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Shocking Tragedy in Wilkes County.

Charlotte Chronicle.

Winston-Salem, Aug. 3.—Miss Mary Ball, a school teacher and a popular young lady of Wilkes Co. was shot and mortally wounded last night by D. F. Tharpe, a young man who had become infatuated with her. The bullet took effect an inch above the heart. The attending physician says that Miss Ball cannot live through the day.

The declined to allow Tharpe to accompany her to church last night, and it is alleged that he told Miss Ball that he would kill her if she did not marry him before another day.

A brother of the young lady accompanied her to the services, and as they were leaving the house of worship, Tharpe appeared and fired a pistol twice at Miss Ball. One shot took effect and the other going wild as a result of the young lady striking the weapon with her hand. Miss Ball's brother grappled with Tharpe and held him until friends came to his assistance. Tharpe was badly intoxicated at the time of the assault. This morning he and his friends are endeavoring to put up the plea that he shot during a fit of insanity.

Tharpe is a son of Henry Tharpe, one of Wilkes county's best known citizens.

Enormous Damage.

Antioch, Cal., July 26.—Early this morning 200 feet of the San Joaquin River levee gave way and Jersey Island, comprising 4,000 acres of celery, was flooded. The property loss is estimated at \$5,000,000.

Killed His Father.

At a small mill village called cotton, near Hope Mills, Thomas Riddle, aged 18 years, shot and killed his father, James A. Riddle, shooting him four times. Young Riddle was placed in jail at Fayetteville and here is what he says about the sad affair:

"I went home at a quarter of 8 o'clock last night and found my mother and two sisters, Nellie and Bessie greatly excited. My mother told me my father was drunk again and had just beaten and choked her and had left the house a few minutes before saying that he was going to the stable, a livery stable, owned by Hector Porter and my father, at which I worked, and get a pistol, return and kill the whole family and himself. Mother told me to run as fast as I could to the stable and get the pistol before father got there. When I got to the stable, father was sitting on a pile of lumber in front of the building and on the same pile of lumber at some little distance off sat my brother, Walter, aged 12 years, and Wesley Cain, Lon Lowry and Tom Starling, all young men. I went up to Hector Porter's room on the second floor of the stable, got the pistol out of his bureau drawer and came down. As I passed my father, who was sitting on the pile of lumber, he told me to throw away the cigarette I had in my mouth and to get a pipe and smoke it. I told him that a cigarette would do me no more harm than a pipe. He replied that he did not want any more of my damn sass and that he would mash my mouth. By this time I was between the pile of lum-

ber and the fence, and my father reached down and grabbed a large board. As he raised to strike me I was hemmed in and could not get out of his reach and I drew the pistol and fired. I don't know how many times I fired. As I was so excited and frightened. I ran away and went to Officer McLean's house and gave myself up."

The board with which the father was attempting to strike his son is in possession of the sheriff. It is an inch and a half thick, eight inches wide and three feet long. Riddle lived in Fayetteville for more than twelve years as engineer in the Lakeview Cotton Mills. His body was brought there today on the way to Jonesboro for burial.

Another Typhoon Threatening.

Hong Kong, July 31.—Another typhoon is reported moving toward Hong Kong and the inhabitants are preparing for the worst. One of the worst storms in years has devastated a large amount of territory. The typhoon which has just passed raged all day and forty junks are ashore at the port.

The city of Canton is the heaviest sufferer, hundreds of junks being destroyed. The mortality on Pearl river is fully ten thousand. The numerous floating bodies menace the public health. Wires are all down and details are coming in slowly.

What He Lacked.

Baltimore American.
"That young doctor is a queer contradiction." "In what way?" "He has an exceedingly good temper and yet he is lacking in patients."

Child's Head Cracks Open And Death Follows.

News and Observer.

High Point, N. C., July 25.—One of the most peculiar cases on record developed here this week and which caused the death of the two year-old girl of Mr. Jones Griffith. For some time the child has suffered with complications of diseases and recently its stomach began to swell until it assumed enormous proportions, and strangest of all, three large cracks appeared on the child's head, through which the pulsating of the brain could be seen. The attending physician had never had or seen a case like it, and the physicians that saw the child were baffled. The parents, after the child's death, were asked to let the physicians perform an autopsy, but they would not consent to it. The remains of the little one were carried to Pinnacle, this State, for interment.

This peculiar case calls to mind the aged lady with horns growing out from her head and who has visited High Point on several occasions. Her name is Hightower and she is seventy or more years of age. Two large horns, very much resembling those of a ram, protrude from the head and causes Mrs. Hightower, so she says extreme pain at times. She says that when the horns began to appear that her head almost split with pain.

The people of Boone and the generous guests within our borders did the right thing again Monday night when they delivered provisions so the amount of about \$12.00 to the widow Blair who is sick and unable to provide for a large family of children.—Watauga Democrat.



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