FIGHT BETWEEN MONSTERS

DESPERATE STRUGGLE BETWEEN TWO BIG LIONS AT NASHVILLE.

The Beasts Belong to Ferrari's Wild Animal Show Which is to Be Seen in Wilmington in Two Weeks—Wonderful Nerve of the Woman Lion Tamer.

The Nashville Daily News, of September 18th, contains the following thrilling account of a battle royal between two big lions that are to be in Wilmington with the Bostock-Ferrari combination at the Elks' great carnival and street fair to be held in our city October 14th to 19th:

Early this morning there was a consternation on the Midway.

Trouble has been brewing in the big cage where the five lions are confined for nearly two weeks. It was caused by the introduction of a new lion in their midst.

It is the custom of the proprietors of the show, when they secure a new lion, to first accustom him to human presence by placing him in a conspicuous place in the tent, and then to begin his education by turning him to begin his with animals which have already undergone a course of instruction.

In pursuance of the policy, on last Wednesday a splendid specimen of the full-grown, untamed lion was transferred from its solitary place of confinement to the iron-barred enclosure where Princess Delaware, in real life, Madame D'Osta, displays her marvelous powers as a trainer.

The undisputed ruler of Madame D'Osta's charges is a majestice lion named Dan. Hardly had the newcomer entered the cage till Dan resolved he would assert his sway, the two indulged in a lively mix-up from which the new lion emerged with a lacerated leg and an humbled carriage. They were separated with some difficulty by Madame D'Osta. But this was nothing to what was to come.

It is customary to let the lions out of their smaller cages into the large enclosure adjoining every morning to stretch themselves and gain necessary exercise. A close watch is kept on their motions at such times, for they often teach themselves little tricks which they are then encouraged to repeat when their trainer is in the cage.

This morning the lions were turned together as usual. A growing antipathy has been noticed for the last few days between Dan and the new lion. Evidently Dan had not asserted his rule with sufficient force.

Madame D'Osta at once saw trouble was imminent and ordered the brutes back into their dens. All obey except Dan and the new lion, and the latter was moving sulkily toward the door when his enemy leaped upon him.

The force of the assailant's leap carried the two great beasts against the iron bars of the cage with a power that threatened to tear them from their sockets. An attendant, standing on that side, dropped his iron rod and rushed terrified from the tent with the cry that the lions had escaped.

Instantly all was commotion, the hideous uproar which arose from the tent seemed to confirm the frightened man's words and to throw the whole Midway into a spasm of terror.

Managers Ferrari and Leavitt were chatting in front of the crystal maze when the alarm was sounded. They instantly rose and rushed to the scene of the trouble. Another flying attendant passed them with the same story of disaster, but neither of the men hesitated. Pale as death, Mr. Leavitt entered the tent first with a drawn revolver, Mr. Farrari close at his heals.

The sight which met them is one which neither will ever forget.

Locked in apparently a death grapple, the two kings of the forest lay struggling and wreathing on the floor, while with a courage which was sublime, Madame D'Osta remained at her post vainly trying to separate them.

She had empted her revolver of the blanks it contained and was now beating the combatants with her whip.

Fortunately, she had had the presence of mind to close the doors shutting the remaining animals out of the arena immediately after the fight began. They now testified their eagerness to take part in the fray by trying to tear asunder the bars and uttering the most hideous roars.

All the other beasts in the tent imitated their example and were in a tremendous state of excitement.

In mortal dread for his wife's life, Monseur D'Osta was about to enter the cage, but was restrained by Messrs. Ferrari and Leavitt. The three united in their entreaties to Madame D'Osta to come out, but she refused to comply, and coolly insisted she was in no danger.

Meanwhile the battle continued, the new lion was smaller than Dan, but he was a worthy opponent. The first leap of his huge adversary had stunned him for the instant, out he had rallied at once and was making the fight of his life.

Every now and then the two beasts would struggle to their feet, and rearing on their hind legs, still in deadly embrace, sway across the enclosure and dash against the bars with the force of a catapult; their bodies were flecked with foam and blood, and the hellish gleams of anger that shot from their green eyes was appalling, their stifled snarles of concentrated hate were more horrible than the louder roars of the brutes all around the tent, who were frantic to join in their struggle.

