his regular track of patrolling the storm-swept coast.

Further News of the Wrecks. Norfolk, Oct. 12.—There first news received from the Carolina coast since the beginning of the hurricane last night dispels the hope that the treacherous shoals between Currituck and Hatteras have not claimed their quota of the craft.

Two vessels are known to have been lost on that stretch of the coast and further reports are expected to bring news of more wrecks, as at this time three schooners are missing, together with one barge. Two schooners and a large in addition to those wrecked by Cape Henry and Dam Neck were lost during Thursday and Friday.

The crew of the schooners were saved, but the barge went down with all hands on board. The big tugboat, Captain Joseph Lane, reports that the Oracle, founded of Cape Henry with Captain Cookson, her cook and three seamen, all white. The tug sailed from Baltimore towing the Oracle, which was coal laden. The tug could not approach the barge in the heavy sea, and was forced to come home for safety.

Observer A. W. Drinkwater, of the Currituck station, reached Norfolk today by the inland route and reports the loss of the schooner, Mabel Rose and J. W. Holden.

The life-savers had seen the Rose about 2 p. m. Saturday with her crew in the rigging, but she was then two miles out at sea and nothing could be done for her. At 4 a. m. Sunday the life-savers succeeded in shooting a line across the wreck, and with it eighteen minutes after the first man had been started ashore the captain and crew of seven men were on the shore in safety. It is estimated that the cargo of lumber carried by the schooner Rose was worth more than \$50,000.

The three-masted schooner J. B. Holden, of Suffolk, is ashore near False Cape, Va., and is a total loss. Her captain, W. O. Cramer, of Suffolk, and her crew were taken off by the life-savers and are safe. The Holden was heavily laden with lumber and an attempt to save at least a portion of her cargo will be made. The ocean-going tug accustomed to stand off Cape Henry awaiting the arrival of the Baltimore bound schooners were unable to stand the storm outside and came in here. They report that the schooner Isabella, Mary Lee Boston and Jennie Thomas, bound from the South for Baltimore, are not accounted for. The wires to the coast are down, but there is grave reason for fear for the safety of these vessels. Captain Thomas, commanding the schooner Henry S. Little, which came in today in distress, is reported that he saw three schooners in a very dangerous predicament, and which seemed to be in danger of going ashore. He managed to keep clear of the coast and made this port. It is regarded as possible that the Patton may make some port and the fact not yet reported.

Vanderbilt Returns.

(Special to Charlotte Observer.)

Asheville, N. C., Oct. 10.—George W. Vanderbilt arrived at Baltimore this afternoon. When Mr. Vanderbilt left Baltimore a few days ago, after approving of the budget for the year, it was presumed that he would go abroad at once and the fact that he was speeding towards Baltimore instead of being out on the breast of the ocean, listening to the call of eight bells, has been the subject of much comment on the part of those interested in the affairs of the estate. However, it is said that all was well on the estate and that an expert accountant was still at work on the books.

The interesting fact was ascertained today that some libel suits are to grow out of statements made by certain papers concerning the alleged scandals and instances of graft on the estate. A forerunner of one of the departments has instructed his attorney in New York to at once institute suit against the New York Herald. It was said that this paper had printed statements of such general and sweeping character as to do some employe of the estate an injustice.

Kingston, Oct. 9.—This evening about 10 o'clock, Joe Deaver, a local blacksmith, was beaten by a canvasser attached to Santelle's circus and in the fight Deaver stabbed one called Dutchy, perhaps fatally. Deaver is a man of powerful physique, and had trouble with the canvasser earlier in the day. After the afternoon performance this man accosted Deaver and drew a pistol to shoot. Deaver grappled and succeeded in securing the weapon. Two other showmen came behind Deaver and dealt him a blow on the head with a tent pole. Deaver fell, and the men continued to beat him until he was dead.

In the scuffle Deaver stabbed the first man with a pocket knife. The doctors say he has slim chances for life. Eye witnesses found the stabbed man under a wagon. Then the police found the chief man in the beating at the railroad junction, about three hundred yards away. The other man escaped.

Yokohama, Oct. 10.—The Russo-Japanese negotiations at Tokyo do not appear to be progressing rapidly. Baron de Kozon, the Russian minister, up to this evening has not replied to Foreign Minister Komura's suggestion, that Russia should reconsider her views, which are at variance with Japan's. Minister Komura and Premier Katsumi today conferred with the Ministers of War and of the Navy. Komura also visited the Marquis Yamagata, chief of the council of field marshals, causing the suggestion in some quarters that the crisis is coming to a head. A petition signed by 10,000 members of the Anti-Russian Union, protesting against the Russian action in Manchuria and Korea, has been presented to the Premier.

Boy Killed in a Cotton Mill. Griffin, Ga., Oct. 10.—A little white boy, was accidentally killed at the Revolutionary Cotton Mill yesterday afternoon. He was ascending on an elevator and was partially lying down on a bag of waste. His head was reaching over the edge of the elevator. At the first floor reached by the elevator the boy's head was caught between the elevator and the floor and his neck was broken. The dreadful accident created consternation in the mill and very soon secret was felt among all the employees at the unfortunate occurrence. The lad's mother and father are both dead, the father having perished in the Cannonock mine disaster of a few years ago.

Notice to Creditors. Having received an assignment of A. T. Lamb, I hereby give notice to all persons holding claims against the estate of A. T. Lamb, to file the same with me on or before September 15th, 1903, or they will be paid in full of their claims. All persons indebted to said estate will please settle with me on or before September 15th, 1903. H. W. WINDSHAM, Administrator.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.—Having qualified as the administrator of the estate of J. J. Webster, deceased, I hereby give notice to all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased to present them to the undersigned on or before the 15th day of October, 1903, or they will be paid in full of their claims. H. W. WINDSHAM, Administrator.

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