

THE CAMDEN CHRONICLE.

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NO. 12.

MOTHER THOMPSON'S EASTER.

HERE now, Jane, you kick the fender while I go through your father's pockets." The speaker was a middle-aged woman with dark brown hair, parted in the middle and plainly combed back over her ears, and snapping black eyes.

At first glance she and her daughter, a pretty pink and white, golden-haired blonde of about fourteen, or thereabouts, seemed the only occupants of the room. The fire had been covered for the night, and the girl Jane sat by it, and when her mother whispered again in a more emphatic tone, "Jane, kick the fender," she proceeded to admonish that unoffending piece of furniture, which, being of sheet iron, and aided by the rattling of the shovel and tongs, made considerable noise.

I have said they seemed the only occupants of the room, but a more comprehensive glance showed that such was not the case.

In the back room, in a sort of an alcove, was a bed, and on that bed lay a man known as James Thompson, and who was husband to the black-eyed woman, while Jane was their youngest daughter.

James Thompson seemed to be sound asleep, so sound that the clang of the shovel and tongs, aided by Jane and the fender, made no impression upon him, but the moment Aunt Harriet, as she was known to the neighbors, removed his trousers from the lower right-hand bed-post, where they hung, and thrust her hand into the pocket, bringing forth a handful of coin, with its peculiar chink, chink, a sandy-haired, gaunt figure raised up in the bed, and said:

"Harriet, woman, what are you robbing my pockets for?"

The black-eyed woman gave him no answer, but turned to the girl, saying, "Jane, go to bed."

The girl crossed the room, opened a door, and went upstairs. Then, turning to the bed, the woman continued:

"Now, Thompson, the time has come, as might as well have it out."

Then she drew a small rocker to the side of the bed, and sat down, while the man sank back on his pillow with a sort of a groan.

"James Thompson, you and me"—when excited Aunt Harriet always fell into bad grammar—"you and me might just as well come to an understanding, and you needn't groan about it, either. When I married you, near onto twenty years ago, everybody said I married you for your three farms and your money. However that may be, a young man in exchange for herself should have something, and you know I have made you a good wife and your four daughters, and you a good mother. Look here, and you'll remember a talk we had when you asked me to be your wife. You remember how you told me that scandalous story of Melissa Orvis, the orphan girl who worked for your mother."

"Harriet," came again from the pillow.

"Don't stop me, I say. You mind the girl well enough, and you know her child, too; your child was only a little over a year old when I married you, and you know, too, that one of the conditions of our marriage was that you should care for and educate young James Thompson, who I held in my own arms while his mother died, and when I had him christened by your name, I had the heart of a woman in me, and I could not have the child in the house with my own children, but you know as well as I do that I have always looked after his raising and his education, and that until he was twelve years old he thought me his aunt and you his uncle."

"Lie still, Thompson. I'm not done yet. You know how stingy and mean you have always been; how, although you are the richest man in the

that me and my children are getting what should belong to another."

Therewith, as though to emphasize her words, she gave the fender a kick on her own account, while her spouse turned his face to the wall, but lay so quiet that she was sure his sleep was only a pretense.

After this a change took place in the household. Four handsomer, better dressed young women did not enter the village church than the Thompson girls, while young Willie, the youngest of the flock, was resplendent in black velvet and brass buttons, which set off his blue eyes and blonde curls and made him look more like an overgrown cherub than ever.

Soon after this young James Thompson graduated. He called occasionally on the family and always spoke of Mrs. Thompson as "Aunt Harriet," although he had long known the story of his own birth, and he also knew that most of the good things in his life had come to him through her.

The day after he was admitted to the bar Mrs. Thompson called on him and told him to draw on them for what money was necessary to start him well in business.

He fell on his knees by her side, and buried his head in her lap, while he poured forth his gratitude, begged to be allowed to call her mother, and told how he would try to be an honor and a comfort to her in her old age.

