

## TRAIN LEAPS FROM TRESTLE

### TWELVE MEET DEATH IN DISASTER AT REEDY FORK CREEK.

Southbound Train No. 11 Topples Over Trestle and Falls Twenty-five Feet into a Creek Eleven Miles North of Greensboro. Wreck Due To Broken Rail. George Gould and Son Among Passengers On Ill-Fated Train. Two Southern Railway Officials Among Those Instantly Killed. The Conductor, Badly Hurt, Walks Two Miles to Nearest Telegraph Station to Wire the News of the Wreck.

Greensboro, Dec. 15.—One of the most appalling wrecks in the history of the Southern Railway occurred at Reedy Fork trestle, ten miles north of Greensboro, at 6:30 o'clock this morning when the two Pullman cars and three day coaches of southbound local train No. 11, between Richmond and Charlotte, left the track, hurling the passengers into the water of the creek 25 feet below. The accident was caused by a broken rail 160 feet north of the trestle. Twelve dead bodies have been recovered and it is known that more are under the wreckage. Twenty-eight people were taken out of the wreck more or less seriously injured.

The known dead are:  
John G. Broadnax, Richmond, Va., a former resident of Greensboro, a wholesale liquor dealer.

A. P. Cone, superintendent of the Richmond division of the Southern Railway, formerly chief dispatcher of the Southern in Greensboro.

D. C. Nolan, Greensboro, Pullman conductor.

Virgil E. Holcomb, Mount Airy, attorney.

Ed Sexton, Dentist.  
Charley Bagby, Manchester, Va., flagman of the ill-fated train.

H. C. White, Washington, traveling auditor of the Southern Railway.  
Richard Eames, Salisbury, mining engineer.

Isaac Dammals, colored, Richmond, Va., Pullman porter.

H. L. Stribling, Winston-Salem, traveling salesman.

F. W. Kilby, whose address is supposed to have been Anniston, Ala.  
Charles T. Broadfield, Americus, Ga., of the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company.

A special train brought the more seriously wounded to St. Leo's hospital, where they are being attended by the medical staff of the hospital and all the physicians of the city.

George Gould, who was accompanying his son and friend on the hunting trip, escaped injury further than a severe shock. When the Norfolk sleeper had been hurled into the creek, Mr. Gould, who was occupying a state room, provided a way of egress for himself, his son and his guest by knocking out a window with a shotgun. The three men crawled through the opening thus provided, and clad in night attire sat upon the roof of the car for an hour and a half until help arrived and they were rescued from their perilous position. When interviewed by The Observer correspondent this afternoon, the Messrs. Gould freely admitted it was the most unpleasant experience of their lives. They were brought to Greensboro by automobile, wrapped in Pullman car blankets, and after being attended by physicians they were able to proceed to their hunting lodge near High Point this afternoon.

The wrecked train was in charge of Conductor George Coble of Richmond, who was seated in the front end of the second class car when the accident occurred. He was thrown into the water along with the passengers, and altogether painfully injured, crawled out of the creek and walked back to Brown Summit, a distance of two miles, and telegraphed the news of the wreck to the division superintendent's office in Greensboro.

The engine, baggage, express, and mail cars did not leave the track, and after a short delay, proceeded to Greensboro, bringing the first consignment of the wounded.

Upon receipt of news of the accident here, a wrecking train was

made up and hurried to the scene of the disaster, carrying a number of railroad officials and physicians. As fast as the wounded were taken out they were brought to St. Leo's hospital, where they were given every attention possible.

The Richmond Pullman is a mass of wreckage, lying in the creek buried under the heavier Norfolk sleeper, and it is doubted if a single occupant of the Richmond car escaped death. The railroad men in charge of the work are agreed that a removal of the debris will reveal more dead bodies.—W. I. Underwood, in Charlotte Observer.

### 167,677 VOLUMES ADDED.

#### Librarian of Congress' Report Shows Priceless Works Among Them.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Accessions of almost priceless value from part of the 167,677 volumes which were added during the year to the Library of Congress, making the total number of volumes in that great library 1,702,685, according to the report of the Librarian of Congress made public today. The valuable additions include a set of the great Chinese encyclopedia given by the Chinese Government. China, alone among nations, has attempted to embody in a single literary record the entire knowledge of an epoch.

The edition seems to have been a very small one. A copy, secured in 1877, forms a prized possession of the British Museum. Valuable manuscripts transferred to the library from various departments of the government included all the "applications for office" during Washington's administration, the original vouchers and accounts of Washington's expenses during the Revolution and historical documents regarding Revolutionary pension claims.

