

# THE PRESS-VISITOR.

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RALEIGH, N. C., MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 11, 1897.

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## TODAY'S AWFUL TRAGEDY

### Al. Watson Shot His Pretty Wife; Then Took His Own Life.

### HUSBAND ASKED TO GIVE UP DRINK.

Watson's Pretty Young Wife Threatened To Leave Home and the Crazy Husband Shot Her and Killed Himself -- Mrs. Watson Stands a Chance of Recovery.

Whiskey blighted the happiness and peace of a modest little home in this city early this morning. Before the people of Raleigh were astir and while most of them were asleep an awful tragedy was enacted at the cozy little cottage, No. 713 North Salisbury street, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Watson.

The young husband took his own life and attempted that of his pretty young wife. No such episode has stirred this quiet city in years, and when the couple came down the street this morning the crime they were simply horror-stricken.

It is a pitiful story. The pretty young wife lies at her home at the point of death, and still she has not a word of censure for her husband who is stretched cold and stiff in the adjoining room. Crazy from drink, in a moment of madness, he shot his recently wedded wife who was admonishing him to lead a better life and leave whiskey alone and then blew out his own brains.

Little Katie Pearce lived with her sister, Ada, Watson's wife. She heard the quarrel early this morning and witnessed the tragedy.

Miss Katie is only fourteen years of age, but she is a bright and brave little girl. This morning she told the story of the affair to a reporter of the Press-Visitor and she repeated it straightforwardly and without hesitation.

Miss Katie stated that she awoke this morning about 6 o'clock—but the hour she does not know exactly—hearing her sister crying. She arose, dressed and went into the room across the passage way to the bedroom of her sister and husband. Both were in bed. When Miss Katie entered the room young Watson apparently changed his attitude and commenced to caress his crying wife.

"As soon as I went in the room he began to hug and kiss sister," the little lady said in telling the beginning of the affair. "Then sister got after him about his drinking and begged him to quit. He wouldn't say he would and Ada jumped out of bed and went to the bar, so to get the razor, saying she was going to kill herself. Sister was only joking to make Albert say he would give up whiskey. But I seized the razor and carried it into my room and hid it. Ada told me to come back, before I went out, saying that she was afraid Albert would hurt her."

"When I went back Ada was again in bed and Albert was trying to kiss her. He would catch her chin and jaw in a rough way and hurt sister. Al and sister got up and dressed and when sister went into the dining room he followed her. She asked him where she was going. Ada told him she was going where she pleased." Al kept repeating the question and she told him she was going away, if he didn't do better. Then he slapped her in the face and I told him he must not do that again. Sister said "I'll kill myself" and Al said he would kill her and kill himself too. Sister told him that would be better as he would not kill himself and he would be hung for killing her. He slapped sister again and I told him to stop or I would call some one. He said he wouldn't and then made the statement "I'll kill you and her too."

"Sister and Al both went in the other room. They sat on the other side of the bed. They were not there a minute before Al seized sister and threw her back in the bed. He pulled a pistol out of his coat pocket, held it at her head and fired. He did not say a word, but got something out of his pocket put it in his pistol and stood up by the window. I screamed and ran. By the time I

was out of the room I heard the pistol fire."

"When I went back in the room Al was lying on the floor and sister was still on the bed. She was praying. She prayed for Al and herself both."

"Al was drinking yesterday. I don't know whether he was drunk but he was very drinky. Sister went up the railroad track and begged him to let whiskey alone. Last night he ordered her to put supper on the table. She refused and he threw her down on the floor. He tried to put a plate of biscuits in her hands, but it fell to the floor and the plate was shattered. When sister got up she said she couldn't stand it any longer and was going to leave. She ran to the window to scream, but Al called her back and tried to make up with her. They did not quarrel any more last night."

That was little Katie's story and it tells the whole story of the wayward husband and the innocent, dutiful little wife who was trying to correct her husband's errors.

