

CENTRAL EXPRESS



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THIS FACT BEATS FICTION.

A Novel Scheme to Secure Insurance Money.

State Chronicle.
J. C. Meekins, Jr., Esq., sheriff of Tyrrell county, arrived in the city yesterday afternoon. He gives the *Chronicle* the strangest and most sensational occurrence in Tyrrell county that was ever recorded in these columns. It isn't exactly a case of Enoch Arden, but it is quite as odd, and the element of crime makes it all the more wonderful. The following is the incident that has thrown the county into great excitement:

DILLON INSURED HIS LIFE AND TRIED TO DROWN HIMSELF.

About twelve months ago a man named James Dillon, of Tyrrell county, insured his life for \$8,000 in the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Co. About four months after he had taken the insurance he fell off a boat, feigned that he could not swim, and had to be pulled out of Alligator river to prevent his drowning.

ANOTHER FEINT AT DROWNING.

The next day, he turned a boat over half a mile from shore, and yelled for help to Mr. Sawyer, a gentleman who was a quarter of a mile away. The gentleman responded, but Dillon secretly swam ashore and could not be seen by the gentleman whose assistance he had called. Mr. Sawyer supposed he was drowned and was perfectly willing to swear to it. Notice of his death was sent to the company and they refused to pay. Action was brought by his widow in the Superior Court and the case stood for trial at Fayetteville spring court, the widow alleging that he was drowned.

HIS BODY FOUND.

A week before court, Dillon's body was found on the place where Mr. Sawyer saw him sink in the water. The body was identified by twenty-five people as that of James Dillon, by the shape of his skull, color of his hair, from his bald head, because two teeth were out, and from his clothing and their contents. Dillon's papers and pocket knife were in the dead man's pockets.

At court, counsel for the widow took a non suit because the body had been found and could be identified. It was supposed the company would pay at once. The evidence of health and identification was forwarded to the company who wrote that they would do as advised by Pruden & Vann, their attorneys at Edenton. There is no doubt, with this evidence that the company would have paid the money if nothing had occurred.

THE DEAD ALIVE.

On last Friday, to the surprise of all, Dillon returned safe and sound, "limb, wind and weather." There is no doubt but that Dillon, hearing of the non-suit at court thought it was an end to his claims, and there would be no hope of collecting the money, and so believing returned home.

DILLON MAKES A STATEMENT.

Dillon's statement is that he swam ashore the day that he turned the boat over, put his hat in the boat, and left the boat half full of water. Then he concealed himself in the bushes and waited for Sawyer to come up. He was convinced that Sawyer thought he was drowned, and determined to stay in the woods so his wife could get the insurance money. Five months later he claims to have found a drowned man floating in Alligator river. He removed the hair from his head so as to make it bald, and also his whiskers, and taking his own hair and whiskers stuck in the decomposing flesh of the corpse. Then he knocked out two of the front teeth of the dead man, and removing the clothing from the corpse dressed it in the clothes he had worn on the day of his disappearance. He then, at night conveyed it to the place where he was supposed to have been drowned, which place is one of the most desolate and barren wastes in the lowlands of the eastern North Carolina, seven miles from any inhabitant, and by the solemn glimmer of his lantern came to the conclusion that the corpse presented a striking likeness to himself. The sequel

shows that he was right, for twenty-five people were willing to swear that the body was that of James Dillon.

WHO FOUND THE BODY.

The body was found by Capt. Jos. Etheridge, who expected to get \$200 which had been offered for the body of Dillon.

DILLON JUBILANT AT HIS DECEIT.
Dillon is very jubilant over deceiving the people. The people of his neighborhood are very charitable and whenever one loses a horse, they all chip in and buy another; and when one gets sick they work his crop; or one's house is burned, they build him another. Thinking Dillon was dead, out of charity for his widow, they had planted his farm and on last Tuesday thirteen of them were in Dillon's field working his crop, while he (Dillon) was in the bushes looking at them. He says that he was glad to see his work progressing so finely in his absence and would have been perfectly satisfied could he have told them how he wanted the crop cultivated.

GREAT EXCITEMENT.

The news of his return created quite an excitement, and threats of lynching, and tar and feathers were freely indulged in. Friday, the day of his return, will long be remembered in the usually quiet little village of Columbia as "Black Friday." Added to this excitement was the assignment of one of the prominent merchants of the town, and two fights by four prominent citizens, making a record for the day:

- 2 Fights.
- 1 Assignment.
- 1 Resurrection.

