

Rain Today and warmer. Sunday rains; fresh to brisk northeast to southeast winds.

# Daily News.

Daily Industrial News is first, last and all the time a NEWSPAPER for all the people.

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## CAUGHT RED-HANDED BY CORONER AS HE INJECTS POISON INTO VEINS OF WIFE, WHILE PRAYING AT HER BEDSIDE, DR. MATTHEWS IS HELD FOR MURDER

Dr. J. B. Matthews was arrested at 12 o'clock last night on a warrant charging him with the murder of his wife, who died at their home in Garrell street last night at 7:30 o'clock as the result of strychnine administered by Dr. Matthews. He was caught redhanded, in the very act of administering the poison by means of a hypodermic syringe.

The crime is one of the most revolting that has occurred in North Carolina in many years. Yesterday morning at 9 o'clock a man who is in the employ of the Southern Railway and rooms at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Matthews passed the door of the room occupied by Mrs. Matthews. He heard distinctly someone breathing very heavily in the room and knocked at the door. Dr. Matthews came to the door and refused to allow him to enter.

The man brushed Dr. Matthews aside and found Mrs. Matthews lying in the bed in a most critical condition.

About this time Ben, the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, discovered the condition of his mother and the two at once gave the alarm and three physicians were summoned. Little Ben came to Conyers' Drug Store and told Mr. Conyers, "Send a doctor out home at once. Mamma is dying."

Condition Was Improving.

Three physicians, Drs. J. P. Turner, M. R. Farrar and Z. T. Brooks were summoned and arrived at the Matthews home between 10 and 11 o'clock yesterday morning. They found Mrs. Matthews suffering very much and getting her breath with great difficulty. They

did everything possible to restore her and in the afternoon she seemed to be growing better.

About 5 o'clock, when the condition of Mrs. Matthews seemed more hopeful, Dr. Matthews requested the attending physicians to retire from the room, as he felt sure that his wife could not live long and he desired to have a last word of prayer with her alone. This the physicians declined to do, saying that Dr. Matthews could pray as well with them present as in their absence.

Caught in the Act.

They, however, retired to the other side of the room, and Dr. Matthews knelt at his wife's bedside in an attitude of prayer.

Dr. Turner observed that Dr. Matthews had one hand upon the arm of his wife, as if he was testing her pulse, and a few moments later he noticed that Dr. Matthews had thrust his hand beneath the coverlet. Dr. Turner at once rushed to the bedside, snatched the hand from beneath the cover and in doing so discovered that Dr. Matthews had injected into her arm what proved to be strychnine, by means of a hypodermic syringe.

In a few minutes the symptoms of strychnine poisoning became manifest and although the physicians exerted their utmost efforts to save her, the woman died two hours later without regaining consciousness. Every known medical appliance and antidote for poison by strychnine were used, but to no avail.

Dr. Matthews Tells Conflicting Stories.

When the physicians first reached the home of Dr. Matthews he readily gave to each his explanation as to the cause of Mrs. Matthews' peculiar symptoms. The stories, however, failed to corre-

spond in many important details. To one physician he said that Mrs. Matthews had come to him Thursday night and asked what poison she could take and remain conscious until death released her. He said he declined to tell her and she left. He went on to say that a few minutes later, when he entered the room she was in the act of swallowing a handful of strychnine pellets and before he could prevent her she had accomplished her purpose. He also stated that soon after she took the pellets "strychnine pains" set in and he gave her morphine to relieve the pain and during the night he continued giving her morphine at intervals.

To others he declared that she was suffering from neuralgia and had taken an overdose of morphine. And to a newspaper man Dr. Matthews said that his wife was very ill with heart trouble.

Dr. J. P. Turner, who also is County Coroner, suspected very soon after he was called yesterday morning that Dr. Matthews had drugged his wife, but not having any proof, awaited developments. Had it not been for these suspicions he might have left the room when Dr. Matthews requested him to do so, and would thus have failed to catch the husband administering poison hypodermically to his wife as he did.

As soon as Dr. Turner wrenched the syringe from the hand of Dr. Matthews he told him to leave the room. Dr. Matthews went out and did not return until his wife had breathed her last.

