

SUNDAY NIGHT TRAGEDY AT MILL VILLAGE.

Young Stanley Hamilton Shoots Elihu Blackwell to Death. Tragedy the Result of an Altercation Over Hamilton's Attention to a Young Lady. Coroner's Jury Says Justifiable Homicide.

The mill village was the scene of another tragedy Sunday night when young Stanley Hamilton shot and almost instantly killed Elihu Blackwell, a young white man about 28 years of age. The killing followed an altercation between the principals over the attention Hamilton was paying to a young lady of the mill village.

Hamilton is but 18 years of age and is the son of Ira Hamilton who owns a valuable farm near the Dillon mill village. He wore knee pants last year and is scarcely more than a boy. The victim of the tragedy was 28 years old, married and the father of three small children.

The testimony at the coroner's inquest held Monday afternoon tended to show that young Hamilton was returning from the home of the young lady in question where he had been a visitor that evening. He had been paying the young lady some attention and escorted her from church Sunday afternoon. There is another young man in the mill village by the name of Dave Blanton who had been paying the young lady some attention also. Blanton is a kinsman of the dead man and there had been a previous difficulty between Hamilton and Blanton over the affections of the young lady. Sunday night when Hamilton was returning home he was accosted by Blanton. Some words were exchanged but the differences between the two young men were settled without a difficulty. Just about this time Blackwell came up and sought a quarrel with Hamilton in defence of his kinsman, Blanton. There was much cursing and when young Hamilton moved off into the middle of the street Blackwell began to throw rocks at him. At this point L. Baker, a blacksmith, called his pistol as was shown by the awarding of prizes, Mr. Blackwell turned around on the street about a yard when he fell upon his back, pulled his pistol and fired several shots in the direction of Hamilton. Then he staggered back to the spot where he had been shot and died. He told some companions he was mortally wounded and was dying but he made no statement concerning the difficulty.

The weapon used was a 22 calibre pistol and death resulted within 30 minutes after the shooting. Blackwell was a son of the old man Blackwell who was killed by train near Maple Swamp trestle several years ago. He has several sisters living on the mill village. The family moved here from North Carolina. He was not an employee of the mill, but worked at odd jobs around town.

Hamilton lives with his father who is known as a peaceable, hard-working, industrious boy. Agitated by the jury returned a verdict of justifiable homicide.

Several local business men's bodies were ready to become interferences of have-geet and subscribe several times. thought that the money will be raised \$1.50 a year.

FORGED JEFF DAVIS' IRONS.

Blacksmith Tells Tale of Confederacy's President.

Claiming that he made the shackles with which President Jefferson Davis of the Confederacy was ironed while a prisoner in Fort Monroe, Henry Charles Arnold, the village blacksmith of Granville Center, near here, this week told a newspaper man the interesting story. He was a blacksmith then, and has followed his trade ever since, and he vividly remembers his experiences with the noted prisoner, says a Wilkesbarre special to the Richmond Times-Dispatch.

He contradicts the story that Davis submitted to the irons meekly, and tells how force had to be used to get them on. Said he:

"I am the son of William Arnold, and was born in New London county, Conn., on July 4 (a singular date), in the year 1840. When the war broke out I did not hesitate in responding to the call to arms, and I became stationed at Fort Monroe, where I worked as a blacksmith. Well I remember, toward the close of 1865, when President Johnson issued a statement in which he offered a reward of \$100,000 for the capture of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States, and it was certainly enjoyable news to the occupants of the fort when it was announced that Mr. Davis had been captured by Col. Pitchard of the Fourth Michigan cavalry at Mitchelville, Ga., where he was in the disguise of a woman and was going to a spring for a pail of water. The dress he wore was too short, with the result that his identity was easily discovered."

Leading up to the arrival of Mr. Davis at Fort Monroe, the blacksmith said: "Gen. Nelson Miles was then in charge in Washington and it was he who issued the orders that shackles should be placed about the ankles of the Confederate president, and it was Capt. Tidlaw who ordered me to make them. Capt. Tidlaw was of the Third Pennsylvania heavy artillery, which never took part in an active battle."

"As the captain and myself entered the room where Mr. Davis was confined the latter was lying upon an iron bed. He was reading an Episcopal prayer book. Seeing the shackles in my hand, Mr. Davis said:

"My God, your're not going to iron me?" To which Capt. Tidlaw replied: "Yes it is orders from Washington."

"Mr. Davis said: Such is unnecessary, for you have everything guarded, even the windows."

"But the captain replied that such were the orders from Washington. Mr. Davis got up from his bed. He spoke of the disgrace he would experience if the irons were placed on him."

"Telegraph to Washington and see if the orders were not a mistake," said Mr. Davis.

"Capt. Tidlaw, turning to me and said: "Go on with your work."

"I got down on my knees and started to place the shackles, but Mr. Davis resisted. Several moments passed, during which the president said that it was unlawful to place a man in irons. I told him to lie down on the floor, and he turned to me and remarked: "Who made you spokesman?" At that instant several men were passing on the outside, and I told the captain to call them in, which he did, and in a few minutes Mr. Davis was lying on

NEW COUNTY ELECTION TO BE HELD DEC. 14.

