

THE COUNTY RECORD.

Published Every Thursday

—AT—

WINGSTREE, SOUTH CAROLINA.

—BY—

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Editor and Proprietor.

Colonel Higginson says that Longfellow was the first Harvard professor to address his students as "Mr."—a custom now in vogue at all colleges.

Camille Flammarion, who is something of a star-gazer, declares that the planet Mars is not trying to attract the attention of the people of the earth. That being the case, the earth can move on.

Because of geographical position and relative importance in the future commerce of the world the three great financial centres of the twentieth century will be New York City, London and San Francisco.

Within its own borders the United States now produces eight-tenths of all the world's cotton and corn, one-quarter of all its wheat, one-third of all its coal, more gold than any other country save Africa, and more manufactured goods than England, France and Germany combined.

Everybody in the world who is old enough to know what the word spells either has at some time been in love or expects at some time to be in love. This generalization embraces even the most pronounced woman-hater, who, if he be not a hypocrite, is assuredly a man with a past, philosophizes the New York Press.

When the American army was in Cuba the island was almost depleted of cattle, a vast number of animals having been killed for food. Now the ranchmen and farmers are busy stocking up again, and have made heavy drafts on Florida, which, as a consequence, has about been stripped of its better grades of cattle.

The increase of commerce on the Great Lakes is suggestively illustrated in the fact that during the year 1900 the several shipyards located on these inland seas turned out a tonnage of 130,611 tons, 58,432 tons more than all the vessels built on the New England coast in the same period. In fact, the shipyards of the Great Lakes turned out one-third of all the new shipping constructed in the United States during the year.

Lord Curzon says that "while the German grows fat and the Frenchman withers the Englishman plays lawn tennis under a tropical sun." Its effect on the American has not yet been noted, the data being insufficient. Dewey came back from the Philippines fatter than before he went there, but the average American is of somewhat too pronounced a nervous temperament to get the best advantages of residence in a tropical climate.

It is a dull week in medical activity that does not produce a new consumption cure. Of two divulged within a recent week, one, a Chicago invention, relies mainly on the therapeutic qualities of fresh air, while the other, imported from Denmark via Brooklyn, exploits anew the old efficacy of light—in this case "decomposed light"—as a powerful agent in averting the progress of the disease. The time is at hand when no general practitioner will be considered to have won his spurs till he has devised a sure preventive of tuberculosis.

Waiver Crane thinks that "woman's dress has greatly improved during the last few years. One sees simple gowns adapted to the lines of the figure and not distorting it, whereas distortion more or less has ruled the present century since the early empire days. But just for the moment there is no exaggeration, unless in the hat, and that has always been allowable, even at matinees. As to the man—well, in society he has always been ruled by the clubman, whose canon is correctness." One of the redeeming features of a commonplace era, as it has been called, is the tendency to uniformity in masculine attire, for which we have to thank the ready-made-clothing man.

A HORRIBLE FATE.

Lynching and Burying of a Negro in Indiana.

Terre Haute, Ind., Special.—Punishment swift and terrible was meted out to George Ward, the negro who murdered Miss Ida Finkelstein, the school teacher, by shooting her with a shotgun and cutting her throat. A few hours after his arrest an angry mob battered down the doors of the jail, dragged the prisoner to the Wabash bridge, several squares away, and hanged him to the bridge draw. Not content with the hanging, the crowd cut the corpse down, and laying it on a sand bar under the bridge kindled a fire and cremated the remains. It was the first lynching that Terre Haute ever experienced.

Ward was arrested at 10 o'clock at the car works, where he was employed as a laborer, and after being fully identified by two citizens, made a confession. His only excuse for the murder was that Miss Finkelstein called him "a dirty nigger" and slapped him in the face. Sheriff Fasing communicated with Governor Durbin, but the mob accomplished its work before the militia could be ordered out. The Governor had wired Captain Thomas, of Company B, to place his company, fully armed, in readiness for duty.

At noon the crowd outside the jail, numbering several hundred, including men, women and boys, battered down the iron doors, but were driven back by Jailer Lawrence O'Donnell, who fired over the heads of the mob. Deputy Sheriffs Cooper, Hessick and LeForge were struck by scattering shot and slightly injured, but nobody in the crowd was hurt. A detail of police vainly tried to disperse the crowd.

At 12:30 o'clock another crowd battered down the outer doors of the jail, secured possession of the keys and entered the cell room. The side door was opened for the rest of the crowd. The cell was quickly opened and Ward was dragged forth. He fought with desperation and with ferocity. He was dragged out to the street, still fighting with all his strength, but a blow from a heavy hammer felled him to the ground.

