FOUGHT BATTLE WITH WILD NEGRO

Officers Forced Way Into House and Faced Shower of Bullets from Stairway.

HOLSTER SAVED ONE OF THEM

Fugitive Finally Brought Down by Shot and Will Probably Die.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

STAUNTON, VA., July 18.—Police Officers J. H. Lupton, Jr., and J. F. L. Long entered a house on Green Street this morning to arrest Jim Stuart, a negro thirty-five years old, who two months ago escaped from a chain gang on which he was serving a term for a petty offense, and who had since been at large.

The negro fired from the head of the stairs at Officer Lupton. Of the four shots, one struck Lupton over the heart and broke two ribs. The ball was checked by first penetrating the holster of his revolver, which the officer carried in his breast pocket.

Officer Long escaped harm, and shot the negro in the region of the heart, bringing him down. Stuart was placed in jail, and is not expected to recover.

Officer Lupton was taken to the hospital, and unless complications arise, he will get well. The negro, when not under the influence of whiskey, has not been regarded as a dangerous man. He was known to be drinking last night.

BODY IS RECOVERED.

Man Lost His Life Trying to Rescue Young Woman.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

URBANNA, VA., July 18.—The body of Clarence Gray, who was drowned on Wednesday night by jumping from a gasolene boat into the Rappahannock River near Towles's Point in an attempt to rescue Miss Jeanette Dudley, was discovered this morning floating on the surface at Cherry Point, about ten miles from the place where he went overboard.

The funeral was held at Christ Episcopal Church this afternoon at 4 o'clock, in the presence of a large assembly of friends and relatives.

POTATO CROP IS SMALL THIS YEAR

Great Damage Done by Heavy Rains—Anti-Saloon League Gets Busy.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

ONANCOCK, VA., July 18.—The first barrel of this year's crop of sweet potatoes was shipped on Monday and sold for $8. The crop of Irish potatoes will be finished during the coming week. In some sections of the county, owing to the deluge of rain last month, the yield was but little larger than the quantity planted. Where it was not drowned out the crop was a fair one, and the prices in the main have been satisfactory. The crop will not exceed 400,000 barrels, far less than was expected.

The Chincoteague pony penning will take place on Thursday and Friday next.

J. Norman Belote has shipped from three-fourths of an acre of land 283 baskets of onions, a yield that is seldom surpassed.

The fair of the colored people near Tasley will be held on August 17 to 20, inclusive.

Forced Hotel to Close.

The district conference of the M. E. Church, South, will convene at Downing's Church, in Northern Accomac, on July 27, to continue three days.

The Anti-Saloon League is again actively at work, and as a result, one of the hotels in town is closed. About thirty witnesses summoned before a magistrate testified that they had recently bought liquor from the proprietor. An adjournment was had before the examination was finished, and at the resumption the next morning the accused failed to appear. He is supposed to have left the State.

The race between Nutwood and Joe P. at Tasley was an easy victory for Nutwood. Best time, 2:22½.

REARDON WINNER BY SINGLE VOTE

Democratic Nominee for Legislature to Represent Clarke and Warren Is Chosen.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

WINCHESTER, VA., July 18.—In a contest preliminary to the August primaries Michael H. Reardon, of White Post, Clarke county, was yesterday apparently chosen Democratic nominee for the Legislature to represent the counties of Clarke and Warren. Unofficial returns give Mr. Reardon the narrow margin of one vote over his closest competitor. Ralph H. Grigsby, W. M. Struder and H. E. Royer were candidates also, but the fight was principally between Reardon and Grigsby. Five hundred votes were cast.

SEEK ROUTE FOR NEW RAILROAD

Incorporators of Virginia, Carolina and Western Meet and Examine Engineering Reports.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

AMHERST, VA., July 18.—A meeting of the incorporators of the Virginia, Carolina and Western Railway Company was held at the office of the company at this place yesterday, many routine matters being disposed of. The officers of the company are: T. O. Troy, president; W. R. Fitzgerald, vice-president; B. R. Darrison, secretary. The board of directors is composed of the above and Captain H. C. Joyner, president of the Bank of Amherst, and Colonel A. B. Carrington, of Danville, Va. At the meeting yesterday Stickley Tucker, of this place, was elected counsel and assistant secretary.

