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The Annals of Iowa

LIFE AND ROMANCE SUDDENLY TERMINATED

George Jones Shot and Killed today by John Alexander, Nine-year old Son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Alexander.

MARRIAGE WAS SET FOR SATURDAY

Appalling Tragedy Occurred Shortly Before 9 o'clock at Alexander home, 1320 Ash Street—Reported Accidental.

Shortly before 9 o'clock this morning in the basement of the Alexander home, 1320 Ash street, George Jones, a middle aged man, was shot and almost instantly killed, when a single barrel shot gun in the hands of John Alexander, the nine-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander, and a feeble minded lad, was discharged, and the contents of the shell buried itself in the left cheek of the victim. Jones was to be married tomorrow to Mrs. Lena Hammond who was present in the room at the time of the tragedy. The coroner's inquest will be held Saturday morning at 9 o'clock and owing to various circumstances connected and leading up to the affair, the county attorney will be present when the evidence is heard.

Again the pages of history are repeated and the record is written in the blood of a citizen.

This morning an appalling accident occurred which not only caused a death and extreme sorrow in a family, but blighted a romance which was to have culminated in a happy marriage in Keokuk tomorrow.

This morning shortly before 9 o'clock in the basement of the Welsh home, 1320 Ash street—the house being located beyond the North road railroad tracks some distance from the Tenth street bridge—John Alexander, the nine year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Alexander, of 1320 Ash street, shot and killed George Jones, a man who has lived in the city off and on for some time, but who is not very well known here.

The accident drove terror into the heart of the mother of the young boy who accidently committed the deed, saddened the heart of Mrs. Lena Hammond, who on the eve of her marriage was forced to see her sweetheart killed in her presence, and placed the little boy in a state of nervousness from which he will not recover for some time.

"I Did Not Know."

George Jones, the victim of the same old tragedy—"I did not know it was loaded"—received the full discharge of a single barrel shot gun in his left cheek, and his death followed after a very few gasps.

In the room at the time of the accident were George Jones, the victim, John Alexander, the nine year old boy in whose hands the gun was at the time it was discharged, and Mrs. Lena Hammond, who was to take unto herself a husband on the following day.

At the time of the shooting Mrs. Alexander, mother of the lad, was in the yard only a short distance away. She heard the shot and next met her boy with blood streaming down his face as a result of the teriffic kick of the heavy gun. Thinking only of her younger son, George, whom she thought was the victim, she took hold of John's arm and together they rushed in the direction of the bakery of Mayor Charles Off.

Ran to Mayor.

"I did not mean to do it," "I did not mean to do it."

This was all that the frenzied woman could obtain from the young lad and together they almost ran the entire distance to the mayor's place of business.

In excited tones Mrs. Alexander told the mayor of the accident, thinking the young child had been killed and word was sent to the coroner and the police.

Coroner Korschgen, Officer Wilson, Dr. Dorsey, Blynn Dorsey, John C. Ferris, John Leindecker, and Mayor Off soon reached the scene and took whatever evidence could be obtained and Undertaker John J. Crimmins was called. He immediately took charge of the body and removed it to the undertaking parlors of Crimmins & Chase.

Coroner Korschgen selected a jury composed of John Ferris, Mayor Charles Off and C. A. Wright.

Events Preceding Shooting.

George Jones in company with Mrs. Lena Hammond arrived at the Alexander home some time before the accident happened, Mrs. Hammond being a sister of Mrs. Alexander, and the visit was for the purpose of obtaining such clothes as the former had there previous to her marriage.

George Jones and Mrs. Hammond were seated in one of the basement rooms of the house when little John Alexander came in, and knowing Jones quite well, began playing in a boyish manner.

He essayed to sit upon the lap of Jones, but the latter playfully pushed him aside. This seemed to stir the young lad and in child playfulness, he made some threat about shooting and went up stairs and obtained a gun. This gun had been in the house for some time but had not been loaded on previous occasions, as the lad had been playing with it almost every day, but without serious results. It seemed that the night before for some reason the gun had been loaded and the little lad descended the stairs with the weapon destined to do its bloody work.

Almost Instantly Killed.

