

The Monroe Enquirer.

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NO. 45.

MURDER TRIAL.

Testimony for the State vs. Sam-
uel Alexander.

TESTIMONY OF MRS. FANNIE DUNN.

Mrs. Fannie Dunn, the wife of the deceased, was introduced by the State as the first witness. She testified that on Friday, 26th Jan., 1877, after the family had eaten supper, and she and her husband had walked out of the dining room, and had sat and talked together some time; her husband rose and went out, remarking that he was going to attend to some feeding of his stock. She returned to the cook room, where her little sister, 9 or 10 years old, was washing dishes and in a very short time she heard the report of a gun, which she thought was the report of some one's gun out rabbit hunting, till she heard her husband call her. She went out, found her husband lying across the gate (way); he could not move. She ran and called servants, Ike Ardrey, Allen Ardrey and Jake Ardrey, who lived on the place in a very short distance of the house, came; they carried him into the house. The defendant, Samuel Alexander, and who lived in short distance, was called, and answered at his house or in the direction. Jake Ardrey was despatched for Dr. William McIlwain; and her mother and Dr. Kell was sent for. Husband said he was "shot through the bowels, and was obliged to die." She was very much excited; could not tell much about the time. Alexander, the defendant, did not come till about three quarters of an hour after he was called by Isaac Ardrey. Mother and Dr. McIlwain came in afterwards. Mr. Dunn, the deceased, was asked to give his version or statement of the case. He made the following statement: He said he had walked out to gate, in going to see after stock. He saw an object in road some distance from him. He called, and asked: "Is that you, Sam Alexander?" No answer was given. He then walked on a short distance to hog pen, and started back to gate, when the man staggered up to within about five or ten steps, and said, "I believe I am lost; can you direct me to Mr. George Howie's?" When he started to give the directions the gun was suddenly leveled upon him and was fired. The gun had been cocked. She testified that Alexander lived in hearing distance. Husband took the Monroe Enquirer; did not know that Alexander did take it—he borrowed it sometimes. Alexander moved to the place before Christmas, 1875. Alexander was the first to go to the house after Ike, Allen and Jake, and a little white boy, Johnnie Adams, who all lived very near the house. Husband asked Dr. McIlwain what his condition was. Dr. told him he could live but a short time. Husband said he thought so, too. Did not know when he died that night. Was present at the bedside when husband related that when he first saw the object he thought it was Alexander. I called out, "Is that you, Alexander?" Alexander made no reply, but soon walked across the floor and then walked out. No new facts were brought out on cross examination and no change was made from her first account.

TESTIMONY OF DR. WM. MCILWAIN.

Dr. William McIlwain was the next witness introduced by the State. Testified that he was sent for on the occasion of the murder. It was about good dark when boy came for him; went as soon as possible—two miles and a half over rough road. Sam Alexander was there, when he got there; and others. Was asked by the deceased what he thought of his case; told him he could not live long. Dunn said he thought so, too. Described the wound as one through the bowel; he did not know whether done with ball or load of shot—one hole through body from one side to the other, in which he could place his two fingers. Lived about 3 hours after he got there; did not know the exact time of night; but thought it about 9 o'clock. Said he heard statement of deceased—that he (deceased) saw man near hog pen; came near him, asked the way to Howie's; but his face muffled. Deceased did not know whether it was a white or black man. Witness takes the Enquirer, and Enquirer has a large circulation up in that country.

WILLIAM A. WATSON (SUB-TANOR).

Was at Jefferson Dunn's the night he was shot, and died. Heard the deceased questioned by Jefferson Ezzeil as to the affair, state it as follows: "I was about the gate. I discovered a person or object, I supposed Alexander, at corner of garden; called him by name but got no answer; went a few steps—called Ike Ardrey, but got no answer. Went to hog pen, and returned to gate, when the object rose up and came to me, staggering and acting like a drunken man, and said: 'I believe I am lost; can you direct me to George Howie's?' Stepped out of gate to give the directions—object came in ten steps—I saw gleam of the gun—gun fired, and I fell." Witness said Sam Alexander was present during that conversation at the foot of the bed holding a lamp. Alexander looked up at me when his name was mentioned—our eyes met. Alexander remained a little longer—before Dunn

killed. Was working on his house at William McIlwain's, into which he was going to move, on the day the homicide took place. Left his house at Dr. McIlwain's about one hour and three quarters by the gun, to come home with his cart; on his way home, he saw a man under a pine tree a long distance off. He was then stooping down and he thought he was loading his gun—saw his hand going up and down. He first thought it was Mr. Dunn. Got up within one hundred and fifty yards of tree. The man saw him, whirled back and made off. Saw him going off for fifty yards. It was a man who filled Alexander's description—had on dirty, sort of mixed clothes and a brownish colored hat. All of which he saw Alexander have on since. Recognized other men at that distance put under pine tree. Took him a load of wood and went to Mr. Ross'—was at Joe Ross' gin-house when he heard the gun fire about dusk—dark. Went on to William Dunn's and sat with others with a sick woman. On cross-examination, had no serious difficulties with Mr. Dunn—was ordered out of his yard. Did not tell Bailey who it was under tree. Had not seen Alexander when examined by the Coroner (to see what kind of clothes he had on); saw him at the examination at Ezzeil's, and pointed him out as the man who filled the description of the man under the tree. Swore at his examination before Price and McIlwain, at Jefferson Ezzeil's that he did not know whether it was a white man or negro, but that if it was a negro, it was a yellow one—in effect, it was either a white man or yellow one under the tree. Said man under tree acted strangely, and asked wife if she saw any person out rabbit hunting. Bailey tried to sell him a gun—an old musket, the gun he had already sold to Alexander. He said he had been arrested about this himself. Was at Adam Withers' when he heard of Mr. Dunn's death late in the night, Friday night. Came to his work next morning and went to work without his breakfast.

