

# SOUTHERN TRAGEDY

Desperate Robber Boards Mail Coach and Kills a Mail Clerk.

In Escaping With Valuable Packages He Has Leg Crushed.

Run Down by Bloodhounds—Is Now Guarded by Mississippi Troops to Prevent Lynching.

Birmingham, Ala., March 1.—According to reports received here by the officials of the Alabama Great Southern railroad, two postal clerks were shot on north-bound train No. 2, two miles north of Meridian, Miss., during an attempt to rob the train. The shooting was done by Jim Paris, a negro, who boarded the train in the Meridian yards as it was pulling out. Before it was under good headway, Paris entered the postal car and opened fire on J. T. Stockton and A. J. Bass, killing Stockton instantly and wounding Bass in the arm. The negro then seized a package of registered letters and jumped off. In leaving the train he fell and had one leg crushed under the wheels, but managed to drag himself three miles. Bloodhounds were obtained at Meridian, the train having backed to that place. Their scent led to the capture of Paris at daylight. Several registered letters were found in his pocket. He was taken to jail at Meridian. The railroad officials say three or four negroes were involved in the plot to rob the train, though only one of them appears to have entered the postal car. Stockton, the dead clerk, lived at Meridian and Bass's home was near Birmingham.

The killing of Express Messenger Stockton has caused much excitement. After Paris was placed in jail a mob of considerable proportions gathered about the stronghold. Fearing a lynching the sheriff notified Governor Vardaman, and the chief executive ordered out the local militia company.

Three full companies of state troops surround the county jail in which is lodged J. P. Paris, a negro, who is charged with the killing of John R. Stockton, a mail clerk, the serious wounding of J. A. Bass, another mail clerk, and the robbery of the mail car on the Alabama Great Southern train which left Memphis for Birmingham.

A. O. U. W.

Officer Severely Injured While Serving Summons.

Boston, March 1.—While attempting to serve notice of a libel suit of William Miller, of St. Louis, supreme master workman of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, Deputy Sheriff Silsby was severely injured. As a result of the schism in the order, John Symonds, of Lynn, grand master workman of the state lodge, entered libel proceedings against Miller, damages being set at \$10,000 and Deputy Sheriff Silsby had been trying to locate the St. Louis man for several days. Last night the officer was notified that Miller was on his way to the headquarters of the national organization and the sheriff waited outside the door for him to appear.

Miller escaped by darting into the headquarters and slamming the door on Sheriff Silsby's hand when the officer attempted to seize him. Three of the sheriff's fingers were fractured. The doors were then locked, bolted, chained and padlocked.

## Land for Settlers.

Washington, March 1.—Some excellent lands, including twelve townships of the Red Lake Indian reservation in northwestern Minnesota and a part of the Rosebud reservation—about 416,000 acres—in Gregory county, S. D., will be opened for settlement in a few months. President Roosevelt has conceived the idea that it would be to the interest of the government to adopt the plan of disposing of the land by auction, and for some time he has been talking on the subject with senators and representatives in congress who are interested in it. No decision as to the method of sale has been determined upon, but it is not improbable that in his proclamation announcing the opening of the lands to settlement the president may prescribe how they shall be sold.

## Michigan Snow-Bound.

Bay City, Mich., March 1.—The Michigan Central railroad has abandoned all trains between Bay City and Mackinac. The worst snow storm of twenty-five years is raging. At Standish, Grayling and Sterling the drifts are ten feet deep. At Standish a double-header passenger train is in the snow and the passengers have been taken off. Snow plows have been unable to relieve several other trains. The Detroit and Mackinac railroad is also blocked, all Alpena trains being cancelled.

Snow With Thunder and Lightning. New York, March 1.—In many parts of New York state a veritable blizzard is raging. At Rochester a driving snow storm was accompanied by thunder and sharp flashes of lightning. The storm at that place was reported to be one of the worst of the season.

TILT IN HOUSE

Congressmen Indulge in Breezy Passages.

Washington, March 1.—During consideration of the District of Columbia appropriation bill in the house yesterday, Mr. Scott of Kansas made the declaration that a negro had dined at the White House with President Cleveland during the latter's first administration. The statement was prompted by a reference by Mr. Gilbert (Ky.) to the dining of Booker Washington at the White House. When the name was demanded Mr. Scott said it was C. H. J. Taylor, who was appointed by President Cleveland as recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia.