Differences Between New Englanders and Southerners.

The New York *Evening Post*, in reviewing the work of Henry Adams on President Jefferson's Second Term, says: Mr. Adams has nowhere essayed a philosophical explanation of what seems to us among the most striking phenomena in our political history—to wit, how it came that what was originally a social Democracy in New England became the foundation of the most inveterate form of aristocratic politics ever exhibited in our annals; and how it was that a social feudalism in the South, built on an institute so anti-democratic as pretrial slavery, because the seed-plot of a popular political philosophy which degenerated at length into the so-called "vulgarity" of the Jacksonian era. This inquiry is not one which lies outside of Mr. Adams' purview as an historian, for it is one which enlisted the curiosity of speculative politicians at the very beginning of Jefferson's second term, when the dividing of the ways in our national politics had become sufficiently pronounced to indicate that the differentiation was not casual, but followed the trend of divergent tendencies hidden in our social strata.

Less than two months after Jefferson's second inauguration the causes of this separation in the politics of New England were made a topic of formal discussion in the official journal of the Administration, the *National Intelligencer*, and these causes, as then and there analyzed (we abbreviate their substance in our own terms), were reduced under the following heads: The original religious separatism to which the New England colonies owed their origin; the clannishness and pride of opinion engendered by a sense of superior education; the greater compactness of the population, leading itself to easier assimilation of opinion; better interior arrangements for the dissemination of ideas from a central point; the welding process of the Revolutionary England people averse to the independent and belligerent politics of Virginia. Such were, in substance, the views held by partisans of Jefferson when, at that early date, they undertook to account for the New England stratification in our national politics. It would have been instructive to see these constant elements of our party formation surveyed by Mr. Adams from that higher point of view which we have reached to-day. Bryce makes only a passing allusion to the subject.

Concord Standard: A Concord boy wrote Sam Jones while in Danville for his "picture," enclosing in his letter a dime. Mr. Jones sent his photograph and returned the dime. That was real clever.

Horace Alexander Wyche and Miss Ella May Troy, daughter of ex-State Senator W. C. Troy, will be married in the Central M. E. Church at Asheville Thursday morning, June 5th.

THE RADICAL PLOT MAY FAIL.

Reed and Company are not Progressing Well.

National Democrat.
There is a good deal of talk about the Capitol that the proposed federal election law is destined to fail of passage, no less than McComas bill; and the well known willingness of both Harrison and Reed to have nothing whatever done about silver promises to make the present session much more barren of results than the Republican leaders have boasted that it would be.

It is stated to us, on the authority of a prominent Republican Senator, that Mr. Harrison has informed his friends in Congress that he will sign a bill for the free coinage of silver. He wants the Windom certificate bill or nothing. But the Western Republicans are no less than the Democrats opposed to the whole idea of warehousing silver bullion, and will not vote it. It cannot pass.

The present outlook is that nothing at all will be done about silver. The Democrats are advised by Mr. Mantou Marboe, who was so closely in the confidence of the late Secretary Manning, that it is useless to wait longer for the European nations to join us in a silver union, and that the best plan is to go ahead and make silver free. This is a very important suggestion. But one thing is certain: If the Republicans do nothing and at all they will find their record on this question a burden in the coming campaign.

The case in regard to the election law seems to be that the Republican Senators do not want it and are averse to attempting any gag rule in their body in order to put it through. There are also some members of the House who are against it. On Saturday last the caucus committee of Republican members which has it in charge held a long session, and by a vote of six to five declared in favor of the Lodge bill for a national election law in preference to the Rowell bill for an extension of the supervisors. Messrs. Lodge, McComas, of Maryland; Henderson, of Iowa; Houk, of Tennessee; Smyser, of Ohio, and Browder, of Virginia were in the majority and Messrs. Rowell, of Illinois; Stewart, of Vermont; Payne, of New York; Frank, of Missouri, and Haugen, of Wisconsin, were in the minority will carry the matter into the caucus and made a stubborn fight against the Lodge programme. Mr. Lodge's bill, as now drawn makes no provisions for the Australian system of voting except where that is the system of the States. It provides for federal election machinery, federal polling places, federal counting and federal certification in every district of the Union. States authority in Massachusetts and Ohio, as well as in South Carolina and Mississippi, is to be superceded by separate officials and separate polling places under national control. Mr. Lodge estimates that it will cost \$5,000,000 to carry his scheme out. Other members of the committee say that it will take \$10,000,000. They believe and will argue in the caucus that the system will cause friction and indignation in the Northern States and will cause a revolt against the Republican party which will lose it more votes than it can possibly gain in the South. They believe that even if the measure gets a majority vote in a thinly-attended caucus the majority will not dare force the matter to an issue in the House.

