

## THREE THOUSAND PEOPLE REPORTED KILLED; PROPERTY LOSS OF MANY MILLION DOLLARS; FIGURES ARE HOURLY GROWING LARGER.

### TERRIBLE EARTHQUAKE AND FIRE IN THE CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO TODAY.

Shocks This Morning. Followed By Conflagration. Besides Causing Death of Hundreds of People. Entailed Property Loss of Millions. One Entire Section of City Being Destroyed By Fearful Disaster—City Hall. Valued at Seven Million Dollars. Among Buildings Reported to Have Been Destroyed—Many Buildings Dynamited But Flames Spread Rapidly.

Telegraphic dispatches received today by The Sentinel state that there was a terrific earthquake in San Francisco early this morning. A disastrous fire followed the shock, the two together resulting in the death of probably 3,000 people and destruction of millions of dollars' worth of property. Among buildings reported destroyed was the city valued at \$7,000,000, and Call Building. The fire did greatest damage on Market street, extending to the bay. Several fires are raging in different parts of the city. Water is scarce and flames are spreading. Thousands of people are fleeing from San Francisco. Berkeley, a suburb of San Francisco, is reported to have been destroyed. Several shocks were felt in Sacramento and other places. The city works were largely destroyed. Valencia street is sunk ten feet in some places. Following are the telegraphic bulletins received by The Sentinel with reference to the terrible disaster.

TO THE SENTINEL.

**SAN FRANCISCO, April 18.**—At 11:40 this morning a terrific earthquake wrecked the city. The buildings were shaken and many were destroyed. The fire which followed the earthquake was disastrous. It is reported that 3,000 people were killed and many buildings destroyed. There is a great loss of property.

**CLEVELAND, April 18.**—The following telegram was received at the local office of San Francisco Postal Telegraph office: "Office is deserted. Power of earthquake shocks is still felt. No news is available. The time when the telegram was sent was not on the telegram and wire service could not be resumed."

**CINCINNATI, April 18.**—The following bulletin was received by the Western Union Telegraph Co. here at 11:45 a. m. "The fire is beyond control. It is now destroying Market street and has reached the Palace Hotel. Both Postal and Western Union buildings are completely destroyed. The loss of life is now estimated at 2000."

**Wireless Communication Tried.** WASHINGTON, April 18.—The government is endeavoring to get into wireless communication with San Francisco.

**Earthquake Area Fifty Blocks.** NEW YORK, April 18.—The Postal Telegraph Company is advised that the area covered by the earthquake is about fifty blocks in which all buildings have been almost totally destroyed. The greatest damage done was east and south of Market street to the bay. This area includes Sanson, Mission, Battery, Grant, Davis and Drummond streets, and from Montgomery street to the bay. The section is devoted largely to manufacturing enterprises.

**Berkeley Threatened.** NEW YORK, April 18.—A dispatch to the Western Union Telegraph Company from Sacramento reads: "A big fire is raging in Berkeley, a suburb of Oakland. It is thought the town is on fire. The railroad is going to send out the 8:20 train via Vallejo but I do not know how far it will get. Am afraid it is as serious as in San Francisco."

**Terrific Shock at Sacramento.** SACRAMENTO, Cal., April 18.—The strongest earthquake in fifteen years occurred here at 1:15 this morning. Vibrations were north, east, south and west, lasting three minutes. They awoke the entire city and caused a panic in the hotels. Nobody is injured here.

**Several Large Cracks Made in the Federal Building.** Sacramento, Cal., April 18.—Telegraphic communication with the outside points was broken for three hours. No direct news has come from San Francisco. Great anxiety is felt about interior points.

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## Y. M. C. A. BUILDING AT SPENCER IS COMPLETED

Special to The Sentinel. SPENCER, April 18.—The handsome new building of the Spencer Young Men's Christian Association was completed during the past week and will be occupied at an early date. The total cost of the structure was approximately \$20,000, of which amount the Southern Railway Company, through its officials at Washington, contributed about \$25,000 in cash and property. The building, which was designed by F. P. Milburn, of Columbia, is modern in all respects and is unquestionably one of the best in the country, reflecting great credit upon the management as well as the Southern officials.

