

THE CAUCASIAN.

VOL. XXI.

RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 1903.

NO. 31.

A DEADLY ASSAULT.

Lady Near Statesville the Victim of a Dangerous Negro.

NOW IN THE CHARLOTTE JAIL.

Circumstantial Evidence Points to a Negro Named Wilford Roseboro as the Culprit.

Statesville, N. C., Special.—The inquest was held over the body of Mrs. Dolph Beaver, which was found in the well at her home in Cool Springs township Thursday night, and the coroner's jury rendered a verdict to the effect that deceased came to her death from being choked and by blow on the head. They also found that she was outraged and Wilford Roseboro, colored, is charged with the crime. The substance of the evidence brought out by the autopsy was as follows: The dead body of Mrs. Beaver was found in the well about dark Thursday evening by Mr. Beaver and his neighbors after Mr. Beaver returned home from Statesville. There was a fracture in her skull five inches long and the brain was exposed; also a gash two inches long over the eye. Her clothing was badly torn and there was evidence that she was outraged. A knife was found on the floor of the house, and also several splashes of blood. As evidence that the crime was committed early in the morning, the milk vessels were on the table and the house had not been put in shape for the day. Mrs. Beaver having been engaged in this when Mr. Beaver left home early that morning a pistol was taken from a drawer that Roseboro had tried to buy from Mr. Beaver some time ago.

Mr. Beaver left home for town about 6:30 o'clock in the morning and saw Roseboro in the road in front of him tearing his shoe. The negro left the road and walked out through the bushes. Mr. Beaver passed the home of Mary Roseboro, Wilford's mother, and asked her if Wilford was at home, and was told no. In her testimony Mary said that Wilford had gone over the creek on Wednesday night, returned home Thursday morning, was there all day until 8 o'clock last night. Another witness testified that Roseboro came to her house a while before day Thursday, gave orders to be awakened early, untied his shoes and lay down across a bed. The woman awoke him at 6 o'clock and he left, going in the direction of Mr. Beaver's. From then until 8 o'clock when his mother says he came home his movements are not accounted for. It is supposed that Mrs. Beaver was murdered between 6 and 8 o'clock.

Friday morning about 11 o'clock Roseboro boarded a train at Elmwood for Saluda, Henderson county. A warrant charging him with murder was issued. He was arrested and taken to Charlotte jail on Sunday evening. Feeling against him is very high.

A Brutal Crime.
Rocky Mount, N. C., Special.—One of the blackest crimes in the history of Edgecombe county was committed about noon Saturday on the person of Mrs. Pass Long, by an unknown negro. Mrs. Long was alone at the time, her husband, who, be it here, is the sole occupant of the house, being absent. The negro struck her a blow which rendered her temporarily unconscious. Mrs. Long has not yet been sufficiently conscious to give any connected statement and does not know whether the fiend accomplished his foul purpose, but her condition would indicate that he did so. Mrs. Long shows signs of having been choked, while her arms are cut about the wrists, supposedly in an attempt of the negro to free himself from her grasp. Her head is battered and there are other marks of violence on her person.

President Insulted.
Oyster Bay, Special.—Profane and abusive language was directed toward President Roosevelt and his family Sunday as they were driving up to Christ church here to attend the morning service. The offender was a resident of Oyster Bay named McCann. He was hustled away from the church unceremoniously by the Secret Service operatives.

An Erudite Senator.
Senator Knute Nelson, of Minnesota is one of the most accomplished linguists of the Senate. A Norwegian by birth, he speaks that language perfectly. He also speaks Swedish, Danish, German and, of course, English. He has a very good understanding of French. Senator Nelson from the age of 12 years was brought up in Minnesota, where a mixed population of Norwegians, Swedish, Danish and German gave him a splendid opportunity to acquire their languages, and, being at all times studious, he was hustled away from the church unceremoniously by the Secret Service operatives.

