

Gannon Fulford Is Killed

Met His Death Last Night On New South Front Street at the Hands of Jesse Creel--His Slayer In Jail--Affair Created Much Excitement.

Gannon Fulford, thirty years of age and a son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Fulford who reside at No. 309 Spencer avenue, Ghent, was almost instantly killed on New South Front street at 8 o'clock last evening when he was stabbed with a knife in the hands of Jesse Creel, sixty years of age and whose home is at No. 3 New South Front street.

The wound was in Fulford's throat and the carotid artery was severed. Creel was placed under arrest by Chief of Police C. Lupton a short time after the affair and incarcerated in the Craven county jail. The body of the slain man was carried to the home of his parents where it will remain until tomorrow morning when the funeral service will be conducted and the remains interred in Cedar Grove cemetery.

There were several versions of the origin of the murder and rumors were rife on the streets last night. However, a Journal reporter was on the scene a few minutes after the killing and succeeded in getting an interview from each of the parties most interested. W. E. Brock, outside of the murderer, probably told a more comprehensive story before the coroner's jury than did any of the others examined.

Mr. Brock stated that a short time before eight o'clock last evening he was coming down New South Front street and when he neared the home of Creel, he saw Gannon Fulford standing on the sidewalk. Creel and his daughter, Laura, were also on the sidewalk and there was some cursing going on. Mr. Brock then said that he went over to Fulford and said: "Come on away." He then grasped Fulford's sleeve and the two started on down the street. About this time Creel broke away from his daughter and called Fulford a vile name. When the latter heard this he broke away from Mr. Brock, saying that he would not take that from any man, and walked back to Creel. As the two men met, Fulford struck at Creel but failed to land and came near falling. Again he struck at Creel and it was then that the latter struck the fatal blow with his pocket knife. Fulford fell to the ground and lay there. Mr. Brock said that he did not know at that time that Fulford had been stabbed but that he had struck the pavement such a blow that it had killed him.

The Murder. Mr. Brock then declared that he walked over to Fulford, turned him over on his back and discovered that blood was gushing out of a wound in his throat. He then ran across Spring street to Ben Fonville, colored, place of business and telephoned to Dr. Walter Watson, the coroner, and was back beside the body in about three minutes and that at that time Fulford had ceased to breathe.

Dr. Walter Watson secured a jury of David Henry, J. F. Rhodes, D. M. Roberts, E. K. Bowden, H. K. Land and O. A. Kafer as secretary, and at once went to the scene and viewed the body after which they returned to the coroner's office and held the inquest.

of Gannon Fulford, do find that he came to his death at the hands of one Creel, by inflicting a stab wound at the junction of the neck and chest, dividing the common carotid artery on the left side. We recommend that Creel be held in the county jail until the next term of Craven county Superior Court without bond.

The Arrest. Following the murder, Creel, who wielded the fatal knife went in his home. As soon as Chief of Police Lupton was notified of the affair he hastened to the scene and went to the house, intent on arresting the slayer. A young woman came to the door and told Chief Lupton that her father was not at home and that she did not know where he could be found. However, the chief was out with the intention of arresting the man and he was not to be bluffed in any such manner. He went around to the rear of the house and finding a door there standing wide open and a small out house nearby, he at once came to the conclusion that Creel had sought shelter here. Running over to the door of this building the Chief threw this open and stared down the barrel of a double barrel shot gun with Creel sighting at him from the other end. The Chief realized that something must be done and done quickly if he expected to prevent another murder so he quickly grasped the weapon and jerked it from Creel's hands and at the same time grabbed the man by the collar and brought him out on the street.

