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NO. 37.

HE SHOT TO KILL

South Carolina Physician Bent on Murder

A SAD TRAGEDY AT LANCASTER

A Serious Difficulty Results From Seemingly Trivial Matter—Wounded Man Popular.

Lancaster, S. C., Special.—J. Hasel Witherspoon, the popular manager of the Lancaster Mercantile Company, of which Col. Leroy Springs is president, was dangerously shot Saturday by Dr. E. S. McDow, a practicing physician of Lancaster. The difficulty occurred in front of the company's store and the particulars are about as follows:

Mr. Witherspoon was standing talking to Mr. Samuel Roberts, a farmer, from whom he had just bought some cotton, when Dr. McDow walked up and asked Mr. Witherspoon something about the company's refusal to send him a lamp which he had ordered. Mr. Witherspoon replied that the doctor had not treated them right about a baby carriage, referring to a previous matter. Dr. McDow struck at Mr. Witherspoon over the shoulder of Mr. Roberts, who was standing between them, knocking off Mr. Roberts' hat. W. McD. Brown, a clerk in the store, ran up and struck Mr. McDow, knocking him down. As the doctor arose he began shooting with a revolver which he had drawn, firing three shots. Two of the bullets struck Mr. Witherspoon, one in the body, entering the lungs, and other hitting him on the wrist. One bullet struck Mr. Brown on the finger.

Mr. George Heath, manager of the Heath-Jones Company, and others ran up and stopped the shooting. Mr. Heath placing himself in front of Mr. Witherspoon and begging Dr. McDow not to shoot him again.

Dr. McDow was arrested and taken to jail by Sheriff Hunter and policemen. The sheriff first disarmed the doctor, who had two pistols. As soon as a conveyance could be secured Mr. Witherspoon was carried to his home. In addition to a local physician he is being attended by Dr. Prayor of Chester and Drs. Fennel and Stevenson of Rock Hill, the latter having been brought to Lancaster on special trains.

The physicians regard Mr. Witherspoon's condition as being extremely critical. They say there is some hope for him, however, if pneumonia does not set in, but abscess forms around the bullet, which, they think, lodged in the lung.

The shooting has caused intense excitement here. Mr. Witherspoon is one of the most popular young men in Lancaster, being a universal favorite and the entire community anxiously awaits tidings from his bedside.

Dr. McDow is said to be a brother of the late Dr. T. B. McDow of Charleston, who shot Capt. F. W. Dawson, editor of the News and Courier.

Double Suicide.

Raleigh, N. C., Special.—Violet Page, one of Raleigh's tenderloin women, and W. H. Hood, a well known young man of this city, committed suicide together Sunday by taking laudanum and died in a close embrace, the deed having been done in a house in a questionable quarter of the city, owned by a negroess, Jane Beasley. Hood rented the room Saturday night and later took Violet there. The woman who owned the house noticed nothing unusual until about noon when her attention was attracted by heavy breathing in the room. She knocked at the doors and windows but received no response. She then telephoned for policemen and relatives of Hood. Members of the police force responded at once and broke open the door to find the woman dead and the man drawing his last gasp.

Nine empty laudanum bottles on a table in the room and the tale; they were two ounce bottles and bore the label of a Greensboro drug store. Besides the empty laudanum bottles, on the table was found a note from Hood to his wife, enclosing a ring and a watch for his two little girls and a \$2,000 life insurance policy for herself. The note gave no reason for the terrible deed.

Big Steamer Blown Ashore.

Pensacola, Fla., Special.—The big coast steamer P. J. Thistlewood, from Tampa for New Orleans, is on the Gulf beach 20 miles east of Pensacola bar, where she was blown by the prevailing gale. The vessel is reported in a dangerous condition, but little information could be obtained Wednesday regarding her. Tugs left here at once to go to her assistance, stopping at the life-saving station to take on board the life-saving crews there, in order that the crew might be rescued with less danger.

CONGRESS RE-ASSEMBLES

What Our National Law Makers Are Doing Day by Day.

Both Houses Re-Convene.

Both the Senate and House of Representatives re-convened on January 4th. Nothing was done on Thursday, however, beyond meeting and adjournment, a good many members being absent from their seats.

"Champ Clark Democracy."

