

# A BLACK FIEND

### Forces His Way Into a Young Married Lady's Room

## AND ASSAULTS HER

### The Barbarous Crime Was Committed in a Home on One of the Principal Streets of the Town of Hartsville While the Husband Was at His State.

Hartsville, Dec. 22.—The crime of last night, heinous, black and terrible, in which a young married woman was brutally assaulted by a negro, is uppermost in the minds of every Hartsville citizen today. There is no clue, no evidence of who or where the guilty party is, except that the victim knows that this fiend is a negro, that he is of medium size, that he has a beard and that he wore a gray slouch hat.

The scene of the horrible crime was a home on a principal street, the time about 9 o'clock Monday night. The town has no arc lights here and there is an incandescent light. It was dark and the rain was pouring. The victim is a young married woman of estimable character. She has been married several years, and has a little boy about five years of age, who was asleep, and who was the only one at the time in the house with her. The husband, a young business man, had not returned from his store.

The black fiend forced his way through the front door of the home and entered the bed chamber of the lady. She had retired, but had a lamp burning on the bureau. The fiend went to the bed and said, "I will kill you if you make a fuss," stating he had a gun. He went to the bureau and blew out the light, went back to the bed and caught the lady around the waist pulled her from the bed and carried her into the hall. She pleaded for her life. He repeated, "If you scream I will kill you." She said, "Please don't kill me; spare my life." He replied, "Keep your mouth shut and I won't kill you." He accomplished his fiendish purpose, then made his escape, the rain, which continued to fall, covering up all possible traces of his steps.

The lady believes she would recognize the fiend were he brought face to face with her. Chief of Police H. H. Kirkpatrick of Hartsville, Deputy Sheriff W. H. Mosingo from Darlington and several other deputized men, as well as the citizens of Hartsville, are doing all in their power to apprehend, arrest and convict the right man. Several suspects have been arrested and carried before the lady, but they proved to be innocent.

One feature in the chapter is that the negro, purposely to shroud his identity in mystery, stated to the lady that he was a fortune teller, that he was with the carnival and that if she screamed or made a noise he would return later and kill her. The Smith Greater shows are here, but no one believes the negro was in any way connected with the shows. It is thought that the man was acquainted with the town.

Hartsville is distressed, her citizens naturally are greatly enraged at the outrageous crime, but they are calm and cool headed, yet diligent. A reward of \$500 has been offered for the capture, apprehension and conviction of the fiend.

He is described as being about five feet ten inches high, of medium size, beard on face and wore gray slouch hat. The lady is bearing up as well as could be expected in the face of the terrible experience through which she passed.

### FIRE FIEND HITS SUMTER.

#### Damage About One Hundred Thousand Dollars.

Sumter, December 25.—Fanned by a stiff southwest wind and feeding chiefly on frame buildings, Sumter was to-night visited by the most disastrous fire it has experienced in years, entailing a property loss that will reach \$100,000.

The origin of the fire is not known definitely, but it is supposed to have been from the explosion of fireworks. Included in the buildings destroyed were the hose reel house of Fire Company No. 2 and the office of the Western Union Telegraph Company.

The loss is variously estimated, but will probably be in the neighborhood of \$100,000, with possibly two-thirds insurance. The loss will fall heavily upon the occupants and owners of the buildings, and as yet it is impossible to know just what steps will be taken to rebuild, but it is safe to say that more substantial and safer buildings will soon take the place of those destroyed.

# VERY SAD STORY.

### OUT OF WORK FOR SEVERAL MONTHS.

### Penniless Amid the Rampant Joy of Christmas Eve a Young Man Takes His Own Life.

New York, December 25.—Out of work for months, and without a cent on his person, Edgar Verner, twenty-five years old, of No. 1027 St. Denis street, Montreal, Canada, threaded his way last evening through the crowd of Christmas shoppers on Sixth avenue. All about him everything seemed to breathe the happy spirit of the holidays. The lights were bright, children were romping home with presents, and the whole world seemed to be laughing.

