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22 DEAD IN AWFUL WRECK

Seaboard Trains Crash Together With Frightful Loss of Human Life

46 OTHERS ARE INJURED

Twenty-Three of the Wounded, Nearly of Whom Are Colored, Taken to Charlotte on Special Train—One Dies En Route and Another on Reaching Station—Nearly All Being Cared for in Charlotte Seriously Injured and Other Deaths Expected—Wreckage Not Yet Cleared Away and Other Victims May Be Added to the Already Large Death List.

Hamlet, N. C., Special.—Twenty-two are dead and 23 injured as the result of the head-on collision between a local passenger and a special freight on the Seaboard midway between this town and Rockingham. 19 of the dead are negroes. The dead are:

Engineer Frank B. Lewis, Hamlet.
Baggagemaster Byrd.
Fireman Tom Hill, colored.
Porter Watt Boggan, colored.
Gilbert McFadden, colored, Hamlet.
Hattie Caple, colored, Laurinburg.
Mary Bell, Rockingham.
Hannibal McNair and Child, colored.
Hattie Land, colored.
Hester Dorter, Bennettsville, S. C.
Jane Russell Hoffman.
John Harrington's baby, colored.
Six unknown colored men.
Three unknown colored women.
Gert Hinton's baby, colored.
Lizzie Powman.

The injured are as follows:

J. D. Bowen, white conductor, Wilmington; G. S. Birmingham, white, Rockingham; J. O. Bunday, engineer, Hamlet; Geo. Cross, white, fireman, Raleigh; George Morgan, Cicero Thomas and wife, Oscar Lee, Oscar Flowers, Burr Hanton, Richard Douglas, May Douglass, Iver, Oxendine, Frank Scott, Jim Odell, Tommy Lee, Bertie McFadyen, Octavia Jackson, James Stewart, Henry Stewart, Carrie McNair, Sam Copeis, Percy Clark, Ed. Radley, Jane Radley, Richard Morgan, Jane Stewart, Victor Freeman, and three others unknown.

Story of the Wreck.

Passenger train No. 44, which left Charlotte at 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon, was running late at a speed exceeding 50 miles an hour, with orders to clear for Hamlet three miles east of Rockingham.

As Engineer Frank Lewis pulled his engine around a curve and entered a deep cut he saw a light within a few rods and a special train loaded with fruit bore down upon him at a speed equal to his own. The collision was inevitable and the two engines came together with tremendous force, welded themselves to each other and rolled over in the ditch. The heavy cars behind crashed into the lighter cars and reduced them to kindling wood. The negro coach was crushed like an egg shell and every occupant was killed or injured. At the impact Engineer Lewis was thrown a dozen yards from his engine. He never drew breath again. They have just pulled the body of his colored fireman, Tom Hill, from under the debris. J. O. Bundy, engineer of the freight, and his fireman both jumped and escaped with injuries.

The work of rescue began almost immediately after the accident. The uninjured passengers helped the surviving members of the train crew to pull the dead and dying from the tangled heap of wood and iron. People came from Hamlet and Rockingham to assist, and all night the work was kept up. When the first grey morning light came 19 dead bodies, including those of two babies, had been found. Some of the injured managed to get themselves free, others were found pinned down. Several were unconscious. As soon as it was possible a train was brought from Monroe; the injured were placed on this, with the bodies of most of the dead negroes. The dead were taken off at Rockingham and Monroe, the injured at Charlotte. Two of the injured died en route.

The wreck is supposed to have been caused by the failure of the telegraph operator at Rockingham to deliver orders to the passenger train to meet the freight train. The passenger, it is said, had no orders to meet the freight and it is the presumption that the freight overlooked its orders. It is also stated that a lap order caused the catastrophe. The passenger train, this report states, had orders to meet the freight at Hamlet, while the freight's orders was to meet the passenger at Rockingham.

The freight was an extra train westward bound. The two trains collided with an awful roar and crash in a deep cut one mile from Hamlet. Engineer Lewis and his fireman was instantly killed and death came in the twinkling of an eye to the passengers in the colored coach.

The scene is indescribable. The wreckage is piled high on the tracks and traffic is completely blocked. Both the second and first class coaches were overturned and the colored passengers were simply ground to death. Many of the dead bodies are horribly mangled and some of those who escaped with their lives are bruised almost beyond recognition.

