

THE MONROE JOURNAL

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R. F. BEASLEY, Editor

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TUESDAY, MAY 1, 1917.

The Horror of Efficiency.

The story that the Germans have long been using the bodies of their dead soldiers to make fertilizer is too horrible to believe and we shall not believe it till further proof is offered. The horrible things which have been done beyond question are sufficient without believing those which seem incredible. So far as we have ever heard no people have ever lived who did not hold at least their own dead sacred. "Let the carrion rot" has been said more or less of enemies at all times until the gentler sentiments of civilization were supposed to prevail, but never have even savages desecrated their own dead. If German officialdom, obsessed as it is with the devil of efficient destruction, has ordered this thing done it must be that they misunderstand their own people as poorly as they have showed themselves to misunderstand the other peoples of the world, for surely no people will permit their dead to be thus desecrated after they had already made the supreme sacrifice of life at the behest of the war mad lords. Soldiers' bodies have always been lost upon the battlefield and buried wholesale in trenches unmarked and their people recognized the necessity and made the most of it. But to deliberately handle them with iron hooks, throw them into scalding vats and turn them into fertilizer—surely German efficiency has not reached this point.

German Hopefulness.

The Germans are a queer set. Either their leaders are hopelessly deceived or are deliberately trying to deceive their people. Public men are telling us nation that their ends will soon be achieved in the utter defeat of their enemies, professing to believe that England will soon be brought to her knees, France worn out, Russia quit, and the United States ignored. In the face of the fiercest battle of the war which has now been going on for weeks and in which the Germans do not even claim that they are overcoming their enemies, their statements are making speeches declaring that peace and victory are in sight.

It is the old song that they have been giving all the time as every new venture designed to crush their enemies was launched and failed. No sooner had one failed than another was declared to be on foot to certain victory. Meanwhile the trouble at home is becoming dangerous as the people more and more demand to know what they are fighting for and are more and more kept in the dark. Strikes in Germany have caused the greatest uneasiness and the question is how long the people can continue to be pacified with promises of victory and peace. It is true that Ambassador Gerard, just returned from Germany, declares that we need not look for any internal trouble in Germany, but he may be mistaken. He also declared that Prussian hatred of the United States and her democracy is so great that had the war been a draw in Europe, we would have been attacked anyhow. But surely the boasted intelligence of the German race must sometime be undeceived and there must come a time when they will demand to know why the monarchy keeps them fighting and what it hopes to attain.

Uncle John.

"It's faithfulness that makes the little service great," said Rev. Mr. Wray in his sermon Sunday morning. How good it is that this is God's standard, because all too often it is not man's standard. One day last week old Uncle John Simonds did a faithful morning's work in Dr. Stevens' garden and went home to dinner at twelve o'clock and died. Uncle John had been working for Dr. Stevens and others in the neighborhood for a long time. It never occurred to him to ask more than one dollar per day for his work and it never occurred to him that there was any other way for a man to work than to work all day and do every job exactly as his employer wished it done. And Uncle John was a man of principle and pride. His white hair was covered by a very black skin and his mind had no other training than was given him as a boy in the field under a master whom he honored as the man who taught him to do his simple work thoroughly. And Uncle John never uttered any boast greater than this:

"I've done dat job right." He had as much pride in his workmanship in doing a job of digging right as a great painter has in his canvass, and he worked without watching as well as when his employer was standing by. If Rev. Mr. Wray's definition is correct, and we believe it is, Uncle John was a true man, and it is a sincere pleasure to pay this tribute to the humble old black man who never dreamed that any one would say anything about him when he dropped off. But there is a disposition to overlook the humble, faithful members of the race because there are so many unworthy ones whose short comings are conspicuous.

Pardon Refused James Wilcox.

Raleigh, April 30.—Governor Bickett announces his refusal to grant a pardon for James Wilcox, the Elizabeth City man, serving 30 years sentence for the death of Nellie Cropsey, the crime and two trials having constituted one of the biggest sensations in the criminal annals of the State. Governor Bickett reviews the fact that Governor Craig reviewed the case and declined to grant a pardon.

In the statement of reasons for declining the pardon the Governor refers to the two trials and convictions by jury and says these leave no room for reviewing the evidence with none newly discovered presented before him. He says the conclusion of guilt is tremendously sustained by the fact that Wilcox did not go on the witness stand in his own behalf at either trial, when, if innocent, he certainly should have gone on the stand, even over the protest of his counsel, at the second trial in the light of the fact that a jury had already found him guilty. The Governor says: "All the king's horses and all the king's men should not have been able to keep him off the witness stand at the second trial had he any consciousness of innocence. The man who is entirely innocent has nothing to lose, but all to gain, by the most withering cross-examination. The truth will shine in his eyes and ring in his voice," says the Governor.

