

### AUTOMOBILE VICTIMS.

**Mr. and Mrs. Fair Instantly Killed by their Machine—Accident Due to Bursting of a Tire—Son of the Late Senator Fair and an Heir to the Grant Estate.**

Evreux, France, Aug. 14.—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Fair, Americans, who were related to Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., (Miss Virginia Fair,) were returning to Paris from Trouville to-day when their automobile swerved and crashed into a tree 15 miles from here. Both were killed. The chauffeur became insane as a consequence of the shock.

Mr. and Mrs. Fair had been staying at Trouville during racing week. They had a very fast forty-five horse power automobile, which attracted considerable attention, and with which they were highly pleased. Mr. Fair had been from Trouville to Paris and back again in one day on the machine. The bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Fair were taken to the Chateau Buisson du Mai.

The fatal accident to Mr. and Mrs. Fair, occurred at the village of Saint Agnitiu. Mr. Fair himself was driving his automobile at a high rate of speed when one of the pneumatic tires burst. The machine swerved and collided with a tree with a terrible crash and was overturned. Mr. and Mrs. Fair were killed outright and their chauffeur was badly injured. The Fairs have been living lately at Paris at the Hotel Ritz, and kept their apartments there while they were staying at Trouville. This morning Mr. Fair sent a dispatch from Trouville to the management of the hotel saying he and his wife would arrive there this evening. Mrs. Wm. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., who was Mr. Fair's sister, returned from Trouville Sunday and sailed for New York yesterday on the North German Lloyd steamship Kron Prinz Wilhelm.

The heavy machine slid from the right side of the road for about sixty yards. It then dashed up an embankment, turned a complete summersault and ran into a big elm tree in front of the gate of the chateau. The machine was practically wrecked, the front axle was broken and other parts of the machine were smashed, including the steering gear. When the auto turned over the wife of the gate keeper says she saw Mr. and Mrs. Fair thrown high in the air and fall with a heavy thud to the ground. The chauffeur who was sitting behind the Fairs, was precipitated into a ditch. He staggered to his feet calling for help. The gate-keeper's wife rushed to his assistance and aided him in extricating Mr. and Mrs. Fair, who were buried beneath the wrecked machine and in the last throes of death. Both had sustained ghastly injuries and were almost unrecognizable. Mr. Fair's head had been crushed in, while his wife's skull was split. The chauffeur was terribly affected at the calamity and seemed bereft of his senses. He threw himself into a ditch on the opposite side of the road and rolled about crying, "My poor masters!"

M. Borson, owner of the Chateau Buisson du Mai, was summoned and after advising the local authorities of the accident he ordered the bodies sent to the gate-keeper's lodge. Here they now lie on mattresses and flowers have been strewn over them.

In the room are three wax tapers burning dimly.

The accident was evidently due to the bursting of a tire. At the time it occurred the automobile, which was capable of running 74 miles an hour was going at the rate of 62 miles an hour. The local police authorities hold in their possession and have sealed up a valise belonging to the Fairs, which contains jewelry, two letters of credit, a French bank note worth \$200 and some gold coins.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Fair, left San Francisco in the latter part of May last for a trip to Europe. Chas. Fair was the son of and was one of the heirs to the immense estate of the late Senator Fair. It is peculiar that the son of the late John W. Mackay, one of Senator Fair's partners, was also killed near Paris a few years ago, by being thrown from his horse.

Chas. Fair has been enthusiastic about automobiles ever since the machines came into use abroad. He was one of the first to bring automobiles to this coast and he owned three or four of them. He had what was perhaps the largest and swiftest auto in California. It was a huge French racing machine, and capable, it is said, of going at the speed of 70 miles an hour. It had a 40-horse-power engine. He imported it from France and with it imported a chauffeur.

Chas. Fair was the third of the four children of the late Mr. and Mrs. James G. Fair. Teresa, who is now the wife of Hermann Oelrichs, is the eldest of the heirs. Then came James, who died about 10 years ago. Chas. was the third and the youngest was Virginia, the wife of W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr. In the spring of 1894 Chas. Fair married Miss Maude Nelson.