The organization of this new railway company is a subject of much interest in this section. For several weeks its engineering corps has been at work examining various routes from James River to the city of Danville. From the reports before them at their meeting yesterday the incorporators were convinced that a route satisfactory in construction and economical in operation can be found connecting the points mentioned. However, different routes will be tried before the final selection is made.

The financial plans for the prosecution of the work in hand are already completed. The general offices of the company are in the Bank of Amherst Building at this place.

Big New Cotton Mill.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

ROCKINGHAM, N. C., July 18.—It has just been announced that a $500,000 cotton mill will be built in the southeast suburbs of Rockingham as soon as the necessary preliminaries can be arranged.

Sold Whiskey Without License.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

DANVILLE, VA., July 18.—Marshall Gilliam and James Haley, young white men, were arrested last night on the charge of selling whiskey without a license. A stand operated by the two was raided and a quantity of liquor was found.

MADDENED BEES ATTACK AND NEARLY KILL A MAN

Shock Caused Heart Failure and Physician Worked Long Before Brown Nicholas Was Restored—Honey-Hunting Season in Full Blast.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

MONTEREY, VA., July 18.—Brown Nicholas, a resident of Crabbottom, came near losing his life on Friday as the result of bee stings. He was removing honey from a well-filled box, when the maddened colony attacked him. The shock caused heart failure, and it required the prolonged attentions of a physician to save the man's life.

The season of year being opportune, residents of the mountains who chance to possess the fine art of "coursing" wild bees, are now busy locating their habitations. From a bee tree found yesterday by Saul Simmons and George Helmick a full washtub of honey in the comb was obtained. The tree was discovered on the mountain side west of Monterey. Simmons, climbing twenty feet, removed the honey section of the tree—about seven feet long—tied a rope about it and lowered it to the ground. The colony was located by means of "coursing" from a nearby spring, where the bees were watering.

Important Notice to Gas Consumers

On and after Agust 1, 1909, gas bills will be rendered as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT (east of the centre of Fourteenth Street) on the 1st instead of the 10th of the month.

SECOND DISTRICT (between Fourteenth and the west side of First Street) on the 8th instead of the 22d of the month.

THIRD DISTRICT (between First and the west side of Harrison Street) on the 15th instead of the 2d of the month.

FOURTH DISTRICT (west of Harrison Street) on the 23d instead of the 2d of the month.

Whenever delivery day falls on Sunday or a legal holiday the bills will bear date of the following day. If a bill is not paid within five days after delivery 5 per cent. will be added. If paid by check the bill must accompany the check, and both should be mailed to the City Treasurer before the last day to insure their delivery in time to save the penalty. If a bill is not paid within ten days after delivery the gas will be turned off.

JOSEPH M. SHELTON,
Inspector of Gas, Richmond, Va.

TUCKER TO OPEN DANVILLE FIGHT

Will Make First Speech There To-Morrow—Mann May Come Later.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

DANVILLE, VA., July 18.—Hon. Harry St. George Tucker will make his first speech of the campaign at the courthouse here on Tuesday night. Mr. Tucker speaks to-morrow, which is old court day, at Chatham. M. S. Stringfellow and N. S. Ker, campaign managers for Mr. Tucker, were in the city to-day making arrangements for the visit.

Judge Mann has not yet spoken in Danville.

SENDING MONEY OUT OF AMERICA

Orders Payable to Foreign Countries Greatly Exceed Those Coming to United States.

WASHINGTON, July 18.—Money order transactions in the post-offices of the country have grown to so large an extent in the last year or two that it is now necessary to maintain a force of approximately 750 accountants, bookkeepers, assorters and examiners in the office of the auditor of the department.

During the first three-quarters of the last fiscal year, which ended on June 30, there was an increase of 2,089,000 in the number of money orders issued as compared with the corresponding period in the preceding fiscal year. The value of the orders, however, was $28,846,000 less than for the corresponding period of last year.

The average value of domestic money orders issued during the quarter which ended on March 31, 1909, was $6.61, and the average value of the internal money orders during the same period was $20.58.