### Salary vs. Fees.

The change from fees to stipulated salary for county officers seems to be growing in favor with the people of this State. Up to comparatively a few years ago the fee system prevailed in every county in the State. The ice was broken in 1905, when the Legislature passed an act putting the officials of Guilford county on a salary basis. Buncombe and Forsyth counties fell into line at the same changes were made for them. Two years later Columbus and Robeson counties also became salary paying counties. These five counties found the new plan to work so satisfactorily that by the time of the convening of the Legislature in 1909 a number of other counties were anxious to make the change and at that session seven or eight more were added to the list of those operating under the new order. Not a single one of them all, so far as we know, has ever regretted the change. In fact, the plan has worked so well that it is probable the Legislature at each succeeding session for some years to come will be asked to sanction the change for other counties, until in the end all or a very large majority of them will have adopted the new system. While there may be some objections to the salary system, they are hardly so numerous nor so grave as are those to the one based on fees.—Charlotte Observer.

### Some Expressive Words.

The following words were written by Editor Archibald Johnson, of Charley and Children, about Thanksgiving day, and though written some weeks ago, they are so beautiful, and expressive of that day, that we gladly publish them:

"As we awoke on last Thursday morning our hearts were lifted in grateful praise for the perfect beauty of the broadening day; and all through the golden hours the sunshine was as sweet as a dream; and the silvery night, so still and tender, crowned the glorious day!"

Volume and quality both considered Sir Walter Scott was probably the most wonderful writer known. More than 10,000,000 volumes of his "Life and Works" have been printed, and the demand is by no means exhausted. Within five years after the fame of "Waverley" and gone abroad he was read by all Europe and America, and the annual profits of his novels amounted to more than \$50,000.—Ex.

## JUDGE LURTON IS NAMED

### FOR PLACE ON U. S. SUPREME COURT BENCH.

Taft Remembers His Former Associate and Gives Him a Life Position, Even If He is a Democrat. Judge Lurton Was Appointed to a Circuit Judgeship by President Cleveland.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The President today nominated Judge Horace H. Lurton, of the Sixth United States circuit, to be a Justice of the United States Supreme Court. The appointment, regarded as the highest at the disposal of the President, is to be commended, aside from the personal ability of Judge Lurton, for the reason that it is without a political motive in view, Judge Lurton being a Democrat.

With the President it was a personal matter and regardless of the pressure brought upon him to name a Republican, he appointed his old fellow Judge of the Sixth circuit.

Judge Lurton was born in Kentucky, at Newport, February 26, 1844. He is the oldest man ever named for the Supreme Court. The justice's age was used against his appointment, but the President did not consider it sufficient to deter him from making the appointment.

The nomination of Judge Lurton has been anticipated ever since the death of Rufus W. Peckham, Associate Justice of the Supreme bench. Mr. Peckham was a Democrat in politics. Judge Lurton was named to the bench of the Sixth circuit by President Cleveland. This was March 27, 1893. Judge Lurton was at that time a Tennessee lawyer. He has resided at Nashville ever since his appointment to the circuit bench.

Judge Lurton was born in Campbell county, Ky., and removed to Clarksville, Tenn., at the close of the Civil War and afterward attended the law school of Cumberland University at Lebanon, Tenn., being graduated as Bachelor of Law in 1867 and returning to Clarksville to practice.

In January, 1875, the chancellorship of the district became vacant and Judge Lurton was appointed to fill out the unexpired term. The next year he was elected without opposition to the same office, which he held until 1878, when he resigned.

When Chief Justice Turney was elected Governor he appointed Judge Lurton as his successor on the bench. This was in August, 1886. At the expiration of this unexpired term, Judge Lurton was elected to a full term and was made Chief Justice by his associates, which position he held until appointed United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth circuit by President Cleveland in 1893, which place he has since held and is now holding.

### HE WEIGHS 490; BRIDE 100.

#### Former Circus Attraction Procures a Marriage License.

Elwood, Ind., Dec. 14.—Chauncey Morlan, weighing 490 pounds, obtained a license today for his marriage with Mrs. Estelle Banning. The bride to be weighs 100 pounds. Morlan traveled with a circus for a number of years and was advertised as the largest man in the world. He is said to have weighed 720 pounds at one time.

### Appointments.

Rev. Thomas J. Hood will preach Saturday night, December 18th, at the Sandeers school house near Mr. T. D. Snead, Jr.

Rev. J. L. Jenkins is expected to fill the appointments at Sardis and Woodard school house the third Sunday in December.

Rev. B. Townsend will preach at Hood's Grove church third Sunday in December at 11 o'clock.

Last week the oldest moonshiner in North Carolina died in jail aged over 80 years. The revenue officers say that for over thirty years he has been in this business and has been arrested at least 20 times and has served many of these sentences in jail.

## PEARY HAILED POLE FINDER

### COMMANDER TOASTED AND PRESENTED WITH MEDAL.

Statesmen, Ambassadors, and Distinguished Citizens Join in Tribute Given Under Auspices of the National Geographic Society at the Willard Wednesday night—Dr. Cook's Claim is Touched Upon.

