

KING'S WEEKLY.

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25 CTS A YEAR

THE WEEKLY IS THE ONLY 5-COLUMN 8-PAGE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IN THE U. S. FOR 25 Cts. A YEAR.

JOTTINGS.

Drunami, the king of Benina, Africa, has been banished from his country and sent to a British colony by the latter government. Wouldn't it be retributive justice if the old queen could be made to take a small dose of her favorite remedy?

A Greensboro man, hunting in doubtful plans for a drink, found fire—the building in which he was hunting being on fire. It was just a little too cool for snakes.

Governor Pingree, of Michigan, is in Venezuela, seeking important railway concessions from that government. The Governor-Mayor likes good things.

A Pratt county, Kan., farmer lost a \$300 diamond ring while working in his wheat fields. That's better than losing a wheat field in a diamond ring.

The eleventh baby in a family in Greensboro has been named "Finis." Can't make us believe there's anything in that name.

A negro boy has been hazed at Ansonia Coan., just because he was a negro. How unfortunate to be who you are sometimes.

The little German emperor takes the pains to always tell his subjects about the divine rights of kings and that he rules by such rights, but his subjects doubt his authority and a plot to overthrow his authority has been discovered in the South German States. The little emperor's authority has more appearance of might than any thing else.

New York city politics are just now attracting the attention of the country. As usual, lots of men can be found willing to be Greater New York's first mayor, and a big muddy mudle may be expected. The city will cast over 500,000 votes and the spoils will be correspondingly many times greater, so politics will hum in the city for a while.

The fact that the government sees fit to rub up its navy a little and get in modern trim gives rise to the rumor that preparations are being made for war. There is no immediate prospect of such a state of affairs, but the government would show wisdom in preparing a little in these times of uncertain peace.

Nolo contendere has found its way into our courts. What will come next to shield the guilty? Down with nolo contendere.

FETICHISM AND CRIME.

THE IGNORANCE, SUPERSTITION AND DEBAUCHERY OF WILD AFRICANS ECLIPSED IN CIVILIZED NEW ENGLAND.

DESERVING LYNCHING, THE BRUTE WILL SOJOURN IN THE PENITENTIARY A LITTLE WHILE.

The Brattleboro, Vt. Reformer of the 24th inst, gives the following account of a case involving ignorance, superstition, debauchery, crime brutality and duplicity.

The trial at the county court in Newfane of Seaman L. Weatherell of Grafton for rape upon the person of Mabel L. Walker now of Providence R. I., was not concluded until 4 p. m. Tuesday, but the jury at 8 p. m. brought in a verdict of guilty. Then he was put on trial for adultery with Nettie L. Walker, the girl's mother, and both inmates of his family, but after the state had put in its evidence, the defence threw up its hands and offered nothing and the case went to the jury without argument after the Judge's charge at 3 Wednesday afternoon and at 9 o'clock the jury brought in a verdict of guilty. There was no disagreement in either case, but the jury took time to read over the letters which formed the decisive evidence in the case. Sentence has not yet been imposed. The maximum is 20 years for rape and 5 for adultery.

The story is in brief that Weatherell for months lived in adultery with the woman in his own house, with the knowledge and connivance of his wife, that the woman bore him a child that is still there, and that then he followed this with criminal relations with the woman's 13 year old daughter, also in the same house; but to the credit of human nature this latter was without the knowledge or connivance of the mother and when she was satisfied that it was going on she herself started the proceedings that have resulted in the whole exposure including even her own crime. That one spark of right feeling, struck from the sense of motherhood is the only redeeming feature in the whole sad and shocking story and at the same time a suggestion of what might have been wrought from better conditions and better training.

The case was made even more revolting from the fact that all this beastly work was done with the aid of superstitions influences and a degraded kind of spiritualism. Weatherell pretended to be a seer and fortune teller and he carried on a voluminous correspondence, in a cleverly disguised hand from "Madam Jabri" in the spirit world or some realm of mysticism, by means of which his wife and the child and Mrs. Walker to some extent were bent to his purposes. His wife, for instance, was made to believe, as

indicated by a letter that she wrote to Mrs. Walker and which appeared in the evidence, that if the latter didn't have a child by Weatherell, he would die. Another to Mrs. Walker, couched in a jargon that must have taken a long time to concoct, was designed to open the way for the later crime with the little girl, by telling the mother that Weatherell must be allowed to do certain things or else the girl would die because of trouble diphtheria had left.