SAM DAVIS (COL'D.)

Testified that he saw Primus Houston at Mr. Ross' gin-house about dusk on Friday evening—saw him at Joe Miller's afterwards. Mr. Willie Koss testified to about the same as Sam Davis.

MR. ISAAC MCQUIRY

Was at Mr. Dunn's Saturday morning, after the neighbors had gathered in. Saw muffled tracks in the road near where the deceased fell; followed them short distance—25 or 30 yards—where they crossed over into clover patch and through it, 100 yards into pasture. He then saw Mr. Howard and Sam Alexander following the track two or three hundred yards ahead of him, and went to them. Sam Alexander had the muffs in his hand, and was leading on the trail. Was told where muffs were found, back in pasture about 25 yards from clover lot. Followed tracks near Primus Houston's house, then turned, and went through Mr. Fulton Howard's plantation; went up a ditch near Amos Houston's house. Heard Alexander say that "the muffs would be evidence against no one, for he had a shirt like it himself." Was shown the pine tree by a little negro, Primus—found some shreds of the muffs there. Broom straw was matted down as if some one had been sitting or lying on it. Saw tracks in ploughed ground leading away from pine tree till within about 125 yards of place where shot was fired. Also, saw muffled tracks where Mr. Dunn said he first discovered the man. Did not see any tracks in pasture where muffs were found, leading off towards Alexander's house; did not look for any. The whole distance that they followed the tracks was about two miles. The proposition was made and agreed to, to let Howard and Alexander lead, so that the tracks would not be blotted out.

J. B. SQUIRES

Only three hundred yards to Alexander's house from where the muffs were thrown off. Heard Primus Houston examined at Jefferson Ezzeil's; told the same thing here except to the time he saw the man under the tree. But swore that it was a person who looked like Alexander, from his form, clothes and hat. Found a track leading out of the creek to the pine tree; saw muffled track leaving the man move off. The track (with out muffs) was pointed out to him, that went up through Sam Howard's plantation—was a larger track than the foot with muffs on would have made.

The track followed by Alexander, Howard and others did not correspond with the track that came up out of the creek to Pine Tree. Alexander went to put us on the track; put me on a different track that did correspond with the one coming out of creek, but not with one followed by Alexander and Howard, nor with muffled track. Track I followed went N.E.; Alexander's house was South; went up through Fulton Howard's orchard and near Amos Houston's house, and finally turned rather in the direction of Doster's. Made no search where muffs were thrown off for tracks leading toward Alexander's house; also saw track that resembled others leading in the

direction of Mrs. Doster's. Heard Ike Ardrey swear at Ezzeil's that "Alexander came as soon as he could."

AMOS HOUSTON, COLORED.

Testified that he lived on Fulton Howard's land. Alexander came to the corner of his house where he was cutting wood on the Friday morning; said he and Ike had been fox hunting, but did not get a race, and said he was going to Doster's; came up the hollow that has a ditch upon it.

PHILLIS HOUSTON, (AMOS' WIFE).

Was at home the Friday morning; saw Alexander Friday morning coming up a ditch between gin house and country road; saw him for some time before he got to house; he came up to corner of house and walked to husband. Saw crowd coming the same way up the hollow on Saturday morning.

(There were a good many witnesses closely questioned by both State and defendant as to the tracks and the courses and distances, but this part of the case was minute and intricate and a little conflicting, and could not be made intelligible unless we could give a map and the theory of both parties, so we will not go farther into this, but simply say that all agreed as to the tracks till the muffs were thrown off in the pasture, about 200 yards from the place where the gun was fired. From there two tracks were followed, one by Alexander and Sam Howard and some others, and the other by J. B. Squires, which was shown him as the correct one by Alexander, and which corresponded with the one which came out of the creek up to the pine tree. Neither fitted exactly the muffled track; one followed by Alexander and Howard didn't correspond to one which came out of creek to pine tree. The track followed by Amos Houston's door, or at least they tracked it only within about 50 yards of the door, and this track did not go up the bottom ditch, but up the hill-side ditch and turned back upon the ditch and went out through Sam Howard's plantation. The one followed by Mr. Squires went up bank of ditch in hollow, and went out by Fulton Howard's and finally turned towards Mrs. Doster's.)