"In conclusion the Governor says: 'It has been suggested that there may have been mitigating circumstances and that James Wilcox has already suffered enough. If there were any mitigating circumstances James Wilcox is the only man alive who knows what they were and he refuses to open his mouth. There is no suggestion that Wilcox has in any way repented of his responsibility for the death of Nellie Cropsey.'

Senate Provides For Transfer of Enemy Ships.

Washington, April 30.—The senate tonight by a unanimous vote passed a resolution providing for transfer of title and possession of enemy ships in American ports and their use in commerce under direction of the shipping board.

There are about 100 German and many Austrian ships in American ports, and all are under repair, though the Austrian ships are not included in the resolution as the United States and Austria are not at war.

A Willing Victim.

Margaret, aged four, had eaten one of two boxes of berries that he mother had purchased for company. Her mother cried, "What would you do if you had a little girl and she ate a whole box of strawberries?" "Oh, mamma!" she exclaimed eagerly, "I'd make her eat the other box."—The Christian Herald.

LIST TAKERS' APPOINTMENTS.

- Marshville Township.**
T. J. Tadlock's, Tuesday, May 8.
J. R. Bivens' Wednesday, May 9.
D. V. Griffin place, Thursday, May 10.
Marshville from the 12th to the 22nd inclusive.
F. W. ASHCRAFT, List-Taker.
- Monroe Township.**
Mt. Carmel, Tuesday, May 1.
Tindals, Wednesday, May 2.
Baker's, Thursday, May 3.
Lee's Lower Mill, Friday, May 4.
Wingate, Saturday and Monday, May 5 and 7.
Monroe, May 8 to 31.
J. H. BOYTE, List-Taker.
- Goose Creek Township.**
J. Davis Helms' Thursday, May 17.
W. F. Robinson's, Friday, May 18.
Clontz's Store, Saturday, May 19.
Long's Store, Monday, May 21.
H. Sell's, Tuesday, May 22.
Unionville, Wednesday and Thursday, May 23 and 24.
I. C. CLONTZ, List-Taker.
- Sandy Ridge Township.**
Colossal Mine, Monday, May 14.
Mineral Springs, Tuesday, May 15.
Clark's store, Thursday, May 17.
Weddington, Friday, May 18.
H. L. Price's store, Monday, May 21.
W. L. Henby's store, Wednesday, May 23.
Marvin, Friday, May 25.
F. C. EZZELL, List-Taker.
- Lanes Creek Township.**
B. F. Parker's Thursday, May 15.
J. A. Pierce's Wednesday, May 16.
Henry Rayfield's Thursday, May 17.
G. B. Walters' store, Friday, May 18.
W. L. Thomas' Saturday, May 19.
Hours, 7 o'clock a. m. to 5:30 p. m.
W. L. THOMAS, List-Taker.
- Jackson Township.**
Henry McWhorter's, Tuesday, May 8.
W. A. Neal's, May 9.
J. H. Wier's, May 10.
D. M. Walkup's, May 11.
Waxhaw, May 11 and 12.
Rehobeth, May 11 and 14.
Waxhaw, May 15 to 22.
J. T. WIER, List-Taker.
- Vance Township.**
E. J. Byrum's, May 14.
P. C. Stinson's, May 15.
Stout, May 16.
Mrs. J. J. McLendon's, May 17.
Indian Trail, May 18 and 19.
J. E. BROOM, List-Taker.

SKETCHES

By JOHN BEASLEY.

Col. Vic. Redwine, after a prolonged silence of months, requests us to state that he is very much elated over the results of last Saturday's election. He says the town now has the best board since he was Alderman thirty-two years ago.

Dollar watches are famed the world over, but their usefulness to mankind is stoutly denied by Mr. Ky Billingsby. One of his boys placed his watch, which is of the dollar movement kind, under his (Ky's) pillow one night last week. Mr. Billingsby crawled into the bed, tired and weary. Suddenly something commenced to "whack!" "whack!" Ky became frightened. He summoned help, but he was charged to learn that it was a dollar watch that had been arousing his fear and disturbing his repose. Hereafter, he is unequivocally opposed to watches with the dollar movement.