Verner wandered down Thirtieth street and halted in front of the hardware store of Rudolph Herold, at 339 Seventh avenue. He gazed longingly at revolvers in the window. But he could not buy one to carry out the resolve, which for days had been in his mind. He was unwilling to write home and tell the folks he was practically a derelict. He could not send them presents. Altogether, life seemed worthless to him, and he had determined to end it.

Verner entered the shop and tried some revolvers. He chose one and asked Herold how the cartridges were inserted. Herold put a bullet into the weapon to demonstrate. Verner said:

"Three dollars, eh? Guess I'll take this."

As Herold turned to place the other revolvers back in a case, the young man suddenly pressed the pistol near his throat and fired. He did not fall at once. Herold, believing the man had fired at him, dodged behind the counter. Hearing no other shot, he peeped over the edge and saw Verner standing, with pallid face, just where he had stood a few moments before. Herold then remembered there was only one cartridge in the revolver, and he yelled:

"You get out that door! I'll have you arrested."

"Just get an ambulance, old man," said Verner, quietly.

"I'll get a policeman," shouted Herold, as he started from behind the counter, still not realizing what had occurred.

Verner staggered to the door, flung it open, and then pitched on his face to the sidewalk.

A crowd gathered and policeman McNally rushed up. He summoned Dr. Blakely from Roosevelt Hospital. The surgeon found Verner had shot himself in the thorax, and had him removed to the prison ward of Bellevue Hospital, where it is said he probably will die of his wound. He refused to say where he has been living in this city. All he remarked, in addition to explaining the cause of his act, was:

"Things went wrong, and I could not stand it any longer. It's Christmas and I seemed to be the only one in the whole town who had no reason to be happy. That's all."

### SHOOTS WIFE, KILLS CHILD.

#### West Virginia Dentist Follows Up Quarrel With a Tragedy.

Cameron, W. Va., December 24.—Dr. M. C. McCracken, a dentist of this place, today shot his wife and fatally wounded his two-year-old child. It is said, after having quarreled with his wife. He then turned the gun on himself, but it failed to explode, and Mrs. McCracken succeeded in taking it from him.

After the shooting the mother picked up the child and started for the home of her grandfather, W. M. Kincaid, about four squares away. The blood was streaming from the wound in her back and that in the child's head. The baby died shortly after reaching the Kincaid home.

McCracken was arrested at his home and taken to the Moundsville jail tonight.

### FATALLY BURNED.

#### Child's Dress Set on Fire by Firecrackers.

Savannah, Ga., December 24.—While her mother was down-town tonight buying presents for her first real Christmas, three year old Annie McKenzie was fatally burned, her dress igniting from a firecracker. The child inhaled the flames and portions of her lips were burned away. Her brother, who was with her, sought the baby's nurse and calmly remarked that "little sister is burning up." A hackman passing the house put out the flames too late to save the child, who died three hours later.

# BRYAN SPEAKS

### Prefers Not to Run for the Presidency, but is

## STILL IN POLITICS

### He Says the Commitment of Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison is Unique in the Annals of the Labor Movement.—He Still Believes in Democracy.

Philadelphia, Dec. 24.—Wm. J. Bryan delivered the principal address at the annual commencement of a business school here. His theme was "Business Integrity."

"You will find that more of your temptations will come from a desire to get rich quick than from any other source," said Mr. Bryan. "There is nothing more empty than a life entirely devoted to social enjoyment."

"Let money be your servant rather than your master."

"Love of money has a multitude of ways in which it works the demoralization of those whom it rules. Mr. Bryan described the court room as a "soul's market, where many barter away their ideals in the hope of winning wealth or fame," referring to lawyers who boast of having secured the acquittal of men known to them to be guilty of crime.

Referring to corruption in politics as one of the temptations to which the commercial man is subjected, Mr. Bryan said: "Just in proportion as a corruption secures a monopoly of the business in which it is engaged, in that proportion the necessity of government regulation is increased and, I may add, the difficulty of securing regulation increases in proportion to the necessity for it. Municipal corruption has become a byword, and the lobbyist has made his evil presence felt at the national and State capitals. Bribery is becoming a fine art, and neither the voter nor his representative is spared."

He appealed to his hearers to create public sentiment against corruption.

