

Dull Day in House.

Little business was transacted by the House Wednesday. After a forty minute debate, a rule was adopted giving the bill to revise, modify and amend the laws the right of way along with other preferred measures. The bill was immediately taken up and upon the conclusion of its reading was laid aside to permit Mr. Craig, of Tennessee, to address the House in favor of an appropriation for "The Hermitage," the home of Andrew Jackson near Nashville, Tenn. Mr. Gaines paid a glowing tribute to the life and deeds of Andrew Jackson. Adjournment was taken at 3:47 until Thursday.

Bond Issue in the Senate.

The recent issue of bonds by the Secretary of the Treasury for the purpose of relieving the financial stringency was the subject of an animated debate in the Senate. The discussion was precipitated by an inquiry by Senator Culberson and was participated in by Senators Aldrich, Tillman and Bailey. It resulted in an agreement to postpone further controversy until a statement can be received from Secretary Cortelyou. While the subject was under discussion Mr. Tillman's resolution directing the finance committee to inquire into the operations of the Treasury Department was referred with his consent to that committee.

The Senate passed Senator Tillman's resolution calling on the interstate commerce commission for information concerning purchases by railroad companies of the stock of competing roads.

The unfinished business in the form of the bill to codify the criminal laws of the United States was placed before the Senate and the reading of the bill begun.

State Rights in the House.

Vigorous defense of States' rights in dealing with violations of civil rights or with special State elections where troops are called into service, served to enliven the debate in the House of Representatives in connection with the consideration of the bill to codify the penal laws of the United States. A number of Democrats, mostly from the Southern States, strenuously sought by amendment to reserve to the States themselves discretion as to the qualifications of voters or of persons to serve on juries, and to limit the powers of Federal judges in certain cases, but every attempt failed. The Republicans presented a solid front and the votes all were on party lines.

The bill was still under consideration when at 5:02 p. m. the House adjourned.

SECOND TRIAL OF THAW.

Considerable Headway Being Made in the Noted Case.

New York, Special.—The Thaw trial moved with a rush Monday. After the State had presented its direct case and Assistant District Attorney Garvan had characterized the killing of Stanford White as "a premeditated, deliberate and cowardly murder," Martin W. Littleton, for the defense, made the opening plea for the prisoner. His promise of new evidence was sensational. Mr. Littleton promised to forge a chain of circumstances and to produce a line of testimony which will prove Harry K. Thaw undeniably insane at the time of the homicide. Evidence of hereditary insanity and of strange, unusual acts of Thaw was told of by Mr. Littleton, who said that physicians and nurses who had attended Thaw were hurrying from Europe; that teachers of the defendant in childhood would be on hand to give their impressions of "the wild eyed, distant boy."

In conclusion, Mr. Littleton challenged the district attorney to produce a single reputable physician who would say that Thaw was not insane at the time he killed the noted architect.

Thaw was called to the bar promptly at 10 a. m.

Within the next few minutes Assistant District Attorney Garvan began the outline of the prosecution's case to the jury.

"The defense in this case," said Mr. Garvan "is insanity. The material facts are admitted. Insanity, let me adjure you, is not to be defined by what you or I might think, it is not what physicians or metaphysicians may tell us, or what scientists or pseudo-scientists may describe. Insanity, as we have to deal with it, has been defined by the Legislature of the State of New York. The law is wiser than we are. We are sworn to obey it and to live under it. The law says that the only person excused from criminal responsibility is he who is so deficient of reasoning that he does not know the nature or quality of his act or that the act is wrong. With the definition and this definition of the law alone, I ask you to judge of all the acts of this defendant the night of June 25th, 1906, when he shot and killed Stanford White on the roof of Madison Square Garden."

TAR HEEL TOPICS

Items Gathered From All Sections of the State

The Marion Tragedy.

Asheville, Special.—Faller particulars of the tragedy at Marion which resulted in the death of James Patterson and the wounding of Alfred Patterson, by Gudgey Finley, because Finley objected to Ed. Williams accompanying Miss Patterson home from church, have been received here.

Mrs. Charles Boone, Mrs. James Patterson, Miss Patterson, Alfred Patterson and Ed. Williams attended religious services at Elhanan, which is located in East Marion. After the service they went to Boone's restaurant on Main street for supper. Shortly after they arrived at the restaurant Gudgey Finley came in and joined them. When the party were leaving the restaurant Finley made a proposition to escort Miss Patterson, who refused, saying she was going with Ed Williams. This angered Finley. The party started up Main street, leaving Finley behind.