Everything he did prospered. He graduated, then practiced a term, and was made prosecuting attorney, then State Representative, then went to Congress, and from that removed to New York, whence reports came back that there was no lawyer there more highly respected than he, and no one

"Oh, Willie, you have not cleaned your feet!"

"Mother, never mind my feet. I want to see you."

"Oh, child, how thoughtless you are! Don't you know this is cleaning day? And I am busy, clean up to my eyes!"

"But, mother, I tell you I must see you. Is there not some place where we can be alone?"

She gave a sigh and started, he following. As they reached the dining-room he took a chair and was about to sit down, when she gasped:

"Willie, not that chair! It belongs to the parlor, and, Willie, don't lean on the table cover, you'll muss it! And now, child, if there is anything you want to tell me, be quick, as I've got to go back to the girls. Willie! Willie! don't you know better than to open that window? There's no screen and every fly in the neighborhood will be in the house!"

The boy was young in years and young in wrong doing. Jumping to his feet, he gave the table a shove, threw the chair into a corner and stepped in front of his mother.

"Mother, I came to make a man of me. You have turned me away! Now, I don't care what becomes of me. You prefer your housekeeping to your only son, so make the most of it. I hope I may never see the old house again."

He then strode from the house, and as Aunt Harriet threw herself into a chair a panorama of her life seemed to spread out before her.

She saw her young married life, when she tried to bury her heartaches under her household cares. She had lost her chance. He was gone forever.

stranger, only younger and more blonde than the other, came in.

"Mother! Mother! Can you take back your wandering son?"

The dark head, now nearly white,



"YOU HAVE TURNED ME AWAY."

was bent over the blonde as he knelt by her side, while the elder brother leaned over the two with his blessing.

Then the three drew near together, while the fire and the candle light and the golden flowers shone around them, and James Thompson told how, in one of the cases before him for trial, he had recognized Willie; how he had taken the boy home and done everything for him. And now he was started on the right way and wished to live and make her happy.

Then, as Aunt Harriet clasped her boys, she called them, by the hand, she looked first at one and then at the other, and said with proud and happy glances from her eyes:

"My children, cast your bread upon the waters and after many days it will return to you."

The Easter Bride.

Easter anthems, Easter flowers, All the joys of Easter-tide— But the sweetest thing it bringseth Is the blushing Easter bride.

White and slender Easter lilies, Standing tall in pure array, How the glint of brilliant stain Steals your glory half away!

Easter bells are hardly silent Ere baggies the wedding peal; Easter bells still drice the altar Where the Easter bride will kneel.

Fashion's fads and fashion's follies Robin anew at Easter-tide; After Lenten prayers and saccharine Saines serene the Easter pride.

—Laura Bertaux Bell.

Spain's "Easter King." In Spain the advent of Easter brings out a masquerer who calls himself "Easter King." He is garbed in a grotesque robe and wears a tin crown. All wayfarers obey him and the story runs that, ignorant of the personage he was addressing, an Easter King once bade Emperor Charles V. to do him homage by uncovering his head. The Emperor complied with a sigh, and addressing the paschal dignitary said: "My good friend I wish you joy of your crown; you will find the duties of a monarch sadly troublesome, I fear."

Easter Monday and Tuesday. Easter Monday and Easter Tuesday are both celebrated as holidays in England. On Easter Tuesday the scholars in Christ's Hospital, London, march in a body to the Mansion House, where they are received by the Lord Mayor, who distributes to them "tips" called "Easter bobs." These "bobs" are rejected from bright new coins placed in piles on a table before the Mayor, and they range as high as a sovereign in value. The lads also receive as a sort of luncheon two Easter buns and a glass of lemonade.

Easter's Variable Date. Easter may come as early as March 22 or as late as April 25. In 1818 it fell on March 22 and in 1889 on April 25. It will not come again this century or in the twentieth on March 22, but in 1943 it will fall on April 25.