When asked concerning his attitude toward another Democratic nomination for the presidency, Mr. Bryan said:

"All I can say about 1912 is that I hope it will never be necessary for me to run for office again. I prefer to do my work as a private citizen. When asked whether I would refuse in advance of ever being a candidate again, I have said that I would not promise anybody not to be a candidate for any office."

"I will add one other thing, and that is that I am still in politics, and expect to be for about 20 years, and I shall make it convenient to be present whenever and wherever a man or group of men attempt to Republicanize the Democratic party. Six million five hundred thousand voters of the Democracy endorsed the platform adopted at Denver. I am satisfied that a great majority of those who voted the ticket honestly believed in the platform, and I shall cooperate with them, rather than with those who would attempt to conciliate the special interests that have defeated the Democratic party and now dominate the country through the Republican party."

Mr. Bryan was much interested in the decision in the Buck Stove company. He gave considerable prominence to the courts' injunction issue in the late presidential campaign. An interview with him on yesterday's decision was sought. Mr. Bryan said:

"The commitment to prison of two men so prominent to the labor world as Gompers and Mitchell is unique in the annals of labor movements in this country. Until I have read the court's opinion and considered the matter carefully, I have nothing to say regarding the case."

### KILLED BY TRAIN.

#### Negro Man and His Wife Ran Over on Thursday.

Aiken, December 25.—Information reached the city this afternoon of the killing of David Zenban and his wife at Ellenton last night by a train on the C. and W. C. Road. It appears that Zephaniah and wife and son, who are negroes, had been at Ellenton shopping all of yesterday, and had started home last night walking down the railroad track.

They had gone only a short distance when they were overtaken by a freight train. The boy jumped off in time to save his life, but the man and woman were caught between the wheels and crushed to death. The engineer states that he did not see them until upon them.

# SOME LATE NEWS

### CHRISTMAS TRAGEDIES REPORTED FROM ALL SIDES.

#### Some Killed by Accident, Some by Design and Some by Wind and Storm.

Lancaster, S. C., Dec. 27.—John Wilson was killed by Bob Craig, both colored, at Van Wyck today. No particulars of the homicide are known here.

Jewett City, Conn., Dec. 26.—Robert Jeffrey, aged 17, and Hector G. Ingras, 15, broke through the ice while skating on a lake here today and perished. The bodies were recovered.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Dec. 26.—Mistaking a drunken man clad in a long buffalo overcoat for a bear, Thomas Deckmar, a well-known farmer, last night shot and instantly killed Thomas Andrews near Lafayette, Tenn.

Johnstown, Pa., Dec. 27.—John Stormer, a blacksmith, on a much traveled street today shot his wife, her brother, William McKurtz, and the latter's wife, and then blew out his own brains in plain view of a crowd of horrified bystanders.

Lancaster, S. C., Dec. 26.—A negro boy about eight years old, a son of Nettie Evans, was accidentally shot and killed in the suburbs of town today by Amos Lindsay, a young white man. Mr. Lindsay was shooting at a mark, and did not see the child.

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 26.—Jas. Leary, a brakeman on the Cincinnati Southern Railroad, shot and instantly killed his sister, Mr. Didda Dilton, yesterday at a family reunion at his father's home in Mount Zion village, in Grant county, Ky. He then blew out his own brains.

Manning, S. C., Dec. 26.—A white man named Frank Driggers today shot his sister, Mrs. Mamie Roseman, with a gun, inflicting a wound from which she died in about an hour. Mrs. Roseman lived at Alcolu, but had been on a visit to her brother, on Major W. T. Lesane's place.

Lumber City, Ga., Dec. 27.—Six persons were injured, none fatally, when a special freight train on the Southern railway jumped the track near here before day break today and rolled down a high embankment.

### WAS LOST AT SEA.

#### Sole Survivor of Crew of Schooner Reaches Port.

Newport News, Va., December 24.—News of the loss off Hog Island Wednesday of the three-masted schooner Jeanie Lippitt and the drowning of Capt. Robinson and five members of the ship's crew, was brought to Old Point this morning by Andrew Jorgensen, the sole survivor of the wreck, who was picked up at sea Wednesday afternoon by the American steamship Ravenscraig, Capt. Johnson.