That an immense amount of money is sent from America to foreign countries, and that the balance is heavily against this country, is indicated by the statement of Auditor Chance, of the Post-Office Department that the international money orders issued in the United States and payable in foreign countries exceeded the value of orders drawn in foreign countries and paid in this country during the fiscal year of 1908 by approximately $66,000.

DAY FOR BABIES AT EXPOSITION

Wholesale Christening at Seattle Will Be Conducted To-Morrow With Impressive Ceremonies.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

SEATTLE, July 18.—All babies born in the State of Washington during the month of June will be known as A-Y-P babies, and the exposition management has set apart next Tuesday as Babies' Day in order that they may be properly christened with impressive ceremonies. To accomplish this result the event has been placed in charge of Mrs. H. W. Allen, of the Woman's Building.

The christening ceremonies will be held in the Auditorium with special music and elaborate decorations. Each baby christened will receive a handsome loving cup, appropriately engraved, as a couvenir of the occasion.

The christening ceremony proper will be performed by the local pastor of the parents. Twenty-five registrations have already been made for the event, and it is expected that the number will reach far into the hundreds.

VETERAN DROPS DEAD.

Prince Edward Man Expires Suddenly in Eighty-Second Year.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

GREEN BAY, VA., July 18.—Stephen D. Brown, one of the oldest and best known residents of this neighborhood, dropped dead Friday. He was in his eighty-second year.

Mr. Brown was born and reared in Albemarle county, and served in the Confederate army. He had been a resident of Prince Edward for fifty years. He married Miss Tibetha Wootton, daughter of Hester Wootton. He is survived by one daughter and one son—Mrs. Ida L. Withers, wife of the Rev. R. E. Withers, of this place, and S. Hester Brown, a prominent business man of Oxford, N. C.

HOLD TWO MASS-MEETINGS TO-DAY FOR GOOD ROADS

(Continued from Page One—Column 7.)

and there is no telling what might be the ultimate advantages to the agricultural interests if they had better means of travel.

The movement for good roads is well under way, and good roads organizations are being perfected in nearly every county. It should not be long before the other counties fall in line, nor long before the prejudiced get over their idea that bonding the county will mean its ruination.

When they have thoroughly learned that money expended on building roads is as safe an investment as they could possibly have, they will not mind the few extra dollars and cents which come out of their pockets any more than they mind putting them in a savings bank.

Senators Aid Movement.

United States Senators Guggenheim and Flint reached Richmond yesterday morning, after having come by automobile over the same route traveled last week by The Times-Dispatch and Washington Post cars from Washington here, and both were enthusiastic in their praise of the effort to have a highway built between the national capital and the capital of the old Confederacy.

Below are printed some of the many letters received by The Times-Dispatch in response to its request for suggestions as to the best route between Washington and Richmond:

Commissioner Baylor's Letter.

In speaking of the route via Ashland, Doswell, Milford, Bowling Green and Fredericksburg, J. B. Baylor, of the United States and Canada Boundary Commission, engineer for the famous "Baylor" Oyster Survey in Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, says:

"This route is about fifty miles shorter than via Orange Courthouse. I know, as an engineer, that no first-class road for cars can be built for less than $4,000 to $5,000 per mile. A saving of fifty miles in distance means a saving in cost of at least $250,000. Fredericksburg is a city of 5,000 people. There will be no difficulty, or there should be no difficulty, in securing the money for a first-class road from Ashland to Richmond, say eighteen miles. There will certainly be no difficulty in securing the money for a splendid national road from Washington to the home of Washington, say twenty-five miles. It is only 115 miles by this route from Richmond to Washington, via railway mileage. After reaching Ashland from Richmond and Mount Vernon from Washington, you have only a distance of, say, seventy-two miles, where you should have any difficulty in raising the necessary money (say, $350,000) to build a great national highway connecting the United States capital with the old Confederate States capital. I think I can give 'the right of way' for about two miles of this seventy-two miles. I can give the gravel and material for the construction of this two miles, and, say, $100 per mile for this distance of two miles through my Newmarket plantation, near Milford, Va.