To Jail. As soon as possible Creel was taken to the county jail and placed in a cell. A Journal man reached the jail a few minutes after the incarceration and was allowed to interview the murderer. Creel admitted killing Fulford, but claimed self defense. He realizes that he is in a serious predicament but believes that he will be able to clear himself. The story he told the Journal man was simple and full of interest, a story which at times caused the old man's eyes to fill with tears and one which had the ring of truth in it. Creel said:

Creel's Story. "My name is Jesse C. Creel. I came to New Bern a year ago last August from Seven Springs, N. C. My daughter, Laura, came with me and we have been making our home at No. 3 New South Front street. I am sixty years of age and have been performing odd jobs in order to support myself and daughter. "Tonight about 7:30 o'clock, Gannon Fulford walked into my home. I was not acquainted with him and so far as I know he had never been there before. I asked him what he wanted and he told me that it was none of my business. I ordered him from the house and he said he would leave when he got ready. I noticed then that he was under the influence of intoxicants and I started to take hold of him with the intention of leading him out of the building, and being a much stronger man than I, he jerked me around the room several times before he left and then pulled me out of the door with him and on to the sidewalk. "After reaching the sidewalk we had some argument. Then a man (Brock) came along and made an attempt to get Fulford to leave. He started off and then came back toward me and struck at me several times. I do not remember striking him and did not know that he was dead until my daughter called attention to the blood on my hands and told me to wash it off. A few minutes after this, Chief of Police Lupton came and placed me under arrest."

Before the Journal man left Creel's cell he had unfolded practically all of the history of his past life but this, according to his story, has been fraught with but few incidents of importance. Creel acknowledges that he had taken one drink, and it was plainly evidence that he was not intoxicated and his act was not that of a drunkard.

The Killing of Fulford created a sensation which was equal to the killing of young Will Avery by Baker Bryan three years ago during the Christmas holidays, and within a few minutes after the report had reached the throngs on the streets, several hundred persons were on the scene and viewed the body.

The affair is a regrettable one, one which has caused great sorrow to the hearts of a number of persons and has for them ruined the holiday season. Creel will be kept in the county jail until the next term of court and will at that time be placed on trial for his life.

COLD WAVE GRIPS COUNTY. Washington, Dec. 28--A severe cold wave is gripping the entire east and north. The temperature is below zero in West Virginia and Missouri and the north generally.

Washington, Dec. 28--A severe cold wave is gripping the entire east and north. The temperature is below zero in West Virginia and Missouri and the north generally. Unusual cold prevails east of the Mississippi.

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED. Is there a news letter from your section in each issue of the SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL? If there is not, there should be, and we want someone in every town, village and hamlet in eastern North Carolina to act as reporter to their particular neighborhood for the JOURNAL. Let the world know what you and your friends are doing. There's hundreds of persons interested in your town and county, and they are anxious to read news from your section. Won't you help us at the same time help your community by sending us the news each week? If you can't write a long news letter, why write a short one, tell about the comings and goings of Mr. Smith and the social given by Mrs. Brown, or the new house that Tim Tompkins is building. All of that would be read with interest and your town would get the benefit. Don't wait for someone else to do this, but sit down right now and mail us a short letter. Then when you come to Town, come around to the JOURNAL OFFICE, and make this your headquarters, and get acquainted with the men who make the paper. Let's work in unison to make the SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL the very best newspaper in the State.

FULFORD'S BODY LAID AT REST

Remains of Murdered Man Now Lie In Cedar Grove Cemetery

The funeral over the remains of Gannon Fulford, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Fulford and who was killed on New South Front street on Christmas eve by Jesse Creel, sixty years of age, was conducted yesterday morning and the body interred in Cedar Grove cemetery, Creel, who was placed in the county jail a short time after the killing, still sticks to the story first told by him to the effect that he committed the act in self defense. A newspaper man went to Creel's cell early yesterday morning and talked with him for a short time. The old man has had ample time to think over the crime and this had by no means improved his nervous condition. All during the conversation his body trembled as if he was extremely cold and his voice was shaky. Creel said that he did not know what would become of his daughter, Laura, who was with him when the crime occurred, but that she would probably remain in New Bern until after he had been placed on trial. The murderer says that he has no money to employ a lawyer but that a gentleman (he did not know his name) who visited him on Christmas day, had assured him that good legal talent would be secured for him and that every effort would be made to clear him if he was innocent. When Chief of Police Lupton went to arrest Creel, he found him hiding in a room near his home and on throwing open the door of this, he started down the barrel of a shot gun. Creel, when asked if he intended shooting the officer, said that he did not realize what he was doing and that for the time being he did not even know he had a gun. However, there is a probability that, but for Chief Lupton's prompt action in tearing the gun from his hands, that there would have been another murder committed.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU. Christmas has come and gone and when the Journal is again delivered to you, a new year will have been ushered in. We sincerely hope that your Christmas was a merry one, one which will live forever in your memory, and we earnestly hope that the New Year will be ushered in to you most happily and that throughout its three hundred and sixty five days, peace and prosperity will be yours. The management of the Journal is endeavoring to give its readers a newspaper that will fill every want and will prove to be THE BEST NEWSPAPER in the State. We are doing our utmost to reach this pinnacle and with your help we believe that this goal will be reached.