Some Easter Notables.



The Date For Eggs. "Thirty days hath September— Every person can remember, but to know when Easter's come 'Tis a puzzle ere scholars—"

When March the twenty-first is past, And when you see a fat, and round, Know Easter'll be near soon.

And the eggs be passed on full, 'Tis on the twenty-third, 'Tis on the twenty-third, 'Tis on the twenty-third, 'Tis on the twenty-third.

And if on any day, 'Tis on the twenty-third, 'Tis on the twenty-third, 'Tis on the twenty-third, 'Tis on the twenty-third.

STATE NEWS.

The Supreme court has rendered its decision in the mandamus proceedings against the city of Laurens for exempting the Laurens cotton mill from taxation. The decision is unfavorable to the city council. From the exposition of the matter, Mr. Garrison, it seems that he objects to the Laurens cotton mill being exempted from taxation. In 1892 the city council of Laurens, with N. B. Dial, as mayor, adopted a resolution that the mayor be authorized to draw up an ordinance exempting cotton mills within the corporate limits of Laurens from the payment of municipal taxes for the term of twelve years. Similar ordinances have been adopted in many towns in the State in order to attract northern capital. At the time this resolution was adopted, there was no cotton mill in Laurens. The mayor for some reason did not draw up the ordinance. In 1897 a cotton mill was built in Laurens. As yet no municipal tax has been paid by that mill. It was at first thought that the mill had been exempted from taxation by ordinance. In the spring of 1898 an ordinance was adopted exempting the city tax upon this mill. On account of municipal improvements the tax for the city of Laurens had increased from \$100,000 in 1897 to \$125,000 in 1898. The ordinance of 1898 began to complete that the taxes were too heavy and that Laurens cotton mills should be made to pay its pro rata, thus reducing the burden of the other taxpayers. As shown in his position mandamus the mill returned its property for State and county taxes at \$125,000 in 1897, and at \$135,000 in 1898. It is claimed that the mill is due \$30.07 taxes for 1896; \$51.00 for 1897, and \$2,115 for 1898; making a total of \$2,206.07. Mayor W. K. Ritchie, City Clerk L. Ball, and the board of aldermen of Laurens are the respondents in the case. The opinion of the court is that while the return of the mill is insufficient, still there is enough in the case to admit of its having a hearing before a referee or court. In his decision Justice Pope says, after reviewing the case: "There never was any power in this State after 1868 to release property from taxation until the constitution of 1868 gave cities and towns such power for the limited period of five years and upon the matter being submitted to the voters of such city or town for their approval."

Senator Tillman has returned from his Cuban trip. He was in Cuba Thursday. Mrs. Tillman, Mr. R. B. Tillman, Jr., and Congressman A. C. Latham came back with him. The senator said that this was one of the most pleasant trips he had ever enjoyed. After leaving South Carolina the party journeyed along the coast of Florida, visiting Jacksonville, Palm Beach, St. Augustine and other points of interest. Crossing the peninsula they boarded the steamer Olive to and had a very enjoyable trip to Havana. "About the first thing we did after we got there," said Senator Tillman, "was to visit our soldier boys. The other congressmen visited their respective regiments, while the South Carolinians drove out to see the Second Regiment. Gen. Lee fixed us up in grand style, and in many ways we were royally entertained which made the trip in a gallop."

Governor Ellerbe has received news from Springville, Arizona, to the effect that Marion R. Reese and Daniel T. Luckie, who escaped from the jail in this county, were in that territory, and wanted could be easily secured. This case was quite a celebrated one and created quite a sensation at the time it occurred. Marion R. Reese and Daniel T. Luckie were convicted in York County of killing a white man by the name of Williams, and their case was appealed. Pending the appeal they escaped from the jail and have not been heard of until the present time. Reese was a man of considerable wealth, and was in the habit of giving a commission between himself and friends. Reckless of horses were prepared, and this easily managed to get him out of the State.

