

# NEWPORT DAILY INDEPENDENT.

VOLUME IV.

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NUMBER 148.

## THREE WORKMEN HURLED TO DEATH.

Temporary Work on Bridge Over  
Crooked Creek Gives Way,  
Throwing Workmen  
Thirty Feet Below  
to Awful Death.

The story of an awful accident related by many witnesses the tragedy in the inquest hearing Sunday afternoon before Justice Smith at the undertaking rooms of R. F. Drummond, where a jury consisting of W. B. Hurvey, Chas. Mason, A. B. Drummond, W. D. Sprigg, T. M. Bell, W. J. Magoffin, L. F. Young, Sam Dorr, A. J. Stevens, G. C. Martin, J. F. Hoofman and C. W. Beard heard the evidence of the case and returned the following verdict:

### DO NOT FIX THE BLAME.

"We, the jury, find that the said J. W. Chitwood, A. Reese and Frank Gibbons came to their death on the 15th day of October, 1904, while employed as laborers in the erection of a bridge on Crooked creek, about five miles from Yellville in the state of Arkansas, and that their deaths were caused by the falling of a girder which they were assisting in placing in position on the bridge, and that the accident occurred by reason of the false work upon which they were working being faulty in its construction."

### STORY OF DISASTER.

The witnesses before the acting coroner's jury were Thos. Madden, foreman of the Phoenix Bridge Company, who had in charge the construction of the bridge; Herman Cochran, timekeeper; O. L. Bunker, L. B. McGuire and John F. Wilson, fellow workmen.

The substance of their story of the accident is as follows:

The men were at work about 10 o'clock Saturday morning on the second crossing over Crooked creek of the White river line, and were removing girders from a flat car by means of a hoisting bent, which was resting on a bent of false work. One girder was swinging clear of the car in the rigging used in the lifter girder, when the bent of false work either broke or kicked out from under the hoisting bent, allowing this and the girder to fall 25 or 30 feet to the creek bed below. The men killed were on the car and were thrown to the ground with the girder. One witness, L. B. McGuire, testified that he saved himself by jumping from the car to the track when the cracking of the false work began, but that the other men had no chance of escape.

Frank Gibbons was found dead, his neck being broken in the fall and his right arm badly bruised.

J. W. Chitwood of Estill Springs, Tenn., died on the way to Cotter, his head being split wide open, and the gray matter falling out. His remains were shipped to his home Sunday night.

A. Reese of West Point, Ky., had his right thigh broken, his right arm and left knee badly bruised, and died after reaching Cotter. His remains were also shipped home Sunday night.

W. P. McKelly and J. W. Brennon were also injured seriously, and were brought to Newport that night and sent to the hospital in St. Louis.

## WOMAN'S CLUB MEETING.

The Woman's Club met with

Mrs. C. R. Hite, Friday, October 14, at 3 o'clock p. m. Owing to the absence from the city of some members, and illness of others, the attendance was not large, but much interest was manifested.

After routine business, Mrs. Geo. Sink gave in beautiful expression an instrumental solo, "Melody in F," Mrs. C. R. Hite's paper on "Failures," was splendidly written, showing that she had studied her subject thoroughly. Mrs. Geo. Sink gave a second piano selection, by invitation.

A debate, "Club Life versus Sociability," was the next number on the program; Mesdames Willis and Sink taking the affirmative, and Mesdames Billingsley and Johnson the negative. The subject was argued in a genuinely intelligent manner, some excellent points being made by both sides, but unquestionably, the orator of the day was Mrs. Willis.

Mrs. R. T. Robertson concluded the program by reading a beautiful and appropriate selection from Jean Ingelow.

It was a delightful afternoon, and a most happy beginning for the year 1904-5.

REPORTER.

## FIELD TO BUY

### ONE OF BIG SHOWS.

Closing a Deal For Purchase of  
Forepaugh & Sells Bros.

Circus.

Mobile, Ala., October 16.—Al. G. Field, the well known minstrel man, corroborated tonight the report that he is about to close a deal for the entire Forepaugh & Sells show. He said that had it not been for the unexpected death of Peter Sells, the deal would have been closed long ago. The name of the show will remain unchanged. The contract reads that delivery is to be made at winter quarters in Columbus, Ohio, November 23. Associated with him as part owners in the enterprise, will be Eli West and Owen M. Evans, of Columbus, Ohio, and Charles S. Wood, of North Adams, Mass.