It will be a ridiculous outcome of all Reed's high-handed proceedings if none of the political legislation he so much desires gets through. Of course, he has succeeded in passing a tariff bill, but this is merely a measure that is certain to be wholly changed in the Senate.

Already Mr. Dawes has washed his hands of the McKinley abomination, declaring in the Senate on Monday that he did not wish to promote or oppose it. Mr. Allison, of Iowa, would very much like to be relieved of the same responsibility and will be compelled to vote for many modification of the bill.

It is by no means certain that the Fifty first Congress will finally pass any tariff bill at all, or do anything further of importance.

What a record of that would be. No tariff law! no silver law! no election law!

We wonder what Mr. Speaker Reed thinks he has accomplished so far.

DEATH OF DR. J. E. MANN.

An Able North Carolina Minister Taken Off by Typhoid Fever in St. Louis.

Rev. Dr. J. E. Mann, pastor of the Methodist Church of New Berne, died Friday night of typhoid fever in St. Louis, Mo. He was attending General Conference. He will be taken to Winston for burial. He was one of the most prominent members of the North Carolina Conference.

Dr. Mann left North Carolina for the General Conference in good health, and he was a man of unusually fine and healthy physique.

The *Raleigh News and Observer* says of him: He was 58 years of age and was born and reared in Chatham county. He entered the ministry at a very early age and joined the North Carolina Conference in 1853. From the beginning of his career in the Conference he took a prominent part and has always continued to do so filling many of the most important appointments in the Conference, including the pastorate of the church at Fayetteville, Grace church at Wilmington, St. Paul's church at Goldsboro, the churches of Winston Greensboro, and New Berne, where he was located at the time of his death. He was also presiding elder for fourteen years, having charge of the Warrenton, Washington and New Berne districts. Four years ago he was elected to the General Conference at Richmond and again to the present General Conference at St. Louis. He was a prominent member of both and was spoken of and voted for Bishop at the latter. He was taken ill while at work at St. Louis and died in the harness. When the war began he organized a company at Winston, which was afterwards Company D of the 57th Regiment. He married Miss Miller, of Winston. His wife and a large family survive him.

An Important Discovery.

Charlotte Chronicle.
It is claimed that another property of steam has been discovered, and if the discovery stands the test of experience, it may prove valuable both in applying the power of steam and in preventing accidents.

The new discovery was exhibited several days ago, in Bridgeport, Conn., before a society of engineers, during an address by F. G. Fowler, of that city. He asserted that the newly discovered property of steam would, under some circumstances, cause an instantaneous doubling of boiler pressure without the application of more heat. His claims were demonstrated by a small boiler, in which the pressure was raised to 40 pounds, and after being removed from the fire suddenly thrown to 80 pounds. In another experiment the pressure was raised in an instant from 80 pounds to 160. It was claimed that this property accounted for many so-called mysterious boiler explosions, or those which withstood the inspector's test and then exploded at lower pressure. It was shown how his property could be readily removed from the boiler, and the same was demonstrated by successful experiments.

Governor Fowle has accepted the invitation to deliver the address at Princeton college, June 10, at the laying of the corner stone of the new building.

Two women, Crecy Smith and Elizabeth Hooker, were killed by lightning, in Halifax county, Friday.

Twin City Daily: We learn through a letter from High Point that many young ladies have pledged themselves to Evangelist Fife not to have anything to do with any young man that drinks, sells, buys or uses in any way (except as a medicine) intoxicating liquors.

A CARD.

To my friends and supporters in the late Congressional Convention at Clinton:

GENTLEMEN:—I would be derelict to you and to myself, did I not try to express the thanks I feel for your cordial, generous unswerving support throughout an almost continuous session of nineteen hours on last Wednesday and Thursday. In my own behalf and in the name of the People, whose wish you were voicing, I thank you as best I may for this unprecedented devotion.

Going in with 198 votes out of a possible 341, and maintaining it almost absolutely intact through the 334 consecutive ballots ensuing and extending through the entire night, is an instance of resolution and physical endurance, rarely if ever equaled in any similar body.

