

BURNED AT THE STAKE

Horrible Vengeance Taken on a Negro Boy

NOTHING LEFT BUT ASHES

Evil and Murderer of Louise Frost Suffers the Tortures of the Damned While Four Hundred Men Look on in Silence—Father of the Girl Strikes the Planch—Pitiful Pleadings for Mercy Fall on Deaf Ears

Limon, Col., Nov. 16.—Preston Porter, a negro boy who was ravished and murdered Louise Frost, was tonight burned to death at the very place where the crime was committed. Porter died a terrible death in a flaming pile of boards. At 6:25 o'clock the father of the murdered girl applied the torch. Seven minutes later Porter was unconscious, and in twenty minutes nothing but a charred mass of flesh remained of the negro. Then the boards were stirred and the flames shot up. Now only a small pile of ashes about a piece of railroad rail marks the spot where the murder was avenged. Facing the dark blur in the yellow prairie the only remaining marker of the spot where the little girl received her death wounds, the negro boy suffered the tortures of the damned until death put a merciful end to his sufferings. About on the open prairie stood four hundred men, silent and grim. A few mocked and jeered at the victim, but the crowd in the circle which had been formed before the match was applied to the heap of fagots.

Preston Porter did not seem to realize the awful punishment he was receiving to undergo for the crime of rape to the gratuity of his crime, so he seemed to lack an understanding of the terrible consequences. In the center of the avengers he stood, mute and silent. Over an hour he was there, and finally he looked about at the faces about him. When his fate was discussed in his presence he raised his hand in silent supplication for mercy. One raised the Bible when he had read almost constantly from the time he had been brought to the stake without mutilation should a negro's fate. While wagons were for fuel, chains and the iron rail, a man stood by holding the iron in his hands. Then two men broke up the boards and assisted in piling them about the rail which had been set firmly in the ground. They took their time. They were not hurried. After he had passed the time he had to wait, a long wait, because more avengers were awaited from Hurr. To come and the last preparations began. The man holding the rope led the negro to the pile of fagots.

For an instant Porter knelt upon the edge of the board. With his eyes raised to the stars, which were just beginning to shine, his thick lips moved a moment in silent prayer. He was not hurried. After he had passed the time he had to wait, a long wait, because more avengers were awaited from Hurr. To come and the last preparations began. The man holding the rope led the negro to the pile of fagots. For an instant Porter knelt upon the edge of the board. With his eyes raised to the stars, which were just beginning to shine, his thick lips moved a moment in silent prayer. He was not hurried. After he had passed the time he had to wait, a long wait, because more avengers were awaited from Hurr. To come and the last preparations began. The man holding the rope led the negro to the pile of fagots.

For a few moments there was absolute silence. Twenty feet in front of the negro a bonfire burned and crackled. It flickered and ruddy light threw its beams into his eyes. The face of the men about all were illuminated by Porter looked about, then cast his eyes above and again the first wail. With the helpless wretch stood there, he looked at the bonfire, but not a sign of mercy was visible.

When every man looked on with that death R. W. Frost, Louise's father, stepped forward. Not a man moved, not one spoke. The father struck a match and touched the pile. Mr. Frost took his match safe and extracted another match. It lit and touched the flame to the oil. For a moment a little flickering flame arose, then the oil lit and the sparks flew into the air and the crowd began to crackle. Almost instantly the negro's trousers caught fire. Even though the flesh must have been seared, the negro did not utter a sound. The flames crept slowly upward on his dark skin. Sparks flew up in a cloud of pale smoke. Porter turned his head and a frightful expression changed his face. With a sudden convulsion he stretched his head as far from the flames as possible and uttered a cry of pain.

MILES UP IN ARMS

He Will Make Things Warm for Buffington.

COURT OF INQUIRY NEXT

Chief of the Ordnance Bureau the Only Officer in the Department Possessing Information that Was the Basis of an Attack on Captain Lewis—Nothing Strange About Procuring Military Secrets of the French Government

Washington, Nov. 16.—It is now a certainty, according to War Department officials, that a court of inquiry will be appointed to learn the truth in regard to the stolen French war office secrets, which, it is claimed, were handed to General Miles, and the publication of the statement, which many officers hold has been traced to the Bureau of Ordnance. The matter has now assumed the aspect of an open war which is being waged from end to end of the department.

On one side, led by Lieutenant General Miles, the officials hold up to shame the action of an officer in resorting to what they consider to be treachery to injure a fellow soldier, and demand an immediate investigation. On the other side, led by General Buffington, chief of ordnance, there remains only silent defiance. The charges advanced against Miles are denied, and subordinates are forbidden to speak of the matter. As yet General Miles has received no reply to his demand for an explanation, and tomorrow's developments will decide the case.