WILLIAM UNDERWOOD

Testified that he lived seven miles from Monroe, East. In August, 1877, was making brick; defendant came down to his house and staid one Friday night; went out over fields next morning; asked defendant about the murder of Dunn; defendant would not talk about it, but said he lived up there and had been taken up about it, but they did not go. Employed him to work at brick yard next week; witness said he talked to defendant about the strikes at the North then going on; defendant approved of them and entered fully into the spirit of them; defendant went home (in Providence) and came back; said, "I am a hellish mad—Sam and Fulton Howard have made a law to allow only 30 cents a day; I intend to shoulder my gun and start right out and kill Sam Howard the first man." Upon it being suggested that it was too early for that yet, that "we would be in the look-up before a day," the defendant replied: "I run Dunn's blockade." Asked to explain: "I killed Dunn and I have never been found out yet, and never will!" This was said at the brick yard to witness alone, at night, while they were watching the brick kiln. Short time afterwards Alexander's son was caught stealing Underwood's pistol. Went to brick yard where Alexander and other hands were working, and told Alexander in the presence of hands and abused him, and said to him: "D—n you, you are not running Dunn's blockade now, but Bill Underwood's." Alexander said nothing in reply, but asked for a settlement; settlement was given and he left. Defendant also said to witness on one occasion: "I know where there is a tin box I believe it's a full of gold, and I expect to make a raise some day. I saw the box once when I went in to get the keys." Witness said he never heard any one else speak of a tin box; did not know Bob Grier, col; got papers, Monroe Enquirer and Express about then; defendant came and he read out of papers to defendant about strikes North; denied dealing in whiskey, selling it to hands about that time; admitted being convicted in 1868 or '69 of mis-murking sheep; was pardoned on petition signed by a hundred people. Witness was proved to be a man of bad character by eight or ten good men. No evidence was given or offered of his good character; asked if he told Sam Stephens that if he would have him subpoenaed in the Secret case that he would identify the dress worn by Mrs. Stevenson; denied that, but said he thought he could say that he had seen Mrs. Stevenson with same kind of calico dress. Saw the reward of \$300 offered by the friends of the deceased.

ROBERT GRIDER

Had a conversation with Alexander on fourth Sunday in September; went to his house and called him out to the fence; did not know me; asked me if I was the fellow they had up; told I was; said he knew he was not the man—said, "Hat me up, but they did not make anything out of me." Said they always took up the poor

class. The democrats had gotten up a law and said we will have to get up a strike and kill Sam Howard and others; said Bill Watson was J—dest raised in Union county, and spoke of having tried to kill Watson. Witness remarked: "It was pity the way Dunn was killed." Alexander granted and said: "A striker came through and struck Dunn; I am a regular striker myself," spoke of strikes North, and said it would not be three weeks before there would be plenty of strikes here; said they had a club down at brick yard, Underwood and others; was asked if he was not afraid they would not do to be thus trusted; he said he was not afraid to tell Underwood anything—he was all right; wanted witness to get up a club in Providence; witness said he did not know William Underwood, and never had seen him to know him; had just gotten out of Leucaster jail then; no bill was found; was turned loose.

CATHERINE DOSTER

Remembers day Dunn was killed; Alexander was at her house that day—came in for part of the day and left after dinner; remarked to witness that his shoes, which her son had half-soled, had done very well till that morning, when both soles came off; thinks the day of murder was on 22d of Nov., 1876.

S. B. HOWARD

Was then introduced on the part of the defence. Did not see any tracks leading off towards Alexander's house from where the muffs were found; saw muffed tracks near garden, pointed out by Alexander; followed into pasture. While Alexander was picking up muffs he (Howard) discovered a track making off, circled around through Dunn place, my plantation, and R. F. Howard's, and turned back on ditch on hill-side; track did not go up pond ditch; did not track track in but fifty yards of Amos Houston's house; followed track a half mile making off toward Fulton Howard's; in some places could not see track for forty or fifty yards. A hollow ten steps from hill-side ditch near Amos house on left hand side of Fulton Howard's. At muffs it was hard broom sage ground towards Alexander's.

Last track seen was in half mile of Alexander's house in old road; other houses near; admitted Alexander's track in old road to be a little different; Alexander's track in old road was made with old shoe; it would take a man an hour to go distance of tracks.

DARLING BROOM, THE CORONER.

Was next put up. Recollects Primus' testimony about man under the tree. Primus said he did not know the man—could not get close enough; Primus did not mention Alexander's name; asked particularly about this man under the tree; does not recollect whether Primus said he did not know the man or said he would not swear to the man; don't think Alexander was in yard; was not in room.

ALEXANDER MOLLWAIN

Issued warrant for Alexander. Remembers substance of Primus' testimony, which was, he saw man under pine tree, was either white or yellow; Primus, when asked to point out in crowd the man that favored man most pointed out Alexander. Primus said he went to work next morning after the murder without his breakfast. Ike Ardrey said on same occasion that he called Alexander and he came as soon as he could.

ROBERT ALEXANDER

Son of the defendant, a bright intelligent boy of 12 or 13 years, was next put on the stand. Testified as follows: Remember night Mr. Dunn was killed; was sitting at the back of table eating supper, when gun fired; saw the flash; the door was at the end of the house towards Mr. Dunn's; was sitting at the fire; heard excited talking; heard them say, "Go for the nearest doctor!" Father said he expected the child was worse; continued putting on his shoes; heard the call father to come, some one had shot Mr. Dunn; in about six minutes Jake came by and said some one had shot Mr. Dunn; he was standing in door when Jake came by—father at the fire; father knew child was sick before this. I told father to take his gun and not let any one shoot him; father took gun and went; saw him going nearly all the way, about 400 yards; did not see him stop or hollow before he got there; moon was shining; father had been home from feeding about half hour; he knew what was the matter when Ike called; gun had been loaded some days; had not had the gun very long; father staid first time about a half hour and came back; he went again and came back late and went to bed; heard father talking to mother more than three or four times during the night. Father went to Doster's that morning; did not carry gun; got up before daylight, eat breakfast and started to Doster's; did not go for fox hunting that morning—went with some men about a week before. When father got back from Doster's we went hunting a buck; father found nothing; came back; father and Mr. Dunn fed; tried to get to shoot a rabbit, but did not; I like Mr. Dunn; do not think he treated father "very much" bad about the corn. I knew Joe Matthews; never told Joe that father would have shot Mr. Dunn one night if it had not been

