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PRICE TWO CENTS

GETTING THE NEWS OF A LYNCHING

REVIEW OF REPORTERS' BUSY DAY

Coroner's Jury Render Verdict on Tom Jones

Criminal Was Captured Through Well Laid Plans—After Being Lynched He Was Photographed and Viewed by Hundreds—Lynchers "Would Have Been Recompensed to Their Duty Had They Done Otherwise."

The Free Press reporters who went to report the killing of the negro fiend, Tom Jones, yesterday, encountered many obstacles in getting the news back to Kinston. Their trip would make an interesting story in itself. They knew the Free Press readers wanted facts, and this is what they bent every nerve to get. Before they left the scene of the killing they had every minute detail of the affair. One reporter had over one thousand words to send but was forced to cut his account to a bare statement of the essential facts as the phone was in poor working order and what was sent had to be repeated several times. The last phone message was sent a quarter to four o'clock. It then had to be telegraphed from LaGrange, set up in type, put in the forms, the forms put to press and the afternoon mail going east caught by 4:30 o'clock. This was really an achievement that would be pronounced journalism and for quick action we don't believe has ever been beaten.

When the reporter sent to LaGrange got off the train at that station it was said that the then thought to be prisoner was in charge of Sheriff Scott of Wayne county, and was being taken to Goldboro. According to the arrangement, in order to thoroughly cover all possible scenes of action, the reporter assigned went on to Goldboro. The reporter who stopped at LaGrange, after being there a few minutes, learned that something had happened. By telephoning he picked what afterwards proved to be the correct state of affairs out of all the vague rumors and reports. He telegraphed this to Kinston and made arrangements to go to the scene of the killing. After hunting all over the town for a camera, the only one in the place was secured and the owner, Rev. Mr. Rich, was induced by the reporter to accompany him to the scene so as to be sure to get good photographs. This was done upon the arrival of the party and the photographs sent off will be and cuts made, which will be printed in The Free Press. The reporter, after getting the pictures and questioning closely to get facts, turned back with his party to get a phone, the nearest being a distance of about six or seven miles. After going about a mile and a half of the return trip the team gave out owing to the sandy road and could not be forced to go faster than a walk. All but one of the party got out and walked as fast as they could to Seven Springs, Mr. E. B. Lewis and J. H. Herbert running a long part of the distance so as to get to the phone in time. As has been described they just did. To those who are interested in the details of the capture and subsequent speedy death of the inhuman piece of creation, who had so pitilessly ruined a happy home, we recount the following details:

Ever since the foul crime, stern and indignant men have scoured the whole neighboring woods. His trail was caught Sunday, but finally it was impossible to find any of his steps except within a certain radius. A consultation was held and it was decided that he was in a certain territory. It was calculated that he would try to make his escape Sunday night from this territory, and a plan was laid to cover with squads of men every road leading from it, and sure enough the wisdom of this plan was proved. It is supposed from subsequent events that Jones walked for the moon to rise before attempting his escape. Anyway the moon had risen about half an hour when a squad of three men, Messrs. J. M. Rich, Frank Simmons and Marshall Holmes, while stationed near a small creek bridge near Outlook's bridge, saw a dark form loom up before them. Behold what afterwards proved to be Jones glided around the presence of the watchers, the latter had their guns leveled on him and ordered him to halt and throw up his hands. The guns were shown within a yard or so of Jones' face. He hesitated at first as to whether to obey the command. The three men quickly cocked their guns and up went the hands.

The news quickly spread through the woods and soon a crowd gathered, then constantly increased as the prisoner was taken to the house of his wife. Here he was taken before the house of the

razed woman, who could not control his fury and quick as thought picked up a weight near by and hit Jones a terrible blow on the side of the head. Smith was restrained from further violence by those in charge of the prisoner.

The latter was then locked in a tobacco barn belonging to Mr. Richard Jones. He was asked why he committed the crime and to all such questions replied that he did not know. He freely confessed the crime and showed a razor and a pistol that he had taken from Smith's house and said he had stolen the clothes he had on.