The Concord Presbytery, embracing all the Presbyterian churches in eight counties in this section of North Carolina has been in annual session at Mocksville. About one hundred preachers and lay delegates have been in attendance and much interest reported as being taken in the deliberations of the body. Rev. J. H. Gray, pastor of the First Presbyterian church at Salisbury, was elected moderator, and presided at each session. The Spencer Methodist church on Sunday raised about \$1,000 to clear of an indebtedness on its property, which has been greatly improved during the past year.

H. T. Smith, who recently purchased the hardware stock of the late Sydney Risdon, today opened the same and will carry a full line of hardware.

## NEW PRESIDENT OF TEXAS UNIVERSITY

By Wire to The Sentinel.

AUSTIN, Tex., April 18.—The exercises connected with the inauguration of Dr. David Franklin Houston as president of the University of Texas, will open here this afternoon and will last two days. During those two days all work at the University will remain suspended and the institution will be thrown open to the inspection by the hundreds of representatives of colleges in all parts of the United States, who are assembled here to take part in the celebration. The exercises will begin this afternoon with a meeting of the college representatives for the purpose of discussing educational matters of importance. The discussion of the day school problem will be the principal feature of the afternoon session.

The inauguration proper will take place tomorrow. Governor Lanham will be present and will deliver a short address. Other addresses will be delivered by Chancellor James H. Kirkinad, of the Vanderbilt University, President E. R. McLean, of the University of Iowa, Dr. Benjamin I. Wheeler and President Houston, who will deliver the inauguration address. This evening there will be a reception tendered to the visitors by the University of Texas and tomorrow evening a banquet will be given by President Houston.

## SOUTHERN PROBABLY TO ISSUE \$200,000,000 BONDS

By Wire to The Sentinel.

RICHMOND, April 18.—The stockholders of the Southern Railway Company have been called to meet here this afternoon to vote on the proposition of the board of directors to authorize the issue of \$200,000,000 development and general mortgage 4 per cent bonds. Of this amount only \$15,000,000 are to be issued immediately while the rest is to be issued as the necessity arises. The details of the plan have been given in this dispatch already. It is understood that a syndicate headed by J. P. Morgan & Co. has been formed to purchase the \$15,000,000 bonds to be issued as soon as the stockholders have given their consent.

## FASHIONABLE WEDDING IN WASHINGTON CITY

By Wire to The Sentinel.

WASHINGTON, April 18.—Miss Nannie Graham Hume, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hume of this city and Lieut. Henry C. Jewett, U. S. A., will be married at 5 o'clock this afternoon at the Pro-Cathedral church of the Ascension. The ceremony will be followed by a reception in the home of the bride's parents. The bride will be attended by Miss Elizabeth Peters, of Cincinnati, Miss Grace Hanna, of Cleveland, Miss Irene Moore of this city and Miss Ruth Halford, also of this city. Mr. Josiah Jewett, Jr., of Buffalo, will act as best man for his brother and the ushers will be officer friends of the bridegroom.

At Auditorium Last Night.

The Davis-Goodwin Company opened a five nights' engagement at the Elks' Auditorium last night, giving a good performance before a large audience. The specialties were enjoyable and the play itself was clever.

Tonight "A Daughter of Satan" will be presented and a large audience will doubtless be in attendance. Thursday night "The Scott's Revenge" will be presented. The new plays of the city will be admitted free, including carriages, Thursday night.

## BLACKBURN TRIAL.

Jury Secured In Fifteen Minutes and Taking of Evidence Is Begun.

Commissioner of Internal Revenue Yerkes, Collector Harkins, W. R. Krider and Frank Eddieleman Testify for Government at Today's Session of Circuit Court in Greensboro.

Special to The Sentinel.

GREENSBORO, April 18.—When federal court met at 9:30 this morning the order of Judge Goff, consolidating the bills of indictment against Congressman Blackburn and also the order overruling the demurrers filed by the defendant were formally entered on the record, and with it exceptions filed by defendant to both orders.