It appears that Mrs. Matthews had predicted that a violent death would be her lot. To a neighbor she said only a few weeks ago, that if she was ever found unconscious she wanted Dr. Turner to be summoned. She did not explain why she thought there would ever be a necessity for a coroner to investigate her death, but from this conversation it is supposed she had expected that something of the kind might occur.

Former Attempt Made.

It is learned that a year or more ago Dr. Matthews gave morphine to his wife and had not been for medical aid she would doubtless have died. The circumstances surrounding this former incident were very peculiar, though the facts never reached the ears of the public.

This was perhaps the cause of Mrs. Matthews' apprehensions. It is said that she lived in constant dread and her life recently had been anything but happy. From a source, quite reliable, comes the information that recently Dr. and Mrs. Matthews had become greatly addicted to the habit of using opiates.

Examination of Contents of Syringe.

After the death of Mrs. Matthews last evening, Dr. Turner brought the hypodermic syringe, which he had snatched from the hand of Dr. Matthews, to his office and examined the contents. The test showed that it contained strychnine and when Dr. Turner took it there was enough poison remaining in the syringe to kill persons. If the last injection of the

poison had not been made by Dr. Matthews, the physicians would no doubt have been able to save the life of the unfortunate woman.

When Dr. Turner had completed the analysis of the contents of the syringe, accompanied by Policeman Skeens, he entered his automobile and went to the residence of Solicitor A. L. Brooks. The Coroner and the Solicitor then went to the office of Mayor Murphy in the City Hall, where a warrant was issued upon affidavit of Dr. Turner for the arrest of Dr. Matthews. The warrant charges him with the murder of his wife, and was made returnable before the Mayor and the hearing will probably be held Monday.

The warrant was entrusted to Sergeant Patterson and Patrolmen Skeens and Oliver, who went at once to the home of Dr. Matthews. They found that he had retired and went to his room and made the arrest. There was no effort of resistance upon the part of the prisoner, who was occupying a bed with his father, N. W. Matthews, who came here from Durham last night.

He was conveyed to the police station and confined in a cell. He seemed to be under the influence of some drug and had little to say. He expressed the opinion that if he could see the Mayor he would be allowed to return to his home, where his wife lay dead.

Nothing in Greensboro in recent years has caused a greater sensation than the circumstances surrounding Mrs. Matthews' death. As the arrest was made at a late hour last night only a few people were apprised of the affair. The family is well known in the city, which tends to increase interest as the revolting circumstances little by little leaked out.

Formerly difficulties are supposed to have been the cause of Dr. Matthews' act.

Grave and dark things are hinted as causing a breach between husband and wife. This may all be made public at the trial.

It is the general belief that the man, himself the victim of insidious drugs, had nursed his grief until he grew mad, and desperate and now occupies a felon's cell charged with the murder of the woman he had sworn to protect and defend.

Coroner Turner stated last night that no autopsy would be held. As Dr. Turner is the principal witness in the case it was decided that the only hearing should be had before the Mayor.

While the arrangements for the funeral have not been concluded, it will probably be held this afternoon at 3 o'clock from the residence, followed by interment at Greene Hill Cemetery.

Mrs. Matthews leaves one child, Ben. She was a Miss Briggs, of Durham, where she was married to Dr. Matthews, and with him removed to Pittsboro, where they lived for several years, and from which place they came to Greensboro about four years ago. Since removing to this city Dr. Matthews has been engaged in the practice of his profession and has built up a very considerable practice.

He was quiet and reserved and had but few if any intimate friends.

This is one of the most interesting as well as the most horrible and revolting affairs that has occurred in the State in recent years. The prominence of the family and the usual circumstances surrounding the case make it at once the most unusual and sensational event recorded in the recent history of North Carolina.

### DIES A VICTIM OF LAW'S ERROR

Suffered for Crime He Did Not Commit and Succumbs to Prisons Disease.

CONVICTED OF ROBBERY ON CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE

Remarkable Story of Philadelphia Man Revealed by Pardon From South Carolina's Governor—Message From Mother Too Late to Give Consolation.

Special to Daily Industrial News.