"It would indeed be a pleasant sensation to make by a direct national highway this journey of 115 miles in a sixty-horsepower car, in, say, two hours—a journey it at one time took, first and last, 2,000,0000 men four long years to accomplish, and thousands died in the effort to make this same journey."

Suggest Bowling Green Route.

John Battaile, of Petersburg, an old soldier who knows something about the need for better road conditions, writes to recommend the old stage route in Hanover and Caroline counties. He says:

"The right trail from Richmond to Washington city is by the old stage road, by way of Hanover Courthouse, Bowling Green, in Caroline; Sycamores, the home of old Joe Withers, who kept a tavern there along about the forties; by Hamilton's Crossing, and thence up the River Road to Fredericksburg. By that route you would get rid of the red mud and hills you would encounter by a route farther West."

Mr. Battaile's suggestion is followed by a like one from numerous citizens of Caroline county, who, collectively, say that the best, shortest and most practicable route to be followed by the cars in seeking a highway from Richmond to Washington is along the old stage road, and they request The Times-Dispatch and Washington Post to send their cars over this route. The road runs by way of Hanover, on to Bowling Green and Fredericksburg, and so to Washington. Those who join in the request are as follows: Mayor T. D. Coghill, R. D. Vincent, H. F. Samuel, F. R. Proctor, Joel Haines, R. A. Coghill, E. E. Butler, R. M. Gray, George T. Simon, H. M. Pegg, W. E. Ennis, E. R. Coghill, E. S. Coghill, C. S. Webb, M. D., Joseph T. Richards, C. T. Jesse, W. L. Broaddus, W. W. Raine, Page T. Sutton, W. H. Vaughan, L. T. Kay, G. R. Dorsey, John W. Guerrant, P. L. Haymond, Bennie L. Garrett, C. W. Garrett, E. B. Collins, A. A. Anderson, H. C. Poats, L. M. Woolfolk, A. B. Woolfolk, W. A. Brooks, T. A. Valentine, E. R. Dunn, Robert T. Glassell, Eugene Broaddus, R. L. Beale, J. W. Elliott, A. B. Chandler, W. C. Degges, A. B. Gill and E. G. Smoot.

Louisa Is Interested.

C. B. Meredith, a supervisor of Louisa, is alive to the subject, and says:

"I am in full sympathy with the move now being made for better roads in Virginia. The benefit to the farming interest by good roads is inestimable, and I believe when the farmers have seen and used some of these hard roads they will be willing to be taxed to continue the work."

By the Three-Chop Road.

W. A. Petty, of Fork Union, who seems to be heartily in accord with the movement to establish the Capital-to-Capital highway, suggests the Three-Chop Road from Richmond to Zion Church as a link in the good road. He says:

"Take the old Three-Chop or Three-North Road from Richmond to Zion Church, in Louisa county, a distance of sixty miles, then the county road to Thelma or Bearsville, or through Virginia Air Line, then either go into Gordonsville by way of Mechanicsville or by Lindsay's. If by Lindsay's you strike the old road from Charlottesville to Gordonsville, which is a good road, and was the old stage route from the South to the North.

"From Zion to Gordonsville is from twelve to fifteen miles, making the whole distance seventy-five miles, mostly on ridges and sand, that does not often get muddy."

Another Louisa Route.

R. L. Atkisson, of Casco, who says that he has traveled all the roads from Louisa to Richmond, writes as follows:

"I find the nearest and best way is up Broad Street to Short Pump, turning to the right up the Mountain Road to Beulah Church; a little above the church turning again to the right, down Howard's Lane to Howard's Mill, on the South Anna River at Casco Post-office, and in to the Crewsville Road and up to the Louisa road. I am postmaster at Casco, and will be glad to give you any instructions I can. I am yours, for good roads."

George P. Smith, of Carmoy, Caroline county, says there is much agitation in his county for the highway between Richmond and Washington, and writes:

Begin Work at Once.

"As supervisor of Madison District, of this county, and having entire control of the working of the roads of this district, I would like to say, if the road passes along the Telegraph Road over Fox's Bridge, across the North Anna River, that the bridge will soon be rebuilt of iron. This road somewhat parallels the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, which has caused it to be much neglected, as most of our travel is across the Telegraph Road going to and from the railroad. Yet, should you select this as the Capital-to-Capital highway, I will endeavor to cooperate in working it and in doing all in my power to make it a suitable road. I am willing to move my force and begin work on it right off. I am also willing to do the same if the road running from Hewlett's and crossing the North Anna River at Dillard's Mill, going by Chilesburg to Spotsylvania, is adopted."