## SUPREME COURT

### POSTPONES DECREES.

In the petition of R. T. Simmons et al., versus F. D. Fulkerson, for a mandamus in the appeal cases against J. E. Doherty and Henry Bordwell to prevent their removal to the First ward, the Supreme Court on Saturday postponed giving a decree for another week.

Such action was also taken in the suit of J. E. Wilmsans et al., versus Henry Bordwell and the other licensed saloons on the appeal from the Jackson circuit court.

## MCDONALD STOCK

### COMPANY COMING.

The McDonald Stock Company will commence a three nights' engagement at the opera house Oct. 20 in a line of magnificent plays, comprising drama, dancing, interspersed with up-to-date specialties. Thursday night, the beautiful 4-act comedy drama entitled "A Vagabond's Honor." The best show of the season at popular prices, 15c, 25c, 35c. Reserved seats on sale at usual place.

We have changed our terms from a credit to a cash basis. All goods must be paid for on delivery; otherwise returned. 36btf Respectfully, A. BOWIE.

## GOV. DAVIS ON

### NEGRO EQUALITY.

"None So Long as We Can Pull a Trigger and There Are Pistols Around."

Gov. Jeff Davis was one of the speakers at a Democratic rally down in Texas Wednesday, and he made one of the characteristic speeches for which he is noted.

His subject was "Parker vs. Roosevelt," and he denounced the defendant in the case roundly as "a monster." On the subject of racial relations, the Dallas News quotes him as follows:

"The only claim that Mr. Roosevelt has to distinction, is that he shot a Spaniard in the back at San Juan Hill. Then he took a negro home to dine with him. Is there a radical here. (One man held up his hand). Do you approve of that? You say he didn't do it? Well, you haven't sense enough to be a Democrat. Can you think of anything dirtier, or nastier than that—eating with a nigger? I would rather eat out of a trough with a hog than to eat with a nigger. I would rather drink pot liquor out of a pot with a hound pup than eat with a nigger. Suppose a nigger should go up to your daughter at church and say, 'Miss Alice, may I see you home?' You would shoot him as quick as a flash. I would, and I am governor of Arkansas. Suppose Booker T. Washington should walk up to Miss Roosevelt—a sweet, lovable girl, I know her well—and ask to walk home with her. What would that sweet girl do, her father having entertained Washington in his parlor, and having dined with him in his own home?"

"Let me tell you, we are not going to have any nigger equality down here as long as we can pull a trigger and there are shotguns and pistols lying around loose. And, gentlemen, I believe in the Providence of God; I believe that this calamity will be averted:

On the subject of pardons, Gov. Davis said:

"They say I am a pardoning governor. Well, I did grant 600 or 700 more this year. I have an idea that we put people in the penitentiary to reform them, and when a man is reformed he should be pardoned. I am proud to be called the pardoning governor of Arkansas. When I get to the great white throne, I am glad that I shall meet a lot of good old fathers and mothers that I have made happy."

Speaking of corporations he said:

"After hearing your governor and ex-governor speak today I have come to the conclusion that you are suffering in Texas from an overdose of corporate greed. The first year I was governor I raised the assessment of railroads \$5,500,000 and the railroads kicked. Next year I raised them \$12,000,000 more and the next year \$20,000,000 more. The governor, state treasurer and auditor constitute a board to assess railroads to Arkansas, and I am going to recommend that the assessment of all corporate property be made by that same board. The local assessor can assess the little fellow all right, but they take the buck ague when they go to assess the property of a big corporation. If you fellows (the legislature) are straight and honest, the corporate lobby will have to go out of business."

Read the Daily and Weekly Independent

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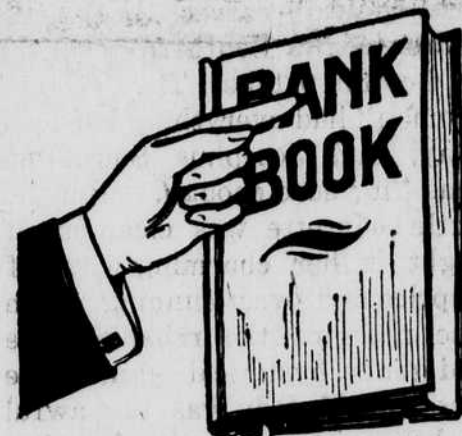
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