He re-entered the room with the gun and little attention was paid to him by the two persons at the time. Mrs. Hammond had occasion to remind him not to shoot because she thought the gun might be loaded. He was warned several times, but when the two were least expecting it, a loud report was heard, and Mrs. Hammond turned in time to see George Jones throw his arms wildly in the air, give a few last gasps, and sink heavily to the floor, falling near the stove.

She rushed quickly to his aid and by the time she had lifted his head he was dead. Following the fearful discharge of the single barrel shot gun his life was short and his soul speedily passed to its eternity.

The gun is a heavy one, and the stock was about on a line with the child's head when the discharge came. The stock and gun kicked with a force that almost stunned the nine year old boy and broke the skin on his forehead, causing him to bleed quite profusely.

Much Confusion.

Events that followed are almost hidden in confusion. The mother, as stated above was in a frightened state, the lad was terrified by the deed he had committed, and Mrs. Hammond nearly fainted at the sight of a dead man and the rush of blood from the hole in his cheek.

With the arrival of the coroner and the undertaker the neighborhood which had been so rudely disturbed before 9 o'clock in the morning, was somewhat quieted, although many were attracted to the scene and curious people were found everywhere.

John Alexander, the boy who is still in a nervous state as a result of his grueling experience of the morning, has been attending the Lincoln school, which is not far from his home, but he had been at home this week owing to the fact that the schools are closed. The lad is not at all a boy of intelligence, and is somewhat feebleminded. When the deed was committed it was with no intent whatever, and he did not know the awful result which his playfulness would mean. The accident is one which is not only a thing to cause a sadness among the young boy and his parents and family.

Work for Jury.

There are circumstances connected with the accident this morning that will prove interesting when the coroner's jury meet. The story is that the gun was loaded last evening and that some objections were made by the Alexander family to the marriage between George Jones and Mrs. Lena Hammond. Mrs. Alexander stated this morning, however, that the family had no opposition to make to the approaching nuptials.

May Have Been Pre-Arranged.

A Gate City reporter visited the scene shortly after the affair and picked up many remarks among the people living in that vicinity, which would lead him to believe that the shooting may not have been accidental, as must be stated previous to the coroner's inquest, but may possibly have been a prearranged affair, although a statement made by the father of the nine-year old boy is contrary to this supposition. Neighbors say that the family is one not to be depended upon and are really a detriment to that vicinity. They speak in terms far fro mglowing and even hint that the half-witted boy was given instructions to kill George Jones when he appeared on the premises. Several of the neighbors say that Mrs. Alexander, in an excited state this morning, said that her husband had told the boy to kill Jones, and that he loaded the gun for that purpose last evening. A statement made this morning by Charles Alexander, the father, to a Gate City reporter gives

(Continued on page 3.)

SULTAN MUST VACATE THRONE

Parliament Members and Leaders of Army Decide That Sultan Must Name Rechard Effendi as His Successor.

WILLING TO ABDICATE

Abdul Asks Only a Guarantee of Personal Safety—Army Expected to Enter the City Some Time Today.

[By Bytsantius Moschopolous, Staff Correspondent of the United Press.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 23.—Generals of the beseiging army sent a formal demand today for the surrender of the palace gard and six thousand soldiers, and threatening to use force to abdicate the sultan at the point of a bayonet. As a result of the conference outside Constantinople last night between parliament members, and leaders of the army, it was decided the sultan must name Rechard Effendi his successor. The entrance into the city is momentarily expected. Orders have been issued that the army commit no excess when they enter the city. The sultan indicated his willingness to abdicate if his personal safety is guaranteed, saying he has had nothing to do with the uprising, and asking a trial before being summarily dismissed.

It is reported in the city today that Abdul's mind has weakened perceptibly the last few days and he is no longer mentally responsible. The report, however, is received with due allowance, insanity or treason being the only grounds by which the deposition of the sultan can be forced. Shiek-Ul-Islam, a Mohammedan high priest, is preparing a religious decree approving of the sultan's deposition. The whereabouts of Effendi is still a mystery, and his disappearance may yet develop a sensation. The fact that nothing has been heard from him for several days leads some to believe he has been assassinated. Mutineers still in the city are threatening disorders in European quarters of the city. They were driven to desperation by fear that they would be executed by the Young Turks and have already assassinated a number of reactionary leaders.