As they turned the corner of Main and Cross streets, on their way to the Patterson home, they met Finley on the sidewalk. They claim that he was standing on the sidewalk with a pistol in hand and said to the young woman that her escort, Williams, did not have courage enough to defend her and struck Williams several times. Williams ran. He then struck the young woman, when Mrs. Patterson rushed between them and Finley turned on her with his pistol raised to her face. James Patterson rushed to the rescue of his wife, when Finley shot him, death following a few minutes later. Finley then raised his pistol and leveled it at the head of Alfred Patterson, but the wounded man struck at the pistol and the ball passed through his brother's shoulder and neck. No weapons were found on either of the Pattersons, Finley says he shot in self-defense, and shows some cuts about his clothing which he claims were made by knives of the Pattersons. No testimony has been taken in the case as yet, as at the preliminary examination no defense was made, and the defendant was committed to prison without bail.

Charlotte, Special.—A long distance phone from Selma, N. C., reports the lynching at Pine Level, Johnston county, of a strange negro at the hands of a negro mob. The strange negro, purporting to be advance agent of a "big show," faked the negro residents into attendance on what turned out to be a one-man performance by the strange darkey himself. Covered with guano sacks, the mob entered the negro's boarding house early Tuesday morning and took him forcibly to the woods. His body was found at daylight on the Southern railroad tracks. His identity has not been established.

Stranger Negro Lynched at Hands of Mob.

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Corset Stave Saves Life.

Asheville, Special.—To the presence of a steel corset stave Miss Eva Chambers, of this city, owes her life. While in her room with a little eight-year-old cousin, the child picked up a 32-calibre revolver lying there and accidentally pulling the trigger, sent a bullet into Miss Chambers' left side. The bullet struck the corset stave near the heart and was stopped in its progress. The stave was driven slightly into Miss Chambers' side but made no serious hurt. But for the stave the bullet, which was flattened would almost certainly have caused death.

Current Events.

Coal mine operators held a conference in Washington in regard to prevention of disasters in mines.

The cruiser Chicago has been ordered to Annapolis as an addition to the fleet for the Naval Academy cruise.

Peace congresses are to be held in various States this year.

Statement as to Banks.

Raleigh, Special.—The corporation commission Friday issued its statement as to the State, private and savings banks, showing their condition at the close of business December 31, last. The following are the figures: Total assets, \$51,883,687; increase over previous year, \$3,576,199; capital stock, \$7,657,746. The amount of capital stock the year before was \$6,475,785. The number of banks December 31 was 295, against 254 the previous year, showing the very handsome increase of 41 in the twelve months.

Advance in Naval Stores Market.

Wilmington, Special.—What promises to be a steady and continued advance in the naval stores market has given a decided impetus to the trade in this city. The advance the past several days has almost been sensational spirits alone having jumped two cents a gallon in one day in sympathy with the Savannah market. Various reasons are assigned for this advance.

Make Penalties Severe.

Wilmington, Special.—The fall term, being a postponed one, of the United States District Court, convened for the Wilmington District and with docket loaded down with violations of the internal revenue laws, such as retailing liquor without license, illicit distilling, etc. The opening session was marked by Judge Purnell's charge, dealing largely and pointedly with the prohibition question, as he expressed the opinion that prohibition does not prohibit, but added that for violations of prohibition laws, the severest penalty should be given; that while he might not believe in prohibition, though his personal opinion on the subject had no right to be expressed in court, yet both State and government officers should strive to uphold the law. While he had gathered from the newspapers that in many prohibition communities in North Carolina, State officers did not do their duty, yet the government officers were doing theirs, and his court did not intend to impose any more thirty and sixty days jail sentences in such cases but unless there appeared mitigating circumstances, he would impose a heavy penitentiary sentence; that although he would make no rule, his court would be inclined to impose the maximum sentence. Then in substantiation of his idea, a young, well-dressed negro man, Handy Holmes, who submitted to selling liquor in a poolroom in Fayetteville, where he was working, felt the heavy hand of the law. Judge Purnell's only comment was "running a 'blind tiger' in a poolroom in a prohibition county. One year in the penitentiary." And the negro went in the dock, soon to be sent to the government prison in Atlanta.

Physician Asked to Leave.

Durham, Special.—An interesting story reaches here from Chatham county that a petition has been circulated asking a prominent physician to move from the county, it being stated—in the language of President Roosevelt—that he is an "undesirable citizen." This is an aftermath of the clash between the two squads of revenue officers in that county, or the edge of Durham, when several of the officers were more or less seriously hurt in a clash at an illicit distillery. One squad was led, so it is stated, by a physician and the other band had been directed there by the same man. The affair came near being so fatal that the citizens have been up in arms against this doctor since that time. Dr. Wilson, the man asked to leave, has replied to one of the petitions, so it is reported here, that he does not intend leaving the county. Thus the matter rests, but it has caused and is causing a great deal of bad feeling over in that section.

