

# THE MONROE JOURNAL

VOL. 19. No. 31.

MONROE, N. C., TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1913.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

## MR. STEVENS ACQUITTED.

**Young Monroe Boy Comes Out Blameless For Killing a Man Last May — General Gratification at Verdict.**

Charlotte Observer, Thursday.  
"Gentlemen of the jury, have you arrived at a verdict?"  
"We have."  
"Justifiable homicide."  
"You mean by that I suppose," said Judge T. J. Shaw, "that the prisoner is not guilty."  
"Yes, sir," agreed Foreman W. M. Tye. And so said they all.  
After deliberating for an hour and 40 minutes the jury in the case of Willie B. Stevens, charged with the killing of George Smith on May 25, returned a verdict of "Not Guilty," at 7:50 o'clock last night.  
Court had adjourned nearly two hours earlier, but a dozen feminine relatives and friends of the accused had waited patiently for the return of the deliberations. As soon as the jury announced that it had arrived at a decision, a messenger was sent for Judge Thomas J. Shaw, who came immediately and received the decision.  
The verdict was anticipated by the general opinion of those who had heard the trial, and who believed that the case put up by the defense was by far stronger than that of the State. The prosecution labored under a complete handicap, since there were only two eye witnesses to what actually occurred. One of these was dead and hence unavailable for purposes of testimony, and the other was the defendant himself.

## WAS GOOD WITNESS.

The defendant, a popular young man of good character and good family connections, offered a plea of self-defense and sustained it well. He made a good appearance on the witness stand and was not confused by cross-examination. It seemed more reasonable to believe that the pistol shots were fired after a struggle of some sort than without provocation, even granting the assumption that the young man was unduly frightened without cause by the manner of Smith, who was larger, and who was shown by the defense to have a reputation as a man who almost constantly carried a pistol. The defense also claimed that he was a violent man, which justified the presumption on the part of the youth that his life was in danger when he was attacked as Stevens claimed he was.

The defendant marshalled scores of the most prominent people of Union to his rescue. By testifying on the stand to his good reputation and by their presence in the court room from day to day they lent the strength of moral encouragement to his cause.  
The only relatives of the dead man who were present were his father and mother, from upper Ireland. They sat quietly in an unobtrusive place and took no part in the trial. A special attorney to prosecute the case was retained by the dead man's nail brother, a prosperous railroad man of Virginia.  
All of yesterday was devoted to argument. Speeches for the prosecution were made by Messrs. Geo. W. Wilson, the solicitor, and Mr. F. M. Redd. For the defense Messrs. Plummer Stewart, John A. McRae and ex-Judge Frank I. Osborne spoke. The court room was filled throughout the day with auditors who gave to the lawyers eager attention.

## Mr. Wilson Wanted to be a Sailor.

Newport, R. I., Aug. 16.—Secretary Danley presented the target practice pennant to the battleship Idaho the crack ship of the navy, here today, and read her officers and crew a lesson in preparedness.  
"There never is time to 'make ready' in any truly great crisis in life," said the Secretary, commending the crack gunners for their skill. "What is a growing navy worth to us unless manned by men who live in a state of preparedness?"  
"You may not know it, but it will add to your appreciation when I tell you that as a boy, it was the highest ambition of Woodrow Wilson to enter the Naval Academy and become a naval officer. If his father had not led him into other lines, the probability is that today he would be with us as a captain or an admiral—commanding the New Jersey, let us say—rejoicing with the officers and sailors of the Idaho, instead of wrestling with the big problems that have kept him in Washington all summer while you have had the good fortune to be refreshed by the breezes from Old Ocean."

In Missouri a new road building wrinkle is under way. Encouraged by one day's result when according to Governor Major, 200 miles of new roads were built, the Missouri Good Road Army started out on the second day to complete the work so well begun. Reports from every county indicated welding the pick and shovel. In some districts farming operations practically were suspended as the farmers decided road improvement was the most important work in which they could engage. It is a concentration of effort, general in extent, and saves the necessity of interest-bearing bond issues. Everybody enlisted and went to work.

There are men in this world who have more jawbone than backbone. They say a great many things they do not stand up to.

