

## KILLED BY A TRAIN

Peculiarly Sad Tragedy at Hamlet, North Carolina

### OPERATOR MEETS A TRAGIC DEATH

Mr. James W. Dunaway Steps on the Track in Front of a Rapidly Moving Passenger Train.

Hamlet, N. C., Special.—James W. Dunaway, operator for the Western Union Telegraph Company at this place, was hit and killed by train No. 38 as it came into the yard Wednesday morning. Mr. Dunaway was going from the office to his home, walking along by the track with his head down, and when in a few steps of the engine, stepped on the track, seemingly not knowing the train was approaching. The engineer reversed his engine and did all he could to stop the train, but the distance was too short. With the exception of the left arm being broken and a bruise on the side of the head there are no external injuries. The force of the blow knocked the man to one side and off the track and he never rallied from the shock, dying in 50 minutes. Mr. Dunaway had been suffering from neuralgia for several days. It is believed he was crazed with the pain at the time and was oblivious to the approach of the train when he stepped on the track. He leaves a wife and three children. His remains will be taken to Salisbury tomorrow for burial. Kink-hearted people have very liberally contributed to raising a purse for the grief-stricken wife and children, who are in needy circumstances.

### Violence of Strikers.

Kansas City, Special.—Violence entered into the strike of the 211 drivers employed by the 14 transfer companies of the city who went on strike this morning for an increase in wages and for recognition of their union. Perhaps half a hundred men were employed during the day to take the places of the strikers, though but little work was accomplished by them. During the afternoon strikers and their sympathizers gathered in large numbers at several points in the west bottoms and held up wagons driven by non-union men. At the Burlington freight depot, the police were forced to draw their revolvers to disperse a crowd that had cut the traces of teams hitched to two loaded wagons. At another point, George B. Evans, an employe of the American Express Company, in attempting to disperse a crowd that was throwing stones at a driver, fired a shot into the ground. N. N. Latin, a striker, interfered and made a move to draw a knife, when both men were arrested. In the afternoon a crowd blocked the thoroughfare and threw stones at the non-union drivers. Much excitement prevailed and the police were kept busy.

### Big Tobacco Profits.

New York, Special.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the American Tobacco Company was held Wednesday in Jersey City. The old board of directors was re-elected with one exception, Charles N. Strotz being chosen to succeed Thomas F. Jeffries, of Richmond, Va.

After deducting all charges and any expenses the net earnings for the year were \$7,450,574.

The stockholders of the Consolidated Tobacco Company also held their annual meeting. The old board of directors was re-elected. The report of the assistant treasurer showed total earnings of \$13,291,459.

The annual meeting of the Continental Tobacco Company was also held when the old board of directors was re-elected. The treasurer's report showed net earnings, after deducting all charges and expenses, of \$11,776,934.

### White Man Killed.

Columbia, S. C., Special.—W. L. Croft, a white man who lived at Fairfax, Barnwell county, S. C., was shot and instantly killed from ambush Monday night, near his home. Suspicion strongly points to a negro, Frank Strange, whose wife Croft had befriended by giving her a home after her husband had driven her from his house.

## BUYS TOBACCO LANDS

Millionaire Morgan Knows a Good Thing When He Sees It.

Tampa, Fla., Special.—Advices from Havana which are considered reliable state that while in Cuba recently J. Pierpont Morgan, representing the American Tobacco Company, closed negotiations for the purchase of all the lands in the Vuelta Abajo district, upon which is grown the finest grade of leaf tobacco in the world. It is used in the manufacture of cigars. The purpose of the purchase is to secure all of this fine tobacco exclusively for the use of the factories of the American Cigar Company, which is a branch of the American Tobacco Company. If these intentions are carried out in the independent clear Havana factories in Tampa, New Orleans, New York, and other cities, will have to look elsewhere for their fine grade of leaf tobacco, nearly all of them being supplied now from the fields reported to have been bought by Morgan. It will be a great blow to independent transaction. The sale involves several millions. Negotiations had to be conducted with a number of individual owners of lands.

