

A SENSATIONAL SUICIDE.

Armitage Matthews Kills Himself to Escape Trial—He Was a Prominent Republican.

New York, October 12.—Legal circles received a shock this morning when it was reported that Armitage Matthews, secretary of the Republican County committee, had committed suicide. Matthews was under indictment in connection with the Rothschild looting of the Weissel estate, and was to have been placed on trial before Justice Davy in the criminal branch of the Supreme court today.

Early this morning persons living on West Ninety-Fourth street, directly in the rear of 335 Central Park West, saw a man hurl himself from the fifth story rear window of the latter house, which was Matthews' home. Investigation proved that it was Matthews. An ambulance was summoned, but he died on the way to the hospital.

Matthews was the intimate friend of Abe Gruber and ex-Governor Black, and that law firm has fought the efforts of District Attorney Jerome to bring him to trial at every step.

Matthews was assistant district attorney under Wm. K. Olcott in 1892 and was a member of the board of aldermen for three terms. At the time the board was being organized he was carried into the aldermanic chamber on a stretcher that he might vote for a vice president in sympathy with the administration and refute the argument that money had been paid fusion members to remain away and permit Tammany to organize the board.

School Building Funds.

Columbia, October 11.—The question regarding the subsidy contemplated for new public school buildings has just been decided by Assistant General Youmans. He thinks the State board has a perfect right to provide that the State's money should only go into a school building, where the title to the property is in fee simple. The point was raised in Clarendon county and the Assistant Attorney General renders this opinion on the interesting question:

October 10, 1905.

Hon. O. B. Martin, State Superintendent Education, Columbia, S. C.—Dear Sir: Yours of October 8 received calling my attention to the act to encourage the erection of Adequate public school buildings, February 22, 1905 24 Stats, 1905, and asking whether it was within the competency of the State Board of Education on April 27, 1905, to pass this resolution:

"Resolved, That county boards of education shall require all public school buildings to be constructed only upon land deeded to the trustees in fee simple; that no school building shall be aided by funds under the School Improvement Act, unless constructed according to plans approved by the State board of education, and furthermore, unless the building is found to be of first-class material and workmanship upon inspection by the county superintendent of education."

I am of the opinion that it is within the competency of the State board of education to pass this resolution.

Very Respectfully,

LeRoy F. Youmans, Assistant Attorney General.

EPISCOPAL CONVOCATION.

The fall meeting of the Columbia Convocation of the Episcopal church is called to meet during the week commencing with Monday, Nov. 20th, at the church of the Holy Comforter this city. Here follows the programme for the meeting:

Monday, evening prayer and sermon. Preacher, the Rev. C. M. Niles D. D.

Alternate, the Rev. W. H. Barnwell. Tuesday, morning prayer and discussion of the topic: "The Church and Social Unrest." Leader, the Rev. C. W. Boyd. Afternoon business session, evening prayer and sermon. Preacher, Bishop Capers. Alternate, the Rev. W. E. Callender.

Wednesday, Litany and discussion of the topic, "The Ministry; Is its influence declining? How may its usefulness and efficiency be increased?" Leader, the Hon. R. I. Manning. Afternoon, business session. Evening, evening prayer and sermon. Preacher, the Rev. A. E. Cornish. Alternate the Rev. T. T. Walsh.

Thursday, Morning prayer and discussion of the topic "The Clergyman in relation to the Rubrics and Canons." Leader, the Rev. W. B. Gordon. Afternoon, children's service with address by the Rev. A. E. Cornish. Evening missionary service, with addresses on general and Diocesan missions by the Revs. T. T. Walsh and Albert S. Thomas, respectively.

Friday, Litany and discussion of the topic: "The Church in England Before the landing of Augustine." Evening, evening prayer and sermon. Preacher the Rev. J. H. Tillinghast. Alternate, the Rev. H. O. Judd.

Sunday, preacher, the Rev. T. W. Cliff. The Darlington Cotton Growers' Association has arranged with the Darlington Manufacturing Company to store cotton until a warehouse can be built.