No, sir, the war department is not going to catch Bob Howie napping. He is ready; waiting patiently with a plan that will insure his return to this, his native county, in case he is drafted for service. While other young men are making efforts to get into the training camp at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., the State guard, and the army, Bob is calmly tending to his business, and keeping a lookout for a couple of Goose Creek gourds. It is his intention, when the conscription act gets him, to join the navy, and, to take along with him his two Goose Creek gourds. He will fasten these ancient relics around his waist, and if the boat he is on is sunk, he'll float safely back to Goose Creek. So, while his friends are getting shot over in France, he'll be paddling in the water back for Goose Creek.

Stormy weather is brewing over on the street east of the court house where Judge Warlick, Col. Peach and Chief Justice Flow have their headquarters. This unsettled state is caused by the prolonged stay of Judge Rogers, who persuaded the Judge to sub-lease to him the store room next door to his sole hospital in which to expose for sale the remnants of the old auction house stock, which was partly destroyed in the recent \$150,000 fire on Main street. The Judge consented to this arrangement for one day, but since Judge Rogers and his auction gang have become firmly rooted to the spot, there seems to be little prospect of cleaning the deck unless dynamite or nitroglycerine are brought into play. Judge Warlick is really worried. He had a hard time getting Dr. Watt Ashcraft and his valet, Jim, out, and he had planned to open a little joint there for the boys to loaf and discuss politics to their hearts content. His little plans are blasted it seems, as Judge Rogers is determined not to leave his hole until every blasted piece of goods in his auction house are disposed of. The only solution, therefore, is for Judge Warlick to buy the goods. He might do this but he fears that Judge Rogers might be included in the sale. In the meantime, Chief Justice Flow and Esq. Simpson are still arguing about which way the bean vine climbs.

A Simple Transposition.

Little four-year-old Bessie was putting on her shoes for the first time and got them exchanged. Going to her mother, she said triumphantly, "See, mamma, I got my shoes on." "Oh!" said mamma, "but you have them on the wrong feet." Bessie looked down doubtfully and said, "I don't see how that can be. These are all the feet I got."—The Christian Herald.

A Steady Job.

"Can you tell me," said the court, addressing Enrico Ufuzzi, under examination at Union Hill, New Jersey, as to his qualifications for citizenship, "the difference between the powers and prerogative of the King of England and those of the President of the United States?" "Yezsir," spoke up Ufuzzi promptly, as reported by the San Francisco Argonaut, "King he got steady job."

APPLICATION FOR PARDON OF HAMP MULLIS

Application will be made to the Governor of North Carolina for the pardon of Hamp Mullis, convicted in the Recorder's Court of the City of Monroe in August, 1915, for the crime of keeping whiskey for sale, and sentenced to twelve months on the chain gang, capias not to issue for 15 days. Under the terms of this judgment and according to orders of the court the prisoner left the State. According to his contention, on a recent return to the State to visit members of his family suffering from sickness the prisoner was captured and taken to the chain gang. His application is not for absolute pardon, but is a prayer that he be given another chance to leave the State and stay out of it. All persons who oppose the granting of said pardon are invited to forward their protests to the Governor without delay. This 28th day of April, 1917. J. C. M. VANN, Atty. for Hamp Mullis.



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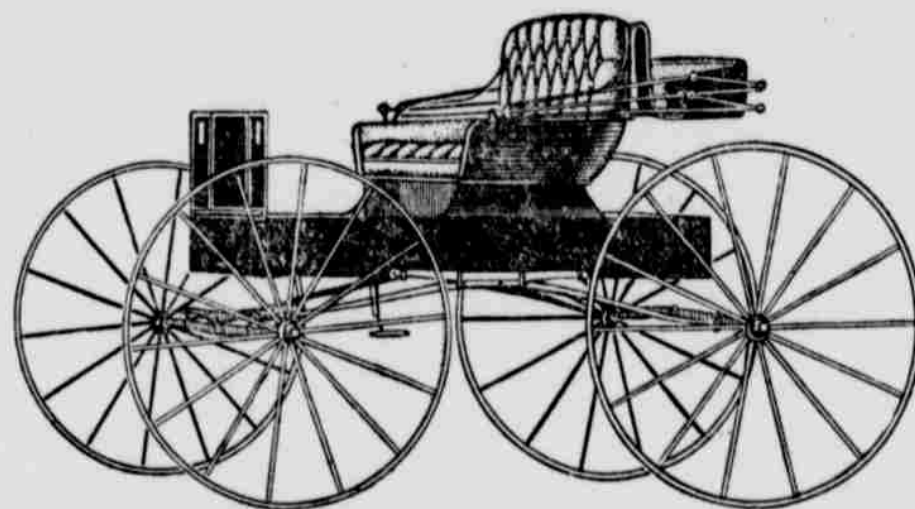
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