When asked if he minded dying, he said not as much as might be thought, but said he would rather go to the penitentiary. While being guarded in the tobacco barn under charge of Officer Walker, as has been described, the ten or more men, disguised as negroes, came up, and upon resistance by the officer, shot so near him as to graze his neck. They shoved pistols in his face, while others tore down the barn door with axes. Jones rushed forward to meet them, thinking, so it is thought, that they were men of his own race come to rescue him. Jones was then hustled in no ceremonious manner to a dense swamp a mile or so away. As has been described in previous reports, he was here placed on a juniper log and a volley fired into his body. Although pierced with shot and bullets, the volley did not kill him. After waiting about half an hour the crowd which had gathered was ordered away by the disguised men and a second volley fired, which made it impossible for Jones to ever commit another such dastardly crime.

The body was left where it fell and all day long hundreds from surrounding counties went to view it. The scene was about six miles from Seven Springs in a juniper swamp at the terminus of an old wooden tram road, some three hundred yards from the public thoroughfare, a most secluded spot.

Coroner Dr. Thos. Hill and a jury composed of the following gentlemen: Jas. H. Hill, Frank K. Broadhurst, R. L. Thompson, B. H. Edwards, C. E. Stanley and J. M. Grantham went to the scene of the lynching and held an inquest in the evening. After examining several witnesses the jury rendered this verdict: "We, the undersigned, empaneled as a jury to inquire into the cause of the death of Tom Jones, find that he came to his death by gun shot wounds, inflicted by parties unknown to jury, obviously by an outraged public acting in defense of their homes, wives, daughters and children. In view of the enormity of the crime committed by said Tom Jones, alias Frank Hill, we think they would have been warranted to their duty as good citizens had they acted otherwise."

(Signed) John H. Hill, Frank K. Broadhurst, R. H. Edwards, R. L. Thompson, C. E. Stanley, J. M. Grantham.

Following the rendering of the verdict the body of Jones was buried in a piece of field near the roadway, to which spot it had been removed for the inquest.

Witnessing the last rites over the body of the fiend incarnate were quite a number of white men and two mulattos.

On the night of this crime Jones entered the home of one Anderson Strickland, colored, and robbed him of a gun and shirt and other things. The gun he had lost or discarded. The shirt he donned and wore at the time of his death.

Big Sale. Sales at the Atlantic warehouse today aggregated about 30,000 pounds, averaged \$14.98 per hundred.

HOOKERTON. August 25. Mrs. Bettie Moseley, who has been spending some time with her daughter, Mrs. J. W. Brown of Greenville, returned Sunday, accompanied by Master Wilbur Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Dixon visited friends in Snow Hill Sunday.

Mr. Ed Sutton of near Kinston spent Sunday with friends here.

Miss Ola Patrick of Snow Hill came Sunday to visit her sister, Mrs. D. H. Dixon.

Mr. Will Jordan of Goldsboro spent several days last week with friends here.

Several from around here are attending court at Snow Hill this week.

Do not forget to attend the lawn party in the cemetery grove here next Thursday night. Come and spend a pleasant evening with your friends.

Mr. C. G. Lassiter of near here lost a box of ten tobacco by the last week, but was fortunate to save his barn.

This vicinity was visited Friday evening by the last week's storm and this morning the soil was very breaking and water runs in many places and considerable crops considerable, especially tobacco and cotton. It was heavily damaged from the water and mud in the fields. Much of the corn is injured, but only one house is reported struck, with little damage.

A Lamentation. The undersigned will give a free sample of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy to any one wanting a reliable remedy for the treatment of the above mentioned ailments. This is a very necessary and good one. J. E. Hood's Drug Store.

CROPS CONTINUE TO IMPROVE

COPIOUS SHOWERS HERE AND THERE

But the Rainfall Was Too Heavy in Some Counties.

Some Damage by Hail—As a Rule Conditions Suitable for Farm Work of All Kinds—Young Corn Doing Well—Cotton Suffering from Rust—Tobacco Generally Satisfactory—Ground Crops Promising.