As quickly as possible after the disaster, railroad men, citizens and passengers who were uninjured, began to work heroically to recover the dead and injured, who were imprisoned under the cars. If the lamps in the coaches had not been extinguished the accident would have been made more horrible by fire.

The engineer and fireman of the freight train jumped and escaped with few bruises. The coach for colored people was torn all to pieces and everyone in it who did not meet death was more or less seriously injured. Both engines were demolished and the baggage cars and coaches were jumbled together in an unsightly mass.

The colored passengers, most of whom were from Laurinburg, had been to attend a big church gathering. Every seat in the car was taken, many of the crowd being women and children. The cries of the children pinioned underneath the cars, added to the horrors of the catastrophe.

As soon as possible after the wreck the injured were sent to Charlotte on a special train, in order to give them hospital accommodations. There were 23 colored people and five whites in the number. The chief dispatcher of the Seaboard at Raleigh has given instructions to the undertaker at Rockingham to furnish coffins for all of the dead. All of the doctors from Rockingham and Hamlet were dispatched to the scene and did valiant service to the injured. It took about five hours to get the dead and injured from the wreck.

Our Manufacturing Industry.

The largest manufacturing industry in South Carolina, next to cotton, is the making of lumber, according to a bulletin just received from the bureau of manufactures. The manufacture of cotton is by far the most important manufacturing industry in the State, being in 1900 62.3 per cent. and in 1905, 72.6 per cent. of the whole. Lumber ranks next.

Rockefeller Laughs at the Idea of His Arrest.

Cleveland, Ohio, Special.—The indications are that John D. Rockefeller and Sheriff Groves, of Findlay, who has a warrant for the president of the Standard Oil Company, charging violation of the State anti-trust laws in Hancock county, are going to clash. Rockefeller, before he left Europe to return to this country, ridiculed through his companions the idea of his arrest. Groves says he is determined to carry out the mandate of the law.

Weevil-Proof Cotton Found.

Baton Rouge, La., Special.—Announcement that a variety of cotton known as "triumph" cotton is apparently not attacked by the boll weevil was made by Entomologist Newell, of the State crop commission. This plant is announced to be free from some other cotton pests. It yields over half a bale to the acre and is not sensitive to weather conditions.

Escaped Inmate of Insane Asylum Recaptured.

Salisbury, Special.—Deputy Sheriff J. Hodge Kelder, caught John Graham, a white man who has been for a number of years in the asylum at Morganton. He escaped recently and was making his way back home. Although he is not dangerous, Graham has been making it disagreeable for the China Grove people and will be taken back to the place from which he had escaped before.

N. C. Banks Designated.

Washington, Special.—The national bank of Fayetteville North Carolina has been designated as a government depository to the amount of $100,000 and the City National Bank of Greensboro at $150,000. Both were unsuccessful bidders for the Panama canal bonds.

FIVE KILLED BY LIGHTNING

Bolt Strikes Grand Stand at Baseball Game in Manitowoc, Wis.—More Than 20 Injured.

Manitowoc, Wis., Special.—Five persons were killed and more than a score injured Sunday afternoon by a bolt of lightning which struck the grandstand of the baseball park where 150 people had gathered to see a game between a local team and a nine from Plymouth, Wis.

New England Rifle Tourney.

Wakefield, Mass., Special.—The annual rifle tournament under the auspices of the New England Military Rifle Association opened here and will continue till August 6. Every one of the New England States is represented by picked teams including nearly every crack shot of the New England militia. Some valuable trophies and other prizes will be contested for.

BELGIUM INDEPENDENCE DAY.

Many Cities Observing Anniversary of Belgium's Freedom Which Fell on Sunday.

Brussels, Special.—The 76th anniversary of Belgium's attainment of national independence was celebrated throughout Belgium by popular demonstrations, meetings, banquets and other festivities. In many cities the celebration of the anniversary, the exact date of which is July 21

IN CHARLOTTE HOSPITALS

Wounded Victims of Hamlet Wreck Being Cared For

Charlotte, N. C., Special.—The special train bearing the 23 injured colored people reached Charlotte Monday morning at 7 o'clock. It consisted of three express cars, in which were placed regular passenger coach seats for the comfort of the sufferers. The five injured white people were taken to Rockingham for treatment. It is thought that they will recover. Nearly all of the others are seriously injured.

