HAYWOOD AND TILLMAN

Editorial Comments of the Press on the Results of These Two Sensational Trials.

Haywood and Tillman have successfully performed the baby act in a plea of self-defense. Their precious lives were in such imminent danger that they gave their opponents no occasion for drawing a weapon.—Stanly Enterprise Oct. 15th.

It is now to be presumed that when a poor fellow in Raleigh is caught with a pistol he will be heavily fined, or sent to the roads, but if he kills his man quickly he will be acquitted. —Durham Sun.

In the cent-a-word column of the Charlotte Chronicle somebody advertises "fresh hog haslets" for sale. Sell 'em to the courts to slap the goddess of justice in the face with.—Gastonia Gazette.

Haywood and Tillman are both free men, not guilty, acquitted, cleared, exonerated. The courts have declared Skinner and Gonzales murderous dogs who deserved to be shot down on the highway.—Gastonia Gazette.

The taking of a human life is the one thing for which no excuse can be offered. It is murder. And justice demands a life for life. It is up to the North Carolina officials to see that justice enforced.—Danville Bee. This has reference especially to the Haywood trial, and while our contemporary is correct in saying "it is up to the North Carolina officials to see that justice enforced," it may be stated as a fact that in this particular case justice will not be enforced. It will not do to hang a man who belongs to a prominent family and has money and influence.—Henderson Gold Leaf, Oct. 15th.

At any rate Judge Peebles has no occasion to find fault with the verdict of the jury.

The defense certainly has no cause to complain of unfairness to their side on the part of Judge Peebles.

If the twelve men who turned murderer Haywood loose were hung themselves justice might be satisfied.

We hear of hung juries sometimes but hanging juries now and then might be promotive of law and order.

The next of kin to Mr. Skinner should do for Mr. Haywood what the court and jury failed to do.

Of the two cases perhaps in Tillman's there was the greatest provocation for the killing, but Haywood's trial appears the bigger farce.

Haywood saves his neck but the verdict of the jury does not alter the fact that he is a murderer who shot his victim in the back and ought to be hung

The twelve men who turned Haywood loose may have acted conscientiously but it would be hard to convince some people that conscience had anything to do with it.

Judge Peebles may not have intended it but his course in the Haywood trial cannot but impress a disinterested outsider with the fact that he was for the defense all the way through.

Haywood shot Skinner in the back and killed him as he was walking away from him. But he will not hang for it because the murderer belongs to a prominent family and has money and influence to back him.

After being out fifteen minutes yesterday the jury acquitted Ernest Haywood of the murder of Ludlow Skinner in Raleigh. While it was not believed that he would be hung the action of the jury in acquitting him altogether occasions indignation and disgust nevertheless.—Henderson Gold Leaf, Oct 15th.

Wake county is not to blame. The result would have been the same in any other county.

You do not understand how it was done? Why, they just voted to turn him loose—that's all.

Mr. Haywood, an innocent man, has been put to lots of trouble and expense to establish that fact, and yet he has no recourse. This is a matter that should be remedied.

Wilcox can see where he missed it by not acknowledging the killing of Miss Cropsey and establishing a case of self-defense.—Durham Herald

The fact remains, spite of the verdict of the jury and the congratulations of the judge, that Ernest Haywood, after bringing disgrace upon an honorable family, shot down the man who would have been within his rights in defending that honor, and that Ludlow Skinner's blood cries from North Carolina soil, unavenged.—Charlotte News, Oct.14th.

Jim Tillman says he shot Gonzales because he was afraid Gonzales would shoot him. Well what is it that Jim would not tell to save himself when he had forfeited the right to live, by one of the most cold-blooded and cowardly murders that ever cursed any state. If it was not for a good deal of perjury court could be more blessed for releasing infamous criminals.—Hickory Press

WHOSE TURN NEXT?

A jury has declared Ernest Haywood not guilty of the murder of Ludlow Skinner, but the people of the state will believe he is a murderer to the last day of his life. The trial was a farce and the verdict just what was expected, considering Haywood's wealth and professional position.