News is Received in Dillon with Great Rejoicing. The Good News is Shouted through Trumpets and Citizens Express their Joy by Kindling Bon Fires and Sending off Fire Works.

The fifteen year's fight for a New County is about to end. The governor has ordered an election upon the question of forming a New County out of the upper portion of Marion for Tuesday, December 14th. This good news was flashed over the wires to Dillon Friday afternoon and there was a demonstration by the citizens seldom equalled in the history of the town. It has been a hard-fought fight and now that victory seems almost at hand enthusiasm runs high and "The New County" is the all-absorbing topic.

As announced briefly through The Herald last week the New County has won out on the question of territory. Prof. Colcock, who was appointed by the governor as referee in the matter when the question of territory arose, reported that he had found 501 (plus) square miles in the New County. This is a very narrow margin, but it shows enough territory to enable the New County to come within the constitutional limits and the governor has ordered the election for Dec. 14. The old county has conceded to the New County enough taxable property and population to comply with the constitution and the settlement of the area question removes the last obstacle in the way of the election.

It will be noted that Prof. Colcock says "501 square miles plus" which is taken to mean that the Old County may contain more than 501 square miles, but not

the floor, while I fastened the shackles about his ankles.

"Mr. Davis said: "You might as well shoot me as to put on those irons," but nevertheless they were soon on.

"About one week later Mr. Davis complained of being sick. Several physicians were called to attend him, but he declined the services of all with the exception of Dr. Craven, of New York, and the latter ordered the irons taken off, which was done by me. After the shackles were removed Mr. Davis was transferred to another building, where he was strongly guarded."

One of the men who often took Mr. Davis out for his daily exercise was Loren Leonard, now dead, husband of Sophia Leonard, who corroborated the story. Mr. Arnold said that after the war he accompanied Mr. Leonard to Granville Center where he has lived as the village blacksmith ever since.

Only a Possum.

On historic Maple near the incorporate limits, two young ladies from nearby towns were visiting at the home of a lady friend whose vine clad cottage nestled near by this densely shaded stream; whose rippling water in the days of long ago echoed many dark deeds where human gore stained the rich soil on which peace and brotherly love now reign supreme. Near the wee small hours when long since the low murmuring song of the crickets had brought sleep to the inmates of the home excepting Miss Les, her heart and thoughts were faraway with him to whom her busy pen was pouring out the richest treasures of her loving heart. The other visitor was sleeping the sleep that only the can know, and would now and then

any less. When he was making a test survey of the lines alleged to be short Prof. Colcock said he could not determine the exact number of square miles in the county without making a survey of the entire county, but that he could say whether or not Messrs. Hamby and Beatty had found enough territory to enable the New County to comply with the constitutional requirements.

When it was learned in Dillon Friday afternoon that the governor had ordered the election for Dec. 14 the joy of the people knew no bounds and the demonstration that followed and lasted until a very late hour manifested more eloquently than words than the enthusiasm of the Dillon people over the movement to establish a county of their own. The opponents of the movement have fought the New County inch by inch and thousands of dollars have been spent by both sides in the effort to win but in the matter of territory the New County has won a most decisive victory as those who know the situation well feel confident that the New County will prevail in the election to be held on the 14th.

In the event of a New County victory no time will be lost in the effort to get a bill before the next general assembly creating the New County and giving to the commissioners to be appointed by the governor authority to erect the public buildings and put the county machinery in motion.

lovely face suggested an enchanted listener to the mystic swells that floated out from the angelic choir in the realm of bliss far above her. Then without warning or premonition that a tragedy was on the eve of fulfillment the old Shanghai rooster and his extensive family waked up the silent sleepers with their piteous squalls for help. Like a knight errant of old the charming Miss Les, heroic soul that she is, forgot for the time the distant lover and with a lamp in one hand and an iron poker in the other she rushed to the rescue, with the intrepid Miss Pearl close at her heels. When the coop was reached, lo, and behold! a gigantic possum was in the act of murdering the hostess' speckled pullet—one that would have made President Taft lick his chops in unfeigned admiration. Without any hesitancy Miss Les lit onto him with well aimed blows and walloped the life out of him in short order. Like the great Caesar "She came, she saw she conquered" and the fair Miss Pearl's admiration was so profound that she patted her on the back and said "bully for you!" By this time the entire household had reached the battle field and the praises of the heroic slayer of the chicken thief was sung in unmeasured terms. Robert the young lad of the household lugged this trophy of a midnight hunt over to his neighbor, and two days after, Bill Blunt, an epicure of the first water, had a feast famous in our South land as the par excellence of good living—Possum and tater.

Frank Bethea, a very worthy colored man who worked on Mr. A. M. Bethea's place, died at McLeod's Infirmary last Saturday and the body was brought to Dillon Sunday. Bethea was suffering from uric acid poisoning and was taken to the Infirmary for an operation but he died before the operation could be performed.

Is Latta-Branch Railroad to be Discontinued?

