

# WEEKLY TALLAHASSEE

ESTABLISHED 1881.  
JOHN C. TRICE, Publisher and Proprietor.

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1901.

VOL. XXI, NO. 29.

## WANTED TO KILL THE PRESIDENT

Fired Two Shots at Him at  
Temple of Music

## GAITY TURNED TO MOURNING

Latest News Encouraging—Mr. McKinley Being Much Better.

This community was shocked as it has not been shocked before, last Friday evening by the announcement of the attempted assassination of President McKinley. The news spread like wild fire, and in an incredibly short time a large crowd congregated in the vicinity of the Western Union office eager for any news from the wounded Chief Magistrate.

As soon as the news reached the Capitol, Gov. W. S. Jennings wired the following to the wife of the stricken President:

"Tallahassee, Fla., September 6th. To Mrs. William McKinley, Buffalo, N. Y.—Have just learned that President McKinley was shot today, and extend the deep sympathy on behalf of the people of Florida, and earnest prayer for his recovery.  
W. S. JENNINGS, Governor."

Several reports came from time to time indicating that Mr. McKinley could not live. They had a dreadfully depressing effect upon our people, and only the assurances which have since come that he will recover had a counteracting effect.

As we go to press every indication is that the President will recover. The crisis has passed, and though it is yet possible for a bad turn to take him off quick, yet the attending physicians consider every condition favorable, and the President himself is planning for the future.

Buffalo, N. Y., Sept. 6.—Just a brief twenty-four hours ago the newspapers of the city blazoned forth in all the pomp of headline type:

"The proudest day in Buffalo's history."  
To-night, in sombre type, surrounded by ghoulish borders of black, the same newspapers are telling in funeral tones to a horrified populace the deplorable details of "the blackest day in the history of Buffalo." President McKinley, the nation's Chief Executive, and the city's honored guest, lies prostrate, suffering the pangs inflicted by the bullets of a cowardly assassin, while his life hangs in the balance.

Out on Delaware avenue, at the home of John G. Milburn, president of the Pan-American Exposition, with tearful face and heart torn by conflicting hopes and fears, sits the faithful wife, whose devotion is known to all the nation.

It was a few minutes after 4 o'clock this afternoon, while President McKinley was holding a public reception in the great Temple of Music, on the Pan-American grounds, that the cowardly attack was made, with what success time alone can tell.

Standing in the midst of crowds numbering thousands, surrounded by every evidence of good will, pressed by a motley throng of people, showered with expressions of love and loyalty, besieged by multitudes all eager to clasp his hand, amid these surroundings, and with the ever-recurring plaudits of an admiring army of sightseers ringing in his ears, the blow of the assassin fell and in an instant pleasure gave way to pain, admiration to agony, folly turned to fury and pandemonium followed.

To-night a surging, swaying, eager multitude throngs the city's main thoroughfares, choking the streets in front of the principal newspapers, scanning the bulletins with anxious eyes, and groaning or cheering in turn each succeeding announcement as the nature of the message sinks or buoy's their hopes.

Down at police headquarters, surrounded by stern-faced inquisitors of the law, sits a medium-sized man of commonplace appearance, with his fixed gaze on the floor, who presses his lips firmly together and listens with an air of assumed indifference to the persistent stream of questions, arguments and admonitions with which his captors seek to induce or compel him to talk.

Planned with the diabolical ingenuity and finesse of which anarchy or nihilism is capable, the would-be assassin carried out the work without a hitch, and should his designs fail and the President survive only to Divine Providence can be attributed that beneficent result. The President, though well guarded by United States

secret service detectives, was fully exposed to such an attack as occurred. He stood at the edge of the raised dais, upon which stands the great pipe organ at the east side of the magnificent structure. Throngs of people crowded in to gaze upon their Executive, perchance to clasp his hand, and then fight their way out in the good-natured mob that every minute swelled and multiplied at the points of ingress and egress to the building.