Friendly predilection for myself will not alone account for it.

It had to be sustained by sense of duty and popular demand.

You feel that a majority of over fifty against "the Field" on the first ballot, and which was kept up with almost unbroken regularity to the last proof conclusive of popular preference, even had had there been no question of the regularity of opposing delegations.

But when realized, as all fair minded men did, that two great counties had been arbitrarily defrauded of their legitimate representation, and packed delegations substituted by summary process of tricksters, for the ostensible and avowed purpose of ensuring my defeat under the two-thirds rule, popular verdict, as expected, made you more steadfast in your resolution. It is needless to say, my friends, I am proud of the support which followed. Rather, a thousand times rather, defeat with such following than success achieved by the substitution or the lordly will and pleasure of a little town clique of little men for the recognized methods of party organization, the primary and county convention. The one I have, the other I scorn, as I do the schemers who wrought the wrong. My brief political career is in all probability ended, whether through inclination or compulsion matters little. Since it began unsolicited, my constant endeavor has been, knowing the uncertainty of tenure; to guard against becoming infatuated with official position. Unless I flatter myself the effort has proved something of a success.

Barring the gratification incident to successful knavery and falsehood (partially successful), which my defeat insures that class, I venture to say that the result is less of a disappointment to me than to some others of "the dark horse" persuasion who aspired to take my place, and hoped by which to achieve it. Pardon a word of parting injunction, not so much to your own as to other counties in the District and throughout the State. Next to the light of Heaven and the light of Reason, Constitutional Government is the greatest boon ever conferred on mortal man, or rather achieved by man, for the unworthy never attain it. We have it. How shall we preserve it? Upon the Primary Election hingeth answer much or more than any other agency.

"The Primary" is the cradle of Party, and if our party be as we believe, the mainstay and ultimate reliance of free institutions, then the Primary is the ministry of Liberty. Make it respected of the people—it is not enough so. But especially make it respected by the small-fry politician, who would dare set it aside for bias or grudge or selfish end. Hold to the Primary; insist upon it and with my dying breath I would fight for it, and if needs be die for it. It is already the terror of Knaves and would be party usurpers. Elevate it and make it more so. Relegate the vaulting manipulator who disregards its claims to be heard or its voice when heard, to the inglorious obscurity from which he should never emerge. Respect the Primary. One other word, my friends, and I have done. It is in the main superficial. Stick to and support your nominees, one

and all, under any and all circumstances. Subordinate personal preference or private grievance, real or imaginary, to party claim and party fealty. Aye, stick to your nominees, now and always, from the highest to the lowest on the list.

The worthy gentleman, Major Chas. W. McClammy, who has been designated as my successor, gained the goal without any underhand connivance of himself or friends. He fought fair and above board, and is a sterling patriot, gentleman and democrat. Give him your votes, not grudgingly, but with a will. He will never falsify your confidence or betray his party convictions, or stoop to low chicanery or double dealing.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I bid you one and all a fervent God-speed and an affectionate and grateful farewell.

WHARTON J. GREEN,
Fayetteville N. C., Aug. 14th, 1886.

THE SUB-TREASURY BILL.

A Moore County Farmer Defends it.

Express Correspondent.
W. R. Davis, as quoted in the *Express* clearly shows his prejudice against "The Sub-Treasury Bill" as well as a good deal of ignorance of the plan; indeed, misrepresentation, ridicule and bold assertions without arguments or facts to sustain them, seems to be the plan of attack from all parties opposed to it.

The authors of the bill have never claimed the bill to be perfect, but expected it to go through the crucial test applied by the wisdom of both Houses of Congress. No bill in a thousand passes through Congress in the shape first introduced. We admit it may need perfecting. But, deny that it is very generous in dealing out Uncle Sam's millions. It is estimated that it will take less than 50 millions to build the necessary elevators and ware houses. There is deposited in certain National banks without a cent of interest more than that amount. There are millions loaned to whiskey men on whiskey in bonded ware houses. Millions of money and land have been given to certain railroads. Then pray why is it so very generous to spend that and to build government ware houses for the benefit of the great agricultural interests of the country on which all its prosperity is based? If it is right to loan hundreds of millions to a corporation of bankers to speculate on the necessities of the masses, why is it not right to loan its credit for a less amount directly to farmers? But it is useless to argue this, every unbiased man must admit its truth and fairness. But our enemies want to divide us by prejudice. You have ignored the agricultural department, Mr. D. says and given the Sect. of the Treasury all the power. Will he tell us how the Sect. of agriculture could issue Treasury notes? But you Southern men may want to buy corn, &c, therefore you should keep the price down, the Northern man needs cotton, therefore he should want cotton low. Then all of you cannot place in bond everything produced, such as garden truck, &c., therefore you should oppose it. Oh! yes that is the scheme, divide them, let them like the set of fools they are, go to fighting each other, and we will walk off with the profits.