Charlotte, Dec. 1.—Far from home and friends, his health wrecked by serving a sentence in the South Carolina penitentiary for a crime he did not commit, L. Hineckney, aged 25, a sign painter by trade, died in the Presbyterian Hospital here this morning at 1 o'clock without having regained sufficient strength to leave a connected story of his life and wanderings.

Most of the information gained in regard to him was obtained from a much-hated pardon summoned by Governor D. C. Heyward, of South Carolina, dated October 4th, which the man carried in his bosom as his only passport to the hearts of charitable people. He was neatly dressed and showed signs of refinement.

This unfortunate young man arrived in Charlotte Monday and applied at the police station for assistance in reaching his home in Philadelphia. He was given medical attention and remained at the station two days, when he was taken to the Presbyterian Hospital and it was ascertained that he was in a serious condition.

He told the superintendent that his mother lived at 829 North Twenty-sixth street, Philadelphia, and a message was sent telling of his condition. A reply asked that everything possible be done for him, and that a priest be summoned to give him spiritual advice. But he was too far gone; his life ebbed out before the message from his mother, which might have cheered his last hour, arrived. A later message was sent telling of his death and asking for instructions as to disposition of the body, but so far no reply has been received.

Hineckney's story is a sad one. At the May term of court in Marion county, South Carolina, he was tried for the robbery of the postoffice at Latta, S. C., and was convicted on purely circumstantial evidence, being sentenced to serve five years in the penitentiary.

He was a traveling expert sign painter and was in Latta at the time the robbery was committed. Several months ago the real robbers were arrested and tried at Charleston, confessing the crime for which Hineckney was suffering. He was immediately pardoned.

Suffering from malaria, which he says he contracted while confined in the penitentiary, he went to Monroe, from which place he came to Charlotte in the hope of eventually reaching his home.

On the yellow stained parlor, worn from much handling, was written: "I do not believe L. J. Hineckney committed the crime for which he was arrested, and that his conviction was a mistake."

"HEYWARD, Governor."

### FOUR LIVES LOST WHEN BARGE SINKS

Only One Man Saved in Disaster Which Occurred Off Milnotts Light

WENT DOWN SO QUICKLY AID COULD NOT BE GIVEN

Sunken Vessel Thrown Upon Her Beam Ends By a Terrific Sea And Her Coal-Laden Hold Flooded—Was a New Ship.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 1.—The foundering of the new steel barge Delawanna and the loss of four persons on board, including Captain John B. Munsey and his wife, was reported here today by the tug Seranton, which had been towing the Delawanna from New York.

The barge went down in a heavy sea at 8:30 o'clock last night about eight miles east by south from Milnotts Light.

One of the crew of the Delawanna was saved. So quickly did the barge founder after the snapping of the hawsers that the crew had absolutely no time to assist the tow, which disappeared almost before the Seranton could be put about.

The sole survivor was found clinging to a fragment of a broken boat. He said the Delawanna was thrown on her beam ends by a terrific sea and the water flooded the hold.

The Seranton, with the Delawanna in tow, left New York Monday, the barge carrying 1,156 tons of anthracite coal consigned to Boston.

The Delawanna was owned by the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western railroad. She was a new vessel.

### ON TRIAL FOR SLAYING NORTH CAROLINA GIRL

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 1.—The trial of Captain E. W. Jones, of the Seventy-first Virginia Regiment of Infantry, volunteers, charged with the murder of Maude Cameron Robinson, of Selma, N. C., by cutting her throat with the same razor he afterwards used in cutting his own throat, began here today.

When arraigned the prisoner pleaded "not guilty." Then began the examination of witnesses summoned for jury service. From questions asked by counsel for the defense, it was indicated that the defense of Jones will be that the Robinson girl committed suicide by cutting her own throat and that Captain Jones then tried to end his life in a like manner.

Free Pardon for Life Prisoner.

Columbus, O., Dec. 1.—Governor Herick today issued a Thanksgiving pardon to Jefferson Shanks, of Miami county, who was sent up for life on July 6, 1893, for murder. He has acted as coachman for the warden for the past twelve years. Shanks was overjoyed at his pardon, which he had not expected.