Dr. H. M. Wilder, resident physician for the Seaboard Air Line, with a corps of other Charlotte physicians hastily summoned, met the train and attended to the removal and treatment of the sufferers. A number of physicians from Hamlet, Rockingham and other towns on the Seaboard, came in on the special train. The patients were taken immediately to the Good Samaritan Hospital, where they are being shown every attention.

One of the injured died before the train reached Charlotte. Another breathed his last before the hospital was reached. Their names ar enot obtainable. Dr. H. M. Wilder states that the majority of the 22 yet living are seriously injured. A number of them will probably not live through the night.

The Good Samaritan Hospital is a scene of confusion. The hospital is surrounded by a large crowd of the curious who are anxious to gain admittance. The groans of the suffering ones adds to the horror of the scene. The colored trained nurses are working valiantly and the doctors, 12 or 15 in number, are doing everything in their power to relieve pain. A number of white people have volunteered their services as nurses.

It is almost impossible to get an accurate account of the wreck from any of the colored people. A reporter asked two or three to state how it all happened, but they could tell nothing about it that is different from the report sent out from Hamlet. Nearly all those who were injured were unconscious for an hour or more after the disaster. The second class car, one of the colored people states, is a mass of ruins. It was turned completely over, crushing its occupants almost beyond recognition. This man, who received an ugly gash in the forhead, said that he crawled out to the ground through a hole in the car made by the crash. From his statements the tragedy is indescribable.

Capt. Lewis the dead engineer, was well known in Charlotte. He was one of the most popular employes of the railway company. His home was at Hamlet.

Russell Sage Meets End.

New York, Special.—Russell Sage died suddenly Sunday at his country home, "Cedar Croft," at Lawrence, L. I. The immediate cause of death was heart failure resulting from a complication of diseases incident to old age. The veteran financier would have celebrated his 87th birthday on August 4. Mr. Sage had been in exceptionally good health since his arrival at his summer home about six months ago. At noon Sunday he was seized with a sinking spell and collapsed, falling into unconsciousness about two hours before his death, which occurred at 4:30 o'clock.

Factories Blown Up.

Berlin, By Cable.—A despatch from Kattowitz, Prussian Silesia, announces the Singer Sewing Machine factories at Sosnowice and Bendzin have been blown up by bombs at about the same time. At Sosnowice six persons were severely wounded and at Bendzin four badly hurt.

Reformed Church Reunion.

Baltimore, Special.—The 17th annual reunion of the Reformed church in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia has commenced, the attendance being very large. Rev. J. T. Hacker, of Roanoke, delivered the address.

A Quartette of Politicians.

Oyster Bay, Special.—A quartette of Republican leaders went to Sagamore Hill to talk over the coming congressional campaign with President Roosevelt. The party consisted of Speaker Cannon, Representatives Sherman, chairman of the campaign committee; Loudenslarger of New Jersey, and McKinley of Illinois, secretary and treasurer of the committee. Sherman said the President was not going to be the leader of the campaign but was going to co-operate most heartily in every way he could.

Four Killed in Wreck.

Spokane, Wash., Special—Four men were killed and a number of persons injured, none fatally, in a wreck on the Spokane Falls & Northern Railway. One coach at the end of the train left the tracks while the train was nearing a bridge over Beaver creek and rolled down the bank dragging one coach with it. The rest of the train crossed the bridge in safety.

Held For Burglary.

Spencer, Special.—Ernest Holmes, colored, was bound over to court here on the charge of burglarizing the home of H. W. Holt at this place. The burglar was seen taking a watch which was afterward found on Holmes, who was arrested for the capital offense. He is a desperate character and will be tried for his life. The crime and the capture, following so soon afterwards, created a small sensation here and feeling ran high for a time.

WANTS BACK IN PEN

Wealthy Man Wants Admitted Again to Prison

A MAN WHO "WORSHIPS HONOR"

and That He will Spend His Fortune if Necessary to Get Into the Pen at Joliet, Ills.

New York, Special.—Usually men fight hard to keep out of the penitentiary, but Charles A. Gourdain, member of a well known Louisiana family, is fighting with all the means at his command to get in the penitentiary at Joliet, Ills. He is busy seeking a United States judge who will sign a mandamus that will open the gates of the pen.