The Lippitt was bound up the coast from Jacksonville, Fla., for New York with a cargo of lumber. She ran into the recent heavy northeast gale off Cape Charles Tuesday afternoon and after taking aboard considerable water and sustaining much damage to the hull, she ran on a shoal off Hog Island and soon went to pieces.

Capt. Robinson and four men were washed overboard and drowned when the ship struck. Jorgensen and the other seaman of the crew also were washed overboard, but succeeded in lashing themselves to a piece of the wreckage. The other seaman became exhausted from cold and died before the Ravenscraig could reach port. The men were picked up off Winter-quarter light ship Wednesday afternoon. The Ravenscraig's machinery became disabled during the storm and was returning here for repairs when the men were sighted.

The Lippitt was owned by Corowell & Thurlow, of Boston, and was built at Boston in 1880. She was 748 tons.

### DOUBLY AFFLICTED FAMILY.

#### Four Members of It Die in Short Time.

Lancaster, Dec. 21.—Mr. and Mrs. Lee Taylor both died at their home here yesterday within four hours of each other, the wife passing away first. Only a few weeks ago their son, Edward Taylor, and his little boy died on the same day.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were victims of pneumonia. Mr. Taylor was about 50 years of age and his wife about 45. They were originally from Kershaw county and their bodies were taken today to Buffalo, church, in that county, for burial. Eight children survive the couple.

### DIED ON THE TRIP.

#### The Faithful Lovers Long Wait Was in Vain.

New York, Dec. 25.—When the big liner Baltic warped into her dock after one of the most tempestuous voyages of her career, Charles C. Clarke, of Eureka, Utah, learned that the woman he has waited years to wed had died while crossing the ocean to join him in the home he had made for both.

The girl, Priscilla Hewison, of White Haven, England, was stricken with peritonitis soon after the ship sailed. So rough was the sea that the ship's surgeon found it impossible to perform an operation, and after two days' illness death ended her suffering.

Neither the young woman nor her brother, accompanying her, had money to defray the cost of burial ashore, but several first-cabin passengers, among them Mrs. Whitelaw Reid, wife of the American ambassador to Great Britain, made up a liberal purse and arranged to have the body brought to New York for burial.

Clarke and Miss Hewison had been childhood sweethearts, and they had planned to be married before Christmas. Instead, he and the dead girl's will be chief mourners when the body is laid away in Kenisco cemetery on what was to have been her wedding day.

Enraged and determined that the crime should not go unavenged if any human agency could accomplish the detection and arrest of the criminal, every man has felt more and more hopeless and baffled as each succeeding day was fruitless. Every fragment of the law and every means that could be employed with any hope of success have been used to get to the bottom of the outrage and quietly, but constantly, the town and county authorities have worked day and night every hour.

And added to the efforts of the authorities has been the voluntary work of many persons in their private capacity. Through this latter source came the first clue, which has finally led to the arrest of a brute against whom the evidence is very positive. A negro named Johnson was arrested at Ellingham Saturday morning by Sheriff Burch of Florence, acting with Policeman Seegers of this place and Mr. Ed Perry, a brother of the victim's husband.

The negro was taken to Florence and thence to Darlington, where he was turned over Saturday night to Sheriff Blackwell at 8 o'clock. It was proposed to bring him here for identification, but the authorities here feared trouble and advised Sheriff Blackwell to keep him at Darlington. Later on, acting on further advices from here that a threatening crowd was waiting to get sight of the negro, Sheriff Blackwell drove to Florence at 2 o'clock in the morning and there took the 4 o'clock train for Columbia.

A crowd met the train coming in here at 9 o'clock Saturday night and it is pretty certain would have made short work of the negro at once. Indeed, many of them believed that the negro had been taken off the train on the outskirts of town and was somewhere around, and all right and all day Sunday crowds of men were congregated around town awaiting developments and anxious to locate the brute. There was never any intention on the part of the town authorities to allow the man to be brought here.

This is the first crime of its kind committed at this place and, indeed, one of the few in the county. It fairly staggered people by its enormity, but left no doubt as to the short work that would have been made of the criminal had it been possible to lay hands on him. The citizens of the town look for the governor to order an early trial of the fiend, and if he is guilty, of which there seems no doubt, a speedy conviction and a speedy hanging. Quick work should be made of such fiends.