A noose was quickly adjusted to his neck and the mob started with its victim toward the Wabash bridge. The feeble resistance made by the wretched creature after that blow with the hammer was soon quieted by the savage blows of the mob. Face downward, he was dragged through the street to the bridge and across the rough plank of the driveway to the drawbridge. Many are of the opinion that the fellow was dead before the scene of the hanging was reached. However, the rope was thrown over one of the upper beams and the body drawn up.

Then burning at the stake was agreed on unanimously and a fire was quickly kindled on the bank of the river just south of the west end of the bridge, and into the fire the body, bearing no sign of life, was thrown, and faggots were piled upon it. The stake was omitted. The body was in a horizontal position, the feet protruding at one end and the head at the other. A can of turpentine was poured on the eager flames. After that combustible oils seemed to flow spontaneously toward the fire and the flames leaped high while the body of the negro was rapidly consumed. None of the mob attempted disguise. When the body was taken down to be carried to the fire the bridge west of the draw was barricaded, but the east bank of the river and the bridge on the city side of the draw was crowded with thousands of men, women and children, gazing at the awful spectacle. With grim determination the mob fed the flames and watched the flesh shrivel to cinders and the bones crumble and burn.

As the bones began to crumble and fall apart fragments were taken from the fire and carried away. At 3 o'clock there was nothing left of the body except a small section of the trunk and the back of the head. Busy hands kept the burning faggots piled upon the roasting segment. Women came to the scene by scores. At about 2:30 o'clock the barricade was removed and the crowd surrounded the fire.

Denounces the British.

London, By Cable.—Not since the days of the Romans, said Mr. John Dillon, Irish Nationalist, in the debate on the address to the throne, "had an army made a habit of capturing women and children as the British generals in South Africa were doing." To put Boer women on half rations because their husbands had not surrendered, as was the practice, he said, was worthy of the worst brigands of Sicily and Greece. Mr. Dillon said that in treachery and cruelty the balance was against the British. He congratulated the Boers on having a different record.

News Briefs.

Great excitement has been caused in Pensacola, Fla., by virgin gold in considerable quantities being pumped from a well in the suburbs of the city.

Tony Moran, of New York, won one of the smartest and bloodiest lightweight fights ever seen in Savannah, Ga., from Shorty Jenkins in the 18-round.

SHOT WIFE AND SELF

A Horrible Deed Committed By An Insane Doctor.

NO CAUSE HAS BEEN ASSIGN'D.

Dr. W. F. Aiken, a Leading Specialist, Kills His Wife and Then Blows Out His Own Brains.

Savannah, Ga., Special.—Dr. W. F. Aiken, a leading specialist, shot and killed his wife in their bedroom at an early hour Wednesday morning. The report of the pistol awakened their little son, aged 8 years. In his night clothes and barefooted, the child ran in the street to call a policeman. When the officer entered the house he found Mrs. Aiken dead on the bed with a bullet hole through her head and Dr. Aiken with a pistol in his hand lying on the floor, dead. After shooting his wife he had placed the weapon to his own head and sent a bullet through his brain. The child said that he had heard his father count, "one, two, three!" and then the pistol shot.

It was developed at the coroner's inquest that Dr. Aiken was about 38 years old. He was born in New York and was graduated at Yale at the age of 20 years. After graduating he was connected for a time with the health department of the city of New York, then he took a special course in diseases of the eye and ear, and came South to settle. He married Miss Anna K. Porter, daughter of the Rev. A. C. Porter, a clergyman of New Bedford, Mass. Rev. Dr. Porter was a close personal friend of Ralph Waldo Emerson. A brother of Mrs. Aiken, Alfred C. Porter, is now librarian of Harvard University. This brother has been telegraphed for, and will arrive to take charge of the bodies and remove them to Massachusetts for interment.

No cause for the tragedy was developed at the inquest. It was brought out that Dr. Aiken was a cigarette-smoker to excess, and that he was of an extremely nervous temperament. Two weeks or so ago he had to have the services of physicians in what was believed to be morphine poisoning and it was rumored at the time that he had attempted suicide, but the attending physician says that was improbable. Lately his friends had noticed an extreme abstraction and irritability.

Dr. Aiken was devoted to science, and was an inventor of some note. He is the originator of many ophthalmological instruments that are now in common use all over the country. He refused to patent his inventions, saying they were for the benefit of mankind. He had a very large and lucrative practice, and was in independent circumstances. Mrs. Aiken was a lady of great beauty and many accomplishments. They leave four little children.