Seldom has a more brilliant assembly of diplomats, statesmen, and men of science gathered to do honor to one man as that which hailed Commander Robert E. Peary as the discoverer of the north pole at a dinner given him by the National Geographic Society at the New Willard last night.

Peary was proclaimed the conquerer of the North, and the man who nailed the Stars and Stripes to the pole, by a dozen distinguished speakers. The name of Dr. Frederick A. Cook was mentioned once only, but the Peary-Cook controversy cropped out in every toast, at least by inference, and always to the credit of the hero of the evening and his lieutenant, Capt. Robert A. Bartlett, Commander of the Roosevelt.

Great Britain, Italy, and France bowed their heads to Peary, and the diplomats who spoke for America's rivals in the race each used the word "discoverer." The National Geographic Society, the Geographic Society of Berlin, and the Royal Geographic Society of Great Britain, either by telegram or representative officially recognized him.

Speaker Cannon, Andrew Carnegie, Admiral C. M. Chester, Prof. J. Howard Gore, and Willis L. Moore, the toastmaster, paid their respects in eloquent terms to Commander Peary. Telegrams were read from Col. Roosevelt, in the South African jungle, and the Duke de Abruzzi, in the Italian capital, offering the grizzled veteran of the icy north their congratulations.

"Either Cook or Peary discovered the pole," said Speaker Cannon, "and as this society has decided which, I have explicit confidence in your judgment. I am glad the north pole has been discovered, for it will put an end to the attempts of adventurers seeking notoriety."

A diamond studded medal was presented to Commander Peary by Toastmaster Moore, on behalf of the National Geographic Society, and Capt. Bartlett was honored with a similar trophy. Both made speeches thanking their donors, and the 500 guests arose in a body and toasted and cheered them.—Washington Herald.—December 16.

### The Prevalence of Perjury.

Even a casual observer cannot have failed to notice that there is much false evidence given in our Courts. The fact is thrust upon one's attention. Not only in sensational murder trials, but in almost every civil proceeding or quasi-judicial investigation which is of sufficient general interest to gain publicity, the reported testimony is always contradictory, and nearly always to such a degree as to be utterly irreconcilable. There seems to be little or no regard for the sanctity of an oath; and yet with this multiplicity of instances of reckless or wicked swearing one rarely hears a word of reproof from the Bench, and, to judge from the number of prosecutions, perjury would seem to be the rarest of crimes.

A good deal has been recently said in criticism of the administration of justice in France, where the Judge has the privilege of confuting a witness and of accusing him of falsehood in the presence of the jury; but the too great admonitory powers exercised by French Judges might under many circumstances be preferable to the dignified indifference with which our Courts listen to mutually destructive sworn statements made before them. The obviously wide prevalence of perjury in judicial proceedings calls for earnest remedial action. Perjury muddles the stream of justice at its fountain head; it makes property and liberty and life itself insecure. Can anything more terrifying be imagined than the possibility of being deprived of one's

possessions or freedom, or of an innocent man being condemned to death, on the word of a forsworn witness? Perjurers are greater dangers to a Commonwealth than assassins or robbers, and the danger from them is further enhanced because the furtiveness of the crime and the difficulty of proving a negative permit the false swearer to go unwhipped.

But perjury is a sin as well as a crime. The commandments against taking the name of God in vain and against bearing false witness were thundered as loudly from Mt. Sinai as the injunction against killing. Where the State has failed the church might have better success. Perhaps the keepers of one's conscience could bring home to the merely indifferent and heedless, if not to the deliberately malicious, the horror of perjury and the demoralizing effect of sworn untruth not only on the victim, but also the utterer thereof; perhaps the sanctity of an oath may thus become recognized and felt as it ought to be, but has not been. To the teachers of all religions and all systems of ethics Truth is the central all-containing idea; and its opposite the sum of all evil. The whole fabric of civilization is woven of co-operation and mutual confidence and co-operation cannot endure with deceit, nor can confidence persist among liars. When lying is backed up however, by an appeal to that which we hold most sacred, then not only are the bases of society destroyed, but the foundations of faith as well. Perjury is the most unforgivable of sins and the most abhorrent of crimes. It ought to be as repugnant to a civilized human being as is self-destruction; indeed, it is spiritual suicide.—Philadelphia Record.

### Fire in Smithfield Ginney.

Last Saturday our town was excited by the ringing of the fire bell which occurred on account of a fire at the ginney owned by Mr. W. M. Sanders and others. It started from a match in the seed cotton. The fire was carried from the gin to the condenser and thence to the press in which there was about half a bale lint cotton. It went into the seed house and singed over the seed. It burned the webs and lint which were hanging from the top of the house. By the use of buckets and water which had been kept in some barrels in the house and by turning on the steam the fire was extinguished. The lint cotton which was damaged but not destroyed was left in the press after it had been wet and the press run down on it.

