

VOL. XVI.

TWO MEN SHOT DOWN

In Broad Daylight on the Highway by Negro Highwaymen.

ONE KILLED AND ONE WOUNDED.

They Were on Their Way Home From Augusta in a Buggy When the Assassination Took Place.

Mr. W. L. Collins, farmer, of Edgefield county, S. C., was assassinated Wednesday at 2 p. m., at Fox's Creek, Martinsburg road, Aiken county, five miles from Augusta, by negro highwaymen. Mr. George Wood, a farmer also of Edgefield county, S. C., a neighbor and a friend of Mr. Collins, was shot slightly in the right hip and left shoulder. The negroes names are not known. They are at large, escaping after the assassination. They attempted to "hold up" the farmers, who were returning to their homes from Augusta, where they had been transacting business, and the "hold up" was resisted.

The Augusta Chronicle says the farmers were riding in a buggy. One negro appeared by the roadside, saw a pistol in each hand and commanded the men to throw up their hands. Mr. Collins was unarmed. Mr. Wood quickly drew his pistol. The negro fired the ball from one pistol striking Mr. Collins in the region of the heart, the ball from the other pistol striking Mr. Wood slightly in the right hip. Mr. Wood fired on the highwayman, but does not know that he struck him. Another highwayman, from the bushes, fired with a rifle, the ball striking Mr. Wood very slightly on the left shoulder. Five shots were fired. The negroes escaped into the woods. Searching parties and the law authorities are seeking them.

TRIED TO GAMBLE WITH THEM.

Having concluded their business in the city, Mr. Collins and Mr. Wood, riding in a buggy, started to drive to their homes, which are some distance over the Aiken line, striking the river in the vicinity of Plum Branch. After crossing the North Augusta bridge and having proceeded a short distance they were accosted by two negroes, one a mulatto and the other black and shiny. They had some sort of a match box gambling device, and, accosting the travellers, sought to engage their attention to the game of chance. Ascertaining what was desired of them, the travellers declined to participate in the alleged game of chance and proceeded, on their way, going ahead quite securely.

When they had arrived in the neighborhood of Fox's Creek, their attention was suddenly arrested by a man, the mulatto—springing from the bushes, a pistol in either hand, and commanding, "Throw up your hands! Your money or your life!" As stated, Mr. Collins was unarmed. Immediately Mr. Wood sought his pistol. As he drew it, the negro fired from both pistols. Mr. Wood returned the fire twice. The black negro was hidden in the bushes. He fired one shot from, apparently, a rifle.

STRAUCK A VITAL PART.

The mulatto was quickly back in the bushes. Mr. Wood was in the act of springing from the vehicle to give pursuit, when Mr. Collins said, "Keep on driving." His voice was weird and full of distress.

"But, he has shot me!" complained Mr. Wood. "Mr. Wood at the time did not know how badly or slightly he was hurt."

"He has shot me, too," replied Mr. Collins. Mr. Wood detected then that Mr. Collins was badly hurt. He was turning pale and evidence of great pain was portrayed on his features.

"Are you badly shot, do you think?" said Mr. Wood.

"He has killed me," replied the unfortunate gentleman, and he was then in the throes of death.

"We will drive fast to Dr. Rounds," said Mr. Wood, forgetting all else then except the distressed condition of his friend and neighbor.

All this occurred very quickly. A very short distance had been traversed before Mr. Collins dropped over in the buggy and life was extinct.

SUMMONED HELP.

There was no one near at hand. Leaving his dead friend, Mr. Wood, went as quickly as possible for assistance, first reaching the home of Mr. William Barnett. Immediate attention could be given the lifeless body and the neighbors around could be notified. Mr. Wood took the proper steps to send word to the family of the deceased and to notify the authorities. Mr. Wood quickly reached Marshal Getzen and with that officer and Mr. Herbert Bunch and other gentlemen, rode into the city to confer with the authorities here and to their assistance to aid in securing the highwaymen in case they should come this way. The party met Chief of Police Norris and Mr. Wood gave him what description of the negroes they had seen. He had paid very little attention to them and had not charged his memory as to their appearance. He described the men as best he could and the police and county authorities will, of course, exert every possible diligence to the end that the men be taken.

It is the belief, however, that the bandits are still on the Carolina side. The search for them began in twenty minutes after the assassination. By night fall passers from both Aiken county and Edgefield county were warned that the woods for them. It is stated that men from the Georgia side had also joined in the search and the opinion was expressed that it would be utterly impossible for the men to escape arrest.

All sorts of reports have been reaching town, but nothing of a definite nature is secured.

HOLD-UP OF TUESDAY.

