J Wm Mitchell

THE BATESBURG ADVOCATE.

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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, with 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 travelers declined to participate in the alleged game of chance and proceeding on their way, going ahead quite leisurely.

When they had arrived in the neighborhood of Fox's Creek, their attention was suddenly arrested by a man—the mulatto—springing from the bush, 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 hiden in the bushes. He fired one shot from, apparently, a rifle.

STRUCK 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 Burnett. Immediately that 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 as 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 to him what description of the negroes that he could. He had paid very lettle attention to them when they had first accosted 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 beating the woods for them. It is stated that men from the Georgia side had also joined in the search and the opinion was exposed 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 Meriwether, was held up by a mulatto and black man robbed of a pistol and money. Meriwether reported the hold-up-to Marshal Getzen and gave a very excellent description of the men The authorities are satisfied that the assassins of Mr. Collins are the same men who held up Merriwether and the Merriwethr description will be of much service to them in identifying the bandits. Mr. Wood is positive that he will be able to identify the men or either of them, if they are brought before him.

The excitement and indignation caused by the assassination are intense, particularly in the neighborhood where Mr. Collins lived and among the people in the vicinity adjoining the scene of the crime.

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 say 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 as 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 sightseeing. The difference in the character of the crowds now here and the visitors on earlier occasions is most noticeable. The Yankee, the silk hat man and the silk lined 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 virot hats have 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 precious secret—the are here, imagining themselves the admired 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 Boers Like Rabbits.

The London Morning Leader publishes the alleged story of the crimes which led to the courtmartial 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 courtmartial 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 courtmartial 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 Wierd Story.

A strang case is being tried in a Montana Court. It was reported that a man named J. C. Paulsan 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, had a local agent investigate the death, and he saw the body in the vault, but said the face of Paulson was veay 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 undoubtly 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.

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 State Democratic Executive Committee met in Columbia Thursday night and fixed the date for the State convention. Twenty-six out of forty counties were represented. Senator Tillman was present by virtue of his position as member of the National Committee. Col. Wilie Jones, chairman of the committee, presided, and Mr. U. X. Gunter, Jr., the secretary, was also present.

The members present were: A. W. Jones, Abbeville; W. W. Williams, Aiken; J. Perry Glenn, Anderson; S. G. Mayfield, Bamberg; G. Duncan Bellinger, Barnwell; S. G. McCoy, Berkeley; W. F. Stevenson, Chesterfield; Louis Appelt, Clarendon; L. J. Williams, Edgefield; T. H. Kitchens, Fairfield; D. H. Traxler, Florence; M. L. Donaldson, Greenville; D. H. Magill, Greenwood; M. B. McSweeney, Hampton; J. A. McDermott, Horry; D. G. Richards, Kershaw; J. H. Wharton, Laurens; D. J. Griffith, Lexington; W. D. Evans, Marlboro; Cole L. Blease, Newberry; W. J. Stribling, Oconee; W. O. Tatum, Orangeburg; Willie Jones, Richland; R. B. Watson, Saluda; Altamont Moses Sumter; J. C. Wilborn, York; U. X. Gunter, Jr., secretary; B. R. Tillman, member of the national Democratic executive committee.

There was considerable discussion caused by the introduction of a resolution by Mr. Magill that no member be allowed to vote unless that member had been regularly elected. This was supported by Mr. W. D. Evans, and Mr. Blease. Col. Wharton and Mr. Altamont Mosses opposed the motion. Senator Tillman said in reply to Mr. Moses that it is sometimes the case that members of the national Democratic committee are represented by proxy. It was decided to let members present, by proxy or otherwise, participate in the proceedings and in the votes.

INVITATION FROM CHARLESTON.

When this matter was settled, Col. Jones announced that the committee had received a request that the meeting of the State convention be held in Charleston. He read a telegram from Maj. J. C. Hemphill, manager of the department of promotion and publicity, offering the convention the use of an auditorium and assuring the members of a warm welcome. There was also a telegram from Capt. F. W. Wagener, president of the exposition, in which he asked Senator Appelt and Mr. J. C. Wilborn to use their influence to have the convention meet in Charleston.