Gourdain declares that he has pledged his whole energy and large private fortune to the cause of his honor, which he staked in court when he was on trial for fraudulent use of the mails that he would not appeal should he be found guilty. To redeem himself in his own eyes from what he claims was an unauthorized and fraudulent act—in violation of his word—on the part of his lawyer in suing out a writ of supercedes and causing his removal from the penitentiary and release on bail, he is exhausting every endeavor to get back into the penitentiary and serve out the full term of four years and six months imposed by the judge at his own request.

He hopes to be able to reach one of the supreme court justices with his plea, or else find some other plan to get back into the Joliet penitentiary. If he fails, he says, he will build a private penitentiary at Joliet, and serve out his sentence in his own penitentiary under exactly the same conditions as if he was a prisoner in the government penal institution.

Gourdain estimates his own fortune at $50,000,000, but if the figure is exaggerated, it is at least certaain that he is well supplied with money sufficient and more for him to carry out the plan of the private penitentiary, or to carry on his present endeavor to be incarcerated by order of the courts.

He Worships Honor.

"Some men worship money. Some men worship God. Others worship other things. I worship honor."

This is the motto of Gourdain that has brought about the most remarkable appeal that ever has called to the attention of the supreme court of the United States.

Gourdain was connected with a lottery that ran in opposition to the old Louisiana State lottery, but claims that when the law which ended the existence of that giant gamble went into effect, he and his family withdrew all interests in the lottery business, and never engaged in it since.

Early last year the United States authorities got after Gourdain on account of a land scheme he was conducting from Chicago, involving lands near the oil fields of Jefferson, La. He says that when the postoffice authorities first accused him of fraudulent schemes he employed W. Knox Haynes, a lawyer of Chicago, promising to pay him $500 a month for life, not to defend him, but to bring about his indictment. Gourdain felt that he had been falsely accused, and wished a vindication in open court.

The case came to trial in May last in Chicago, and Gourdain put in no defense. He made an argument, stating that if the jury had the least doubt of his honesty and sincerity he wished them to find him guilty. He said he would make no appeal, but would serve his sentence, and at the conclusion of that sentence would turn over his entire fortune to the postoffice authorities to pay back every person in full all that they had subscribed toward the land scheme which he was conducting and the entire Gourdain family would then quit the United States forever.

While he was cheerfully serving time his lawyer, as he claims, without his knowledge or consent was working for his release, and through a writ of supersedas before Judge Grosscup had Gourdain transferred from Joliet to Chicago on July 8, and lodged in the county jail. Gourdain was very angry and declared that this proceeding against his agreement with himself, and demanded that he be taken back to Joliet. The only way he could obtain his release from the county jail was to sign a bail bond, and he took this course, and was let out on bail.

Gourdain immediately returned to Joliet and demanded to be received again as a prisoner, but the warden would not admit him. Defeated at all points in his effort to get back into the penitentiary, Gourdain conceived the idea of appealing to the supreme court of the United States for a writ of mandamus committing him to the Joliet penitentiary.

He Registers From Prison.

When Gourdain reached Washington he registered at the fashionable Raleigh hotel as "Louis A. Gourdain, No. 4,890, Illinois State Prison, Joliet, Ills.," and asked for change of $500 bill to pay the cabman who had driven him from the station. He had pledged himself not to eat, drink nor sleep until his appeal was before the United States supreme court, and he carried out his pledge, only breaking his fast when he had presented his request to Chief Clerk Maher in Washington.

Clerk Maher refused to receive the petition, as such papers must be presented in open court. In red ink, which he thinks suitable for his use as a convicted prisoner, Gourdain wrote a formal request that his petition be received or that reason be given in writing why it was not received and. Clerk Maher formally wrote out the reason for not receiving the petition.

THE PRELIMINARY TRIAL

Attorneys Getting at the Truth in the Now Famous Lyerly Murder Case—The Witnesses.

Public interest in the new famous Lyerly murder that occurred at Barber's Junction now centers in the trial of the five negroes now in the Charlotte jail charged with the crime. The first examination of witnesses for the State was held at Salisbury last Saturday, and the proceedings are given in substance as reported by Mr. H. E. C. Bryant, a staff correspondent of the Charlotte Observer.

Story of Murdered Man's Son.

