

HE CARVES BANKER

Man Assaults Him for Ruining His Home.

VICTIM HORRIBLY SLASHED

The Packer Arrives Unexpectedly and Finds Banker Lilla in His Home.

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MAKES INQUIRY

A Bethaven Citizen Says Beaufort County Can Beat the World Raising Corn.

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A NATIONAL FIGURE

Thos. C. Platt, Ex-Senator From New York, Dead.

HE HAD OUTLIVED CAREER

He Was Twice the Center of the National Stage and Famous—Made Roosevelt Vice President and Created History by Realigning With Roscoe Conkling.

New York, March 7.—Thomas Collier Platt, formerly United States Senator from New York, and for many years a national figure in Republican politics, died at 3:45 o'clock this afternoon in the apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Gustav Abele on West Eleventh street, from whom he had rented three rooms for the last four years. Mrs. Abele had been his nurse.

Dr. Paul Auterbridge, his physician, said tonight that the cause of death was chronic and acute Bright's disease. The body was removed to the home of Frank H. Platt, his son, and will be taken on Tuesday to Orange, New York, the Senator's birthplace, where it will be buried. Funeral services will be held Wednesday at the Presbyterian church in Oswego.

The end was startlingly sudden. An hour before the Senator died his two sons, Frank and Edward, with their families, and his widow son, Harry, with the latter's daughter, Charlotte, and son, Sherman, had left the house after their usual Saturday visit. The Senator said at that time that he felt very well and thought he would read the Sunday papers. At 3 o'clock he was taken with a fainting fit and Dr. Auterbridge was hurriedly called. The family was notified and returned in haste.

Mr. Platt recovered from his first lapse and sank into unconsciousness again at half past three and died fifteen minutes later. The relatives were all at the bedside.

Only last week Senator Platt was at his office downtown. For several years he had been in feeble health and lately the use of his legs had almost deserted him, but his condition until today was not looked upon as more serious than usual, although a physician called upon him daily.

In spite of his feebleness he took an active interest in his business and refused to neglect his duties until the dictates of nature imposed a rest. He was out of bed at 7 o'clock every morning and always early at his office.

UNIVERSITY NOTES.

The preliminary contest for places on the team to represent Carolina in debate with Washington and Lee was held last week. The contestants were H. E. Stacy, W. R. Edmonds and B. W. Pharr. Stacy was a member of the Carolina team that defeated Tulane in debate that spring in New Orleans; Edmonds won the Bingham medal in the commencement debate between the Di and Phi societies last June. Pharr is a graduate of Erskine College, where he won the oratorical medal. The judges of the contest, Dr. C. L. Raper, Prof. E. H. Winston and Prof. E. K. Graham, decided in favor of Stacy and Edmonds. The debate with Washington and Lee will be held April 8 in Greensboro. The same night a debate with Georgia will be held in Chapel Hill. The preliminary contest for the oratoria debate will be held this week. Those who have entered for the contest are A. H. Wolfe, C. E. McIntosh, Ney McNeely, John H. Boushall, and F. M. Cox. Wolfe is president of the senior class and a speaker of ability. McIntosh is an experienced debater who has successfully represented the Di society against the Phi. Boushall and Cox have both done good work in their societies. McNeely has been trained not only in the hall of the Di society but also in the assembly hall of the North Carolina Legislature, in which he represented Union county.

The annual Soph-Junior debate was held Friday night between the Di and Phi societies. The question was woman's suffrage and the cause of the suffragette won. W. F. Hendricks and L. C. Moser of the Di opposed, and L. N. Johnson and J. A. McGowan of the Phi championed the cause of woman. The debate was close and spirited from start to finish.

SHOOT ENEMY

A Physician Shoots and Seriously Wounds a Merchant—Fire Shots Fired.

GREENVILLE, N. C., March 7.—A telephone message from Ballards crossed this county, says Dr. J. H. Hudson shot and seriously wounded Mr. Ted Elks, a merchant there, this morning. Five shots were fired by the physician. The report says the man had been out with early other times and not together this morning to settle the matter. Hudson has surrendered to officers and states that Elks shot him first.