Of the largest clear Havana factories in this city four are owned and operated by the Havana-American Com-

### Standard Oil in Cotton.

Boston, Mass., Special.—Back of the present movement in cotton and the coming consolidation of various cotton product companies are Standard Oil men, whose representatives are backing both sides of the market and seeking to carry out plans which Standard Oil has had for years under consideration of controlling the cotton crop of the country through the improved baling process. Scully, the big cotton bull, is a protege of Gen. S. M. Weld of Boston, father of the Planters' Compress Company, and Scully's broker, in cotton exchange transactions. Price's backer is A. C. Burrage, of Boston, a Standard Oil man, who has just been elected a director in the Planters' Compress. Burrage backed Price in cotton last year and profited \$1,000,000 by the deal. Mr. Burrage is a personal friend of H. H. Rogers, another Standard Oil magnate, who has an interest in the Planters' Compress and they are working to secure control of the American cotton trade.

### Two Accidents.

Charleston, S. C., Special.—A News and Courier special from Sumter, S. C., says: "John F. Laughrey, manager and one of the proprietors of the Lukens Lumber-Company, of this city, was fatally injured late Friday afternoon by the explosion of the fly wheel of the saw mill engine. A fly wheel fragment of iron struck him in the forehead, crushing the skull and face. He was taken to the infirmary, but nothing could be done for him and the doctors say he cannot live till midnight. The saw mill was completely wrecked and pieces of the wheel fell 150 yards from the mill after passing through the roof. The wheel was ten feet in diameter and weighed 6,000 pounds.

High Point, N. C., Special.—A phone message from the country says that William Holt, who lives near this place, and a negro man, met a horrible death together. Mr. Holt and the negro were engaged in cutting feed on a steam cutter when the fly-wheel burst, cutting off both of Mr. Holt's legs and killing the negro instantly. Mr. Holt lingered an hour or more.

### Asheville Oil in Prospect.

Asheville, N. C., Special.—The first work of sinking a well to find oil and gas will begin Monday on Dr. J. T. Baird's farm on Beaver Dam, five miles from Asheville. The building of the derrick will begin then but considerable lumber and tackle to be used in its construction has already been hauled to the spot and the contractors who will erect the derrick are here ready to start Monday. The builders are E. W. Litten and Wm. Heald, of Sardis, O. These gentlemen are professional derrick builders and are thoroughly familiar with the work. They said that the wells in West Virginia were at least 3,000 feet deep and that the cost of making a test here would be over \$15,000.

### A New Merger.

Raleigh, N. C., Special.—J. S. Wynne, secretary and treasurer of the Raleigh Cotton Mills, of this city, is authority for the statement that a new Fries merger will be formed by the aid of New York capitalists and that the consolidation is expected to be effected early in April. The Raleigh mills will enter the combination.

## RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

A Decree That Shows the Progress of the World's Thought

### CZAR OF RUSSIA GROWS LIBERAL.

Local Self-Government Granted in Some Instances—A Long Step in Advance.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—The Czar has published a decree providing for freedom of religion throughout his dominions, establishing to some degree local self-government and making other concessions to the village committees. The decree, which was issued in commemoration of the anniversary of the birthday of Alexander III, is considered to be the most significant act of state since the emancipation of the serfs. The public hails it as the proclamation of an era opening up bright prospects of the early improvement of Russian internal administration. The text of the decree is in part as follows:

"The trouble agitating our country, which to our deep regret have partly been sown by designs hostile to the State and partly engendered by doctrines foreign to Russian life, hinder the general work of ameliorating the well-being of our people. These troubles confuse the public mind, remove the people from productive labor, and often ruin families dear to our heart and young energies among high and low, necessary to the internal development of the country. In demanding the fulfillment of this, our will, while remaining strongly opposed to any violation of the normal course of national life, and having confidence that all will loyally discharge their local duties, we are irrevocably decided to satisfy the needs for which the State has become ripe and have deemed it expedient to strengthen and decree it expedient to observance of the principles of tolerance laid down by the fundamental laws of the Russian Empire, which, recognizing the Orthodox Church as the ruling one, grant to all our subjects of other religions and to all foreign persuasions freedom of creed and worship in accordance with other rites; and we are further resolved to continue the active carrying out of measures for the improvement of the material position of the orthodox rural clergy, while enabling them to take a larger share in intellectual and public life.

"In accordance with impending measures for the consolidation of the national economy, the efforts of the State credit institutions and especially the nobles and peasants banks should be directed to strengthening and developing the welfare and fundamental pillars of Russian village life and that of the local nobility and peasantry. These principles marked out by us for the disposition of the laws of the rural population are, when formulated, to be referred to the provincial government councils, so that with the assistance of persons enjoying the public's confidence, they may be further developed and adapted to the special conditions of individual localities. This fundamental principle of the inviolability of communal property is to be maintained, while at the same time means are to be found to render it easier for the individual to sever connections with the community to which he belongs, if he so desires.