## DIED OF LOCKJAW.

**Native of Union County Living in Charlotte Stuck a Nail in His Foot and Lost His Life.**

Charlotte Observer Saturday.  
Mr. W. C. Ritch, late of 315 Seigle avenue, died yesterday morning at 3:45 o'clock from tetanus, the result of having stepped upon a rusty nail some two weeks preceding his death. Mr. Ritch feared no ill results from the slight wound and consequently paid no attention to it but in a few days the deadly germs began their work on his system and, despite heroic treatment by his physicians, he died yesterday morning.  
No signs of tetanus were manifested from the wound until last Monday, one week after the accident, when blood poison and consequent lockjaw set in. He made a brave fight for life but the disease with such a lengthy start was beyond medical skill.  
Mr. Ritch was born in Union county, January 26, 1857, and was 56 years of age. He moved to this city some 15 years ago where he has since resided with his family. He is survived by his wife and three children, Marvin L., Charles and Bleecka.  
Since coming to Charlotte Mr. Ritch has made many friends and acquaintances among whom he was always highly esteemed as a useful citizen.

## Death of Mr. W. F. Morgan.

Mr. W. F. Morgan, one of the best known residents of Monroe, died last Wednesday morning. On the Friday before he was stricken with paralysis and never improved in the slightest. Funeral services were conducted at the home Thursday morning by Rev. Mr. Craig and Rev. M. T. Steele.

Mr. Morgan was a native of Anson county, where he was born 61 years ago. At the age of 18 he came to Monroe and from that time till his death was a citizen of this place. He served many terms as a city alderman, and several times as county commissioner, being chairman of the board, and later as member of the township board. Mr. Morgan was a popular man and had many friends. He was engaged in many business enterprises and was well known throughout the county, and was a member of the Methodist church.

He married Miss Nancy Osborne, daughter of the late Michael Osborne of Monroe, on October 5, 1871. To this union two children were born but they died in infancy and Mrs. Morgan died after she had been married a few years. On January 14, 1878, Mr. Morgan married Miss Hattie C. Osborne, a sister of his first wife, and she, with three sons, Messrs. W. Clyde, D. C. and John M. Morgan, survive.

## A Soldier of Many Battles.

Messrs. M. H., W. J., L. C., and J. F. Gordon, pay the following tribute to their brother, Kenneth Robert Gordon, who died the 25th of July, 1913:  
On March 14, 1862, a twenty-two-year-old boy of the Pleasant Grove community, Union county, enlisted in the Confederate army, joining Captain Walkup's company, which was Company F 48th Regiment N. C. Troops. Soon after he enlisted he and his comrades went to Virginia and he served until the close of the war, first under Capt. Walkup and after the promotion of Captain Walkup to the colonelcy, under Captain Wilson, and after Captain Wilson's death under Capt. B. F. Richardson. This boy was with his company and regiment in many a hard battle. He took part in the battle of Seven Pines, the Yellow Tavern, the Seven Days' Fight around Richmond and was in the trenches at Petersburg at the blow up. He was wounded at Hatcher's Run February 5, 1865, and was given a furlough for thirty days, and when the thirty days were up he was not able to return to the army and the furlough was extended thirty days, and before that time was up Lee had surrendered and of course he never went back to the army.  
At a meeting at Pleasant Grove church in the summer of 1865 he professed religion and joined the Methodist church and was a faithful soldier of the cross until he died. He answered the last roll call on July 25, 1913, and went to meet his comrades who went up from the battlefields of Virginia.

## A Lesson on Thriftiness.

Union Republican.  
Any man can almost make a living in this world if he has true grit and tries. Living near Greensboro is a man almost blind. His name is Farmer and he has raised a family of children, all of them energetic as he is. When the eldest boy was a small chap, Farmer used to saw wood around town. His son added on the "horse" showed his father where to saw and the job was done. Now this son is some twelve or thirteen years old and is running the farm with the father, who though blind, does an immense amount of work.—Greensboro Record.