For a moment victory trembled in the balance. Feeling, perhaps, that it was a matter of life or death with him, the new lion was putting forth such efforts as taxed all the powers of his mighty enemy. An instant more Dan went down beneath them, but fought his way up again with redoubled fury, and seized his adversay's throat in a grip from which there was no escape.

In his last onset Dan had again carried his enemy up against the bars, where the two lay struggling.

Madame D'Osta ordered that water be brought and poured on them in hopes that it would cool their rage. One of the attendants who had not fled, started to carry out her instructions, and another, seized with a happy inspiration, started to call the fire department so that the hose might be turned on the foaming combatants. But he did not get as far as the door on his mission.

It all ceased as suddenly as it had begun.

As if by tacit consent, the two lions unloosed each his hold. The new lion was on the floor with Dan standing over him; they remained thus for an instant, and then Dan stepped back a pace, growling deeply.

His cowed adversary struggled to his feet, cast an apprehensive glance at his conquerer, and then, keeping close to the bars, crept around the cage with his tail between his legs, and glided through the door of his den, which Madame D'Osta had hastily opened. Dan watched him disdainfully, shook himself, walked to the centre of the cage, and uttered a triumphant roar. Madame D'Osta struck him sharply with the whip and ordered him to his cage. Dan snarled spitefully at her, and then turning, marched majestically into his quarters.

Madame D'Osta quickly closed the door, and the incident had ended.

Both lions are a little scarred up, but the wounds of neither are serious. They attacked each other mostly about the throat, and the heavy growth of hair of their necks conceal their injuries.

Those who witnessed the affair will never forget it, and it was at least an hour before the Midway settled down to its accustomed morning quiet.

THE NEW PENSION ROLL.

To Contain About Nine Thousand Names—A Death at the Soldiers' Home.

Messenger Bureau,
Raleigh, N. C., September 27.

At the soldiers' home today William Barrow, an inmate, was found dead in bed by his room mate. He was 75 years of age, was the first mayor of Winston and was in the Fourth regiment of North Carolina Home Guards. He went to bed in apparent good health at midnight and died between that time and daylight. His body was taken to Winston for burial.

J. C. S. Lumsden, one of Raleigh's oldest merchants, died here today, aged 70 years. Last summer while at his farm near here one of his horses dashed against a fence and the fence struck Mr. Lumsden, who never recovered from the injury.

A special invitation has been sent General Fitz Lee to attend the state fair here in October. The invitation is from General William R. Cox, the president, and General W. P. Roberts, the chief marshal.

State Auditor Dixon says he finds there will be something over 9,000 pensioners under the new law; in other words, that number have been allowed by the state board. The increase over last year is, therefore, about 3,000. The auditor says the number is not quite so great as he expected, as he thought it would exceed 10,000.

Several old buildings in the business centre of the city are being torn down to make way for the very large and handsome office building of the Central Trust Company.

It was expected that the long-standing case involving the Southern railway's ownership of streets in Durham would be argued before the judge of the United States district court here yesterday and today, but it is postponed until November.

A few days ago J. C. L. Harris, a prominent republican here, wrote a letter to the newspapers in which he said the way for the republicans to carry this state was for the federal officers to resign and have a new deal. Claude Bernard, United States district attorney said to your correspondent: "If they guarantee the carrying of the state for the republicans and the re-election of Senator Pritchard I am willing to take Harris' advice and resign."

GOLDSBORO GOSSIP.

(Correspondence of The Messenger.)

Goldsboro, N. C., September 27.

A quiet home wedding took place at the residence of the bride last night at 8 o'clock, the contracting parties being Mr. Herbert Bowden to Miss Georgia Duke, both of this city.

The district Sunday school convention now in session at St. John's church is well attended. The following programme has been carried out thus far: Singing, led by T. R. Robinson; address of welcome, Rev. J. J. Barker; response, Rev. B. T. Deloatch; address, "The Church's Opportunity in the Sunday School" Rev. D. H. Tuttle.

The address of Messrs. Deloatch and Tuttle last night were particularly good

This morning the services were as follows: "Why Are We Here? What Shall We Do?" by J. W. Bryan. In the absence of G. T. Ormond, of Kinston, Dr. Swindell handled his subject "The Sunday School as a Field for Christian Service."