Uphold Booker Washington.
Tuskegee, Ala., Special.—A resolution was adopted here by the Alabama State Colored Baptist Convention, in session in this city, severely condemning the attack made upon Principal Booker T. Washington, of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, during his address at Boston. The resolution, which was unanimously adopted by the 300 delegates of the convention, uphold Principal Washington and pledges confidence and endorsement of Dr. Washington as a "conservative, worthy and safe leader, deserving of the respect and confidence of all men."

Tobacco Association in Session.
Newport News, Va., Special.—The Tobacco Association of the United States convened in its third annual convention at Old Point. Besides President Carrington, of Richmond, and Secretary-Treasurer Thomas Mason, of Louisville, Ky., there were about 75 members in attendance. Owing to the failure of a large number of delegates to arrive in time for the opening session, an adjournment was taken and no business was transacted.

To Search Female Passengers.
Washington, Special.—Secretary Cortelyou has selected a limited number of women from eligible lists furnished by the Civil Service Commission for appointment as matrons in the immigration service to board in-coming vessels and assist in the examination of women passengers. They will assist the men inspectors. A three months trial year plan is to be abandoned.

Mill Operative Killed.
Washington, N. C., Special.—Working at her place on an operating table in the knitting mill here, Bessie Ippock, a twelve-year-old girl, had her dress wound around the exposed shaft bar that was revolving swiftly. As soon as the slack of the dress was wound up, the girl's body was whirled round and round through the air and her head struck the floor with a sickening thud, killing her instantly.

CROWDED BRIDGE COLLAPSES.

More Than One Hundred People Thrown Into the River.

Portland, Ore., Special.—A section of the bridge which spans the Willamette River, at Morrison street, collapsed Friday afternoon, precipitating more than 100 people 40 feet into the water. Three people are known to have been drowned, and it is feared that the list of dead will be much larger when all are accounted for. Many fell on two small boat-houses moored to a pier of the bridge immediately under the spot where it gave way. The known dead are: Minnie Raymond, aged 10; Lottie Cameron, aged 16; unidentified boy, aged 18. Thousands of people had gathered on the Morrison and Madison street bridges and along the docks to watch Clarence Lutz, an armless man, swim across the river, which is about three-eighths of a mile wide. As Lutz was swimming out of the water, the crowd rushed to the south edge of the bridge in order to get a good view. A section of the walk gave away under the heavy weight, and the crowd, struggling mass of people were carried down a distance of forty feet. Hundreds of the people at the club house of the Portland Rowing Club, men in boats and those on shore, started to the rescue immediately. They soon picked up those struggling in the water while the injured, who were clinging to the boat houses, were taken into the club house and medical aid summoned. Every ambulance in the city, several fire companies and a large force of police arrived within a few minutes and the victims with broken arms and legs were hurried to the hospitals. News of the accident quickly spread and within a few minutes thousands of people gathered at either end of the bridge, anxiously seeking information about relatives or friends. The bridge is an old wooden structure, having been built 16 years ago, and has been considered unsafe for some time, although it was not condemned.

Another Flerger.

Boston, Mass., Special.—A certificate of organization was filed at the State house by the United States Cotton Manufacturing Company, with a capital of \$4,000,000 in 100 shares. Henry C. Bacon is president, and M. Shumer is treasurer. John P. Rogers is a director, these three constituting a majority. The charter of \$4,000,000 makes it the largest capitalized corporation in Massachusetts. It is understood that the company is formed to acquire all or a majority of the cotton textile plants of the country in one huge trust with headquarters in Boston, but details cannot be learned at present. President Bacon declining to discuss the plans of the corporation other than to say that its headquarters would be in Boston. The charter entitles it to build or buy mills and to carry on a general cotton manufacturing business.

Three Killed and a Score Injured.

Lynchburg, Va., Special.—At 2 o'clock Thursday afternoon three persons were killed and more than a score injured by lightning at New Hope, Appomattox county. The dead are: Paul Gowen, Charles Austin and Aubrey Wingfield, while among the more seriously injured are: Eugene Turner, Nathaniel Morris, Tom Coleman and Napoleon Patterson. A meeting of the James River Baptist Association was in progress and a large number of men took refuge under an awning near the building when the storm came up. Lightning struck a tree in front of the awning, causing the disaster and throwing the great crowd on the ground into a panic.