And yet you find scores of men, married, and single, with good eyes and sound as a dollar physically, who can't get along, live from hand to mouth, and have "thier nose on the grindstone." Such people are either lazy or as the world call shiftless and need a guardian, fo. It is astonishing how many persons have not executive ability to direct their affairs with success.

## BIG COTTON SALES LAST YEAR.

**For the Year Closed Yesterday Monroe Bought More Cotton Than Ever Before, and Probably More Cotton Than Any Town in the State.**

For the cotton year 1912-13, closing yesterday, Monroe bought more wagon cotton than was ever sold here before in one year, and probably more than any single other town in North Carolina. The number of bales bought from wagons and weighed on this market by Cotton Weigher Barden for the year was 18,750. This is nearly 4,000 in excess of any other year except the big year of 1890, when over 17,000 bales were weighed here. The year before the number bought here was about 15,000, and the highest number in preceding years ran about 12,000. The figures for the county are as follows:  
Monroe . . . . . 18,750  
Marshville . . . . . 7,468  
Waxhaw . . . . . 5,670  
Wingate . . . . . 1,484  
Indian Trail . . . . . 1,011

Total . . . . . 34,383  
A great deal of the cotton sold in Monroe came by wagon from adjoining counties in South Carolina, but this was little more than enough to balance off the amount of Union county cotton which was sold on markets outside of the county. In this county last year there were ginned 3,003 bales, the preceding year being 29,843.

Monroe has become one of the best if not the best cotton market in North Carolina. Besides the amount bought from wagons the several dealers here handled thousands of bales bought at wholesale from other towns. The large consumption of the mills here and the demand of the brokers who supply mills in other sections always keep the market here at the very top.

**AHEAD OF MECKLENBURG.**  
For the season just closed Union county produced more cotton than Mecklenburg, and Monroe bought from wagons a great deal more than Charlotte. A little less than 25,000 bales were ginned in Mecklenburg, and a little more than 30,000 were ginned in Union. From wagons Charlotte bought 15,143 bales, and Monroe bought from wagons alone 18,750.

**Taxable Property For This Year.**  
Our clever and capable Register of Deeds, Mr. M. C. Long, has completed the following recapitulation of the taxable property of the county for the present year:

LANES CREEK.	
Real Estate.	Personal Property.
\$203,497 . . . white . . .	\$158,854
12,545 . . . colored . . .	17,122
\$216,042 . . . total . . .	\$175,976
Grand total, \$392,018.	
BUFORD.	
\$391,471 . . . white . . .	\$249,929
16,621 . . . colored . . .	20,938
\$408,092 . . . total . . .	\$270,867
Grand total, \$678,129.	
JACKSON.	
\$448,904 . . . white . . .	\$332,024
22,291 . . . colored . . .	25,553
\$471,195 . . . total . . .	\$357,577
Grand total, \$728,772.	
SANDY RIDGE.	
\$373,539 . . . white . . .	\$209,271
9,239 . . . colored . . .	21,469
\$382,769 . . . total . . .	\$230,740
Grand total, \$613,509.	
VANCE.	
\$221,285 . . . white . . .	\$119,512
5,692 . . . colored . . .	6,870
\$226,977 . . . total . . .	\$126,382
Grand total, \$653,559.	
GOOSE CREEK.	
\$346,452 . . . white . . .	\$318,863
5,961 . . . colored . . .	8,789
\$352,413 . . . total . . .	\$327,652
Grand total, \$680,065.	
NEW SALEM.	
\$278,379 . . . white . . .	\$225,679
169 . . . colored . . .	1,427
\$278,488 . . . total . . .	\$227,106
Grand total, \$905,594.	
MARSHVILLE.	
\$572,436 . . . white . . .	\$346,618
28,715 . . . colored . . .	39,262
\$601,151 . . . total . . .	\$385,880
Grand total, \$987,031.	
MONROE.	
\$1,764,277 . . . white . . .	\$1,098,884
62,297 . . . colored . . .	36,204
\$1,826,484 . . . total . . .	\$1,135,088
Grand total for 1913 . . .	\$7,900,949
Grand total for 1912 . . .	7,774,788
Gain for 1913 . . .	\$ 125,263

## Another Ross Story.

Cleveland, Aug. 26. The rumor that Charlie Ross, kidnapped thirty-nine years ago from his home in Germantown, Pa., has been located, bobbed up here today.  
According to the police they have been notified by Chief of Police Boyer, of Sayersville, N.J., that he has received a communication from Cleveland, signed by Charles Brewster Ross, who says he believes he is the missing man. An attempt is being made to establish his identity. Charlie Ross was kidnapped in 1874 by a man in a buggy. A ransom of \$20,000 was demanded for his release.

