

A HERO WHO WAS MURDERED.

Shooting of James Miller By Sherman's Army.

A LUCID AND THRILLING ACCOUNT OF ONE OF THE MANY CRIMES OF THE GREAT INCENDIARY

To the Editor of The Sunday News: I have read with interest the articles of Mr. Ford and others in recent issues of The Sunday News, in reference to the shooting of James Miller by Sherman's army, in March, 1865, in retaliation for the killing of a Federal soldier by supposed bushwhackers. Mr. Miller lived near Jefferson, in Chesterfield County, S. C., and I knew his brother, the late Major John S. Miller, and many of his neighbors and friends, among them some of those who participated with him in the casting of lots. Some years ago a newspaper was placed in my hands by a son-in-law of James Miller, in which was an account of the shooting of Mr. Miller, purporting to have been written by an officer connected with the affair and present at his death. I have forgotten the name of the officer, and of the newspaper, which I think was published in Lancaster or Chesterfield, S. C., and reproduced the article from a Western paper. This paper was in my portfolio, which was mislaid, lost or stolen about two years ago.

EXCUSE FOR MILLER'S MURDER.

It is stated that the dead body of a Federal soldier, belonging to a Western cavalry regiment, I think from Michigan, was found where he had evidently been murdered by bushwhackers, that the Federal commander had determined to resort to retaliation to prevent such killings, and Gen. Francis P. Blair, who commanded the 17th army corps, issued orders for the casting of lots for one man to be put to death for the killing of the cavalryman aforesaid.

My informants did not know all who participated in the casting of lots, but among them were Mr. R. B. Clanton, now living in Chesterfield County, Mr. Robert Griffith and others who knew James Miller. I have talked with and corresponded with others about the cruel tragedy, and from them and the account by the Federal officer before mentioned my information was obtained.

DRAWING LOTS TO DIE.

One or more of the participants said it came as a great surprise to all who were made to cast lots, and one of them declared that he never before or after found it such a task to stretch forth his right hand to draw a little piece of paper out of a hat. James Miller drew the fatal lot. He was a man between forty-five and fifty years of age and had been captured a day or two before some distance west of Cheraw, while on his way home on furlough from Florence, S. C., where he had been engaged in guarding prisoners. He protested that, while he sympathized with his State in her struggle, and had given of his means for the support of the Cause, he was over age for active service, and had not fired a gun in the war. But he was told that the order was imperative. He begged to be allowed to communicate with his wife and children, but this privilege was denied him. He then asked to confer with such of his neighbors and friends as were captives with himself. To those he gave directions for his wife, asking that she be told he was not coming

home, and advising her about his farm and about the children, just as if he were going off on a journey to be absent for a time.

MILLER'S LAST REQUESTS.

He then made some requests of those who were about to shoot him. He asked, in the first place, that he be not bound either hand or foot, saying he was not going to run, that he was prepared, and not afraid to die. He then asked that he be not blindfolded, saying he wished to look into the eyes of those who were to shoot him. And lastly, he begged that he be not shot in the face, declaring that God had given him his face, and that in all his life he had never done anything of which he was ashamed. He was marched off a short distance, the firing squad drawn up, the guns discharged as one and James Miller lay dead, as much a hero as if he had died at cannon's mouth at Gettysburg, in the charge up Snodgrass Hill at Chickamauga, or at the bloody angle at Spotsylvania.

"Don't shoot me in the face, for God gave me that, and in all my life I have done nothing to be ashamed of."

What a sentiment, what a model!

MILLER'S HUMBLE GRAVE.

At Five Forks' Methodist Church, in Chesterfield County, on the road from Lancaster to Chesterfield Court House, and half way between the two, is the little mound that marks the last resting place of James Miller. I have passed there a few times, but never without dismounting and going softly with uncovered head to the spot and recalling the manner and cause of his death. Chesterfield County has produced some of the great men of South Carolina, but she never gave birth to a purer patriot or more unostentatiously brave man than James Miller.

HOW A NEGRO SERVED HIS MASTER.

But the Federal cavalryman, for whose killing Mr. Miller was shot, was not killed by a Confederate or bushwhacker at all. Mr. Gilliam Sowell, of Kershaw County, owned a negro man named Ephraim, and entrusted him to hide his horses and mules from the enemy while Sherman's army was passing and he was found in Lynch's Creek Swamp by a soldier, who seized them and made the negro go with him. After they had gone some distance the sun came out, the first time in quite a while, the trooper said he was very tired and sleepy and suggested that he would lay down

and take a nap, if the negro would keep watch for him, and arouse him if anyone approached. He was soon asleep, and Ephraim, not relishing that manner of appropriating his master's property proceeded to repossess it by killing the trooper with a lightwood knot. He carried his master's horses and mules, as well as the soldier's horse back into the swamp, and they were all rescued.