The President was in a cheerful mood, and was enjoying to the full the hearty evidences of good will which everywhere met his gaze. Upon his right stood John G. Milburn, of Buffalo, president of the Pan-American Exposition, chatting with the President and introducing to him especially persons of note who approached. Upon the President's left stood Mr. Cortelyou, the President's secretary.

It was shortly after 4 p. m. when one of the throng which surrounded the Presidential party, a medium-sized man, of ordinary appearance, plainly dressed in black, approached as if to greet the President. Both Secretary Cortelyou and President Milburn noticed that the man's hand was swathed in a bandage, or handkerchief. He worked his way amid the stream of people up to the edge of the dais, until he was within two feet of the President. Mr. McKinley smiled, bowed and extended his hand in that spirit of geniality the American people so well know, when suddenly the sharp crack of a revolver rang out clear and loud above the hum of voices, the saffling of myriad feet and vibrating waves of applause that ever and anon swept here and there over the assemblage.

There was an instant of almost complete silence.

The President stood stock still; a look of hesitancy, almost of bewilderment on his face. Then he retreated a step, while a pallor began to steal over his features. The multitude, only partially aware that something serious had happened, paused in surprise, while necks were craned and all eyes turned as one toward the rostrum where a great tragedy was being enacted.

Then came a commotion. With the leap of a tiger, three men threw themselves forward as with one impulse, and sprang toward the would-be assassin. Two of them were United States secret service men, who were on the lookout, and whose duty it was to guard against just such a calamity as had befallen the President and the nation. The third was a by-stander, a negro, who had only an instant previously grasped in his dusky palm the hand of the President. As one man, the trio hurled themselves upon the President's assailant. In a twinkling he was borne to the ground, his weapon was wrested from his grasp, and strong arms pinioned him down.

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

## APPOINTMENT OF CURATOR.

For the Estate of the Late William A. Nowlin of This City.

The estate of William A. Nowlin, which had prior thereto had no administrator, had on Friday, September 6, appointed W. D. Wilson as curator. The heirs of the estate, it will be remembered, all reside out of the State, and in Brooklyn, New York. The testator died recently, leaving the property without a will. As there was no administrator named, it was necessary to apply to the Courts for one. The Court has granted a temporary custodian until an administrator shall be duly appointed. Mr. Wilson received his papers as custodian from Judge Whitfield on Saturday, and entered immediately upon his duties.

The estate consists of real estate, shops and lands. The building at present occupied by the Southern Express office and the blacksmith shop in the rear. These buildings all need careful inspection and possibly repairs in some instances, the lands all need the personal attention of some person competent to keep them in a good condition until a regular administrator shall be appointed to take entire charge of the estate.

Mr. Wilson is a good man for the position of custodian, and is to be congratulated upon his appointment.

## THE COTTON CROP.

Mr. R. A. Shine, our well-known cotton broker, is beginning to gather in this year's cotton crop, although from all appearances, it comes in slow. Mr. Shine had taken in up to Tuesday night 39 bales only; last year at the same date he had registered 84 bales. So far the cotton has been all short staple cotton, and all from farmers in Leon county, and near Tallahassee. The crops, so far, have been first and second class. The prospect for a full crop this year, though, doubtless they will be brighter later on, are as yet not so encouraging as had been hoped for. Last year, up to April 6 there were 2340 bales taken in, the highest being 670 and the lowest being 240. This year's bales will average, however, between 400 and 500 pounds per bale, are mostly first and second class, and the price is from 7 to 7 1/4 cents per pound.

## TO ELECT A LIBRARIAN.

Miss Edith Elliott, who had been taking charge of the University Library while her aunt, Miss Cotten, was sick, has been chosen temporary librarian until the meeting of the Board for the new librarian. The Board expect to meet the last of this month or the first of next. Most of the members are now out of town. Mrs. C. W. Bannerman is a candidate for the position and would make a good one. We are not informed as to whether there are any other candidates or not.