U. S. Department of Agriculture, climate and crop bulletin of the weather bureau, North Carolina section, for the week ending Monday, August 25.

The majority of crop correspondents report that very favorable weather conditions prevailed during the past week, and that crops have continued to do well. Copious showers occurred on several dates, which generally sufficed for growing crops. The rainfall was too heavy in some eastern counties, where also, notably in Pitt, Edgecombe and Green, some minor damage to crops by hail occurred; on the other hand very dry weather continues in several extreme western counties in which crops have not materially improved. The temperature was above normal early in the week, with maxima above 90° on a few days; the nights have been rather cool for August; a marked cool period occurred toward the end of the week. As a rule conditions were very suitable for farm work of all kinds.

Young corn is now filling well, and will soon be mature; pulling fodder is general; sorghum is doing well, but the canes are heading low. Cotton is reported as suffering from rust quite extensively, and is also shedding forms, but probably not more than usually occurs at this season. Plants generally are heavily bodied indicating a large crop that will mature early; the top crop is promising in some sections while not so well developed in others. Cotton is now opening rapidly, picking has begun, and some new bales have been marketed. Tobacco in the north central portion is ripening nicely and continues to cure well with good color. Frequent showers caused second growth in some places which will give difficulty in curing and cause leaf to be heavy and dark colored. Peanuts, sweet potatoes and field peas are far more promising than expected a few weeks ago. Fall Irish potatoes and turnips are coming up nicely, and late cabbages are heading well.

Rains reported (in inches): New Bern, 3.36; Goldsboro, 1.73; Lumberton, 1.70; Greensboro, 0.52; Weldon, 0.4; Foster, 0.75; Charlotte, 0.80; Wilmington, 0.80; Raleigh, 0.42.

Graded School Opens Sept. 22.

Mr. N. J. Rouse, chairman of the board of trustees announces that the graded schools of Kinston, both white and colored, will open on Monday, Sept. 22. Pupils are urged to arrange their plans that may have their names enrolled on the first day.

LaGrange.

August 25. Mrs. Fannie Fields, late wife of Mr. Jas. Henry Fields, died at her home on James street Saturday afternoon at 4:45 o'clock, after a protracted illness, aged about 60 years. She was a woman of strong character, charitable instincts and energetic habits. With Mr. Fields she built for herself a place in the affections of all traveling salesmen for the kindly administration to their comfort while guests at the Field's hotel. She retired from hotel life about six years ago. As wife, mother, sister and grandmother, she has been faithful and loving. She loved to read the Bible and attend religious services. Even after affliction had laid her hand on her so heavily, she was taken to church and in her invalid chair carried her usual and spiritual food. Though feeble and busy she found time to grow beautiful flowers. Immortal flowers now greet her visitors. She leaves a husband, one daughter, Mrs. J. M. Hodges, one sister, Mrs. Speight, and a host of friends to mourn her departure. A large assemblage witnessed the last rites, performed by Rev. H. E. Anderson at Fort View cemetery Sunday afternoon. Beautiful flowers marked her last earthly resting place. Our sympathies are extended to sorrowing loved ones.

Prof. Bob Hadley of Lake City, Fla., is visiting his mother and relatives near here.

Mr. Lena Fields of Cruch & Fields returned from Baltimore Saturday.

Dr. Southwick and Richard Wooten returned from Vash's Mountain Springs Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Brothers of Fort Barnwell are on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Taylor.

Quite a number of people come from Kinston today and left for the scene of the lynching near Seven Springs.

You Know What you are Taking. When you take Brown's Lung Cure, Call Your Doctor. This medicine is guaranteed to cure every case of coughing, croup, asthma, and all other lung troubles. It is a sure cure. See our list of prices.



LEADERS OF OPPOSING FACTIONS IN THE IMPENDING RAILROAD WAR OF RATES.