Mr. Gilbert observed that he and others never had heard of the incident, but the Democrats were not "particularly claiming" Mr. Cleveland, and Mr. Cochran (Mo.) said it was but cumulative evidence that "there is no better Republican in the country than Grover Cleveland."

Mr. Scott in contrasting Booker Washington with Taylor, said the former was a man of recognized ability, while he declared there was nothing to command the latter.

A discussion of the question of reciprocity by Mr. Dalzell (Pa.) and Mr. Williams, the minority leader, consumed the greater portion of the day. Another feature of the day was the declaration by Mr. Lovering (Mass.) that while the Republican party was talking about "standing pat," thousands of dollars were being lost to manufacturers and that "our boasted prosperity is fast coming to an end" because of the failure of the party to enlarge the draw-back system and give the new markets which he declared were now demanded. Mr. Lovering was loudly applauded on the minority side when he took issue with his party.

CORBETT STILL CHAMPION

Fight Stopped in the Eleventh Round by Referee.

San Francisco, March 1.—Champion Featherweight Young Corbett had no difficulty in retaining his laurels last night, defeating Dave Sullivan, of New York, in the 11th round of a scheduled 20-round contest. Corbett left the ring without a mark, while on the other hand Sullivan received a terrific beating only the merciful action of Referee Graney in stopping the contest in the 11th round saving the New Yorker from having his face beaten into a pulp. Sullivan put up a game fight and, while out-boxed, out-fought and out-generalized, he gave the champion cause for worry in one round. Taking another feature out of the fight, which was Sullivan's excessive gameness, the contest was never in doubt.

Governor Vardaman and Lynchings.

Jackson, Miss., March 1.—Governor Vardaman has given an interview on the subject of lynching, which, in view of his utterances during the campaign has much importance. The governor, in concluding the interview, said: "I can sympathize thoroughly with one whose friend or relative has been outraged or atrociously murdered by a black brute, and I am not going to censure people who act a little indiscretely under the influence of passion thus aroused, but there is one thing certain, the law must be upheld and so long as I occupy the gubernatorial chair I shall do all within my power to see that the laws are enforced. The courts must perform their functions. When this is done the people will be satisfied."

Making Navy More Efficient.

Washington, March 1.—Important to the efficiency of the American navy was the action of Secretary Moody in signing the order for the equipping of the eighteen battleships and armored cruisers now building with submerged torpedoes. The board on construction recently decided to omit torpedo tubes from all battleships. There was such a protest, however, from many officers in the navy that at the instance of the secretary the board reconsidered its decision. It is believed that the torpedo tubes with which the Jap battleships are equipped are responsible for the damage to the Russian battleships in the Port Arthur day attack as the Russian vessels were hit below the water line.

## BRIEF DISPATCHES

The Russian squadron in the Red sea continues to stop and examine British steamers.

Enilio Duarte, one of the wealthiest multi-millionaires of Yucatan, is dead, leaving a fortune of \$8,000,000.

An Alabama Great Southern train was held up by train robbers near Birmingham and two railway mail clerks killed.

In a quarrel near Strasburg, Mo., William Stonaker, aged 21, a prominent character, was shot and killed by George Tywater.

Nothing is known concerning the rumor that Foreign Minister Lamsdorff is to be replaced by the present Russian minister to Denmark.

The improvement of Panama and making it a healthy tropical city necessitates the installation of a good water supply and modern sewage system.

Mahala Altman and Caroline Early, mother and daughter, were found dead, sitting in their chairs by a stove at Huntington, Ind., asphyxiated by escaping gas.

The revolt in West Africa is spreading. In an engagement near Oldjinahaka the Germans lost one officer killed and four wounded. The number of natives killed is not known.

Captain R. A. Hurt is dead at Yates Center, Kan., aged 84. Captain Hurt was one of the early Kansas settlers, immigrating from Illinois. He was personally acquainted with Abraham Lincoln.