Quite a number of delegates are already here and more are expected tonight and tomorrow.

The young white boy Redick Brown, who had the misfortune to lose both legs in attempting to get on a running freight train just in front of the Wayne cotton mills Wednesday night is resting well today and will probably recover. Dr. W. J. Jones says his patient is doing as well as could be expected under the circumstances.

Miss Jennie Pollok, of Keysville, Va., is in the city, the guest of Mrs. Dr. Boyette.

THIRTEEN MEN DROWNED.

Caught by Cloudburst While Camping in a Texas Ravine

San Antonio, Tex., Sept. 27.—News has just been received here of a terrible disaster in Presidio county near the Rio Grande river on the 25th instant, thirteen men who were prospecting for cinnibar losing their lives in floods caused by a water spout or cloudburst.

The men were in two parties, camped one mile apart in a dry ravine known as Aliminto creek, in which there had been no water for fifteen months, on account of the drought.

The men were asleep at 9 o'clock when there was a cloudburst several miles up the ravine. A volume of water twenty feet high washed down the channel of the ravine and swept over the men in the two camps before they were aware of their danger. All were drowned and up to this time only six bodies have been recovered.

The Aliminto empties into the Rio Grande river not far from where the fatality occurred and it is more than probable that the other seven bodies have been swept into that stream.

The British Tobacco Company has registered in London, the subscribers including Messrs. Duke, Fuller and Harris, of the American Tobacco Company.

OUTLAWS ON TRIAL.

The Ku Klux Gang from Letcher County, Kentucy, Before the Courts.

Roanoke, Va., September 27.—A special from Pineville, Bell county, Kentucky, which adjoins Virginia says:

The Ku Klux gang of outlaws which were captured in Letcher county a few days ago and brought to this place, are now on trial for a number of crimes, such as murder, highway robbery and attempting to wreck trains.

The trial of this gang was transferred to this place from Whitesburg, Ky., the county seat of Letcher county, on application of the counsel for the defendants. This measure was taken owing to the intense feeling against the outlaws in that county. There are thirteen in the gang to be tried, and the first case called was that of Mans Wright.

This Ku Klux gang is composed of Reynolds and Wright factions and have been operating in Letcher and Bell counties for several years. Their last crime was that of murdering a woman named Big Wilson in Letcher county.

The last and fourteenth member of this gang, Morgan Reynolds, is still at large. Every effort has been made to effect his capture, but the officers have been thwarted in their many attempts in this direction. Reynolds is the leader of the Ku Klux gang and defies the officers in their attempt to take him. The nearest these officers have got to him was within shooting range of a Winchester rifle. Constables are bringing in witnesses for the commonwealth.

Attacked by Mexicans Brigands

Pueblo, Mexico, September 27.—Brigands obtained entrance to the Hacienda de la Joya, in this state, taking advantage of the hour when the workmen reported at the office of the hacienda. One of the robbers shot Senor Lastiri, owner of the place, the bullet entering the abdomen. Lastiri fired a revolver at the band and killed his assailant. Lastiri was then wounded by a machete, but continued firing his pistol with his left hand, when his son came to the rescue and opened fire on the robbers, killing four of them. Then the band, seeing that their attempted robbery was likely to cost them dear, fled. The man who guided the robbers to the hacienda which is surrounded by wooded hills, has been arrested. He says the robbers expected to secure a large amount of money which Lastiri had pust received from the sale of cattle and grain. Mounted gendarmes are scouring in all directions and it is expected the entire band will be captured or shot.

The North Carolina Booklet.

The October number of The North Carolina Booklet will be written by the Hon. Heriot Clarkson, of Charlotte, N. C., on the subject of "The Hornets' Nest." The history of the famous Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence with its stormy and dramatic setting, Mr. Clarkson has told in a manner as original as it is convincing and sincere. Strengthening as it does the truth of this oft disputed history through tracing the characteristics of the men who framed it,—the sturdy, sterling bravery and honesty of the famous Scotch-Irish stock, the unfailing truth and fearlessness of the old Huguenot settlers—the monograph contains much of peculiar interest to citizen of good old Mecklenburg, to every descendant of those patriots who gave to her proud place in the history of the state.