Mr. John Price, an uncle of the young woman, heard the pistol report and was one of the first to reach the house. He said his niece was praying. She asked him if he thought she would live, and he told her yes. She asked him to send for Dr. Marshall. When he asked her the cause of the affair she said, "Katie will tell you all."

Mrs. Watson, the mother of Albert Watson, reached her son's home early. She went in the room where her wounded daughter in-law was. The young woman told her she hoped she was not mad with her and asked her to kiss her.

Mrs. Watson told her mother-in-law, "Al was crazy. That's what the doctors told me. I know he was crazy for he had a crazy glare in his eye. He had it once before. I know he didn't mean to do what he did."

Neighbors did all they could to make the young woman comfortable until the physicians arrived and she was administered an opiate.

Watson was carried in the adjoining room and stretched out on a lounge. It was apparent from the first that death must necessarily ensue and nothing could be done for him. He expired at 9.15 a. m. The bullet entered the back of the skull near the right ear.

Mrs. Watson was shot in the right side above the hip. The ball struck the spinal cord and paralysis ensued. She has been conscious all the time and the physicians say there is a good chance of her recovery.

At 2.35 p. m., Mrs. Watson was resting easy. The physicians allow no one to see her.

Watson had been drinking of late. Yesterday morning he attended Sunday school at Brooklyn church, but left before services were over. He was drinking yesterday and was at home. His acquaintances say he was peculiar. A year ago he attempted to kill himself by taking a dose of laudanum. He worked at the Lobell car shops and was regular in his duties last week.

He was of a morose disposition, but why he should have attempted to take the life of his wife is one of those unexplainable mysteries which cannot be accounted for.

Watson was 21 years of age and his wife was 18 years old. They were only married last July—the tenth. So far as is known the couple lived together pleasantly until recently.

G. L. Watson, the engineer who was killed in the Seaboard wreck December 35, was the father of the young man. His mother said this morning that she could not imagine why her son committed the act.

Mrs. Watson's mother, Mrs. Pearce, was at Auburn. Mr. J. S. Wynne went after her through the country this morning.

The pistol which Mr. Watson used in destroying himself was of "The American Bull Dog" make, with five chambers. It contained four shells, two empty and two loaded, when taken after the tragedy. The balls were .32 calibre.

McKinley Pressed the Button.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. WASHINGTON, Oct. 11.—Twelve passengers of the Ward Line steamer Concho from Havana and Mexico which arrived today were removed to Hoffman island for observation.

McKinley Pressed the Button.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11.—President McKinley pressed the button opening the industrial section of the New Bedford semi-centennial exposition at 9:34 this morning.

## OPERA FOR FAIR WEEK

Celebrated Wilbur Co., With Over 40 People all the Week.

The Wilbur Opera company and Susie Kirwin will open a brief season at the Academy of Music, appearing here all of fair week. The company is headed by everybody's favorite, Susie Kirwin.

The productions to be seen will be the most elaborately staged, and the costumes of both the principals and chorus are said to be the richest ever sent out of New York. The management believe that standard and comic operas at prices within the reach of all can be made as great a success in this city as they are elsewhere. The scale of prices is the lowest ever known for good opera.

These productions are given under a total cash investment of more than \$35,000 by a company numbering over forty people.

During the opera season the repertoire will embrace such choice works as "Mignon," "Madame Fa- vart," "The Queen's Lace Handkerchief," "Carmen," "Said Pasha," "Fra Diavolo," "Olivette," "The Two Vagabonds," "Bohemian Girl," "Martina," "Grand Duchess," "Cavalleria Rusticana," and many others.

The company is made up of such well known artists as Susie Kirwin, Clayton Ferguson, J. Clarence Harvey, Chas. A. Fuller, Will T. Ellwanger, George Muzzy, Margaret Baxter, Sara Carr, Maude Poole, Louise Roberts and a chorus of forty.