To Examine Food Products.

Washington, Special.—The Agricultural Department took its first action under the amended pure food act of July 1, 1902, by requesting authority from the Treasury Department to take samples and make a chemical analysis of certain food products shipped to this country from abroad. The permission which has been granted and an official examination of these products will be made to determine whether their use is deleterious to health. An inquiry also will be made to determine whether their use is prohibited in the country of their origin. In either of these contingencies their entry and sale in this country will be prohibited.

Contract Awarded.

Washington, Special.—Acting Postmaster General Wynne signed the contract of Paul Herman, of Rutherford, N. J., to furnish the money order forms to the government during the next four years. The first forms are to be supplied, under the new contract on September 4. The signature of the final papers ends the fight which the old contractors, the Wynkoop, Hallenbeck and Crawford Company, of New York, have been waging ever since the award was made to Herman, a former employe of that company.

Trouble at Panama Subsidized.

Washington, Special.—The temporary ebullition on the isthmus has subsided, according to a cablegram from United States Consul General Gudge, dated at Panama Tuesday. He says that everything is perfectly quiet and he anticipates no more trouble. Mr. Gudge would like to come home on leave of absence, but Acting Secretary Loomis has been obliged to deny his request to that effect until conditions on the isthmus are more settled.

The Slave Pensions.

Washington, N. C., Special.—All day long and extending into the night a medium sized crowd of negroes, led by an older, has been in the county court house praying and singing and passing a petition to Congress to pass the Hanna bill introduced into the last Congress for the purpose of pensioning the ex-slave. They have been loud in their lamentations and are led by an elder who is duping them.

FEARFUL EXPLOSION

Powder Magazines Bk Wp With Terrible Results

MORE THAN TWENTY LIVES LOST

Fourteen Houses Blown to Atoms by the Force of the Explosion—Hostly Working People.

Lowell, Mass., Special.—Two small powder magazines situated in the very midst of the humble residences of 60 mill operatives, exploded Wednesday with a frightful concussion and the resultant wave of death cut off the lives of more than a score of human beings and injured nearly 50 others. Half a dozen men who were loading kegs of powder from one of the magazines were blown to pieces; four boys 200 yards away were killed by the force of the explosion, and 14 frame houses within a radius of 400 yards were blown down as if they had been built of cards. Seven of these houses immediately caught fire, probably from the kitchen stoves, and were completely destroyed. At least three persons were caught in the ruins and burned to death, while seven or eight others, who were rescued, died subsequently of their injuries. It is estimated that 70 separate pieces of property, including those already mentioned, were destroyed, while the force of the explosion wrecked windows for five or six miles around, and its thunder could be heard distinctly more than 50 miles away.

Cotton and Tobacco Conditions.

Washington, Special.—The weather bureau's weekly summary of crop conditions affecting cotton and tobacco is as follows: While there has been an improvement in cotton its advancement is apparently less decided than in the previous week, especially in the central portions of the western districts where rain is generally needed. Good growth is reported from nearly all districts, but the plant continues small and is from two to four weeks late. Boll weevil in Texas are doing little damage. Much of the crop has received final cultivation. Tobacco is needing rain in portions of Virginia, North Carolina and Kentucky but is mostly doing well elsewhere.

Commutes Woman's Sentence.

Washington, Special.—President Roosevelt has commuted the sentence of Lucy Smith, a white woman, convicted in the western district of Virginia, of retailing moonshine whiskey without license. The woman was convicted in May last and was sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 and serve six months in prison. The United States attorney recommended commutation of the sentence on the ground that the woman was the mother of five children, ignorant of the offense she had committed, and that the children were dependent upon her and were in a destitute condition. The sentence was commuted to expire August 1.

A Favorable Opinion.

Chicago, Special.—Judge Kavanaugh, in a decision handed down in the habeas corpus case of four strikers for violating an injunction granted to the Illinois Malleable Iron Works, decided that labor unions have the right to place pickets about a point where a strike is in progress and he also declared that workmen have the right to persuade workmen to quit. The jurist furthermore held that sending men to jail upon affidavits that they have violated an injunction is illegal. Judge Kavanaugh's decision is directly opposed to decisions rendered in the Superior Court.