ALDERMEN MEET

Mr. Moses J. Fowler is Elected Chief of Police.

DR. BROWN FIRE CHIEF

Mr. D. P. Packard Recommended for City Engineer and is Selected—Military Company Given \$100—Committee on Day Electric Service is Continued.

The Board of City Aldermen met at the city hall last evening in regular monthly session.

Dr. E. M. Brown was recommended to the board by the respective fire companies for Chief of the Fire Department. In consequence of this recommendation he was elected by the board Fire Chief, to succeed Dr. J. M. Gallagher, resigned.

Dr. John C. Rodman, of the City Improvement Committee, appeared before the board and stated that the committee had decided to recommend the appointment of Mr. D. P. Packard as engineer of the city for surveying the streets to be paved. The board selected Mr. Packard at a salary of \$150 per month, subject to the contract and agreement to be entered into hereafter.

The Washington Light Infantry was allowed \$100 for six months ending July 1. After that time another appropriation will be made.

The city attorney, Mr. H. C. Carter, Jr., and Alderman G. G. Chauncy were appointed to go before the County Commissioners today with a view of getting an extension of time for the county chain gang to work in the city. The County Commissioners have only allowed them to work in Washington for a period of 10 days. The city attorney stated that he had conferred with Mr. J. T. Ross and that it was his wish that his difference as audited by the expert accountant be submitted to a board of arbiters. The board decided to submit his grievances to the same committee as in the case of Mr. A. Mayo.

In reference to the day electric current, Mr. Bryan, of the electric light plant, stated that he had written several towns in the State about the size of Washington ascertaining the cost, etc., of maintaining a day service and from the facts received he did not think a day service would be a paying investment just at this time. On motion the committee was continued until next meeting.

STEAMER BURNED

The Manhattan Destroyed at Her Dock. WAS VALUED AT \$125,000

All the Passengers Were Saved and all the Crew With the Exception of One, a Spanish Fireman, Who is Missing—Ship Has Been in Two Collisions and Other Mishaps.

Portland, Me., March 7.—The Maine Steamship Company's liner Manhattan, which left New York at midnight Saturday, was attacked by flames an hour after she had docked here today and was destroyed after being towed to South Portland. The total loss is \$250,000. The vessel was valued at \$125,000 and the cargo at the same. The passengers who were asleep on board at the time escaped injury through the bravery of the crew.

One member of the crew, a Spanish fireman, is missing and is believed to have perished. The other 34 seamen are safe. The Manhattan was known among seafaring men as a "hoo-down" boat. Since she was built in 1891 she had been in two collisions, a man was lost overboard from her hurricane deck and she once sprang a leak in Hell Gate, New York, and came near sinking.

There were seven passengers on board and they were not awakened after the Manhattan had docked last night. Half an hour after she had been made fast to her pier fire was discovered in a quantity of freight in the hold. An alarm was sent in to the Portland fire department and the members of the crew were formed into a bucket brigade while the first mate and the purser aroused the passengers, who fled ashore with their baggage. The flames spread rapidly and soon began to menace the Maine Steamship Company's pier. It was then decided to beach the Manhattan.

The tug Honeycomb of New York and two Portland tugs towed her to the South Portland Beach, a mile from the pier, where the fire finished its work. A roll call of the crew was made and it was found that a fireman was missing.

RECITAL

Monthly Recital at Carolina Institute and Also at Baker's.

The following is the program for the recital at Carolina Institute, Old Ford. Everybody cordially invited.

Ghost story.

Piano solo, "Fragrant Flowers." Esther Hodges.

Pantomime, "Rock of Ages." Vocal solo, "Golly Wog." Marie Hodges.

GOSPEL WORKERS

Two Members of This Society Have Been Here Several Days in the Interest of Their Work.