Bank to Become National.

Salisbury, Special.—The People's Bank will shortly be changed from a State to a national institution. At the same time the capital will be increased from \$75,000 to \$100,000. About February 1st the bank expects to occupy its new quarters at the southeast corner of Main and Fisher streets. The new building is owned by the People's Bank and when completed will be one of the handsomest in the State. The interior furnishings and decorations of the banking rooms will be most elaborate and no expense is being spared to have everything finished in first-class style.

Minor Events.

Mr. Fowler, chairman of the House Finance Committee, introduced a radical currency bill providing for a new national banking system.

Mr. Williams and Mr. De Armond exchanged amenities in the House, indicating a friendlier feeling between them.

The senate was not in session Thursday but will meet again Friday.

Child Falls Into Fire.

Asheville, Special.—Arlene Thorpe, the 10-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Thorpe, of this city, was so fearfully burned by falling into an open fireplace that all hope for her recovery has been abandoned. It seems that the little girl was sitting on the edge of a tilted chair in front of the grate when she lost her balance and plunged into the flames. Members of the family quickly removed the little victim and extinguished the blazing clothing, but not until she had been burned so badly that she cannot recover.

Spinners' Associations.

Charlotte, Special.—Believing that the present unsatisfactory condition in the cotton goods situation demands a remedy, a call was issued last week for a joint session of the Southern Soft Yarn Spinners' Association, the Southern Hard Yarn Spinners' Association, and the North Carolina Cotton Manufacturers' Association. The meeting will be held in this city, January 18th.

out the old tracks, and leave the land and frozen river a fresh white page. Mac was the first to leave the tent in the morning. He was back again almost immediately, and framing his head in the flaps of the tent, said:

"Your wolf's been after her mate, mon. She came last night to within 30 feet of us, where he hangs on the fallen tree. I surmised when you were telling her actions that it was not you, after all, she was seeking."

A light broke in upon me, and I began to realize the meaning of what had appeared, on the part of the animal, such a contradictory mixture of daring and timidity.

"She smelled the scent of him on your clothes," continued Mac, "and she feared the worst; but she would not leave the place till she was convinced. It's usual," he added, "for wolves, when they find there's poison out, to disappear as if by magic. This one's no common beast."

"I believe you are right, Mac," I replied. "Now that she knows the truth, do you think she will leave for good and all?"

"No doubt about it. She'll go clean out of the country."

But Mac's judgment was at fault for once. The trail from the tent led directly down the river, and anxious to know more of the wolf's movements, we followed. She had gone as the crow flies, straight across one of the islands to the spot where the first wolf died. Mac, who was leading, paused when he reached this place, and as I came to his side, he pointed to a hole in the snow and the overturned tin which contained our forgotten poison.

"She's eaten nearly all of it," he announced, in a solemn, awestruck tone. "Who would have thought it in a beast."

A little farther on we found the wolf's dead body, still warm. One paw rested on a dead raven, which she had apparently killed in her last agony; and warned by their companion's fate, the other ravens had not ventured to approach.

This wolf was smaller and darker than the first, and was in better condition. Her fur was deep and rich, and even in death the implied grace and mobility of action made her a beautiful creature. Her eyes were bright and intelligent, and the expression was that of some great, affectionate dog, rather than the cunning of a wild creature.

We stood a moment in silence, looking at the dead creature, and then Mac expressed what was in my mind.

"She could not stand it to lose her mate," he said, simply. "When she found he was dead, she could not bear to live herself. She knew well what had killed him and where it was to be had. She felt the grief of a person. It's well, mon, the poor beast had no soul to lose."—From Youth's Companion.

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

There is food enough wasted in New York city each day to feed a half million persons.

There stands at the foot of Mt. Etna a chestnut tree which is said to be two thousand years old. It is 213 feet in circumference.

From estimates made Sunday morning there were then in the 587 churches of Manhattan and the Bronx, 210,000 persons, 50,000 of whom were men and 152,000 women.

The Empire of Japan runs its government aside from interest on its war debt, for a little more than two-thirds the cost of running the municipal government of the city of New York.

A remarkable skeleton skyscraper which has not a nail or a screw in it, has been built around and over the new southwestern gate of Peking. It is made entirely of bamboo poles and ropes.

There is a wild flower in Turkey which is the exact floral image of a humming bird. The breast is green, the wings are a deep rose color, the throat yellow, the head and beak almost black.