From Across The Sea.

Cardinal Camerlengo Oreglia has asked the 62 cardinals in Rome to be ready to enter their cells for the conclave by tomorrow.

Cardinal Hefner, the Premier, was shot down in the Hungarian Diet at Budapest and the sitting broke up in a riot, which will result, it was reported, in several duels.

A solemn requiem mass for King Humbert was celebrated in the Pantheon at Rome on the third anniversary of his assassination.

Cardinal Gibbons had a conference with Cardinal Logue, and many honors are being tendered the distinguished American prelate.

The Cunard Steamship Company has agreed to the British Government's offer of \$5,000,000 subsidy on the proposed two new vessels for the line.

Miscellaneous Flatters.

A. B. Youngson, Grand Chief Engineer of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, is dead at Meadville, Pa., aged 54 years.

LIVE ITEMS OF NEWS.

Many Matters of General Interest in Short Paragraphs.

Down in Dixie.

The Council of Keyser, v. Va., has fixed the tax rate at 85 cents on the \$100.

The two factions of the Populist party were reunited in a conference at Denver.

A company has been chartered to operate a trolley line from Morgantown to Fairmont, W. Va.

Capt. B. J. Ewen began his testimony in the Marcum murder case at Cincinnati, Ky.

Mrs. Ann A. Davis, widow of Senator Davis of Minnesota, and Mr. Henry Doll, of Knoxville, Tenn., were married in Washington.

The barn of Mr. L. H. Freeman, of Arcola, Va., was destroyed by fire of unknown origin on Monday night. A portion of the contents was saved.

The German cruiser Gazelle, which had been at the Newport News shipyard for some time, sailed for Halifax, Count von Orelia, in command of the vessel, says his ship will go to Montreal from Halifax.

The Clinton Coal and Coke Company has increased its capital stock to \$1,000,000 and will build four miles of railroad at a cost of \$100,000 to reach its mines in the Clinton district, Monongalia county, West Virginia. Three hundred coke ovens will be installed. The company owns 10,000 acres.

At The National Capital.

The officers of the United States naval squadron are being royally entertained at Lisbon and King Carlos will visit the warships on Saturday.

The Secretary of the Treasury has been asked by the Agricultural Department to hold up cargoes of imported food products until they can be examined by an expert under the provisions of the Pure Food law.

The State Department is advised that President Castro, of Venezuela, is pursuing a high-handed course toward foreigners.

It is said the new Currency bill will provide for the deposit of customs, as well as of internal revenue, receipts in national banks.

In a communication Commercial Agent Langhorne shows how Russia is implanting herself to control Chinese trade at Dalny.

Alexander Ivolosky is spoken of as the possible successor to Count Cassini, Russian Ambassador at Washington.

At The North.

Twelve of the convicts who escaped at Placerville, Cal., were still at large. Though prices were irregular, there was a better feeling in the New York stock market.

After sleeping 44 days, Endicott C. Allen, in the Long Branch, N. J., hospital, is awake.

Martin Ebel is said to have confessed the murder of his wife, whose body was found in a sewer at Mount Vernon, N. Y.

When he attempted to prevent Adolf Schloss, a soldier, from shooting his sweetheart, Patrolman Cornelius Mulvey, of New York, was seriously wounded.

A South Dakota divorce was adjudged void under English law by the president of the Divorce Court, in London.

A terrific explosion of gunpowder at Lowell (Mass.) factory killed probably 20 persons and wounded a number of others.

SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL

Southern Statistics.

