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NO. 50.

MARK TWAIN DIES AT REDDING HOME

Worn Out by Grief and Agony a Seventy-four.

STRESSED AT JEAN'S DEATH

"Give Me My Glasses." Written in Bed. His Last Words—Laying Them Aside the Humorist Sank Into Reverie.

Redding, Conn.—Samuel Langhorne Clemens, "Mark Twain," died from pneumonia pectoris. It was the end of a man worn out by grief and acute agony of body.

For many hours the gray aquiline features lay molded in the inertia of death, while the pulse sank lower and lower, but late at night Mark Twain passed from stupor into the first natural sleep he had known since he returned from Bermuda, and next morning he awoke refreshed, even cheerful and in full possession of all his faculties. He recognized his daughter Clara, Mrs. Ossip Gabrilovitch, spoke a rational word or two, and feeling himself unequal to conversation, wrote out in pencil: "Give me my glasses." They were his last words. Laying them aside, he sank first into reverie, and later into final unconsciousness—dead.

Samuel Langhorne Clemens was born in Florida, Mo., on November 30, 1835. "My parents," he writes, in his own Burlesque Autobiography, "were neither very poor nor conspicuously honest." The earliest ancestor the Twains have any record of was a friend of the family by the name of Higgins. The country chronicles have it that the elder Clemens failed in business and died, leaving his son the ample world to make his fortune in.

Accordingly, Mark Twain's acquaintance with literature began in putting words into type, not ideas into words. Educated only in the public schools, he was apprenticed to a printer at thirteen and worked at his trade in St. Louis, Cincinnati, Philadelphia and New York City, until at eighteen he could gratify a boyish ambition to become cub to a Mississippi River pilot. Both these desperate happenings reacted profoundly on his later life. Varied and eventful as that life was, it might almost be said that only two things happened to Mark Twain—he learned the river and he learned to set type.

His knowledge of river life, acquired when he was a pilot, took form in "Tom Sawyer," "Huckleberry Finn" and "Life on the Mississippi," regarded abroad as his surest title to fame. It even suggested his pseudonym, for "Mark Twain" is a linesman's cry to the pilot in shallow stages. And his familiarity with printing turned him naturally first into newspaper work, then into creative writing, and finally into the publishing business, wherein, like Sir Walter Scott, he suffered these disastrous, disastrous to everything but his honor, and, like Sir Walter again, paid off by his pen debts not of his own making.

In due time Mark Twain became a full fledged pilot. He tells the rest himself in a chapter of life on the Mississippi.

"By and by the war came, commerce was suspended, my occupation was gone. I had to seek another livelihood. So I became a silver miner in Nevada; next, a gold miner in California; next, a reporter in San Francisco; next, a special correspondent in the Sandwich Islands; next, a roving correspondent in Europe and the East; next, an instructional torch-bearer on the lecture platform, and, finally, I became a scribbler of books, and an immovable fixture among the other rocks of New England."

This was in 1872, two years after he had married Miss Olivia L. Langdon, of Elmira, N. Y., who brought him an independent fortune. At that time his writings were in growing demand, he had an assured income, his own home, and seemed indeed a fixture. But in 1885 his popularity as an author and his acquaintance with the mechanics of the publishing trade—besides being a practical printer—had been part owner of the Buffalo Express before his marriage—drew him into the firm of C. L. Webster & Co., publishers. The firm brought out the memoirs of General Grant, and paid his widow \$350,000, but its prosperity was short lived and it failed with liabilities of \$96,000. The failure had already sucked in \$65,000 of Mark Twain's cash, but he determined also to shoulder the debts, and to pay them off undertook in 1895-6 a lecture trip around the world.

Mark Twain was an inveterate smoker and one of the most leisurely men in the world. An old pressman who was once printer's devil in an office where Mark Twain was editorial writer tells this anecdote of his habits of work: "One of my duties was to sweep the room where editors worked. Every day Mark would give me a nickel to get away from him. He would rather die in the dust than uncross his legs. One day he gave me a nickel to dot an 'i' in his copy for him. He certainly did enjoy life, that man did."