"Champ Clark Democracy" was expounded to the delight and entertainment of the House for three hours Friday by Mr. Clark, of Missouri, and constituted the feature of the debate on the Philippine tariff bill. Mr. Clark's speech took a wide range and during its progress he labeled his political beliefs as above in answer to a question as to what kind of Democrat he really was. He talked of the Philippines and favored the pending bill; he discussed the general tariff question and in particular the German tariff situation. He ascribed future greatness to what he termed the great "stand pat" disciples—one of these, Secretary Shaw, whose record as Secretary of the Treasury included, he said, classifying frogs' legs as poultry and ponies as "household articles" for the collection of revenue, was a logical Republican Presidential possibility unless the mantle should fall on "the gray and grizzled Speaker, Uncle Joe Cannon."

GINNERS' ASS'N SAYS 9,694,096.

Estimate of Cotton Ginned to Dec. 31—98.6 Per Cent. Picked and 97.3 Ginned.

Dallas, Tex., Special.—Following is the compilation of the reports from cotton ginneries over the South, by the National Ginner's Association. Figures following names represent, respectively, total ginned, per cent. picked, and per cent. ginned:

Alabama—1,176,763, 99.3, 79.9; Arkansas—506,870, 96.8, 92.9; Florida—71,464, 99.4, 99; Georgia—1,667,382, 99.6, 99.1; Indian Territory—292,153, 96.8, 94.2; Louisiana—454,440, 99.2, 95.4; Mississippi—1,016,973, 98.2, 95.9; Missouri—35,646, 97.0, 95.6; North Carolina—627,559, 99.2, 97.7; Oklahoma—279,597, 95.0, 93.8; South Carolina—1,081,806, 99.6, 99.1; Tennessee—243,956, 98.2, 98.7; Texas—2,224,143, 97.5, 96.6; Virginia and Kentucky—15,871, 99.4, 98.0.

Total, 9,694,041. The report is of cotton ginned to Dec. 31, and shows the total per cent. picked as 98.6, and total ginned as 97.3. The amount ginned from Dec. 13 to 31, inclusive, was 402,041 bales. This, added to the last census report, makes 9,694,041.

Loss at Albany, Ga., \$150,000.

Albany, Ga., Special.—The property loss caused by the tornado which struck this city and section is conservatively estimated at \$150,000. The Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company is the heaviest loser, the damage to their plant being estimated at \$50,000. The Georgia Cotton Oil Company, the Artesian City Ice Company, the Central of Georgia Railway Company, the telephone and telegraph companies were heavy losers. It was near noon Thursday before normal conditions as to wire communications with the outside world were restored. Two dead, four seriously injured and a large number, slightly injured are included in the revised casualty list. All the dead and seriously injured are negroes.

Went to Sleep on Track.

Danville, Special.—A young man named Hess, whose residence is unknown, was killed by a train near Ruffin, N. C. He had been employed as a flagman and had been sent out to flag a train. While waiting he fell asleep on the tracks and was run over. The body has not been called for, and it is being held for orders.

McCall Pays the \$235,000.

New York, Special.—John A. McCall, president of the New York Life Insurance Company, has paid to the company the \$235,000 advanced to Andrew Hamilton as so far not accounted for by Mr. Hamilton. Thomas P. Fowler, chairman of the company's investigating committee appointed by the board of trustees, received a check from Mr. McCall for \$235,000 and notes for \$150,000. A meeting of the board of trustees was called and it was accepted as a fact that Mr. McCall's resignation as president will be then presented.

NORTH STATE NEWS

Items of Interest Gleaned From Various Sections

FROM MOUNTAIN TO SEASHORE

Minor Occurrences of the Week of Interest to Tar Heels Told in Paragraphs.

Charlotte Cotton Market.

These figures represent figures paid to wagons:

Good middling	11.60
Strict middling	11.40
Middling	11.30
Good middling tinges	11.40
Stains	11.40

General Cotton Market.

New Orleans very steady	11 11-16
Charleston firm	11 11-16
Savannah steady	11 7-16
Galveston steady	11 11-16
Mobile firm	11 11-16
Wilmington steady	11 11-16
Norfolk firm	11 11-16
Baltimore nominal	11 11-16
New York, quiet	11.95
Boston, quiet	11.95
Philadelphia, steady	12.20
Houston steady	11 11-16
Augusta steady	11 11-16
Memphis quiet	11.95
St. Louis quiet	11.95
Louisville firm	11 11-16

Cole Famine Threatened.