for mother; came with Tom Doster and Uncle Harvie to Monroe last Court in wagon; was not told then, as he remembered, to keep his mouth shut; denies that he said to Tom Doster that he and his father was at that pine tree, but "Uncle Primus" did not see them; was not told what to swear by any one; never talked the matter over with any one; was shown muffs; said father found them while hunting track; father never had a shirt like the cloth—had white homespun shirt; was about Mr. Dunn's house—got water there; saw Mr. Dunn carry money into room; did not know where he kept it.

AMANDA ALEXANDER

Daughter of Sam Alexander, aged 11 years, for the defence, remembers: Was at home eating supper; pa and ma got down; both at fire; heard hollowing; heard gun and loud talking; Jake came by and said some one had shot Mr. Dunn.

AMANDA ALEXANDER

Amanda on cross examination: Father, on hearing gun, said: "Wonder what such a gun as that was firing that time of night for?" only few minutes till he started; did not hear father hollow; did not see him load gun; took ammunition; knew who he got gun from—got it from Dick Bailey. Father went off with Bobbie and gun that evening! Never talked it over with father or Uncle Harvie; talked with mother about it; never heard Bobbie talk about it; never heard about corn; heard father and Bobbie talk it over at home before he was arrested. Father never had that kind of shirt; had only white shirts; was awake when father came back; when father came back last time was asleep. Father went off second time with some men; I was soon in morning. Father never told Bobbie what he must tell about it, but talked about it.

FOR STATE—DENNIS RICHARDSON, COL.

Worked at Underwood's brick yard; was present at time of difficulty about pistol; heard Underwood tell him about running "Dunn's blockade." Alexander turned pale, put down his moccasins; told Underwood if he would settle with him he would go home. Underwood brought his double-barrelled gun to brick yard; saw women at top of the hill.

RAMP RUSHING

Testified that he was talked to by Alexander about the strikes, at the brick yard.

FOR STATE—JAMES DUNN

Half brother to deceased, went to borrow money from brother on 13th of January. Two boxes were brought out—one with money in it. They were sitting at the fire with boxes when Alexander came in and asked for brass-door keys; saw brother and himself; got the keys, or the keys were given to him by some one, and he went out; brother got box from far end of the house; did not know that defendant saw money.

JEFFERSON EZZEIL

Uncle of deceased, testified that he was on Grand Jury and heard Underwood's story last Court; same as now, except about tin box; he said nothing that then; does not think he was asked about it. Testifies to the good character of Ike Ardrey, Primus Houston, Amos Houston and Phillis Houston.

FOR STATE—JOE MATTHEWS

A little negro about 12 years old, knows Bobbie Alexander; saw him at Mr. Dunn's when he lived there in December. In talking about how much corn Mr. Dunn had, Bobbie said his father said Mr. Dunn had taken his corn, and he intended to kill him if it took him one hundred years, and that he would have killed him one night before if it had not been for his mother. No one was present at this conversation between him and Bobbie. The witness told it to his father last summer, and father of witness told Mr. George Howie.

FOR STATE—THOS. DOSTER

Testified that he heard the conversation of Bobbie, before starting to Monroe last Court, about him and his father being under a pine tree, but Primus not seeing them, and to Harvey McCorkle, (Bobbie's uncle) telling him his father was in a tight place and to keep his mouth shut. This was denied by Harvey McCorkle, introduced on the part of the defence.

J. W. HOWIE

Had a conversation some 3 or 10 days after the murder at Dunn's house, in which Alexander said he heard the call—was sitting at fire; put on shoes, got ammunition and gun—loaded his gun and went up to the house as soon as possible. Said he called out when within twenty-five yards, and asked what was the matter—he saw so many in the yard, he was afraid they were robbers. Allen Ardrey was present with his two little sons.

For want of space here, we will conclude, with notices of pleadings and the verdict, on our third page.

An Irishman being asked what he left his country for America for, replied: "It was not for want; I had plenty of that at home."

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April 20, 1878.

W. C. WOLFE, Editor & Proprietor.

Senator Merrimon on the Situation.

We yesterday had the pleasure of calling on Judge Merrimon, who is at home for a few days. Notwithstanding his hard work at Washington, Senator Merrimon seems to enjoy very good health and to be quite as vigorous as at any former time.

He reports that he thinks Senator Thurman's bill will pass the House of Representatives and become the law despite the tremendous efforts of the lobby and the vast influence of gigantic railroad corporations, whose money seems inexhaustible when support is to be given, but very scarce when honest debts of the government are to be paid. In his judgment there is much heavy work still to be accomplished this session, and the session will be protracted, extending far into the summer. Generally our friends work together very well, and most measures affecting the policy of the Democratic party receive the united support of the Democratic representatives. He does not think that there will be passed any amendment to the constitution relative to the election of the President; but the measures proposing to change the time of holding the election, and to postpone the meeting of the electoral colleges, will be adopted. The object of this is simply to allow the States to provide some machinery for determining any contested election of a presidential elector prior to the assembling of the electoral colleges.