The first witness to make a statement was Mr. J. G. Lyerly, a son of the murdered man and a half brother of the children. He said: "Jim Taylor, the boy who had been working for my father, told me of the murder about 4 o'clock in the morning. Taylor had spent the night at Mr. R. F. Cooke's, with Sam. I went with Mr. Pless Barber to the old home. Ed. Barber, Charlie Brown and Ed Carter were there when we arrived. I think Mr. Matt. L. Webb was the first man on the premises after the girls left. He was accompanied by a Mr. Watson, a cattle dealer who occasionally with my father. Watson was on his way there that morning to get breakfast.

"Soon after I arrived there those who had assembled thought it best to arrest Jack Dillingham, as the girls had said something about a quarrel that father and Jack had had the day before. The negro had said something about cursing father.

"When we entered the house we found the front door open, just as the girls had left it, when they started for Mr. Cooke's house. The bodies of father and John were on the floor. Dr. Chenault and myself hunted for and found the money, about $175 that father kept in the house. Some of it was upstairs in a drawer, and remainder in the little rear room, near the kitchen.

"The house in which Nease Gillespie lived is located about a quarter of a mile west of the Lyerly home. Jack Dillingham lived southwest, about 300 yards.

"When we went up to father's home we saw a feather bed, a bureau drawer and a lamp in the front walk, where the girls had left them. The Lyerlys were all friendly. Father and his children were on the best of terms.

"Last Christmas I heard father say that he and Nease had had some words about their contract. Father had told Nease that he would have to work a crop, as he had promised to do, or get out of his house. Nease cursed him, an, in turn, was ordered out of the yard. Henry, old Fannie Gillepsie's son, left and went to Mr. Leroy Powlass' to live. Nease continued to drive for Mr. John Pennington, a saw mill man."

Miss Mary Lyerly Makes a Statement.

The next witness to take the stand was Miss Mary Lyerly, the oldest laughter, of Mr. Isaac Lyerly. She was dressed in black. Miss Lyerly is 18 years old, has an attractive face, light chestnut hair and soft, attractive brown eyes. Her lips are thin and sensitive. She seems intelligent and sprightly. After a most trying week she appeared fresh and composed yesterday. Her manner was of a quiet, modest but plucky maiden. She is neither backward nor brazen, but willing and ready.

"I knew nothing after I retired about 9 o'clock," said Miss Lyerly, "until Addie called me, declaring that the house was on fire and that papa and mamma were dead. I was nearly suffocated. The house was full of smoke.

"When I went down I found Addie at work. She had already dragged papa and John from the bed and was fighting the fire. I caught hold of papa and pulled him further out from the bed. We threw water on the bed and carried out the burning things.

"I went over and felt mamma's face; it was cold. She was lying just as she lay when she went to sleep, except that her feet were hanging out. I saw blood all over the pillow. I picked Alice, who was still alive, up in my arms and carried her out into the yard, where we tried to bring her too. We could barely hear her breathe. Addie went back upstairs and brought us some clothes, which we put on in the yard. We then left for Mr. Cooke's, Addie leading Janie and I carrying Alice.

Door and Window Open.

"The front door and the window that opens into papa's room from the porch were open. The key was on the inside of the door. I always locked the door at night but after papa went out and, on returning, forgot to turn the key. Any one could have gotten in through the window, without much effort.

"Papa's axe lay at the woodpile, for I saw it there the afternoon before. John and Alice had been cutting wood.

"When I went to bed papa was fast asleep, snoring. Mamma was dozing off. That was afew minutes before 9 o'clock. Addie and I slept together. I heard no noise.

"The lamp, which had a porcelain bowl, was nearly full of oil. It had been filled the Saturday before. I know that it was sitting on the bureau and the burner was on. When we arose, the lamp was on the hearth.

"John Gillepsie and Henry Lee, son and stepson of Nease, started a crop. They lived in the house with Nease and his wife, old Fannie. One day Fannie came down home and got after papa for having Henry and his wife lvie in with them. She was mad because they slept on her beds. Saturday following, Nease came and asked father what was the trouble with him and the boys. They had some conversation and Nease cursed papa who drove him out of the yard. Geo Cronford, who worked for us then, said that Nease declared that he would kill 'old Ike Lyerly.' Mr. Cranford told us about it the next morning. Nease was mad. Papa told him that he would have to sow the wheat or leave.

