

ESTABLISHED FEB. 16, 1894.

GAFFNEY, S. C., TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1907.

\$1.00 A YEAR.

LIFE SERVITUDE
FOR GEO. HASTY.

THE GAFFNEY MAN BEGAN SENTENCE SATURDAY.

Says He Killed the Two Actors in
Self-Defense—Declares He Was Not
to Blame.

Officer Irby, of the State penitentiary, came up for George Hasty last Thursday and Friday morning left with the prisoner. Quite a number of George's friends went to the depot to see him off. He was looking well and as cheerful as a man could be under the circumstances. Several of George's friends made him small presents, such as tobacco, cigars, etc. The officer went by way of Charlotte, and the Charlotte Observer of Saturday morning contained the following concerning Hasty:

"The Charlotte city lockup rarely contains within its barred precincts a man who looks less the lawbreaker than does George Hasty, the convicted murderer and the admitted slayer of two men. Hasty arrived in the city yesterday afternoon from Gaffney en route to Columbia S. C., where he enters upon a life sentence in the penitentiary. Officer Irby accompanied him."

"The sensational occurrence which caused the life sentence of Hasty and of the two men whom he slew is more or less familiar history to all newspaper readers in this section. It was in December of 1905 that the 'Nothing But Money' Theatrical Company stopped at Gaffney, where Hasty and two brothers were running a hotel. The company spent the night at the Hasty establishment. A young lady member of the troupe charged Hasty with improper conduct and this brought on trouble with two male members of the company. Bennett and Davidson, both of whom Hasty shot and killed. He claimed that the show men doubled on him and he shot in self-defense. He was tried, convicted of murder in the second degree and sentenced to life imprisonment in the penitentiary."

"The trial, which took place in February of 1906, was a noted one and was a free fight between able counsel. An appeal to the Supreme Court was taken, but that tribunal affirmed the action of the lower court. It was only last month that the last hope of escape in that direction was out. During all this time, a year and two and a half months, Hasty has been a prisoner in Gaffney jail."

"I had forgotten how to walk when I was taken out today," said the prisoner. "The unaccustomed glare of the sun, too, was blinding."

"Have you found prison life thus far worse or better than you expected it would be?" asked the newspaper man with whom he was conversing.

"Lord!" smiled the prisoner. "I had no idea what it would be like. Have you ever been in jail?"

"I never have," the Observer man was forced to admit.

"Well," said Hasty, you don't know anything about it then. I had loafed about in jails just as you are doing lots of times and thought I knew, but I didn't. I believe if I had to stay in jail where I couldn't work or take any exercise for 12 months longer, it would kill me. I am sure it would."

"This was said with the same unassuming cheerfulness which marked his demeanor throughout the interview."

"Hasty stated that he had been in South Carolina for about five years. He is by birth and rearing a North Carolinian. His father still lives at the old home at Randleman."

"The people about Gaffney are all against me," the prisoner admitted. "They seemed to think I just shot the men because I had a pistol and wanted to be shooting at something. I'm sorry for the poor fellows that got killed, but I couldn't help it. If the same circumstances were to come up again I would do all I could to avert trouble, but I would do just as I did before."

"George Hasty has what is commonly termed and what would be universally admitted to be a 'good face'." He is young, only 23, handsome, and yesterday was neatly dressed in a suit of gray, a derby and a checkered sweater. He is strongly and sturdily built. It is needless to say that he expects a pardon sooner or later. Were it not for this hope, the light of his eyes and the flush upon his cheeks, which not all the confinement and the trying ordeal of the past 14 months have been able to remove, would be impossible. The sentence to a life term of drudgery and confinement is a thing incomprehensible, unrealizable and impossible to one in whose veins yet throbs the blood of youth."

The Columbia State of Sunday contained the following:

"Pale and thin from his long confinement in the Cherokee county jail, George Hasty, as convict No. 17411, yesterday began a life term sentence in the State penitentiary for the murder of Milan Bennett and Abbott Davidson of the 'Nothing But Money' company, at Gaffney, Dec. 16, 1905."

"Hasty talked very freely to a representative of The State yesterday at the penitentiary. He said that it was a great relief to get out of jail at last and be where he could at least occasionally get a little fresh air. He was fitted out with a new suit of regulation stripes and put to work in the knitting mill. Owing to his present delicate health, however, he may be given other work not so confining."