In accordance with these invitations, Col. Wharton offered a resolution that the May convention of the State Democratic convention be held in Charleston. In supporting his resolutions, Col. Wharton spoke in glowing terms of the exposition and stated that the railroad fare from most of the towns in the State would be lower to Charleston than to Columbia on account of the exposition rates.

The matter had been discussed among the members of the committee during the afternoon and it was pretty well understood that there was no serious objections to calling the convention to meet in Charleston. But the proposal was fought by a number of members of the committee.

Mr. Blease offered a substitute for Col. Wharton's resolution. The resolution fixed Columbia as the place for meeting and the 21st of May as the date. In supporting his resolution, Mr. Belase spoke in highest terms of Charleston and the exposition, but it would be contrary to the spirit of the constitution of the Democratic party for the meeting to be held outside of Columbia.

Mr. L. J. Williams said this would be a very radical step—for the convention to meet in Charleston. The railroad fare might be cheap, but there were other expenses to consider.

Mr. Bellinger contended that the first thing to consider is whether or not it would benefit the Democratic party for convention to meet in Charleston.

Mr. Wharton again spoke in favor of Charleston. The constitution of the party is silent on the place of meeting, and this very silence shows that the wisdom of the members of the committee is relied upon. Mr. Appelt also favored Charleston.

Mr. Wilborn explained how he had received a telegram from Capt. Wagener. Senator Tillman asked if Mr. Wilburn had been fishing for an invitation. Mr. Wilborn then prodded Senator Tillman. He spoke in warmest terms of praise of the exposition and said that he felt his State pride drop a little when he looked upon this magnificent exposition and saw how poorly it is being patronized. By holding the convention there, the State Democracy would endorse the exposition. He referred to the fight which Senator Tillman and the other congressmen had made for an appropriation for the exposition.

Mr. Blease—And Senator Tillman got it, too.

Mr. Wilborn—Got it in the neck. (Laughter.)

Mr. Wilborn then went on to say that it had never been explained why St. Louis got $5,000,000 and Charleston could not get a few thousands. The reason of it is that we are Democrats down here and they are Republicans there and that is why he would like to see the Democrats of the State endorse the exposition.

Mr. W. J. Stribling of Walhalla said that the fare from that place would really be $2.50 cheaper to Charleston than to Columbia, but the other expenses would offset this difference. Furthermore the members of the convention might fall into the hands of the Philistines—the blind tigers.

Mr. Ketchins of Fairfield remarked banteringly that as this invitation had not come unsolicited, it had better not be accepted.

The motion was put and Mr. Bleas'es substitnte to hold the convention in Columbia was carried by a vote of 21 to 7. The seven were: Cunningham, Appelt, Traxler, Magill, Wharton, Watson and Wilborn. As there are 400 members of the convention, they would have had a lively time together in Charleston, and Columbia could spare the convention for once. There seemed to be a hidden reason for objecting to the propesed change in the place of meeting, probably some expect matters affecting the organization of the party to come up, and think it best for such matters to be disposed of away from the enchanting music of the midway spielers.

One of these matters of party policy is the attitude of organized Democracy toward the socalled "Commercial Democrats." Mr. Blease last night introduced a resolution to the effect that the committee advise the convention to add a new section to the oath to be taken by candidates in the State primary, so that they would be bound to support the platform of the national Democratic party. But he withdrew the resolution at the suggestion of Col. W. D. Evans, who declared that it would be somewhat like arrogance for this committee, which now goes out of existence, to make any such suggestion to the convention.—The State.

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 above named 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 missles 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 give the whole thing away. He confessed that he and three other negroes had gone to Mr. Stallings for the purpose of assassinating him and then robbing the place. Had Mr. Stallings came 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 came 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 determined that an example will be made 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 ride. 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 military affairs to ask the appointment and the committee will report in his favor. 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, disabilities sustained in the Cuban campaign rendering him unfit for active service.

To Abolish Slavery.

Representative Patterson of Tennessee Wednesday introduced in the house a bill to abolish slavery in the Philippine islands and to invalidate the treaty between Gen. Bates and the sultan of the Sulu islands. This will embarrass the Republicans, as they sanctioned the trade made by Gen. Bates with the Sultan of Sulu.