Misses E. M. Herman and F. L. Wisner, of the Gospel Workers' Society, headquarters at Cleveland, O., have been in the city for the past few days, singing and preaching on the streets. These ladies are from Norfolk, where the society has a branch of the organization. They have been giving services twice daily at 4 and 7:30 p. m. Their object is to spread religious literature and also reach those who do not attend any church. They sing the gospel instead of preaching it. These ladies are now making a tour of North Carolina. In a few days two more members of the society will join them.

THE COTTON SUPPLY. (Charlotte Observer.)

Production of cotton in the Southern States has averaged from 150 pounds of lint to the acre to 375 pounds per acre. It looks as though for this year the production will be a minimum. It had been thought that the minimum would never be reached again, because of fertilizers and the better understanding about planting and cultivating cotton. The influences operating to make a minimum production per acre are chiefly the boll weevil and drought in the Western States and decreasing fertility of the soil in these same States also. The drought is, of course, a passing event. Decreasing the fertility of the soil can be cured in the West, as well as it was in the East, by fertilizers. The boll weevil is the one important and threatening influence which may permanently diminish the production per acre.

Besides the reduction per acre by the influence of the boll weevil, another important factor will constantly tend to diminish the total production. This is the development of diversified agriculture and manufactures in the South. It transpires that there are many things a trained and educated working man can do in the South which are more profitable than producing cotton, even a fifteen cents a pound. For the working man, weekly wages are far more attractive than an uncertain settlement on a farm once a year. It transpires also that there are forces and resources being brought into use which require working people. These must practically all come off the cotton farm. It is not alone the cotton mills, but the furniture factories, machine shops, saw mills, trouser factories, truck farming, the production of early vegetables for shipment North, and many other things, and one other thing that can be done, every one more agreeable and more profitable than raising cotton at a cheap price.

Many efforts have been made to find a source of cotton supply in other parts of the world. This has, so far, not been successful to any great degree. How far it may be successful in the future, none can tell. The havoc produced by the boll weevil is evidence of what a little thing may destroy the crop. The slightest adverse condition in climate is at times as disastrous as any cotton pest could possibly be.

Taking it all in all, the cotton supply for the world promises to give concern for the next two or three years at least, and perhaps indefinitely, trousers of the fiber. The deficiency may be partly made good by more and better attention to the production of flax or linen, wool and other fibers; and it will be partly made good by better prices for cotton than were formerly obtained.

AT THE GEM.

The Death Disc (Biograph); The Light That Came, or the romance of a blind musician; The Belated Wedding, romance; The Electric Theater, comedy. This is a fine array of pictures and will certainly please the most critical. Last night at the Gem the swell program was much appreciated. Tonight a much better set of pictures are in store. Remember the orchestra plays all during the evening rendering some of their fine selections. The Gem is playing to good houses nightly and the management is making good each performance. See the show tonight. You'll not regret it.

The best get-rich-quick scheme is to marry it.

THE GAJETTY.

The following program will be rendered at the Gajetty theater this evening: All on Account of Milk (Biograph); A Romance of a Rocky Road; Blessville the Beautiful. Mr. Whitten will sing "Tom Boy." Two prizes will be given away Friday night. Ladies prize, 5-pound box of Apple candy at Hardy's Drug store; Gentlemen's prize, box of LaCitta cigars, Brown's drug store. The performance this evening will be catchy and amusing. Some of the best pictures of the season are in store for those who attend the Gajetty tonight. Be sure and see them. Good music all during the performance.

POWELL IN THE PEN

Is Taken to State Prison at Raleigh for Safety.

DUNN FIGHTING FOR LIFE

Man Who Shot Senator E. L. Travis and Representative A. H. Kitchen Carried to Raleigh—Dunn Resisting Escape—He is Expected to Recover.

Scotland Neck, March 7.—The wounded parties in the tragedy Friday are resting easy this morning, although Officer Dunn is still in a critical condition. He rested better last night and there are some hopes for his recovery.

To avoid any possible violence Mr. E. E. Powell, was taken from the county jail at Halifax and placed in the state prison at Raleigh.

All day yesterday groups of men stood on the streets discussing the calamitous affair. Powell was today taken from Halifax to Raleigh jail as a precautionary measure against any possible violence, though it is not believed here that there was any necessity for it. The town is quiet and there is no danger of disorder.