"He has been confined in the jail

at Gaffney for 1412 months. He says that he weighed 168 pounds the day before the killing, but he probably weighed now not more than 135. 'It was the close confinement that pulled me down,' he said, 'and not because of any worry or loss of sleep on account of the killing of those fellows. Of course I regret that I had to kill them, but I did it in self-defense and it has not worried me a particle. I haven't lost five minutes sleep on account of it.'

"He said that his attorneys, Messrs. Butler & Osborne, would do what they could to get him pardoned, and that ex-Senator A. H. Dean of Greenville would assist them when the time came to take action."

"I am sure that I will be pardoned some time," he said. "There will not be any effort, I guess, to get me out this year, probably not before next year or later. There has been a big change of sentiment up there, and I don't think there are 25 men in Cherokee county who would refuse to sign a petition for my pardon."

"The statement I gave at the trial was correct. I don't care to make any change in it. It was all true. It wouldn't have happened if it hadn't been for Davidson. When Bennett asked me about it I told him to come out into the hall and I would explain it. If I had done anything wrong I was willing to apologize for it, but I wanted to explain to him just what happened between me and Miss Bishop. But Davidson came up and started the fight and I had to shoot to save my life. I tried to kill them and they were double-teaming because they were both armed and I shot fast and hardly knew how many shots were fired in quick succession and it didn't sound like there was more than two. I turned the pistol on first one then the other."

"He stated that he had made improper proposals to Miss Bishop but I did not say anything to her until after she had given me cause for doing it. It was just after I had gone into room 17 to get something which I had, my pistol and a deck of cards. This Miss Bishop wanted to know what I got, and I told her. She came up to me, put her hand in my pocket and said: 'What is that you have?' I told her it was an orange and offered it to her. She had her hand in my pocket on the orange and I saw her close to me, and then is when I made the advance to her."

"When asked why he didn't tell this on the stand he replied:

"Because the judge wouldn't let that kind of stuff come out."

"In this statement, however, Hasty disproves his own testimony on the witness stand. The evidence shows that Hasty was asked if he had said anything improper to Miss Bishop, and this he denied flatly. Now he advances an entirely different story. The record shows that Judge Memminger excluded none of the defendant's testimony bearing directly on the case, but that he ruled out the testimony of one Strickland, who would have sworn to things which were alleged to have happened two weeks before the homicide."

"Hasty said that he did not know that Miss Sheridan was in any way involved, only by what he had been told by that man Strickland of Gastonia, whose evidence was excluded by Judge Memminger."

"Hasty hangs his head and has a very pitiful expression. In talking his voice is barely audible. The long strain has told on his nerves and there was a distinct twitching and nervous fumbling of his striped cap as he told his story. Not having had any exercise for more than 14 months and no work to do, his skin is very tender and he complained of his hands hurting as a result of the half-day's work he had done in the knitting mill. His neck, too, showed signs of being almost blistered as a result of the rubbing of the rough material of which the convict garb is made."

"As the interview was concluded and Hasty was being led back to his work he added this parting statement: 'Please don't publish anything of what I said which would hurt me with the folks up in Cherokee. They have been pretty good to me, a lot of them, and I am depending on them to help me get out of here. I don't want anything printed which they would not like.'

"The beginning of the life sentence for this young man, who is but 23 years of age, marks the last chapter of one of the most unfortunate tragedies of the State's history. In the work of a few brief moments, as a result of his indiscreet actions toward two young women, George Hasty sent to their death two bright young men, blighted the lives of the two girls who were betrothed to the murdered men, and ruined his own life."

"Milan Bennett was musical director of the 'Nothing But Money' company and Abbott Davidson was the leading actor connected with the company, and its owner, Miss May Bishop and Miss Verne E. Sheridan were members of the company and testified in the trial of the case against Hasty that they were engaged to Davidson and Bennett, respectively."

"The company presented 'Nothing But Money' in Gaffney on the night of Dec. 14, 1905, and while in that city the members were registered at a hotel run by Will and Arthur Hasty, in which George Hasty, a brother, was clerk. The young women complained that they had been annoyed by George Hasty. It being claimed that he 'peeped over the transom' attempted to get into the room of one of them."