Andrew J. Cassatt, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, is generally looked upon as the leader of the faction opposed to George Gould and his Missouri Pacific interests. For some time it has been generally reported that a clash likely to result in a disastrous war of rates was imminent. To an impartial observer the strength of the opposing factions seems about equal, and an open rupture would force an alignment of roads now friendly to both interests which would inevitably bring about an unprecedented cutting of the freight tariff between eastern and western points. The Interstate Commerce law would naturally be expected to prevent such a consummation, but that this may be evaded successfully has been frequently demonstrated.

TEACHERS' INSTITUTE

Another Interesting Session This Morning.

The teachers' institute yesterday afternoon was taken up by Prof. Jones on the objective method of teaching and by Dr. R. H. Lewis. Dr. Lewis gave some good, wholesome advice about the teachers looking out for their own health and the health of their pupils. He said that oftentimes the pupil would pretend to be sick, and then was the trying time.

The devotional exercises this morning were conducted by Rev. G. N. Cowan. A piano has been placed in the court room. Dr. R. H. Lewis made a splendid talk this morning on "School Government." He urged the teachers to appeal to the best in the child and to make him correct himself instead of using useless threats.

The primary and advanced arithmetics were discussed with blackboard illustrations by Prof. Jones, who is an enthusiastic teacher in the objective method of teaching arithmetic.

The most interesting part of the institute this morning was the primary class of Mrs. Geo. B. Webb. Mrs. Webb had ten little children at the institute and taught them as she teaches at the graded school.

Prof. Ellerbe made a talk this morning on teaching history and geography.

More teachers have arrived today and the interest seems to be growing. Several visitors were present this morning. A most cordial invitation is given to the public to come to these meetings.

GUM BRANCH.

August 25.

One of our tobacco farmers tried the New Bern tobacco market and realized only an average of seven cents per pound, while those who went to Kinston the same day received an average of 14 1/3 cents.

Some of the tobacco crops are late and the tobacco has taken the second growth.

Old Oaslow is coming to the front raising tobacco. We have the land and hustling farmers enough to not be beaten.

We are having rain a plenty at present and it is bad weather to save fodder, although some of our farmers are about done pulling.

Everyone who goes to the Carolina warehouse comes back well pleased. We say hurrah! for L. P. Tapp's warehouse.

Corn in this section is very good and we are all pleased with the outlook.

Cotton in this section is very good and is beginning to open.

Rev. Mr. Duke and Cowan, Unitarians, preached here yesterday, their congregation was small as usual.

There is to be a rural free delivery route established from Jacksonville here with Wm. Westers carrier.

But very little sickness around here now if any. Our neighborhood seems to be a very healthy one.

Greene County Court.

Greene county court commenced at Snow Hill this morning with Judge Geo. H. Brown presiding. The following attorneys of Kinston left this morning to be in attendance: Messrs. T. C. Wooten, E. K. Wooten, E. M. Land and Col. W. D. Pollock.

Dysentery Cured Without the Aid of a Doctor.

"I am just up from a hard spell of the 'flux' (dysentery), says Mr. T. A. Plummer, a well known merchant of Drummond, Tenn. 'I used one bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and was cured without having a doctor. I consider it the best cholera medicine in the world.' There is no need of employing a doctor when this remedy is used, for no doctor can prescribe a better medicine for bowel complaints in any form, either for children or adults. It never fails and is pleasant to take. For sale at J. E. Hood's Drug Store."

Purely Personal Items About People Who Come and Go

Mrs. J. C. Heath returned yesterday from Clinton.

Mr. W. C. Heath returned yesterday from Norfolk.

Miss Lillie Sutton returned yesterday from Richmond.

Mrs. W. T. Hines returned this morning from Goldsboro.

Miss Eunice Chadwick returned yesterday from Weldon.

Mr. W. H. Pridgen returned yesterday from LaGrange and Wileon.

Miss Siddy Weyher returned yesterday from visiting in Pitt county.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Koonce returned yesterday from Wilmington.

Miss May Faircloth of Green county is visiting at Mr. J. F. Taylor's.

Miss Jennie Moye went to Greenville this morning for a visit of ten days.

Messrs. Stanley and Earl Whitaker returned this morning from Trenton.