\$5,500 Found By a Boy.

Charleston, S. C., Special.—Carl Sanberg, while playing on a city dump pile at West Point Mill, on the bank of the Cooper river, in this city, found \$5,600 in money and certified checks. The little boy found a package of letters from Rock Hill, S. C., and opened them through curiosity. As soon as he came across the money he went to his grandfather, Charles Colson, who reported the facts and delivered the letters to the postal authorities here. The package of letters is supposed to have been carelessly dropped at the postoffice here and swept out as rubbish. Two of the largest certified checks were for \$2,600 and \$1,800 respectively. An investigation of the matter is now being held by Postmaster Cunningham.

Militia Ordered Out.

Griffin, Ga., Special.—On orders from Governor Candler one company of militia was put on duty around a home here and another ordered to hold itself in readiness to put down any disorder which may arise through the efforts of a mob to lynch H. F. Booth, superintendent of the Griffin Knitting Mills. Booth had some trouble last Monday with Mrs. Lavinia Moore, one of the operatives, and was warned to leave the city, but he appeared at the mill for duty. At midnight it is believed efforts at violence have been given up.

Tri-State Medical Society.

Richmond, Special.—The Tri-State Medical Association adjourned after electing the following officers: President, Dr. J. N. Upshur, Richmond; vice president, for North Carolina, Dr. J. W. Long, Salisbury; vice president for South Carolina, Dr. A. C. Baker, Sumter; vice president for Virginia, Dr. Hugh W. Taylor, Richmond; secretary and treasurer, Dr. H. A. Royster, Raleigh, N. C.

PICKS UP COURAGE.

England Hopes Soon to End South African War.

London, by cable.—The war in South Africa has again reached a stage which the British newspaper critics are pleased to call the eve of the termination. The rumors of the surrender of General Botha and the collapse of all Boer resistance flourish to the great benefit of South Africa stocks. Those most responsible for carrying on the war do not share this optimism. The new concentration of troops at the front is only one of many steps for which General Kitchener has so long been preparing. That it will lead to the complete disintegration of the more important Boer units and possible to the personal surrender of General DeWit and Botha, the British War Office earnestly hopes. But it does not go so far as to expect it. General Kitchener is almost as reticent towards his chiefs in Pall Mall as to the general public.

The meeting of General Kitchener and Sir Alfred Milner, at Pretoria, probably occurring Sunday, is taken generally as likely to result in the establishment of a more permanent form of civil government, in which the severities of martial law will be somewhat tempered in several sections of the country. But neither in London or in South Africa are the British officials shutting their eyes to the fact that they have a long task ahead of them which can only be lightened and by no means solved through the victories over the Boer units.

The glory which the British press some time ago showered on General DeWit has parted from him. In dispatches and editorials he is now belittled as a disappointed raider, deserted by his own men and venting his fruitless anger by sjambocking his reluctant handful of followers. Calmer observers are inclined to fear the elusive Boer leader is merely under a temporary cloud, from which he may be expected at any moment to emerge accompanied by a force which, though not formidable in numbers, will be particularly formidable in execution. The false announcement of General Botha's surrender Thursday, will be a matter for discussion in the House of Commons, especially the fact, which accompanied the asseration, that it was official.

Government of the Philippines.

Washington, D. C., Special.—The President will issue an executive order, designating General MacArthur and all the other officers of the present military government in the Philippines to administer all military, civil and judicial powers necessary to govern the Philippine Islands. The existing government will continue under a new designation of authority from the President, until arrangements can be made "for the establishment of civil government and for maintaining and protecting the inhabitants of said islands in the free enjoyment of their liberty, property and religion." This is simply a precaution against legal or international complications. A general plan of civil government has been formulated by the Secretary of War and referred to the Philippine commission for its consideration. It will be for the President to determine when and how the government shall be inaugurated. It seems to be settled that Judge Taft will be the first civil governor of the Philippines and that General Chaffee will have command of the military forces.

Lived as a Man.

London, by Cable.—A remarkable story of male impersonation was revealed in a police court here, in connection with an arrest for alleged money frauds. The prisoner, named Catherine Coombs, aged 66, described as a house decorator appeared in court in male attire. For 40 years Catherine impersonated a man and worked on board peninsula and Oriental steamers, in various capacities and also for London firms. She says she was married at 15, taught school and then thought there were better chances of advancement as a man. She married a lady with whom she lived for 14 years.