Recently The Journal has added new equipment and is now in better shape than ever before to get out an up-to-date paper. To add this equipment has cost thousands of dollars and as it is the subscribers of the Journal and its advertisers who make The Journal possible, we are taking this liberty of asking them to favor us with a remittance for their subscription. There are two thousand subscribers to the Semi-Weekly Journal and twelve hundred to The Daily Journal. If each one of the subscribers to the Semi-Weekly and the Daily were to pay up now, it would mean that we would have more than six thousand dollars in hand. Your dollar or four dollars would not be a large amount but there's a song that says: "Every Little Bit Added to What You've Got Makes a Little Bit More," and so it will be with your dollar or more.

If you send in a remittance for your subscription and John Smith and Bill Jones send in theirs and all the other Joneses and Smiths do the same, you can readily see what the result will be. The management of The Journal feels that you will readily understand the situation and will put your shoulder to the wheel and help along and help to make the Journal the best paper in the State, a paper that stands for all that you stand for and a paper that looks after your interest in every possible way.

RAIN PREVENTS THE CELEBRATION

No Exercises Around Municipal Christmas Tree

The fates seem to decree that no ceremonies shall be carried out around New Bern's Municipal tree. Last year the tree was erected several days before Christmas and on Christmas Day a storm came and put an end to the program. This year the tree was erected in due time and it had been planned to have exercises around it on Christmas eve and also on Christmas Day. A chorus of sixty children, the Peoples Concert Band and a number of well known vocalists had been secured to furnish the music and singing and all was in readiness on the day before Christmas but the weather became inclement on that day and continued so until Saturday. This knocked all plans in the head and the City Beautiful Club have given up all hope of holding the exercises. However, the tree will be allowed to remain standing until next Tuesday.

WILD ENGINE KILLS THREE MEN

Atkinson, Kan., Dec. 26--Three men were killed near Shannon, Kan., today when a steam passenger engine collided with a passenger train on the Missouri Pacific road. The engine had in some way started off and was running wild on the main line when the accident occurred.

GRIM REAPER CLAIMS CAPTAIN W. S. SIMMONS

Prominent Man Succumbs to An Attack of Apoplexy

WAS WELL KNOWN

For Years He Was In the United States Revenue Service

Shortly after noon on Christmas Day Captain W. S. Simmons suffered a stroke of apoplexy at his home on Pollock street from which he never rallied and at 11:45 o'clock (that night he answered the call of the Reaper. This attack was the third suffered by the deceased during the past two years and since the first he has been practically an invalid, his condition improving at times and then again growing worse. Captain Simmons was one of those men whom to know was to his friend and his death has caused much sorrow, not only among a large number of relatives but also among a large circle of acquaintances.

Born in Boston, Mass., seventy-four years ago. Early in life he went into the government service. During the Civil War he saw service as a soldier and later went into the U. S. Revenue Cutter Service. It was while engaged in his duties in this that he first came to New Bern and was in fact for a long time stationed here on one of the cutters. Concluding his term in the government service Captain Simmons was retired and has made his home here ever since. He was an active member of Christ Episcopal church, and was also a Mason of a high degree.

He is survived by his wife, formerly Miss Lilla Roberts of this city; two daughters, Mrs. Fred Quakerbush and Miss Virginia Simmons of Philadelphia, Pa., two sons, Harry Simmons of East St. Louis, Ill., and George Simmons of Penn. Yan., N. Y. A brother also resides in Illinois. The funeral service will be conducted from Christ Episcopal church tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock and the interment will be made in Cedar Grove cemetery. Rev. B. F. Huske, rector of the church will conduct the service.