### MYSTERY OF WHISKEY GOT IN SMITH RAD SOLVED BY FORMER POLICEMAN RHEA

Ex-Officer, Smarting Under the Imputation That Liquor He Had Captured Could Not Be Accounted For, Volunteers the Information That Upon Resigning From the Force He Turned Over Five Gallons of Whiskey to Chief Neeley—Queer Practices of Confiscation Long in Force at Police Headquarters.

The Daily Industrial News in response to a widespread demand from some of the best people of the city, asked what had become of certain lots of liquor seized by the police and it now seems that the question was timely and that unless somebody does some explaining it may attain a serious aspect for some of those involved.

The Daily Industrial News has at least gotten an answer to its first question. The mystery in regard to the Wesley Smith seizure has been solved, and more fully.

It seems that Chief Neeley will not discuss the matter or answer the questions of the Daily Industrial News, and it may be that his subordinates will follow his lead. However, there is one man who does not propose to sit quietly down and refuse to give any account of his official acts.

Mr. John M. Rhea, formerly a policeman of Greensboro, called at the office of the Daily Industrial News last night and said that his attention had been called to an article in the paper inquiring as to what had become of the five gallons of whiskey taken from Wesley Smith last August.

Mr. Rhea said that as a great many people knew that he was the officer who had seized this lot of whiskey and had, since the appearance of the article referred to, been asking him about it, he desired to be set straight before the public.

Mr. Rhea was told that the Daily Industrial News had no desire to go on him an injustice and wanted all the light obtainable on the question, and that any statement he could make would be published.

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### FOUR KILLED BY BURSTING OF A NATURAL GAS MAIN

Weston, W. Va., Dec. 1.—Charles F. Douglass, a farmer, his wife, and two children, were instantly killed last night by an explosion of a natural gas main running past their home, three miles from here. Their home was wrecked and later caught fire, almost consuming the bodies.

The explosion was felt for a distance of five miles and caused much excitement. It is supposed the main sprung a leak and that the gas was in some way ignited.

### 149 LIVES; SEVENTY SHIPS; SEVEN MILLIONS IN CASH

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 1.—The forty-two day says one hundred and forty-nine lives have been sacrificed, over seventy ships wrecked and a loss of nearly \$7,000,000 has been sustained in the three big storms on the Great Lakes this season.

That this is the most disastrous season in the history of shipping on the lakes is beyond doubt.

London, Dec. 1.—Queen Alexandra was sixty-one years old today, and her birthday was celebrated with the usual heartiness throughout the Kingdom.

### NINE ROASTED AS THEY SLEPT

Crew of "Pull" Boat on the Middle River Alabama, Meet Awful Death.

ILLNESS SAVED THE ONLY ONE WHO ESCAPED FLAMES

Negro Steward Warned By Cracking of Flames—Unable to Arouse Others In Time To Save Them—Origin of Fire a Mystery.

Mobile, Ala., Dec. 1.—Nine persons whose names are not yet known, occupying a "pull" boat on Middle river, which runs between the Tensas and Alabama rivers, burned to death today in a fire which destroyed the boat.

Sidney Wheat, the negro steward, was the only survivor of ten men who lived on the craft. Wheat escaped death by being awake owing to illness. The cracking of burning timbers, warning him in time, he jumped into the river and escaped just as the boat collapsed. Stewart and Butt, of Mobile, who owned the boat, say there had been no steam on her for three days. They were at a loss to account for the burning of the vessel.

According to Wheat's story the nine men were dumped into a roaring furnace while some of them were sleeping. They were roasted alive. The boat was used by men who were engaged in getting logs out of narrow places for rafting purposes. It was constructed like a dredge boat and had a structure for sheltering the machinery and apartments in which the crew and employees lived. In this case those on the vessel occupied the second story of the structure.

The fire had evidently been burning sometime when Wheat was awakened. He says he rushed in and yelled to the others to get out as fast as they could as the boat was burning. He does not know whether any of the men heard him.

He leaped from the vessel into the river and a moment later the vessel collapsed, precipitating the other men into the blazing hull.