A Fatal Explosion.

It is now certain that not less than thirty miners lost their lives by the explosion in the coal mine near Dayton, Tenn. Fifteen bodies have been recovered and buried, and the others are to be taken out as soon as they can be reached.

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 Relices 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 to be raised by the Association was at hand and needed only to be collected and put in the hands of the treasurer, Mr. 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, according to agreement and contract, 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:

On deposit with treasurer at Richmond, Va	$ 8,684 69
Exposition fund on deposit at Nashville, Tenn	6,026 96
Collections by Underwood on deposit at Covington, Ky,	59,448 89
Sums in the hands of camps, etc	5,746 06
Total	$79,906 60

These sundry amounts were considered sufficiently good by Mr. Rouss as to prompt him to place an approximate amount of $60,000 in the hands of the treasurer.

Now of the subscriptions—one of Mr. Marcus Daly was for $45,000—five thousand of which was paid by him. The balance was considered as good as cash, but unfortunately the donor died before it was paid over to the collector, and since then the widow refusing to pay it, suit was entered into to obtain the balance, and by legal advice a compromise is about to be effected, by which this balance is reduced to $20,000.

There are other subscriptions amounting to	$ 1,550 00
Add Marcus Daly subscription	40,000 00
And amounts on deposit	79,906 60

The total is shown of ...$121,456 60

The actual cash though, was $79,906 60.

Now, after the payment of Gen Underwood and the unfortunate hold-up of the Daly subscription, the cash of the Association shrinks to $54,883 60. If the Daly compromise is effected there will then have to be raised still some thirty thousand dollars to meet the balance of Mr. Rouss's fund.

The heirs of Mr. Rouss assure the Association that the last payment of his fund will be made whenever the full amount of the one hundred thousand dollars required by the Association is on deposit.

It will be seen that the full amount in cash realized by the Association, after more than a year of effort through individuals, camps, chapters, etc, in the length and breadth of the South previous to the employment of Gen Underwood, was $20,457 71. It will also be seen that had the money been realized from the Daly subscription the board of trustees would have been in condition to have gotten the whole of the Rouss fund and work would have been going on now on the Memorial Hall. The board of trustees of the Association has recently in a full and harmonious meeting, in Atlanta, Ga, at much expenditure of time and money to themselves, gone thoroughly over the situation and will at the Dallas Reunion present a full report. The members of the board are enthusiastic in their faith in the ultimate erection of the Memorial Hall.

B. H. Teague.
Member for South Carolina of the Board of Trustees C. M. A.
Aiken, March 31.

Money Making Scheme.

The Columbia State says Thursday morning there was an interesting scene at the old union depot, recently abandoned. The work of tearing up the floor was commenced. There was no trouble in finding laborers who wished to take the work offered, with the chance of what they could get. And they were wise men. Many have often remarked that when the old floor came up there would be rich finds. So it proved yesterday. All kinds of money, ranging in size from dollars to one cent pieces were found by the workmen. A large number of pocket knives were also found, and other articles of more or less value. The workmen needed no urging to make them tear up the floor in a hurry, but once a board had been removed it was difficult to get him to tear up the next. There was an interesting scramble all the way through.

A LABOR PAPER WARNED.

Orders from Washington About its Use of the Mails.

The Augusta Herald says Postmater Smythe, of that city, has received instructions from the postoffice department at Washington to exclude the "Voice of Labor," a local weekly published in Augusta from the United States mails if it continues to publish in its columns inflammatory articles, as have appeared in several recent issues.

The paper has not yet been shut out from the mails, but the editor, Mr. John Allen Mette, has been cautioned by Postmaster Smythe that the postal laws would be strictly adhered to, and these laws cover the sending through the mails of such literature as the "Voice of Labor."

Editor Mette went to Mr. Smythe's office, and asked by "what authority did the department want to keep his paper out of the mails?" Mr. Smythe replied that he was only carrying out the laws of the postal department, and cited these laws to Mr. Mette.

The latter then wanted to know who were the parties who had notified the department at Washington of the paper being in the mails. The postmaster told Mr. Mette that he knew, but did not consider it necessary to inform Mr. Mette. Mr. Mette was anxious to know, but was not informed.