Baltimore, Special.—In last week's issue The Manufacturers' Record presents figures of assessed valuation of property for each of the Southern States in 1860, 1880, 1890, 1900 and 1902 as the basis for an estimate that the complete figures of the census of 1900 will show the South possessed in that year more than \$14,000,000,000 worth of property of all kinds, only about \$2,000,000,000 less than that possessed by the whole country in 1860. These preliminary figures obtained from official sources enable one to trace the growth of material wealth in the South during the past 20 years. The Manufacturers' Record says:

"These figures show an increase between 1860 and 1880 in assessed valuation averaging about \$26,000,000 a year, the actual increase, of course, having been largely made with the lightening of the reconstruction burden. Between 1880 and 1890 the assessed valuation increased from \$3,051,175,098 to \$4,659,514,833, or \$1,608,339,735 an average of \$160,000,000 a year. In the next ten years the increase was to \$5,457,533,031, or but \$798,038,198, an average of less than \$80,000,000 a year. But during the next two years, between 1900 and 1902, there was an advance to \$5,916,960,712, or \$459,427,681, more than half the advance between 1890 and 1900. The total advance between 1860 and 1902 was \$2,365,785,614, or nearly 94 per cent.

"Material betterment of the South thus indicated is more clearly shown in comparing the true valuation of property in the South with that of the rest of the country. The increase in true valuation between 1860 and 1880 was from \$6,286,214,108 to \$7,505,000, or \$1,218,785,892 equal to only 19 per cent. in the South while in the rest of the country it was from \$9,873,401,960 to \$36,139,000,000, or \$26,265,598,040, equal to 266 per cent. During the next ten years, with the wonderful industrial, agricultural and railroad expansion in the South, the rates of increase in the South and in the rest of the country became about the same. Between 1880 and 1890 the true valuation increased from \$7,505,000,000 to \$11,150,532,304, or \$3,645,532,304 equal to 48 per cent. in the South and in the rest of the country the increase was from \$36,137,000,000 to \$53,886,558,893, equal to \$17,749,558,893, or 49 per cent.

"If there was the same rate of increase between 1890 and 1900 as between 1880 and 1890 the true valuation of property in the South for 1900 would be \$18,757,810,000. If the actual increase was the same the true valuation would be \$14,796,064,608. If the same proportion of assessed valuation to true valuation obtained in 1900 as in 1890 the true valuation for 1900 would be \$13,311,104,954. The total in 1900 of farm values, \$3,951,631,632; of capital in manufacturing, \$1,152,002,368; of railroads, \$2,734,888,000; total \$7,839,522,000. The sum is 36 per cent. greater than the sum of the values of those three leading classes of property in 1890.

Flahog'ny Wrappers.
Fayetteville, Special.—Samples of tobacco were shown in town last week from the farm of Hon. J. G. Shaw, in Seventy-first township, which were mahogany wrappers all through. Mr. Morgan, superintendent of Mr. W. M. Morgan's plantation, says that such tobacco held for 47 cents last year. Messrs. Morgan and Shaw will together cure 50 hams, and it is generally of very fine grade. Young Mr. Eugene M. Morgan has a small crop, rather better than the others, averaging wrapper A all through.

Another Victim Dies.
Lowell, Mass., Special.—Mrs. Eliza Galloway, one of the victims of Wednesday's magazine explosion, died Sunday at St. John's hospital. She is the third of this family killed by the explosion, her husband and son having lost their lives. A little girl of 9, now in the hospital, is the only survivor of the family.

Postoffice Robbed.
Salisbury, N. C., Special.—The postoffice at Mocksville was burglarized between 2 o'clock and 2:30 Saturday morning by unknown parties, who secured \$599 in stamps and \$85 in cash from the safe. The door of the building was opened by the use of a chisel, after which the handle of the lock of the safe was pried off and nitro-glycerine poured into the cavity thus made. The resulting explosion tore away the outer door, and the inner door was forced without much difficulty. Three men are suspected and officers are on their trail.

Convicts K II Three.
Sacramento, Cal., Special.—The chief clerk of the Folsom prison has telephoned that three of the sheriff's posse were killed and that two convicts are thought to have been wounded. It is stated that preparations are being made to set fire to the Grand Victory mine in which the convicts have taken refuge.

NORTH CAROLINA CROPS

The Report For the Past Week by the Department.