Improve the Dirt Roads.

Concerning the good roads movement, H. P. Wilder, of South Boston, considers that it is a mistake to build macadamized roads until we have good dirt roads of more width, and he says:

"I consider that we are making a sad mistake to try to macadamize roads until we have reasonable good dirt roads, which we cannot have until we have width to make them on. Take the earth roads through Iowa and you will find that they are all sixty-six feet wide between fences and wide enough for two teams to pass, even though one of them has four horses abreast, the extra width allowing the water to be kept far enough away from the track to keep it well drained, thus saving the enormous expense we are put to in yearly repairs of mud holes. Having driven over almost the entire Southside of Virginia, I think that I know whereof I speak."

Major Johnson's Views.

Mayor G. H. Johnson, of Louisa, is deeply interested in the movement, and has this to say:

"I am thoroughly in sympathy with the good roads movement, and am sure the people or a large majority of them, at least, through whose section the contemplated road will run, will thank The Times-Dispatch and Washington Post for the interest and part that they have taken in this great movement for good roads in our State, and I hope that your efforts may be a success. I believe the time has come when our people are beginning to realize the importance and benefit that good roads will mean to them, and that we will see the people going forward in the good roads movement. I can't conceive of anything that would be a greater blessing or enhance the value of property more than to have good roads in any country, and am sure when our people shall have seen the great benefit that the farmers will derive from this contemplated road through our county, when our farmers' friends can get out of the mud and come to town on dry land, bring their produce and do their shopping, that they will return to their homes rejoicing over good roads."

A Civil War Route.

Replying to the request for suggestions as to routes, J. P. Perkins, of Montpelier, believes the old Louisa Road to be the best, and says:

"I know of none better than the one traveled by your good roads cars on their first trip; that is, the old Louisa Road, by way of Ground Squirrel Bridge. This road is good and traverses a thickly-settled community, with no streams to ford. It has telephone service availably connected with Ashland, Beaver Dam and Richmond. It is the road traveled by the armies during the Civil War with their heavy artillery and wagon trains. It is the most direct route between Richmond and Louisa, and the first of the State fund available will be used on this road, beginning at Ground Squirrel Bridge and working north.

"Now, as to enthusiasm and co-operation for the betterment of roads, you will find the people along this route up-to-date with anything in their power to make this a model highway. In fact, the people would be glad to have this chosen as the route."

Mayor Maurice, of Manchester, who has traveled every road, he says, in the State, also offers a suggestion, and says:

"Go through Barton Heights to Ellerson and on to Atlees, to Ashcake, to Peaches' Turnout, to Hanover Courthouse. Leave the line of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad at Hanover Courthouse and guide northeast to Etna Mills, to Mangohick, by Central Point Post-Office, to Chance Post-Office, in air line, and on to Mind's Stone, crossing at Mathias Point to Pope's Creek, and on by La Platta to Newglatz, and thence on to Washington."

Bonds the Only Way.

James G. White, of Red Hill, writes to say:

"I am in favor of good roads, and see no way to have them except by bonding the county."

ROOSTER KILLS BIG BLACK SNAKE AFTER FIERCE FIGHT

Caught Reptile in Bill and Shook Life Out, Nimbly Hopping Out of Way of Deadly Coils.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

RISING SUN, MD., July 18.—A mammoth game rooster, the property of Mrs. Shire Polst, of Woodlawn, after a battle lasting fully five minutes, succeeded in conquering and killing a large blacksnake. When discovered the fowl had the reptile in its bill, shaking it as a dog might shake a rat. The snake was endeavoring to coil itself around the neck of the rooster, but without success. The battle was furious while it lasted. The snake threshed about on the ground, vainly trying to get a grip upon its agile adversary while the bird, through its ability to lift itself free of the ground by means of its wings, was enabled to keep clear of the deadly coils. The rooster pecked and cut at the head and body of the snake with its bill and spurs, lacerating and blinding it. When finally the snake was too exhausted to fight longer, the rooster caught it by the ruff of the neck and shook it until all life was extinct.