Mr. D. J. Whitehead, editor of the Greenville Reflector, was in Kinston yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Wilson of Dover were in Kinston between trains yesterday.

Mrs. S. H. Reams of Durham came Saturday to visit her mother, Mrs. Ada Hunter.

Mr. George McRae went to Greenville yesterday morning, where he is engaged in work.

Mrs. N. L. Bruton and Miss Mamie Tripp left this morning for northern cities to buy fall millinery.

Mr. Clarence Oettinger returned this morning from a three weeks' trip in northern cities on business.

Mrs. S. L. Wooten and daughter, Miss Carrie Wooten of LaGrange, were in Kinston yesterday afternoon.

Miss Helen Battle, who had been visiting Mrs. J. M. Houbetter, left this morning for her home at Rocky Mount.

Miss Frances De Vane who had been visiting Miss Minnie Ashford left this morning for her home at Red Springs.

Mrs. Robert Kornagay and sons, Mr. Lemuel and Master Robert, jr., of Mount Olive, came Saturday to visit at Mr. L. J. Moore's.

THERE'S ONLY ONE KINSTON!

Gum Branch, Onslow county, item:

One of our tobacco farmers tried the New Bern market and realized an average of SEVEN cents per pound, while those who went to Kinston the same day realized over FOURTEEN cents!

IT PAYS TO COME TO KINSTON!

Boy Cured of Cold After Physician's Treatment Had Failed.

My boy when four years old was taken with cold and cramps in his stomach. I sent for the doctor and he injected morphine, but the child kept getting worse. I then gave him half a teaspoonful of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, and in half an hour he was sleeping and soon recovered. -F. L. Wilkins, Shell Lake, Wis. Mr. Wilkins is book-keeper for the Shell Lake Lumber Co. For sale by J. E. Hood.

TIMELY TOPICS TERSELY TREATED.

Short Local Stories, Editorial Notes.

Sensibility is nature's celestial spring.

Literature is a good staff, but a very sorry crutch.

Nobody is fit for solitude who is fit for anybody else.

All evils are easily managed if they are nipped in the bud.

Misers cheat themselves and never seem to discover the fraud.

Nobility doesn't come by birth any more than wisdom does.

The best way to subdue our passions is to gratify them honestly.

He who gets bit twice by the same dog is not unlucky, but foolish.

If you always tell the truth you will never have to fix up excuses.

It is to live twice when we can enjoy the recollections of our former life.

Woman was born to love and be loved, and she fights it out on that line.

If this country is ever destroyed it will be from within, not from without.

If bread is the staff of life, bread and butter must be a gold-headed cane.

If a man succeeds the world calls him a genius; if he fails it dubs him a fool.

Money that is spent foolishly and then mourned over is spent twice foolishly.

To teach school and be an undertaker are two of the most thankless jobs in life.

To judge by appearances one would say that most women sharpen pencils with their teeth.

The epochs of our life are not in the visible facts, but in the silent thoughts of the wayside we walk.

We take greater pains to persuade others that we are happy than in endeavoring to be so ourselves.

A coquette is like a rose. Each lover plucks a leaf; the stem and thorns are left for the future husband.

Find a way or make one. Everything is either pushed or pulled, and you must be either pusher or puller.

How many women can read a book without looking at the last chapter to see how the story turns out?

To character and success, two things contradictory as they may seem, must go—humble dependence and manly independence.

It is so much easier to criticize than to perform that people of little ability take that way to fool others into believing they are smart.

Most men remember obligations, but not often to be grateful; the proud are made sour by the remembrance and the vain retort.

Adversity is like the period of the former and the latter rain—cold, comfortable, unfriendly to man and animal; yet from that season have their birth the flowers and the fruit, the date, the rose and the pomegranate.

"Why is a good and sensible girl nearly always homely?" asked the lecturer. "Because none of you dudes have sense enough to know real beauty when you see it," answered the sweet young graduates in the front row.

Cut this out and take it to J. E. Hood's drug store and get a free sample of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets, the best physic. They cleanse and invigorate the stomach, improve the appetite and regulate the bowels. Regular use, 25c. per box.