"They told this to Bennett and Davidson, who demanded an apology of George Hasty and a fight ensued. Hasty killing both of the actors by shooting them with a .32 calibre pistol."

"On the trial, which began in Gaffney March 1 last year, Hasty put up

the plea of self-defense. The trial consumed four days, the jury rendering a verdict of 'guilty with recommendation to mercy.' Hasty was sentenced to life imprisonment in the State penitentiary at hard labor. His attorneys took an appeal to the supreme court, which sustained the verdict of the lower court in a decision rendered about the 10th of February."

"Messrs. Butler & Osborne, of Gaffney, and George Johnstone, of Newberry, represented the defendant. Solicitor Thomas S. Sease for the State, being assisted by Senator Otis and Messrs. J. B. Bell and J. C. Jefferies, of Gaffney."

"The citizens of Gaffney came nobly to the assistance of the man of the theatrical company upon the death of Messrs. Bennett and Davidson, throwing open their homes to them and furnishing them all the financial assistance they needed. Later when Hasty was tried for the murder, Miss Bishop and Miss Sheridan were entertained in Gaffney's best homes and the ladies of the town showed their sympathy for the girls and their interest in the case by gracing the court room daily with their presence."

"No. 17411 at South Carolina's penitentiary is a warning to young men to leave pistols, cars and whisky alone, and above all to treat with proper respect all women."

"George Hasty's future is a blank. A lifetime within the walls of the State prison, wearing a convict's garb and with only convicts as associates, the harvest of a reckless, dissipated youth."

MRS. MARY FOLGER DEAD.

She Was One of the Oldest Residents of Pickens County.

Easley, March 2.—Mrs. Mary Folger died this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock after about ten days' illness. She died at the Mountain View Hotel where she had for many years lived with her daughter, Mrs. C. M. Blaylock.

Mrs. Folger was a favorite with all who knew her. She will be greatly missed not only by her friends here, but by the traveling men who became attached to her because of her pleasant disposition.

Mrs. Folger was a woman of noble Christian character. Reserved and unassuming, yet always ready to aid in carrying on Christian work. She has been a member of the Methodist church since young womanhood. During her last few days of suffering, sentiment expressed in her last words were so much in keeping with the beautiful life she had lived.

As a mother she was kind, considerate and self-sacrificing, having reared a family of nine children, five of whom are still living. They are: Messrs. A. M. and A. W. Folger, of Easley; A. R. N. Folger, of Gaffney, and Mrs. Perrin Odell and Mrs. C. M. Baylock, of Easley. She has a large number of relatives in Pickens and Greenville counties.

The funeral services will be held tomorrow (Sunday) afternoon at 4 o'clock at the Mountain View Hotel, conducted by Rev. J. F. Matheson. The interment will be in West View cemetery at this place.

Mrs. Folger was born February 11th, 1816, in Guilford county, N. C., near Greensboro and before she was married to Dr. A. M. Folger was Miss Mary Pegram. They moved to this county about sixty-seven years ago where Dr. Folger practiced medicine for forty years. He was a prominent physician, having written several books on the subject. He died about twenty-seven years ago and since that time she has lived with Mrs. Blaylock.

Although she was ninety-one years of age her memory and vitality was remarkable. To the last she was active and cheerful always taking an interest in current events.

(Postmaster Folger went to Easley Saturday night. His many friends will deeply sympathize with him in his sorrow.)

TILLMAN AS A SPEAKER.

Said to Be Booked for \$43.00 Worth of Talk This Summer.

According to the Washington Herald, Senator Tillman has now booked engagements to speak every week-day night and several Sunday nights from the day when this session adjourns until congress meets again on December 2, except three nights still left open. "For these speeches," says the Herald's story, "he has a contract at \$200 a night with a live-in company that assumes all risks as to connections by rail, rent of hall, and similar details. His first date is Baltimore, on the night of March 4. March and April will be spent in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina. His tour will extend into the far west in the fall, and during the summer he will be heard in New England and the middle West. July 4 he speaks at Ashland, Ky. He is free to speak on any subject he may choose so long as his effort is the characteristic Tillman speech. The senator's honorarium in the grand total is \$13,000 for the summer's work—more by some than he could make tending his cotton crop in the Piedmont State."