Mr. Sowell, Ephraim's owner, was the father of Mr. James M. Sowell, the well known supervisor of Kershaw County.

PATH OF THE AMERICAN ATTILA.

Sherman's march from Savannah to Raleigh and especially through South Carolina, was a belt of absolute desolation, forty miles wide, where blackened ruins and lone chimneys stood as silent witnesses to show where peace and plenty and happy homes had been. The inherent grit and self-reliance of the Southern character have reclaimed the desolate fields and largely made them blossom as the rose. The chimneys and blackened ruins may be forgotten by those who are to come after us, but the heroic death of James Miller and of others who perished in the spring of 1865, will be remembered.

Wm. D. Trantham.
Camden, S. C., June 1, 1905.

Bridges to Let.

I will let out a contract to build a new bridge over Twelve Mile creek on the Steele Creek road, near Osceola, to the lowest responsible bidder on Tuesday, the 6th day of June, 1905, at 10 o'clock a. m. Also one to build a new or repair the old one over Six Mile creek, nearby, the same day, just after I get through with the above one.

Also one over Bear Creek on the Potter road, near Mr. Russell Barton's on Friday the 9th following at 9 o'clock a. m. The specifications of all to be made known at time of letting, reserving the right to reject any and all bids.

M. C. Gardner,
Co Supervisor.

May 15, 1905.
—Pay for The Ledger.

Love may laugh at locksmith, but it invariably frowns on the furniture installment collector.

Nearly every sort of villainy is associated with gravity and grimness.

Look at the humorist, for example.

It sometimes happens that when a girl rejects a young man's proposal he celebrates his lucky escape by getting full.

About the only reason a woman has for marrying a man is—because.

Mothers can safely give Foley's Honey and Tar to their children for coughs and colds, for it contains no opiates or other poisons. Sold by Funderburk Pharmacy.

SHOES

We are expecting a call from you. We now have a complete line of Tan and White Canvas Ribbon Ties, just the thing for summer any price from \$1.00 up. We call special attention to our High Grade line of DBESSY low cuts. Edwin Clapp for men. France for women.

CHERRY & CO.

Go to the LANCASTER MARBLE AND GRANITE WORKS, For Good Work and Low Prices. **A. J. McNinch,** LANCASTER, S. C.

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CRAWFORD & BROWN,
Physicians and Surgeons,
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Treatment of the eye, nose and throat a specialty.
Calls promptly answered day or night. Office over Crawford Bros Drug Store.
Phones: Office, No 178; Residences Nos. 11 and 36.

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THE LEDGER (twice a week) and the ATLANTA JOURNAL (twice a week) one year for \$1.75

THE LEDGER (twice a week) and THE CHARLES TON NEWS and COURIER (twice a week) one year for \$1.75

THE LEDGER and The SOUTHERN CULTIVATOR one year for \$1.75

THE LEDGER, The ATLANTA JOURNAL and SOUTHERN CULTIVATOR, all three one year for \$2.00

THE LEDGER (twice a week) and The ATLANTA CONSTITUTION (three times a week) one year for \$2.00

THE LEDGER (twice a week) and The NEW YORK WORLD (three times a week) one year for \$2.00

THE LEDGER, ATLANTA JOURNAL and HOME and FARM, one year for \$2.00

Positively Cannot Send on Credit.

T. S. CARTER,
Pub. Ledger.

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Castoria is a harmless substitute for Castor Oil, Paregoric, Drops and Soothing Syrups. It is Pleasant. It contains neither Opium, Morphine nor other Narcotic substance. Its age is its guarantee. It destroys Worms and allays Feverishness. It cures Diarrhea and Wind Colic. It relieves Teething Troubles, cures Constipation and Flatulency. It assimilates the Food, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, giving healthy and natural sleep. The Children's Panacea—The Mother's Friend.

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Dr. R. G. Elliott,

Lancaster, S. C.
Reside telephone No 187. Office, Davis Building, corner Main and Dunlap streets; phone No 72.
Will practice in both town and county of Lancaster. Allocated, either day or night, will receive prompt attention.
Jan. 10, 1905.—1f.

NOTICE.

The board of county commissioners in their meeting Monday passed a resolution to the effect that hereafter no magistrate in Lancaster county will be paid for holding an inquest unless it is impossible to get the coroner, and then the magistrate must comply with the law by securing affidavits from three citizens of the immediate community that it is important that an inquest be held in the particular case under consideration.
M. C. Gardner,
County Supervisor.

Notice.

My regular office days will be Saturdays and first Mondays. All other days you will find me at my office near L & C depot. Will keep school books at both offices and will be glad to wait on you any day in the week.
W. M. Moore,
Co. Supt. of Education.