"Mr. Crnaford went from here to his home at Hildebrand.

"Nease was down there once or twice after that but I never heard any more until a few days before the tragedy. Nease came down and asked papa what he was going to do with the wheat. Papa told him 'thrash it.'

"Della, Jack's wife, and mamma had trouble Friday morning about the soap suds in the tub. After mamma left I went down to the spring and heard Della say: 'If she (meaning mamma) had said three more words I would have downed her.'

"Jack and papa di not get along together. Jack had been there just about a week. He told papa that he was going to work for Mr. Penninger. Papa said, 'Well Jack, if you go there and work five days without laying off, I will treat.'

"I heard Jack say that he would not go to work for no man before 7 o'clock.

"Mr. Jim Taylor, who had been working for us and sleeping in the house, spent last Friday night with Sam Cooke. I was straining the milk when he left. Sam Cooke had come over to our house to bring a grain cradle which his father had borrowed that morning. Jack was at the lot with Della who helped us to milk the cows. Jim Taylor, Sam Cooke and Jack left together, going down the path toward the spring. That morning Jack had worked for Mr. Cooke and then he went down to Mr. Penninger and secured work."

On being questioned by the lawyers Miss Lyerly continued: "Papa kept most of his money in the bureau upstairs. Nothing in the house was disturbed. Even Alice's little pocket book, which contained 25 cents, was left on the bureau by her bed.

"We did not go by Jack Dillingham's house, which was close to the path that leads to Mr. Cooke's, for we were afraid that Jack might hear us. We slipped by, fearing that he might kill us too. Sister Janie, who is 10, going on 11, said that she heard talking in Jack's house as we passed. I was then about 11:30 o'clock. We arrived at Mr. Cocke's at 11:55."

"A fire was burning slowly but steadily in the middle of the bed. The bureau drawer lay inverted upon the breast of John, who lay on his stomach. The drawer was burning. John's feet extended over the edge of the bed.

"I pulled papa and John to the floor and called Mary. We worked in the dark.

"After we had put out the fire I run upstairs and got some clothes for us. I did not see any light or hear any talk as we passed Jack's house."

Miss Addie corroborated other statements made by her sister. On being interrogated she the made the following additional declarations: "When I went down mama's face was covered with a pillow. One of her feet was on the floor. Little sister lay beside her on her back, just as she had slept.

"When papa turned off the Gillespie boys, Nease came down and asked him why he had done it. Papa told him that they would not work the land, and they had to get out. Nease was ordered away and as he went he muttered something but I could not understand what he said. Mr. Cranford told us that Nease was saying that he would kill 'old Ike Lyerly.'

"Jack' wife said that if mamma had utered three more words she would have downed her.

"Della, that is Jack's wife, knew how we slept."

Mr. Matt L. Webb, an illiterate white man drove a wagon for Mr. Penninger, stated that he and Nease had worked together. In part he said: "Three weeks before the tragedy, in conversation with me, while loading lumber at Mr. Powlass', Nease brought up the subject of wheat. He declared that he thought the crop would be pretty good this year. I told him 'yes.' Then he said: "Well, old man Ike Lyerly can cut mine but he won't eat it, or get the money for it. I told Jones Thompson what Nease had said and he declared that Nease wasn't dangerous."

Little Henry Tells His Story.

After the foregoing persons had had their say a small, bright faced, curly haired boy, with blue eyes, and pretty features came in. He carried a little white, soiled hat in his hand. His lips twitched nervously, and he seemed uneasy. He looks more like his Anglo-Saxon father than he does his African mother. When asked who his father was he called the name of a well-known white man.

"Do you like Nease Gillespie?" some one asked.

"No, he has been mean to me," was the quick reply.

Solicitor Hammer took Henry between his legs, pulled off his hat and patted him on the shoulders, saying: "Boy, we're not going to hurt you. Nobody wants to harm you. Now you must tell us all you know."

"Nease Gillespie beats me. He's my grandpa. He whipped me last Friday. Pa (meaning Nease) and John met Henry Lee and Jack at the branch, this side of Mr. Ike's, Friday night. That's what pa and John said when they came back. Pa said that he didn't care what they did with him after he had done what he wanted to do. Maw, old Fannie, asked paw where he was going and he said 'It's none of your business, but you'll know when I come back.' She said no more. Paw and John came back before day. I was in bed with maw.