Zimmerman Sentenced.

Columbia, March 2.—Daniel Zimmerman, who a few days ago pleaded guilty of forgery while bond clerk in the State treasurer's office, was tonight sentenced to serve three years in the penitentiary. He is 67 years old. He alleged confederate. Thomas Gibson, convicted of receiving stolen bonds, was too ill to appear in court for sentence and a sealed verdict was left for him.

—Buy your seed from the Seed Store. Flower Seed, Garden Seed, Field Seed. Our line of seed is complete. Gaffney Drug Co.

A NEWSY LETTER
FROM WILKINSVILLE.

MOVEMENTS OF THE PEOPLE OF LOWER CHEROKEE.

Personal Paragraphs Concerning Popular People and Short Items of that Section.

Wilksville, March 1.—Any man who travels the road from here to Gaffney now and isn't converted into a good roads advocate is either stupid or has no mercy on dumb animals—one or the other, if not both. We have been traveling in for the last thirty years and can remember only one February in which the mud was as deep as it was last Wednesday—in 1886.

We spent a few hours in Gaffney Wednesday. A very large crowd was in the city. In fact every section of the county was represented, more or less. The various offices, stores and banks reminded us of bee hives in a certain way. The court room was literally packed with on-lookers and participants in the legal battles going on there. A morbid curiosity in the case of Tom Harris for the murder of Mrs. Hortensia Morgan had brought scores to the city who had no other business whatever that we could see or hear of. What strange impulses move the average of mankind, Tom Harris is the most thoroughly advertised man in Cherokee county. If the prince of Wales was here he would not attract the attention of so many as Tom will do during his trial.

One noticeable feature of this vast throng was it was sober and well behaved. We have seen the time in Gaffney when in such a crowd and on such an occasion there would have been two hundred cases of drunkenness and ladies and children couldn't walk the streets without being annoyed by drunken roughs and neer-do-wells and yet some would say that young and respectable "John Barlow" out of business in Cherokee county hasn't materially improved their State of affairs. With due respect to every man's opinion we can only say they don't see it as we do.

We had the pleasure of shaking the hand of Gaffney's Hercules, and basking in the sunlight of his smiles. When A. W. Doggett and T. Davenport can't cure a case of "blues" its simply incurable.

Mayor Little and his police force deserve the thanks of the city of Gaffney and Cherokee county too for breaking up the loafing business about town by furnishing work for those who couldn't find it elsewhere. We done good and faithful servants, we say.

Quite a number of our over-the-hill friends were in town—called there by reason of the murder and other cases from that side—many of them on the jury or otherwise connected with the court. Some were mending taxes, some selling cotton, buying mules etc. Among them we met Mr. E. Hardin, a member of the 5th regiment during the war between the States.

By the way, in speaking of the Antioch section and its people (while they may not be owner of it) the consensus of opinion among those best qualified to judge is, that the reus they raised a few years ago about a distillery being run too near their church was the germ from which sprang the great cyclone of ballots that snowed the liquor business under in this State.

It is no wonder that York county reluctantly ceded such a people and territory as it did in order to make Cherokee county a picture on the map of the State.

One of the principal street corners in Gaffney we found our friend and relative, Mr. W. A. Donald standing looking somewhat forlorn, as we thought. We approached him and after the salutations customary between old friends, acquaintances and neighbors he said he was looking for some one from his neighborhood with whom he could get a chance to go home, as the train had passed.

"What," we said "nobody here from your neighborhood?" He said "No, not that I have seen or can see."

"Well, yours is the only section of the county not represented," we replied.

Mr. J. G. Garner keeps meal ground at the Thomson mill to accommodate his customers in case of high water or a break down.

Mr. V. C. Comer of Jonesville, came down Wednesday and returned Thursday.

Mr. Ralph Lemaster has put up a store house at his home and furnished it with a stock of goods.

People who have sold their cotton and are to deliver it in the present condition of the roads will not realize much profit from it.

We made a short call at The Ledger office Wednesday and found the "old man" and the boys hard at work. From what we learn another paper will soon be started in Backsburg with Hon. N. W. Hardin editor. Success to this new enterprise. Nothing is a more potential educator than a well conducted newspaper. People will read it that scarcely ever read anything else. Cherokee county is fully able to support another paper if everybody will do their duty.