Mr. Arthur C. Pell is the musical director. The company comes here direct from New York.

One of the Leading Events of the Season.

"A Partisan Romance," a new romantic comedy which will be presented in this city for the first time at the Academy of Music next Wednesday evening, is a theatrical attraction which every theatre patron in the city should see. It will be presented by a great company of New York favorites headed by Isabelle Evesson and Edelle Clayton, supported by W. H. Elwood, Myron Callie, A. C. Dellwyn, C. W. Macdonald, L. M. Martell, Grace Hamilton, Virginia Bushman, Imogen Eberle, Augusta Durgin, Fannie Hunt and others. The attraction appeared in Philadelphia all of last week and the press of that city was magnificent in its praise of the stars and production.

The piece will be superbly mounted with special scenery by Physic of the Garric theatre, electrical and mechanical effects by King, costumes by Hermann and music by William Furst, the director of the Empire theatre of New York. This piece is a laughing play and the Partisan of Salem will be presented from a standpoint entirely new to stage literature. The piece will be presented here but one night and will be staged with the same elaboration that it will be in metropolitan centres, where it soon enters on long runs in the principal theatres.

Ex-Judge George Vaughn Strong died yesterday morning in this city in the seventieth year of his age. For several years past Judge Strong had not been himself and the fatal malady, softening of the brain, finally resulted in death.

Judge Strong was a native of Sampson county and his father, Dr. Strong, was a physician of distinction. He married Miss Anna Cowan, of Wilmington, and from their union there resulted seven children, five of whom survive.

Judge Strong was probably one of the best known and ablest lawyers the State has produced. He was certainly one of the most learned members of the bar, and for years he gave instruction in law in this city.

In recognition of his services as a legislator in the re-establishment of the University he was made a trustee of the University. He has since served on the Superior Court bench, and during the Confederacy he was a district attorney of that government.

Judge Strong was not only an able lawyer, but a Christian, kind-hearted gentleman and a splendid citizen. He was much attached to the capital city and always enthusiastic over its advancement.

The funeral occurred this afternoon at four o'clock.

Weyler's Successor.

By Cable to the Press-Visitor. MADRID, Oct. 11.—Blanco, Weyler's successor, has declared his intention to proceed with the greatest energy against the Cuban insurgents and endeavor to restore equal treatment to all sections of the population of the island. His policy is to deal with the insurgents and ordinary inhabitants upon the same footing. He is desirous of putting an end to the horrors of war, and to establish peace by following the system he pursued in Cuba in seventy-nine. Blanco's statement is practically an announcement that the butchery will be continued.

Important Meeting.

Capital Dodge, No. 147, I.O.O.F., meets tonight at 8:30 o'clock. A full attendance is desired.

BALTIMORE, Oct. 11.—The tramp steamer Sonnehil arrived at this point last night with a case of fever aboard. She was held at quarantine.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11.—The Government report is 70 compared with 76.3 September 1st—A decline in Every Cotton Producing State Reported.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11.—The Government crop returns indicate an average condition to October 1st of 70, compared with 76.3 September 1st, 1896, was 60.7. There has been a decline in every cotton producing state, the decline in North Carolina being 17 points. In Tennessee it was 12, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Arkansas 19, Indian Territory 8, Alabama, Mississippi and Missouri 7, Louisiana and Texas 6, Oklahoma 5, Florida is the only state where the decline is not attributed to the long continued drought.

There is no top crop or an exceptionally small one. Reports of small bolls and short staple are very numerous. The only favorable reports are those relating to the conditions for picking which are in the main everything that could be desired. The averages by states is Virginia and North Carolina 78, South Carolina 71, Georgia 70, Florida 76, Alabama 73, Mississippi 71, Louisiana 72, Texas 64, Arkansas 67, Tennessee 65, Missouri 74, Oklahoma 50 and Indian Territory 85.

## RAIN PREDICTED

Preceded Tonight and Tomorrow by Threatening Weather.