AMERICANS DRINK MORE.

Statistics Indicate Increased Use of Alcoholic Liquors.

I have noticed in a number of leading papers, and especially in the Sun, a statement that the consumption of spirits in the United States is on the decrease, probably as the result of the increase in the use of beer. It seems to me that an examination of the facts will show that this statement is an error. The increase in the consumption of beer is real enough, but unless the past fiscal year proves an exception, which cannot yet be known, as the figures which seem to have misled many—those given out by Internal Revenue Bureau—are only partial, the use of spirits has constantly increased for a decade past.

Table with 4 columns: Year, Spirits, Beer, Gallons. Rows from 1896 to 1904.

The figures of withdrawal of beer for consumption for the fiscal year 1905 show an increase in the total consumption of more than 38,000,000 gallons. The figures of withdrawal of spirits show a small reduction, about 6-10 of 1 per cent. Imports do not seem to be reported yet, and until we have those figures and the estimate of population for the year is decided, it is impossible to say whether we have drunk more or less per capita during the past year.

Reduced to "pure alcohol," the per capita consumption, all liquors included, I figure as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Year, Gallons. Rows from 1840 to 1904.

These figures are rather startling, but I believe them to be correct. They are founded upon the tables of the Statistical Abstract. It seems to me that they show us that some recent writers have been inclined to take a too rose colored view of the temperance situation.—New York Sun.

MURDER ON HIGH SEAS.

Captain and Four of a Schooner's Crew Killed and the Bodies Thrown Overboard.

Wilmington, Oct. 11.—A special to The Star from Southport tonight says the schooner Blanche H. King, Capt. J. W. Taylor, Brunswick, Ga., Sept. 23 for Philadelphia, put in there this afternoon, bringing in irons three negroes, all that remained of the crew of the four-masted schooner Harry A. Berwind, Capt. Emmill, from Mobile, Sept. 23, to Philadelphia, the captain, mate, cook and an engineer who did hoisting aboard having been murdered in a mutiny at sea and their bodies thrown overboard. The body of a fourth negro of the crew was found lying on deck where he, too, had evidently been murdered. Capt. Taylor of the schooner King sighted the Berwind early this morning about 30 miles off the Cape Fear bar and was attracted to her by the manner in which she was being steered, having several times come vey near running down the King. A near approach to the Berwind showed that she had been practically abandoned. Capt. Taylor and crew boarded the vessel and placed the three negroes in irons, bringing the two vessels off the bar when one of them was towed in by Wilmington tugs, which have now gone for the other schooner, a gale prevailing on the outside.

The Berwind being from a territory against which this city is quarantined for yellow fever, the three negroes in irons are held at quarantine until arrangements can be made for their detention by the federal authorities. It develops from the stories of the negroes brought in irons by the King that the mutiny aboard the ship early Tuesday morning about some coffee that was being brewed for breakfast. The King was signalled by the Berwind 30 miles east of Frying Pan lightship and in response to a signal Capt. Taylor sent his mate, engineer and others to board the Berwind. The decks of the schooner were crimson with blood, giving evidence of a fierce encounter. The berth of the mate was spotted with blood, indicating that he was butchered in bed. After the boarding party from the King handcuffed the mutineers on the ship one of the negroes complained the irons were too tight and hurt him. When one of the boarding crew loosened the bracelet on the negro's arm the captive whipped out a pistol and shot one of his own crew, the presumption being that the man killed had signalled the King against the wishes of the three others. The total list of killed is four whites and one negro, the names of none of whom can be learned. The King left a prize crew aboard the Berwind, which is still off the bar, but will be brought in tomorrow morning.

The really onery man can't do work unless he either has a lot of people to watch him or an assistant. What an awful lot of future there lies before a baby, and what a little behind an old man! When a woman has a pretty face and a pretty figure, which does she spend most time in admiring.

A Line From Charleston.

The sale of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton railroad system to the Morgan interests having killed the hope that a line across South Carolina, with a terminus at and a special interest in Charleston would be built with the co-operation of the owners of that system, we shall have to think of other plans for cutting through the cordon of railroad discrimination which oppresses us here. And what better plan than the most direct? Why not cut straight out into the interior, throwing out a line to those who will not throw in a line to us?