A practical admission that the War Department has in its possession the plans for the new French field gun was made this morning by a high official of the department who has reason to know whereof he speaks. It is further admitted that Captain Lewis, secretary of the Fortifications Board, and General Miles' confidant, obtained the plans originally, but did so by order of the War Department and in the interest of competitive tests of field ordnance which had been ordered by the Board of Ordnance and in which the entire world was invited to participate.

The attaches at the American embassy in Paris are charged exonerated, as if Miles had not believed General Miles, Lieutenant Sims, the naval attaché, at the Paris exposition, who was accused by a Paris newspaper of being implicated in the matter. Captain Lewis is not regarded as having offended in any way, since he merely obeyed orders. The offense complained of is that an ordnance officer should publish the secret information of the War Department in an endeavor to disgrace an officer who had opposed the disappearing gun carriage.

An officer on duty in the office of the general commanding the army, and who is entirely in touch with the case, stated this morning that he believed General Buffington would officially deny having issued the information and that the matter would drop through.

"We have traced the blame to his office," said he, "and he can either accept the secret or make a complete denial. In the first place, Captain Lewis reported to the Ordnance Bureau from Paris and requested a certain sum with which to purchase the plans of the new carriage. General Miles, who is the only man who had a copy of the letter and it is now in his desk. No other man could have given out the disclosures published, as no other man was aware of them.

BAD FOR BIG BOXERS

Degradation is Decried for Princes of the Empire

SOME WILL GO TO PRISON

Tuan and Chwang to Be Deprived of Rank and Confined for Life—Shorter Terms for Others—Yu Hsien Doomed to Remote Exile—Imperial Decree Containing These Provisions Communicated to State Department

Washington, Nov. 16.—Minister Wu has received from Director General Sheng the following cablegram, which he communicated to Secretary Hay today: "An imperial decree of November 13 deprives Prince Tuan and Prince Chwang of their rank and office and orders them to be imprisoned for life. Prince Yih and Secondary Prince Ying to be imprisoned; Secondary Prince Lien to be deprived of his rank; Dukes Lan and Ying Nien to be degraded in rank; Kang Yi being dead, no penalty can be imposed upon him, and Chao-Shu-Chiao to be degraded, but retained in office, and Yu Hsien to be exiled to the farthest boundary."

SEVERE ON TUAN His Proposed Punishment Will Cut Off His Son's Right to the Throne

Shanghai, Nov. 15.—(8-10 p. m.)—The full text of the edict issued yesterday for the degradation and punishment of Princes Tuan and Chwang, Duke Lan, and Secondary Prince Ying, has been received here. It contains the statements made in yesterday's telegram, but shows that several other unimportant officials are also ordered punished.

PHILIPPINE PROBLEMS The Surface of Business Possibilities Has Hardly Been Scratched

Cincinnati, Ohio, Nov. 16.—A manufacturer of this city who has been in correspondence on the subject of tariffs in connection with William H. Taft, secretary of the Philippine Commission, has received a letter dated Manila, September 21, in which Judge Taft says: "We have just passed a civil service law, which is on the whole, I think, the strictest law that has been passed under American auspices."

RED CROSS SUPPLIES Army Officers Charged with Selling Them to Storekeepers in Manila

Vancouver, B. C., Nov. 16.—Hong Kong papers, brought by the steamer Empress of China, say that a Red Cross man, H. C. Chubb, recently went to the charge against the commissariat department of the United States army. He is quoted as saying that his investigation proved absolutely that the Red Cross supplies were not given to the soldiers, but sold to the storekeepers. In these stores he saw great cases labeled "Red Cross" for the use of men in company and cases of biscuits, medicine, sold by officers to supplement their private purses.

ROSEBERRY ON IMPERIALISM Glasgow, Nov. 16.—Lord Roseberry's rectorial lecture to the students of the University of Glasgow today was devoted to imperialism, the expansion of territory, the present growth of colonization and its responsibilities. An eminent speaker, he said, the predominance of a race. Each of his hearers had a share in Great Britain's glorious heritage, and he urged them to become practical, intelligent and industrious imperialists.

POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT NOTES Washington, Nov. 16.—Special.—A new postoffice has been established at Bensley, Johnston county, with J. M. Bensley as postmaster. The Civil Service Commission has ordered examination for clerks and letter carriers December 15 at Wilmington, New Bern and Greensboro.

DEATH OF AN EX-GOVERNOR Manchester, N. H., Nov. 16.—Ex-Governor Ramsdell died today. He was one of the most prominent politicians in the State.