"When paw aand John came in they set down by the fire and maw asked paw where he had been and he said: 'I've been down to old Ike Lyerly's. I went down there and killed them. I told you I was going to kill them, and so, by God, I did.'

"It skeered maw nearly to death when paw said that. John didn't say nothing. Jack and paw done it. Paw said that Jack's wife held the lamp. All met at the branch. Paw took his axe with him. I saw him get it. He washed it off at the branch but there was some blood left on the pole. He and John said they washed it. We saw the axe the next morning and there was a speck of blood on it. Paw said he killed Mr. Ike and Miss Gussie (Mrs. Lyerly) and Jack killed John and Alice.

"Maw never asked no more, for she was skeered.

"Jack used Mr. Ike's axe. He and Mr. Ike fell out about a horse. Paw and John said they set the bed afire.

"Before day paw put his old overalls with John's, in a bed tick of straw and burned them. He burned his shirts, too. We saw them burning them. They burned them because they had blood on them. Blood was all over the shirts and the overalls.

"I left home early that morning and told Mr. Mann Walton that paw had killed Mr. Ike and Miss Gussie."

"Do you know where you would go if you were to tell a story, Henry?" asked Solicitor Hammer.

"Yes, sir, to the bad place," answered Henry.

"Who made you?"

"The Lord," was the ready reply.

"Paw said they threw the lamp in the brier patch. I saw a church lamp at Jack's house the day ma and me went down there."

The boy started when Mr. Hammer called to some one in a loud voice, and said: "They are not going to hurt me are they?"

He was assured by a number of his country acquaintances that he would be all right if he told the truth.

"I saw the lamp on the mantel piece. Paw said that they threw it in a brier thicket."

This little negro tells a most interesting story. His words are full of meaning and the State must rely largely on what he says to convict the negroes who are now imprisoned in the Charlotte jail. Henry is disposed to tell too much but his story tallies, in the main, with the one he told the day after the murder at the coroner's inquest. He is smart and very bricht. If his story is true Nease Gillespie, John Henry, George Ervin and Jack and his wife will hang. No half-grown boy ever had more responsibility resting upon him. It is a question of life or death.

The testimony of the negro women contradicted that of the boy, number of witnesses are still in reserve for the State.

Foot Mashed Off by Train.

Durham, Special.—A white man by the name of Henry Humphries, who says that his home is in Roxboro, was found on the right of way of the Southern road, in the western part of the city, with his right foot mashed off. An ambulance was called and he was taken to the Watts Hospital, where his right leg was amputated. His injuries are not serious. Humphries refused to make a statement as to how the accident occurred.

For Illicit Distilling.

Washington, N. C., Special.—William and James Sexton, of Jamesville, were brought to this city and lodged in jail. The charge against them was operating an illit distillery near Jamesville. This distillery is supposed to be the same one raided and captured by Revenue Collector J. C. Meekins, Jr., a few weeks ago. Both prisoners were required to give bond in the sum of $300 each for their appearance at the next term of court

Hoback Murder Trial.

Roanoke, Special.—The Fred Hoback murder case was called at Floyd, this being the second trial Hoback has had. He was sentenced to eight years in the State prison at a former trial, the decision being reversed by the Court of Appeals. At Friday's session W. A. Sowers, editor of the Flod Press, was the principal witness.

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

Several battalions of Kuban Cossacks have been disbanded.

Cities in New Mexico and El Paso, Tex., were shaken by earthquake.

An incipient mutiny occurred in the fortress of Saints Peter and Paul, in St. Petersburg.

Complaints of favoritism and incompetency are being made against distributors of San Francisco relief funds.

Three aldermen of New Rochelle, N. Y., surrendered and were held in bail to answer charges of attempted bribery.

Conditions in Russia are apparently growing worse: members of Parliament are campaigning among the peasants.

The National Convention of Bill Posters in session at Chicago barred from the billboards pictures of Satan in whatever form.

Advices from Rio Janeiro said that the rebellion in Matto Grosso was practically over and that no further trouble was expected.

The coroner's jury at Salisbury brought in a verdict that the wreck of the Plymouth express, on July 1, was due to high speed.