The characteristic feature of the weather during the week ending Monday, July 27th was the general deficiency in rainfall and consequent increased tendency to drought over most of the State. In fact drought already prevails over a large portion of the central-western section, since almost no rain has occurred in that region for two weeks. There were light rains on the 23rd in counties along the immediate coast, which were very beneficial, but the precipitation did not extend far inland. As regards the deficiency in precipitation, the week was unfavorable, crops are beginning to suffer from lack of sufficient moisture, and the land has become dry and hard. The temperature was moderately above normal and favorable, though the nights were a little cool; the mean for the week was about 80 degrees, or 2 degrees above normal. The warmest day was Sunday, 26th, when the maximum exceeded 96 degrees at some places. Farm work continued to progress well. While crops are clean and in a good state of cultivation, many of them are just at the period when drought is likely to cause considerable injury, and the need of rain is therefore imperative.

Cotton has continued to do well, and improvement has extended into the northeast section, where the crop has heretofore been most backward; laying by cotton is nearing completion in the south portion, but further north the plants are still too small to receive the last plowing; cotton is blooming freely and appears to be bolting well; on light, sandy land in the section where moisture is most deficient the plants are small and are blooming to the top. Corn continues in fairly good condition, but generally needs rain, especially on uplands where old corn is beginning to fire and turn yellow. Good rains are needed to mature the early crop. Tobacco is ripening fast, and cutting and curing continue under favorable conditions; the crop is curing well, but a short and light crop is indicated; Tobacco is also suffering for want of moisture, and in some counties the lower portion of the plants are firing. Gardens are suffering from drought. Minor crops need rain, but continue in good condition, and have largely received last cultivation. The amount of cow-pas seeded both for hay and for the improvement of the land was very large. Wheat threshing is nearly over, and practically all the oats have now been harvested. Rice is excellent. Some Irish potatoes have been planted for the fall crop. Melons are late and poor. Apples and peaches are ripening, also Concord grapes.

Valuable Literary Feature of a North Carolina Daily.
The Raleigh News and Observer grows in interest with every issue. One feature alone is well worth the price of the paper. Each morning at the head of the editorial column is what the editor designates as "A Morning Tonic." This feature ought to be clipped and posted by all young people in a scrap-book, and these selections taken from the most prominent authors during the year would make a volume of selections that would be worthy of a place on the center table of any parlor, being genuine gems. The news features of the News and Observer are kept up to their well known and recognized standard. The Capital City of the State, and in fact the whole State may well feel proud of their progressive daily.

Hotel Burned.
A special dispatch from Nags Head brings the news of the total destruction of the summer hotel there by fire. It also says that the wife of the proprietor of the hotel dropped dead from fright. The hotel was packed with guests. If the meagre reports received are to be trusted and these were all thrown out of lodging. Many found places to stay in homes near-by; the hostelry and others were forced to stay out. It was not the day for the boat that runs there to return to Elizabeth City and no back trip was run. This forced the burned out visitors to stay there over twenty-four hours. The Gazette-Messenger also tells of the killing of a negro named Daniel, at Griffon, Pitt county, by George Dunn, a policeman. Daniel resisted arrest and was shot. He died instantly. The coroner's jury exonerated Dunn. The same paper tells of the completion of two of Millionaire Marvin's houses at Blount's creek, and the proposed bringing of several hundred immigrants to the place for a colony.

Little Hopes For Pulliam.
At the Department of Justice at Washington little encouragement is given for the re-opening of the case of Lawrence Pulliam, whose application for pardon was denied by President Roosevelt. The statement is made that it is unusual to have a case considered a second time unless there is new evidence of importance introduced. The President's refusal to pardon Pulliam is not known here until its publication in North Carolina.

NORTH STATE MATTERS

Newly Items Gleaned From Murphy to Lantico.

Spencer Shops to Be Doubled.
Salisbury, Special.—The oft-reported doubling of the Southern Railway shops at Spencer is now very near at hand, according to a statement made by General Manager Ackert, while here, to a representative of The Salisbury Sun. Mr. Ackert said that the plans were now ready and would be submitted for bids within the next 30 days. He declared, in a general way, that the shops would be more than doubled in capacity. This means that 600 more men will be employed and the annual pay-roll increased by \$700,000. These are indeed glad tidings and it is to be hoped that there will be no further delay in this extremely important matter.