## COURT COMMISSIONERS TO DISCUSS FAIR

Have Entered Upon Their Duties at Capitol Another Meeting Will be Held in Court House

## TO CATCH UP WITH DOCKET SO DECIDED THE INSTITUTE

How They Will Proceed and Where They Will Work. Committee Will See County Commissioners About Appropriation.

For several years there has been great complaint arising from litigants dissatisfied because they could not get matters through the Supreme Court. That tribunal was nearly four years behind with civil cases, and as a consequence rightful claimants were many times deprived of a verdict until they were dead or the issues involved had become too old to be of interest. The most trivial cases were in other instances carried up to prevent final adjudication until the appellants accomplished his or her purposes or deprived the other side of their rights in the premises for all time.

Under these circumstances the law-making power of the State provided for the appointment of three commissioners to assist the justices in disposing of the accumulated docket. The law became effective August 1st, and the appointments were then made, accepted and announced in the newspapers.

The appointees, however, did not receive their commissions and enter upon their duties until the 9th inst., Monday. The following appears on the docket of the Court:

"By virtue of the authority vested in this Court by the provisions of Chapter 4905, Laws of Florida, approved May 8th, 1901, the Court has selected, and does hereby select and call to its assistance the three following named residents and citizens of Florida to act as Court Commissioners, viz.: William H. Hocker, of Ocala, Florida; Evelyn C. Maxwell, of Pensacola, Florida, and James F. Glen, of Tampa, Florida; to render such assistance to the Court and perform such duties as may be assigned to them from time to time by the Court, such selection and appointment to take effect on and from this date. It is further ordered that this order shall be entered upon the minutes of this Court."

The room which these Commissioners will occupy is that adjoining the main office of the Court, on the left entering, and that recently occupied by Chief Justice Taylor, which was made vacant by Judge Taylor moving into Justice Mabry's office.

The cases with which the Commissioners will deal, at first, will be those which have been on the Court docket for some length of time, and, except in a few instances, had been continued owing to the death or disqualification of some member of the Court. They will take these cases in their order and each member of the commission pass upon them according to his judgment. The commission will have no chairman, that is, each will have equal voice with the others, and all thus be upon the same footing. Their final opinions will be handed with each case into the Court, which will examine them and render a final judgment.

These Commissioners are all able gentlemen, well known throughout Florida for their integrity, industry and ability, and their work will no doubt result in soon bringing the Court up with its docket.

## NEW CORPORATIONS.

Articles of incorporation have been issued by the Secretary of State to the following concerns:

The Marianna Telephone Exchange, with headquarters at Marianna, and a capital stock of \$3,000, divided into shares of \$10 each. W. H. Milton, Jr., is president; J. Walter Kehoe, vice-president, and R. J. Boone secretary and treasurer. These gentlemen also compose the Board of Directors.

The Noreiga-Franquix Company, of Tampa. The capital stock of this company is \$5,000, and its purpose is to manufacture cigars, cheroots, cigarettes and in fact all tobacco products. A. Moreiga is president; Jose Franquix vice-president, and F. W. Barker secretary-treasurer. These gentlemen together with C. M. Knott and Robert McNamee, compose the Board of Directors.

## EXAMINATION OF TEACHERS.

The meeting of the Board of Examiners for Teachers' Certificates is in session this week. The board consists of Prof. H. W. Demilly, principal of the Leon Academy; Prof. J. F. Montgomery, assistant to Prof. Demilly, and Mrs. C. W. Bannerman, who takes Miss Brevard's place. These are all teachers in the same school. Each paper is numbered and these numbers correspond to the names of the persons owning the papers. The Board, however, is unacquainted except by number with the person to whom the papers they are examining belong, so that no partiality can be shown. The board will be in session probably for the remainder of the week.

## TWO PROMINENT PEOPLE WED.

Prof. B. K. Emerson, State Geologist of the State of Massachusetts, was married Wednesday, September 4, to Miss Anna H. Seeley, daughter of the late Prof. J. H. Seeley. The local editor of the Tallahasseean regrets his inability to accept an invitation to be present at the happy event.