Some people scout the idea that Mima Jeter's progress had anything to do with saving her brother Perry Jeter, colored, from hanging at Union nearly twenty-four years ago. The circumstances of which are given by Progress and are well remembered by the older people of that town and county.

Perry Jeter had been tried and convicted for burning the house of A. M. Briggs, and sentenced to be hanged. He proclaimed his innocence to the very last and went to the gallows determined to meet his fate though an unjust one. His attorneys did everything they could to save him. His sister, Mima, believed him innocent and took the matter to the Lord in prayer and just as the black can was about to be placed over his head and the noose about his neck he received notice from the governor that his sentence was commuted to life imprisonment. He was pardoned after serving twelve years and Progress informs us he is now employed by the Union cotton mill.

That the intercession of a poor ignorant colored woman could have had so much to do with his being pardoned for some to believe. They seem to forget that:

"Prayer is the simplest form of speech that infant lips can try;
Prayer—the sublimest strains that reach the Majesty on high."

"Prayer is the Christian's vital breath—
The Christian's native air;
His watchword at the gate of death;
He enters heaven with prayer."

There is another question for the school boys and girls, some or all of whom we hope will furnish The Ledger with the answer:
A large land owner engaged a laborer to fence him a pasture. The fence was to be ten rods high with three hands to the rod. The land owner was to pay him five dollars for each acre he enclosed and he was to make the pasture as large as he wanted to. When he finished the job the laborer found that with each rod he made and put up he had enclosed eight and one-third acres. How many acres did he enclose and what did it cost the landlord?

CALLED HOME.

Mrs. Hattie Pridmore Died Yesterday Morning.

A gloom was cast over Gaffney yesterday morning as the news of the death of Mrs. Hattie Pridmore was passed from one to another. Mrs. Pridmore had been sick for the past fourteen months and while her death was not unexpected still it caused universal sorrow among her friends and acquaintances. Death came at 11:15 yesterday forenoon.

Harriet Terrisa Pridmore was the daughter of Robt. S. and Violet Wilkins who lived in the Union section of what is now Cherokee county. She was one of eight children, there being four boys and four girls. Two of the girls died in childhood one lived to womanhood and married but died several years ago. The four boys were O. E. Wilkins, of Yorkville; W. J. and R. M. Wilkins, of this city and John H. Wilkins, of this county.

In 1886 Hattie Wilkins married Mr. Mont. Curtis. One child was the result of this union.

On October 8th, 1896, Mrs. Curtis was happily married to Mr. Hampton P. Pridmore. The union has been blessed by four children, the youngest of which is but eight months old. Deceased is survived by her husband and children.

Mrs. Pridmore was a consistent member of the First Baptist church. She was a woman of unusual attractiveness and her friends were limited only by her acquaintance with humanity. She will be missed by more than her immediate family and many hearts will ache because of her death. She was just in the prime of life, having only reached her fortieth birthday last June.

The funeral will take place this morning at 11 o'clock from the First Baptist church. The interment will be at Oakland cemetery.

One of Many Good places.
(Salisbury Post.)

Mr. George Hasty, the convicted murderer of two actors belonging to the "Nothing But Money" Company, will proceed to serve his sentence for life. He was tried about this time last year and convicted, but appealed. The lower court is sustained by the higher. Mr. Hasty will no doubt think it an abridgment of his liberties that he is not allowed to kill a couple of men and go on about his regular business, but such is life. There is no telling what a petty fury will do, nor is it certain what the Supreme Court will say about it. South Carolina is a mighty good place to be in the cure of the killing habit.

Small Wreck on Southern.
Gaffney was the scene of a small wreck Saturday afternoon when the shifting engine was pushing two cars of coal on the Gaffney Manufacturing company's siding. It seems as though the trucks jumped the track and the cars being pushed at quite a little speed it was impossible for the engineer to stop the train before the wheels of the cars had torn the track up for several yards. Although the wreck was not a serious one still it stopped traffic on that track for several hours.