Some interesting questions regarding exemption from taxation have arisen lately. The first of these was the corporation's general action in regard to certain denominational and charitable institutions in Columbia. This was followed by the decision of the State supreme court in regard to the Laurens cotton mill. The latter case was decided in favor of the city of Laurens. It has been brought to light that the attorney general's office, on Feb. 1st, rendered a similar decision in regard to a petition of the Columbia Water Power Company, which asked for an abatement of taxes for 1899 over and above the five mill State levy. The attorney general opines that the tax should not be abated in unconstitutional cases.

Gen. Floyd is preparing to get after some of the former militia companies with a sharp stick. There has been much negligence in collecting and returning arms from disbanded military companies. Gen. Floyd is looking into the matter. He finds guns scattered all over the State and has notified several former company commanders that they will be held personally responsible unless the guns are collected and turned in. Most of these guns belong to companies in rural communities.

District Attorney Lathrop is hard at work on the case against the alleged Lake City lynchers, which will be called before Judge Brawley, in the United States Circuit Court in Charleston, May 1st. The lynchers have already been arrested and the lynching case will certainly go to trial. It was taken up in Columbia last fall, but was postponed. The evidence is all in and the government will demand a trial next month.

Edward Washington, colored, an employee of the Imperial Phosphate Company, of Charleston, met with a very painful and horrible death. He was engaged in working about the machinery in some way was struck by a falling weight and the machinery and killed. The body was found at the scene and placed in a coffin.

JUDGE SAUEL MELTON DEAD.

Columbia's Great Criminal Lawyer Dies in Charleston.

Ex-United States Circuit Judge Samuel W. Melton died at the home of his son, United States Marshal E. D. Melton, in Charleston, at 7:45 Saturday morning. Judge Melton was born in this State in 1830 and was in his prime one of the most learned lawyers and eloquent speakers South Carolina has ever produced. He was at various times in his political career attorney general of South Carolina, United States district attorney for this State and United States circuit judge. After the war he joined the Republican party and consequently lost the chance of the preferment which would probably have come to him when the Democrats regained control. As an orator he had few equals, and his name was associated with many celebrated cases in the courts of the State. Some months ago he suffered a stroke of paralysis and had been in a critical condition of health ever since that time.

A Mistrial Ordered.

A few minutes after 8 o'clock Sunday morning the jury in the Hughes case at Greenville came out. Judge Townsend had been out for some time, but the jury was not in court. The foreman announced that the jurors could not agree on a verdict, and a mistrial was, therefore, ordered by the court. It is said that two ballots were taken. The first ballot stood five for guilty with recommendation to mercy, which means life imprisonment; six for acquittal, and one for acquittal. The second ballot was: Three for guilty with recommendation to mercy, five for acquittal, and one for acquittal. Here the jury stood, and no amount of talk could change the situation. This action of the jury's action is believed to be fairly accurate, but other reports were circulated.

Bennettsville's New Cotton Mill.

The directors of the Bennettsville Cotton Mill have at last selected a site for the same and the work of clearing up the land for the erection of the building has begun. The land is situated about three quarters of a mile southwest of the town, on the left of the railroad track, and is now covered with undergrowth and pine timber. A saw mill is being placed there to saw up and utilize the lumber in the building of the mill. A Mr. Oliver, of North Carolina, has been elected superintendent, 22 per cent of the stock held in, and an order placed for the machinery. The entire stock of \$100,000 has been subscribed.

A Wall Fell.

The iron wall of the Thompson Memorial auditorium of Charleston, in course of erection for the use of the Confederate veterans' reunion in May, fell, carrying two colored men who were working on this section with it. Both men were hurt, and one, named L. Smith, severely, if not fatally. The immediate cause of the accident was an unusually strong puff of the high March winds which were prevailing at the time.

Grist From Greenville.

