

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE

The Paper
Read by Gaston People
That's All

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E. D. ATKINS, Editor.

VOL. XXVIII.

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BLOODY TRAGEDY AT HARDIN

WILL CLONINGER KILLS JOHN MAUNEY WITH BASEBALL BAT

Sunday School Picnic on Grounds of Hardin Manufacturing Company Turned Into Carnival of Drunkenness and Rowdiness, the Climax Being the Killing of John Mauney by Will Cloninger, Who Used a Baseball Bat—Slayer and Two Alleged Accomplices Escape—Charlie Costner and Colley Cloninger in Jail at Dallas—A Terrible Attraction.

Hardin, a small cotton manufacturing town on the C. & N. W. Railroad about ten miles north of Gastonia, was the scene Saturday of what seems from all information obtainable at this writing, to have been a brutal murder. As the result of this tragedy, which was the climax of what seems to have been a regular carnival of drunkenness and rowdiness, John Mauney, an operative of the Hardin Mills, is dead and Will Cloninger, his slayer, is a fugitive from justice, together with John Cloninger and another Cloninger, alleged accomplices. Charlie Costner and Colley Cloninger are in jail at Dallas, charged with complicity in the crime.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC.
As previously advertised Saturday was set aside as the day for the big annual picnic at Hardin. Circulars had been sent out inviting out-siders to come and have a good time. Music, dinner, speaking and a baseball game with Lincolnton had been arranged for. Supt. S. S. Hovis of the Sunday school and Mr. O. D. Carpenter, owner of the mill, were in charge of the day's events and had provided for the comfort and welfare of all comers. There were some 1,500 or 2,000 people on the grounds.

All went well till after the baseball game in the afternoon. The forenoon exercises consisted of addresses by Rev. Cornelius Miller, of Dallas; Rev. R. M. Courtney, of Lincolnton; and Prof. Fritz, of Hickory. Music was furnished by the brass band and a sumptuous dinner was served to the large crowd. In the afternoon, Lincolnton and Hardin crossed bats on the baseball diamond. It was a union Sunday school picnic, all the schools of the village uniting.

THE TROUBLE BEGINS.
The Gazette reporter talked over the long distance phone yesterday with a gentleman at Hardin who was on the ground and the information as obtained from him is given below:

It seems that the entire trouble began when some person or persons arrived on the grounds with a plentiful supply of whiskey, to which is attributed the whole tragedy. During the baseball game there were several small fights on the grounds, the participants using their fists mostly. These fistfights resulted in nothing serious. When the game was over whiskey was flowing pretty freely and a number of persons on the grounds were more or less intoxicated. John Mauney, the man who was killed, was on the ground and had a baseball bat in his hand. A party composed, it is said, of Colley, Will and John Cloninger and one other Cloninger whose first name could not be learned, Mate Pool, Charlie Costner and perhaps others, advanced on Mauney. He retreated, waving his bat to ward off the crowd which, it seemed, was bent on having a fight with him. So far as can be learned Mauney did not strike any one and was all the time on the defensive. It is not stated whether he was drinking.

After having retreated from his attackers several times, one of the party, Mate Pool, succeeded in getting behind Mauney and pushing him forward. As he did so the remainder of the party made a rush and Will Cloninger, wrenching the bat from Mauney's hands, struck the latter two or three terrific blows over the head fracturing his skull and inflicting injuries that resulted in death. Mauney was removed to the hospital at Lincolnton where he died Sunday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

SLAYER ESCAPES.
Immediately after the tragedy Will Cloninger and his accomplices set about to make their escape from the hands of the law. Will Cloninger, it is said, secured a wagon but in what direction he went is not known. There was no officer on the ground at the time and the bystanders made no effort, it seems, to detain the slayer. Deputy Sheriff Sandifer had

been present all day and left only a short time before the killing took place. At this writing (Monday afternoon) Will Cloninger and all of his accomplices except Charlie Costner and Colley Cloninger, are still at liberty. The two latter were captured and taken to the Dallas jail by Deputy Sheriff Sandifer.

Deputy Sheriff Bob Rhyme and perhaps other officers are searching for the others but as yet without success.

THE DEAD MAN

John Mauney, the dead man, was a son of the late Sam (Continued on second page)

LINCOLN LOCALS.

The first brick was laid Wednesday afternoon for the new graded school building by Mr. Will Ringer. The walls have been torn away, foundations dug and the new walls will now go up rapidly.

Mr. R. L. Holdsworth, of Lowville, was taken to the Lincoln Hospital Wednesday by Dr. C. D. Thompson where an operation for appendicitis was performed by Doctors Crowell, Thompson and Petric. The operation was most successful and the patient is doing well.

