

THE DEATH SCENE UNDER MORRO CASTLE

Stories of Those Who Were Saved From Death in the Awful Disaster.

A SURPRISE IN SIGSBEE'S STARTLING SECRET STORY

Capt. Sigsbee to Make Written Report Concerning the Terrible Happening.

SOME OF THE HIGHEST AUTHORITIES REFRAIN FROM EXPRESSING OPINIONS

Americans Incensed that Maine Sailors Should Be Given Spanish Burial--New York World Says Spanish Visitors Might Have Placed Dynamite Near the Magazine in the Bow--Report of a Hole in the Maine Not Confirmed.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Rear Admiral Sigsbee commanding the North Atlantic Squadron informed the Navy Department this morning that he had appointed a board of inquiry to investigate the cause of the accident to the Maine as follows: Capt. Simpson, President; Captain Chadwick; Lieutenant Commander Schroeder, Lieutenant Commander Marix.

Captain Simpson is at present in command of the battleship Iowa, at Tortugas; Lieutenant Commander Schroeder the executive officer of the Vermont, formerly of the Maine has been appointed judge advocate of the board. The board will institute proceedings without delay and in the ordinary course of events a report will be made to Admiral Sigsbee within two or three days.

Without question the proceedings of this board will be followed up by the appointment of a formal court of inquiry which will pursue the matter deliberately. The present aim is to obtain a preliminary report at the earliest possible moment.

AMERICANS INCENSED.

Havana, Feb. 17.—The city buries today fifteen mutilated bodies of the Maine's sailors which floated ashore yesterday. The ceremonies were conducted according to the Spanish rite under the Bishop of Havana, Manuel Santander, who had given the ground for interment.

The bodies will be exposed in State in the city hall before the burial.

American citizens are incensed and think that America should bury her own dead. The expense is borne by the municipality of Havana. The Spanish authorities have seemingly taken charge of an investigation of the disaster. The American commander has been notified to appear before their Military Judge.

HOW IT HAPPENED.

Havana, Feb. 17.—So far only twenty bodies have been recovered.

The report that divers found an eight inch hole in the Maine, which indicates a torpedo's work is causing the greatest excitement. It is believed here that a Spanish fanatic or secret emissary of the government floated a torpedo under the water line against the Maine's forward magazine and set it with a detonating device, giving him time to escape. It is stated that this is Captain Sigsbee's belief which he has communicated to the Navy Department and which they are said to be keeping a secret.

NO ONE KNOWS HIM.

The report sent out that one Trubic Finch, of Raleigh, N. C., was on board the Maine was interestingly read in Raleigh.

Several hundred people were questioned this morning and not one has been found who ever heard of Trubic Finch.

The dispatch stated that Finch was born here and there was at one time a family named Finch which resided near the Central Hotel. This was more than fifteen years ago. A member of the family was buried in the old city cemetery and a small tombstone in that place was said to bear the name of a Miss Finch.

Later.—It is said by some that at one time a printer by this name worked in Raleigh.

OXFORD MAN.

Oxford, N. C., Feb. 17.—On board the Maine was John H. Moss, formerly of this place. His family still lives here and he has many relatives in the county.

DISCREDIT THE STORY.

Washington, Feb. 17.—The Navy Department absolutely discredits the story from Key West to the effect that divers found an eight inch percussion hole in the bottom of the Maine.

TO RAISE THE SHIP.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Already plans for raising the Maine are being considered and wrecking crews have been directed to proceed at once to Havana.

STARTLING REPORT.

Washington, D. C., Feb. 17.—Special—It is reported that Captain Sigsbee has made a startling report to the Navy Department and that the government is keeping it secret.

Havana, Feb. 17.—Admiral Manterola has notified Captain Sigsbee that a joint committee of American and Spanish Naval officers will be appointed to investigate the cause of the explosion.

HOLE IN THE PLATE.

Washington, Feb. 17.—A Key West bulletin regarding the hole in the Maine armor plate was shown the President. His only comment was that it was the first he had heard of it. He does not wish to make any statements but said the administration had no advices confirming the report.

New York, Feb. 17.—A World cable says, in reply to an inquiry, that visitors were permitted on the Maine all day and might easily have deposited a bomb near the magazine.

Key West, Fla., Feb. 17.—A correspondent from the scene of the wrecked Maine says that while divers were working about her bottom they discovered an eight inch percussion hole in the plate.

Admiral Manterola has summoned Captain Sigsbee to appear before military Judge Poral to make the necessary depositions that all proofs of torpedo work may be removed.

Another man of war is expected tonight.

FROM INTERNAL CAUSE.

