

NOTED CRIMINAL CASE RECALLED

By the Death of Dr. John A. P. Baker.

SOFTENING OF BRAIN.

He Had Been a Complete Mental Wreck for Several Years Past.

CHARGED WITH WIFE MURDER

On Account of His Passion for Mrs. Gilmer—He Was Found Guilty, But on a Retrial Was Acquitted—Trial Created Intense and Widespread Interest at the Time.

BRISTOL, VA., Dec. 22.—Special.—Dr. John A. P. Baker, the principal in the famous Baker-Gilmer case tried in Abingdon in 1891, died last evening of softening of the brain after being a mental wreck for several years past.

The trial was one of the most sensational ever recorded in the annals of Virginia, and is yet fresh in the minds of the people of this section.

Dr. John A. P. Baker was born four miles west of Abingdon, on the place now known as the Charles Clyce farm. The date of his birth is about the year 1815, so that he was fifty-eight years of age. A marriage license was granted to him and Miss Sue C. Davis, daughter of Joseph W. and Lucy Davis, by the clerk of the court of Washington county, Jas. C. Campbell, Oct. 29, 1866.

On that day Dr. Baker and Miss Davis were married. Rev. E. E. Wiley, D. D., officiated. The nuptials were celebrated at the home of the bride's parents. At this time Dr. Baker was twenty-five years of age, and was a young man with seemingly all the vigor of his country. He was not long until he had gained a lucrative practice as a physician, and this practice carried with it the high esteem and admiration among whom Dr. Baker was a familiar name. His commanding influence, he was enabled between 1870 and 1891, not only to educate his children, but to accumulate a snug fortune.

Dr. Baker was not only prominent in his business relations, but was prominent in Church affairs, and built a church in the county, known as Baker's chapel. His home had been one of the most comfortable, and his family was a happy one, with no cloud of gloom in the presence of an obedient home.

MET MRS. GILMER.

Some eight years prior to 1891, Dr. Baker met at a Sunday-school picnic near Wyndale, Va., Mrs. Wyndham R. Gilmer, the wife of a wealthy farmer of that community. From that day a fondness for each other was manifested. He attended her in a material way, and she frequently met Mrs. Gilmer, and in this way frequent intimacy followed, but this intimate relation was indulged in for a long time before it became the talk of the community. Dr. Baker would not have Mrs. Gilmer attend at her home and they also made it convenient to meet in Bristol and at other points.

BUNDLES OF LETTERS.

In 1891 Mrs. Baker died suddenly and was buried without a serious suspicion of foul play, but when a few months later an employe at the Baker home discovered a batch of letters in an upstairs room, which were the work of the whole secret was out. The letters were carried to the county officials and were read by them. These letters proved to be from Mrs. Gilmer to Dr. Baker, and were filled with expressions of affection and devotion. They also alluded to what seemed to be a conspiracy between Dr. Baker and Mrs. Gilmer by which he was to get rid of his wife and she her husband. It appeared from the letters that Dr. Baker had told Mrs. Gilmer that he got rid of his wife by poison.

A WARRANT was issued for Dr. Baker, charging him with the murder of his wife by poison. On a Sunday night in May 1891, C. C. Counts, deputy sheriff, arrested Dr. Baker in the Methodist church at Abingdon. From this time the story of the scandal spread like wild fire, and the people of Washington county were before an exceedingly anxious one. Dr. Baker was lodged in jail, where he remained until August, when his case came up for trial in the county court at Abingdon, Judge Ward presiding.

SENSATIONAL TRIAL.

After a sensational trial lasting three weeks, in which Mrs. Gilmer related the story of her conduct with Dr. Baker, and he denied it, the jury returned a verdict of guilty and sentenced him to death. He was defended by able counsel, including Hon. John A. Buchanan (now of the Supreme bench), Hon. Frank S. Blair, Ex-Attorney-General of the State; and Hon. C. F. Trigg, Ex-Congressman.

After a full trial, the jury returned a verdict of guilty and sentenced him to death. He was defended by able counsel, including Hon. John A. Buchanan (now of the Supreme bench), Hon. Frank S. Blair, Ex-Attorney-General of the State; and Hon. C. F. Trigg, Ex-Congressman.

After a full trial, the jury returned a verdict of guilty and sentenced him to death. He was defended by able counsel, including Hon. John A. Buchanan (now of the Supreme bench), Hon. Frank S. Blair, Ex-Attorney-General of the State; and Hon. C. F. Trigg, Ex-Congressman.

URGENT DEFICIENCY.

The Bill Makes an Appropriation of \$51,000,000.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The Urgent Deficiency Appropriation bill, the first of the important supply bills for Government expenses is practically made up, and the total will amount to about \$51,000,000. The items have already been sent by the several departments, and these are being put together so that the Appropriations Committee will be able to submit the bill to the House soon after it reaches the Senate.