## SUCCESSFUL CREAMERY.

**Co-operative Effort of Farmers Near Hickory Doing Well and a Celebration is Held.**

Some months ago an effort was made to establish a co-operative creamery in Monroe, but failed for lack of interest by enough farmers. On Saturday the co-operative creamery company of Hickory held a celebration at which a thousand people were present. A press dispatch says that the occasion was an unusual one.

The company has just moved into its new brick building on one of the principal streets of the city. Heretofore it has rented a small place in one of the suburbs. The new building is thoroughly equipped with all the modern machinery and conveniences suitable for the carrying on of an up-to-date creamery. The machinery is driven by electricity and connections are made with the city sewer line for all waste material. It has a capacity of 3,000 lbs. a day. At present the company is turning out 1,000 lbs. daily, and has a membership among the farmers of the county of 217, having grown to this number in three years from the original shareholders of only 38.

The day began by taking the people through the plant and showing the process which the cream undergoes when it comes in from the country until it comes out a finished product and ready for shipment. After everyone had been through the plant, the crowd assembled at the park near the railway station to hear the speaking which began at 11 o'clock.

Mr. J. A. Conover, who has charge of the dairy and farm department of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and who was for some time in charge of the field work of the State Agricultural Department, was the principal speaker of the morning. Mr. Conover is the man who really first started the idea of a co-operative creamery in Hickory. While in the State service several years ago, he went among the people of the section around Hickory and interested them in better cattle raising out of which has grown the best creamery of the South.

He gave some very interesting statistics concerning the amount of soil fertility taken by many of the farm products. For 25 bushels of corn, 47 worth of soil fertility was removed; 25 bushels of oats removed 39.50 of soil fertility; and 25 bushels of wheat took 49. He gave these figures to show the need of the use of fertilizer, and went a step further to show that dairying was one of the best paying of all occupations by giving out the statement that it required 70 cents worth of soil fertility to produce one ton of butter.

## THE KEOKUK DAM.

**The Greatest Water Power Project in the World.**

Keokuk, Iowa, Aug. 26. — With both shores of the Mississippi river at this point banked with spectators, and the river dotted with the boats containing thousands of others, the Keokuk dam, the greatest water power project in the world, and one of the largest engineering feats of modern times, was officially dedicated today. The governors of Iowa, Missouri and Illinois, noted engineers from various parts of the world, dignitaries from Washington and municipal officials from a score of cities and towns near took part in the ceremonies. A delegation of eastern governors on their way to the Governors' Conference at Colorado Springs stopped off today to see the dedication ceremonies.

The great dam will furnish 200,000 horse power in light and power to scores of cities from Dubuque to St. Louis. It stretches across the Father of Waters between Keokuk and Hamilton, Ill., and cost approximately \$25,000,000. The huge wall of cement, stone and brick is 53 feet high and 42 feet at its widest point. Twenty-five hundred men worked three years to complete the dam in the construction of which 650,000 barrels of cement alone were used. It is 4,649 feet in length and will make Cooper Lake a body of water 65 miles long, from one end and one-half to three miles wide and 50 feet deep.

## Thaw Still in Jail in Canada—Given Ovation by the Emotionals.

Harry K. Thaw is still in jail at Sherbrooke, Quebec. At a hearing Wednesday New York State was denied the right to be a party to the proceedings; counsel for New York failed in their efforts to have Thaw arraigned before a magistrate and the commitment on which he is held quashed. This would have released him to the immigration officers. Counsel for Thaw secured a certiorance of the writ of habeas corpus. Had the writ been granted the immigration authorities would have seized Thaw and probably deported him. People in the court shouted and applauded when the decisions were rendered in favor of Thaw. Emotional women ran toward him crying: "Three cheers for Thaw! Three cheers for the British flag! We will give you justice, Harry." The judge sternly rebuked the demonstrators.