NOTE ALL OF YOUR OLD ERRORS

Some Suggestions for Starting Another Lap on Life's Journey

Although with most of us the custom of making an elaborate set of resolutions--all of them to be broken perhaps in a week--belongs to the past, it is by no means a bad idea to sit down and quietly think over their significance in calm retrospect. Such a view is indeed to be commended. Without making vain and foolish resolutions one may carefully note all errors and evade as many of them as possible during the next year. If the past year has contained more tears than smiles tear off the old page, with its blots and mistakes, and throw it away. A clean new sheet, pure and white, lies before you. Forget to pity yourself so much and contemplate the condition of those more unfortunate. Cease your lamentations for bygone opportunities and plans for the future. Brace up! If the fates have been unkind to you during the past year, try to turn the tables on them now. Do not be discouraged with your lot. Meet it and face it. It is not nearly so bad as it might be.

DISASTROUS FIRE VISITS CHELSEA

Flames Cause Ruin in Massachusetts Town

Boston, Mass., Dec. 26.--In bitter zero cold, a fire in the yards of the Pope-Cottle Lumber Company at Chelsea today was fanned by a high wind which spread it to such proportions that it was necessary to send for help from surrounding towns. Firemen fighting the flames were benumbed by the intense cold. Water was frozen as soon as it hit a burning building, forming cakes of ice and making the fire-fighters' footing treacherous. The flames are under control. The damage is estimated at \$125,000.

GRAVE FEARS FOR EMPEROR'S HEALTH

London, Dec. 26.--According to a dispatch from Bern, Austrian court physicians fear Emperor Franz Josef is on the verge of complete physical prostration. Private information from the Emperor's staff being extremely depressing brought about by the recuperation of Belgrade by the Servians.

GERMAN FORCES NEARING WARSAW SAYS A REPORT

Dispatch From London Says They Have Crossed Bzura River

LONDON EXCITED

Has Great Fear for A Raid By Hostile Airships

London, Dec. 26.--(Central News Cable)--It is reported here that the Germans have fought their way across the Bzura river at one point in front of Warsaw.

Russians Repulsed. Vienna, Dec. 26.--The Austrians today repulsed Russian attacks near Magywar, in the Lautoza region, with heavy losses. Between Wielok and Biala the enemy attacked throughout the whole Christmas eve, and yesterday with great intensity repeated the onslaughts. The Austrians' front in Galicia remains unchanged. The enemy's repeated attacks in Poland were repulsed.

Fears Airships. London, Dec. 26.--Every precaution is being taken to prevent a successful aeroplane attack by the Germans. Orders have been issued for absolutely every light unnecessary to be extinguished tonight. A constant aeroplane guard is being maintained along the coast and the coast guard is vigilant against the approach of hostile aviators.

Won't Interfere. London, Dec. 26.--The landing of Italian marines at Avlona, Albania, is not expected to be followed by representations from Austria to Rome. Italy has declared her intentions to be governed solely by a desire to prevent anarchy from spreading along the Adriatic shore. It is believed Austria-Hungary will accept this explanation.

Assume Offensive. Petrograd, Dec. 26.--The Russians have resumed the offensive at a number of points in Poland and have captured 15,000 prisoners.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Morton, of Morehead City, spent last night in New Bern on their way home from a visit to relatives and friends at Hubert.

GEORGIA WRECK IS BEING PROBED

Investigators Looking Into Last Saturday's Accident

Atlanta, Dec. 26.--Officials of the N. C. & St. L. Railroad today aggressively continued the investigation to determine the cause of the fatal wreck near Emerson last Saturday. Attorney John L. Tye, of counsel for the railroad, has submitted a written report to the Railroad Commission, as required by law. Mr. Tye who was present when the probe of the accident was started by the Railroad Commission and officials of the road, is strongly of the opinion that the dropping or breaking of some part of the engine was responsible, although he said the exact cause remains a mystery.

The Railroad Commission is expected to make its report on the wreck within a day or two. While no intimation of the nature of this report will be given, it is the general belief that it will exonerate the road of the charge that rotten ties and worn-out rails were in use at the scene. Mr. Tye, who took an active part in the investigation, declared the reports of rotten ties and worn rails were erroneous.