He does not think the new tariff bill, which makes substantial reforms in the tariff, will pass this session, but that it will be under way, and will pass in some shape at the next session.

The Judge speaks hopefully of the future; apprehends that the "National Party" is growing in the Western States, but does not think it will seriously affect the future of the Democratic party.

He felicitates himself very much on the good effects directly traceable to the passage of the silver bill; and he thinks it prevents a cause of trouble which at one time loomed up between our Democratic friends in the North and West.

He thinks the bill to repeal the resumption act, requiring specie payments to be resumed on January 1st, 1879, will probably pass the Senate as it has already passed the House of Representatives. Specie payment, he says, will naturally come when the business of the country allows it, and whether before January, 1879 or after that time, it ought not to be forced. This was his position as far back as 1873, and he thinks the result fully justifies the position he then assumed.

When that result is reached the currency question will be so far settled that fear of repudiation will vanish from the Northern mind, and that, like the Southern question, will pass into oblivion. Congress will then be at liberty to do whatever the best interest of the South and West require without alarming the Northeast.

The bankrupt law, he says, will probably be repealed, with a saving clause, however, as to pending cases. There seems to be a general impression that there ought to be a national bankrupt law in existence, but the present one is manifestly very imperfect, and it will probably be repealed and no other substituted for it at present.

He is very hopeful that considerable appropriations will be obtained for North Carolina rivers; among them the Cape Fear, the Neuse, the Blackwater, the Roanoke and French Broad, and various surveys will be ordered looking to extensive river improvements. He does not think it probable that the life-saving service at the sea coast will be transferred to the Navy at this time. Provision will be made for improving this service. He thinks the fast Southern mail service will be increased and extended, and the mail service generally will be enlarged and expedited.

The subject of enlarging our commerce with South America is engaging the attention of Congress, and this will affect the South generally very advantageously, and particularly Wilmington and our other seaport towns, which will tend to develop North Carolina interests.

He spoke warmly of the industrial and commercial interests of North Carolina, which he believed will be developed very rapidly in the near future. Our natural advantages, our climate, and being exempt from yellow fever, attract attention to North Carolina as the future field for commercial and industrial development. Judge Merrimon seemed to be gratified at the manifestation by the people of their satisfaction of the course of his colleagues and himself in Congress.—*Raleigh Observer*, 16th.

Senator Thurman and the Pacific Railroad Funding Bill.

Senator Thurman, that noblest Roman of them all in the Senate, has struck another blow for purity of government by securing the passage in the Senate on Tuesday, by a vote of 40 to 19, of the bill known as the Pacific Rail Road Funding Bill, which is a death blow to Jay Gould and other monopolists of rail road corporations of the great Northwest, who received so much government assistance in building the Pacific Railroad, by their issue of the great Credit Mobilier stock; but which caused the political death of such eminent Christian statesmen of the land as those of the saintly Schuyler Colfax pattern, once Vice President of the United States under that grandest of frauds, Ulysses S. Grant. Land grants of government lands were voted these corporations upon receiving so much stock by those pure and patriotic Congressmen who filled our national legislative halls in those days of official corruption and greed, and until Senator Thurman's bill was passed, the government stood no chance of ever receiving one cent in return for the millions of government funds lent to aid in the completion of these enterprises. But this bill provides that the companies shall set apart a portion of their earnings, so that when the day of their long credit is over they may be ready to pay the money lent by the nation instead of slipping out from under their obligations and leaving the Government with a road mortgaged to its full value as an equivalent for its grants of credit.

By his persistency and ability in carrying through this measure, Senator Thurman has stuck another peg for himself, (though not with that intent on his part,) for his chances for 1880. For hear what this noble patriot said during the discussion of his bill:

"He could have no personal interest in the matter, for so far as he knew there was not a citizen of the State of Ohio who had any pecuniary interest in either of these roads or any of their rivals, but he sympathized with the people whom he represented in their desire for purity of legislation, which could only be preserved by the right of Congress to alter, amend or repeal."

In his laudable efforts for the passage of this bill, Judge Thurman has been ably and eloquently seconded by our own Senator Merrimon, who has won a proud distinction for himself since his admission to the Senate.

But Judge Thurman for long years has been the leader of the Democratic party in the U. S. Senate, where in season and out of season he has fought for the people's rights against the horde of radical corruptionists who have been controlling that body too long for the good and welfare of the country. No man stands higher among those of his own party or is respected more for his ability and integrity by his political enemies than Senator Allen S. Thurman, of Ohio.

The South ought to know him and love him, for he has ever stood between them and their fierce enemies who flouted the bloody shirt to enrage the people of the North against this section. He has been our friend ever since he has been on the floor of the Senate, and it seems nothing but right, common gratitude would seem to demand, that the South in turn should be his friend when the time comes.—*Review*.

DEVOURING FLAMES.

Fifteen Acres of Buildings Burned in Clarksville, Tenn.

SUPPOSED WORK OF INCENDIARIES—ALARMING ATTITUDE OF NEGROES IN THE VICINITY.