Judge Joseph T. Lawless, of the Circuit court of Norfolk county, Va., became aggrieved at C. B. Kelly, editor of the Norfolk News, and split in the editor's face. The judge was haled to court.

## THE PRESIDENT A LEADER.

**How He Has Managed to Have His Way in Congress with the Aid of Friends in Both Houses.**

Washington Dispatch.  
President Wilson, with the aid and complete sympathy of forceful leaders in the House and Senate, has perfected an organization that works as smoothly and successfully as did that of the Republican party, whether in the palmy days of Mark Hanna or during the more stormy regime of Nelson Aldrich.

Almost from the day Woodrow Wilson entered the White House, he has, with the aid of Secretary Tamm, been engaged in selecting leaders in the House and Senate whom he could rely upon to represent him in those bodies and whom he could consult without reserve when their assistance could be of value to the party programme. His cabinet has been absolutely responsive to his policies. Even Secretary Bryan, whom some people supposed would not agree with the President in currency matters, only the other day turned the tide in the House caucus in favor of the administration currency bill.

Republican members of Congress, terrified by the cohesiveness and smoothness of the Democratic organization, are using the only weapon that can be employed against it. They are calling the President a "boss." In doing this they are merely borrowing the terms and tactics of the Democrats during the Roosevelt administration. In reply the President's friends say he is a "leader" and not a "boss" and add: "A leader leads for the benefit of the people; a boss leads for the benefit of himself and his friends."

Two recent events in Congress have demonstrated how firmly the President has bound the party into an organization. There is little doubt that a majority of Democratic Senators, if their own preferences were consulted, would prefer to adjourn after passing a tariff bill and permit revision of the currency system to go over until next session. But the president was determined currency should go behind the tariff. A strong secret opposition developed to his wishes and Senator Lewis of Illinois, believing the opposition could carry the Democratic majority with it, had a caucus called to resolve to defer currency. The President and Mr. Tamm, aided by Thomas J. France of the Democratic national committee, set their forces to work and the result was an almost unanimous vote in the caucus to take up currency immediately after the passage of the tariff bill.

The other event was last Friday, Representative H. L. Henry of Texas, who had been leading a disorganized fight against the tariff and currency bill in the House caucus, proposed an amendment against interlocking bank directorates which was entirely meritorious as a proposition. The President was for it and had made speeches for it. But he long ago determined that if the currency bill is once seriously amended the way will be laid open to weight it down with enough amendments to stifle the entire bill. Accordingly he determined to use force to defeat the Henry amendment. Representative Oscar Underwood, the House leader, was consulted and prepared a resolution referring the entire question of interlocking directorates — bank, industrial and transportation — to the legislative committee for separate legislation next session.

Immediately afterward Secretary Bryan was closeted with Postmaster General Burleson and Secretary Tamm. The meeting broke up happily and nothing was known of its objects or its results until just before the vote on the Underwood resolution — a letter from Mr. Bryan to the caucus was read urging all the Democrats to stand by the currency bill unamended. As the insurgents were in the main composed of an element that has followed Mr. Bryan for years, they were completely routed by this bit of practical strategy and the Underwood motion easily prevailed.

That is organization. This new and triumphant working force is headed by the President, Secretary Bryan, Postmaster General Burleson and Secretary Tamm. His lieutenants in the Senate are Senators Hughes of New Jersey, Kern of Indiana, Smith of Georgia and James of Kentucky. In the House the President is represented in all big matters by Representatives Underwood and Palmer. There are numerous other strong friends of the President with whom he consults and scores of enthusiasts who are willing to follow his lead once his position is positively known.

## Self-Denial.

It is the salvation of a noble animal, some motive for sacrifice left when all that made the daily burden of life endurable has passed away. Happy he who has habituated himself to look upon his whole earthly career, but as a task of which the reward, though not given here, is as priceless as it is certain. I have remarked that a true delineation of the smallest man and his sense of pilgrimage through life, is capable of interesting the greatest man; that all men are, to an unspeakable degree, brothers, each man's life a strange emblem of every man's, and that human portraits faithfully drawn are, of all pictures, the warmest on human walls.— Carlyle.

