

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

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NO. 42.

OVER GASTON COUNTY.

AN ATTEMPTED ASSAULT.

Unknown White Man Seizes Young Woman and Drags Her into Thicket, but Farm Hands Come to Her Rescue—Posses Scouring Woods and Considerable Excitement Prevails—A Lynching Feared.

Special to The Gazette. BESSEMER CITY, May 26.—A posse of one hundred or more armed men with bloodhounds is scouring the country south of here in the neighborhood of Crowders mountain in search of an unknown white man who attempted to criminally assault Miss Carrie Bell, the 15-year-old daughter of Mr. John Bell, telegraph operator at this place, shortly after noon today.

The scene of the dastardly deed was about one mile south of town, where Miss Bell and a younger sister were at work on their father's farm. The girls were returning to the field from a nearby spring when an unknown white man sprang upon them, seizing the older girl and dragging her into a thicket. The screams of the girls reached two men at work in another field some distance away. They hurried to the scene and at their approach the man darted into the woods and made his escape. The young girl, in a pitiable condition, was carried to the nearest house and a runner sent to town to spread the news. Immediately a large posse of citizens headed by Policeman Rollins and Deputy Sheriff Fuller rushed to the scene. Bloodhounds were also brought from the county convict camp and put upon the trail. Up to a late hour tonight their efforts had been in vain.

Considerable excitement prevails here and if the fiend is caught a lynching is probable. It was rumored here tonight that the assailant is a young man by the name of Blackwood, a cotton mill operative, but this cannot be stated positively.

A phone message from Bessemer City at 2 o'clock this afternoon is to the effect that the man wanted has not yet been apprehended. The citizens' search has been abandoned but the officers are still on the lookout for him. The young lady is getting along all right, having suffered no harm except that she was badly frightened.

MRS. M. A. CALDWELL DEAD.

Highly Esteemed Lady of Riverbend Passes at Advanced Age—Young Folks Return from College—Other Mount Holly Matters.

Correspondence of The Gazette.

MOUNT HOLLY, May 25.—Mr. J. J. Mullis, whose serious illness was reported in a previous communication, died last Sunday and was buried here Monday. His funeral was conducted by his pastor, Rev. D. E. Vipperman.

Mrs. Robert Hoffman is quite sick and her friends are exceedingly anxious about her condition. She is suffering from "fatted heart."

Our boys and girls who have been attending schools and colleges in different parts of the State are returning home, bringing joy and gladness to friends and loved ones.

Misses Jean and Bain Henderson, Sarah and Christine Rutledge and Fay Davenport of the State Normal Greensboro, and Messrs. Fred Howell, Earl Thompson and Ralph Davenport, of the State University, Chapel Hill, all came in this week, all looking their best.—Mr. Lester Springs, who has been taking a post-graduate course and also teaching at Davidson College, returned home Tuesday.—Rev. and Mrs. David E. Vipperman and little daughter, Ruth, are spending the week in Gastonia on a visit to friends and relatives. Rev. Mr. Vipperman is expected to return in time for services in his church here next Sunday.

On Monday evening Miss Essie Rankin gave a "Luna Party" at the home of her sister, Mrs. John Welch. The party watched the eclipse of the moon and Halley's comet receding to parts unknown. Games of innocent amusement were enjoyed. Also a prize, a hand-painted calendar, was awarded to Mr. Hamilton McCorkle, who succeeded in forming the greater number of words from the phrase, "Luna Eclipse." Delicious ices, cakes

and fruits were served by the gracious hostess. Those present were, Misses Velma Springs, Bertha Jenkins, Bess Grice, Mary Bowles, Ida Rankin, Eva Bowles, Mildred Babington and Messrs. James Holland, Ed Jones, Guy Howard, Lee Grice, Hamilton McCorkle, Ivey Rankin and Tom Belk.

Mr. Fred Howell has accepted a position with the Home Educational Company, of Concord, as traveling salesman and has been assigned territory in the Northwestern part of Missouri. He will leave next week to enter upon the duties.