NASHVILLE, TENN., April 14.—Fifty-seven houses were burned at Clarksville the principal tobacco market of Tennessee at an early hour this morning, including eight groceries, four confectionery establishments, two jewelry stores, three clothing stores, two drug stores, one book store, two saddlery shops, two public halls, the Court House, Chancery Court, Clerk's office, one newspaper office, one bank, one tin and stove store, two millinery shops, one gunsmith's shop, one restaurant, one barber shop, one livery stable, one immense tobacco warehouse, containing 400 hogsheds of tobacco; eight or ten residences, one hotel, one agricultural implement warehouse, one blacksmith shop, a shoe shop, and other small houses.—The fire lasted six hours from the time of breaking out, exhausting itself. Fortunately there was no wind.

The fire is supposed to be the work of an incendiary. The negroes of the vicinity have been very discontented of late, owing to two causes. The first of these was the lynching of one of their number a few weeks ago, for an attempted outrage on a white girl belonging to one of the first families in the county. Subsequently a ne-

gro named Seat, while resisting a policeman named Phillips by attacking him with stones, was shot and killed by the officer. The negroes were intensely excited over this, and made threats of revenge upon Phillips that he had taken up his quarters in the jail for protection.

The fire broke out at half past eleven, and when the bell was rung alarming the town, it was taken for a riot alarm, and the people did not turn out promptly, all dreading the result. When the fire had got under way and was raging furiously, the negroes gathered in knots and refused to give any assistance, openly expressing their satisfaction at the fire.

A grim feeling has rested over the people to-day, and the negroes are exultant, and are threatening to mob policeman Phillips. On this account, and for the protection to the goods on the street, the authorities have caused fifty deputy policemen to be enrolled. Phillips is still in jail for protection, and everything is quiet to-night, but the least disturbance will precipitate a row between the whites and blacks.

There is no longer any doubt that if the incendiarian was not by the blacks, there was concerted understanding that they would not lend a helping hand, but there were many worthy exceptions. Some prominent colored men were heavy losers by the fire, with no insurance.

Several persons were hurt, but no serious accidents or casualties. Fifteen acres of buildings in the most prominent portion of the city were destroyed, leaving a mere suburban shell.—*N. Y. Herald Special*.

Mrs. Tilton Confesses.

New York, April 15, 1878.—Plymouth Church was stirred to its foundation last night by the following thunderbolt launched by the hand of Mrs. Tilton: Mr. Ira B. Wheeler:

MY DEAR SIR:—A few weeks since, after long months of mental anguish, I told, as you know, a few friends whom I had bitterly deceived, that the charge brought by my husband of adultery between myself and the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher was true, and that the lie I had lived so well the last four years had become intolerable to me.

That statement I now solemnly reaffirm, and leave the truth with God, to whom also I commit myself, my children, and all who must suffer.

I know full well the explanations that will be sought by many for this acknowledgment; a desire to return to my husband, insanity, malice, everything save the true and only one—my quickened conscience, and the sense of what is due to the cause of truth and justice. During all the complications of these years you have been my confidential friend, and therefore I address this letter to you, authorizing and requesting you to secure its publication.

ELIZABETH R. TILTON.
Brooklyn, April 13, 1878.

MR. BEECHER'S EMPHATIC DENIAL.

To the Editor of the Tribune:

Sir: I confront Mrs. Tilton's confession with explicit and absolute denial.

The testimony to her own innocence and to mine, which, for four years, she has made to hundreds, in private and in public, before the Court, in writing and orally, I declare to be true.

And the allegations now made in contradiction of her uniform, solemn and unvarying statements hitherto made, I utterly deny.

I declare her to be innocent of the great transgression.

HENRY WARD BEECHER.
Waverly, N. Y., Monday evening, April 15.

The Blair Resolution.

The joint resolution of the Maryland Legislature, urging Congress the passage of a law for testing the title of President Hayes, was presented in the House yesterday and led to a lively debate as to whether it should be rejected at once or referred to a committee for consideration. No decision was reached but it seems probable from the tenor of the debate that it will be referred. We presume that no man of sense, either in or out of Congress, believes that a serious attempt will be made to dispossess President Hayes. There may be republicans who would gladly annoy him and render him uneasy respecting his title as a means of subjugating him to party behests; and there may be democrats who would be glad to magnify the so-called "fraud" as an electioneering topic, but beyond reference to a committee nothing is likely to be done on this subject. Nine-tenths of the democrats in Congress do not desire that Mr. Tilden should either be President or the next candidate of their party for that office; and the republicans will be in no hurry to stultify their unanimous action of last winter. This is a mere bubble on the surface of politics which will soon burst.

TWEED IS DEAD.

Death of Wm. M. Tweed in Ludlow Street Jail—His Last Words—Secretary Sherman's Visit, &c.

New York, April 12.