Some of the deficiency items required for the War Department are very large: for the transportation, 10,000,000; for the purchase of supplies, 15,000,000; for the purchase of arms, 15,000,000; for the purchase of uniforms, 10,000,000; for the purchase of food, 10,000,000; for the purchase of fuel, 10,000,000; for the purchase of other supplies, 10,000,000.

Gold Shipments.
NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The following shipments of gold will be made by tomorrow's steamer:

Haring, Magoun & Company, \$1,000,000; Heidebach, Ickelheimer & Company, \$1,000,000; L. Von Hoffman & Company, \$1,000,000; Goldman, Sachs & Company, \$1,000,000; Muller, Schell & Company, \$1,000,000; total, \$4,500,000.

Carnegie Company Increase Wages.
PITTSBURGH, PA., Dec. 22.—The Carnegie Steel Company today announced its intention to increase the wages of its common labor to \$1.20 per day, and all other labor, with certain exceptions, proportionately.

Fire in the Hold.
LONDON, Dec. 22.—The British steamer Vulcan, Captain Nallo, which arrived at Hamburg December 18th, from Galveston and Norfolk, Va. by way of New York, was today reported to have had a fire in her hold, which has been smoldering, and seventy bales of cotton have been damaged.

The Maine's Dead.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The Navy Department has announced that the ceremonies at Arlington attending the burial of the Maine's dead, which are coming on the 26th, will take place at 11 o'clock A. M. on the 26th instant.

Congressman Boutelle Better.
BOSTON, MASS., Dec. 22.—The condition of Congressman Boutelle was much improved to-night, and he left for Bangor, Maine.

REV. MR. MOODY DIED YESTERDAY

The World's Greatest Evangelist Has Passed to His Well-Earned Reward—Beloved in Richmond.

EAST NORTHFIELD, MASS., Dec. 22.—D. L. Moody, the famous evangelist, died at noon to-day.

It was not unexpected until yesterday by the members of Mr. Moody's family and immediate circle of friends that death would be the result of his illness. The cause of death was a general breaking-down due to overwork. Mr. Moody's heart had been weak for a long time and operations put forth in connection with meetings in the last month, brought on a collapse, from which he failed to rally.

His illness was attended until yesterday by the members of Mr. Moody's family and immediate circle of friends that death would be the result of his illness. The cause of death was a general breaking-down due to overwork. Mr. Moody's heart had been weak for a long time and operations put forth in connection with meetings in the last month, brought on a collapse, from which he failed to rally.

His illness was attended until yesterday by the members of Mr. Moody's family and immediate circle of friends that death would be the result of his illness. The cause of death was a general breaking-down due to overwork. Mr. Moody's heart had been weak for a long time and operations put forth in connection with meetings in the last month, brought on a collapse, from which he failed to rally.

GREAT DISASTER IN ITALIAN TOWN

Hotels Bodily Precipitated Into the Sea.

BURIED IN DEBRIS.

Which Crushed Four Vessels to the Bottom—Are Many Victims.

THE POPULATION ARE TERRIFIED

The Catastrophe Came Without a Moment's Warning—It is Believed That the Loss of Life is Heavy, Including a Number of Monks and Occupants of the Hotels.

ROME, Dec. 22.—A terrible disaster took place this afternoon at Amalfi, the popular tourist resort on the Gulf of Salerno. About 2 o'clock an enormous rock, about 100 feet long and 50 feet high, and which stood the Capuchin Hotel, and bodily into the sea with a deafening roar and without a moment's warning, striking with it the hotel, the old Capuchin monastery below, the Hotel Santa Caterina and several others.

MANY BURIED.
Many persons were buried in the debris, which crushed four vessels to the bottom of the sea, destroying their crews. The mass of earth which slipped was about 50,000 cubic yards.

A SMALL TOWN.
Amalfi is a small, but lively town of 7,000 inhabitants, situated at the entrance of a deep ravine surrounded by imposing mountains and rocks of the most picturesque forms. The Capuchin monastery was founded in 1212 by Cardinal Pietro Capuano for the Clerics, but came into possession of the Capuchins in 1582.

SIX BURNED TO DEATH.
LITTLE GIRLS CATCH FIRE AT A CHRISTMAS REHEARSAL.

QUINCY, ILL., Dec. 22.—Six little girls were burned to death, four probably fatally injured, and eight others seriously injured, during the rehearsal of Christmas exercises of one of the classes at St. Francis School to-day.

OVER FORTY DROWNED.
SCHOOL CHILDREN BREAK THROUGH THE ICE IN BRUSSELS.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 22.—Towards forty school children were drowned to-day in an ice accident at Perleghem, near the French frontier.