The first case to be handled by the humane society will come up for trial in the superior court this afternoon at 2 o'clock, the case being one of cruel treatment toward a child by a parent.

The society has also noticed that the cages in which a number of animale of the zoo i nRand park are pent up are too small entirely, not allowing the enclosed animals or fowls enough room in which to run or move about. The park attendant was spoken to about the matter but he is not invested wit hthe power to make larger cages for the animals. The society will speak to the park commissioners about the matter and see what can be done.

A number of teamsters have been spoken to about beating weary animals, drawing heavy loads and much good has been done since the formates have been reported to Officer John Leindecker who is keeping his eyes open in the interest of the more humane treatment of animals and children and all cases reported to him are looked after at once.

Report Caused Panic.

A panic was caused in the Galata quarters this afternoon by a report that an attack will be made by the Young Turks before night. All the shops are closed and many people are in hiding. Troops finally calmed the people, assuring the Galata and Pera quarters they would not be molested even if an attack was made. These quarters contain a large portion of the foreign population.

Sultan's Sons Captured.

GENEVA, April 23.—The young Turks commission here received a dispatch from Stamboul today stating that two of the sultan's sons have been captured by beseigers and that the soldiers have trained the artillery on the sultan's yacht, and without warning it will be sunk in any attempt made to convey the sultan to the capital. The dispatches say the sultan is suffering from extreme hysteria. It does not say which of the sultan's sons were captured but it is believed that Burhan-Ed-Din the sultan's favorite is one of them. He is accused of being one of the chief instigators of the trouble and is known to have attempted to flee from Constantinople.

Sultan Appears on Street.

The appearance of the sultan on the street today on his way to White Mosque to attend the ceremony of Selamlik was made the occasion of an unexpected demonstration of reverence toward him. As worn and haggard, the sultan rode in an open carriage and answered the plaudits of the multitude that lined the way, with nods. Lines of soldiers guarded the route but their services were not needed. That Babdul appeared dazed and physically weakened was apparent to every one. The ceremony in the mosque

(Continued on page 3.)

AWFUL HORRORS OF MASSACRE

Unspeakable Barbarities of Mohammedan Fanatics Upon Armenian Christians Cause Civilized World to Shudder.

BLUE JACKETS TO AID

Force of British Blue-jackets Start For Hadjin to Relieve Missionaries Who Are in Grave Danger at That Place.

MERSINA, April 23.—Local authorities of Mersina, Adana and other towns are responsible for the massacres of Christians, according to foreign naval officers rushing aid to put down the uprising. Hordes of fanatical Mohammedans were armed by the authorities under the pretence their services were needed to restore order, whereas the real purpose was to permit armed men to render greater services to bands of murderers. No sooner were they armed than they joined the mauraulers, shooting down defenseless Christians. The Americans resisted forty-eight hours but were finally overcome and butchered. Hundreds were killed in this city, and hundreds were terribly wounded, including women and children. The limbs of women and children were cut off, their eyes gouged out, and unspeakeble barbarities practiced. The same conditions prevailed in other towns. Medical assistance was denied the people who were suffering slow agonizing deaths. The supply of food was limited. The Christian section of the town was burned.

Blue Jackets to Rescue.

SMYRNA, April 23.—A small force of British blue jackets from the ships at Mersina started today for Hadjin, nearly a hundred miles north, where a number of missionaries, including five American women, are believed to be in the greatest of peril. A thousand Young Turks troops landed yesterday and started inland determined to end the massacres. It is believed the force is inadequate and may suffer defeat. At least 20,000 American Christians and other races have been killed and the crime wave is increasing.

Appealing For Aid.