B. F. Yoakum outlines the future of the St. Louis, Brownsville and Mexico Raliway as the longest low grade line in the country.

The Navy Department recommends an international agreement requiring wireless telegraph systems to exchange messages at sea.

President Roosevelt offered the Marblehead as a neutral ground for peace negotiations between Guatemala, Salvador and Honduras.

Counsel for both sides in the Hargis divorce case were severely rebuked by the trial judge for injecting too much sensationalism into the trial.

CZAR TAKES HIS STAND

Troops Are Being Massed at Great Centers—Revolutionists Are Also Prepared For Emergency.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—An imperial ukase has been promulgated dissolving parliament and fixing the time for the convocation of the newly elected assembly as March 5, 1907.

A second ukase places St. Petersburg in a state of extraordinary security by the declaration of a minor form of martial law.

A large part of the province of Kiev, where armed uprisings are anticipated in consequence of the dissolution of parliament, has been placed under martial law. The conditions for the new elections will be published later.

The emperor, discouraged by his failure to form a coalition ministry and the distinctly revolutionary paths which parliament has chosen, has apparently been persuaded to risk a final appeal from parliament to the people, or in other words, to dissolve paliament and order new elections on the basis of universal suffrage.

Thursday the imperial ukase causing the dissolution of parliament was signed, and was enforced Friday at a final, momentous conference on the subject held at Peterhof. Exactly who was present cannot be learned, but it is understood that the grand dukes, Gen. Trepoff and other officials and one or two ministers were at the palace.

Evidently the government is not blind to the fact that the dissolution of parliament will be accompanied by tremendous excitement, riots and bloodshed, if nothing worse. Troops are being massed at St. Petersburg, Moscow and other centres, prepared to apply physical force and in addition to the guard regiments, which were hurriedly marched into the capital Thursday night, the entire Twenty-third division of infantry arrived here Saturday from Pskov. This imposing military array is expected to overawe the masses. The Socialists and the Group of Toil in parliament have prepared for an emergency. They drafted an address for issuance to the country the moment the dissolution was declared.

Bloodshed on a large scale with a dictatorship in the background is considered to be the inevitable sequel of the dissolution of parliament, but the supporters of a dissolution claim that the emperor must take the risk, arguing that new elections may give different results and, in any event, that it is better to fight than to abjectly surrender to the revolutionary parliament.

Mr. Yermoloff, former minister of agriculture and leader of the Conservative Centrists in the lower house, who several weeks ago vainly tried to form a coalition ministry, in conversation with the correspondent of the Associated Press declared that the situation was extremely critical. He was without hope that a conflict could be avoided.

"The stuation is so complicated," he said, "that it is impossible for any man to predict the course of future events, but I feel safe in predicting two things: first, that Russia will come to a constitutional basis; second, that there will be no great revolutionary cataclysism in the sense that foreigners anticipate."

Painfully Hurt.

Knoxville, Special.—Mr. George Manning was painfully hurt on Gay street, near the corner of Commerce avenue when he attempted to board an electric car. Mr. Manning evidently thought the car would stop for him at the corner but this it did not do and while it was going at a lively rate he attempted to board it. As a result he was thrown and dragged some distance. One of his shoulders was dislocated and he was otherwise injured.

Negro Mob Pursuing Negro Murderer.

Decatur, Ala., Special.—A mob of negroes are searching the woods around Moulton Heights, a suburb of this city, for Henry Howard, one of their own race. Howard killed another negro, Charlie Davis, with a shotgun, in a quarrel over a woman. Howard is believed to be hiding in a swamp near Moulton Heights. He will probably be lynched if caught.

Lightning Strikes Depot.

Scotland Neck, Special.—The depot and warehouse at Speed station, on the Norfolk & Carolina railroad, was struck by lightning and entirely destroyed. A considerable quantity of goods was burned. The station agent lost his trunk and clothes. The loss to the railroad company is estimated at $3,000. The thunder storm passed over the entire region throughout and lasted several hours. Mr. Newlin, a farmer living a mile or two from town had a valuable cow and calf killed by lightning about the same hour of the burning at Speed.

Memphis Cotton Firm Suspends.

Memphis, Special.—The announcement is made that Armstrong & Company commission brokers, has suspended operations. It is said the correspondents of the firm demanded margins of cotton futures which could not be covered. A member of the firm said the suspension is only temporary.