Yet this easy-going dawdler acquitted himself of a prodigious deal of work in his life, and bound himself voluntarily to pay off the debts that he could have discharged without hurt to his good name by passing through bankruptcy. He did not

practice as he preached. "It don't make no difference," he had Huck Finn say, "whether you do right or wrong, a person's conscience ain't got no sense and just goes for him anyway. If I had a yaller dog that didn't know no more than a person's conscience did, I'd p'ison him. It takes up more room than all the rest of a person's insides, and yet ain't no good, no how."

Business reverses were encountered by Mr. Clemens about seven years ago, when his friend, Henry H. Rogers, went to his aid. His publishing affairs, managed by himself, never were a success, and at that time other friends came forward to rehabilitate the author's fortunes. He lectured and he wrote and again emerged from his troubles. At this time he cruised with Mr. Rogers on the latter's yacht and was often in his company.

With Mark Twain's lecture trip around the world began his international celebrity and his gradual rise into a figure taken in some sense to typify the American spirit. From humorist he became the kindly but mocking moralist and philosopher of "Puddinghead Wilson." His literary output became more occasional, and though written with more finesse, more critical and less creative. His public appearances grew more frequent, his whimsical utterances gained greater currency, and a whole literature of anecdotes about him grew up.

Yale gave him the degree of M. A., and later of L. H. D., in 1901; the University of Missouri, his native State, followed with LL. D. in 1902, and in 1907 the University of Oxford with great ceremony made him Litt. D.

Indeed, serious appreciation of Mark Twain as an artist and not a mere jokemith began abroad, but his true worth has long been recognized in this country. "Mark Twain's humor," said William Dean Howells, "will live forever. He portrays and interprets real types, not only with exquisite appreciation and sympathy, but with a force and truth of drawing that makes them permanent. He had the true humorist's tender heart and deep seriousness. Like Bret Harte, with whom he worked, like the great West that bred him, his most audacious sallies were terse and sternly grave. As a moralist, love of humanity, hatred of sham and the sense of duty informed his most ironic and debonair preachments."

Four children were born to Mark Twain, of whom two, a son and a daughter, died early. One other daughter, Jean, who had been an invalid for life, was found dead in her bathtub last fall in her home at Redding, Conn. Her tragic death saddened her father, who declined in health from that moment. A third daughter, Clara, is Mrs. Ossip Gabrilovitch, wife of the pianist, who married her last year.

Mark Twain's first book was "The Jumping Frog." His best known in this country was possibly "Innocents Abroad." His surest title to fame is generally believed to be "Tom Sawyer" and its companion volume, "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn." In all, his books had a sale of more than 500,000 copies and were translated into six languages. Others among the better known are "A Tramp Abroad," "The Prince and the Pauper," "A Yankee at the Court of King Arthur," "Puddinghead Wilson" (dramatized), "Joan of Arc," "A Double-Barreled Detective Story" and "Eve's Diary."

WOLTER GUILTY OF MURDER.

Body Found at Murderer's Rooms Partly Burned in New York City.

New York City.—Albert W. Wolter, eighteen years old, was found guilty of murder in the first degree after two hours' deliberation on the part of the jury. Wolter killed Ruth Wheeler, fifteen years old, in his rooms just thirty days ago. For speedy justice this is the record, not only for the county, but for the State, in a murder case. The prisoner showed no signs of emotion.

The partly burned body of the girl was found in the fireplace. She had been outraged and strangled. "Poor little girl," exclaimed Mr. Moss, the prosecutor. "Thrust in there she was while still alive. I hope she did not feel the fire, though she breathed it—this child who had died because she fought for her chastity."

Mr. Moss dangled Wolter's blood-stained and soot-marked shirt before the jury and before the eyes of Wolter himself. Wolter sat with an arm flung over the back of his chair. His tears of self-pity had dried. The new parade of horrors was without effect on him.

"The man who wore the shirt carried the body," declared Mr. Moss, "and that's Wolter's shirt. Fred Ahrens wasn't wearing Wolter's shirt."