NEW YORK, April 23.—The Christian Herald today received a communication from W. W. Peet, Constantinople agent of the American Bible Society, appealing for aid for the stricken Christians in Asia Minor. Peet cabled that the conditions in Asia Minor had not been exaggerated in the least. He said thousands were killed and wounded, and entire towns were without food or shelter. The Christian Herald in an issue today appeals for contributions to aid the sufferers. From the contingent fund, it has already sent the first installment.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—In view of further alarming dispatches from Turkey, advising the state department of the danger of Americans, the president today has taken steps to secure the co-operation of foreign governments closely in touch with Turkey. He directed that the dispatches be sent to American representatives in London and Constantinople, making informal inquiry of the British government concerning what measures have been taken for the protection of missionaries and Armenians. The United States is not signatory of the Berlin convention of 1878 by which the sultan guarantees protection of Christian Armenians. The state department therefore cannot make direct inquiry, but relies upon signatories of that convention, particularly England, for the protection of Americans and Armenians. A dispatch from Vice-Consul Debba, of Mersina, today says the missionaries at Maraosh were safe. The state department is flooded with telegrams from missionary interests of the United States and churches.

Grave Danger at Tabriz.

Dispatches to the state department from Teheran, Persia, dated today, indicate the foreigners in the vicinity of Tabriz are in grave danger. A massacre is imminent, Minister Jackson says. Inflammatory speeches against foreigners were made at the funeral of American Missionary W. C. Baskerville, who was killed in battle. Followers are not allowed to leave Tabriz. Jackson says he is powerless to help the situation. In view of these alarming reports the state department directed the ambassador at St. Petersburg to indicate informally to the Russian government that the United States must rely upon Russia for protection of its citizens in the disturbed provinces of Persia. Inquiry will also be made as to whether the expedition of Russian troops will be made from the frontier.

None Left Alive.

SMYRNA, April 23.—All the Armenians at Osmanie and Tarsus, have been killed. There are four thousand refugees at the American college at Tarsus.

—Read The Daily Gate City, 10 cents per week

DOLLIVER ON TARIFF BILL

Senior Iowa Senator Makes Reply to Aldrich Regarding Schedule, Which Contains Some Severe Criticisms.

DUTIES ARE TOO HIGH

Says Woolen Schedules Are Too High and For Two Years Have Been a Bad Advertisement For Party.

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Two republican senators, Nelson, of Minnesota, and Dolliver, of Iowa, sharply antagonized the senate committee on finance during the consideration of the tariff bill today. Nelson denounced the measure, declaring cotton, glass and woolen schedules were too high. He said that placing duties on woolen manufactured goods 59 per cent higher than the duty on raw wool was unjust. He believed the schedule would stand material reduction.

Gallinger, interrupting, referred to the closing of the woolen mills of New Hampshire by the low rates of the Wilson tariff bill.

Nelson's Reply.

Nelson energetically declared that that was the same spirit that had actuated New England in its criticism of any effort to reduce the high rates that had prevailed upon her products. He declared the hard times of the 90's had come largely from the panic of 1893, and added:

"All stagnation from 1884 to 1897 was not owing to the Wilson tariff law. I would no more think of charging the Dingley tariff with the panic of 1907 than I would charge the panic of 1893 to the Wilson bill."

Nelson said the silver agitation was largely responsible for the panic of 1893.

Dolliver Starts Things.

Dolliver's severe criticism precipitated a lively debate. He declared that not only were the duties imposed by the Payne-Aldrich bill too high, but they were so worded as to result in a large increase of rates without definite indication of such increases in schedules. He said he proposed to have a full explanation of the schedules and to give the other senators an opportunity to vote to lower some of the rates.

"The woolen schedules," he said, "ought to be reduced. I undertake to say that for two years this schedule has been a bad advertisement for the republican party. I intend to so vote as to adhere as far as possible to every reduction in the Dingley rates that was made by the house committee and to every reduction made by the senate committee. Wherever I find a rate in this bill above the Dingley rate of 1897, I reverse the right to inquire into the question as to whether after twelve years of prosperity, with every industry multiplying the output and increasing its capacity, whether after twelve years of industrial progress, it might be possible to scale some of these duties."

Not for an Increase.

"While it may be," said Dolliver, evidently referring to the statement by Aldrich, "that there are only a few increases and quite a large number of reductions in this bill, I venture to say when we are through with it, it will be so nearly like the Dingley law that many men will wonder what was the extraordinary occasion that called us here. This session certainly was not called to increase the schedules of the Dingley law."