A delightful rain fell over the city last evening. Mud on our streets today was a welcome stranger. The rainfall last night was .36 of an inch. In Charlotte it was .16 and Wilmington none.

The weather prediction is cloudy and threatening tonight and Tuesday with rain.

During Sunday a considerable storm developed in the upper Mississippi valley which has caused cloudy weather with rain at a large number of stations during the past 24 hours.

The low area extends as a trough southward to Texas, and rain fell at many southern points. It is still raining at St. Louis, Mobile, Atlanta, and Chicago.

The barometer is highest on the north Atlantic coast. On the Rocky Mountain slope the weather has cleared with frost in Nebraska.

## THE NEGROES ARE MAD.

Want to Know Why They are to be Excluded From the Republican Club.

The negro question is always a disturber and trouble breeder. It was ever so.

The Young Men's Republican Club, of this State, which is scheduled to go through the launching process October 19th has the negro question to dispose of.

A few days since Maj. J. E. Alexander stated that the negroes would not participate in the club, but would have a separate organization. This paragraph went all over the state and now the negroes are writing letters to Warren V. Hall, the secretary, and others demanding an explanation. They want to know why they are to be excluded.

Mr. Hall received a letter today from Howe, the negro representative from New Hanover, and in this letter he raised merry gain about the exclusion of the negro.

Hailey, of North Carolina, and Hall assert that the negro will assist and participate in the organization of the club. Hall says he knows of four negro delegates who will be present.

The matter will likely come up for final adjustment when the club convenes on the 19th.

## JUDGE STRONG'S DEATH.

An Able and Learned Lawyer and Good Citizen Gone.

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## COTTON REPORT

A Decline of .17 Reported in North Carolina.

ESTIMATED AT 78.

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## AMERICANS FORCED OUT

Foreigners Took Their Place at Very Low Wages.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

New York, October 11.—Ninety-four American granite block cutters were yesterday replaced by a like number of Italians upon the shore road paving work. An Italian superintendent was first substituted for the American who had been employed, and then the change in the workmen followed. Cody Brothers were the original contractors, but the work is now being done by George Fruh, under whose orders the Americans were discharged and the Italians engaged. The Americans were getting \$3 a day, while the Italians are said to work for \$1 25 and more hours at that.

A Large Procession.

By Cable to the Press-Visitor. BOSTON, Oct. 11.—A monster procession of fifty thousand merchants and shopkeepers paraded the streets today as a protest against the proposed income tax. A deputation representing the protesters waited upon the prime minister and formally presented their petition. The premier promised justice to be done.

McKinley Will Vote.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11.—President McKinley has arranged his affairs so as to be in Canton on election day and the next day will go to Pittsburgh and be present on Founders' day at the Carnegie public library. The president has also received an invitation from the commercial club of Cincinnati to be present at a banquet to be given the Saturday previous to the election, and will accept it if it is to be a nonpartisan affair. He does not care to be at a political dinner, and while naturally interested in the Ohio campaign, will confine his active interest to voting.

Monetary Commission in Session.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. WASHINGTON, Oct. 11.—The monetary commission convened at ten today at the Arlington hotel. About one hundred communications on the general success of currency reform so far were received. Today's meeting was largely taken up in their discussion.

The Deadly Folding Bed.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor. ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 11.—Sarah Backus was found dead in this city today doubled up in a folding bed. The bed closed during the night and she was unable to extricate herself and death resulted from suffocation.

A Rise in Gold.

By Cable to the Press-Visitor. LONDON, Oct. 11.—The Bank of England has raised the selling price of bar gold and eagles one half penny.

## THE FAIR'S THE THING.

President McKinley Writes That He Can Not Be Present.

The State fair is only a week distant. Every one charged with preparations for the coming fair is up and doing.