We have frequently considered with high expectations the coming of great systems to Charleston. They have not come. Sometimes we have considered going to great systems. We have not gone. Now, there has been subscribed, in the expectation of the building of the C, H. and D. connection, a sum of money almost sufficient to insure the construction of a railroad from Chester to Camden, as a link in a system of roads from the coal fields of Tennessee. Why not proceed with the organization of the construction company projected for that scheme and employ its resources to another line. The people who were counted upon to back the undertaking seem no longer at service, but they are not the only men with money. There is plenty of money in the country and it seems ready to embark on enterprise with reasonable promise of profit. Many railroads have been apparently on air. Let's build an air line.

Where shall we build to? Possibly along the line projected for the Charleston, Virginia and Ohio River railroad, picking up the connections as we go, until ultimately we reach the coal fields of Tennessee and join, even with their grudging consent, the C, H. and D., which Mr. Morgan has bought to prevent unwished for competition with his other lines. Perhaps to the Seaboard Air Line, along the line of the Charleston, Augusta and Chattanooga railroad, which was projected a few years ago and was abandoned when Mr. John Skelton Williams lost control of the Seaboard system to the Morgan influences again. The Seaboard is under the same general influences that operate the Southern, but the laws of South Carolina preserve it in the character of a competing line with that system and it would have to furnish some traffic to the line which tapped its rails. And we should then have three systems of railroad running into Charleston, none of them, perhaps, with whole hearted interest in the port, but all of them forced by the very logic of business to make some effort at service. Even the small rivalries of local managements are not without advantage.

The point we make is that now that the people of Charleston have prepared themselves to build a certain length of road they should go ahead and build that length, even if it takes a different route from that marked out for it in the project which has failed. But the essential consideration, from which there should be not the slightest deviation, is that it should be built from Charleston. The projectors of the Charleston, Virginia and Ohio River line have acquired fine terminal properties on the Cooper river. Let the first cross tie be laid and the first spike driven there. If the road goes no further than Ten Mile Hill it will at east pass through the hinterland of the city which some day will develop into rich suburban territory. "A small thing but mine own" can be said of it. When we get to the end of it we can at least come back to Charleston. The trouble with all these other lines which have been projected is that they have started for Charleston, but have never reached here. The only railroads which we now have, after seventy years of railroad building, are those which began at Charleston.

If a line is constructed from Charleston into the interior it will not have to go far before it meets with some recognition. If we should build to the Seaboard Air Line the Southern would sit up and take notice. If we should build to St. Paul there is Col. Tom Wilson's little road which would help us along to Camden. Then we might take up the line to Chester, as recently projected as the first part of the Charleston, Virginia and Ohio River scheme, and after that another reach to the coal fields, where we should be safe enough. Before the road had ever proceeded that far, however, the effect of its undertaking would be apparent in the changed attitude of the lines operating into Charleston. We would be in the game. We might have a small stack of chips, but we should be entitled to a show down. And, if nothing else, our presence would disturb the draw of the other players. So we should have some const-eration. And our stake would always be Charleston.

Moreover we should have the satisfaction of helping ourselves. That is worth while if only in the confidence it inspires within, but it would be worth much more than that. It would compel respect, and it would command business. Commerce is essentially servile. It takes orders, but does not pay any attention to appeals.

Let us build a railroad from Charleston. Let those who will come to us, but let us go out into the world.—Charleston Post.

Decrease in Farm Population.

"The census of the states this year is telling some interesting facts that need little analysis to make plain reading," says Commercial West. "The increase of population in Minnesota during the past five years, now found to be about 225,000, is to be credited almost wholly to the increase of city and village population; that the older settled rural districts have lost in population, and that the only considerable increase in rural population is in the undeveloped farm-land sections.