Sunday morning just before the conclusion of the service at the Methodist church the fire bell rang again and the men of the congregation and others rushed to the ginney to find the cotton in the press burning again. It seems to have burned slowly in the press from Saturday. The fire was soon extinguished but the two fires about ruined the lint cotton. But for the arrangements for turning on steam put in a few months ago and the water kept ready for a fire and the earnest work of the fire company, the entire ginney would have been consumed.

### AN EDITOR TURNS BURGLAR.

#### Sentenced to Penitentiary, He Blames Whiskey for Ruin.

Cloverdale, Ind., Dec. 14.—John Ackers, editor of the Cloverdale Graphic, and a lawyer, was sentenced to from two to fourteen years in the penitentiary today for burglary. For two months there had been mysterious burglaries of grocery and dry goods stores and meat markets here, and one night Ackers was caught in the act of burglarizing a grocery.

In a pathetic speech after his sentence, he declared that whiskey had been his ruin.

The number of convicts now in the penitentiary at Raleigh is only 83 out of a total of 639. The remainder are placed here and there in the State as follows: On the State farm on the Roanoke river near Halifax 332; building the Lake Mattamuskeet Railway, in Hyde county, 75; engaged in railway construction at and near Laurinburg, under contract with Wade & Morrison, 160; constructing the Elkin and Alleghany Railway, in Surry county, 72, this gang being now at work grading that road near a place called Mecca.

## DEPOSITS RUN TO 14 BILLION

### ANNUAL REPORT OF COMPTROLLER OF CURRENCY.

25 Million Bank Accounts. Stupendous Figures Reveal Vast Extent of Banking Business—General Stock of Money Over Three Billions—Per Capita Circulation placed at \$34.95.

Washington, Dec. 10.—More than 25,000 banks, with an excess of 25,000,000 deposits accounts, capital aggregating \$1,855,987,368 and individual deposits of more than \$14,000,000,000, are the stupendous figures revealing the vast extent of the banking business of the United States, as shown in the annual report for the year ended October 31 of Lawrence O. Murray, comptroller of the currency, laid before Congress today.

According to the Comptroller the general stock of money in the country at the close of the year ended October 31, 1909, was \$3,427,889, an increase of \$46,809,379. The stock of gold decreased to the extent of \$644,613, and Treasury notes of 1890 to the extent of \$671,000. National bank notes increased to the extent of \$38,096,564, silver certificates by \$9,340,521 and standard silver dollars by \$687,907.

The per capita circulation is placed at \$34.95 on November 1, with a population of 89,404,000, a slight decrease from last year, when it was \$35.22.

The deposits in the savings banks of the country aggregate \$5,678,735,379, with \$14,894,696 depositors or accounts. Individual deposits increased \$78,898,862 during the year.

### SALOONS ARE VOTED IN.

#### Worcester, Mass., Goes Wet After Two Years of No License.

Boston, Dec. 14.—The license question was again the paramount issue in the election in 15 Massachusetts cities today, Worcester, going into the "wet" column by 3,270 votes after two years of no license, while the "dry" majority of 8,925 of a year ago was reduced to 2,197 for the 15 municipalities.

Salem, however, went back to no license by 500 votes after a year of license. The other cities remain as they were a year ago on the license question.

George F. Fall, who has run for mayor of Malden for six years and declared he would be a continuous candidate, until elected, secured his coveted goal.

### SEEMS FATED NOT TO MARRY.

#### Third Affianced Husband of this Woman Burned to Death.

Utica, N. Y., December 13.—Herman Spencer, a farmer, 35 years old, was burned to death near Guilford, in a fire that destroyed his barn Sunday morning. Spencer was to have been married next Wednesday. Five years ago the woman whom Mr. Spencer was about to marry was planning to be killed by the cars. Two years ago she was again about to wed when her affianced husband was taken suddenly ill and died in a few hours.

The trustees of the State library are reprinting a work which is very rare, this being the "History of North Carolina," written by John Brickwell, and first published in 1737. Brickwell used some material obtained by John Lawson, the first real historian of the State, but in some respects his book is considered more valuable than that of Lawson and it contains more about the manners and customs of people. Brickwell was at the town of Edenton in 1730 and the following year made a very notable journey to the country of the Cherokee Indians, part of which was in North Carolina and part in what is now Tennessee.

Rev. P. D. Woodall went to his new charge, Zebulon Circuit, on last Saturday. He wrought most faithfully and successfully at Epworth, and the good people of Zebulon Circuit may congratulate themselves on having as their pastor one of the best men in the Conference.—Raleigh Christian Advocate, Dec. 9.