The time has come when there has got to be a change made in our jury system. At present the defense in a capital case has every opportunity to pack a jury box with its partisans, and we believe this very thing has been done time and again in this state. The defense may challenge and reject twenty-three of the jurors offered by the prosecution, while the prosecution is allowed only four challenges. This very thing has made a mockery of justice in our courts, and the next legislature should change it or confess to cowardice. That is plain language and we mean it so. We railroad a poor ignorant negro to the gallows and turn white murderers loose, all under the wing of the law. Justice? It's a farce, a screaming burlesque, and a shame and disgrace upon the state

The people are losing respect for our courts, and it is coming to pass that if a man has wealth and professional influence he may murder his fellowman without fear of legal retribution. Is it any wonder that lynch law and violence are taking the place of legal procedure? We think not. The wonder would be, if no condition of anarchy arose from the weakness and cowardice of courts.

This thing of shooting a man down without giving him a chance for his life is horrible—worse than some of the darkest crimes of the feudal age. It causes thoughtful men to wonder if their time will come next. This makes every man afraid of his brother, for none know the hour of assassination. The thing must end or we are all headed toward the hell of anarchy.—Greenville Reflector, Oct. 15th.

Gentlemen who are not on good terms with other gentlemen should be warned by the events in this state and South Carolina as to their conduct. If you are tempted to strike a man either examine him first to see whether he has a weapon or postpone the striking until you have one. Then, when you have your weapon handy, and have struck your adversary, begin shooting immediately if not sooner. You can claim self-defense on the ground that you thought he was going to draw; if you don't get him first he will certainly get you and claim self-defense on the ground that your actions indicated that you were going to shoot. If you are unarmed or for any reason not disposed to engage in gun practice, it would be well on meeting an enemy to elevate your hands above your head and keep them there while in sight of him; by all means keep your hands out of your pockets. If you make the slightest movement he may kill you and secure acquittal on the ground of self-defense. By observing these rules one may manage to escape.—Statesville Landmark.

The public, after reading the testimony brought out in the trial of Haywood for the killing of Skinner, looked for a verdict of acquittal. The prisoner's counsel established pretty clearly a case of self-defense and the jury was warranted in deciding that Haywood was "not guilty." Not that Haywood did not deserve some punishment, but the law exculpated him. In the Tillman case it was different—that was a miscarriage of justice.—Winston Sentinel.

Nobody need be surprised at the verdict in the Haywood case. It is what was expected, but it really looks as if Judge Peebles was disposed to "slop over." Under the evidence and the law Haywood was not guilty of murder in the first degree; he may have been entitled to an acquittal, as the jury found, but the general public will never believe it.

And Tillman was acquitted also. That, too, was expected. But the jury in his case acted more decently than the Haywood jury. Tillman's jury stayed out about a day and professed at least to be considering the case. The Haywood jury hurried back so promptly as to cause one to wonder if they didn't have their minds made up from the beginning.

There will of course be strong criticism, and properly, of the verdicts in the Haywood and Tillman cases, but if either had been convicted and sentenced to any punishment it is hardly to be doubted that a governor would have interfered.—Statesville Landmark

The following paragraph from Tuesday's Statesville Landmark anent the Haywood and Tillman cases contains no little truth:

"Only in extremely rare cases do men of means and influence suffer punishment for wrong-doing; or if they suffer at all the punishment is hardly ever commensurate to the offense. This fact is so well known that no one of information and intelligence will attempt to deny it."

The trial and its result will not cause lot of folks to change their opinion in the least. As the Durham Herald says:

"A jury can keep a man out of the penitentiary but it cannot clear him in the eyes of the people."—Smithfield Herald

The court which tried Ernest Haywood for murder declared him not guilty. But Ernest Haywood is a ruined man. There will be no peace for him this side of the grave. Ludlow Skinner who died by violence at the hands of Haywood will appear many and many a time to Ernest Haywood to drive peace from his mind and sleep from his eyes. Ernest Haywood goes free, but there is not gold enough in the world to induce any one to take his place and suffer as he must suffer in mind and in conscience.—Monroe Enquirer