North State Notes.
Mr. John Potts, a farmer living nine miles south of Charlotte, in Steele Creek, has a family worth bragging on. Mr. Potts, who is himself six feet and three and a half inches in height, has two sons who go him a half inch better, each being six feet and seven inches high. The average height of Mr. Potts and his four sons is six feet and four inches. He has an 18-year-old daughter who is five feet and eleven inches high, and she is still growing. The other children have not yet attained any phenomenal height, but they will probably be heard from later. Mr. Potts is the father of ten children and he says they have not cost him an average of \$5 each in doctors' bills. He has not paid a doctor's bill during the past five years.

Bud Kelly, a white man about forty years old, was struck by a train near Old Fort Monday morning and injured so badly that the doctor says he may die. When discovered Kelly was very bloody, his face being badly cut and his arm injured. Despite this he was soon able to walk and when placed on the train he felt fast to one of the two logs of whiskey which he was when the accident occurred. The other log having been broken, Kelly's acquaintances ridiculed the idea that he may die and cite the fact that he recently fell 50 feet off Swannanoa trestle and has been in numerous difficulties without serious results. He was taken to Old Fort.

Butler Christopher, who was recently tried for and convicted of keeping a disorderly house, and sentenced to four months imprisonment, to be worked on the roads of Gaston county, escaped from the county jail Tuesday afternoon, not more than one hour before an officer from Gaston county came to remove him and other prisoners to the roads. Christopher is an old man, and being apparently simple-minded, he was not kept in the cells with the other prisoners. A couple of hundred yards from the jail, going at a brisk gate, he yelled to some one passing: "I am going home; I will be back tomorrow."

R. L. Nichols, ex-sheriff of McDowell county, an absconder, has been captured at Mangum, Oklahoma Territory. While in office Nichols misappropriated several thousand dollars, which amount had to be made good by his bondsmen. He left Mangum some six months ago, and since then his whereabouts have been a mystery. A detective was put on the case, however, and he succeeded in tracking his man to Mangum, where arrested him a day or two ago. Required papers have been forwarded to the Governor of Oklahoma and Nichols will be brought here to stand trial for embezzlement.

A report on the convicts, made by a State prison official, shows that there are now at work on the railway in Mitchell county 108, at Dover 54, on the Raleigh & Cape Fear Railway 50, at the railway stone quarry at Hillsboro 82, on the Willsboro turnpike 50, at the State farm on the Roanoke 400 and in the penitentiary 190, making a total of 844, which is about 500 less than the total number of convicts 25 years ago. The great decrease in the number of State convicts is of course due to the sentencing of prisoners to work on county roads.

Tuesday night, between 10 and 11 o'clock, during a violent thunderstorm, the Linden Cotton Mills were struck by lightning and a lot of loose cotton in the carding room was ignited. The fire was immediately discovered by the watchman, who called for help, and although it burned fiercely for a few minutes, was soon extinguished. About four bales of cotton were lost. The total loss amounts to about \$300.

All day long Wednesday and extending into the night a medium sized crowd of negroes, led by an elder, has been in the county court house at Washington praying and singing and passing a petition to Congress to pass the Hanna bill introduced into the last Congress for the purpose of pensioning the ex-slave. They have been loud in their lamentations and are led by an elder who is duping them.

The life of a child one year old was saved at Raleigh recently by a piece of beef. The child was on the point of swallowing this when it fell into a tub of water and was found there with its head and body in the water and was pulled out. The piece of beef prevented any water from entering its throat.

The Lily Mill and Power Company was organized in Shelby last Wednesday under the charter granted by the Legislature. The principal stockholders are: Messrs. John F. Schenck, Chas. C. Blanton, H. F. Schenck and Robt. L. Ryburn. This company owns the famous Stice's Shoal property and will begin at once developing this power. Electric power will be transmitted to Shelby and all the cotton mills in this section may be furnished power. Later on the company will also build a cotton mill.