Salisbury, Special.—What threatens to be a coal famine of serious consequences is the one that this city finds itself engaging now. There is said to be less than one car load for private use among the local dealers. The public enterprises are not better off and unless relief comes speedily, there must be a suspension of business. The local suppliers have had many of their shipments used by the railroad which seems to be the greatest of all sufferers. At Salisbury where every train, and there are no less than 100 of these, coal every day, there is said to be a day's supply ahead. The farmers can get any price for wood and are hardly able to bring it here over the muddy roads. No such shortage in fuel ever was witnessed here.

Suicide at Mooresville.

Mooresville, Special.—A very distressing affair occurred here when John Lockwood Atwell, a well-known citizen, cut his throat with a razor, resulting in death several hours later. For some time past he had been mentally wrong, and had on several occasions threatened to do violence to his family and himself. He had suffered financial loss, and brooding over the outcome made him desperate. He was unable to sleep and during last night got out of bed three different times, each time his wife persuaded him to quiet down.

Tom Dixon Brings Suit.

Raleigh, Special.—Rev. Thomas Dixon, author of "The Clansman," through attorneys here, attached the property of the Corrine Runkel Stock company, now in Durham, N. C., for presenting here and in Louisiana "In Reconstruction Days," a play which he claims is an infringement on the copyright of his "The Clansman" but which Thaddeus Brenton of the Runkel company says he wrote in 40 days from Dixon's and other novels of Reconstruction times.

Dr. J. Caldwell's Will.

Salisbury, Special.—The will of the late Dr. Julius A. Caldwell reveals a very comfortable fortune and the estate will be worth not less than \$50,000 and may exceed \$60,000. Considering the fact that he was such a great hearted man, the amount saved is remarkable, for he did an infinite amount of charity practice.

Fire at Charlotte.

Charlotte, Special.—On Friday afternoon fire partially destroyed the gas plant of the Charlotte Consolidated Construction Company, doing ten thousand dollars damage. The plant was repaired during the night, and by Saturday morning was running as usual. The great reservoir was threatened at one time, and had the fire reached it, there is no telling the disastrous consequences.

Mr. Britt Appointed.

Asheville, Special.—Miss Leet, for several months assistant cashier in Collector Harkins' office, has been promoted to cashier to succeed J. J. Britt, who received his commission as special assistant district attorney for the western district of North Carolina. R. R. Roberts, who was an applicant for the Asheville postmastership and who has been termed an "insurgent" has been tendered the assistant cashier's place, a transfer from the field service.

STATE COTTON GROWERS

Hold Important Session and Elect Officers—Good Addresses.

Raleigh, Special.—The North Carolina Cotton Growers' Association met in second annual convention, President John S. Cunningham in the chair. After an address by the president and secretary, the delegates disagreed on the adoption of the treasurer's report. Unlimited discussion and prolonged argument followed. Mecklenburg and Union counties led in financial showing. Forty-seven counties were represented and there was a splendid gathering of citizens. Among the thoughtful offerings at roll call was an "Address to Farmers," by J. A. Brown, of Chadbourn, emphasizing the co-operative powers of farmers and working against the wiles of those who are neither producers nor consumers.

The election of a committee on government followed a heated, controversial argument, individual speakers being many times on the floor. A special called meeting in the afternoon lasted two hours. Informal reports were made by county delegates. Governor Glenn addressed the meeting with his usual force and characteristic enthusiasm.

Continued balloting resulted in the election of the government committee as follows: Ashley Horne, Clayton; H. C. Dockery, Rockingham; S. B. Alexander, Charlotte; A. C. Green, Wake; Dr. R. H. Speight, Edgecombe county. It was voted by the convention to place all matters of the State Association in the hands of the committee, this applying to officers' salaries and by-laws.

Run Over By Engine.

Spencer, Special.—W. R. Davis, aged about 24 years, a switchman for the Southern Railway Company on its yard at this place, was run over by an engine and sustained injuries which are expected to result in his death. Young Davis was riding in front of a switch engine on a siding near the main line track. Just as northbound passenger train No. 36 was approaching at a rapid rate, he jumped from his position and fell under the locomotive, which passed over his legs, both of which were practically mashed off. One arm was also horribly mangled and other injuries inflicted upon his body. The unfortunate man was at once carried to a hospital in Salisbury and, while everything possible is being done to save his life, death is momentarily expected. Davis came to Spencer from Greensboro.