## TO DISCUSS FAIR

Another Meeting Will be Held in Court House

## SO DECIDED THE INSTITUTE

Committee Will See County Commissioners About Appropriation.

The meeting to discuss the importance of Leon county's sending an exhibit to the coming State fair, at Jacksonville, was held at the Court House, Saturday morning, at 11 o'clock. A number of prominent farmers and others were in attendance, and the fact that nearly all of the prominent men in the city had been approached in the matter, and had expressed their opinion that Leon county should, by all means make an exhibition, testified to the general feelings of the community.

The prominent men of Tallahassee, if not generally throughout the county, may be divided into two classes, the farmers and the business men. The interests of each are so intimately joined with those of all that it would be hard for one class to accomplish much without the help or at least the co-operation of the other class. It is generally supposed that the present State fair will be almost entirely a farmers' fair, and it will no doubt be so, yet the reporter took the pains to call upon a large number of the representative merchants of this city, state the object of the meeting held in the Court House, and ask them their opinion as to the advisability of Leon county having an exhibit. Everyone agreed was of the opinion that she should be represented. It was, therefore, easy to get at the general opinion at least, of the people of Tallahassee and near neighborhood when the meeting was called last Saturday.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. John P. Roberts, president of the Leon County Farmers' Institute, who stated that the object of the meeting was to talk over the matter in a friendly manner and appoint a committee who should confer with the State Fair Committee and agitate the matter among the farmers of the city and county, trying to interest everybody who could in any way aid them into action to make a good exhibit.

Florida's newly-elected state chemist, Capt. R. E. Rose, who seemed to have given the subject a good deal of attention, spoke at some length as to the crops and possibilities of Leon county. Besides repeating much that was reported in our last week's issue, he also made some interesting statements regarding crops in general raised in this State, and about those which in particular he thought Leon county could raise as well if not better than any of the other counties.

He mentioned specially the raising of sugar cane and cassava, and said that hitherto people had regarded Louisiana as the great sugar cane State, but that in reality Florida could raise as good cane, make as good syrup and also sugar; as any other country or State. He contrasted Florida with Cuba, and showed that Florida, and even Leon county, could make its own granulated sugar at a less expense, when the machinery was once introduced, than either Louisiana or Cuba. Yes, said one gentleman, sugar cane beats cotton in Florida.

The cassava industry, Mr. Rose said, was also a growing industry in Florida. The root of the plant grew irregularly, in long stout runners, and sometimes deep in the ground, wherever it could find cracks or crannies to grow in, and was gathered for the starch. The dry root will average about 90 per cent. of starch. It is a good food, both for man and beast. The top of the plant is pulled off and saved for seed, while the roots are pulled up and dried. The soil in Leon county does not require the amount of fertilizer that it does in the more Southern portions of the State. It is a rich soil and not so sandy as is the latter. Mr. Rose said that the chemical tests of fertilizers now in progress would soon show what ones were best for the different counties of the State, and the different soils. Experiments were also being made with the different kinds of fertilizers directly upon different soils. The soils of Leon county needed less manuring than so many of the others that it gave her an advantage.

Mr. E. N. Mabry, one of our best-known county farmers, living in the Ninth District, on Lake Jackson, also entered enthusiastically into the subject, and said that he intended to send exhibits of fruits, cattle, hay, cotton, sugar cane and corn to the fair. He was especially anxious that Mr. Roberts should be the man to have entire charge of the practical management of the matter, and thought that by his aid with some one to assist him perhaps, that there would be no doubt but that everything would go as it should.

It was stated by another gentleman that Gadsden county was going to make an exhibition, and he thought that if she could try for one of the county prizes, Leon could.

Mr. Roberts then gave a great deal of valuable information, as did also Capt. Rose, about many things connected with the State fair that would also apply to the counties. The railroad has offered to return all exhibits from the fair free of cost, provided the freight was paid one way; this was to prevent the sale of goods

especially to parties out of the State. If guarantees were furnished that goods were to be taken to the fair and returned to their destination without being sold, the railroads would carry them free.