CHANGE IN SCHEDULE.

Effective July 18, C. & O. train leaving Richmond at 8:30 A. M. will run through to Clifton Forge daily. Accommodation train, leaving Richmond at 5:15 P. M. daily except Sunday, will run through to Gordonsville. Returning, leave Gordonsville at 6:50 A. M., arrive Richmond at 8:30 A. M., daily except Sunday.

WINTER

is as long as summer, and if extreme cold follows extreme heat you had better get in coal and wood at summer prices, and the kind that burns a long time. I have original oak and pine wood. All kinds of long lasting Coal for grates, latrobes, ranges, &c.

E. T. LONG,
1201 West Broad

LITHIA FONTICELLO WATER

Look for this

W. K. Kellogg

On the Package

The genuine Toasted Corn Flakes won its favor through its Flavor. The imitators imitate in name only.

Large package 10c. at all grocers.

DR. HODGES GIVES HIS SIDE OF CASE

Declares There Was Nothing to Conceal About Woman's Death at Hygeia.

JUST BACK FROM CANADA

Called There to See Richmond Patient, Which Explains Silence Heretofore.

The Times-Dispatch received the following statement last night from Dr. J. Allison Hodges regarding the death of a woman patient at the Hygeia Hospital on the evening of July 9:

On my return to Richmond Friday night after a week's absence, I was surprised beyond measure to find that the newspapers had been using my name and that of the Hygeia Hospital very freely in connection with the unfortunate death of a lady patient at that institution.

With such provocation, however, I would not even now make a statement, except that during my absence some of my friends had promised that I would do so when I returned, and I feel that in justice to them and my associates who did everything possible to aid the injured patient, it is necessary.

That afternoon soon after the occurrence a reporter visited me, having heard a description of the accident from an eyewitness and questioned me about the results of it, and I frankly and openly answered every question that he asked, except as to the lady's name. I at first demurred, saying that I had not, of course, yet heard from her husband and felt a delicacy in giving out the name, but afterwards, when told by the city editor that if the name was not given it might alarm the relatives of other patients, I immediately gave it.

My only reason for demurring to this at first was that the husband was not present, and I felt that he should give the authority to make public the name, and that he should also get the facts at first hand from me, as I did not wish to shock him unduly if he should read an account of it before arriving here.

To show my willingness, though, that the reporter should have all other information possible, I told him that I had no objection to his seeing the patient if he desired to do so, but he said that it was not necessary.

The whole occurrence was so public that it never occurred to me that any one should think that any facts would be concealed in any way, and there was certainly no desire to do anything in the matter except to make the blow as light to the family as possible.

The facts in the case are that the patient came to me on July 3 with a supposed cancer of the throat, and immediately after seeing her I was called out of the city and did not return until the 6th, when on further examination I told her husband that afternoon that there was no such condition present, and that the case was one that I could not treat, because there was a fixed delusion present which would require a long treatment, and I recommended her removal to an institution in another city more suitable for such cases.

After talking the matter over we agreed that I should keep the patient for a few days, and let him return home, while I should write at once and state the case fully to the authorities of the institution, and immediately upon receipt of a reply accepting the case, I would telegraph him, and he would return here and remove his wife to that institution.

In the meantime I told him that it would be necessary to put a special nurse on duty with the case, as I could not be responsible for it. This was immediately done, and once or twice during the two succeeding days she evinced a tendency to do herself injury, but was restrained, and an unsealed letter which she wrote the day of the occurrence, and was read afterwards, expressed her firm purpose in this same direction.

Such accidents as this happen frequently in private life, but, of course, more frequently in hospitals, where many sick patients are treated, and it is impossible to prevent their occurrence in all cases. Every physician knows of a number of such cases, and they are always as regrettable as they are unfortunate.

I know well the nurses who had charge of this case, and I know them to be experienced and that they were exceedingly careful.

It is impossible to go into all the details, but I wish to state emphatically and positively that no one was told or instructed by me to withhold any facts at any time as to the manner or result of the accident.