Not a little surprise has been expressed that the jury remained out only a few minutes before bringing in a verdict in the Ernest Haywood murder case. Under ordinary circumstances this, well, we shall say, promptness, on the part of the jury, which some regard as an exhibition of undue haste, might have impressed us, but in this case there seemed to be very little reason which would point to the necessity of the jury spending a season in due reflection. The impression has somehow prevailed for weeks that Haywood was to be acquitted, and it is only natural that the jury should have done its part with dispatch. The Charlotte News has expressed our sentiments in these words:

"The fact remains, spite of the verdict of the jury, and the congratulations of the judge, that Ernest Haywood, after bringing disgrace upon an honorable family, shot down the man who would have been within his rights in defending that honor, and that Ludlow Skinner's blood cries from North Carolina soil, unavenged."

And today that same cry is ascending from the soil in our sister state, South Carolina, where the murderer, Tillman, has been sent back to society an officially innocent man. This and kindred travesties on justice lead us to the opinion that the whole regime of criminal jurisprudence is in crying need of revision.—Asheville Gazette-News.

The trial of Haywood that has been going on in Raleigh the past two weeks came to an end Wednesday when the jury returned a verdict of not guilty. After the evidence was all in the prosecution abandoned murder in the first degree. From beginning to end it was not more than a farce or mock trial. Haywood murdered Ludlow Skinner without sufficient provocation in the broad open day light, on the main thoroughfare of our capital city, and yet because he was a lawyer, a man of wealth and high family standing, he is allowed to go scott free. This murder was committed in February, and we verily believe that if he had been a poor man without money, influence, etc., he would have been hung long ago. We dislike to criticise the verdict of a jury but we must say that this jury and all connected with the case deserves the severest criticism and the setting of this man at liberty has cast a stain upon the good name of this grand old commonwealth that it will take many years to out live. But enough said for this time. Haywood, although acquitted by a jury, will always stand before the people of North Carolina as a murderer unpunished.—Warrenton Record, Oct. 16th.

South Carolina is again disgraced, and the state will not within the next fifty years recover from the damage inflicted upon it by the verdict of the jury that on yesterday acquitted James H. Tillman, the cold-blooded murderer of N. G. Gonzales. This is not the ill-formed opinion of a superficial observer, but the deliberate judgment of one who has read nearly every line of testimony as stenographically reported by the South Carolina papers. The murder committed by Tillman was as deliberate and as cowardly as any assassination ever perpetrated in this country. And it is a positive shame on South Carolina that a jury of her citizens would turn at large a man who richly deserves to have his neck broken with a halter. The charge of the trial judge was a blot upon civilized jurisprudence, and the decision of the jurymen richly merits for them the detestation of all honest men.—Lynchburg News.

Corbin's Executive Way.

General H. C. Corbin, who is to command the United States army in the department of the east, with headquarters at Governor's Island, New York, is popular with those who have business in connection with his office, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

He does things promptly and with as little red tape as the rules and regulations will permit. A prominent Ohio man tells the following story in illustration of that fact:

It was during the Spanish-American war. A farmer in a small town of Ohio wrote to this gentleman at Washington asking that something might be done about his son. He had enlisted while not of age, was not well, and was located in a camp in one of the southern states:

"I called on General Corbin at the adjutant general's office," the gentleman said, "prepared for a long siege, and to meet much difficulty. I saw him and stated the case and asked him if he could persuade the president to take the matter up. He asked a number of questions and then stepped into another room for a minute or two.

"He then came back and sat down. We talked on current topics for a moment or so and I arose to go. In about how long may I expect to hear from you, general?' I said. 'I would like to write the father and hold out some hope of his son's discharge, if possible?'

"'Oh, about the boy. I meant to tell you,' said the general, 'I guess he will get home as soon as the letter would get there. I have ordered his discharge by telegraph, and he is possibly on his way to the station by this time.'"

TIME TO BE FRIGHTENED.

A pair of frightened horses were dashing madly down the street, says the Youth's Companion. The coachman was sawing at the reins, and the carriage was swaying from side to side in a dangerous fashion. The occupant of the vehicle, an elderly woman, noted for her extreme parsimoniousness, and her pretty niece gave no outward signs of fear; but just as the horses came to a standstill, the younger woman unexpectedly fainted.