"The recent census figures of Iowa further emphasize the fact that our rural population is being drained off to the cities without compensating supply to the farm areas. The state of Iowa—perhaps the most nearly ideal farming state of the union—has lost in total population in the past five years 15,000. While the state, as a whole, has lost this number of inhabitants, every city of over 5,000 population has gained in population, the twenty-five cities of this class having gained a total of over 77,000. This means that the rural districts, including cities and villages under 5,000, have lost more than 90,000 of population in the past five years. If, as was shown in Minnesota, the smaller towns of Iowa have grown at the expense of farm population, it may not be far from fact to reckon that Iowa's farms have lost 140,000 population in the last half decade.

"Iowa had little undeveloped land attracting settlers. Speaking broadly, that portion of the state's increasing population, mostly young farmers, and the immigrant seekers of land, were offered little but high priced land within the state. Since that year this class of land seekers has been turned from the costly lands of Iowa to the cheaper lands of the Dakotas and northwestern Canada. It is well known that the emigration of these people to the northwest during the past five years has been greater from Iowa than from any other state. But the fact is obvious that when the farm population left the state its place was not filled by a new population as numerous. Consequently the average Iowa farmer today is handling more acres than he did in the year 1900.

"We had supposed that the coming of the rural electric line and the bicycle would make farm life more attractive and in the end, with other improvement to come, turn the current the other way. Is it that even these advantages will not hold the farmers to their farms? Or is it that the price of farm land is so high that the recruits for the rural middle classes are now unable to get a start in life, and so must drift to the city, where they can live reasonably well as employees?"

Second Week Jurors.

- The Petit Jurors for the second week of the Court of General Sessions was drawn Thursday as follows: J. C. Stokes, M. D. Weaver, J. E. Player, A. H. Stuckey, C. W. Kingman, C. P. Mims, S. J. Newman, M. J. Moore, R. L. Wright, J. H. Levy, H. M. McLaurin, W. T. Player, H. N. Barnes, H. W. Cuttino, E. B. Hodge, W. R. Phillips, Geo. E. Martin, J. W. Osteen, E. T. Hodge, W. H. Patle, J. D. Truluck, J. W. Goodman, J. A. Boykin, Warren Moise, I. N. Thomlinson, A. C. Thompson, E. D. Cockerel, B. B. Seymour, L. D. Jervey, W. M. Davis, Singelton, Bradford, J. M. Phillips, J. D. McLeod, H. M. Dennis, C. W. Sanders, J. M. Brogdon.

Daughters of Confederacy.

Mrs. A. W. Burnett of Camden, president of the Daughters of the Confederacy in this State, has issued the following call for the annual convention to be held in Johnston, November 29th: Camden, S. C., Oct. 10, 1905. To the United Daughters of the Confederacy: The tenth annual convention of the State division, U. D. C., meets at Johnston, S. C., on the 29th of November and all delegates are urged to be present on that day. Reduced railroad rates have been applied for.

Respectfully yours, Harriet Shannon Burnett, President S. C. Div. U. D. C. The truth about lids is that there never was one that fit very tight. Do you enjoy being disagreeable in public? Some people do. When a little man is disagreeable, the worst he has to fear is a slap. Even if he receives a slap, people will say it was an outrage for a big man to strike a little one. But if a big man is disagreeable, some one is liable to shoot him, and people will say, "Served the big duffer right."

MISTAKES OF THE PRINTER.

When He Can't Make Out a Word He Makes a "Stab" at It.

The amusing mistakes that happen in printing offices are the source of much fun for the men who set 'pe. Most of the "stuff" that passes through the hands of printers is written by men with fair or better education. But they are usually poor penmen, and when matter comes to a printer that he cannot read he "makes a stab" at it and trusts to the proof reader to correct mistakes.

Perhaps you will remember that Bryan made a speech on free silver. As the climax to his oration he declared the American people wanted "no cross of gold, no crown of thorns." The expression has become historic. It was such a striking phrase that a Chicago paper decided it would make a good head over the convention story. Therefore one of the head writers wrote the head: "No cross, no crown."