Dinner to Chair Salsmen.

High Point, Special.—At the Elwood Hotel the Tomlinson Chair Manufacturing Company gave a dinner in honor of its salesmen and office force which proved to be quite an enjoyable occasion to those present. An elaborate bill of fare had been prepared by Manager Plummer and about 30 plates were laid. After the dinner the crowd repaired to the smoker and between puffs related many incidents of the past year, and made plans for next year's work. The dinners are given each year by the Tomlinson people.

Large Increase in Winston Tobacco Business.

Winston-Salem, Special.—The shipments of manufactured tobacco last month aggregated 3,799,679 pounds, this being an increase of 777,459 pounds over December, 1904, the shipments that month amounting to 2,932,220 pounds. The stamp sales at the local office were as follows: For December, 1904, tobacco, \$175,932.23; spirits, \$16,697.46; cigars, \$94.50; total, \$192,724.19; for December, 1905, tobacco, \$22,580.22; spirits, \$12,719.75; cigars \$75.74; total \$283,574.26.

Suspected of Robbery.

Spencer, Special.—Chief of Police John R. Cruzon arrested two unknown tramps here, who were suspected of being the parties who robbed Baggage Master S. M. Smith in Salisbury Friday morning. The men, who are confirmed hoboes, fill the description of the highwaymen who robbed Smith at the point of a pistol. They were given a hearing in Salisbury, but for lack of evidence, were turned loose. The men claimed Baltimore as their home and gave their names as George Graber and Augustus Miller.

Porsyth Pays \$160,000 State and County Taxes.

Winston-Salem, Special.—This county pays about \$160,000 in taxes a year for State and county purposes. Of this amount the State gets about \$45,000. The remaining \$115,000 goes to the county and is divided under the heads of railroads, county purposes and education.

Memento of Thomas Carlyle.

A farmer in Manitoba wears on his watch chain a blackened metal disk with an interesting history. Some thirty years ago the farmer was a ticket agent in a railway station in Dumfriesshire. One day Thomas Carlyle took a ticket for a short run by rail and laid down a shilling. The clerk, eager to obtain a souvenir of the famous countryman, secured the coin. Ultimately, although sorely against the grain, he was driven to part with the "treasured Carlyle shilling." But it would not stand the ringing test. Somebody had palmed on the "sage of Chelsea" a spurious shilling.

The Sun's Calendar.

The Baltimore, Md., Sun presented to its readers its usual attractive calendar for the year 1906. The form of this calendar was adopted many years ago, and has been adhered to because it has been found to be most convenient. It presents on a single sheet, in compact form and in large, plain type the entire year, so that a future date can be ascertained at a glance without hunting for another calendar, the first leaves of which have not been torn off. The Sun calendar gives the days of the month, the days of the week and the phases of the moon. The Sun distributes this calendar to its readers as a Christmas gift. The Sun Almanac is a New Year's gift to subscribers, which will be ready for distribution in a few weeks, as soon as the great size of the edition will permit.

Vast quantities of copper disappear constantly in China from one cause or another.

BLIND MEN SKILLFUL FISHERS

Sport Singularly Suited for Those Without Sight.

Three blind men fished skillfully, side by side, in a launch off Anglesea, drawing in black bass and flounders at the rate of one a minute. They never missed a bite. They never failed to land a fish. Only the captain had to bait their hooks for them—but then the captain baits the hooks of all deep sea anglers as a rule. The sightless trio, smiling, said that blind fishermen were not rare; that in the institution where they lived a full third of the inmates fished. They pointed out that fishing is a sport singularly suited for the blind. To sit still, to catch fish by "feeling" them on the line, is, indeed, the only sport where the blind are at no disadvantage. Fly fishing, of course, is beyond them, on account of the difficulties of the cast. Side by side in the rocking launch, hauling in the bass and flounders briskly, their faces growing redder and redder with sunburn, the three blind men fished and smoked and chatted, and at the day's end it was found that they had severally caught more fish than any other men aboard.—Chicago Chronicle.

TAKING IT CHEERFULLY.

"She declared she could only be a sister to me."
"Well, you don't seem so cast down about it."
"No," the situation has its redeeming features. Brothers aren't expected to go very long on flowers and theatre tickets and candy."

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