Brother farmers, I hope you will avoid that little trap, stand firm as a unit, and work for the emancipation of all the brotherhood of the toiling masses. You know that fair remunerative prices all around will benefit every man among us. Cheap money for the grain section means cheap money for the cotton men and that means better prices and easier times. Beware of the wolf in sheep's clothing. Think, judge and act for yourselves and your own good.

But the great objection of Mr. D. seems to be the immense amount of patronage, unlimited money, &c., given the Sect. of the Treasury. This all falls to the ground from the fact that the managers in every county are to be elected by the people, and if it should go into operation in North Carolina, it would only require upon an average about one or

two men to the county, while there is now at least 50 Federal Postmasters and Deputies in Moore county. This shows that any amount of simple assertion proves nothing.

But it will cause a great gain and cotton "trust" by withdrawing from market enough of the products to put up the price. This will raise the price of Western grain that you may need, but will eventually lower the price of cotton. How will this be done? Why the spinner will wait and smile, knowing that it will come at last and be cheaper the next year. Can the millions invested in cotton mills wait and smile twelve months, when there is scarcely a year's supply of cotton in the world? Did they do that during the war when cotton went up a dollar and a half per pound in a year or two? He argues that it will form a great "trust" by withdrawing products from the markets, and closes by saying, it will lower prices very likely more than 20 per cent. below the market price, and the government be a loser.

I will confess that is a patent double action revolving way of doing business that I do not really understand. But I deny that the plan will withdraw products from market or is intended to do so for any such purpose. Products of the farm will be safer stored in good government ware houses and nearer on the market, being on the railroad lines, than they would be in the barns, scattered over the country.

A man has a hundred bushels of grain in an elevator on the railroad, he also has a hundred bushels in his barn 15 miles away from the railroad, which is nearest to market and most likely to be taken first? The certificates will be always on the market just as much if not more so than the grain in the barns at home.

Mr. D. and many others cry out preposterous! Every little lawyer who is asked about it generally says unconstitutional!!! Editors generally say impracticable!!! Politicians raise their hands and exclaim paternalism!!!! Mr. Editor if I am not mistaken you have pronounced it impracticable. I would like to ask you and the rest how this plan of the government issuing cheap money to its people based on products of value can be impracticable, when it has been in operation at different times in different countries for 150 years or more and always with the happiest results. Almost identical the same plan was used in North Carolina as early as 1713 and extended to Pennsylvania was it carried on with great success. It was highly endorsed, vigorously defended by Ben Franklin, David Hume and many of the ablest minds in America and Europe.

Edmund Burke speaking of the colonies during this monetary system said "Nothing in the history of the world is like their progress." In 1773 this system was abolished by the English government. Franklin was sent to England and strongly defended the system.

In a letter to a celebrated French economist David Hume said, "The British government took away from America its representative money, commanded that no more paper bills of credit should be issued, that they should cease to be a legal tender, and collected the tax in silver. This was in 1773, now mark the consequences. This contraction of the circulating medium paralyzed all the industrial energies of the people. Ruin seized upon these once flourishing colonies; the most severe distress was brought home to every interest and every family; discontent was urged on to desperation till at last human nature arose and asserted its rights" in 1776 America became an independent State.

Frederick the Great, of Russia relieved the farmers of his kingdom from the power of the shylocks and money sharks after a long bloody war by a similar plan. The government of France was once saved by the plan, in fact its results have been almost universally highly beneficial and generally approved by our greatest and best patriots and friends of the people. How then can such a plan be impracticable, and I must say it does not speak well for our Congress if they cannot perfect such a bill in the interest of the people. If they can not they ought to get out of the way and let some others come in, that will. And I would advise writers on this subject to read upon its history and results before they pitch their puny straws against the well poised lances of some of the ablest minds and patriots of the two last centuries.

A great revolution is upon us, may it end peaceably by the ballot. We want equal rights and fair play, nothing more, nothing less.

—W—