When set it read: "No cows, no cream." Fortunately the mistake was discovered in time for correction. In the same office another printer made an amusing mistake. He was putting an article into type for the dramatic critic. Many of the words used by the critic were new ones to the printer. In discussing the merits of a certain violinist who was performing at the auditorium the critic wrote a sentence which concluded with the words, "and the gentleman also lacks polish."

When a proof was taken of the type it read: And the gentleman also speaks Polish." All newspaper offices have what is called a "style." For instance, some papers bar expressions of horror. Others bar words that are too long. They have printed lists of synonyms which printers shall substitute for the words that are under the ban. Other papers have a style as to how two or more syllables are to be separated in case the word comes at the end of a line of type.

Some printers stick too close to "style rules." A "style rule" in a certain office cautioned the printers against using the word "balance." The word "remainder" was substituted. The night after the rule went into effect a prominent citizen fell from a balcony and was killed. The reporter who wrote the story used the expression: "He lost his balance and fell to the street." The printer who got hold of the story made it appear: "He lost his 'remainder' and fell to the street."

Portrait of Gen. Robert E. Lee.

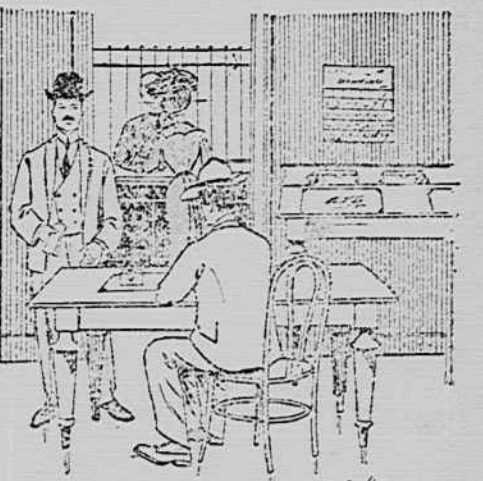
The fact that too frequently it transpires in American history that no accurate and authentic portrait of her great men is faithfully preserved has caused a number of the devoted admirers of General Robert E. Lee to interest themselves to cause a perfect picture of the great general to be made and to be preserved for all future history. This work, after a lapse of forty years, is now under way by the John A. Lowell Bank Note Company, of Boston, who are using for this purpose the exact photograph made at General Lee's residence in Richmond a few days after the surrender, which picture has always been considered by the Lee family and friends as the most perfect likeness ever taken of the General at that period. The work, when finished, will be of the highest art of steel engraving, so that it will thus be preserved for all future time.—Washington Post.

A New Russian Era.

Episodes like this war are a part of the discipline of a crude and undeveloped race such as the Russians are. A new era of genuine advancement is already in sight for the one hundred and fifty millions of human beings who acknowledge the Czar as their ruler. In the military sense, Russia's position in the Far East has been eclipsed; but it may be found a source of strength rather than of weakness for her to abandon, at present, all idea of armed dominance and to proceed with the agricultural and commercial advancement of Siberia, joining all other nations in peaceful and friendly efforts to develop Manchuria and to open up trade with all parts of China. Russia remains almost where she stood ten years ago as a Far-Eastern power in the geographical sense, with the added advantage that she has now her great railway line to Vladivostok completed, and has made substantial beginnings in the planting of towns and the opening up of farm lands over a vast expanse of country. She had previously promised to evacuate Manchuria, and had disavowed designs of conquest against Korea. In a technical sense, therefore, she can claim not to have lost her permanent position on the Pacific coast. But she will not menace Japan.—From "The Progress of the World," in the American Monthly Review of Reviews for October. Policeman Corn, of Greenville, has been arrested for participating in a crap game with negroes and whites.

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Colds

It should be borne in mind that every cold weakens the lungs, lowers the vitality and prepares the system for the more serious diseases, among which are the two greatest destroyers of human life, pneumonia and consumption.

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has won its great popularity by its prompt cures of this most common ailment. It aids expectoration, relieves the lungs and opens the secretions, effecting a speedy and permanent cure. It counteracts any tendency toward pneumonia. Price 25c, Large Size 50c.

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