Mrs. Martha Caldwell, wife of Mr. Frank Caldwell, living near Rozzell's bridge, died Monday and was buried at Snow Hill M. E. church at Lucia. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. J. A. Bowles from Snow Hill church. She was a faithful member of Riverbend church and had been a devout member of same for sixty years. Her funeral was attended by a large concourse of sorrowing friends and relatives. Mrs. Caldwell was born in Denver, Lincoln county, May 17, 1841, and was therefore 69 years and six days old. Deceased was a daughter of Osborn and Eliza Munday. She is survived by her husband, four sons and four daughters, viz: William, Robert, Franklin and Foy and Mesdames Rena Morris, Emma White, Nora Coda and Lena Harkey. Her brothers, Messrs. Rufus, Osborn, and Pinkney Munday live in Denver, Lincoln county. Deceased had been an invalid for years. There was no better woman in all the community in which she lived than Mrs. Caldwell.

FORBES-SMITH.

Mr. Edison Forbes, of Crowders Creek, and Miss Ludia Smith, of Bethel, Married—Clover Young Folks Home from College—Site Selected for New School Building—Auction Sale of Lots.

Correspondence of The Gazette.

CLOVER, S. C., May 26.—Now that the weather is warmer and the season fine, the growing crops are doing better and begin to give evidence that there is going to be something made.

The following young people are at home from the different colleges for the summer: Drs. Joe Thomas and Robert Miller, from the University of Maryland, Dr. Ross Clinton from Charleston Medical College, Misses Mary and Carrie Adams from Chilcora Female College, Greenville, Miss Emily Wright from Elizabeth College, Charlotte, Messrs. Sam Jackson and Clyde Ford from Westminster School, Rutherfordton, Miss Annie Williams from Converse, Mr. Millard Williams from Wofford Fitting School and Miss Ethel Pierce from Due West Female College are expected home in a few days. We are glad to welcome these young people home and hope Clover will afford each one a pleasant vacation.

Mrs. Thomas T. B. Williams left last Saturday for a short visit to her old home, Baltimore, Md. She is expected to return home next Saturday.

Mr. Edwin Forbes, of Crowders Creek, and Miss Ludia Smith, of the Bethel section of York county, were married at Bowling Green manse by Rev. W. J. Wyley yesterday morning, leaving immediately after the ceremony, via the Carolina & Northwestern, for Asheville, Hendersonville and other points of interest in the mountains of North Carolina.

The trustees of the Clover High School have selected as a site for the new school building a lot near the "Old Myles Smith" homestead, consisting of 3 1-2 acres of ground. Work on the building will begin as soon as the preliminary arrangements can be perfected.

The Chester Realty Company purchased about 20 acres of the S. M. Faires land, laid the same off into lots and streets, and conducted an auction sale of lots last Saturday. They sold quite a number of lots, the most of which were bought by people of the surrounding country and we hope to see many new and valuable additions to our town brought about by this enterprising company.

Gen. William F. Draper, of Hopedale, Mass., father of Mr. Arthur J. Draper, of Charlotte, and who died recently at an advanced age left an estate valued at \$6,358,487, as shown by his will which was probated recently.

OIL TAKES A DROP.

Independent Company Enters Field in Competition With Standard and Oil Drops Three Cents Immediately—F. D. Barkley & Co. Local Agents for New Concern.

Gastonia people are getting their kerosene oil three cents a gallon cheaper than they were a few weeks ago. It is barely possible, too, that it may be still cheaper, though this is mere guess work. From 11 1-2 cents a gallon this household article has dropped at one clip to 8 1-2, a difference of three cents.

This drop in the price of oil here is due to the entrance into the local field of the Indian Refining Company, with main headquarters at Cincinnati, Ohio. Messrs. F. D. Barkley & Co., wholesale grocers, are the agents for Gastonia and this territory.

