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Convict Bennett Still at Liberty.

Coroner Released Him After Jury Had Given Verdict.—Governor Amazed at Action.

The State, 27th inst.

Remarkable is the case of Ben Bennett, the ex-convict whom it is desired to find and imprison for the rest of his life. Not only the man's audacity in the violation of his contract with Gov. McSweeney in coming back to the State after he had been pardoned on condition of exile but his daring insolence in his testimony at the coroner's inquest are almost beyond belief.

Ben Bennett, it will be remembered, was sentenced to serve a life term in the penitentiary for murder. He was sent to prison in 1896 but was afterwards released by Gov. McSweeney on condition that he would never come to the State again. He asked to come back but this request was refused. The first intimation that Gov. Heyward had that the ex-convict was living in the State was the account last Monday morning of the shooting of his wife by himself. From rumors it must have been generally known by citizens of Hampton that Bennett was living at his home. It was plainly stated in the newspapers at the time of the recent homicide that he was the man who had been pardoned conditionally and yet the circumstances of his violation of his word was not even commented upon in these dispatches.

If this fact was generally known it is very peculiar that the coroner by whom the inquest was held—James E. Rivers is his name—did not hold Bennett. Instead he allowed him to go, after the jury which he had empaneled had passed an absurd verdict as follows:

"That Mrs. Bennett came to her death by a gunshot wound in the hands of J. B. Bennett by misfortune and contrary to his will."

BENNETT TESTIFIED

"Bennett was present and testified that he woke up and heard a noise and that he saw an object and fired; thought it was the sheriff or a constable that had come to arrest him. He never thought of killing his wife.

"It is stated that the coroner, after the verdict, said that he could not imprison Bennett, basing his opinion on the jury's verdict," says the Hampton County Guardian, edited by Gov. McSweeney.

Gov. Heyward after reading in the newspapers of Monday of the killing of Mrs. Bennett, telegraphed Sheriff Lightsey to hold the felon so that he might be brought back to prison, having violated his agreement. Sheriff Lightsey was away from home and his deputy sent the following:

Hampton, S. C., Aug. 23, 1904. Capt. G. W. Brunson, magistrate Brunson, S. C.

Gov. Heyward wires to arrest Ben Bennett. Do your best to get him. Send one or two discreet constables after him at once. Sheriff is absent.

W. R. Anderson, Deputy Sheriff.

Magistrate Brunson was asked over the phone by the Hampton Guardian what he knew in connection with the killing of Mrs. Bennett. He said:

"Hearing of the killing yesterday I sent my constable to arrest Ben Bennett, which he did and delivered him to Coroner Rivers. After the inquest the coroner sent Bennett to me. I sent him back to the coroner with the statement that the proper man to have him placed in jail was the coroner and not to release him. I have not seen the verdict of the jury."

From the deputy sheriff Gov. Heyward yesterday received the following letter:

"Dear Sir: Enclosed find verdict of coroner's jury in Bennett case. When your telegram of the 23d reached here the sheriff was absent and is now. As you will see by the enclosed clipping I wired the magistrate at Brunswick to have Bennett arrested and also went to the place at once. When I arrived there I learned that he had been released by the coroner and had left the State. I was informed that Bennett boarded the Seaboard Air Line train at Fairfax that morning at 4 o'clock and had gone in the direction of Savannah.

Respectfully yours,
"W. R. Anderson,
"Deputy Sheriff."

THE GOVERNOR TALKS.

Gov. Heyward said yesterday that he was very much amazed at the action of Coroner Rivers in not binding over Bennett for the killing of his wife, notwithstanding the fact that the coroner's jury returned a verdict that the deceased came to her death by mischance, for the criminal laws positively direct the coroner, under such circumstances, to bind over the defendant to the court of general session, that the matter may be then and there inquired into.

"The enormity of the action of the coroner," said the governor, "is further aggravated by the fact, as published, that Bennett said at the investigation that he thought the object he fired at was a sheriff or a constable who had come to arrest him, as though he had any right to shoot such officers, especially when his presence in the State was in direct violation of the terms of the pardon granted by Gov. McSweeney and in the face of a recent refusal on my part to allow him to return."

The governor added that for reasons of policy he deemed it in advisable now to advertise the details of such action as he will take to apprehend the fugitive, but he expressed his unqualified determination to exhaust every resource at his command to that end.

"Ben Bennett said in conversation that he kept a good pistol and knife and that he would never give up. He would kill himself first."

A physician Healed

Dr. Geo. Ewing, a practicing physician of Smith's Grove, Ky. for over thirty years, writes his personal experience with Foley's kidney Cure; "For years I had been greatly bothered with kidney and bladder trouble and enlarged prostate gland. I used every thing known to the profession without relief, until I commenced to use Foley's kidney Cure. After taking three bottles I was entirely relieved and cured. I prescribe it now daily in my practice and heartily recommend its use all physicians for such troubles. I have prescribed it in hundreds of cases with perfect success." Sold by Funderburk Pharmacy

—Subscribe to The Ledger.

Butler Holt Released.