A special received from the Associated Press at 3:20 p. m. was as follows: Washington, Feb. 17.—The officers of the Maine who have arrived at Key West are without exception of the opinion that the explosion was due to some internal cause and not from any outside agency. A naval board of inquiry has been ordered to Havana to make a full investigation. Several days may elapse before anything definite can be learned as the result of the official inquiry into the disaster.

NO SUPPRESSED DISPATCH.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Secretary Long says he has no suppressed dispatch from Captain Sigsbee expressing the opinion that a torpedo destroyed the Maine.

DENISON'S OPINION.

Key West, Fla., Feb. 17.—Purser Denison, of the Olivette, don't believe the Maine was destroyed by a torpedo.

THE MONTGOMERY'S ORDERS.

Washington, Feb. 17.—It is evident that the Navy Department is mobilizing fleet within four hours of Havana. The Cruiser Montgomery has been ordered from San Domingo to Key West.

JOURNAL'S SENSATIONALISM.

New York, Feb. 17.—The Evening Journal's special cable says the Maine was blown up by a torpedo.

THE TWO DEAD OFFICERS.

A report sent out last night said: Assistant Engineer Merritt was born at Red Oak, Montgomery county, Iowa, April 12, 1872. He was appointed to the Naval Academy September 10, 1891, graduating at the head of his class four years later. He went to sea on the Amphitrite and was subsequently transferred to the Indiana, receiving his final graduation July 1st, 1897. After a short service at the New York Navy Yard he was ordered to the battleship Maine September 10, 1897, and has

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

THE BEST OF ALL.

The Wilbur-Kirwin Company Tonight Present "Fra Diavolo."

The rendition of "Giraffe-Giraffe" last evening by the Wilbur-Kirwin Opera company was the best of the week's programme to date and shows that the company is giving the best last, "om Bolero," the Spanish nobleman, was intrusted to the favorite Clarence Harvey, and as usual he kept the audience in jolly laughter and his appearance was always applauded.

Miss Baxter last night became more at home before Raleigh people, and, it is safely said, she makes a splendid "Aurora" on the stage.

Miss Hare was "Paquita," and though she had little to say, she displayed her part to great advantage.

Miss Kirwin as "Giraffe-Giraffe" was excellent. The drinking scene was a little overdone for a Raleigh audience, but her song, "Ma Honey," sung between the second and third acts, by request, delighted everyone. It is a popular musical gem and her rendition received a hearty encore.

To-night "Fra Diavolo" will be presented. The company is a good one. The entertainment is well worth the price and a packed house is deserved by this popular troupe.

OFF TOMORROW.

The German to be given by the University German Club, at Chapel Hill tomorrow evening, will be a social event of unusual brilliancy. From Raleigh will go about twenty of the State's fairest debutants. Among the young women who leave to-morrow to be chaperoned by Mrs. F. H. Busbee and Mrs. C. G. Latta, are Miss Eliza Busbee, Miss Mary Jones, Miss Mattie Pace, Miss Sadie Root, Miss Margaret Smedes, Miss Pattie Lewis, Miss Adelaide Snow, Miss Fannie Hoke, Miss Hal. Morson, Miss Lena Latta, Miss Windham Trapier, Miss Isabelle Busbee, Miss Nanette Clark, of Tarboro, and Miss Lula Hawkins, of Ridgeway.

Rev. James Dinwiddie, who has been visiting his brother, Dr. James Dinwiddie, left to-day for Georgia.

Major W. A. Guthrie, who is here to attend the meeting of the Railroad Commission, says that Kitchen will be re-elected to Congress from the Fifth district.

The Swine Breeders' Association of the State is called to meet at Newbern March 3d.

TO STOP GAMBLERS

The Police Force on the Watchout.

LAST MONTH'S RECORD WAS NO EXCITEMENT

MAYOR RUSS IS GIVING THE FULL PENALTY OF THE LAW.

Sad Case of Wilson Donaldson--Others Beware or the "Goblins" Will Get Them--Cases Disposed Of.

Chief of Police Norwood and his men are making a desperate fight against gamblers and Sunday liquor sellers, and it must be a fight to the finish.

For the past month the entire force has been collecting evidence against the offenders, and as quick as a dead sure case could be brought against the men, they were brought into the Mayor's court where justice has been dispensed to them.

Mayor Russ is heartily in accord with the Police Department in this fight, and is putting the full penalty of the law on the gamblers and liquor dealers.

There is now in hand testimony enough to convict a few more. There are about twenty offenders on whom the eye of the law has been carefully placed. A sharp vigil has been instituted and the gambling dens will be raided before many days pass by.

A Times reporter, with an officer of the law, visited, under shadow the scene of the iniquitous proceedings and saw that the police have spotted the right men and the right places.