Dolliver asserted that by the system of rating cotton goods higher on account of the presence of the small percentage of wool there had been obtained a very greatly increased protection, which was not apparent to the ordinary person who might read the law.

THE DEATH OF PETER COSTELLO

Death Occurred at 12:30 O'clock this Afternoon After Two Weeks Sickness of Pneumonia.

The sad death of Peter William Costello occurred this afternoon at 12:30 o'clock, at the family residence, 808 Carroll street. He has been sick for the past two weeks with pneumonia.

The death of Mr. Costello is a shock to the immediate family and they are extended sympathy in the death of this well known Keokuk citizen. Mr. Costello had a large number of friends made through his sterling qualities and long residence in Keokuk. He was born in this city forty-six years ago and lived here during his entire life. By trade he was a stove moulder. He was a member of St. Peter's Catholic church and of the Modern Woodmen of America.

He is survived by his beloved wife; five children as follows: Anna, Patrick, Peter, Mary and Margaret; two sisters, Mrs. Daniel Schevers and Miss Maggie Costello and one brother, Edward.

Funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

MRS. SCOTT WON IN CLOSE RACE

Elected to Office of President General of D. A. R.'s Over Mrs. Story by Narrow Majority of Eight Votes.

THE FIGHT WAS BITTER

Motion to Make Election Unanimous Was Defeated, Which Showed Depth of Feeling Which Insurgents Cherish.

Mrs. Scott was elected President General of the D. A. R. by a majority of eight votes, according to the announcement of the tellers today. Mrs. William Cummings Story, the "insurgent" candidate, received 483 votes, Mrs. Scott, 491. The tellers spent all night and until 10:30 this morning counting the ballots.

The Continental hall was jammed when the vote was announced. A great number of delegates stayed up all night waiting for word from the tellers. Among these were President-General Mrs. Donald McLean, and the candidates. Mrs. Story moved that the election of Mrs. Scott be made unanimous but this was not carried. The vote against the motion showed the intense feeling of the "insurgents," there was hissing in several parts of the hall. Mrs. McLean declared the motion was lost and expressed pleasure that the defeated candidate was so gracious. There was talk among the delegates of the contest. Some say outsiders were in telephonic communication with the tellers during the night, and point to the official announcement as peculiarly close. Mrs. Story told her friends, however, she would not countenance any further fight for her.

AVENGES INSULT TO HIS DAUGHTER

Fairfield Farmer Shoots Down Youth Who Attacked His Daughter During His Absence.

FAIRFIELD, Ill., April 23.—After shooting Amos Nixon, 19 years old, accused of attacking Lillian Clark, 14 years old, Wednesday, John Clark, a farmer and father of the girl, was not held up by the police. Clark gave himself up after the shooting.

So strong was the popular sentiment here for the father and so manifest was the approval of his action that no one would swear out a warrant against him.

Receives Popular Applause.

Thursday night he was given an ovation as he stepped from the chief of police's office.

He came into town about 6 o'clock and gave himself up to the police. He asked to be arrested, saying that he had shot and probably fatally wounded young Nixon for an alleged attack on his daughter.

Mr. Clark told the sheriff that his daughter was at home with another sister, who was the only other person about the place, when Nixon appeared. As soon as Mr. Clark came home he was told of the alleged attack, and, securing a shotgun, went hunting for the young man. He fired at him and Nixon fell.

Gives Himself Up to Police.

Not looking to see whether or not he had killed his victim, Clark came to this city and offered himself to the sheriff. A telephone call from the neighborhood asked that a doctor be sent. Nixon was shot in the side and arm, but is not fatally hurt, it is thought.

Nixon has been under arrest and spent several months in jail recently on a charge of forging his mother's name to a check for $50 on a Fairfield bank.

LILLEY'S BODY LIES IN STATE

Special Committees, Representing the General Assembly, Will Attend the Funeral Tomorrow.

HARTFORD, Conn., April 23.—The body of the late Gov. Geo. H. Lilley will lie in state today at the capitol. The entire state militia and special committees representing the general assembly will participate in the funeral ceremonies tomorrow.

CITY NEWS.

—Read The Daily Gate City.