Electricity on the third rail, near Clayton, N. J., has killed so many fox hounds that foxes there are multiplying rapidly and destroying rabbits in large numbers. The county pays \$3 bounty for every fox killed.

The first state automobile line in Austria has been opened between Neumarkt and Predazzo over a route forming the highest automobile line in Europe, the road in places crossing the mountains at an elevation of four thousand feet.

Among the trees which border the Merrimack Valley State highway, one of the oldest is the willow on the old Sargent estate, Nashua, N. H. This tree was an ancient affair as far back as the memory of the oldest inhabitant of South Nashua.

John F. Donnell, who has charge of the Wharf farm, Baldwinville, Mass., claims the record yield of potatoes for his state, if not for the country. From 1.2 acres of land Mr. Donnell dug 58 bushels of potatoes, or over four hundred bushels to the acre.

In Canada the largest number of wage-earners are engaged in log products. They total nearly 55,000, and their wages in 1905 amounted to over 21,000,000. The total number of wage-earners that year was 391,487, whose wages averaged \$1,832, an increase of 1 percent since 1900.

Before we turned in that night it began snowing. The fall was less

presently we saw some ravens fly up from the sloping river bank into the trees above. They were croaking hoarsely. Below them lay a great gaunt white wolf. Here and there the snow was flecked with blood. A fresh scar in his side showed that the ravens had already begun their work.

There was a certain appearance of benignity about the dead beast that did not at all accord with our preconceived opinion of wolves. The head was set on a powerful neck and crowned with an almost leonine ruff of thick, coarse hair. The wolf was well on in years. His teeth were blunted, he was blind in one eye, and two great tusches projected from his mouth at the side.

Half a dozen porcupine quills were sticking in his nose, mute evidence of the straits to which hunger had reduced the old monarch.

Mac raised the wolf on my shoulders, and taking turns, we managed to carry him to camp.

Soon Mac went up the river three miles to a cache of supplies, and I resumed my task of sledging our outfit to the cabin site. At the spot where the dead wolf had fallen, we had hidden the poison under the river bank, forgetting in the excitement of the capture to put out any more. After Mac had gone, I determined to go down and distribute it in suitable places before the end of the afternoon. But something happened which changed my plans.

On my third trip, as I was plodding along, dragging the heavily loaded sled by a rope over one shoulder, I saw the imprint of a wolf's claws in the trail directly over my own foot-marks of a few minutes before. It was evident that a wolf had been dogging my steps. I was totally unprepared for defence. I left the sled where it was, and hurrying to the tent, secured a rifle. With that in my hands, I hoped to see the beast.

Why had the wolf been following me on the open river? If it was seeking a chance to attack me, the most natural course would have been to lie in wait in the spruce grove through which I passed to the cabin site. I continued my trip through this piece of woodland without molestation, and no sound broke the stillness.

It was not until I had gone back to the boats, taken on another load, and was returning on the sinuous path that I saw new "sign"—a fresh wolf trail branching at right angles from the sled track and heading down river in the direction of the sheep camp. It was evident that the wolf had been traveling on the path toward me, and had only turned aside at the last moment, when a meeting was otherwise inevitable.

I ran to a place where I could see beyond the island, and, sure enough, there was the wolf in plain sight, at that moment climbing the river bank at the identical spot where the first wolf had died.

I threw the rifle to my face, but a great leap carried the beast out of sight in the snow-laden forest; and as it did not come into view again, I lowered the gun and stood waiting and watching. Some ravens flew up from the ground into a tree nearer my position than the place where the wolf had disappeared. Then a red squirrel, at a point still closer, began chattering. I heard a crackling in the brush that grew at the river's edge directly opposite; but strain my eyes as I would, I could see nothing at which to aim.

The sounds ceased, and I became aware that my feet were very cold and my body fast growing numb. I could wait no longer; but before returning to the sled, I ran across to the mainland, and made sure from the evidence of the snow that it was the wolf I had heard returning under cover of the timber.

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presently we saw some ravens fly up from the sloping river bank into the trees above. They were croaking hoarsely. Below them lay a great gaunt white wolf. Here and there the snow was flecked with blood. A fresh scar in his side showed that the ravens had already begun their work.

There was a certain appearance of benignity about the dead beast that did not at all accord with our preconceived opinion of wolves. The head was set on a powerful neck and crowned with an almost leonine ruff of thick, coarse hair. The wolf was well on in years. His teeth were blunted, he was blind in one eye, and two great tusches projected from his mouth at the side.

Half a dozen porcupine quills were sticking in his nose, mute evidence of the straits to which hunger had reduced the old monarch.

Mac raised the wolf on my shoulders, and taking turns, we managed to carry him to camp.

Soon Mac went up the river three miles