Latta News:

You cannot help your neighbor without helping yourself, you cannot hurt your neighbor without hurting yourself. The Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Co. in fighting the town of Latta has publicly advertised for competition. If Dillon was to be fastened by the A. C. L. to build it up at the expense of Latta then the business world is not slow to see advantages to be gained by putting in another railroad to the happy, prosperous town of Dillon to share in the handling and hauling of its freight and passengers. Soon there is to be open a complete line from that thriving town of Dillon through the most prosperous section of the State of South Carolina via Clio and McColl, S. C., and Hamlet, N. C. There is also to be added to this line a mail car for the benefit of its patrons.

More than this, the railroad from Bennettsville to Brownsville is making every arrangement to build on to Latta to aid her in her benighted state and Latta should give all possible encouragement to this project and also all its financial aid possible, especially in giving a free right-of-way. This line and its extension on to Marion is the only hope and salvation of Latta, for the Latta-Branch railroad is going to be a thing of the past here-before long, or that is the opinion of one of the best business men I have heard talk.

It has already been discussed by the Post Office Department the advisability of putting Bingham and Mallory on a Rural Route from Latta and Dunbar on Rural Route from Clio. This would be much saving to the Government. 1st. it would save the entire contract of mail haul by the Latta Branch railroad, also the receipts at the 4th class Post Offices would be thrown into the presidential post offices, and the presidential post masters being salaried offices the Government would get the receipts, whereas, now the 4th class post masters get these receipts. This will do away with the mail entirely on the Latta Branch railroad—the Clio mail being carried from Dillon. Now with the McColl and Dillon road on one side and the Bennettsville and Brownsville road on the other side, and Brownsville, by building four more miles can cut off practically all the receipts from Mallory on the Latta Branch railroad, what use would there be for the Latta Branch railroad?

Now, these are business facts as talked to your correspondent by one of the best, up-to-date business men of the country.

If the Bennettsville and Brownsville road comes on to Latta, it looks like "good bye" to the Latta Branch railroad, and shall I say may Latta wish it God speed. If you are not going to help your neighbor get out and let some body else come in that will help.

Edd Riddle.

Miss David Recites.

The following from the Adair County (Kentucky) News will be of interest to Miss David's many Dillon friends:

"Miss Edna David, teacher of expression, and Miss Eliza Gibbs, who is the instructor in music, drew a large audience to the Lidsey-Wilson chapel last Saturday evening. An interesting program had been made out, and all who attended were well paid for 'climbing the hill.' As a reader, Miss David is easy and graceful, and an imitator she ranks with the best every night. What would you like me to do for it?" Doctor: "top playing bridge, madam."

REPORT OF GRAND JURY.

To The Honorable R. C. Watts, Presiding Judge.

We the Grand Jury of Marion county, beg leave to submit our final report:

We have acted upon all bills handed us by the Solicitor. We have also investigated all other matters that were brought before us that we deemed worthy of action. We examine the jail, the County Home, the convict camp (chaingang), the offices of the county, and wish to submit the following report:

JAIL.

We find the jail well kept; prisoners say they get plenty to eat. We recommend that the walls of the jail be calcimined and the wood work be painted where necessary. We also recommend the sale of the old jail property to the best advantage. This matter has been recommended before, but not carried out.

COURT-HOUSE.

We find the court-house seems in a dilapidated and unsanitary condition. We recommend that the board of county commissioners do proceed at once to have the walls of the entire court-house (including all offices on the lower floor) covered with a coat of calcimine or some hard wall finish that will brighten the walls, and have all the woodwork painted where necessary; have all the furniture in the court-house repainted and varnished, and a new carpet on the floor, and new furniture placed where necessary; and that the Clerk of Court keep the court-house locked except when court is being held.

COUNTY HOME.

We find the poor-house is well kept, lands well cultivated, and the houses are in good condition, except that the chimneys all need new backs and hearths, and a piazza to each house; which we recommend that the County Commissioners do at once.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

We find the roads in fair condition throughout the county, but the bridges are generally in a bad condition; and we recommend that the Supervisor notify the overseers in the various portions of the county to have this work done as soon as possible.

CHAINGANG.

The committee appointed to investigate the chaingang commend Mr. Martin, the County Supervisor, for good judgment and consideration displayed in his general management of the chaingang.

CLERK OF COURT.

We find the office of Clerk of Court kept in the most business like manner. We find the office entirely satisfactory for the transaction of the Clerk's business and records.

AUDITOR AND TREASURER.

We find these offices well kept. We have investigated these offices and find they are in perfect condition.

JUDGE OF PROBATE.

We find this office also well kept and the office building adequate to meet all its needs.

MAGISTRATES.

We have examined the books of the Magistrates. Two magistrates in the town of Marion, but with this exception there has not been a single magistrate in the county who has displayed to the grand jury his records or examination required by law. We present them for non performance of this duty (except Mr. S. L. Page who is violently sick.)

We present Mrs. Addie Cornelius and J. W. Beacham for living in adultery. Witnesses: C. V. Blackhart, Ulius Moore, G. G. Green, W. J. Foxworth, C. C. Davis, C. R. Moore and Charlie King.

We present John Bell and Joe Moore for high and aggravated battery. Witnesses: seasoned battery. Witnesses: has been well peppered, Mossm.