The post office department is calling on all postmasters to report to it all cases where patrons on rural routes have boxes that are not conveniently located for the carrier. It is probable that the mail will be withheld should patrons fail to comply with this ruling and boxes should be so placed that they are within easy reach of the carrier.

—At the meeting this evening of Puckechetuck lodge of the Odd Fellows, there will be work in all three degrees. A number of members of the order from Warsaw are coming up to attend the meeting.

CASTRO SAYS IT'S A SHAME

Treatment Accorded Former President of Venezuela by the Nations Calls Forth Bitter Protest From Him.

GERMANY WILL REPENT

Castro Says if He Had Been Free He Would Have Raised an Army and Recovered His Former Power.

SAINT NAZAIRE, France, April 23. Steamer Versailles, with former President Castor of Venezuela aboard reached here at daylight. Castro was plainly weak and had assistance of a nurse. He will go direct to Paris, the French government making no attempt to prevent him landing. Castro said America, in pursuing its present course toward him, was striking a severe blow at personal liberty in general. He said Germany would soon repent her treatment toward him. He said:

"No greater outrage against a private citiven, was ever perpetrated, than the concentrated movement of half a dozen nations to keep me out of my own country. The authorities say I am a free man. This is not true inasmuch as I am not permitted to return to Fort De France. Why does France not respect the rights of her liberty, which she so boastfully proclaims? If I had been free I would have returned to Venezuela, formed an army, and recovered my former power."

After going to Paris, Castro says he is going to Spain.

CURIOUS FREAK OF THE LIGHTNING

Lightning follows Wire Fence Killing a Heifer and Striking a Young Colt, at Elvastion.

ELVASTION, Ill., April 23.—The adjusting committee of the Prairie Township Mutual Fire Insurance Company was called to adjust a loss on Monady at James Gunning's farm on section 28 Rock Creek township. The bolt of lightning had struck a maple tree to which a wire fence was attached and instead of going to the ground it ran along the wire and killed a young heifer about thirty feet north of the tree then it followed the fence south perhaps ten rods to the corner of the lot then east about ten rods then north ten rods where it left the fence and struck a two year old colt knocked it down and injured it so that it continues in a dazed condition. This proves that all wire fences should be grounded with ground rods and it can be so easily done by putting a No. 9 wire in the post hole and letting it with the other wires which run length run up as high as the top wire on the fence and staple it fast to the post wise with the fence. The committee adjusted the loss.

THE WEATHER.

Indications for Iowa, Illinois and Missouri, Wired From Chicago.

For Keokuk and vicinity: Fair and warmer tonight. Saturday partly cloudy and warmer.

For Illinois and Missouri: Fair and warmer tonight. Saturday partly cloudy and warmer.

For Iowa: Fair and warmer tonight. Saturday partly cloudy with warmer east and central portions.

Weather Conditions.

There have been showers from the lower Mississippi valley through Tennessee to the eastern states, with generally fair weather throughout the west.

Conditions indicate fair weather for this section tonight, becoming partly cloudy Saturday and warmer.

Daily River Bulletin.

	Stage	Height	Change	State
St. Paul	14	8.2	-0.1	Clear
La Crosse	12	8.3	-0.2	Clear
Dubuque	15	12.4	-0.4	....
Davenport	15	11.6	x0.1	Clear
Galland	8	6.8	0.3	....
Keokuk	15	12.8	0.4	Clear
Warsaw	18	16.0	x0.6	Clear
St. Louis	30	25.2	x2.6	Clear

River Forecast.

The river will continue to rise from Davenport southward.

U. B. 7/8 Q. Bridge, Burlington, Iowa, April 22.—The present stage of the river is 10 feet 3 inches above low water mark, a rise of 4 inches since last report. Boats up and down—Dubuque and Wenona.

The river will continue to rise from Davenport southward.

Local Observations.

	Bar.	Ther.	Wind.	Wh'r.
22 7 p. m.	30.02	48	NW	Clear
23 7 a. m.	30.18	37	E	Clear

River above low water of 1864, 12 feet, 8 tenths.

Change in 24 horus, rise, 4 tenths.

Mean temperature, 44.

Maximum temperature 54.

Minimum temperature, 35.

FRED Z. GOSEWISCH.
Observer.