Near Clearwater Tuesday morning a well known colored man, Bob Merrivether, was held up by a mulatto and black man robbed of a pistol and money. Merrivether reported the hold-up to Marshal Getzen and gave

THE DEMOCRACY.

Meeting of the State Executive Committee in Columbia.

SENATOR TILLMAN ATTENDED.

Some Wanted the Convention Held in Charleston, but the Committee Decided to Meet in Columbia.

THE CHARLESTON EXPOSITION.

Great Crowds Are Now Going to Visit It.

The Charleston correspondent of the State says Wednesday was the greatest day in the exposition's history so far as crowds are concerned. The same correspondent, writing on Wednesday says for the last 36 hours the railroads have been pouring people into Charleston by the thousands. Every train entering the city has been loaded to overflowing and the trains have been divided into sections of eight and ten coaches each. At this time it is impossible to estimate how many have come within that time but it is certain that Charleston now has within her gates the largest crowd of the exposition. Today the grounds were for once animated. The people were so numerous to delight and inspire the folks who have been for months explaining and describing their exhibits to the casual inspector or to each other. Today there were plenty of visitors to talk to and the concessionaires were joyous. The crowds have come chiefly from South Carolina. Educational Week and the rock bottom Tuesday rates have brought them. A number of colleges and schools are here and many pupils are accompanied by their parents. Teachers and fathers and mothers were today escorting the children around the grounds and an occasional weeping spell was indulged in by the youngsters too tried to do more sight-seeing. The difference in the crowds of the earlier occasions is most in the vicinity of the North Augusta bridge and the silk hat man and the silk hat woman, have given way to the wool hat Carolinian and his wife and family. The gold headed cane and the silk umbrella are replaced by the lunch box and the baby's bottle. The viroth has been supplanted by the product of the small town millinery shop, with a bunch of not inconspicuous ribbon and a red or yellow flower. The rural bride and her rustic groom—a green waist, red shirt and a fur collar betraying the bride's happiness; striped trousers, a red tie and new wool hat giving away the groom's wedding attire—are the admirers of all admirers. The manager of the Northwestern railroad—the miniature concern that traverses the grounds—never fails to spot this happy couple and immediately he announces that the "Honeymoon Special" is about to start.

SHOT ROERS LIKE RABBITS.

The London Morning Leader publishes the alleged story of the crimes which led to the court-martial and execution of two Australian officers in South Africa which is just now exciting keen indignation in Australia. The newspaper asserts that several officers of this particular irregular corps shot Boers like rabbits and that they are even suspected of murdering men of their own command. The incident which led to their court-martial was the cold-blooded "execution" by these officers of ten Boers supposedly having 20,000 pounds, who were journeying to Petersburg to surrender. The Australians stopped the Boers, tried them by mock court-martial and ordered all to be shot. "This was done by a squadron of the soldiers after some of the non-commissioned officers had refused to carry out the death sentence. The officers then ransacked the Boer wagons but found the 20,000 pounds was in Transvaal money. Lieutenant Hancock, one of the Australians concerned, fearing a German missionary would divulge his information, shot the missionary dead.

A Weird Story.

A strang case is being tried in a Montana Court. It was reported that a man named J. C. Paulson had committed suicide in March, 1897. The body was at once placed in a receiving vault by his wife, who had refused to admit anyone to the house to see the body. An insurance company which carried \$6,000 on Paulson's life became suspicious because a local agent investigated the death, and he saw the body in the vault, but said the face of Paulson was very lifelike. The insurance, however, was paid. Mrs. Paulson started for Germany with what was supposed to be the body of her husband and is now living in some island province of that country. The insurance agent and his attorneys and witnesses at the trial declared their belief that Paulson is not dead, but that he feigned death afterwards made his escape and is alive today.

Fired the Last Shot.

Capt. S. H. Barton, C. S. A. who is said to have fired the last hostile shot in the rebellion on the plains of Brazos, Santiago, Texas, May 13, 1865, is now living in Del Rio, in that State. It is said that among his neighbors is one Ney, a comrade on that occasion, who claims to be a descendant of Napoleon's marshal of the same name, who fired the last shot in Napoleon's retreat from Russia. Capt. Barton says that a young man who fell by his side was undoubtedly the last man killed in the civil war.

A Fatal Accident.

A sad and fatal accident occurred in Charleston on Friday. Gus Rooney of the crew of the United States cruiser Cincinnati which is now in Charleston harbor, was run over and killed by a trolley car on the Meeting street extension Friday night. He was horribly mangled. He endeavored to jump on the front of the car while it was in motion, and was knocked down and run over.