A Lawyer Suicides.

Macon, Ga., Special.—Solicitor General 100 kilos. The difference between Court, and one of the most prominent men of the State, was found dead in his room at the court house Saturday. A bullet wound was found in his head. The shot had penetrated his brain. All the gas in the room was turned on, indicating suicide.

Cuban Tariff Changes.

Washington, D. C., Special.—The President has issued an executive order, making two important changes in the Cuban tariff, which will become operative April 1, next. The duty on refined mineral oils is increased to \$3 per 100 kilos. The difference between the crude and the refined will make the cost of oil in Cuba about the same as it is in the United States. Also in section 114, regarding cottons, tissues measuring not over 65 centimeters in width and weighing eight kilograms or more per 100 square meters, are granted the same rate as that formerly applied to weights of 10 kilograms.

DEAD IN COAL MINE

Thirty-Six Miners Burned to Death By Explosion.

AWFUL RESULT OF CARELESSNESS.

A Fire in a Coal Mine in Diamondville, Wyo., Burns to Death All the Miners in One Shaft With a Single Exception.

Cheyenne, Wyo., Special.—The worst disaster in the history of coal mining in Wyoming since the Almy horror, eight years ago, occurred at Diamondville Monday night. Thirty-six men are believed to have perished in a fire which started in Mine No. 1, of the Diamondville Coal and Coke Company.

The blaze was first discovered shortly after the night shift commenced work. It is thought to have originated from a careless miner's lamp in the oil room. The flames made such progress that only one man escaped from the two entries in which it was confined. His name is Jno. Alexander and he was frightfully burned in running the gauntlet of the flames. He was suddenly confronted by a wall of fire and smoke and wrapping his head in an overcoat he ran in the direction of the main entrance. He fell unconscious, and was carried to the mouth of the mine. The alarm was sounded and hundreds of miners at work in the mines and on the outside rushed to the rescue of their imprisoned comrades. The fire had by this time made such progress that it was impossible to enter the rooms of flames. The entire night was spent in confining the fire to the two entries and this morning it was necessary to seal them up to prevent the flames from spreading to other parts of the mine. This step was only decided upon after all hope of saving the lives of the men had been abandoned. Nothing could live five minutes in the fire, which was increasing in fierceness every minute. The plugging of the two entries will smother the fire, but it may be several days before the barricades can be removed and the chambers explored.

The exact total of men entombed is not yet known as a number are missing, some on sick leave and others in the hospital, suffering from burns received while fighting the flames, so that an accurate count is at present impossible. The scenes at the mouth of the mine during the night and day were heart-rending. Relatives and friends of the entombed miners rushed to the mine, frantically waving their hands and crying to the mine officials and miners to save their dear ones. Many of the women and children were slightly injured in the crowd and by falling over obstacles in the darkness. Diamondville has been the scene of a number of disastrous fires since the coal mines were opened there, ten years ago, but the conflagrations were never attended with serious loss of life. The mine is owned by the Oregon Short Line Railroad. Its output is about 175,000 tons of coal per year and upwards of 700 miners are employed.

Horror of Horrors.

Versailles, Ind., Special.—George James and his four young daughters were burned to death in their farm house, four miles from Versailles early Saturday morning. A son, 12 years old, made a desperate effort to get his father and sisters out from the burning house, but failed. The son, who been sleeping with his father, escaped through a rear door, and finding it impossible to get back owing to the rapid spread of the fire, rushed to a window of his father's room and broke the glass in with his fist. He begged his father and sisters to climb through the broken sash, but they made no reply. In a few minutes the whole structure fell, burying the five inmates.

The Seaboard to Knoxville.

Brunswick, Ga., Special.—It is reported here that negotiations are pending for the purchase of the Tallulah Falls railroad by the Southern Air Line and eventually resulting in a line from Athens, Ga., to Knoxville, Tenn. The purpose of the new line, it is said, is to bring in reach the undeveloped rollinaatlonolonof-heinao m cmfw m mineral and timber lands of North Georgia, North Carolina and East Tennessee. George L. Prentiss, of New York, who is considered a leading promoter of the undertaking, was here but would neither deny or affirm the rumor.

Goes to Asheville.

Chicago, Special.—John T. McCutcheon, the war correspondent-artist, who was with Admiral Dewey at the battle of Manila, was taken to-day on a special car to Asheville, N. C., where it is hoped his health, seriously affected by malaria contracted in the Philippines, and an attack of typhoid pneumonia in Chicago, will be regained.