Miss Leola Whitener died at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Whitener, two miles north of Stanley, Tuesday morning. Miss Whitener was 16 years old and had been sick a short time. The interment took place at Stanley, from the Presbyterian church, Rev. Mr. Little conducting the services.

Dr. W. C. Kiser was called upon for a most unusual operation a few days ago in which he extracted two dog ticks from the ear of Edna, the 5-year-old daughter of Mr. Eli Rhyne, of Reepsville. One of the ticks was about the size of a cow pea and the other not quite so large, and they were deeply imbedded in the ear near the drum where they had remained for eight weeks. A slight inflammation had caused deafness in the ear, and when the ticks were removed, with tweezers, a piece of skin $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in diameter was torn away by the tight grip of the insects.

Mr. Deck Reeps, who lives near Bess' Chapel, was thrown from a mule near Mr. Thad Allen's home, in Cleveland county, Monday and received injuries from which he died Tuesday night. Mr. Reeps had driven to Shelby with his team and noticing that his dog was lost unhitched one of the mules and rode back to search for the dog. Mr. Reeps was gone so long that friends became uneasy and looked him up to find that he had been thrown from the mule near Mr. Allen's house and was in an unconscious condition, suffering with concussion of the brain.

Lincolnton meets Gastonia in a series of three games this week which will be watched with great interest by ball enthusiasts all over the State. Gastonia is determined to take Lincolnton's scalp and has been making preparations for weeks to do the trick. Seven crack players from the Anniston, Ala., team have been engaged by Gastonia and rumor has it that these professionals have been offered a bonus of \$1,000 if they wipe Lincolnton off the map.

Where is the Good?
Statesville Landmark.
At a conference of members of the McAdenville Baptist church at McAdenville, Gaston county, held a few days ago, a challenge was formally issued to the Methodist brethren of McAdenville to discuss matters of doctrine which differentiate the Methodist and Baptist denominations. Just what it is hoped to accomplish by the discussion, except bitterness and ill feeling, we don't know. When he heard of somebody doing something particularly foolish the late Mr. Isaac Wallace, of Statesville, was accustomed to remark that "the fools are not all dead." Somehow Mr. Wallace's remark occurs to us now.

DALLAS DOTS.

Correspondence of The Gazette.

Dallas, N. C., Aug. 3, 1907—Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Puett entertained a number of their friends very charmingly Wednesday evening. The occasion was a delightful one to all who were recipients of Mr. and Mrs. Puett's gracious hospitality.

The meetings of the Four Flairis are always pleasant and enjoyable in every respect; therefore, yesterday, the meeting of the club was no exception to the rule when the members and a large number of invited guests were entertained by Mesdames C. C. Cornwell and Summey C. Cornwell. At small tables in the parlor, library and hall progressive initials was played. Much amusement and entertainment was enjoyed by the participants in the contest. Mrs. S. A. Wilkins received the prize for having scored the highest number of points. The refreshments of cream and cake were daintily served in the club colors, green and pink. Those present were Mesdames Cornelius Miller, J. R. Lewis, J. C. Puett, J. M. Shuford, Robt. S. Lewis, J. H. Jenkins, Fred Robinson, S. A. Wilkins; Misses May and Helen Durham, Marion Miller, Mabel and Muriel Bulwinkle, Less Detter, Ruby Costner, Bess and Corinne Puett, Essie Wilson, Essie, Ina and Maggie Rudisill and Hallie Hester.

During the past week a Mission Study Class has been organized by Misses Marion Miller and Sarah Hoffman for the systematic and thorough study of foreign missions.

Under the leadership of Miss Essie Wilson, who has graduated from Due West Female College in June, the class will study India for ten weeks.

Quite a number of young ladies have accepted the invitation to become members of the class. The meetings will be held once a week, at the homes of the members, in alphabetical order. The first meeting will be held next Tuesday evening at Miss Ruby Costner's home. Mrs. C. B. Orrender has returned from a visit to relatives in Richmond.—Mrs. K. L. McDow and Miss Gladys McDow, of Charleston, S. C., who have been visiting friends in town during the past month, left Thursday morning for Blowing Rock.—Mrs. J. R. Lewis and Mrs. S. C. Cornwell have returned from a visit to Kings Mountain.—Mrs. Miles Carpenter with her two sons left several days ago for a visit to her parents' home in South Carolina.—Senator and Mrs. O. F. Mason with their little daughter, Frances and Mary Lee, are visiting in Shelby this week.—Mr. and Mrs. Ralph O. Fordham and Miss Ida Rhyne returned the early part of the week from a visit to the Jamestown Exposition and also to Washington.—Miss Emma C. Cornwell has returned from a visit to friends at Lowell.

JONES' ENORMOUS SHOWS.

The largest show of the Southland will exhibit at Gastonia, Wednesday, August 14. A9c2t.