His Wife's Appearance in Newberry Convinces Everybody That She Has Not Been Murdered.

Special to The State.

Newberry, Aug. 27.—Butler Holt and Will Martin, held in connection with the Maude Allen murder in Columbia, were released from custody this afternoon.

Holt was released on an order from Chief Justice Pope, Attorney General Gunter having consented to the release, subsequently Will Martin was released by Mayor Earhardt.

The end of the Newberry end of the mystery was brought about by the appearance of Lula Allen Holt, the wife of Butler Holt, in Newberry this morning. She was brought to Newberry from Bath by A. J. Holt, a brother of Butler Holt.

The main ground of suspicion against Butler Holt was that the murdered woman in Columbia was the woman he married in Newberry several months ago and who left him after a few days of married life. The appearance of this woman in Newberry today knocked the bottom out of this ground of suspicion.

Lula Allen Holt says that she arrived at her father's home at Bath from Columbia last Tuesday morning and remained there until she left yesterday, coming to Newberry.

Will Martin was held on account of the belief that he had married Sallie Allen, a sister of the woman Holt married. Lula Allen Holt says, however, that that the Martin held in jail was not the man who married her sister, that it was another Martin altogether.

As soon as Lula Allen Holt appeared in Newberry this morning a message was sent to Attorney General Gunter stating the fact. A telegram was received from Mr. Gunter stating that he had communicated with the chief justice and shortly after, late this afternoon, Holt's release was signed by the chief justice.

This was followed a few minutes later by Martin's release, signed by Mayor Earhardt.

Bystander Wounded at Lynching is Dead.

Cedartown, Ga., Aug. 26.—John Sexton, a young farm laborer who was shot during the lynching of the negro Jim Glover here last Monday night, died yesterday at his home in Eastview. The shooting of Sexton occurred during the reckless firing of the mob.

Whether Sexton was taking part in the lynching is not known. It is thought, however, that he was standing near the negro and one of the pistol bullets intended for the negro struck Sexton in the upper part of the abdomen.

THE DEATH PENALTY

A little sometimes results in death. Thus a mere scratch insignificant cuts or puny boils have paid the death penalty. It is wis to have Bucklen's Arnica Salve ever handy. It's the best Salve on earth and will prevent fatality, when Burns, Sores, Ulcers and Piles threaten. Only 25c at Crawford Bros. J. F. Mackey and Co., Funderburk Pharmacy.

Jones Hanged.

His Execution Was Orderly and Quiet.—Condemned Man Warned Negroes Not to Play With Deadly Weapons

Pickens, Aug. 26.—Henry Jones, the negro murderer of Constable Columbus Jones, was hanged today. He went upon the death trap a few minutes after 11 o'clock. Before placing the death cap upon the doomed man usual opportunity was given him to make a statement. Jones avowed his readiness for heaven and besought everybody to meet him up there. He warned his race against the possession and use of fire arms.

Fully twelve hundred people listened with bated breath at the last words of the man, soon to be hurled into eternity. At the conclusion of his confession he wanted to pray and having prayed for some time, and seemingly drawing to a conclusion Sheriff McDaniel descended the steps, one of which sprung the death trap, and in the twinkling of an eye the neck of the wretched negro was broken, and his life had gone out.

Certain Amount of Nitrogen Must be in Fertilizers.

The fertilizer companies are insisting that there is a mistake in the act passed at the last session of the general assembly relating to their products. The act specifies that the ingredient must contain 6.18 per cent. of nitrogen, which is equivalent to 7 per cent. of ammonia. The chemists of the State board say that the last figure should be 7.50 but the fertilizer people wish to hold the rules to the limits of the act passed. The attorney general gives his opinion on the matter as follows:

"Replying to your communication of the 25th inst. wherein you state that the phrase 'if it be shown by the official analysis that the same contains less than 6.18 per cent. of nitrogen (equivalent to 7 per cent. of ammonia) in reference to the requirements for an analysis of cotton seed meal is a chemical absurdity, and requesting to be advised of the effect of such inconsistency, I beg to state that unquestionably the 6.18 per cent. of nitrogen requirement prevails and must be complied with. The equivalent ingredient is nothing more than a mere illustration and is a redundancy that may be stricken out without in any manner effecting positive prime requirement of not less than 6.18 per cent. of nitrogen. The 6.18 per cent. of nitrogen must appear, it matters not what it is equivalent to."—The State.

FITS AN END TO IT ALL

A grievous wail oftentimes comes as a result of unbearable pain from over taxed organs. Dizziness, Backache, Liver complaint and Constipation. But thanks to Dr. King's New Life Pills they put an end to it all. They are gentle but thorough. Try them. Only 25c. Guaranteed by Crawford Bros., J. F. Mackey and Co. Funderburk Pharmacy, Drug Store.

—If you have land or lots to sell or wish to purchase land see the undersigned.

T. S. Carter.

Happenings in The State.

As Chronicled by the Alert Correspondents of the Columbia State.

PARALYZED MAN SAT ALONE TWO DAYS BEFORE FOUND.