"I wasn't frightened a bit," she explained afterward, "until just as we rounded that last corner with three wheels in the air. Aunt Caroline exclaimed, 'I'd give a dollar to be out of this.' I knew the case must be serious if Aunt Caroline was beginning to risk dollars in that fashion."

JUMPED OVERBOARD.

Man Plunged Into River as a British Steamer Was Leaving Port.

The unusual sight of a man jumping from the bow of a big tramp steamer into the Savannah river, and, with all his clothes on, frantically making for the shore, met the gaze of persons along the river front near Indian street yesterday morning. Having made the shore, the stranger, his wet clothes clinging to his limbs, and shivering from the chill northwest wind that was blowing in his face, made off in quest of an arresting officer.

The stranger was Richard Gerke, a German seaman, and he wanted John Bloom placed in the clutches of the law; for Bloom it was, he claimed, that had induced him under false promises to sign with the ship. When he discovered that he was on his way out to sea, and that he hadn't gotten the money promised him, he huddled to the prow of the vessel and plunging into the water, determined not to figure in any kidnapping, shanghaing or duping scheme, did what the sailor in the old prayer meeting song was told to do—pulled for the shore.

JUMPED TO THE BOTTOM.

"I shumped from a blace as high as some houses," he said in broken English. "I hit the vater, and vent all the vay to the bottom. I vas underneath it a min-ute (with an unaccountable accent on the last syllable), and I dink I vas not again coming on top. My, but it was colt;" He was in an excited state of mind, and it was difficult to tell what he was saying.

When it came to an explanation of the why and the wherefore of his actions, the officials could not, for some time, make heads or tails of his narrative. The United States commissioner himself admitted his inability to get the straight of the story.

Gerke claims that he was approached by Bloom and offered a position as fireman on the British steamer Anglo Chilian. He accepted the offer, but told Bloom that he was in need of money to meet some expenses, and would need an advance. Bloom, he says, told him that he would get the captain of the steamer to advance $15, of which amount he would give him $5, taking $5 with which to purchase necessary clothes, and $5 for his services in securing the position. Of this amount Gerke got nothing. That is Gerke's version of the story.—Savannah News.

He Learned a Great Truth.

It is said of John Wesley that he once said to Mistress Wesley: "Why do you tell that child the same thing over and over again?" "John Wesley, because once telling is not enough." It is for this same reason that you are told again that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy cures colds and grip; that it counteracts any tendency of these diseases to result in pneumonia, and that it is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all druggists.

Thermometer Tales.

To people who are fortunately unfamiliar with sickness the thermometers used in taking the temperature of patients are always a source of considerable interest, says the New York Times. A professional nurse whose experience has led her to numerous localities and brought her in contact with many phases of life tells two stories which illustrate the foregoing statement.

In one of the local hospitals she had a male patient who was threatened with a run of fever. As she approached his bedside one morning he querulously complained of a lack of nourishment.

"I didn't get enough to eat," he said. "I feel almost starved."

"Well, well," she said, soothingly, "we will see about that. Here," she added, "let me put this in your mouth."

She inserted the thermometer between his teeth and turned away a moment. When she looked back he was working the bulb around between his jaws at a great rate.

"Hold on!" she cried, "you will break the thermometer!"

He drew in his cheeks and apparently gave a mighty pull on the little instrument, and then she removed it.

"Say," he grumbled, "there's no use giving me that. I couldn't suck a blame thing out of it."

Another patient, a woman, begged the nurse for a drink.

"Wait," said the nurse, and thrust the thermometer in her mouth.

The patient lay back on her pillow and placidly closed her eyes. A satisfied expression slowly stole over her face. When the time was up the nurse withdrew the tube.

"Why," said the patient, with a sigh of gratification, "what a lot of good a little thing like that will do you."

Sweet Words Needed.

A benevolent looking Quaker, in drab clothes and broad-brimmed hat, walked into the lobby of a Philadelphia hotel a short time ago, and was walking up to the desk, when he stubbed his toe on an uneven place in the flooring and measured his length on the floor, says the Philadelphia Ledger. A bell boy rushed to assist him to his feet.