Following will be found the official proceedings of the meeting:

Tallahassee, Fla., Sept. 6. Pursuant to notice given by the president a meeting of the Leon county Farmers' Institute was held this date, 11 o'clock a. m., in the Court House, Hon. John P. Roberts, President, presiding.

The secretary being absent, J. C. Trice was requested to act in that capacity.

After short talks by Capt. Rose, Messrs. Norman Johnson and E. N. Mabry, a motion prevailed that the chairman appoint a committee of one to act with himself in seeing the County Commissioners in the interest of an appropriation for the State fair, at Jacksonville. Mr. H. C. Billingsley was appointed to act in this capacity.

After some further discussion, the meeting took a recess until Saturday, the 21st inst., at which time it was urged that the County Commissioners and the people generally throughout the county be requested to meet with the institute for the purpose of taking further action toward securing an exhibit at the fair.

The meeting adjourned.

J. P. ROBERTS, Chairman.

JOHN C. TRICE, Acting Secretary.

## DEATH OF T. J. ROBERTS.

One of Leon's Most Prominent Citizens is No More.

The death of Mr. T. J. Roberts, which took place last Friday night, the 6th inst., was, though not much of a surprise, nevertheless a considerable shock to his many friends and acquaintances in this city. He also had a host of friends scattered throughout this State and many States, who will remember him well and be deeply pained at his loss.

Mr. Roberts had, from a very early age, been identified with Leon county and Tallahassee business circles. He began business in this county as a young man upon a large plantation, and with only a few thousand of dollars which he soon augmented to more than double the original amount. He experimented with a number of articles, and always managed to come out even or pretty nearly so, if he did not make money; at least as much as he had anticipated. A prominent citizen in mentioning his qualities, relates that he was very quick to catch a point, repair a loss, etc., and cites an instance of how Mr. Roberts was visiting in Norfolk, Va., with his wife, when the news was telegraphed him of the loss by fire of his cotton gin and building, and that within three weeks from the time he received the news he had erected another, all complete, although the most important parts of the machinery were obliged to be sent to Charleston to be duplicated.

Mr. Roberts engaged in several business enterprises in this city, in one of which he lost some money. This so affected his health that for several years before his death he had retired from active business, but he could not remain inactive long, and soon began once again, having accumulated at the time of his death, it is supposed, considerable of this world's goods.

Mr. Roberts was married twice, both of his wives being natives of this country. By his first wife he had three children: Phil, the eldest, who died five or six years ago; Willie, who married and is living on the old plantation and a daughter, Miss Lella, who is still unmarried. Some twenty years ago he married the wife who survives him.

He leaves a fine house and lot on the front corner of McCarthy and Adams street, called "the Columns," on account of the very large brick columns in front of it, and a very large plantation at Robertsville.

The funeral took place Saturday morning, September 7th, at 11 o'clock a. m., the body being buried at his old home, some seven or eight miles out in the country. The funeral services were conducted at the residence in this city by the Masonic order, of which he was an old and very highly esteemed member.

## LIKES FRESH AIR.

Perhaps the ruddy cheeks and excellent health of Florida's present chief executive is due to his love of fresh air as much as anything else. When not engaged with the affairs of State or the routine work of his office he is usually seen out in the open air, though his office is well ventilated and perhaps one of the coolest in the capitol.

When there is plenty of leisure he is usually seen behind a double team, driving leisurely along one of another of the many shady highways leading out from Tallahassee, accompanied by Mrs. Jennings, their little son and perhaps one or two friends. Then when time is not so plentiful and a consultation is on with one of the many prominent people who come to the capital to see him, it often takes place on the verandas of the capitol or under some of the large oaks in the grounds.

## BROKE HIS LITTLE FINGER.

Joseph Shutan, a young son of Superintendent E. Shutan, of the El Provedo Cigar Factory, met with an accident last Monday morning, in the breaking of the little finger of his right hand while playing ball with some of his young associates. He was immediately taken to Mr. V. F. Baakcom's drug store, where the hand was pressed by Dr. Palmer, who hopes to have his patient restored again soon.