At the time of the accident two nurses were with her in an inclosed sun-parlor, and upon requesting one of the nurses to do something for her, she made a dash and ran through a hall and two doors and jumped from the balcony to the street, followed by both of the nurses, one of them falling by only a few inches in grasping her before she leaped.

The injuries sustained were exactly as noted in the first publication of the accident.

The subsequent treatment by myself and Drs. LaRoque, Harman, Turman and Steere was all that could possibly be done, the patient being perfectly conscious, I am told, up to a short time before her death at 8:40 o'clock.

I at first thought that the accident occurred from a second-story window, as stated by the eyewitness to the reporter, but subsequently learned that it occurred as stated above.

No effort whatever was made to conceal the occurrence, and certainly there could be no necessity to conceal the time of death, for the death certificate was filled out in the presence of her husband early the next morning, and it was thought then to be public property, and no one, so far as I know, hesitated at any time during that morning or that day to mention to any inquirer the result of the accident.

Personally, I know that it was known to at least thirty or forty people at the hospital, and I myself told every one who asked me anything regarding it.

I was interviewed personally by no reporter except the one who first sought the news, and I think this fact accounts mainly for various inaccuracies and misleading statements.

One newspaper representative did call at my residence Saturday morning before I had gotten into the office and inquired of my secretary, and from his account, he seemingly mistook her for a nurse, but she, to my personal knowledge, did not know anything of the death of the patient at that time, for she has no connection with the nursing department at the hospital, and does not live there.

Another representative from another newspaper of the city called me up over the 'phone on Saturday morning and asked me the initials of the patient, but I told him that I did not know them, but that my secretary had them.

Just as he was about to hang up the 'phone he asked me whether the patient was improved or not improved, and I said "Not improved," for I thought the husband was in the adjoining office waiting to see me, as he had earlier been to the hospital.

I never thought for a moment of deceiving or concealing anything in this way, for I had told at least two patients, already in the office, of the occurrence before his arrival.

As to the messages received by the newspaper representatives from persons over the 'phone at the hospital I am in no way responsible, and I can say nothing except that I am told that in each instance the 'phone was answered by persons who were not in authority, and that each time they referred the inquiries to me or to the superintendent, but neither of us was ever called.

It is useless for me to speak of any of the sidelights that were introduced into the discussion of this matter, for more than 150 former patients of the hospital, resident in this city, and others from every Southern State, can vouch for the methods employed in its conduct.

It is well known that the Hygeia Hospital is conducted solely for medical cases, and that contagious cases and cases of insanity are not treated there, as it would be impossible to retain such, and treat other medical patients.

As to the necessity of holding an inquest, such a thing never occurred to me, nor was it suggested by any one, for I considered the patient temporarily under hospital treatment, and the immediate presence of four consulting physicians and the reiterated assertions of the patient herself, that "no one was to blame; I did it all," seemed sufficient.

I could have had no possible objection to an inquest, and certainly would have had none, if it had been deemed necessary.

Neither do I care to more than allude to the assertion that I had left for Canada the following day without explaining the necessity for such departure, for I am sure that the reporter himself upon reflection must naturally regret and condemn such an insinuation. The truth is that I was under engagement to go when the accident occurred, but promptly canceled it to take charge of the injured patient, not knowing what complications might arise.

In conclusion, I wish to say that I have endeavored to make a plain and temperate statement of facts, and that I have no apologies to make to any one for anything, for I have only done my simple duty.

I feel confident that the newspapers themselves must realize that they have, contrary to the usual rule of Virginians, prejudged the matter in my absence, and must regret their course as much as I do the sad misfortune which has been given such wide publicity.

In this connection, I wish to return my thanks to the many friends who have so kindly written me during my absence. J. ALLISON HODGES.

In The Times-Dispatch of July 11 it was stated that on the evening of July 9, about 9:30 o'clock, one of the editors was informed by Dr. Hodges that he thought the patient would die. The statement from Dr. Hodges printed above shows that she died on July 9 at 8:40 P. M., although Dr. Hodges, who was at his residence when he had the conversation over the telephone, stated afterwards that he had not been advised then of the patient's death.

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