### Turpentine a Remedy for Snake Bite.

Lancaster, S. C., Ledger. A son of Mr. J. J. Reeves was recently bitten by a garter snake. Mr. Reeves at once bound a cord about his arm above the bite and held the mouth of a bottle, which contained several spoonfuls of turpentine, to the place. As soon as the pain from the bite ceased the bottle was removed and no further trouble was experienced. Mr. Reeves says this is a sure remedy for any kind of a snake's bite and should be remembered by everyone.

### King's Recovery Complete.

London, Aug. 14.—The British Medical Journal says the king's recovery is complete. The coronation ceremony and the reviews of the colonial and Indian troops have not been detrimental to his health. The remnant of the wound is infinitesimal and the healing is practically complete.

There is no truth whatever in the rumors which have been current that any second operation is contemplated.

### Favors the Scheme.

Washington Star. "Mike," said Plodding Pete, "I'm goin' to join one of dese forestry associations."

"What's dem?" inquired Meandering Mike.

"De'y're to prevent de destruction of de forests. An' it jes' happened to hit me dat if people could be stopped from cuttin' down trees, de'y're wouldn't be no more wood to split."

### WILCOX IS VICIOUS.

**Alleged Murderer Attacks the Jailer With a Knife—Threatens Visitors With Beer Bottles.**

Elizabeth City Tar Heel.

"Jim" Wilcox, the alleged murderer of Ella Maud Cropsey, has made an enemy of one of his best friends. Since Wilcox's imprisonment, Mr. B. A. Newbern, the jailer, has spared no effort to make prison life comfortable for the doomed man. He has never refused to grant the slightest request of the prisoner and many times a day the kind hearted jailer has walked to and fro on errands for the hated of men.

Saturday afternoon Wilcox expressed a wish for some matches. Mr. Newbern, or "Bonney" as he is better known, went over to his house and, procuring a box of matches, returned to the jail. Wilcox is in an upper cell. "Bonney" drew himself up by the bars and extended the matches to the prisoner. Instead of expressing a word of thanks Jim Wilcox reached for a knife and aimed a vicious blow at the outstretched hand inflicting an ugly wound upon one of the jailer's fingers.

Mr. Newbern dropped to the floor and demanded an explanation. The prisoner assumed a murderous attitude and threatened worse were the opportunity presented. He also expressed regret that he did not succeed in inflicting a more serious wound.

Inside the prison walls an angry argument ensued between the keeper and his charge. Mr. Newbern's reply was in part: "Jim Wilcox, I have treated you as a friend. I have never once refused to grant you anything within my power, while the hands of every man in the county has been turned against you. Now that you have acted as you have I shall treat you just as I do the other prisoners and when you hang I want to be the man to pull the rope." Wilcox's reply was a sneer.

This is not the first time since his imprisonment that Wilcox has displayed his murderous character. Once Mr. Robert Mitchell, a prominent citizen of Camden, visited the jail and being curious sought the cell of the alleged murderer. Wilcox met him at the bars with a beer bottle and demanded: "What in the hell do you want here?" Mr. Mitchell, expecting the beer bottle, beat a hasty retreat. In Camden he told the story and the people of that county were highly indignant.

Later: Since the attack upon a visitor to the jail. Mr. John Sykes was in jail one day this week and Wilcox made threats similar to those above and then attempted attacking Mr. Sykes with the beer bottle.

### ALL IN FUN, SAYS WILCOX.

Raleigh News & Observer.

Elizabeth City, N. C., Aug. 15.—In an interview with Wilcox this morning in reference to his attack upon his jailer, Wilcox said: "If 'Bonney' Newbern told that I made any malicious attack upon him, he lied. I have always treated him white. I have loaned him money at times to the amount of \$1.05. I have made him a present of two dresses for his baby and whenever I had anything to drink he was always given a generous share. I often have friends to

bring me liquor and then I often send out and buy it myself. 'Bonney' will go out and 'swipe' the eggs and I'll fix up the toddy. I've got a fork here that I use to beat it up with.