"They say we have not proved fuel. Why, here is a jarful of ashes—the ashes of wood. Her clothes were soaked with oil. Here remains her little hand; look at it. It is clenched and holds a remnant of this monster's hair. It was a deliberate crime by burning to hide the other crime."

"I beg you to be resolute as we have had to be. A great duty is on you, pointed out to you, step by step. The web is complete. The protection of our young women; the lesson to our young men; the vindication of justice demand a verdict of murder in the first degree."

Lord Kitchener at West Point. Field Marshal Lord Kitchener visited the Military Academy at West Point; there was no demonstration, at his own request.

INCOME TAX BILL FAILS

New York Assembly Tables Measure After Four Hours' Debate.

Resolution Offered by Andrew F. Murray and Advocated in Speech Quoting Senator Root.

Albany, N. Y.—The proposal for a national income tax amendment was defeated in the Assembly after a long debate. The resolution for an income tax was offered by Andrew F. Murray, Republican of the Nineteenth Manhattan district, and he made a long speech sustaining the position of President Taft and Senator Root on the proposition. The resolution as required by the rules was in the form of a bill and required 76 votes. Even after a call of the House, Assemblyman Murray could only obtain 74. The vote against the income tax was 66 and there were ten absentees. Murray gave notice that at some future time he would move to reconsider the vote by which his motion was lost, and this means that if within any time before adjournment he is sure of 76 votes he will call up the resolution.

The opinion here is that New York State is not likely to be committed, this year at least, to a Federal income tax, but it is in the Senate probably that it will have to be defeated. Assemblyman Murray, Republican, of New York City, who has charge of it, is confident that the two votes which he lacked will be on hand to pass the resolution when he calls it up again, before the end of the session.

Assuming that the Assembly will pass the Murray measure, all signs point to its defeat in the State Senate. It will be recalled that six weeks ago the Republicans, by almost a unanimous vote on their part, refused to invite Elihu Root, an advocate of the tax, to address it in reply to the objections advanced by Governor Hughes in his annual message; therefore, it is believed here that, should the Murray resolution get as far as the Senate, it probably will find few friends outside of the sixteen members of the Democratic minority.

The vote on it, which came after more than four hours of earnest, and at times bitter, debate, stood 74 in favor, 66 against, two short of the seventy-six votes necessary for passage. This vote was non-partisan, several Republicans voting for the proposition and two Democrats—Chanler, of Dutchess, and Shortt, of Richmond—voting against it.

Assemblyman Murray followed the announcement of the result by a motion to reconsider the vote and to lay that motion on the table. This was passed, 97 to 16.

PRICE OF LIVE HOGS DROPS.

Decline of \$1 a Hundredweight Shows in Three Days.

Chicago.—Recent heavy arrivals of hogs are reflected in a decline in prices of \$1 in the last few days. A few weeks ago hogs sold at the highest since the Civil War, thus attracting heavy shipments, in view of which the present reaction is not regarded as remarkable.

Salt pork on the Board of Trade recently underwent a decline of \$3, but the market steadied on buying by packers, who were able to purchase the cured product on a basis of 8 1/2 cents a pound, as compared with nine cents for the live article. Cleveland, Ohio.—Hogs fell off sixty cents a hundred pounds here, making a total drop in the market of more than \$1 a hundredweight in the last three days.

Pittsburg.—There was a drop of forty cents a hundredweight in the price of live hogs in Union Stock Yards here. The fall in price is said to be due to reduced consumption.

BOY SHIPPED AS COLLATERAL.

Sent to a Bank as Guarantee of Payment of a Board Bill.

St. Louis, Mo.—A shipment of one boy, six years old, was received in the Union Station here from Monroe, La., consigned to the National Bank of Commerce for collateral for a board bill to be remitted by the Bank of Monroe.

Mrs. F. J. Koontz, acting as agent for F. J. Koontz, whose name is Arthur, called in the Union Station for the consignment, but the officials of the Iron Mountain, mindful of their obligation as common carrier, refused to deliver him into her hands, because she was not the consignee named in the bill of lading. The boy, still tagged, was taken to the National Bank of Commerce in a taxicab.