There are in the neighborhood of Martin, Wilmington and Blount streets several rooms which are supposed to be used for business and it is now clearly shown that these rooms are frequented by gamblers and that the Sunday law concerning the sale of spirituous liquors is being regarded. Men have been convicted recently of selling liquor on Sunday, and for selling liquor without license.

There are officers, and the city authorities are keeping a clear eye on the crowd.

The first evidence which lead to the discovery of the gamblers was the riotous actions of the drunken revellers when leaving their dives and that caused their arrest and conviction of George Bledsoe, Charles Thornton and others.

These got the full penalty of the law, and they are now serving out their sentences.

A close watch was then ordered by the department, on all suspicious places, and soon Col. Baskerville, Wilson Donaldson and others were before the Mayor.

The warning is sent out to all these people. There is a great desire to exterminate these filthy dens, and it will be done. Raids will be made from time to time, and those caught will be given heavy doses of the law.

The department has been doing excellent service to the city in this special line, and Chief of Police Norwood says this is just a starter.

He expects to push it along and do all he can to stop these gamblers and Sunday liquor sellers.

During the last thirty days the following cases, with sentences, have been disposed of:

- GAMBLING.
- George Bledsoe—30 days on roads.
- Charles Thornton—30 days on roads.
- Sidney Rogers—30 days on roads.
- Lee Lawson—30 days on streets.
- Wash Jones—Fines \$12.25.
- Sherman Jones—Fined \$12.25.
- Tom Walker—Fined \$12.25.
- SELLING LIQUOR SUNDAYS.
- Willis Dunn—Sent to Court.
- Col. Baskerville—Sent to Court.
- Col. Baskerville—Fined \$25.
- Wilson Donaldson—Sent to Court.
- Wilson Donaldson—Fined \$25.00.
- Wilson Donaldson—Sent to Court.
- Wilson Donaldson—Fined \$25.00.
- Wilson Donaldson—Sent U. S. Court.

There has been great interest manifested in the trials at the Mayor's Court, and a new case somewhat similar to Wilson Donaldson is about to be brought. Donaldson will be many months serving the city, the county, the State and the United States before he is again free.

This liquor selling on Sunday and without license must be stopped.

The gambling must be exterminated and the police force now give warning to all offenders.

Every citizen who believes in ordinary decency is in for the scuffle.

DR. ABBOTT TO PAY

Commission Discuss Witness Expenses.

WAS NO EXCITEMENT

MASSENBURG AND ST. JOHN LEFT WITHOUT MILEAGE OR EXPENSES.

Corn Rate Taken Up--Maj. J. W. Wilson and Otto Present--Explanations from Pearson and Abbott.

The Railroad Commission met this morning at 10 o'clock and there were present before them many prominent railroad men and a few hotelists who had answered the summons of Commissioner Abbott to appear and give information concerning rates received on freight to be used in their hotels as sent over the lines on which the hotels are situated.

Among the hotelists were Mr. St. John, of Piney Woods Inn, at Southern Pines and Mr. J. P. Massenburg, of Henderson. These gentlemen were notified at the meeting this morning that their services would not be needed as the order issued was not legal. This was decided by a vote of two to one, Caldwell and Pearson against and Abbott for.

In regard to the expenses of the trip the Commission decided that they would consider the matter later.

Dr. Abbott stated that if the Commission did not pay the expenses he would do so out of his own pocket. It is a neat little sum whoever pays it. There are four of the hotelists who were summoned and the smallest amount due any one by law, it is said, would amount to more than \$10.00.

It was a warm time from start to finish while the Commissioners were voting on these resolutions.

Dr. Abbott made a statement saying that it was nothing personal which caused his action and that personally he had nothing against Mr. Pearson.

Commissioner Pearson also made a statement saying that no hard feeling existed toward Dr. Abbott as far as he was concerned.

Messrs. E. St. John, Emerson, Walters Henderson, Harrison and other prominent railroad men were present at the corn and fertilizer hearings. Some facts concerning rates given to hotels on their lines were given by Seaboard Air Line and Atlantic Coast Line officials.

Major J. W. Wilson was present, but was not called on to make any statement during the morning session and it is not likely he will be reached before to-morrow.

S. Otto Wilson was in the Commission room most of the morning and appeared perfectly at home. He expects to be reinstated on Monday as also does Major J. W. Wilson.

The Commission has several important cases on the docket. Among others the Southern Express Company is to appear.

LIBRARY ENTERTAINMENT.

The Library Entertainment given by the Centennial boys and girls will be held Friday night, Feb. 25th, at the Metropolitan Hall. Admission 25 cents for adults; 10 cents for children. No reserved seats. The two scenes from the operas Pocahontas, and El Capitán, will be very bright and entertaining. We hope the public will attend the entertainment, and by their presence help make it a success.