Union, Aug. 27.—On last Saturday when the cotton mills closed down for the week George Coker, a machinist, went to his home on Virgin street and sat down to rest. While resting he became paralyzed and sat there until Tuesday morning before he was found, his family being away from home.

BIT OF THE ISLAND DROPPED IN THE SEA.

Charleston, Aug. 26.—A section of the front beach on Sullivan's Island, extending over an area of 100 feet by 150 feet, was washed away at 4 o'clock this morning, leaving an excavation of 30 to 50 feet deep. The landslide occurred in front of the Pringle and Moise houses, the cave-in reaching within 25 feet of the residence. With the extension of a few more feet, the residences might have been wrecked and lives lost and injured during the hours of night, when the inmates of the houses were all asleep. The cave-in is supposed to have been caused by the currents washing away the beach.

THE CAVE-IN AT SULLIVAN'S ISLAND

Charleston, Aug. 27.—The big cave-in of the beach on Sullivan's Island which occurred yesterday morning is filling in by the action of the water. The rent in the beach, 100 by 150 feet and 50 feet deep, is the largest cave-in which has probably occurred. An old resident of the island stated today that the beach was washed out at the same point, between the two stone grillages, several times before, as a result of the swirling motion of the water and in each case the beach filled in again.

NEGRO CHARGED WITH ARSON.

Cheraw, Aug. 26.—C. G. Paris, a negro, was arrested on the 25th at Chesterfield court house for burning the dwelling of J. M. Burns at Cheraw on the 10th of July 1904. The warrant was sworn out by H. W. Holloway, who was sent by Comptroller General Jones to investigate the burning. Mr. Burns' house was set on fire Sunday night, the 3rd of July, 1904, and again on the 10th of July, when it was totally destroyed by fire.

Chief of Police Killed by a Negro in Jail.

Charlotte, N. C., Aug. 27.—Chief of Police B. E. Hamrick of Shelby, N. C., is dying and a young negro named Clark, who inflicted his injuries, is fatally injured as the result of a fight in jail at Shelby tonight.

The negro, accompanied by a companion, was arrested for drunkenness and locked up. Hamrick started into the cage to quiet them, when Clark fired upon Chief Hamrick, the ball taking effect in the upper left side of the chest, piercing the lung. The negro then fired on Sheriff Suttle grazing his abdomen and leg and then upon Assistant Marshal Kendrick, who returned the fire, shooting the negro in the side and neck. Kendrick was shot in the neck by the negro but not seriously hurt. There is considerable excitement but no danger of violence.

—Engineer and Fireman Killed.

Charlotte, N. C., Aug. 27.—A through freight from Raleigh to Monroe on the Seaboard Air Line was wrecked at Pee Dee, N. C., this afternoon by running into a culvert which had been washed out by heavy rains. The engineer, Alex Adams, and Fireman Shepard were killed, being buried under the wreckage.

Negro Says white Man Hired Him To Murder.

Americus, Ga., Aug. 27.—W. S. Morgan, a prominent citizen of Richland, Webster county, was brought to Americus and jailed this afternoon after a commitment trial upon a charge of murder growing out of the killing of Jos. P. Phillips by William E. Ellis, both negroes, at Preston recently. Ellis has made a confession wherein he declared he was hired to kill Phillips and names W. S. Morgan as one of the parties thus employing him.

Phillips was a state witness in the trial of Henry Morgan and Sidney Harrell, both near relations of W. S. Morgan, and jointly charged with having burned the town of Preston. Henry Morgan is now in the penitentiary for the crime. Sidney Harrell is in jail awaiting trial.

Embarrassing Blunders at Macy's

John Aster (the boys call him Jack) is a very modest clerk at Macy's. He always wears a buttonier and drop stitch hose. Poor Jack, he is so modest that the ruff women shoppers keep him stammering and blushing all the time.

"You can't tell, Mr Perkins" he said, "how dreadfully embarrassed I was today. Those Fifth Avenue girls did ask me such rude questions—and I, a young unmarried man too!"

"One lovely girl came up to my counter and said:

"Young man, have you got any kids?"

"You bet I blushed—she meant gloves—kid gloves."

"Then an old lady came in and said she wanted some more antique"

"I said, how much have you had now? and she said:

"Had what?"

"I said you don't want to get any more antique?"

"Mercy me, but wasn't she mad?"

"Then a lady came in and said, 'I want to see your hose!'"

"I said, 'Ma'am?'"

"She said 'can I see your stockings?'"

"I said, 'No—Not now! O dear! but I was embarrassed!'"

"Then a black woman came in. She had a good deal of color—just jet black!"

"She said, 'show me some drop stich, flesh colored stockings.'"

"I showed her a black pair—and my gracious me! She flashed a stiletto. She said, 'You dude, I want white people's flesh colored—"

—or flesh colored people's white—and then she looked awful and ran away. My! but I was so embarrassed!"

Quick Relief for Asthma Sufferers

Foley's Honey and Tar afford immediate relief to asthma sufferers in the worst stages and if taken in time will effect a cure. Sold by Funderburk's Pharmacy.