William M. Tweed died in Ludlow street jail at precisely 12 o'clock to-day. He was attended by Dr. Carnochan, who has been with him since an early hour this morning; also, Mr. Foster Dewey, his late secretary; Mr. Douglas, his son-in-law, and Mr. Edelman, one of his counsel. All hope of his recovery was abandoned soon after 11 o'clock, when Dr. Carnochan announced a clogging of the heart and complete nervous exhaustion. At the time of his death there was no struggle, as he passed away in sleep, with his head lying upon his arm. Keeper Kirnan was hurriedly summoned three times before noon, and reaching Mr. Tweed's room, the signal rang out, and the long prisoned old man dropped back dead in his bed. His last words to Dr. Carnochan were: "I have tried to do some good, if I have not had good luck; I am not afraid to die; I believe the guardian angels will protect me." The announcement of his death spread rapidly, and a crowd of curious people soon assembled outside of the jail, peering eagerly into the half closed windows. Mr. Tweed had been dangerously ill for several days. His death resulted from a complication of disorders, but was caused directly by nervous exhaustion and a clogging of the action of the heart. He was delirious last night, and early this morning, when he was attended only by his servant Luke. Later he became calm and rational. He was conscious till within a few moments of his death, and a short time before drank a little tea which was handed to him by his son-in-law, Mr. Douglas. Most of Mr. Tweed's family are in New Orleans. They were telegraphed to yesterday. Under the statutes the body of a dead prisoner cannot be removed from the jail until after an examination by the coroner.

Narrow Gauge Railroads.

Enterprising people in many sections of the State are manifesting a lively interest on the subject of narrow gauge railroads, which must become the auxiliary arteries of travel and traffic at the South. They are comparatively cheap of construction, and their capacity for business astonishing in proportion to outlay upon them. The estimated cost of construction is set at about half; their equipment less, their operating expenses small, wear and tear trifling in comparison with the broad gauge, while their capacity is said to be from eighty to ninety per cent. of the old roads.

We trust our people will push these matters upon public attention, and ramify the State with these little railroads. They are the lines to penetrate the mountains of our State, where the people have been long languishing for railroads to develop their boundless resources. The system, adopted twenty-five years ago, would have given railroads to three-fourths of the counties of the State.

Two of these lines are now in operation within our borders, the Chester and Lenoir, and the Milton and Sutherland. Two are under construction, and the subject is being agitated here and there in a manner to indicate that there is much new life and energy in the old land.—*Rail News*.

The Telephone—Its Practical Workings Between Wilmington and Raleigh.

This most wonderful instrument was put in operation between Wilmington and Raleigh on yesterday and the most satisfactory results were achieved. Mr. Angel, the superintendent of the Western Union Telegraph Company, attached an instrument to the lines yesterday and commenced conversing with friends one hundred and twenty-four miles distant. A conversation was carried on between citizens of this city and Gov. Vance and among others in the city who were asked for was one of the editorial staff of the *Review*. Several poems were sung in the Western Union Telegraph office in this city and was distinctly heard in Raleigh and after thoroughly testing the machine the crowds at both ends dispersed to make room for new ones.—*Review*.

The acreage in vegetables in Florida and South Georgia for shipment to Northern markets, is greatly in excess of any previous season. Green peas are going forward in car-load lots. The acreage is estimated as follows: Peas 1000, beans 780, cucumbers, 1,100, tomatoes 500, potatoes 4,705. With a good season and intelligent cultivation it will average one car-load to two acres, making this season 2,350 car-loads to be handled between March 1 and July 12.

VEGETINE

FOR CHILLS, SHAKES, FEVER & AGUE.

LYNDEN, N. C., 1878.

Dear Sir:—I feel very grateful for what your valuable medicine, Vegetine, has done in my family. I wish to express my thanks by informing you of the wonderful cure of my son, who was afflicted with the ague and fever. He had been sick for several weeks, and was unable to get on his feet. I had tried every remedy, but nothing seemed to do him any good. I then procured a bottle of Vegetine, and gave him a dose. He felt better at once, and after taking a few more doses, he was completely restored to health, walks without crutches or cane. He is twenty years of age. I have a younger one, fifteen years of age, who is subject to Chills. Whenever he feels one coming on, he comes in, takes a dose of Vegetine, and that is the last of the chill. Vegetine leaves no bad effect upon the system like most of the medicines recommended for Chills. I cheerfully recommend Vegetine for such complaints. I think it the greatest medicine in the world.

MRS. J. W. LLOYD.

VEGETINE.—When the blood becomes lifeless and stagnant, either from change of weather or of climate, want of exercise, irregular diet, or from any other cause, the Vegetine will renew the blood, carry off the putrid humors, cleanse the stomach, regulate the bowels, and impart a tone of vigor to the whole body.

VEGETINE

FOR DYSPEPSIA, NERVOUSNESS, And General Debility.

BARNABAS, MASS., 1878.

We, the undersigned, having used Vegetine, take pleasure in recommending it to all those troubled with Humors of any kind, Dyspepsia, Nervousness, or General Debility. It being the Great Blood Purifier, Sold by R. L. Crowell & Sons, who sell more of it than all other patent medicines put together.

MRS. L. F. PERKINS.
JOSEPHUS SLATE.

VEGETINE is the great health restorer—composed exclusively of herbs, roots and herbs. It is very pleasant to take; every child likes it.

VEGETINE

FOR Nervous Headache and Rheumatism.

CINCINNATI, O., April 9, 1877.

Dear Sir:—I have used your Vegetine for Nervous Headache, and also for Rheumatism, and have found entire relief from both, and take great pleasure in recommending it to all who may be likewise afflicted.

FRED A. GOOD,
108 Mill St., Cin.