## NOT TRUE OF FARM LIFE.

**Drudgery and Monotony Less Applicable to Farm Life Than to Life in Town.**

Progressive Farmer.  
We are sick and tired of all this talk about "the drudgery and monotony of the farmer's wife," and the "monotony" of her life. We know that there are individual cases in which such terms apply, but on the whole they are no more applicable — in fact, are much less applicable — in the case of working country people than in the case of working towns-people.

Nobody should ever be allowed to speak in public who doesn't know better than to speak of "relieving the barrenness and monotony of farm life." The average country woman has no such colorless or tragic existence as the average city working-man's wife, shut in in crowded quarters and often forced to take in sewing or carry on other work besides looking after her household. The average country woman has no such hard lot as the wage-earning girl in the great cities, homeless and frequently struggling with near-starvation and moral disaster. And we go further and say the average farm woman's life, hard though she may work, is far preferable and should be far happier than that of the idle, purposeless, useless type of woman who knows neither the joy of home-making, nor of training sons and daughters, but spends her time in a nervous search for excitement and as a human clothes-rack on which to display the changing whims of a fashion-god fast becoming sickeningly vulgar, as well as silly.

True, the farmer should buy his wife the best ranges, stoves, fireless cookers, sewing machines, household and kitchen conveniences and should be ashamed of himself if he doesn't have the best possible water supply and should supply all the domestic help his fingers will permit. But while urging all these things, let us at the same time forever make an end of this false and foolish "drudgery," "monotony," "tragedy," "wonder." As one farmer's wife, Mrs. J. C. Watson, Jonesboro, North Carolina, so well says in the Sanford Express:

"A farm owned by a skilled farmer whose wife is a successful house-maker is no more a Garden of Eden as this old world can be. Satan hits with a burning brand anything resembling a paradise. He visits in and soon drives out the Garden of Eden and he keeps an ever-watching eye on any place resembling one. So you find him using all kinds of evil inclinations to make the farm. One of the deadliest he has ever gotten in on this line is that expectation about the 'drudgery and monotony of the farmer's wife.' It has been so thoroughly absorbed by many mothers that they have a horror of their sons becoming farmers and of their daughters marrying farmers. I was a farmer's daughter and lived on a farm for 14 years, and I never for one moment found any drudgery or monotony. I very believe that my heavenly abode will be a reproduction in a perfect form of that grand old grove of magnificent oaks where my little sister and I played and dreamed until I was sent away to school. Fifteen years I spent in and around the school room, and now for five and a half years I have been a farmer's wife, and the farm and its work grows more fascinating each day."

## AMERICANS TO LEAVE MEXICO.

**Secretary Bryan Has Wired All Consulates to Furnish Americans Transportation.**

Washington, Aug. 27. — President Wilson tonight warned all Americans to leave Mexico at once. At the same time the American embassy and all consular representatives throughout the southern republic were instructed to "notify all officials, civil and military, in Mexico" that they would be held strictly responsible for harm or injury to Americans or their property.

Secretary Bryan dispatched long telegrams to the embassy and all consular representatives quoting extracts from President Wilson's address to Congress today, in which he reviewed the futile peace negotiations with the Huerta government and the policy the United States would pursue hereafter toward Mexico.

In these messages the consuls were instructed to render every aid possible to departing Americans, furnishing transportation and any other pecuniary assistance to the needy. They were informed that a sufficient number of ships to carry away those in the sea coast towns would be furnished.

Foreign governments will be notified of the action of the United States, so that they may give similar advice, but the American consuls will help all foreigners in any emergency.

Within a day or two an announcement is expected of the mobilization of a large number of American troops along the southern frontier to enforce neutrality in the traffic of arms and munitions of war. President Wilson was in touch with Assistant Secretary Breckenridge of the war department tonight, but the nature of his communication was not revealed.

An Easter paper speaks of a clergyman "grazing the pulpit" instead of "gracing the pulpit." He must have been on oily speaker.