Family Reunion.

There will be a reunion of all the children and grand-children of the late J. H. Rhyne at the old homestead, where Mr. W. N. Bell now lives, on Wednesday, August 28th. The invitation is extended by Mr. W. N. Bell and family to all their friends and neighbors also, to come with well-filled baskets and enjoy the pleasures of the day.

There's Room for the Workers.

The whole world is looking for people who can be relied upon to do something. The cry of the business world is for men and women who will take hold and bring out some result. Never was there a time when opportunity was so abundant or when capable men and women were so nearly all occupied. There is ample room for everybody who is willing to try.

Keep the Money at Home.

Money sent to mail order houses is taken entirely out of the circulation of the communities from which it is sent. There are people who insist upon dealing with foreign houses, even when they can get the same commodities at as low a price at home. This is a very bad policy for all concerned, and is as harmful to the people who practice it as to others. It is good policy and it is good business to pay a little more for articles at home, rather than buy them abroad.

PERSONAL MENTION.

—Mr. and Mrs. Porter R. Elmors and little son left yesterday for their home at Stonegap, Va., after a two weeks' visit to the former's father, Mr. Henry R. Elmors, on R. F. D. No. 1, Lowell. This is Mr. Elmors' first visit home in four years. He holds a responsible position with the Stonegap Coal & Coke Co., at Stonegap. His many friends were glad to see him again.

—Miss Mary Alexander, one of the popular salesladies at Bell's, left yesterday for Charlotte and Fort Mill where she will visit friends for ten days.

—Miss Lois McAllister is visiting Mrs. Caudle at Union, S. C.

—Mr. J. White Ware, of Spencer Mountain, was in town Sunday.

—Miss Stella Bradley returned to Charlotte yesterday after spending Saturday and Sunday with home-folks here.

—A party consisting of Mrs. R. J. Groves, Miss Phronia Falls and Miss Ella Bradley will leave next Monday for Jamestown.

—Mr. Gas McLean arrived Saturday from Norfolk and will spend two or three weeks here with relatives. He has a position as clerk in a Norfolk hotel.

—Mrs. Lillie Davis, of the Yeager Manufacturing Co's. custom department, is visiting her mother and other relatives at Atlanta Ga. Mrs. Fannie Lytle, with the same firm, is spending her vacation at Spartanburg.

—Miss Belle Crawford is the guest of Miss Ida Purley.

—Miss Sue Stowe, of Belmont, was the guest last week of Miss Lanna Sloan.

—Mrs. Miles P. Hoffman, of Philadelphia, who was Miss Lilly Rhyne, of Mount Holly before her marriage, is at present visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Rhyne, at Mt. Holly. Mrs. Hoffman will visit friends in Charlotte while South.—Charlotte Chronicle.

—Mr. E. L. Fronberger, of Bessemer City, left yesterday for Jamestown to take in the exposition.

—Mrs. E. L. Mason, of Dallas, was the guest Sunday night of Mrs. L. A. Brittain. She was en route from Bessemer City to her home.

—Mr. W. L. Pressly, of Due West, S. C., spent Sunday in Gastonia, the guest of Mr. Edgar Long. They left yesterday for Lincolnton, Mr. Long going in the interest of Erskine College.

—Mr. Arthur Winget spent Sunday here with homefolks, returning to Greer's, S. C., yesterday.

—Mr. Eli Kendrick and Mr. Robert Adams will leave next Tuesday for Jamestown to take in North Carolina week at the exposition.

—Mr. E. L. Swan leaves next week for the Northern markets to buy fall stock for Swan-Slater Company.

—Mr. John L. Bryan leaves next week for the Northern markets to purchase the fall stock for the F. F. Love, Inc., department stores.

—Mr. Ed Adams was in town yesterday en route from Clover, where he had been on a visit to home folks, to High Point where he has a position in a pharmacy.

—Mr. E. H. Rankin and son, Gray, spent last week at Taylorsville and other points in Alexander county. Mr. Rankin says the staple crops there, corn and tobacco, are good, though the tobacco crop is not as large this year as in former years because of decline in the price of the weed. The apple crop, which is one of the staple sources of revenue, will yield just about half this year. Taylorsville, which is the terminus of the A. T. & O. Railroad, is now building a small cotton mill.

Subscribe for THE GAZETTE.

In The Lead.

The people of Charlotte have subscribed to the three local building and loan associations in the city an average of \$100 per capita of population. This makes about \$3,500,000 subscribed and in process of saving. If the entire United States had as much it would make \$8,000,000,000. As a matter of fact, the net assets of the building and loan associations in the United States aggregate about \$600,000,000 and the subscribed stock about twice as much. Therefore it is seen that Charlotte is well in the lead.

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