In order to meet the demand for special orders the editors of the Booklet have already been obliged to enlarge the usual edition, and they now desire to state that to secure any certainty of their being filled all further orders for this special number should reach them before October 5th.

Address The North Carolina Booklet, P. O. box 125, Raleigh, N. C.

Drowned Her Four Children and Herself

Cleveland, O., September 27.—Mrs. Perry Curtis, wife of a farmer living near Northfield, Ohio, early today threw her four children into a well and then plunged into the water herself. All of the children and the mother were drowned. The father was temporarily absent from home when the tragedy occurred. The children were aged 2, 4, 5 and 9 years respectively. It is supposed that Mrs. Curtis was mentally deranged when she committed the deed. She was discharged from the insane asylum at Massilon two weeks ago.

Killed by Father-in-Law

Willacoochee, Ga., September 27.—Randall Metts was shot and killed on the street here today by Elisha Lott, his father-in-law. Both families are prominent. Lott is well to do. The men had some family trouble a few days ago. When they met in the street today each drew his revolver and the shooting began without preliminary. Lott's bullet pierced the heart of Metts and he fell dead. Lott was not injured, and at once surrendered to the sheriff.

MORE CONTRADICTIONS

(CONTINUED FROM 1st PAGE.)

miles from the shore line and that that line was easily discernible.

M'CALLA'S SECRET CODE.

Referring to the fact that he had informed Captain Chadwick, Admiral Sampson's chief of staff, of the code of signals arranged for communicating with the insurgent Cubans, he said that he did not in anyway communicate with the commander-in-chief.

Mr. Raynor then asked: "According to the regular custom and regulations observed in causes of that sort was it not your purpose that this communication should go to the commander-in-chief through his chief of staff?"

"Certainly," was the reply.

The witness said further that he thought it had been common knowledge at Key West after his arrival there on May 19th, that the Cuban insurgents were on the coast near Cienfuegos, but that no information was given concerning the secret code. He had, he said, failed to give the code to Commodore Schley when he passed him, when the commodore was on his way to Cienfuegos, because he did not know that the commodore was bound for that port. "If I had thought that he was going to Cienfuegos," he said, "I would have gone alongside and given him my information."

A LITTLE GINGER.

Replying to a question Captain McCalla said that Commodore Schley's fleet while off Santiago had never, to his knowledge, been withdrawn to any distance from the harbor of Santiago. "Then," said, Captain Parker, "that story, by whomsoever told, is absolutely false?"

"I object," shouted Captain Lemly in a voice as sharp as a pistol shot.

"The objection is sustained," said Admiral Dewey. "The question is highly improper."

QUESTIONS BY THE COURT.

The court then questioned the witness as to the weather on the trip from Cienfugos to Santiago and finally asked. "Did you on any occasion see the large vessels of the blockading force at or near daybreak between the 28th and the 31st day of May?"

"I saw them every morning. I could see them at night too because there was some moonlight."

"How far were they from the Marblehead and how far was she from the entrance to Santiago?"

"I judge we were two miles inside of the large ships. We steamed up and down. Sometimes we were nearer the entrance than at others. I judge we were certainly two miles and perhaps three miles inside of the large ships."

"At what distance from the mouth of the harbor were the Massachusetts, the Iowa and the New Orleans during the firing on May 31st?"

"I can only judge from the effect of their projectiles. I judge they must have been from the Colon about five miles."

COMMANDER SOUTHERLAND.

Lieutenant Commander W. H. H. Southerland, who commanded the Eagle, said that he had first fallen in with the flying squadron on May 19th. He had then, under Captain McCalla's orders, undertaken to communicate to Commodore Schley his information as to the situation at Cienfugos and had given this information to the Scorpion for the commodore, his message being as follows: "We left Cienfugoes on the night of 16th at which time we learned from the insurgents the only vessels inside the harbor were two gunboats and several cannoleros."

When the court reconvened for the afternoon session Captain Lemly read the agreement between himself and counsel for Admiral Schley as to the portion of the logs of certain vessels to be printed.

The judge advocate then brought in Lieutenant C. B. Barnes, cipher expert of the navy department, for the purpose of explaining the discrepancies between the dispatch of Admiral Schley, saying he could not, much to his regret, obey the orders of the department, as it was prepared by the admiral and as printed by the department.