The bank gave its receipt to the railroad company and the boy was turned over to Mrs. Koontz. The bank in Monroe was then told by wire to pay Dempsey the \$2.80.

PITTSBURG LOOTER CONVICTED.

Jury Recommends Mercy in the Case of M. L. Swift, Jr.

Pittsburg, Pa.—Guilty as indicted, with a recommendation for extreme mercy from the court, was the verdict returned in the case of former Councilman M. L. Swift, Jr., the first of the victims of the graft scandal to be put on trial on the charge of bribery.

Immediately after the verdict was read Rody Marshall, attorney for the defense, announced a new trial will be asked. Assistant District Attorney Warren I. Seymour said Judge Fraser has signified his intention of considering the recommendation for mercy.

NORTH STATE NEWS

Items of State Interest Gathered and Told in Brief.

Wadesboro Knocks 'Em Out.

In the Superior Court Wednesday R. J. W. Redfern, for many years a business man of Wadesboro, and man of considerable property, plead guilty to violation of the prohibition law in one case, and four other cases against him were dismissed on the payment of costs. Redfern is in a pitiful physical condition and was brought to court by the sheriff on an instanter capias. Redfern agreed to close his near-beer place and sentence was suspended until the next term of court on account of his condition. The conviction of Redfern and the closing of his place of business is a knock-out blow to the blind tiger business.

Mining Company vs. Westfields.

Judge Boyd has signed the final decree in the suit of the North Carolina Mining Company against Westfields and others dismissing the complaint from the Federal courts and taxing Circuit Court costs amounting to more than \$8,000 against the plaintiff. The total court costs in the case were more than \$12,000. If the plaintiffs do not prosecute an appeal notice of which was given the case will come up in the State courts of Haywood county.

Champion Dewberry County.

The Moore County Dewberry Association, representing 90 per cent of the acreage devoted to this fruit in the premier dewberry county of the world, at a special meeting solved the problem of distribution of this season's crop and completed all preliminary arrangements before the annual advent of the dynasty of the dewberry, which holds absolute sway in Moore during the month of June.

Great North Carolinian Dead.

Col. Paul Barringer Means, for 40 years one of North Carolina's most prominent attorneys, and a gallant ex-Confederate soldier, a native of Cabarrus county, passed peacefully away Wednesday. He was 66 years old at the date of his death. Col. Means was connected with the best families of North Carolina.

Conductor Seduced Girl.

Acting under instructions from Sheriff McKenzie, of Rowan county, B. H. Pinson, a freight conductor, whose run is from Spencer to Greenville, was arrested in Charlotte Friday for seducing Miss Pearl Scott, a 16-year-old girl of Spencer, under promise of marriage.

30,000 Gallons Whiskey Seized.

Announcement is made at the revenue agents office at Asheville of the seizure Thursday of 30,000 gallons of whiskey in the warehouse of D. E. Foster, at Williams, for alleged irregularities. The value of the property seized, exclusive of tax, is \$25,000.

Memorial to Worth McAlister.

The Brotherhood of the First Presbyterian Church, at Wilson, has decided to establish a medical dispensary at some point in China, as a memorial to late J. Worth McAlister, of Wilson.

\$100 Reward.

Governor Kitchin offers a reward of \$100 for the capture of Sylvester Parham wanted in Pender county for the murder of Preston Johnson Feb. 23, last.

Postmasters Appointed.

Green, Chatham county, Archie H. Olham, vice G. N. Melver, resigned; McDonald, Robeson county, Spurgeon McLean, vice J. L. Townsend, resigned.

Patents Granted.

Messrs. Henry W. Bason, Mehane, wood-bending machine; John E. L. Winecoff, Whiteville, violin.

Cobb Withers-Granted Reprieve.

Death under the law in the electric chair is to pass by Cobb Withers, a negro, of Mecklenburg county, for the time being, whose sentence for murder was electrocution, an appeal to Gov. Kitchin to commute sentence life imprisonment to be given consideration. Because of this appeal and in order to hear the matter Governor Kitchin has granted a reprieve until Friday, May 27th.