DORMITORIES BURNED.
THOSE OF THE GEORGETOWN CONVENT DESTROYED—INMATES ESCAPED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The old building and dormitories of the Georgetown convent were destroyed by fire to-day. How the fire originated has not yet been ascertained. All the inmates and employes escaped. Loss, \$150,000.

TO PAY DEPOSITORS.
A PROPOSITION TO ADVANCE THE FUNDS NECESSARY.

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The following statement was given out after a meeting of the Trustees of the Produce Exchange Trust Company to-day:

NEW ENGLAND SOCIETY.
Col. Gordon McCabe Responds to the Toast, "Our Reunited Country."

NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—Five hundred persons sat down to the fourteenth long tables in the banquet hall of the Waldorf to-night, the occasion being the ninety-fourth annual dinner of the New England Society of New York.

MR. NEWBERNE PASSES AWAY

Norfolk County Delegate Died on Yesterday.

WAS ILL FOR A WEEK

Had Served Several Terms and Was a Popular Member.

WILL ORDER AN ELECTION

Speaker Saunders to Issue the Writ. Sketch of the Deceased Legislator.

Hon. M. S. Newberne, the member of the House of Delegates from Norfolk county, died yesterday afternoon. He had been an ill man for a week.

A LETTER TO POPULISTS.
A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS PROPOSED TO NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The Post tomorrow will publish a letter sent out by Senator Butler, of North Carolina, to each of the National Committees of that organization, asking them a number of questions, the answers to which will determine the plans and purposes of the Populist party.

COMMISSION OF ELECTIONS.
IT WILL MEET IN FRANKFORD, KENTUCKY, TO-DAY.

FRANKFORD, KY., Dec. 22.—The State Commission on Elections will meet here to-day. It is understood Judge A. J. Fulton, of Bardonia, will be named to succeed Judge Fryer on the commission.

Duke of Westminster Dead.
LONDON, Dec. 22.—The Duke of Westminster is dead.

KIMBERLEY ON FULL RATIONS

General Methuen Believed to be Master of the Situation and His Position Unassailable.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—A dispatch from Cape Town, dated Sunday, December 16th, says that General Methuen's primary object in crossing the Modder River appears to have been to establish a safe communication with Kimberley, which is believed to be still on full rations.

ANTI-TRUST ACT.
Senator Barksdale and Delegate Gravely, who have introduced in the Senate and House, respectively, an anti-trust bill, have given out the following statement:

CIRCULAR LETTER ISSUED.
Agricultural College for Negroes Wants Grant of 25,000 Acres of Land.

GEN. LAWTON LAID TO REST.
His Remains Placed in the Chapel in Pico Cemetery.

FUND FOR LAWTON'S FAMILY.

The Committee Gratiified at the Generous Response to their Appeal.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.

Foreigner With Plenty of Money Jumped in Front of Moving Train.

WELDON, N. C., Dec. 22.—A foreigner, who signed his name in the hotel register here as Emilio Gobal, it is thought, attempted suicide here late last evening by jumping in front of a moving train.

RIVER AND HARBOR BILL.
Representative Berry Thinks It Will Be Taken Up at This Session.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Representative Berry, of Kentucky, a member of the River and Harbor Committee, said today that he did not agree with the view of Chairman Burton, of the committee, that there would be no river and harbor bill this year.

MOLINEX TRIAL.
NEW YORK, Dec. 22.—The session of the Molinex trial to-day was brief, the case going over until Tuesday next, after about three hours had been spent in an examination of Henry L. Tolman, a handwriting expert in Chicago, and Charles E. Warren, chief clerk of the Lincoln National Bank, who was called to the stand to identify the handwriting of Harry S. Cornish.

THE DEMOCRACIA HAS SUSPENDED
Will Resume Publication When it is Known by What Mode it is Judged.

MANILA, Dec. 22.—1890 P. M.—The newspaper, Democracia, the organ of a coterie of Filipinos, including the Supreme Court judges favoring American control in the Philippines, to-night announces that it has been decided to suspend publication.

THE BILL NOW A LAW.
Sleeping Car Companies Cannot Sell Berths to Negroes.

ATLANTA, GA., Dec. 22.—Governor Candler has signed the bill prohibiting sleeping car companies operating in the State from furnishing berths to negro passengers, except in coaches used especially for the accommodation of negroes.

SUMMARY OF TO-DAY'S NEWS.
Local.

Death of Captain Richard E. Fryaser.—The governor's annual list of Christmas pardons.—Death of Delegate M. S. Newberne, of Norfolk county.—May change the method of apportionment of funds for State military.—Young Men's Business Association and the Chamber of Commerce to join forces.—Board of Aldermen adopts the electric road ordinance.