"The Voice of Labor" published several articles in late issues that were rather "warm stuff," to use a slang phrase. The headlines glowed with strong statements such as: "Constitution of United States a Damnable Document," "Civil War," etc. The last issue, that of last Saturday, contained an article, denouncing the municipal government.

A Columbia Mystery.

The Columbia State says Wednesday morning while some workmen were excavating for the foundations of Mr. Allworden's new building opposite the Independent engine house a gruesome find was made. Portions of a skull and some bones were uncovered, all very old and in a very dry and decomposed condition, almost crumbling to pieces at the touch of the human hand. The skull when carefully examined seemed to be that of a negro, the receding forehead being easily recognized when the portions were fitted together. How old the bones were no one could venture to say. The skull may have belonged to a pre-historic man who was wont to roam about the forests attired only in a goat skin petticoat and a smile, or mayhap upon it once rested a Federal soldier's cap. The bones may have been carefully laid away by loving hands or they may have had buried with them the black secret of foul murder. An old house stood over the spot where the skull was found until torn down for the present work.

Columbia's Sky Scraper.

The Columbia State says the bids for the big twelve-story Robertson office building had been opened and the contract awarded, and that the work of tearing down the Kendall building, on the site of which it will stand, will begin on the morning of June 1. As soon as this building has been taken down work on the new structure will begin. The contract was awarded by Mr. Robertson to M. T. Lewman & Co., of Louisville, Ky., a well known building firm. The big building is to be twelve stories as originally designed, and will be 50 feet deep on the Washington street side, running on the front, however, the width of the present Kendall building and the two one-story structures adjoining, extending to the wall of the Parlor restaurant.

Will Visit Charleston.

Admiral Dewey has announced in letters which he has written to Washington friends that the condition of Mrs. Dewey, who has been sojourning in Florida for his health, has much improved, and is in every way much benefitted by her trip. The letters state that she has almost completely recovered from the throat difficulty from which she has been a sufferer for several years. The admiral and Mrs. Dewey have left Palm Beach, and will return to Washington leisurely and by slow stages, visiting many Southern cities en route home, including Jacksonville, Thomasville and Georgia point, the Charleston Exposition, and a few points in North Carolina.

Breaks Out Afresh.

The fire that has been smouldering for 20 years in the old No. 2 coal mine of the Union Pacific at Carbow, Wyo., has broken out afresh, and a force of men is now engaged in walling up the mouth of the fan chaft through which the smoke and flame are issuing. Twenty years ago, when the fire started, the company, being unable to control it, walled up the shaff. At intervals of two or three years the fire has broken out in new places and for five consecutive years it has burned steadily. The fire has undermined the country for a radius of half a mile and miners say it will probably burn for an indefinite period.

Bitten by a Mad Dog.

Mr. L. M. Harrellson, a prominent farmer of the Walnut Grove section of Spartanburg county, has encountered a series of misfortunes recently attributable to a shepherd dog he owned, which went mad several weeks ago. This dog bit a cow, several hogs and a valuable horse all belonging to Mr. Harrellson, before being killed. As a result, the cow and the hogs died shortly after the dog bit them, and Wednesday the horse died.

Frosts in the South.

Frosts were general last week in Tennessee, portions of Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and the Carolinas. The frost was heavy at Nashville, Charlotte and Wilmington, and severe at Knoxville. Reports from Macon, Savannah, Augusta, Charleston Memphis and Meridian are to the effect that the frost was light. The damage to the fruit crop in Georgia if any was slight, a strong wind prevailing throughout the night.

AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

Why State Pensioners Have to Be Somewhat Patient.

The following official statement for the benefit of the pensioners of the State was issued Wednesday from the State pension department:

"Every year almost as soon as the legislature adjourns and the appropriation for pensions becomes available, such questions are constantly asked, as "When will the money be paid out?" "Why should the poor old soldiers and widows be kept waiting so long for their money, when they need it so badly?" etc., etc.

"These and various other questions can best be answered by a simple statement of the amount of work necessary before this fund can be disbursed.