"Without delay measures must be taken to release the peasants from the present burdensome liability of enforced labor.

"Through reforms are to be effected in the provincial governments and districts administrative by the local representatives, while attention will be devoted to securing closer co-operation between the communal authorities and parochial trustees of the Orthodox churches wherever possible.

"Calling upon all our subjects to cooperate in strengthening the foundations of families, school and public life under which alone the well-being of the people and the confidence of every one in the stability of his rights can develop, we command of our ministers and chief officials concerned in this matter to submit to us their views regarding the execution of our intentions."

### Another Restraining Order.

Kansas City, Special.—An injunction was granted to the Kansas City Transfer Company against the Team Drivers' International Union, No. 45, and the sympathizers of the strike, by Judge John F. Phillips, of the United States District Court. The action was brought on the ground that the complainants are government cartmen, being employed by the government in transporting bonded goods.

## SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL

### Lockhart Mills' Additions.

Lockhart (S. C.) Mills' stockholders will meet April 16 to ratify action of the directors in resolving to increase capital stock from \$650,000 to \$1,300,000. This meeting will be more formal routine. In its issue of December 18 the Manufacturers' Record mentioned the enlargements which this increased capital is to pay for, namely, the erection of a No. 2 mill, planned for 50,000 spindles and 1,500 looms. Only 25,000 spindles and 750 looms will be installed upon the completion of the main structure. The other machinery will be installed after the first half of the equipment is in successful operation. The company is proceeding with the work involved in these extensive betterments. It has contracted for all the machinery, secured brick for the building, which will be a five-story structure 130x450 feet, and the latter is now in progress of erection. A complete water-works system requiring a 200,000-gallon reservoir and a steel bridge across Broad river will also be constructed. This new mill will employ about 600 people. The original Lockhart plant has 25,000 spindles and 800 looms.

### Doubling a \$450,000 Mill.

The Monaghan Mills of Greenville, S. C., will double its extensive plant. The directors and stockholders of the company have authorized the improvements, and will push them to completion this year. The present installation of textile machinery is 30,000 spindles and 760 looms, which will be duplicated in the extension to be erected. The character of product will continue to be the same, namely, wide print cloths and wide sheetings for conversion. J. F. Grandy & Son have contract to erect the mill extension, under agreement to complete it by August 15. All the machinery has been purchased.

### Textile Notes.

R. B. Spencer of Dublin, Texas, is corresponding with Galveston (Texas) parties relative to the erection of a large cotton mill at Dublin.

G. C. McEachern, Piedmont, S. C., contemplates establishing a knitting mill. He wants information regarding the knitting industry, prices on machinery, etc.

It is proposed to establish a cotton factory at Bucatunna, Miss. M. A. Hooge, one of the town's merchants, offers to donate ten acres of land as site for the enterprise.

Messrs. M. Heiman, H. M. Remmel, John G. Flecher and others of Little Rock, Ark., propose the establishment of a \$250,000 cotton mill. Their plan is to secure \$150,000 at Little Rock and \$100,000 from outside capitalists.

Messrs. Ely Walker & Co., dry goods merchants, of St. Louis, Mo., will establish at Tupelo, Miss., the knitting mill mentioned last month as proposed by them. About \$50,000 will be invested to start with. The product will be hosiery.

Messrs. W. L. Welcker, Henry Hudson, John F. Edington, J. G. Johnson and Leon Jousolmon have incorporated the Southern Textile Co. of Knoxville, Tenn., for manufacturing cotton, flax, hemp, etc. The capital stock is \$10,000. No further details stated.

J. H. Ruebush, Dayton, Va., contemplates installing machinery for the manufacture of hosiery or underwear. He merely wants to install a small number of machines in order to utilize surplus powers. Prices and other information are requested on the required machinery.

Avon Mills, Gastonia, N. C., was damaged only about \$3,000 worth by the windstorm referred to last week. Repairs to the building are already about completed. Stuart W. Cramer, Charlotte, N. C., is engineer in charge to furnish parts for the damaged machinery. About 10,080 spindles and 300 looms are operated.