Canned Kraut Killed Her.

Mrs. Alpheus Dixon died Wednesday from the result of eating canned kraut. Ptomaine poison developed immediately and she died in great agony. Mrs. Dixon was the daughter of a liveryman of Durham, and leaves a daughter about three months old.

Hendersonville for Mill Men.

Hendersonville was chosen as the place for holding the annual convention of the South Carolina Cotton Manufacturers' Association on June 10, at a meeting of 27 mill men at Greenville Wednesday.

TAR HEEL CHRONICLES

News Notes Gathered From All Parts of the Old North State.

Asheville Methodists Busy.

At Asheville the committees in charge of the general conference of the Southern Methodist church are attending to many matters of detail in connection with handling the great gathering of Methodists—the first general conference ever held in North Carolina. Reception committees were appointed to go to Old Fort, Hendersonville and Hot Springs, May 3rd, board the incoming trains and attend to the wants of the delegates and visitors.

The ladies of the various Methodist churches of the city will give the visiting ladies a large reception one afternoon during the conference at the splendid green of the Albemarle park. Special trains have already been chartered from Texas and St. Louis, while an excursion will be run from Richmond. Special trains will originate at Birmingham to bring the Southern delegates.

The Asheville committees have just had issued a handsome directory containing the names of all the delegates and addresses; much information about Asheville. A number of distinguished men will address the conference at nights besides the bishops and ministers of the church. Three of national prominence, Senator Gore, of Oklahoma; Governor Hadley, of Indiana, and Dr. Cadman, of Brooklyn, have already been announced. Business sessions will be held at the morning session, and lectures, addresses and sermons at night.

For New Court House.

"I do not think there is another county in the State that needs a new court house as much as this county," said Judge C. C. Lyon on the bench at Wadesboro when the grand jury report came to him. To the clerk of the court he said, "Read this report to the assembled people and spread it on the record and serve a copy on the county commissioners at their next meeting."

The clerk read the report aloud. It called attention to the fact that the court house was entirely too small for the work and recommended that the court house and site be sold and another location be purchased and more modern buildings be erected for the court house and jail. The grand jury thought that the present site would sell for almost enough money to buy a site and erect a new building. The present site is very valuable property and would sell for a fancy price. Several parties are ready to make the county an offer and their purpose is to erect a business block.

Boys Will Get Certificates.

Certificates of merit signed by Gov. Kitchin and Superintendent of Public Instruction J. Y. Joyner and bearing the great seal of the State are to be issued this fall to boys in the Boys' Corn Clubs organized under the auspices of the demonstration department for the United States Department of Agriculture and the State Department of Agriculture provided certain rules are complied with and fixed high results are attained.

Engineers Assist on Roads.

The Highway Division of the North Carolina Geological and Economic Survey has been giving engineering assistance during the past two weeks in Cleveland, Forsythe and Yadkin counties. Mr. W. L. Spoon, road engineer, is in Forsyth and Yadkin counties investigating the best location for a road from Winston-Salem to Yadkinville.

Boy Shoots Little Sister.

A 12-year-old son of Gus Sears, colored, who lives twelve miles from Kinston, shot his little 2-year-old sister to death with a Flobert rifle.

Shepard With a Razor.

Solomon Shepard, the desperate negro from Durham county, who is in the penitentiary for the murder of Engineer Holt and who made his escape in the early spring and was captured after a long chase, burst forth into an angry mood Saturday and came near fatally injuring one of his fellow prisoners by cutting him severely with a razor.

Must Pass Examination.

Col. W. G. Smith, Maj. Lawrence Young and Maj. S. C. Jordan, of Asheville, have been appointed by Adjutant General Armstrong as a board of examiners to examine applicants for commissions in the guard that arise in the Asheville section.

May Lose a Congressman.

There is some doubt in Washington as to whether or not North Carolina will have nine or ten Congressmen after the next census. It was by the smallest margin that the State got ten ten years ago and, while cities have grown some of the country districts have lost in population.