"The various county pension boards are supposed to meet on the third Monday in January of each year, to pass on all new applications and revise the old list of pensioners. It is necessary in every county to have several meetings before they can get their reports in proper shape to send in to the State pension board, and even, after they are received here, every mail brings in belated applications from the chairmen requesting that they be added to their rolls. This is not the fault of the boards, but is due to the fact that the applicants for pensions often are unacquainted with the time the board meets, or have had difficulties in getting witnesses, etc.; in many cases the boards held their reports back purposely hoping to get all the applications in at once. The State board requested that all the reports should be in by March 1, but the last one has just come in, and therefore it was impossible to call a meeting of the State pension board before.

"The State pension board when it meets has to consider each new application, which is necessarily a slow and tedious process, and also hear appeals, etc. It is quite likely they will be in session several days this year as the number of new applications is very large. After their work is over, the pension clerk then has to prepare the pay rolls for the clerks of court of each county, and as there are over 6,000 names, this of itself takes some little time.

"It is the desire of the State pension board to pay the pensioners just as soon as possible as they who are in constant touch with them, know just how great is their need of this help, and every expedition possible is used."

Crop Conditions.

The United States department of agriculture for the South Carolina section in the crop service of the weather bureau has issued its weekly crop bulletin. In writing of South Carolina conditions the reports says: Preparations of lands, and spring planting are about as late as they were last year, which is to say about ten days later than the average season. Slow progress was made over the western counties where the farm work is backward and the season very late. Here some corn lands have been prepared and a little corn has been planted but planting has not become general. Over the eastern and central counties the upland corn planting is well under way and some early planted is up. Ground is too cold, however, for favorable germination. Usually cotton planting is well under way over the southeastern counties by the first of April, but this year cotton planting during March has been confined to southeastern portion principally to Beaufort county, where about one fourth of the contemplated acreage has been planted, mostly of the Sea Island variety.

Lands have been largely prepared and are awaiting suitable planting weather over the eastern and central counties, where by April 10th it is expected, work will become general. In western counties preparation of cotton lands is backward and planting will be late although during the latter portion of March work of preparation advanced rapidly but planting will be delayed until ground becomes warm enough for favorable germination of seed.

Bryan Is Right.

Hon. F. A. Hood of Chattanooga, Tenn., president of the Bryan club, Wednesday received a letter from Hon. W. J. Bryan in response to an inquiry for an opinion on the proposed campaign issue. In his letter Mr. Bryan said: "I am afraid that so long as I live I will be accused of having ambition; however, the fact that I am editing a paper and exposing the recoganizers ought to convince the people that I am not planning for personal preferment. While I believe that the Democratic party would quite generally be in favor of the taking care of the Confederate graves along with the graves of Union soldiers, I am satisfied that if it was put forth as a campaign issue it would arouse a bitterness which might delay reforms far more. With the southern people the taking care of the Confederate graves is a partriotic duty and one that the southern people would not be willing to have entirely turned over to the Federal authorities and there are certain great reforms which are of great value to the people of the south and which might be lost sight of in a condition that long ago ought to have been forgotten."

Married in the Tombs.

Lawyer Patrick, who was convicted a week ago of murdering millonaire Rice in New York, and sentenced to be electrocuted, was married in the Tombs on Sunday to Mrs. Addie M. Francis, with whom he boarded up to the time of his arrest.

Eleven Drowned.

Eleven men were drowned in the English channel on Tuesday night as the result of a collision between the steamer Alba and the British ship Cambrian Princess, in which the latter was sunk.

Hanged for Murder.

A dispatch from Manila says Private Healy, of the Twenty-seventh infantry, was hanged Friday for the murder of Sergt. Moreland, in April, 1901. The murder occurred at Manila.

SHOCKING CRIME.

A Negro Murders His Employer and Her Daughter

AND WOUNDS ANOTHER CHILD.

The Negro Thigking All Were Dead, He Robs the House and Flees, but is Captured and Confesses.