Railroad Man Murdered.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 1.—Henry Gresham, an employe of the Norfolk & Southern railway on its Currituck division out from Norfolk, was found murdered at Munden's Point, in Princess Anne county, yesterday.

### ROBBER GANG'S LEADER CAUGHT

Chicago Police Take the Boss Freight Car Thief After Fight.

WITH RIFLE, HE OPENED FIRE UPON OFFICERS

Band Stole \$25,000 Worth of Material From Cars of Chicago Terminal Company Within the Last Two Months—Booty Worth \$10,000 Captured.

Chicago, Dec. 1.—Henry Hoekzemo, leader of a gang of robbers, whose loot within the last two months aggregated \$25,000, mostly stolen from freight cars of the Chicago Terminal Transfer Company near Lemoyne, Ill., has been captured after a desperate fight.

The police found silverware, silks, laces, shoes, firearms and almost all conceivable sorts of merchandise stored away in Hoekzemo's house. The value of the booty is said to be \$10,000.

Hoekzemo lived with his wife in a house in Archer street, upon which a raid was made by the police.

When the police demanded admission Hoekzemo appeared at a window with a rifle and opened fire on them. A railroad detective who accompanied the officers was hit by one of the bullets, but not seriously wounded. The policemen returned the fire. Hoekzemo surrendered and his wife was also taken into custody.

The prisoner is said to be the leader of a gang of nine who have been robbing freight cars for months.

### FIRE DESTOYS CHAIR FACTORY AT LEXINGTON

Blaze Said to Have Been of Incendiary Origin—Prompt Work Saves Adjoining Buildings.

Lexington, N. C., Dec. 1.—Fire which is believed to have been of incendiary origin destroyed the plant of the Central Chair Factory here at an early hour this morning.

The fire, which was discovered at the rear of the factory about 5 o'clock this morning, for a time threatened the adjoining buildings, but was finally subdued by the recently organized fire companies of Lexington.

The loss will amount to fifteen or twenty thousand dollars, with \$10,000 insurance.

Will Stay Ten Years in Pen.

Joe Fourquerman was convicted on his trial this week in South Boston of wrecking local passenger train No. 11 at South Boston on August 29th last. The judge sentenced him to ten years in the penitentiary. Special Officer C. E. White has just returned from the trial.

### 5 RIOTERS SLAIN IN BRITISH GUIANA

Wharf Laborers at Georgetown on a Strike and Business Is Suspended

GOVERNOR BESEIGED IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Trouble Grew Out of Demand For Higher Wages and the Governor's Announced Intention Forcibly to Suppress Proceedings.

Georgetown, British Guiana, Dec. 1.—A strike of wharf laborers which is in progress here assumed a very serious aspect this morning when the police were compelled to fire on a riotous mob. It is reported that five of the rioters were killed.

Later in the day rioters attacked the Governor's house. The Governor and other officers are now besieged in the public buildings.

The arrival of warships is anxiously awaited.

The strike, which was the result of a demand for higher wages, began Tuesday last and since then the strikers have been parading the streets. Some acts of violence were committed yesterday, but they were not serious. The Governor announced that he intended forcibly to suppress all riotous proceedings.

As the result of today's trouble all business has been suspended.

Cruisers on the Way.

St. Thomas, Danish West Indies, Dec. 1.—The British cruisers and Diamond have gone to Georgetown.

### LORD ROBERTS RESIGNS FROM DEFENSE COMMITTEE

Will Devote Himself to His Plans For Universal Military Training.

London, Dec. 1.—Field Marshal Lord Roberts has resigned from the committee for imperial defense to take up the organization throughout the country of work connected with his proposals for universal military training.

The resignation of Lord Roberts is understood to have been to a great extent due to differences of opinion between himself and other members of the committee on military policy. Lord Roberts renounces a salary of \$25,000 yearly.

Distinguished Clerical Visitor.

The Rev. O. L. Stringfield, a distinguished Baptist minister of Western North Carolina, is in the city, a guest of the Rev. Dr. Battle. Mr. Stringfield has just closed a wonderfully successful meeting in Thomasville, having baptized over eighty persons on Thanksgiving Day.