Some weeks ago this concern, which is an independent one, leased property just north of town, near the plant of the Gaston Plaster Factory and the Standard Oil Company, and erected two large tanks and warehouses. It is understood that the lease is for a period of years. When two car loads of oil arrived a few days ago and were emptied into the company's tanks the Standard cut the price three cents. Mr. Barkley informs The Gazette that he expects to start his tank wagons June 1st. Refined oils, gasoline and lubricating oils will be handled.

The Indian Refining Company owns its own tank car lines and has over 1800 cars in operation. It also owns its own oil fields, principally in Illinois and has four large refineries, the largest being located at Georgetown, Ky. Though a comparatively new organization it is rapidly pushing out and is now competing with its only rival, the Standard Oil Company, in many cities and towns. It has now agencies in twelve of the larger towns of North Carolina.

This reduction in the price of oil will be welcomed in Gastonia, as it has been wherever the entrance of this new company has brought it about. Despite the fact that we are in the heart of a section that is literally covered with wires transmitting electric power and lights an immense quantity of oil is used and hence a drop of three cents a gallon will mean thousands of dollars yearly to our people.

ALL ABOUT THE COMET.

The Following in Brief, is all Science Can Tell Us About the Comet.

First identified by Edmund Halley, an English astronomer, in 1682.

Returns to view in cycles of about seventy-five years.

First known observation 1,921 years ago.

Next visit 1985.

Diameter of head, 200,000 miles.

Length of tail (estimated), 20,000,000 miles.

Thickness of tail where earth entered, 1,000,000 miles.

Distance from head to point of contact, 14,000,000 miles.

Speed of comet per second, 40 miles.

Estimated consistency of tail, one molecule to one cubic yard.

Solid matter could be placed in woman's handbag.

Estimated weight of matter where earth entered, one-half ounce.

Earth will encounter about 265,000,000,000,000,000 molecules.

Time of transit through the tail about six hours.

Burned Herself to Death.

Resorting to three different methods to kill herself while her family was asleep around her, Mrs. J. H. Deal, who lives a little over a mile from Maiden, Catawba county, committed suicide Thursday morning before day, saturating herself with kerosene oil and setting herself on fire.

Her husband was awakened by the flames from her dress and ran to her rescue but too late to save her. A razor and axe were lying near. She tried first to cut her throat and then to cut her head with the axe. Ill health was the cause. She was 27 years of age and two children survive her.

The C. C. & O. Railway has arranged to carry mail from Bostic to Spartanburg.

GENERAL CONFERENCE CLOSSES.

Bishop Denny Chosen Secretary of College of Bishops—Board of Appeals Established.

The sixteenth quadrennial session of the General Conference came to a close Saturday night. The closing exercises were conducted by Bishop A. W. Wilson, who as senior bishop of the Church expressed the belief that in his opinion safe, sane and conservative measures had been adopted and that in his opinion the Church would in the next four years go forward by leaps and bounds. The afternoon session was presided over by Bishop Morrison. The college of bishops elected Bishop Collins Denny secretary of their body. The discussion on the endowment fund for worn-out preachers was taken up and by vote of the conference was lost.

A resolution was passed asking the college of bishops to appoint a committee, consisting of one bishop, two preachers, and two laymen, to consider a plan for increased activities of the laymen and for larger representation in the annual conferences. The pages were presented with a purse for their services.

The committee on missions recommended that the general board of missions appoint a committee on evangelism to operate under the home department of said board to provide for the evangelistic movements throughout the Church. After some discussion the measure was adopted.

The most confusion during the conference came when the question came up as to whether the conference strike out the words "the Holy Catholic Church" in the creed and substitute the words "the Church of God." Points of order, amendments, personal privileges and substitutes were offered thick and fast. Rev. J. W. Perry finally made the point of order that the question had not been properly put before the conference and the point was sustained.

The salary of the secretary of the board of education was increased to \$3,600. The report of the committee on the statement of faith for world-wide Methodism showed that their work failed on account of another Church declining to co-operate in the effort.