"Boy," said the old gentleman, solemnly, "does thee swear?"

"Oh, no, sir; no, indeed," said the boy, taking his cue from the Quaker's pious appearance.

"Um! Too bad too bad," said he of the broad-brimmed hat. "I would have paid thee handsomely to have sworn for me."

NORTH CAROLINA AT ST. LOUIS.

An Interview With Mr. Bruner—Applications for Charters—Death of a Confederate Veteran—State Fair Begins Today.

Messenger Bureau,
Raleigh, N. C., October 19.

Thomas K. Bruner, who is doing admirable work for the St. Louis exposition all over the United States, is here for a few days, and in an interview he informed your correspondent that everything at the exposition is in a very fine state of preparation. Mr. Bruner said "I will give you an idea of the size of the buildings and of great offerings of exhibit by saying that the palace of agriculture covers 20 acres and that the exhibits it is desired to install in it will cover 30 acres, so that here is the problem before the management—to get 30 acres of exhibits in 20 acres of space. This building is nearly finished. It is notable that England, Russia and Japan will have each a large space in it. North Carolina will not only have a regular space, but also special exhibits in the way of cotton, tobacco, corn, etc. There will be enough North Carolina machinery to illustrate the making of textile fabrics and our cotton cloths will be specially shown, perhaps they will be the only ones so exhibited. In the agricultural building we will have a continuous show of apples from cold storage, this building covers 6 acres. The apples will be shown in an aisle, 200 feet wide, in flat places and on plates. There are already offered to the fair management 30 carloads of apples each of 150 barrels. Professor Joseph A. Holmes has set apart excellent space for North Carolina in the department of mines and mining. Here all the metalliferous ores, economic minerals, gems, etc., will be shown. George K. Kunz, the well-known gem expert, informs Prof. Holmes that Tiffay of New York has recently bought six gold nuggets from Stanly county, North Carolina, weighing from 10 to 12 pounds each.

Mr. Bruner is very desirous that Governor Aycock should purchase these as Tiffany offers them to the state authorities and exhibit them at St. Louis and afterwards in the state museum here. In the latter there are now only plaster casts of gold nuggets found in this state, the largest ones weighing 28 pounds, which was taken from the Reed mine in Cabarrus county. It was in the same mine, strange to say that the first gold nugget found in this state was discovered, about one hundred years ago. Mr. Kunz says the nuggets Tiffany now has are the finest he has seen anywhere from the south. One of the most beautiful features of the exposition will be the display of flowers in the landscape at the Agricultural and Horticultural building, this being made by Mr. Newberry of Magnolia, North Carolina, who will send a carload of bulbs for planting 10 acres, these including Cannas, Gladioli, Tube roses, Dahlias, etc. Two of the North Carolina institutions will have special exhibits these being the Western Hospital for the Insane and the State School for the Blind at Raleigh.

Prof. W. A. Withers of Raleigh has placed in the Hall of History in the State Museum the autographs of several of the singers of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, including those of Joseph McKnitt Alexander and Ephriam Brevard.

The state fair begins tomorrow and will be formally opened by Governor Aycock. It will be equal to the best fair ever held in North Carolina along all lines. The show of agricultural products is large and meritorious. The racing feature will be better than usual. All the races are full.

The Confederate veterans, who will hold their annual reunion here Wednesday and Thursday of this week will be banqueted in the spacious dining hall at the Agricultural and Mechanical College, the Daughters of the Confederacy and the local camp of veterans providing for food.

The first frost of the season occurred here this morning, but did not do any damage. Cotton continues to open very rapidly, and the crop is about half gathered, farmers say. Of course in some localities, on high sandy land, the crop is practically all gathered.

The supreme court will devote this week to the docket of appeals from the eighth district.

The secretary of state has received applications for four very large charters for corporations, all from Salisbury—one with $5,000,000, one with $2,000,000 a third with $750,000 capital stock. The largest is for an electric power company and the second for a copper mining company. The total fees to the state on the four charters will be $1,500.