## WILL HUNT OIL IN FRANKLIN

Contract Closed to Sink a Well  
2,000 Feet Near Carrabelle

## CAPITALISTS ARE BACKING IT

And Have Already Given Order for Material to Work With.

Ex-Mayor O. H. Kelley, of Carrabelle, was at the capital a few days ago. He is always enthusiastic over the future of his town, which he founded nearly twenty years ago, twenty-five miles from a settlement, in a dense spruce pine forest, but he is bubbling all over with enthusiasm now.

Answering a question as to the cause for all this, he exhibited to the editor of the Tallahasseean a letter from a gentleman with whom he had recently contracted to bore for oil on his lands. The letter stated that the contract had been submitted to the gentleman's partner, and accepted by him.

It further authorized Mr. Kelley to go ahead and have lumber cut to build the derrick, and stated that machinery would be shipped as once for commencing work.

The well is to be bored 2,000 feet, unless, of course, a "gusher" is struck nearer the surface. Mr. Kelley thinks that if oil exists in this section of country they stand a pretty good chance of striking it. The other parties must think so, too, for they are old oil men, have means, and are putting a good pile of money into this thing with no hopes of reward if oil is not struck.

## EXEMPT FROM TAXATION.

Comptroller Croom has mailed out to tax assessors and all others interested, the following circular letter:

"The law provides that all property of the State shall be exempt from taxation, and that where land is sold to the State for unpaid taxes the title thereto shall, at the expiration of the time for redemption vest in the State without the issuing of any tax deed."

"Notwithstanding the fact that these provisions of the law are clear and explicit, the tax assessors and collectors have in many instances assessed and sold land which had already been once sold to the State, thereby causing great expense to the State for advertising, commissions, etc., which should never have been incurred. This practice must be discontinued, and the law strictly adhered to."

"Lists of all lands acquired by the State under sales for unpaid taxes are now on file in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, and all tax sale certificates covering said lands will be on file in said office by September 2, 1901, so that you can ascertain at any time the description of the lands belonging to the State."

"In order that there may be no misunderstanding as to the course that will be pursued at this office, you are notified that the cost of advertising, commissions to assessors and collectors, and fees to collectors for tax certificates will not be paid in any case when the land assessed, advertised or sold shall be the property of the State, or shall have been sold to the State the year previously and not redeemed, either at the time of the assessment, advertisement or sale."

## ROSH HASHONAH.

Rosh Hashonah, the Jewish New Year, will begin at 6 o'clock to-morrow night and will be observed with the usual ceremonies in this city.

The day is not a holiday so much as a holy day. It is a time of solemn and earnest prayer, of retrospection and self-review. It is called variously the Day of Memorial, the Day of Judgment and the Day of the Blowing of the Trumpet. It has received this last title on account of its peculiar service, the blowing of the shofar, or ram's horn.

The day will be observed in 1901 with the same idealism which characterized it in the most ancient days. Eight days after Rosh Hashonah, comes Yom Kippur, or the Day of Atonement. This will be on Monday, September 23. This is the most solemn religious festival in the Jewish calendar, and it will be a day of fasting and abstinence from toil of every description.

Then follows the Feast of Succoth and of the Tabernacles, all of which religious events are strictly kept by the Hebrews, and the festivals are all largely attended.

## NEW STREET LIGHT.

The new "Boulevard" lamp furnished and put in place by the Tallahassee Gas Company, arrived last Saturday and was put up the same day. It is placed in the center of the street at the intersection of Monroe and Clinton streets, and is supposed to be an experiment. It is claimed that while the cost is the same as that of the other lamps, and it sets on that of the same posts, its illuminating powers are four times greater than those of the ordinary present gas lamps. Its powers will be fully put to the test and watched with interest. If it is a success others will perhaps be placed elsewhere in the city.