MONEY TO LOAN

I have made arrangements with lenders of money in New York City, with whom I am able to negotiate loans secured by first mortgage on improved cotton farms, at 7 per cent. interest, repayable in annual installments of five years. No brokerage or commission charged. Only a reasonable charge for abstract of title.
R. E. WYLLIE,
Attorney at Law.

Winthrop College Scholarship and Entrance Examination.

The examination for the award of vacant scholarships in Winthrop College and for the admission of new students will be held at the county court house on Friday, July 7th at 9 a. m. Applicants must not be less than fifteen years of age. When scholarships are vacated after July 7th, they will be awarded to those making the highest average at this examination provided they meet the conditions governing the award. Applicants for scholarships should write to President Johnson before the examination for scholarship examination blanks. Scholarships are worth \$100 and free tuition. The next session will open September 20, 1905. For further information and catalogue address:
Pres. D. B. Johnson,
Rock Hill, S. C.

Notice to the Public

I will hold all inquests in the county. Phone to my residence at Pleasant Hill for me when needed.
J. Montgomery Caskey,
opt. 20—1f

J. E. RUTLEDGE, Dentist,

Lancaster, S. C.

Working on credit doesn't pay, and my terms from this time henceforth are strictly cash.

Reasonable Prices.
Gold Filling \$1.50
Amalgam Filling 75 cts.
Cement Filling 75 ct

RUBBER PLATE,
Full upper set of teeth \$12.00
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These prices are strictly for cash. No work done except for cash or good security.

J. E. RUTLEDGE, Dentist.

J. HARRY FOSTER,
Attorney at Law,
LANCASTER, S. C.
Collection a specialty.

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YOU need a practical business education. We guarantee satisfaction. Courses of study endorsed as being the most practical they have in superior instruction given in first class. No other business college offers better advantages. Enter now and prepare for a lucrative position. Our graduates are in demand. Let us assist you. We have assisted hundreds—they are in positions. We offer special rates.
Macon's S. C. Business College
Columbia, S. C.
Aug. 29, 1904.—1f.

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FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE is a Guaranteed Remedy

or money refunded. Contains remedies recognized by eminent physicians as the best for Kidney and Bladder troubles.
PRICE 50c. and \$1.00.

LANCASTER AND CHESTER RAILWAY

(Schedule in effect May 18, 1905.
(Daily except Sundays.)
WESTBOUND
Lv Lancaster, 6:30 a. m. 8:45 p. m.
Lv Fort Lawn, 6:40 a. m. 4:15 p. m.
Lv Bassonville, 6:50 a. m. 4:30 p. m.
Lv Rhenburg, 7:05 a. m. 4:45 p. m.
Ar Chester, 7:30 a. m. 5:15 p. m.
Ar Charlotte, So R. 9:55 a. m. 7:00 p. m.
Ar Columbia, So R. 10:15 a. m.
EASTBOUND
Lv Columbia, So R. 6:05 a. m. 3:10 p. m.
Lv Charlotte, So R. 6:05 a. m. 6:00 p. m.
Lv Chester, 9:00 a. m. 8:15 p. m.
Lv Rhenburg, 9:40 a. m. 8:30 p. m.
Lv Bassonville, 9:50 a. m. 8:45 p. m.
Lv Fort Lawn, 10:00 a. m. 8:50 p. m.
Ar Lancaster, 10:30 a. m. 9:15 p. m.
CONNECTIONS.
Chester—Southern, eastward and Carolina & North-western railways.
Lancaster—Southern Railway.
A. P. MCLURE, Asst Traffic mgr
F. ROY SPRINGS,
Pres. and Traffic Manager.

Tired Nervous

When you feel languid, tired, nervous and irritable, your vitality is low—your supply of nerve energy exhausted, and your system running down for lack of power.

The organs of the body are working poorly, or not at all, and you are not getting the nourishment needed. This soon impoverishes the blood and instead of throwing off the impurities, distributes it all through the body. This brings disease and misery.

Feed the nerves with Dr. Miles' Nervine, a nerve food, a nerve medicine, that nourishes and strengthens the nerves, and see how quickly you will get strong and vigorous.

"My wife suffered with nervousness previous to a recent attack of typhoid fever, but after her recovery from the fever, she was much worse, and could hardly control herself being exceedingly nervous when the least excited. She was very restless at night, and never had a good night's rest. She also suffered much from nervous headache. Dr. Miles' Nervine was recommended by a friend. After the first three doses she had a good night's rest, and at the end of the first week's treatment she was wonderfully improved. Continued use of Nervine has completed her entire cure."

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Dr. Miles' Nervine is sold by your druggist, who will guarantee that the first bottle will benefit. If it fails, he will refund your money.
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