An appropriation of \$12,000 was voted for the Pacific Methodist Advocate for the next four years. The report of the committee on church extension was adopted, which leaves the question of moving the headquarters from Louisville with the board, which is to report at the next conference.

The report of the committee on episcopacy regarding the semi-annual meeting of the college of bishops in New Orleans was approved.

The last measure adopted by the conference was the adopting of a report that a committee of five be appointed to co-operate with the national committee on uniform divorce laws. It is thought that one of the best provisions enacted at this session was the establishing of a court of appeals which will enable a minister under charges of his conference to appeal his case and not cause him to wait until a session of the General Conference. This court will have full power to either sustain the action of the annual conference or to reverse its findings, thus placing the man under charges, if acquitted, in full possession again of all his prerogatives as a preacher.

Entertainment Monday Night.

Under the auspices of the Women's Betterment Association the Zanton's peerless necromantic comedians, will give an entertainment Monday night at the Central school auditorium, presenting among other acts a marvelous blindfold feat on the typewriter, the East India cabinet mystery and laugh-provoking stunts. This company comes with excellent recommendations and those who go out will no doubt receive their money's worth. The admission fee will be 35 cents for adults and 25 cents for children. A per centage of the proceeds will go to the Woman's Betterment Association and the ladies hope that the town will give them a good house.

Governor Kitchin Wednesday commuted to life imprisonment the death sentence of Cobb Withers, the Mecklenburg negro, who was to have been electrocuted today.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Southern Presbyterian Assembly in Session at Lewisburg, Va., Passes on Matters of Grave Importance—Body Adjourned Thursday.

Almost revolutionary changes in the organization of the Southern Presbyterian Church were recommended at Friday's session of the General Assembly. One of the greatest changes recommended was the reduction of the executive committee to four members. According to the report there would be an executive committee on home missions, ministerial education and relief, schools and colleges, foreign missions, publication and Sabbath schools. The recommendation was based on the complaint that the work of the Church was confused. At the same time the assembly's standing committee on benevolence was recommended to be made permanent with enlarged powers. Some changes in the method of raising money for assembly causes were recommended.

It was urged that the stated beneficiaries of the Church be separated from its current expense and local work for charity and that special committees by the Church be appointed to canvass the congregations for subscriptions to benevolent causes. It was also recommended that the number of special collections be reduced to eight, two each for foreign missions, home missions, ministerial education and relief, one each for Sabbath school missions and publication for Bible cause. Dr. W. E. Boggs, of Atlanta, is chairman of the committee on bills and overtures and Dr. Russell Cecil, of Richmond, chairman of that on judicial business.

After a two-day's argument the Presbyterians agreed on a thorough re-organization of the Church work, during Saturday's session. The great changes are grouped under three heads. These are the consolidation of executive committees, or boards, which carry on the work of the Church; the conversion of the standing committee of the Church on systematic benevolence, into a permanent committee with enlarged powers, and a new system of gathering funds for assembly work. The orphanage home at Fredericksburg, Va., was placed under control of the committee on ministerial education and relief. In regard to collections, the churches are urged to adopt the so-called budget system. The churches will take only eight collections a year instead of nineteen. During the day the assembly agreed to make the first Sabbath in November "reformation day."

Sunday all the pulpits of Lewisburg were filled by prominent Presbyterian divines.

The principal event of the day was the sermon of Dr. J. W. Bachman, the moderator of the assembly, on the subject, "Loving God with the mind."

The honor of having the next assembly is sought after eagerly by Houston, Texas; Chattanooga, Tenn.; and Louisville, Ky.

Tuesday was devoted to evangelistic work, publications and Sabbath schools. At night home missions was the subject. Wednesday was devoted to constitutional amendments and the elect infant clause in the confession of Faith. At night missions was the topic.

Despite the protest that the action brought the General Assembly Monday adopted an optional form of conveyance, whereby future donors may be assured that their gifts will remain forever in that organization. The fight over the proposal was led by Judge Frank B. Hutson, of Abingdon, Va., and was stoutly opposed by Rev. C. R. Nesbitt, of Nashville, Tenn. The discussion was like court room fashion, with coat sleeves pulled up, but finally the report was adopted by a vote of 100 to 76.