Park Wooden Mills, Rossville, Ga., manufacturer of jeans and cassimeres, will enlarge and improve its plant. Company will erect additional building under its own supervision, of brick, 40 feet wide by 270 feet long, suitable for storage and for operating 180 looms. It is on the market for 80 narrow looms, three sets 60-inch cards and three pairs mules.

Extract Wool Merino Co. of Chattanooga, Tenn., reported last month as to increase capital from \$20,000 to \$40,000, has taken this action. It will erect an additional building three stories high and install new machinery to about double present capacity. Its product is shoddy (wool secured from old rags and cloth containing both wool and cotton.)

It is proposed to build a knitting mill at Clinton, S. C., and P. S. Bailey is interested.

## ONE DOCTOR SHOTS ANOTHER.

Fatal Ending of a Feud of Long Years Standing.

Tarboro, Special.—As the result of a feud of long standing, Dr. H. T. Bass was shot in the abdomen Monday morning by Dr. J. M. Baker and mortally wounded. The encounter began without words, Dr. Bass attacking Dr. Baker with his fists, lading several blows upon the side and top of his head. Baker fired twice, the first shot being deflected by Bass grasping the pistol. A second immediately followed, but Bass' hold had been broken. When Bass perceived that he was shot he drew his pistol. In preventing him from using it it was discharged in the air. Baker claims self-defense. By agreement of counsel he was admitted to bail in the sum of \$5,000.

Bass was operated upon during the evening. The ball perforated the stomach and liver and lodged in the back. The physicians says there is no hope of his recovery and he is not expected to live till morning. In an ante-mortem statement Bass says he did not intend to kill Baker, but to inflict a severe thrashing; that he had been so irritated by several occurrences that he could not rest till he did this; that if he had not been interfered with Baker could not have shot him. These aggravating circumstances are not given out.

Both men are prominent here and the community is stirred from centre to circumference by the tragedy. Another disturbing factor is the expected arrival of Bass' son, who has been summoned from the University of Virginia. Unless he can be reasoned with there are grave apprehensions of more trouble. Bass' death will spread a gloom over the community. He is a big-hearted, generous man. Over their controversy the community was divided; over the day's horror all pity, deplore and regret. B. H. Bunn represents the prosecution, and Gilliam & Gilliam and G. M. T. Fountain the defense.

Last summer there was a difficulty on the street between the two men and Dr. Bass knocked Dr. Baker down. The troubles were brought about by criticisms of the management of a sanitarium of which Dr. Baker is the head.

### Safe Blowers at Lincolnton.

Lincolnton, Special.—The postoffice at this place was entered Monday morning about 2 o'clock through the front door with tools taken from a blacksmith shop near the depot. The safe was blown open and everything in it taken. The crackers secured about \$200 in cash and about \$500 worth of stamps, besides a number of notes and valuable papers of different kinds. The crackers acted very deliberately and got everything. It was noticed that they had some blank bonds for star route carriers, together with a few other papers, which they placed in a pigeonhole above the safe. They twisted off the handle by which the lock was turned, but it broke outside instead of inside the door and made no opening to give place for the charge, so they prized the door down with a cold chisel and poured nitro-glycerine in above it. The door was blown entirely off at the top, but part of the hinge still holds it at the bottom.

### An Extensive Electric Car Line.

Reidsville, Special.—A man from Spray informs an Observer correspondent that at an early date an electric car line will be constructed from Spray to Reidsville, Wentworth, Mayodan, Madison and other points. It is known that a charter has been granted to the International Telephone Company with headquarters at Spray, capital \$125,000, and the charter confers very extensive privileges to operate telephone and telegraph lines, electric railway, electric light and power plant to manufacture and deal in any kind of electric machinery and also to own and operate factories of any kind. The company is now hard at work on the new telephone exchange, which will be one of the best in the State, and immediately after its completion it is believed a force of men will start to work on the proposed car line.

### Caught on a Trestle

Charlotte, Special.—Adele Ivey, a nine-year-old colored girl, stood on the trestle on the Atlanta & Charlotte Air Line Railroad, Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock and watched a freight train approach, coming northward. The train, running at about 20 miles an hour, rounded a curve and was several hundred feet away when first seen by the girl, who, despite the fact that she was within 25 feet of the northern end of the trestle, stood stock still as if powerless through fear and then, as the train came down upon her, she was overtaken in her feeble efforts to run and was injured so badly that it is thought she will die.