Congressman Claud Kitchen was interviewed today and being closely associated with State Senator E. L. Travis, of Halifax, whose condition is favorable, gave out some information concerning the latter which seems to have given rise to Powell's violence.

"About two years ago," he said, "Powell's son had a difficulty here with a man named Raby, for which he was bound over to the superior court. Powell wrote to Senator Travis at Halifax in view of employing him to defend his son. He claims that Senator Travis did not answer his letter. Senator Travis had been retained on the other side, but does not recall anything particular about the letter which Powell claims he did not answer." Such is the matter relating to the letter as given out by Congressman Kitchen, today, who spent some hours with Senator Travis yesterday as he came from Washington to his home in Scotland Neck.

Raleigh, N. C., March 7.—Sheriff J. A. House, of Halifax county, arrived here yesterday afternoon on Seaboard train No. 41, bringing E. E. Powell to the state prison. Sheriff Powell phoned the governor that he thought it advisable to place Powell in the penitentiary for safe keeping, and the governor issued the formal commitment.

Powell appears to be a man of 45 or 70 years of age and those who know him say that he is apparently sane, though he naturally wears a troubled expression.

Governor Kitchen has gone to Scotland Neck to visit Representative Paul Kitchen who was shot at the same time as Deputy Dunn.

Later—One of the victims of his fusillade of shots is dead, Chief of Police C. W. Dunn, of Scotland Neck, having passed away in Scotland Neck on Monday evening about 8:25 o'clock, while the reports are that Messrs. A. P. Kitchen and E. L. Travis, the two others shot by Powell, are getting along nicely. Mr. Kitchen at his home in Scotland Neck, and Mr. Travis at his home in Halifax, though some fever has made its appearance in Mr. Travis' case. It was before the death of Chief of Police Dunn that the state had been made with Powell from Halifax for the state's prison, it being realized that Mr. Dunn could not live.

MAYOR'S COURT.

Mr. W. J. Floyd was indicted before the mayor this morning charged with being drunk and disorderly Saturday afternoon on Water street. After hearing all the facts in the case he was fined \$5 and cost.

John Franklin, colored, was fined \$10 and cost for beating his wife.

ERECTING STORE.

Mr. Fred Wolfenden is erecting a big store at Chocowinity. When completed this will be one of the largest stores in Chocowinity. Mr. Wolfenden is one of the counties most progressive farmers and business men. He will carry an up-to-date stock of goods. Mr. C. E. Allgood is contractor.

CLOSING

The Piney Grove School Has Interesting Commencement Exercises Last Friday.

On Friday, March 4, the commencement exercises of the Piney Grove school, District No. 13, in Long Acre township, took place. Quite a large number were present. In addition to the regular exercises of the day the school gave a picnic. Everything good to eat was served. Miss Alice Lee Braddy is the efficient teacher, and is doing good work.

After dinner Messrs. Joseph F. Taylor and W. L. Vaughan made addresses. Mr. Vaughan made a proposition that if some man in the community of Piney Grove would give two acres of land for the use of the school, then let the people in the district come together at proper times and cultivate the crop and the entire proceeds go towards the school he felt sure it would be beneficial. Before Mr. Vaughan had finished stating his proposition Mr. A. C. Widmer announced that he would donate the land. This two acres this year will be planted in potatoes with corn between. This course will be taken so as to realize two crops. All the profits will go to the school.

The citizens at Piney Grove are endeavoring to erect a new school building. They have in hand already in cash over \$100. The fertilizer for these farms will be donated.

THE MEMORY.

A chief of police reports that many of the criminals who come under his charge confess that their fall came as a result of reading exciting tales of crime. These stories are forgotten perhaps for years, or until the emergency arises, and then there flashes through the mind the plot of device cleverly suggested by those early stories. In the belief that he will not be caught, the tempted man repeats some one experience with, as he thinks, a little added cunning. The result is disgrace.

One of the most eminent surgeons in New England recently said, "I was influenced more in my early days by