During the day Rev. J. D. Leslie, of Texas, was elected permanent clerk. The committee on marriage and divorce submitted their report, but no action was taken.

Whether a church may take action favorable to prohibition in a popular election, must be acted upon by the assembly. Upon recommendation of the judicial committee, the assembly organized a commission of twenty-seven to hear the complaint of Rev. W. S. Smoot against the Northern Alabama Presbytery. That presbytery is charged

SOCIAL AFFAIRS.

Mrs. John L. Bryan delightfully entertained the Friendly Matrons Club at her home yesterday afternoon. The game of "Travel" was played and refreshments were served in a dainty manner, the event proving a delightful one for all present.

At her home on Franklin avenue Tuesday, the 10th, Mrs. M. F. Kirby delightfully entertained the Tuesday Afternoon Club and a number of invited guests. She was assisted in receiving and entertaining by Miss Hattie Kirby, of Charlotte; Mrs. Will Warren and Mrs. John L. Bryan. For the occasion the parlors were thrown together and were attractively decorated with crimson ramblers. Forty-two was played, there being quite a number of tables, and delicious refreshments were served.

Mrs. D. A. Garrison was hostess to the Tuesday Afternoon Club in her rooms at the Falls House on Tuesday of this week. Little Miss Gertrude Clineard received the guests at the hotel entrance and conducted them to Mrs. Garrison's rooms where they were greeted by the hostess. Assisting her in receiving were Mrs. D. B. Coltrane, of Concord, and Mrs. W. H. Leith, of Knoxville, Tenn. Lilies and sweet peas were used most effectively in decorating for the occasion. A game of progressive 42 was played in the hotel parlors and Mrs. W. L. Balthis and the Misses Ruddock served punch. The afternoon was thoroughly enjoyed by all who were so fortunate as to be Mrs. Garrison's guests.

Complimentary to her guests, Miss Elizabeth Harry, of Greensboro, and Miss Evelyn Pyle, of Charlotte, Miss Willie Jenkins entertained at her handsome home on Marietta street last evening. The guests were greeted at the front door by Miss Lottie Blake and were shown into the parlors by Miss Myrtle Nolen. Cream and cake were served by Miss Honore Banks and Miss Nell Mauney. Punch was served by Miss Harvie and Miss Lowry Shufford on the front porch. The Jenkins home was handsomely decorated for this occasion, the parlor in oxeve daisies, pink roses in the library and red ramblers and red candles in the dining room. During the evening Miss Pyle delighted the guests with a number of readings, skillfully executed, and a number of the guests rendered musical selections which were greatly enjoyed.

Free for All Wednesday.

Everybody will be admitted free of charge to the Loray park ball grounds next Wednesday afternoon to witness the last of the series of three games between the married men and the single men. The lineup for the married men will be as follows: Pearson, p; Bell, c; Linberger, Ell, 1b; Moore, J. D., 2b; Spencer, Elmer, ss; Parker, 3b; Stowe, rf; Workman, cf; Beal, lf. The lineup for the single men will be practically the same as in the previous games. The married men say they are going to do their best and there will be an interesting game. Last Wednesday's game was a poor one, the score being 10 to 1 in favor of the single men. The crowd was very small.

Germany's yearly output of paper stands second only to that of the United States.

with having taken action under such circumstances.

The assembly is deeply chagrined at a mistake which is said to have crept into the greetings sent to the Southern Methodist Conference at Asheville. In the message the assembly referred to Isaiah 52:7 as expressing its sentiments. Instead of this brotherly passage, it is understood the reference, when it arrived was to Isaiah 53:7. This passage tells about "lambs led to the slaughter." "Coming just after the election of seven bishops" the Rev. C. R. Hyde, of Little Rock, told the assembly that "our Methodist brethren may think us officious." He suggested no more references be included in greetings. There is a probability of the assembly adjourning today.