Death of Mrs. Burgess.
Mrs. Bertie Burgess, wife of Mr. R. C. Burgess, died at her home near Grassy Pond Saturday morning at 4 o'clock. Mrs. Burgess was an excellent woman and was held in high esteem by those who knew her. She was twenty-seven years of age and is survived by her husband, five children and one brother, Mr. Oscar Burgess, of York county. The funeral was conducted by Rev. S. B. Harper and was attended by a large concourse of friends and relatives. The Ledger extends its deepest sympathy to the bereaved husband and family.

Before the Mayor.
Bob Gilmore and Will Ager, two negroes, were arrested Saturday on a charge of selling liquor. They were taken before Mayor Little, pleaded guilty, and were fined \$25.00 each. They paid the fine.

A white man was before the Mayor on a charge of drunk and disorderly, pleaded guilty. This was his first offense and he was let off with \$2.50.

Salesday Sales.
The salesday offerings yesterday were as follows:
A tract of land on the other side of Broad river known as Runyon land. Bought by G. R. Willy for \$850.

A house belonging to Mrs. Minnie Cox on Loran street bought by J. Q. Little for \$1,410.

In Defence of "Bob" Taylor.
(Chattanooga Times.)
Just why any newspaper should persist in classing "Bob" Taylor with Davis and Tillman it is difficult to understand. He is as widely different from both of them as it is possible for a man to be. He is clean in every respect and the very opposite of both in sentiment and modest of speech. He is a bubbling fountain of good humor and is one of the vice presidents of the "brotherhood of mankind." He has no use for the "pitchforks" or the "much rake," and carries sunshine and blitheness wherever he goes and dispenses it lavishly with never a thought that he has an enemy or a foe. The prediction is freely made that Senator Taylor will shortly become one of the most popular men in the Senate, and that his cloak room will be one resort that will always have displayed the sign "S. R. O."

Not Ashamed of the Company.
(Newberry Observer.)
Newberry is in pretty good company as a prohibition county, and is not ashamed of her alignment alongside of such counties as Anderson, Cherokee, Darlington, Edgefield, Greenville, Greenwood, Horry, Lancaster, Marion, Marlboro, Oconee, Pickens, Saluda, Spartanburg, Union, York and Williamsburg. And she does not intend that a lot of negro blind tizers, backed often by white men, shall drive her from this alignment into the liquor business again.

—Try the Williamson plan on a small patch of corn, using our Improved Early Golden Dixie Dent Corn. If others can make 150 bushels or more per acre, you can do just as well. The Seed Store.

Good Digestion Can be Readily Gained With Mi-na Stomach Tablets.
It is torment to look upon a tempting dinner and realize that to eat freely means distress and suffering. Let us tell you how you can enjoy eating, so that the heartiest meals will set well and cause no pain, distress or uncomfortable feeling of fullness.

If you cannot eat and enjoy three good, hearty, satisfactory meals a day without any feeling of discomfort, your stomach is weak and needs the strength which Mi-na stomach tablets will give it. You cannot afford to delay treatment, for the longer you allow the digestive organs to be weak, the harder it will be to get help.

The remarkable curative and strengthening power of Mi-na is attested by the guarantee, which the Gaffney Drug Co. give with every 50c box. "We return the money if Mi-na fails to cure."

If you find that eating well-cooked and properly chewed food is followed by heaviness and load on the stomach, by bloating, by gulping of acids and wind by distress, nervousness, headache, trouble to sleep, or by any other symptoms of disordered or weak stomach, you should begin the use of Mi-na at once. It is guaranteed by one of the best known druggists in Gaffney to cure all disorders of the stomach, or cost nothing. A guarantee, like this means a good deal.

A tissue builder, reconstructor, builds up waste force, makes strong nerves and muscle. You will realize after taking Hollister's Rock Mountain Tea what a wonderful benefit it will be to you. 35 cents. Tea or Tablets. Gaffney Drug Co.

—Try a bottle of "Nature Cough Remedy" and a box of "Grip Tablets" for that cough and cold. If they don't cut the Gaffney Drug Co. will refund your money. Is that fair? Costs nothing if they don't cure.

Are you tired, fagged out, nervous, sleepless, feel means? Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea strengthens the nerves, aids digestion, brings refreshing sleep. 35 cents. Tea or Tablets. Gaffney Drug Co.

—One 50c bottle Nature's Cough Remedy will put an end to that cough—no cure, no pay. Gaffney Drug Co.