From all over the State come inquiries for space for exhibits of horses and cattle. Cotton mill and other manufacturers are asking for space and many of Nashville's exhibitors at the exposition are writing for space. A good many business establishments outside of Raleigh are anxious to send exhibits. Applications are flowing in for all kinds of privileges upon the grounds. Numerous side shows wish to come.

Governor Russell received the following letter from President McKinley Saturday afternoon:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Oct. 8, 1897.

Hon. Daniel L. Russell, Governor of North Carolina.

DEAR SIR: The President has received the cordial invitation extended to him to be present on the occasion of the Annual Fair of the North Carolina State Agricultural Society at Raleigh, October 18-24, and desires me to express his deep regret that the state of public business will prevent him from leaving Washington on the dates named.

I beg to assure you, however, that the President greatly appreciates the compliment conveyed to him by this invitation and that he hopes the Fair may be an unequalled success.

May I ask you to be good enough to make known the contents of this letter to the other gentlemen who have signed the very courteous letter of the 2d instant?

Very truly yours,  
JOHN ANDREW PORTER,  
Secretary to the President

## TODAY'S MARKETS.

The Movements in New York and Liverpool Markets.

By private wire to J. A. Duncan:

MONTHS.	OPEN- ING.	HIGH- EST.	LOW- EST.	CLOS- ING.
January	6 48	6 49	6 35	6 36
February	6 51	6 52	6 31	6 40
March	6 54	6 55	6 42	6 43
April	6 48	6 48	6 48	6 49
May	6 63	6 63	6 50	6 51
June	6 64	6 64	6 64	6 55
July	6 63	6 63	6 67	6 58
August	6 63	6 63	6 63	6 58
Sept'mbr.	6 64	6 64	6 64	6 59
October	6 41	6 41	6 28	6 29
November	6 41	6 41	6 28	6 29
December	6 35	6 45	6 32	6 33

## Chicago Grain and Provision Market.

The following were the closing quotations on the Chicago Grain and Provision market today:

Lard—Dec. 1.37; Jan. 1.42.  
Pork—Dec. 7.82; Jan. 8.72.  
Clear Rib Sides—Dec. 4.60; Jan. 4.52.

Wheat—Dec. 91; May 90.  
Corn—Dec. 24; May 32.  
Oats—Dec. 19-38; May 22.

## Liverpool Cotton Market.

The following were the closing quotations of the Liverpool cotton market today:

October	3.43	42a3
October-November	3.36	35a36
November-December	3.34a4	33
December-January	3.33	32a33
January-February	3.33	32a33
February-March	3.33	33
March-April	3.34	33a34
April-May	3.35	34a35

## New York Stock Market.

The following were the closing quotations on the New York Stock Exchange:

Sugar	144
American Tobacco	87 1/2
Chicago Gas	6 1/2
Manhattan	10 1/2
Louisville and Nashville	5 1/2
Western Union	89 1/2
Jersey central	94 1/2
Burlington and Quincy	95 1/2
Omaha	7 1/2
Rock Island	8 1/2
St. Paul	9 1/2
B. & O.	15
Chesapeake & Ohio	21 1/2
Missouri Pacific	31 1/2
New York central	118 1/2
Southern Preferred	32 1/2
Union Pacific	22 1/2
Wabash Preferred	19 1/2
Chicago & North Western	12 1/2
U. S. Leather Preferred	6 1/2

## Raleigh Market.

The following are the quotations of the Raleigh cotton market today:

Middling	6 1/2
Strict middling	6 1/2
Good middling	6 1/2
Strict good middling	6 1/2

## The Stock of Gold in This Country.

By Telegraph to the Press-Visitor.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11.—The director of the mint estimates the stock of gold in the country today at \$712,660,417. This is an increase of nearly 17,000,000 over estimated amount in August. Nearly a million more than the greatest previous record made in October 1888.

## OPENING OF SALOONS

Dr. Carter Spoke Yesterday About the Fair Week Ordinance.

In his sermon yesterday morning at the First Baptist church, Dr. J. W