"The roadbed was in splendid condition," said Mr. Tye. "The ties, as was explained by Mr. Wiggins, the supervisor, were laid new last May and were in good condition in every respect. The condition of the rails was not dangerous in the slightest. Every circumstance of the wreck showed plainly that the cause must be sought somewhere else besides in the ties and rails. "While no one, of course, knows the cause, it is likely that it was the dropping of some part of the locomotive. The entire roadbed is in splendid condition; in fact, it is one of the best in the South."

NEW BANK CHARTERED

Washington, D. C., Dec. 26.--The Comptroller of the Currency today issued a charter to the National Bank of Sumter, S. C. The capital is \$250,000.

CENTRAL NEWS CORRESPONDENT AT THE FRONT

Tells In Interesting Manner of Conditions In Europe

QUEER INCIDENTS

Remarkable Tales About the Russians and Germans

(By Alfred H. Fletcher, Central News Correspondent.)

Petrograd, Dec. 26, (Central News Correspondence)--Authoritative denial has been given out by the deputy governor of Warsaw to the false rumors spread by the enemies of Russia that the views of the Russian commander-in-chief in regard to the future of Poland have changed. In Warsaw many Polish organizations have held meetings and passed resolutions of protest against the destruction of sacred monuments, interesting from the point of view of culture, by the Germans.

Germanians Wander. In the neighborhood of Przemysl, according to the "Ruski Viedmosti" two German corps which are subjected to severe pressure by the Russian forces are wandering about in all directions, trying to effect communication with the main army, "looting" and looting on their way. The corps are split into detachments which are being actively pursued by the Russians and their numbers are being reduced constantly as many have been made prisoners.

Much Enthusiasm. One of the most prominent features of the present war is associated with the enthusiasm of the youth of Russia. Hardly a day passes without a search being instituted by the police for boys who have left their homes surreptitiously and made their way to the fighting line. In Petrograd ten or twelve of such instances are now attracting the attention of the authorities. In Southern Russia the boys are restrained only by the penalty of joining the army. In Kiev yesterday fifty boys were arrested and brought back after they had wandered many miles in the direction of Galicia.

Brilliant Exploit.

One of the most brilliant exploits of the war was that of a boy of 14 named Alexander Chervalkin who has been decorated with the cross of St. George for bravery. Chervalkin, who is a native of Tashkent, was wounded in the following circumstances: He took part in a scouting expedition near the enemy's trenches, which were situated about four miles at the rear of the Russian position. While feeling his way in the darkness Chervalkin stumbled upon the body of a Russian standard bearer, who lay dead with the colors of his regiment beside him. Cutting away the colors from the staff the boy wrapped them around his body and then arranged his uniform over them so that they could not be discerned.

Chervalkin continued to make progress toward the enemy's position, but his venture ended badly for one of the German search lights was thrown full on him when he was within short distance of the trenches and he was captured by a German detachment. The boy was placed in charge of an escort with some other prisoner, but one by one his captors went to sleep. Seizing the first opportunity that presented itself he slipped silently past the sentinels. His attention was attracted to a sleeping standard bearer, who lay with the colors of his regiment by his side. Boldly advancing the boy whipped out his knife and stealthily cut away the colors, which he wrapped over the flag of the Russian regiment. Then he made his way toward his own trenches but was again discovered by a searchlight, and badly wounded. He is now in the hospital at Taganrog recovering from his wounds.

Loose Many Men.

It is stated, on high authority, by the "Ruski Viedmosti" that up to November 14th an Austro-Hungarian army had lost in Serbia 3,228 officers and 145,470 men, or about one third of the total number of troops engaged in that part of the theater of war. In Hungary 67 officers had been killed and wounded and 1,705 soldiers, and in Galicia the Austro-Hungarian army had lost 16,000 officers, and 737,156 men. Thus, if this calculation be correct, during the opening three months of the war Austria had more than 900,000 men, or about 27 per cent of the total strength of her army. Among the wounded who were brought to Petrograd yesterday was a Cossack of the Don named Yegor who fought at the Austro-Hungarian opening of the war and was injured in one of the later battles.