District Attorney Lewis said it now became necessary for the defendant to plead. He said that in the case of Crane vs. the United States, the supreme court had decided that an arraignment of the prisoner was necessary. Judge Bynum said while it was not the practice in this state, yet defendant would agree to have the record show that an arraignment had been made, thus meeting the district attorney's views. This was agreed to and the congressman did not have to stand up and go through the formal proceedings of being arraigned. Judge Bynum, in answer to Judge Goff's inquiry as to whether defendant was ready to plead or not, replied: "Yes, your Honor, the defendant pleads not guilty to every item, charge and count in the bills of indictment."

It took but fifteen minutes to select a jury. The prosecution challenged the following two peremptorily: J. W. Moorfield, Stokes county; D. E. Wagner, Alamance county. The defendant also challenged two, peremptorily, to wit: William Cummings, of Rockingham, and D. L. Kiger, of Yadkin. There being no juror challenged for cause the following twelve were then sworn and empanelled, Judge Goff having first addressed to them the following:

"If these be one among you jurors who may feel that you cannot give the defendant fair trial you may indicate it." No one responding, after a moment Judge Goff said, "You all then feel that you can." All nodded assent, and the oath was administered. The jury complete is composed of the following:

C. E. Wilson, Lee Anthony, Ellis Fancette, W. C. Roper, W. F. Bray, D. B. Hauser, Yadkin county; S. E. Tate, J. R. Coltraine, Guilford; Gilbert N. Hoke, H. B. Montgomery, W. M. Roberts, J. W. Cook.

District Attorney Lewis then read the bills of indictment, outlining the matters proposed to be proven in the case.

The court took judicial notice of the election of defendant E. Spencer Blackburn, as a member of Congress from the eighth district of North Carolina, in November, 1904.

W. R. Kriger, being sworn, testified: "On the 19th of March, 1905, I received a phone message stating that my wagon and team had been seized for alleged violation of the revenue laws. I phoned Mr. Blackburn at his home in Greensboro, and asked him if he would see Revenue Agent Chapman, Mr. Holton and others and look after the matter for me. I asked him to look after my interests. He came to Salisbury on the 19th or 20th of March and said he had seen some of the officers yet but he would look after it. Along in May I was arrested in Salisbury and gave bond. I again phoned Blackburn in Greensboro and he told me to come over to see him. This was the last of May. He told me he had seen Holton and Chapman and they had agreed to recommend a compromise for \$100. I asked what he was going to charge. He said he could not charge anything, that being a member of Congress he could not charge me without getting in trouble. I then paid him \$100 to pay the compromise and I also gave him fifty dollars for himself. He never gave it back. The case against me in court at Statesville I employed him to look after. Afterwards there came a letter from the commissioner at Washington to Mr. Blackburn, which he forwarded me, saying that in addition to the \$100 compromise, I would have to pay the costs."

The letter was then produced. It was from Collector Harkins to Blackburn asking him to forward costs in case against Krider, as the rule was that in compromises the costs always had to be paid. He thought that \$25 would pay the costs. A letter from Blackburn to Krider, enclosing this, was then produced, telling him to forward \$25 as costs to him to the collector.

The envelope was franked, the letter head was on congressional paper and it was dated at Green Park Hotel, Blowing Rock.

Cross examined, by Mr. Justice: "I have known Mr. Blackburn a long while and our relations were such as to make me feel free to call on him as a matter of friendship. There was not a word said by Mr. Blackburn about my paying him money for his services in the compromise. I expected to be indicted and I found out that Mr. Blackburn had been to federal court at Statesville and Salisbury to look after my case in the federal court. The case was transferred to Charlotte. Blackburn was my attorney there. Mr. Holton told me the case had been adjusted and I could go home. It was two weeks before this that I had paid Blackburn the \$100 for the compromise and the fifty dollars for himself. I paid him the fee for services rendered in the federal court, and he explained that he could not take it for having settled

## KEARSARGE ACCIDENT AND PROBABLE CAUSE

By Wire to The Sentinel.