HAVENS DEFEATS ALDRIDGE; SLUMP IN REPUBLICAN VOTE

Change of 16,000 Ballots in Rochester, N. Y., District.

CLOTHING MAKERS ANGRY

Democrat Elected to Congress by Plurality 5835, Succeeding a Republican Who Won by 10,000 in 1908—Complete Reversal.

Rochester, N. Y.—In the special election for representative in Congress in the Thirty-second District between James S. Havens, Democrat, and George W. Aldridge, Republican, Havens defeated Aldridge by a plurality of 5835. Inasmuch as the late Representative Perkins, Republican, carried the district in 1908 by 10,167 the result shows a change of 16,002 votes. Mr. Havens carried the city of Rochester by 3746, when in 1908 Mr. Perkins carried it by 6216, which records a change of 9961 votes.

The result is similar to that in the Fourteenth Massachusetts district, where at a recent special election Eugene N. Foss, Democrat, overturned a Republican plurality in 1908 of 14,000 and won by 6000, making a change of 20,000 votes. The last Democratic Congressman for this district was Colonel Albert S. Greenleaf, elected in 1890.

Mr. Havens carried all of the Republican strongholds not only in the city of Rochester, but the country towns of Monroe County, which make up the Congress District. He carried seventeen of the twenty-two wards in the city of Rochester and all but one of the nineteen country towns. Aldridge carried his own ward by 88, Perkins carried it in 1908 by 900.

The reversal of Republican votes is even greater than seems on the surface, for despite the slump, Aldridge gained in several of the Democratic wards in Rochester. It is a fair estimate that there was a change of from 11,000 to 12,000 in the Republican votes of the city. But the great significance of the vote lies in the tremendous changes in the strong Republican wards in which the Republican majorities have always been piled up. Some of these wards have never before given a majority against a Republican candidate in the history of local politics.

The atmosphere has been heavy with the complaints of manufacturers over the wool schedules in the Aldridge-Payne tariff bill and clothing manufacturers abound in the district. Indeed general dissatisfaction has been heard over national policies and the feeling over the attitude of the administration's tariff policy toward Canada has been pronounced, 22 not downright bitter.

Washington, D. C.—Republicans were amazed when the news was received from Rochester that George W. Aldridge had been defeated for Congress by Havens, his Democratic opponent. They insisted that Aldridge was defeated for reasons purely local and that his defeat could not be accepted as having any bearing on national issues.

HALE AND ALDRICH TO RETIRE.

Important Bearing of News on Leadership of Senate.

Washington, D. C.—Senator Eugene Hale, of Maine, next to Senator Aldrich, the chief figure on the Republican side of the Senate, will announce his retirement from the canvass in his State for re-election. Coming so soon after the news that Senator Aldrich, of Rhode Island, will not be a candidate for re-election, the news about Senator Hale was nothing short of sensational in its bearing upon the political situation here.

It has an important effect upon the Republican organization in the Senate, upon the situation in the party throughout the country, and especially upon the relations of the administration with Congress.

TWO BALL PLAYERS KILLED.

Freeburg (Ill.) Man Struck Over Heart and Troy Lad on the Temple.

Troy, N. Y.—John F. Burns, of this city, a member of the freshman class of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, died as the result of being struck on the temple by a pitched ball in a baseball game between the freshman nine of the R. P. I. and the Troy High School team.

Freeburg, Ill.—William Schmitt, twenty-eight, a member of the Freeburg (Ill.) "Nine Stars" ball team, was killed by being struck with a ball over the heart. The team was playing with a St. Louis team and Schmitt was at the bat.

Louis Unzie, of St. Louis, was the pitcher.

"NO-SEAT-NO-FARE" CARS A GO.

Trenton's Test of New Law a Big Success in Two Days' Trial.

Trenton, N. J.—Trenton's new "no seat no fare" ordinance worked wonders in the way of improved trolley service in two days.

The company ran more cars during rush hours than ever before, as it did not want to face heavy fines, as the ordinance providing that whenever the corporation fails to provide a seat for passengers during rush hours it is liable to a penalty of \$50 for each complaint.