"'Bonney' Newbern's favorite expression is: 'Cut a hog.' One day I said something to him, jokingly, and he said: 'Cut a hog.' I told him that as he looked to be on the hog, I guess I'd cut him. I raked at him with the fork; it was all in fun. Many times since then he told me to 'cut a hog,' and I'd rake at him with the fork. What he said was merely a joke. I took it as such and my actions were in the same way, and he always interpreted them as such. We have been playing with each other, like that, every since I have been here.

"Saturday 'Bonney' was in here and I asked him to get papa to send me some matches. He did not do that, but he went over to his house and brought them. Instead of handing them to me as he should he crawled up to the bars and began to nose into my dinner. I asked him, 'don't it suit you?' and he replied: 'It's all right, but—' A few other remarks passed and then he said, 'cut a hog.' I chipped at him with my knife and barely cut the skin off his finger. He crawled down and made all kinds of threats, and even attempted to get a gun. That's the thing just like it happened. If you don't believe me ask any of these other fellows in here."

### Mr. Melchi Rhodes Dead.

Lincoln Journal.

Mr. Melchi Rhodes, an aged and highly respected citizen of the county, died at his home near Salem Church Friday night at 11 o'clock. He had been in poor health since last fall, when he became afflicted with dropsy. This and heart trouble caused his death.

Deceased was originally from Gaston county where he was born in 1872. After the Civil War he came to this county. Caleb Rhodes, who died in 1896, was his only brother. Besides the immediate family, three sisters, Mrs. Eli Pasour, Mrs. F. W. Thompson, both of Dallas, and Mrs. Jacob Carpenter, of Gastonia, survive. In 1855 he was married to Caroline Killian, who died the 24th day of April, 1901. By this union there were two sons, O. P. Rhodes, of Dallas, and E. K. Rhodes, and one daughter, Miss Cecelia Rhodes.

The funeral services were held at Salem Church, of which he was a consistent member, at 12 o'clock Sunday morning. He was a quiet and peaceful man and well thought of by all his neighbors. Just before his death, he expressed a willingness to die, and was fully prepared for the end. Immediately after the funeral, the interment took place at Salem Graveyard where he was laid to rest beside his wife.

The sympathies of the community are extended to the family of this good man.

New York city has a school budget of nearly \$20,000,000 this year—a larger sum than is expended for purposes of education by any other city in the world and very much larger than is expended by many countries.

### NEWS ITEMS.

McGovern and Corbett will fight before the Southern Athletic Club in Louisville, Ky., on September the 15th.

The Concord Tribune says a nugget of gold weighing a quarter of a pound was found one day last week at the Meadow Creek mine.

Fire on last Thursday night destroyed Dorset & Brindle's livery stables, the First Methodist church, two tenement houses three barns and a number of out buildings. In the livery stables were confined thirty-five horses and of this number twenty-four were burned to death. A conservative estimate of the property destroyed is \$20,000, and there was less than \$4,000 insurance. Of the 24 horses burned, 16 belonged to Dorset & Brindle and 8 to private individuals.—Lexington Dispatch.

An exposition conducted entirely by negroes was opened in Chicago on the 14th and will continue 30 days. Exhibits of various kinds of work done by colored people from the time the first American slave was put to work in rice and cotton fields to the present day are on exhibition. President Roosevelt pressed the button to open the show, and 5,000 were in attendance. The profits of the enterprise will go to the endowment fund of the Home for Aged and Infirm Colored People, located in Chicago.

The Concord Tribune says during the storm Wednesday night while the rain was pouring down in torrents the fire bell rang and it was discovered that the office of the Western Union Telegraph Company had caught from lightning. Messrs. Jno. and Richmond Reed discovered the fire and notified Mr. McConnell over the telephone and when he arrived the three quickly extinguished the flames. No damage was done to the building scarcely. All communication was cut off except the Charlotte line. The Central Methodist church was also struck, a hole being knocked in the tower and several brick being knocked out of the tower window. The lightning also entered on the electric light wire and burned out every light in the building.