VEGETINE has restored thousands to health who had been long and painful sufferers.

VEGETINE

Druggists' Testimony.

Mr. H. R. STEVENS.

Dear Sir:—We have been selling your remedy, the Vegetine, for about three years, and take pleasure in recommending it to our customers, and in no instance where a blood purifier would reach the case, has it ever failed to effect a cure to our knowledge. It is certainly the *ne plus ultra* of renovators.

Respectfully,
E. M. SHEPHERD, Druggist,
Mt. Vernon Ill.

It is acknowledged by all classes of people to be the best and most reliable blood purifier in the world.

VEGETINE

Prepared by H. R. STEVENS, Boston.

VEGETINE IS SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

Townsend & Hanford.

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MONROE, N. C.

WE ARE RECEIVING, IN GREAT VARIETY, ALL the latest novelties in Millinery.

Ribbons, Velvets, Silks, Crapes; FLOWERS, ORNAMENTS, FRAMES, FELT, VELVET, PLUSH.

STRAW HATS & BONNETS.

Also, a Select Stock of WHITE GOODS

LINENS, LACES, EMBROIDERIES, HANDKERCHIEFS, VEILINGS,

LADIES' NECK WEAR, &c., &c.

Together with a complete assortment of Notions, Hosiery, Gloves, &c. Our general stock is the

Largest, Finest, and Most Desirable

and of the CHEAPEST WORKMANSHIP. We take pleasure in showing goods, and endeavor at all times to make you call a profitable one to you. And would not our friends and customers be glad to purchase from examining our new stock, when unrepresented bargains are offered. With many thanks for past patronage, we hope to meet a continuance of the same.

Respectfully,
Townsend & Hanford

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War Over, LUDWIG & BATES hold the

gold and complete sets of 1,000 superior instruments from Reliable Makers at Factory Rates.

Every man his agent. Bottom prices to all. New Pianos, \$150, 100, 175. New Organs, \$40, 50, 67. Six years guarantee. Fifteen days trial. Mr. L. B. Bates has all instruments. Square dealing, the honest truth, the best bargains. Call on U. S. from \$20 to \$100 actually saved in buying from LUDWIG & BATES Southern Wholesale Piano and Organ Co., St. Louis, Mo.

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Pure Horse-Apple Vinegar,

Three Years Old.

Laundry and Toilet Soaps,

In Quantity.

Satin Gloss Starch,

Finest Made.

Coleman's Genuine English Mustard.

TRIPOLI,

A beautiful Polisher of Metals and Jewelry, and Glass Cleaner.

IMPROVED FLY-KILLING PAPER—GENUINE IMPORTED

Spanish Float Indigo.

A Large Quantity of

Leads of Best Brands,

And Boiled Oils,

CHEAP FOR CASH!

OUR DR. BICKETT

Exercises a strict personal supervision over the Drug and Medical Department, and none but a genuine article will be offered for sale.

Just bring a little money and get all you want.

BICKETT & GRIFFIN,

CORNER DRUG STORE, MONROE, N. C.

March 28-12-14.

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People are getting acquainted—and those who are not ought to be—with the wonderful merits of this great American Remedy, the

MEXICAN

Mustang Liniment,

FOR MAN AND BEAST.

This Liniment very naturally originated in America, where Nature provides in her laboratory such surprising antidotes for the maladies of her children. Its fame has been spreading for 25 years, until now it includes the labial globe as a matchless remedy for all external ailments of man and beast. To stock owners and farmers it is invaluable. A single bottle often saves a human life or restores the usefulness of an excellent horse, ox, cow, or sheep.

It cures foot-rot, hollow horn, grub, sore-mouth, shoe-burn, mange, the bites and stings of poisonous reptiles and insects, and every such drawback to stock breeding and husbandry.

It cures every external trouble of horses, such as sore-shins, scratches, swelling, sprains, founder, wind-gall, ring-bone, &c., &c.

The Mexican Mustang Liniment is the quickest cure in the world for swellings of the joints, and is the essence of a physician, such as burns, scalds, sprains, cuts, etc., and for rheumatism, and stiffness engendered by exposure. Particularly valuable to the traveling druggist.

It is the cheapest remedy in the world, for it penetrates the muscle to the bone, and a single application is generally sufficient to cure.

Western Mustang Liniment is put up in three sizes of bottles, the larger ones being proportionately much the cheapest. Sold everywhere.

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PRACTICE LIMITED TO PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL DISEASES.

DR. WORTHINGTON may be consulted

for all those diseases of the Genitive Organs which tend to embitter life and shorten its duration, including Nervous Debility, causing indigestion, pain in the back and loins, weakness, headache, impotency, impaired sight, loss of memory, eruption on the face and body, loss of sexual power, bashfulness, &c., making Married Life unhappy and Single Life miserable. The Doctor guarantees that no case placed in his treatment shall leave his care till thoroughly restored to sound and vigorous health, without the use of Mercury in any form, his treatment being purely Vegetative.

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*Parties living at any distance from the Hospital can be successfully treated by sending symptoms of their disease. The Doctor will forward to any address in the United States, free from observation, a printed list of questions, thereby enabling the patient to give a minute description of their case, which he requires to effect a quick and speedy and sure cure.

All letters directed to DR. WORTHINGTON, Lock Hospital, Baltimore, Md., will receive prompt attention.

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