Mr. Rayner objected to the calling of the witness while Commander Southerland's testimony was incomplete. He also said that he did not consider the variations in the dispatch as important.

Captain Lemly and Mr. Hanna contended that the matter was of grave importance.

The court decided that Mr. Barnes should withdraw. Commander Southerland was recalled.

ROUGH WEATHER.

Describing the cruise from Cienfugos to Santiago, Commander Southerland said that from May 24th to the afternoon of May 25th the Eagle had made very bad weather. This was due to the fact that the sea had a "long roll" which was very trying to the yacht as the vessel was then one-third full of water. "A little after 1 o'clock of the 26th, when about thirty-five miles from Santiago," he said, "I was called alongside the flagship and the commodore directed me to go to Port Antonio for coal and to report rough weather south of Cuba. My answer substantially was that I already had three days' coal, as much as the Marblehead, meaning as much in proportion. The commodore told me that I had not coal enough for his purpose and directed me to carry out his orders. I then asked him again very earnestly to let the Eagle remain with the fleet and coal from the collier. He very courteously replied to me that he either very much regretted or else was sorry he could not let me do so as the Eagle had not coal enough for his purpose, and again directed me to proceed, which I did after communicating with my division commander."

THE MISSING SCHLEY DISPATCH.

Lieutenant Barnes was called and testified that he is on duty in the bureau of navigation, navy department. He was shown the cipher dispatch book of the Harvard, by which vessel Commodore Schley's dispatch was sent to Kingston to be forwarded to Washington. He added that last night and this morning he had made a translation of this message and that it was practically the same as the department's first translation. The cipher copy received by the department, he said, was identical with the original cipher filed at Kingston.

Mr. Rayner then said the original Schley dispatch was translated into cipher aboard the Harvard. That cipher came to Washington and he had no doubt the department translation was correct.

Mr. Rayner in his cross examination brought out the fact that Lieutenant Barnes had no knowledge whether the cipher copy made on the Harvard is a correct reproduction of the original Schley message. The whereabouts of this message is unknown.

The witness was then excused and the court at 3:30 o'clock adjourned until Monday.

STATE PRESS.

An effort is being made by the opponents of Judge Clark to induce Judge Justice to become a candidate for Chief Justice. It is understood, however, that Mr. Justice's friends, in Raleigh, at least, do not look upon the proposition with favor. He is certain of the superior court judgeship nomination and election, if he wants it, and the possibility of getting the nomination for chief justice they regard as very remote.—Raleigh News and Observer.

The New York Sun will find little sympathy in the south, now thatthe Journal is showing up its nefarious methods in such a heartless manner. The Sun couldn't exist without venom and heretofore the most of it has been directed at the south.—Charlotte News.

Four drummers were hauled up in Charlotte and fined heavily for indulging in a game of "set back", making the stake just large enough to make the game interesting. This is all right as far as it goes, but if there are not men walking the streets of that city who follow gambling for a livelihood and are not molested by the police, then it is different from most towns.—Durham Herald.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Burlington mills is idle with orders on hand for over 50,000 dozen.

The drowned infant, found in a bag in the bottom of a branch near Monroe a week ago, turns out to be a cat.

Asheville is now connected by long-distance telephone with all the large northern and western cities. The line was completed Tuesday.

Winston special to News and Observer: Fannie Seares, colored, aged about 20 years was killed by the Southern shifting engine at 6 o'clock this evening, at the junction of the Mooresville and Wilkesboro railroads. The woman was on her way home, having finished her day's work at a tobacco factory. She was walking on the track with a colored man. When they heard the engine coming the man tried to pull the woman over on his side of the track, but she resisted endeavoring to get on the opposite side. The unfortunate woman was struck on the side of the head and death was almost instantaneous.

Greensboro Record: The police this afternoon arrested and locked up D. L. Carrawin, a white man who has been boarding at the Wood house in this place for some few weeks, on a charge of the larceny of $100 from Policeman Barnes, who boarded at the same place.

Charlotte News: Sam Grier, the mascot at the Charlotte cotton plantation, died this morning at 3 o'clock after an illness of several weeks. Sam was probably known by more people in Mecklenburg county than any one negro. He had been at the platform since 1883 and always conducted himself in a manner that gained the respect of both white and black. There was never a time that Sam failed to do his duty to those over him. He was honest, industrious and humble.