There is now in operation in Greenville the largest wheat and flour mill in the State, and there are few larger, and no finer, establishments of the kind in the South. The Mountain City Milling Company began grinding last week, and the plant works beautifully. The products are of fine quality and already sell readily.

Palmetto Notes.

The session of 1898-99 at the Medical College in Charleston, is rapidly drawing to a close. The term has been unusually successful. The students in the Medical and Pharmacy colleges number over one hundred and twenty, the largest class since 1890. The relative increase in each department has been about equal and both are going ahead.

Mr. Julius E. Dudley has recently purchased brick making machinery of the latest pattern and will go into the business on an extensive scale. His plant will be located at Mandeville, the first station below Georgetown on the railroad to Darlington, whose clay of a very fine quality is said to be found.

Quilly Jones, a negro from Midway, was accidentally shot and killed in St. George. It seems that he was carelessly handling a pistol when it discharged, and he fell lodging in his head and killing him almost instantly.

Stephen Taylor, colored, was shot by Will Smith also colored at Columbia and will probably die.

At Florence the old freight and shifting yard was the scene of another horrible accident, in which the life was crushed out of Mr. George W. King, who was working as a switchman for one of the shifting engines.

Governor Ellerbe has appointed Frank A. Hughes, of McClellanville, territorial inspector. The appointment was made upon the recommendation of Mr. R. M. Lofton.

The coroner's office in Charleston is being kept busy now.

The medal fund for Lieut. Victor Blue is close up to \$300. No doubt now remains that the brave soldier will receive from the women of Carolina a worthy testimonial.

Gov. Ellerbe has pardoned Richard General, convicted of killing Morgan Godfrey, in Marion county. General was found guilty of manslaughter.

The regular annual meeting of the grand lodge, Knights of Ebon, will be held in Columbia on Wednesday and Thursday, April 19th and 20th.

The peach crop will be almost a failure in the Bennettsville section this year, though some of the early peaches which were marketed were good.

Dock Smith, a negro employee of the Seaboard road, was run over and killed by a shifting engine at the railroad station in Abbeville.

It is said there is a good prospect of a heavy snow-storm in the latter part of the month in the mountains of Carolina.

There is no news from the University of South Carolina.

Gov. Ellerbe is expected to call on the members of the General Assembly on Monday, April 1st.

Telegraphic Briefs.

The insurgents in Luzon sent a message to Lieutenant Commander Cowper, of the British gun-boat Plover, when the latter endeavored to effect a compromise, suggesting that they were ready to treat for peace through a neutral great power.

A movement is under way to make ex-Secretary of State, Richard Olney, the Democratic candidate for president next year. His campaign is based on the theory that he is in favor of imperialism, while opposing to expansionism, while opposing of the stockholders of the American Tobacco Company, held in Newark, it was unanimously voted to increase the capital stock from \$25,000,000 to \$70,000,000. The increase is all in the common stock.

The board of visitors of the University of Virginia have elected Prof. C. A. University Law School, to succeed the late Prof. Dabney of the University Law School.

The remains of Judge Samuel W. Melton, who died in Charleston, S. C., were taken to Columbia and consigned to their final resting place in Elmwood.

MURDER OF AN ATTORNEY.

Shot Down by the Zeltner Brothers—Kept in a Crowd at Bay.

BOWLING GREEN, O. (Special)—E. H. Westenhaver, of New Salem, one of the best-known attorneys in this county, was murdered at Hoytsville shortly after noon Saturday. He was trying a case against Paul and John Zeltner for attorney fees, and Westenhaver was in the court with his brothers demanded certain papers, which he refused to surrender. John Zeltner fired at the attorney who ran out of doors, the ball striking Westenhaver in the right side. Four more shots were fired at him, but they did not take effect. At the corner of the building Paul Zeltner met Westenhaver and fired two shots at him, one striking his leg and the other going through his forehead. Death resulted in ten minutes.