THE PRICE OF MEAT

Packers Deny that a Combine Has Raised the Figures

Chicago, Nov. 16.—Absolute denial is made by Chicago packers of a report that they were meeting to raise advanced prices on all sorts of meat from 1 to 5 cents a pound, and that there is a combine of the firms to hold the price high regardless of the price of live cattle.

MISSED HER MARK A Crazy Woman Shies a Missile at Emperor William

Breslau, Nov. 16.—Emperor William was the object of an attempted outrage today, which, however, failed. As he was driving in an open carriage to the cuirassier barracks, accompanied by the hereditary prince of Saxony-Jena, a woman in the crowd hurled a shot at the emperor's carriage. The rapidity with which the vehicle was passing saved its occupants.

BOERS SEEKING FUTURE LANDS Pretoria, Nov. 15 (2-30 p. m.)—Two strong Boer commandos, with herds of cattle, have arrived near Balmoral, one on each side of the Wilge river. They have been trekking from the bush veldt, where it is impossible for the cattle to live in the summer drought. The object of the move appears to be to reach healthy and good pasturage for the cattle. General Delarey appears to be trying to move south for the same purpose, but has been checked by General Plummer at the Masburg passes, which are now firmly held by the British.

CABLE SERVICE TO SOUTH AFRICA New York, Nov. 16.—The cable companies have issued the following notice: "We are advised that messages can now be accepted in plain language, subject to delay, censorship and at sender's risk, for the following points in South Africa: Pretoria, Johannesburg, Vereeniging, Germiston, Middleburg and Standerton."

REVENUE COLLECTIONS IN TWO STATES Washington, Nov. 16.—In the annual report of the commissioner of Internal Revenue made today to aggregate collection of revenue by districts: First, Virginia, \$1,765,938.00; Second, \$3,977,831.00; North Carolina, Fourth, \$2,809,498.00; Fifth, \$3,432,435.00.

GRIGGS WILL LEAVE THE CABINET Washington, Nov. 16.—At the cabinet meeting today Attorney General Griggs made the formal announcement that on the 4th of March next he would resign from the cabinet. Mr. Griggs will leave the President's official family for purely business reasons.

NIAGARA ON THE MAKE

Cold Cash in Big Lumps Expected for Canal Concession

Washington, Nov. 16.—Senator Coren, the Nicaraguan minister, who has just returned from consultation with his government, was at the State Department early this morning and had a short conversation with the Secretary of State in regard to the Nicaragua canal.

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IN TRADE CIRCLES

Business Has Improved in Response to More Favorable Weather

New York, Nov. 16.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say: "The tonic effect of the seasonably cold weather is again testified to by reports from practically all markets of a brisk demand for winter clothing and footwear. This in turn is reflected in increased re-orders from Western, Northern and Southern jobbers, and a perceptible improvement in tone of wholesale trade. The East, which hopes to participate later in the result flowing from the existing good consumptive demand. The renewed advance in cotton, another result of cold weather, has proved a stimulus to Southern trade, and also induced cotton goods agents and manufacturers rather indifferent to new business offered at old rates."

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TODAY'S RACES AT BENNING Washington, Nov. 16.—The full meeting of the Washington Jockey Club begins tomorrow at Benning track. Following are the entries for tomorrow's races:

TODAY'S RACES AT BENNING Continued

CONSIDERING CUBAN FINANCES Washington, Nov. 16.—The Senate committee on Relations with Cuba held a meeting today at the capitol on the purpose of considering reports on the receipts and expenditures of Cuba. These reports were made under a resolution adopted at the last session of the Senate, authorizing the committee to investigate affairs in Cuba, on account of the alleged Neely defalcations. The committee was in session until nearly 2 o'clock.

SNOW DELAYS TRAINS New York, Nov. 16.—Not a through train from the north and west arrived in New York this morning on time. Snow, say the heavy snowstorm and blizzard which has been raging in the upper part of the State. Snow-plows were employed on the railroads north of here all night, working against the high winds that filled the tracks in drifts as fast as the plows cleared them.

MURDER IN SECOND DEGREE Winston-Salem, N. C., Nov. 16.—Special.—George Pegram was convicted of murder in the second degree in the Criminal court this afternoon for stabbing and killing John Hairston in Kernersville last month. Pegram, sentenced to the penitentiary for twelve years, but his counsel appealed to the higher court.

NOT MUCH OF A METEORIC SHOWER Chicago, Nov. 16.—At Northwestern University observatory early this morning ten Leonids were seen, one of which was remarkably brilliant. Before 1 o'clock two were observed, the others later. Conditions were favorable for photographing the shower that was expected later, but which was only partially materialized.