Fearing that he would be arrested for theft, William H. Lane, a colored butler, shot and killed his employer, Mrs. Ella J. Furbush, her 1 years old daughter Madeline, and probably mortally wounded another daughter, Eloise, aged seven years, at their home, 652 north Fifteenth street, Philadelphia shortly before noon Wednesday. Lane, who is 25 years of age, escaped from the house and four hours later was captured by Philadelphia detectives while waiting in Camden, N. J., to board a train for Bridgeton, N. J. He was immediately carried to Philadelphia was identified by little Eloise, and confessed his crime.

The murder was one of the most cold blooded that has been committed in this city for some time. Mrs. Furbush lived with her two daughters in a fine four-story house. Lane had been butler since Christmas, and besides him she had another colored servant, a woman named Agnes. Recently Mrs. Furbush had been missing small amount of money and finally she informed the police, who began an investigation which was still in progress when Wednesday's tragedy was enacted. Suspicion fell on Lane and a warrant was sworn out for his arrest.

According to Lane's confession, he saw Mrs. Furbush on Monday night counting a large roll of bills. Knowing where she kept the money, he bided his time and at an opportune moment late in the evening he stole $70. Tuesday morning Mrs. Furbush missed the money and questioned the colored man, but he denied all knowledge of having seen it. Expecting that the theft would be placed on him and that Mrs. Furbush would have him arrested, Lane planned to murder the mother and her children, rob the house and disappear. At 11 o'clock he went to the third floor and found Mrs. Furbush in one of the middle rooms. He instantly shot her twice, once in the breast and then through the heart. She died instantly, Eloise, who was in another room, hearing the noise, entered, and Lane shot her in the abdomen. She fell and he thought he had also killed her. Without even attracting the attention of the other servant, who was ironing in the out-kitchen, Lane went to the front door and called Madeline, who was skating on roller skates on the sidewalk. He told her that her mother wanted her on the the third floor, and without the slightest suspicion of the tragedy that was being enacted, and that she was going to her death, Madeline climbed the stairs without removing her skates. She went into a room adjoining that in which her mother lay dead. Lane followed her and as she cheerily called her mother, the negro shot her through the heart, killing her instantly.

Lane, in his confusion, says he then proceeded to rob the house. He quickly found $130, two watches and a pocketbook, and while he was searching for the jewelry he was interrupted by the arrival of two special policemen who had a warrant for his arrest on the charge of larceny. They asked to see Mrs. Furbush and Lane showed them to the dining room on the second floor and said he would call his mistress. Recognizing one of the men as an officer, Lane hastily put his overcoat on and escaped by the rear of the house. All was quiet in the house and the policemen hearing a moan, statrted an investigation and on the third floor hallway found little Eloise. To the policemen she said:

"William shot my mother and my sister, and tried to kill me."

She was immediately sent to a hospital. Lane was traced to the Pennsylvania railroad station at Camden, where he was recognized by one of the policemen he had admitted to the house. The officers hustled him on a ferryboat and out of the jurisdiction of the State of New Jersey and took him to city hall. He wore new clothes, and his old suit of clothes he sent to his sister's home in Burlington, N. J. At the Camden station he telegraphed another sister at Bridegton that he was coming to see her.

At the police station Lane said he was sorry for what he had done. He was surprised to hear that Eloise was alive and said he always liked her and hesitated to kill her, "but it was necessary to do so."

"Now that I have been caught," he added, "I hope she will live. I am also sorry for Mrs. Furbush and Madeline, but poverty tempted me to do it."

Later Lane was taken to the hospital, where Eloise identified him. Lane corroborated evertything the child said.

Lane is the son of a preacher who lives in Bridgeton, and has served a term in the Mount Holly, N. J., jail for larceny and has been confined in the Huntingdon, Pa., reformatory.

What Early Will Say.

General Fitzhugh Lee, who distinguished himself in the Confederate service and is now on the regular army retired list as a brigadier general, recently went on a visit to West Virginia. While there he met an old comrade in arms whose reception was somewhat frigid.

"Well, what's the matter?" said General Lee.

"Oh, nothing much," was the noncommittal reply.

"There is something wrong," persisted the general. "Out with it! What do you want?"

After being strenuously urged the old comrade said:

"Well, I want to die at least half an hour before you do. I want to be in the other world when you arrive there, just to hear what General Jubal Early says when he sees you in a blue uniform."