J. G. Banks of Edgecombe county, an inmate of the soldiers' home here was found dead in a bath room there yesterday morning. Death being due to heart disease, from which he nearly died last Thursday. His first military service was in the Edgecombe guards, Company A, First regiment, North Carolina Volunteers, which lost at Bethel, Va., the first Confederate soldier. Henry Wyatt. During the last three years of the war Banks served in Manley's battery of light artillery. His age was 65 and he was a very worthy man, much liked at the home.

The metal roof of Christ church, which is considered the most beautiful religious edifice in the state, is being replaced by one of tiles.

It is certain that a great number of pickpockets will be here at the state fair. Up to this time they have done their robbing at pleasure, and last year and the year before have plundered a great many people. This year the authorities think they have made better arranbements to checkmate them. The chief of police at the fair has 20 deputies, all in plain clothes.

ONE NEGRO KILLS ANOTHER.

Homicide at "Mile Branch"—Reference to the Haywood and Tillman Trials in Sermon by Rev. T. A. Smoot.

(Special to The Messenger.)

Fayetteville, N. C., October 19.—On Saturday, in the neighborhood of what is known as "Mile Branch," a mile northwest of this city, Joe Stark shot and killed Jim Sawyer, both negroes. The evidence adduced at the inquest held by Dr. J. A. McKethan, county coroner, is to the effect that Stark discovered Sawyer leaving the former's house, and hailed him, whereupon Sawyer advanced with a knife drawn, and Stark shot him. Public sentiment is on the side of the slayer, as it is believed that Sawyer was either criminally intimate with Stark's wife or had attempted to be.

Mr. J. H. Holton, of Trenton, Mo., designs to establish at this place an industrial and business college, in connection with which there is also to be operated a fruit and vegetable farm. Mr. Holton wishes to open negotiations for a suitable site and body of land adjacent to the city.

Very interesting services yesterday marked the dedication of Sunnyside Presbyterian church, a consolidation of Green Hill and Bethlehem churches on the east side of Cape Fear river, with Rev. V. G. Smith as pastor. A neat and comfortable building has been erected, with a seating capacity of 400 or 500, and it was well filled yesterday. In the morning Rev. P. R. Law, of Lumber Bridge, preached an able dedicatory sermon, and in the afternoon the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered. Messrs. A. C. Holmes and Sydney Smith were elected elders, and Jonathan Evans deacon.

Rev. T. A. Smoot, the gifted and scholarly pastor of Hay Street Methodist church, yesterday preached a sermon which has evoked much favorable comment in the community. His theme was "Truth," and in the course of his discourse he referred to the Haywood and Tillman trials, in effect declaring with impassioned force that by the verdict in those cases the divine principles of truth and justice had received a ruthless outrage, an almost mortal blow, which would be disastrously felt for many years. The services were exceptionally interesting, and to an audience which packed the large church. The organist, Mr. Ralph Fisher, disappointed nobody, for his renderings were exquisite.

Application has been made to the governor for the pardon of Thomas Fowler, sentenced to six months on the public roads of Cumberland county.

Mrs. B. R. Huske and children left today to visit relatives in New Bern.

Henry Dixon, long wanted in this county for liquor selling, was arrested on Saturday by Officer Dixon and a posse, just as he was getting off a train in the western part of the county. He is a giant both in size and strength, and fought desperately, surrendering only after he had been shot three times under arm, in neck, and on shoulder blade.

Birds Shun This Tree.

A German authority has recently announced the discovery of a tree in the forests of central India which has most curious characteristics. The leaves of the tree are of a highly sensitive nature and so full of electricity that whoever touches one of them receives an electric shock. It has a very singular effect upon a magnetic needle and will influence it at a distance of even seventy feet. The electrical strength of the tree varies according to the time of day, it being strongest at midday and weakest at midnight. In wet weather its powers disappear altogether. Birds never approach the tree, nor have insects ever been seen upon it.—Ex.

Civil Suit Transferred.

Colonel John W. Hinsdale, of Raleigh, was in the city yesterday to have the suit of Mrs. Barbara Bear vs. the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association transferred from the superior court to the United States circuit court. He is one of the counsel for the defendant company and Messrs. Russell & Gore represent the plaintiff. The suit is one brought to recover life insurance money.