OLDEST TWINS.

#### Muncy Brothers, of Babylon, L. I., Are a Remarkable Pair.

Brooklyn, Dec. 25.—The oldest twin brothers in the United States will celebrate Christmas today in their homes at Babylon, L. I. They are William and Samuel Muncy, and they have passed their ninetieth year. They were born in Babylon and have always lived there.

The old twins are in fairly comfortable circumstances, and work around their farm daily. They used to be fishermen, but failing eyesight and rheumatism lately have kept them from the nets. A few months ago a museum manager offered them a big salary to appear on the curio platform. William, who is fond of his little joke, replied that they would accept provided they were allowed to make addresses on religious and temperance topics. Both are teetotalers.

#### NEGRO ATTACKED YOUNG LADY Who Found Him Hiding on Her House Porch.

Athens, Ga., December 24.—Tonight about eight o'clock a negro man attempted to enter the rear door of Mr. A. P. Dearing's residence with the evident intention of theft. It so happened that just at the same time Miss Katie Dearing, the young daughter of Mr. Dearing, opened the back door to go out upon the porch to get a drink of water, and ran right over the negro.

He perceived that he had been detected and seized the young lady by the throat. She screamed and her father came at once to her rescue. The negro ran just as Mr. Dearing came upon the scene and made good his escape. The police believe they have clues that may lead to the arrest of the criminal.

### YOUNG LADY ATTACKED.

#### And Almost Killed in Her Home By Burglar.

Richmond, Va., December 24.—Miss Florence Jones, the grand niece of the Rev. J. William Jones, chaplain to Robert E. Lee during the civil war and now grand chaplain of the Grand Camp United Confederate Veterans, was attacked and almost killed in her home in this city tonight by an unknown burglar.

Miss Jones was sitting with the family when she started up-stairs and had reached the top of the steps when she uttered a scream and the family heard her fall. A base ball bat by her side was the weapon used. The burglar had evidently been surprised by her and felled her with the blow. Physicians tonight hold out some hope of her recovery.

### Blind Tiger Stuff.

Darlington, Dec. 25.—Although Darlington is a prohibition county Christmas whiskey, it is said, sent several to the lock-up yesterday and last night and at least two carving affairs are said to be attributable to its effects.

# FIEND CAUGHT

### The Negro Brute Who Assaulted a Lady at Hartsville

## HAS BEEN ARRESTED

### And Taken to the Penitentiary for Safe Keeping—Would Have Been Lynched Had He Been Taken to the Scene of His Heinous Crime. Early Trial Wanted.

Hartsville, Dec. 27.—The black fiend who entered the home of a merchant of this place on Monday night of last week and criminally assaulted his wife has been caught and taken to the penitentiary for safe keeping. It has been a terrible week of waiting and disappointment to every good citizen of Hartsville as the days passed and the many clues gave no results and the many suspects failed to be identified by the lady.

Enraged and determined that the crime should not go unavenged if any human agency could accomplish the detection and arrest of the criminal, every man has felt more and more hopeless and baffled as each succeeding day was fruitless. Every fragment of the law and every means that could be employed with any hope of success have been used to get to the bottom of the outrage and quietly, but constantly, the town and county authorities have worked day and night every hour.

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### FARMER KILLS HIMSELF.

#### Because He Did Not Have Money to Buy Toys.

Quitman, Ga., December 25.—Because he did not have money enough to provide the usual Christmas toys for his children C. A. Esters, a farmer, near here, deliberately planned his own death this morning and died as he had planned.

Leaving the home where the children were he walked a short distance away, fitted his shotgun over a forked stick, pressed his breast against the muzzle and pushed the trigger with a stick. The wound was a terrible one. His wife and several small children ran out at the sound of the shot and found the husband and father dead.

### Shot Him Dead.

Spartanburg, Dec. 25.—A fatal shooting occurred in the Spartan Mill village early this morning. An aged white man named Collins fired a load of buckshot into Joe Lockman, who formerly conducted a restaurant on East Main street.