WASHINGTON, April 17.—Naval officers assigned to the bureau of ordnance have expressed the deepest concern over technical troubles presented by the fatal accident on the Kearsarge. The accident can only be considered as a further proof that rapid gun practice with big rifles entails danger of unlocked for ignition of powder charges, causes of which cannot be ascertained except at the cost of fatal experience.

It is believed by officials here, in the absence of the details of Friday's trouble, that the three sacks of smokeless powder burned without a direct explosion, injuries to officers and men being caused by burns and asphyxiation. How the fire started is a mystery, the solution of which will constitute another lesson in modern naval science.

It is assumed that during the act of drawing a charge from a gun a mistake by seaman or ammunition handler caused the catastrophe. The navy department is without additional advices this morning as to the condition of the surviving injured.

## LABOR UNIONS DID NOT RECOGNIZE HIM

A party claiming to be a member of the labor union at High Point, came here yesterday, for the purpose, as he alleged, of arranging for one or two speeches in this city by labor orators. The man was drinking and on this account members of the Typographical Union here refused to have anything to do with him. Mayor Eaton also declined to grant the alleged representative a permit for his orators to speak on the streets. It is admitted by even the ardent friends of the labor unions that men of this character do their cause harm.

The man had no credentials, therefore members of the local unions are persuaded to believe that the High Point organization had nothing to do with him or his actions for them while in this city.

Death of Miss Amanda Leach.

Miss Amanda Leach died Sunday night at the home of her sister, Mrs. O. W. Carr, at Trinity, Randolph county. She was also a sister of Mrs. M. J. Dodson, of this city.

Deputy Sheriff Jones, of Walkertown, was 50 years old Tuesday. Relatives and friends gave him a surprise on Monday in honor of the event. About 40 took dinner with the officer, who had planned to visit Roanoke on the excursion that day.

C. A. Smith, of High Point, was in the city today.

There is always somebody who feels sorry for a poor man—at his funeral.

The case on compromise. The fifty dollars was not a large amount for the services he had rendered me in federal court. Blackburn did something, and I had before had a lawyer who only got up one time in court and made me pay him fifty dollars. I first told this matter to Assistant District Attorney Price."

Mr. Justice then asked if Mr. Price did not approach him in connection with his difficulty with Blackburn over the nomination for Congress. Commissioner Yerkes said Blackburn handed him in Washington petition in Ace Dinkins case, but did not make any argument; that petition was signed Ace Dinkins, per Blackburn attorney.

Collector Harkins testified that Blackburn over long distance phone had tried to get him to recommend release of liquor seized from Ace Dinkins, and upon his declining begged him to do it, saying it would mean five hundred dollars to him.

Frank Eddieleman testified he paid Blackburn \$500 in check on Winston bank as fee to get Dinkins case compromised before collector and district attorney. "Have never stated I paid it for Blackburn to appear generally before departments."

Eddieleman was undergoing examination when court took a recess at one for dinner. He stuck to it finally that he paid Blackburn for both Davis and Dinkins, to appear in court.

Defendant On the Stand.

The government rested at 4 o'clock when the defendant, Spencer Blackburn, went on the stand to explain his transactions with distillers and others for whom he appeared as counsel. He testified that he told his clients that he could not accept fees to appear before any of the departments and that the money paid him was for legal services in the courts. The government may introduce other testimony after the defense concludes.

Charges Against Blackburn.

The defendant is indicted on three charges, covering three separate and distinct transactions as follows: First, taking \$100 from T. A. Davis, to secure the settlement of a case with the commissioner of internal revenue at Washington, in connection with unstamped whiskey seized in December, 1904, near Winston. Second, charges were preferred that Congressman Blackburn accepted \$500 as compensation for appearing before the commissioner of internal revenue to secure the release of a distilling plant seized by the government officers as the property of Ace Dinkins, of Williams. Third, taking \$50 as fee from W. R. Krider, of Salisbury, in connection with the seizure of some empty stamped whiskey barrels.