—Firing on a burglar nearly causes a riot in Newport News.—Day Post Land Company chafers amended.—The postoffice sale at Dunn Loring blown over and robbed.—Burglars at work in Clifton Forge.—New iron bridge at Greensboro, Rockbridge county, to be thrown open Christmas day.—Coast Line bridge at Petersburg blocked by a freight wreck.

MILITARY FUND DISTRIBUTION

Board Considers Change in Present Plan.

MATTER STILL OPEN

Proposition to Abolish the Per Capita Apportionment.

REIMBURSE THE COMPANIES

Requirements to Have Reports Made to the State Headquarters of Expenses Incurred During the Year. Such Bills to Be Paid After Approval—Canon's Eligibility.

The State Military Board has under consideration the matter of distribution of that portion of the military fund remaining after payment of expenses of the adjutant-general's office and other general expenses. The Board is not agreed, though no final decision has been reached.

MILITARY FUND.
The military fund is one-half of one per cent. of the State revenue, excluding school tax, and amounted for the year ending October 31st to about \$12,000. There is also a balance remaining over from the previous year.

AN ITEMIZED ACCOUNT.
On the other hand a strict construction of the law, it is urged, requires an itemized account of expenditures to be submitted by the company officers as a condition precedent to participation in the fund. Such a construction, if enforced, would require the various companies to pay their bills through the year and look to the State headquarters for reimbursement.

THE BILL NOW A LAW.
Sleeping Car Companies Cannot Sell Berths to Negroes.

ATLANTA, GA., Dec. 22.—Governor Candler has signed the bill prohibiting sleeping car companies operating in the State from furnishing berths to negro passengers, except in coaches used especially for the accommodation of negroes.

SUMMARY OF TO-DAY'S NEWS.
Local.

Death of Captain Richard E. Fryaser.—The governor's annual list of Christmas pardons.—Death of Delegate M. S. Newberne, of Norfolk county.—May change the method of apportionment of funds for State military.—Young Men's Business Association and the Chamber of Commerce to join forces.—Board of Aldermen adopts the electric road ordinance.

—Firing on a burglar nearly causes a riot in Newport News.—Day Post Land Company chafers amended.—The postoffice sale at Dunn Loring blown over and robbed.—Burglars at work in Clifton Forge.—New iron bridge at Greensboro, Rockbridge county, to be thrown open Christmas day.—Coast Line bridge at Petersburg blocked by a freight wreck.

GENERAL.
—Interstate Commerce Commission resumes hearing in reclamation case.—Evangelist Moody died yesterday.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Forecast for Saturday and Sunday.
Virginia: Fair Saturday; Sunday probably rain; variable winds, mostly light to fresh easterly.

North Carolina: Rain Saturday and Sunday, preceded by fair in extreme eastern portion Saturday; light to fresh easterly winds.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

REQUIREMENTS TO HAVE REPORTS MADE TO THE STATE HEADQUARTERS OF EXPENSES INCURRED DURING THE YEAR. SUCH BILLS TO BE PAID AFTER APPROVAL—CANON'S ELIGIBILITY.

The State Military Board has under consideration the matter of distribution of that portion of the military fund remaining after payment of expenses of the adjutant-general's office and other general expenses. The Board is not agreed, though no final decision has been reached.

MILITARY FUND.
The military fund is one-half of one per cent. of the State revenue, excluding school tax, and amounted for the year ending October 31st to about \$12,000. There is also a balance remaining over from the previous year.

AN ITEMIZED ACCOUNT.
On the other hand a strict construction of the law, it is urged, requires an itemized account of expenditures to be submitted by the company officers as a condition precedent to participation in the fund. Such a construction, if enforced, would require the various companies to pay their bills through the year and look to the State headquarters for reimbursement.

THE BILL NOW A LAW.
Sleeping Car Companies Cannot Sell Berths to Negroes.

ATLANTA, GA., Dec. 22.—Governor Candler has signed the bill prohibiting sleeping car companies operating in the State from furnishing berths to negro passengers, except in coaches used especially for the accommodation of negroes.

SUMMARY OF TO-DAY'S NEWS.
Local.

Death of Captain Richard E. Fryaser.—The governor's annual list of Christmas pardons.—Death of Delegate M. S. Newberne, of Norfolk county.—May change the method of apportionment of funds for State military.—Young Men's Business Association and the Chamber of Commerce to join forces.—Board of Aldermen adopts the electric road ordinance.

—Firing on a burglar nearly causes a riot in Newport News.—Day Post Land Company chafers amended.—The postoffice sale at Dunn Loring blown over and robbed.—Burglars at work in Clifton Forge.—New iron bridge at Greensboro, Rockbridge county, to be thrown open Christmas day.—Coast Line bridge at Petersburg blocked by a freight wreck.

GENERAL.
—Interstate Commerce Commission resumes hearing in reclamation case.—Evangelist Moody died yesterday.