After the murder the Zeltners fled to their home at Hoyt's Corner, pursued by a crowd of several hundred men. The Zeltners stood boldly in their yard all afternoon and defied arrest. There was a frequent exchange of shots between the fugitives and the crowd at long range, and a man named Wittenmeyer, who crossed an open space, was killed. Sheriff Kingsbury and a posse of deputies was soon on the scene, but the fusillade of shots kept on by the Zeltners prevented any effort being made to capture them. Later in the day the Zeltners retired within the house and barricaded themselves. A hundred shots were fired into the house, but without effect. The sheriff then decided to call for the Bloomingdale Rifles. Meanwhile a guard was stationed around the house. In the evening a neighbor of the Zeltners went into the house under a flag of truce and tried to induce them to surrender, but they declined to do so before morning, fearing the mob. Every effort is to be made to prevent a lynching. This will be difficult in view of the fact that the people who are incensed—not only by the killing of Westenhaver, but by the death of Wittenmeyer, who was a respected citizen. The sheriff will appeal to the Governor for sufficient troops to protect the Zeltners when they are ready to surrender. The Zeltners seem to have prepared for trouble, as they had sold their farm and bought a large quantity of ammunition only the day before.

For Electing Senators By Popular Vote.

Congressman John F. Eixey, William of Jones and John Lamb, Attorney General A. P. Montague, ex-Congressman John Goode and George D. Waco, and James W. Marshall, R. Walton Moore, Joseph E. Willard, W. F. Reddy, Ezra Harton, Jr., and 40 others prominent in Democratic circles in Virginia have issued an address to their fellow Democrats of the State, reciting recent events in connection with the election of United States Senators and appealing to the party to elect the members of the party who secure the adoption of a constitutional amendment conferring upon the voters of the several States the privilege of electing Senators by the direct vote of the people.

The Memmore Church in this country is about to establish its first foreign mission. It will be located in France.

South Carolina & Georgia Railway Co.

"THE CHARLESTON LINE."

Schedule in Effect Jan. 1st, 1899.

DAILY DAILY.		WEST DAILY.	
At Augusta 6:20 a.	At Charleston 7:00 a.	At Charleston 7:00 a.	At Augusta 7:45 a.
At Aiken 7:02 a.	At Columbia 7:50 a.	At Columbia 7:50 a.	At Aiken 8:30 a.
At Kingville 10:15 a.	At Charleston 11:00 a.	At Charleston 11:00 a.	At Kingville 11:45 a.
At Columbia 11:00 a.	At Charleston 11:00 a.	At Charleston 11:00 a.	At Columbia 11:45 a.

CAMPBELL BRANCH, only once weekly.

DAILY DAILY.		WEST DAILY.	
At Augusta 8:10 a.	At Charleston 8:50 a.	At Charleston 8:50 a.	At Augusta 9:30 a.
At Aiken 9:02 a.	At Columbia 9:50 a.	At Columbia 9:50 a.	At Aiken 10:30 a.
At Kingville 12:15 p.	At Charleston 1:00 p.	At Charleston 1:00 p.	At Kingville 12:45 p.
At Columbia 1:00 p.	At Charleston 1:00 p.	At Charleston 1:00 p.	At Columbia 1:45 p.

ALLEN ACCOMMODATION, only once weekly.

DAILY DAILY.		WEST DAILY.	
At Augusta 10:00 a.	At Charleston 10:45 a.	At Charleston 10:45 a.	At Augusta 11:30 a.
At Aiken 10:52 a.	At Columbia 11:40 a.	At Columbia 11:40 a.	At Aiken 12:30 a.
At Kingville 1:05 p.	At Charleston 1:45 p.	At Charleston 1:45 p.	At Kingville 1:45 p.
At Columbia 1:40 p.	At Charleston 1:45 p.	At Charleston 1:45 p.	At Columbia 2:30 p.