Thursday night in Greensboro John W. Roberts, of Richmond, manager of the Richmond Supply Company, fell from the ceiling to the basement of a five story building—a distance of sixty feet, and sustained no serious injury. A special says: Mr. Roberts owes his escape from death to an unusual fact. A spiral stairs is being built and every floor or joist has flooring near by, the partial flooring alternating on each side of the stair shaft. Mr. Roberts is very fat, weighing 250 pounds. When he struck the first floor on the right he bounced and struck on the left floor below, then bounced to the right floor below, etc., and bounding right each time and thus breaking his fall, the fortunate fact of a superabundance of fat protecting his bones and giving elasticity to his body to prevent its missing the alternate floors and going crashing down to inevitable destruction.

Subscribe for THE GAZETTE.

## Three Things New.

1. STREET HATS. You will be pleased with them. They are new and just in, at YEAGER'S.
2. WALKING SKIRTS. The perfection of style. New lot just in, at YEAGER'S.
3. NEW WAIST GOODS. Just arrived, and they come in Patterns only. Beautiful Persian effect.

Come to YEAGER'S for all the new things in Millinery and Ladies' Furnishings.

J. F. YEAGER,  
LADIES' FURNISHINGS A SPECIALTY.

## STAR LAUNDRY.

WE DO NOT TAKE  
NEGRO LAUNDRY.

Charlotte, North Carolina.

### NOTICE.

I have this day given Mr. J. B. Boyd, of this city, the entire agency of Gastonia and McAdenville. He will run a wagon and have an office just as a laundry. He will take your work and return it to you the same day. Will give you the same accommodation as any up-to-date laundry. I am making this arrangement so everybody can send their goods to the laundry. I am going to give the best work that can be had in the Southern States and at the cheapest prices. Guarantee the goods to be satisfactory in every respect.

I will be glad to have your patronage. All orders left in the office will have prompt attention. If you have any laundry send it or 'phone 166.

Do not forget the Star Laundry, J. B. Boyd, Gastonia Agent.

H. B. McDOWELL, Proprietor.

## Fall in Hammocks.

Summer is going and with it our splendid stock of hammocks. We do not wish to carry a single hammock over to next season and so not only a part of summer has gone but a big lump out of hammock prices has gone with it. We are cutting to cost and have only these left:

- Two \$2.00 Hammocks to go at . . . . . \$1.60
- One \$1.75 Hammock to go at . . . . . \$1.35
- Two \$1.25 Hammocks to go at . . . . . \$1.00
- Three 98c Hammocks to go at . . . . . 88c

Buy quick, bring the cash, and enjoy the comfort of a good hammock the rest of the summer. Sooner you buy, the more service you'll get this summer.

Marshall's Book Store,  
ON THE CORNER.

# AUGUST CLEARANCE SALE!

\$45,000 worth of Furniture, Carpets, etc. offered during this month AT SPECIAL SALE PRICES.

This sale is for the purpose of reducing our large stock and to increase cash sales during this month. This is the grand opportunity to furnish your house handsomely from the finest stock in the South at a saving of 1/2 to 1/3 less than other dealers' prices. It will pay you to come hundreds of miles to take advantage of this great reduction sale.

WE OFFER EVERYTHING IN THE FURNITURE LINE WITHOUT RESERVE.

Bedroom Suits in Mahogany, Birdseye Maple, Oak and Birch. Parlor Suits, all styles and prices. Dining room Suits of the latest designs. Hall Furniture in all woods and grades. Library Furniture to please everyone. Office Furniture of all grades and descriptions. Everything in Carpets, Mattings, Rugs, Curtains, Portieres, Sofa Pillows, Window Shades and Draperies. Toilet Ware, Lamps, Stoves, Grates, Tiles, Mantels and Wall Paper.

We expect to make this the greatest sale ever conducted in this store. It will be money in your pocket to visit us during this reduction sale. We will make a grand and substantial reduction on every article in our store during this month. If you live out of town and can't come to see us send us your orders by mail and you will get as great a bargain as if you were here in person.

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