At the same time a money swindling game was carried on by Weatherell. In the 25 letters or thereabouts in the case were a number from a mythical "Arthur S. Brown" a detective in Kentucky, who was going to marry Mrs. Walker and about that time got shot in the course of his duties and had to have money. She testified that she sent about \$200. All the correspondence coming and going was in Weatherell's care and all the "Brown" as well as the "Jabri" letters, were positively identified as in his hand writing, differently disguised, and of course that was where the money went. One of the envelopes put into the case bore a postmark "Louisville, Ky," so clumsily done by hand right in Grafton as to be obvious to any one acquainted with such matters but evidently sufficient to fool the women. Another "give away" was the frequent occurrence of the word "promest" in the different letters always spelled "promest" as it was shown he spelled it in letters admittedly his. Laver C. S. Chase, who has made a study of hand writing and C. C. Fittis also, after examination under magnifying glasses, testified to the identity of the hand-writing. One of the letters contained an admission of Weatherell's percentage of Mrs. Walker's child, fastening the adultery charge. The letters are full at the grossest indelicacy, interspersed with religious exclamations like, "God bless you," that would lead one at a distance to believe that insanity must be the author; but those who know Weatherell cannot be made to believe any such thing.

Weatherell's connection with Mrs. Walker began in his seeing her name in a "matrimonial paper." She came to his house and lived in the spring of '95, and after staying some time went back to Providence and Fall River, but returned to Weatherell's in February '96 and in November following was delivered a child there. It was in February last according to the indictment that the rape was committed on the daughter, but according to the latter's testimony it was repeated many times, he compelling her to sleep in the same room as he did and changing her from a rosy-cheeked, healthy child of a year ago into a pale, thin, haggard, round-shouldered being that was an object of pity at the time of her arrest. He controlled her and made her keep the secret by threats of ghosts and hobgoblins, and indeed he seems to have kept the whole crowd in subjection largely by threats of what would happen to them from the other world if they did not do as he wanted them to.

RUSSELL DEFIED.

THE WILSONS SUSPENDED AS RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS BUT REFUSE TO GIVE UP.

THEIR SUCCESSORS APPOINTED.

On the 23rd of September Governor Russell sent chairman Maj. Jas. W. Wilson, the following letter: "Take notice that after due investigation and consideration, I am convinced that you have violated the railroad commission law in some of the particulars mentioned in my letter to you of August 24th, and that you have not only violated said act in the specifications set out in it, but that you have otherwise within its meaning, intent and words become disqualified to act. Now, therefore, in obedience to the duty imposed upon me by said act, I do hereby suspend you from the office of railroad commissioner, and chairman of said commissioners, such suspension to continue until the question of your removal or restoration shall be determined by a vote of the Legislature in joint session. The fact of your suspension, together with reasons therefor and evidence, documents and information connected therewith, will be reported to the next Legislature. You will further take notice that under and by virtue of the power conferred, and duties imposed upon the chief executive, I have appointed L. C. Caldwell, of Iredell, to fill the vacancy caused by your suspension. Inasmuch as you are understood to deny the power of the executive to suspend you from office, as provided by the statute, I have requested Mr. Caldwell to make demand on you for possession of the office, and upon your refusal to bring action therefor to the end that the title to the office may be judicially determined."

A letter similar to this was sent to Otho Wilson, informing him of his suspension and of the appointment of John H. Pearson, of Morganton. The latter is a Democrat and a member of the Legislature. At its last session he vehemently opposed the 99-year lease of the North Carolina. Caldwell is a Butler Populist.

Maj. Wilson replied to the Governor's letter as follows:

"Sir,—Your favor of the 23d, instant is hereby acknowledged. In reply I will say that I shall disregard your order to suspend, but will continue to do business at the old stand until removed by a tribunal other than a self-constituted star chamber."

Mr. Otho Wilson's reply was even more brief:

"Sir—Yours of the 23d received and noted."

As neither of the commissioners intends to be ousted except by law there promises to be a quite a stir along the line until it reaches the courts.

Southland.

INVITE ANOTHER THRASHING.

A large meeting was held in Concord square, Athens, Greece, on the 26th, where a resolution was adopted calling upon King George and the cabinet to renew the war with Turkey rather than accept the terms of peace offered by the peace conference.

Most of the addresses were bellicose, one speaker making a violent attack upon the king and Crown Prince Constantine. The police endeavored to arrest him, but he escaped with the assistance of the crowd.

The most influential section of the press continues peaceful in tone.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Having qualified according to law as administrator of the estate of David A. Crandall, deceased, late of Pitt county and State of North Carolina, all parties having claims against his estate are hereby notified to present them to me for payment within twelve months from the date of this notice, or it will be plead in bar of their recovery. And all parties indebted to said estate are notified to make immediate payment of same.

JAMES L. ROBERTSON,
Admr. David A. Crandall, dec'd.
Sept. 27, 1897.

Your name is not **Mud** if you use The Weekly.

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