MEMORIAL HALL.

What Capt. B. H. Teague Says of Present Status

OF THE FUND BEING RAISED

To Build the Battle Abbey at Richmond, Va., in Which to Preserve Relics of Confederate Soldier.

To the Editor of The News and Courier: As the South Carolina Division of the U. C. V. will not meet in Reunion until after the Dallas Reunion, and as it is proper that the Veterans of the State should be informed as to the status of the Confederate Memorial Association, (the so-called "Rouss Battle Abbey Association") allow me through this correspondence to give them such information as I possess.

At the Louisville Reunion it was shown that subscriptions had been obtained in amount to cover the \$100,000 offered by Mr. Rouss. At the Memphis Reunion it was shown that a sufficient amount from these subscriptions, and what was deposited in different banks and held in the hands of camps, etc., would warrant the belief that the \$100,000 needed only to be collected and put in the hands of the treasurer, Geo. Christian, at Richmond, Va. This city having been chosen as the location of the Memorial Hall.

The soliciting agent, Gen Underwood, was therefore instructed to get these sums together and deposit them with the treasurer. At the same time, Gen Underwood was instructed to draw the amount due and now payable to him since the \$100,000 was practically in view. Gen Underwood had not up to the time drawn or had been paid anything from the amounts collected. The amount drawn by Underwood was \$25,023, and was paid to him from a deposit of \$59,448 in bank at Covington, Ky, leaving on deposit \$34,425, subject to the order of the treasurer whenever the full amount of \$100,000 would be collected. The sundry amounts were as follows:

A DASTARDLY OUTRAGE.

Four Negroes Goes to a Gentleman's House to Assassinate Him.

On last Sunday night week there was committed near Cameron an outrage by several negroes that merits the severest punishment, and we hope the rascals who committed it, and who are now in jail, will be made to feel the heavy hand of the law. About eleven o'clock of the night about four negroes went to the home of Mr. J. M. Stallings, who lives a few miles from Cameron, and called to him to come out. Mr. Stallings, knowing that there were several persons in the yard, declined to go out, and asked what was wanted. The negroes made some insolent answer and began throwing bricks and other missiles into the house through the window. In the meantime Mr. Stallings had his pistol and was endeavoring to get a chance to shoot some of the scoundrels. The black brutes remained sometime in the yard, cursing and yelling, but finding that Mr. Stallings was ready for them, they finally left.

By some means it was ascertained that a negro by the name of Russell was in the gang that committed the outrage. He was taken in custody, when he gave the whole thing away. He confessed that he and three other negroes had gone to Mr. Stallings for the purpose of assassinating him and robbing the place. Had Mr. Stallings come out when called he would have been shot down, and then the ladies and children of the family would have been at the mercy of these fiendish, black brutes. We shudder when we think of what might have happened had it not been for the forethought of Mr. Stallings. No doubt every one in the house would have been murdered and the house set on fire and burned to the ground had Mr. Stallings come out and been assassinated as the plotters intended.

The names of the three negroes implicated by Russell, is Caleb Hampton, Peter Dantzler and Isiah Hanes. All of them lived in the neighborhood of Cameron, and are well-known to the people of that section. All of them have been arrested and are now in jail. It is reported that others are concerned in the plot, and we have no doubt but that is true. If so, we hope they too will be apprehended and punished to the full extent of the law. The people in the section where the outrage was committed are desirous of these rascals, who, really, deserve hanging, as they fully intended, by their own confession, to commit murder, and possibly a blacker crime had opportunity offered. This outrage should be a warning to those people who live in isolated sections. Let them all prepare for such emergencies as confronted Mr. Stallings. It is a pity he did not have in his house a good Winchester rifle. Then he might have given these scoundrels what they richly deserved.—Orangeburg Times and Democrat.

Major Micah Jenkins.

A dispatch says Major Micah Jenkins, of South Carolina, famous as the principal figure in the South Carolina sword episode, is likely to be appointed a retired captain, with pay, in the regular army by a special act of congress, the favor to be bestowed at the request of his friend, President Roosevelt. Major Jenkins appeared before the house committee on affairs before Senator Tillman asking for a pension. He will draw eighteen hundred per annum for the balance of his life, if he lands. Major Jenkins was in Roosevelt's rough riders and made a distinguished record. Roosevelt asked McKinley to put him in the regular army, as captain, but the request was not granted for some reason. Theodore Roosevelt, when he became president, gave his approval to a plan to have congress pass a special bill to put the major on the retired list, disability committee will report in his favor. He will draw eighteen hundred per annum for the balance of his life, if he lands. 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