SUPREME COURT.

Second district cases: Parker vs. Harden, argued by R. B. Peebles for plaintiff; Francis D. Winston for defendant.

Britton vs. Ruffin, argued by Battle and Mordecai for plaintiff; Francis D. Winston for defendant.

Miller vs. Womble, argued by Peebles for plaintiff; Winston for defendant.

Bydr vs. Bazemore, argued by Winston and Scull for plaintiff and Peebles for defendant.

Clark vs. Peebles, argued by Hill and Winston for plaintiff; Peebles for defendant (Clark J. did not sit on the hearing of this case).

FIRE THIS MORNING.

This morning at 3:40 an alarm of fire was turned in. It turned out to be a wood house back of the house occupied by Lizzie Cooper, near the Rock church, East Raleigh. The greatest damage done was the loss of the fire wood in the house.

BROWNING'S TRIAL

Held in the Court House To-Day.

THE TRIAL CONTINUES

THE TESTIMONY OF W. N. STRICKLAND BEFORE JUSTICE ROBERTS.

Murder Committed Early Last Week--What Will be Done With the Case?--Much Interest Manifested.

The case against the man Browning who murdered his father-in-law last week, as was told in the Times the day of the murder, was heard before Justice H. H. Roberts in the court house this morning.

The trial began at 12 o'clock and the first witness, Mr. Strickland was cross-examined by both counsel for Browning and the State.

The witness, though having the same name, is not related to the deceased. After giving some hour-long testimony Strickland said:

"I saw part of a tooth or bone near the blood which was cold when I reached the scene. The blood was in a line in the road. The tooth was about six or eight feet from the body which I suppose had been dragged to the side of the road. After the line of blood stopped there was no more sign of blood and it was two feet from the end of the blood line to the body of Strickland. It looked like a gallon of blood on the ground. The body was removed to the house about 6 o'clock in the afternoon and though I looked at the body for an hour or more I did not examine it until it was carried home.

"In the right hand of the deceased I saw a handkerchief and a knife like this," (here the witness produced a large 3 inch blade knife which is supposed to be the same.)

"The knife was open. I don't recollect seeing any blood on the handkerchief. There was blood about his vest in a spot about two and a half inches long.

"When we took him to the house my son washed his arms and I dressed him. The shot entered the roof of his mouth and the left jaw.

The deceased was about 70 years old weighed about 130 pounds, but was not much stoop shouldered. Browning (the defendant) is about 35 or 40 years old has pretty good use of himself. Strickland's house was in sight and also Browning's. In the deceased's nostril I found a shot about the size of a squirrel shot and there was burnt powder around the wound which makes me believe the muzzle was near."

The next witness placed on the stand was William Pugh. His evidence was about the same as that of Strickland.

Messrs. Jones and Boykin conducted the prosecution and Pot and Harris the defense.

The case was continued this afternoon and the full proceedings of the trial will be given later.

GOOD CONDITION.

The Concord Perpetual Building and Loan Association has made report to the Auditor and shows itself to be in the best condition of any company yet reported.

NEW CORPORATION.

The Secretary of State to-day incorporated the L. Richardson Drug Company of Greensboro. The incorporators are R. G. Vaughn, L. Richardson and John E. Logan. Capital stock \$10,000. This company is to manufacture drugs, medicines and drug sundries.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

John A. Mills President of the New Railroad.

The directors of the new railroad met to-day and selected the following officers: John A. Mills, President and General Manager.

T. B. Upchurch, of Carthage, Vice-President.

W. J. Upchurch, of Carthage, General Superintendent.

F. T. Rix, of Raleigh, Secretary and Treasurer, Acting Auditor. The directors decided to go to work at once.

The work will be begun at this end of the line Monday.

Mr. W. J. Upchurch, the General Superintendent will move from Carthage to Raleigh and make this city his home.

CITY GOVERNMENT ENDORSED.

We the undersigned, Protestant ministers of the Gospel in Raleigh, hereby express our hearty and unanimous approval of the action of the city government in enforcing the laws which tend to secure for our citizens a quiet and orderly observance of the Lord's Day as a day of rest: E. Daniel, A. M. Simms, W. C. Norman, J. W. Carter, Edwin C. Glenn, A. L. Betts, I. McK. Pittenger, William Walker, A. W. Curtis, A. B. Hunter, R. H. Whitaker, M. M. Marshall, J. E. King, James A. Weston, B. Smedes, J. J. Worlds, H. B. Delany, R. H. W. Leak, A. G. Davis, Jos. Blount Cheshire, Levi Branson, T. H. Bain, I. A. White, Alvin Bell, Jas. L. Foster.