Kisses for Punctual Pupils.

Miss Julia Wilson, a school teacher in White county, has introduced a new method by which to prevent tardiness among her pupils, says a dispatch from Dublin, Ind., to The Chicago Record-Herald. She announced before the school that she would kiss the first arrival every morning. Miss Wilson is a handsome lass of 18 summers, and the boys declare she is "sweet as a peach." The first morning after her announcement as early as 5 o'clock a number of the eldest school boys were roosting on the fence awaiting their pretty school teacher's arrival. At 8 o'clock the entire school was there. The township trustees also put in an appearance. Miss Wilson kept her promise.—American Press.

Sinking Ships Boilers.

The reports of the sinking of the gold-laden steamship Islander off the Pacific coast of North America a few days ago stated that, as the vessel went down, the boilers exploded. Experts in marine engineering say that such an occurrence is highly improbable, if not actually impossible.

The superintendent engineer of one of the largest boilermaking concerns in the world, a man of extended sea-going experience, said yesterday: "I do not believe it is possible for an explosion to occur under circumstances like those which attended the sinking of the Islander. What is often thought to be an explosion is the effect of the water getting on the fires.

"It is not a question of the rupture of the boilers, but rather of the rapid generation of steam through the sea water coming in contact with the glowing fuel of the furnaces. I have never known of an authenticated instance of a real boiler explosion consequent upon the sinking of a ship at sea."

"What makes people thing the boilers of sinking ships exploded," said a veteran marine engineer, who has seen more than one ship founder, "is the dreadful upheaval of the vessel when going down, owing to the rush of the air to escape while the water is rushing in and preventing it from doing so. It is generally the ship, not the boilers, that explodes, if there is any explosion at all.

"The pressure in the boilers is naturally decreased the moment the cold water comes into contact with the boiler plates. When a ship goes down so rapidly as to imprison the air that is in her and the pressure increases as she goes down, something is sure to burst—and not infrequently the decks are blown right out.

"But the boilers don't explode—at least, not because of the foundering."—London Mail.

Alteration of Cuban Tariff

Washington, September 27.—The war department tonight made public the text of the executive order containing modifications of the Cuban tariff promulgated March 31, 1900. The principal changes made have been noted heretofore, viz, a reduction of from 10 to 15 per cent. ad valorem in the duty on railway equipment stocks; of 10 to 15 per cent. on sugar-making machinery and the cancellation of the special concession relative to Porto Rican coffee.

The Theory is not Sound.

The doctrine that like cures like, or as the homeopathists put it, "similia similibus curantur," may have some force in medicine, and the hair of the dog may be good for the bite, figuratively, but that lawlessness will cure lawlessness is a theory which should find advocates in no civilized country.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

He Got a Panama.

"I made up my mind before I went away," said the Cincinnatian ,who had been down to the isthmus, "that when I got to Panama I'd have a genuine Panama hat at any cost. That was the only thing I cared to buy, and I visited the store having the largest stock and took my time about the purchase. I planked down $15 for the hat, and was assured by the merchant that it was one of the finest ever made. It was overhauled by a dozen different people on the steamer, much admired in New York, and it was rakishly cocked on my ear when I arrived home. I hadn't yet reached my house when I met a Florida friend of mine, and after a little he said:

" 'Been laying yourself on a new hat, I see.'

" 'Yes. How do you like it?'

" 'Oh, so so. Buy it in New York?'

" 'No, sir. I got this hat right where they grow—in Panama.'

" 'I see. I believe they do sell some of our goods down there, but of course they add 50 per cent. to the price.'

" 'What do you mean?' I asked, as I felt my heart tunk my ribs.

" 'Oh, nothing much,' he replied, with a laugh, and, running his fingers behind the band, he turned up the trademark of a Florida straw hat maker.—Brooklyn Times.

A dispatch from Chistiania says that the condition of Henrik Ibsen, the Norwegian dramatist and poet, has grown worse and that his death is hourly expected.

Kirkland B. Armour, the packer, at Kansas City, died at his residence there at 6 o'clock Friday evening. Mr. Armour suffered with Bright's disease.