To facilitate the handling of large sums of money during the exposition period, seventeen of the largest banks and trust companies of St. Louis have organized the Bankers' World's Fair National bank.

In an address before the Chicago Anthropological Society, M. W. Pinkerton, head of the Pinkerton Detective agency, declared that political corruption is responsible for a large proportion of crime and criminals.

# IS IT PEACE OR WAR?

Coal Miners and Mine Owners Again in Conference.

Outlook for Agreement on Wage Scale Is Not Very Hopeful Just at Present.

Each Side Unwilling to Armit That Trouble Will Come—Both Are Firm.

Indianapolis, March 1.—The 350 accredited Indiana, Ohio, western Pennsylvania and Illinois operators and the 725 miners' delegates from all the twenty-five districts of the United Mine Workers' organization, who met in Tomlinson hall yesterday morning, to take up again the question of the 1904 mining scale and contract, adjourned until this morning, after a half-hour's session, in which nothing was done. The miners were immediately called into extra national convention by President John Mitchell.

Though the question of scale was not taken up yesterday morning, it is found that miners and operators have returned to Indianapolis determined to stand for their previous demands—the operators for the scale and working contract of 1904, which would carry a 12 to 15 per cent reduction in wages, and the miners for the readoption of the present scale. The miners' delegates, in fact, seem to stand more determinedly against any reduction than in the last joint conference. The outlook for the prevention of a general strike involving four states and also in Michigan, Iowa, Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky, Central Pennsylvania and Iowa, in which working contracts also expire on April 1, is not very bright, though both sides profess to have strong hopes that what might honestly be termed "the unexpected" will happen, and a contract for the four states and basic scale for other districts will be adopted this week.

Delegates from the anthracite district No. 1 are instructed to vote against any further concessions. Some who are thoroughly in touch with the sentiment, doubt that even the miners' national officers could influence the 725 delegates to vote to accept a reduction.

## A BRUTAL FATHER

Pours Whisky Down Throat of Four-Year-Old Child.

Michigan City, Ind., March 1.—Upon going to his home, Anson Crampton, a laborer, nearly killed his two-year-old son by administering whisky to the little one. Taking the child on his knee, after he had created a disturbance with his family, Crampton poured nearly all the contents of a half-pint bottle of whisky down the child's throat. The police were called and Crampton was removed to jail. The child lay in a stupor all night, but physicians think it will recover. Crampton was given a lengthy jail sentence.

## Glassworks Resume.

North Vernon, Ind., March 1.—The fires were rekindled at the North Vernon glass works a week ago and the work of blowing chimneys began yesterday. The output for the remainder of the season is all contracted, though at low price. One hundred and twenty-five persons are employed. The industry is a good one for the town. The pay roll is \$2.00 a week. In connection with the works is a box factory employing eight or ten persons.

## Storm at Wabash.

Wabash, Ind., March 1.—A severe hail and rain storm visited this city. The electrical display was vivid. Lightning struck the home of Samuel Harck, knocking off the chimney and partly wrecking the building. W. W. Ford's barn was also damaged, and a steer was killed. The hail, about the size of moth balls, whitened the ground and ruined the Wabash Greenhouse company's building, destroying the flowers. The loss is \$1,500. The rivers are rising and the Ft. Wayne & Southwestern Interurban railway is flooded by the Wabash, no cars entering the city.

## Death of H. F. Huntley.

Laporte, Ind., March 1.—H. F. Huntley, a Laporte miller and a brother of Mrs. Charles Emory Smith, of Philadelphia, is dead. Mr. Huntley was born at Dayton, O., sixty-five years ago, but he had lived in Laporte for fifty years. He served in an Indiana regiment during the civil war. He was severely wounded at Day's Gap, Ala.

## Overcome at Church Fire.

Kokomo, Ind., March 1.—Rev. L. J. Nafzger, who assisted the firemen to pull down the burning walls of the Main street Christian church, was taken suddenly ill in the street and is in a serious condition.

## Killed His Brother.

Marion, Ind., March 1.—John A. Jackson, eighteen, accidentally killed his brother, Charles, four, at their home, near Weaver, southwest of Marion. John was cleaning a shotgun, when it was discharged. John has smallpox, and the home is under quarantine.

## Nothing In It.

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