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TEN CENTS A WEEK

GOVERNOR GILCHRIST AT TAMMANY HALL

Florida's Chief Executive Arouses Enthusiasm, Pointing Out New Race Questions of America.

NEW YORK, July 6.—With its traditional enthusiasm, the Society of Tammany held its Fourth of July celebration yesterday, a throng of members filling the elaborately decorated audience chamber in Tammany Hall and cheering the patriotic sentiment of the speakers.

Chief among these was Governor Albert W. Gilchrist of Florida, who aroused the enthusiasm of his auditors with his pronouncement of renewed faith in traditional Democratic doctrine. Governor Gilchrist devoted considerable attention to the race problem, defending with fervor the South's course with regard to the negro and alluding pointedly to the newer race questions which are agitating other sections of the country.

Governor Gilchrist referred to the tariff question, and pointed out what he declared to be fallacies and absurdities of the Republican platform promises and assertions, expressing wonder that the Republicans had not claimed credit for all the natural advantages of the country. He asserted that every financial panic or crisis which the country has suffered has started while the Republicans were in power.

New England to Blame.

Continuing, the speaker said: "The New England ancestors of the Republican party were largely responsible for slavery and its inception. The Republican party in its platform now talks about having 'freed the slaves.' They never did any such thing. Their freedom grew out of a war incident to secession, the seeds of which they had themselves sown. They simply make this claim in order to have and control the negro vote. They assuredly need all of them they can get. Instead of the Republicans claiming that they freed the slaves, their statement would have been more accurate had they claimed that in open defiance of the constitution they enfranchised the negroes."

Governor Gilchrist said he was opposed to the agitation of the unconstitutionality of the fifteenth amendment to the Federal constitution being started by any Southern legislature or State. "It can safely be affirmed," said he, "that sooner or later, when the Asiatics become voters in California and elsewhere on the Pacific coast, or when the colored contingents of Springfield, Ill., and of Springfield, O., or Pittsburg, or of other cities and States, become too aggressive, and that when the G. O. P. can no longer use the Brother in Black, that this question will be settled right by the Supreme Court of the United States."

President Taft's Plan.

Taking up President Taft's plea for greater division of political sentiment and affiliation in the South, Governor Gilchrist said: "Instead of discussing the race question as it ex-

ists in the South, I will invite your attention to it as it now exists in neutral territory—the far Western States. Suppose this element, Chinese and Japanese, would, as the negroes in the South, vote practically as a unit. Don't you suppose that the white people of California would combine so as to preserve their very civilization? Suppose this condition existed throughout the entire Pacific coast and the States bordering thereon, don't you suppose that Mr. Taft would have his hands full in showing these people that there shall be more than one political creed? Don't you suppose that these people consider it in a very different light than patriotic desire? Don't you suppose you would hear of the Solid Pacific?"

"Coming a little further East, judging from the riots in Springfield, Ill., right under the shadow of the monument of the great Emancipator—Do you suppose that if the negroes were nearly half of the people of Springfield, the white people of Springfield would consider it 'patriotic' for these negroes, in combination with a few white men, to rule that city?"

"Judging from the riots in Springfield, O., Mr. Taft's own State, under such conditions described above, how do you think the 'patriotic desire' of the white people of that State would assert itself? Now, as a matter of fact, right on the main street of the capital city of Florida in a good portion of the city, there are stores owned and managed by negroes. Southern white people feel more kindly towards them than do the whites of any other portion of the United States. But we do not desire to have them rule us any more than would the people of Springfield, O., or Springfield, Ill., desire to be ruled by them. I know of no greater injury which could befall the Southern States than for the white people to divide, and thereby leave the result to the arbitrament of the negro."

The South Prospering.

"I believe in the 'patriotic desire' of Mr. Taft, where such 'desire' can be properly asserted. I want it to become an important plank in the next National Republican platform. Patriotism should begin at home. I want the Republican party to practically break the solidity of the Solid New England States and of Solid Pennsylvania."

Governor Gilchrist said the South is now prospering and developing. "The census returns show that our population is increasing at a rate second to none," he said. "The assessment rolls show that material wealth is increasing rapidly. The increased number of our schools, our churches, show that we are fitting ourselves to be worthy of our increased wealth and strength."

John Sharp Williams, Senator-elect from Mississippi, deploring his in-

DRUGGED AND MARRIED DECLARED SILVEY SPEER

JURY GRANTED DIVORCE VERDICT WITHOUT RETIRING.

Chauffeur Russell Thomas, Who Married the Young Lady Heiress, Offered No Objections.

ATLANTA, July 6.—Based upon her testimony that she was drugged at the time of her marriage with Russell J. Thomas, her father's chauffeur, and did not know what she was doing, Mrs. Silvey Speer Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Speer of this city, grand-daughter of the late John Silvey and heiress to more than a million, was granted a first verdict for complete divorce in the Superior Court here yesterday.

The jury, after hearing the statement of young Mrs. Thomas, gave her the verdict without leaving their seats. Russell Thomas, who is said to be attending a technical school in the East, did not appear to defend the suit.

The sensational marriage of Silvey Speer and Russell Thomas, who drove her father's automobile, took place Sept. 28, 1907, following which they went to Charlotte, N. C., where they were overtaken by Mrs. Speer, who brought her daughter home. She was then 17 years of age. Attorney Reuben Arnold said it would be shown that Miss Speer had been drugged and tricked into the marriage.

Thomas' Love-Making.

Rev. H. A. Atkinson, who performed the ceremony, stated he did so upon the statement of Thomas' father that the young lady's parents had given their consent. William Speer testified he had never given anyone authority over his daughter as guardian.

Mrs. Speer testified her daughter was delighted to come back to Atlanta with her and to leave Thomas, and said all the next day she was ill and in a dazed condition.

The evidence of young Mrs. Thomas was presented by deposition.

Asked "Did Thomas ever make love to you?" she replied: "He did attempt to tell me how much he thought of me. I did not know what he was attempting to drive at."

Asked "Did he ever make a proposal of marriage to you?" she replied, "Yes, he made such a proposition to me on one occasion while we were in the automobile. I told him I would not marry him and that he had better not let father know he had made such a request. He replied that my father was in the way of our marriage and that my father had better look out."

Drugged and Frightened.

Further on she testified that the elder Thomas, W. B. Thomas, Russell's father, had called her up over the telephone several days prior to the marriage and told her she had better marry his son or he would kill her father and ruin her. She said W. B. Thomas again called her up and told her to meet him and Russell at the Marietta car line, but she did not do so. On the morning of Sept. 28, after she had declined to meet them, she says the elder Thomas, accompanied by Russell, came to the point where she got off the car to go to Washington Seminary, in an automobile, and took her into it.

"I was frightened out of my senses," she said. "The elder Thomas said he had a nerve tonic with him and gave me a tablet of something. I did not know what, and I took it."

(Continued on Page Two.)

ability to come to the celebration, write:

"If there, I would choose as a subject: 'When a Democrat is Not a Democrat.' Some Recent Illustrations."

VICTIMS OF THE FOURTH NUMBER INTO HUNDREDS

Toy Cannon and Pistols Aid Fireworks in Spreading of Death and Terrible Wounds.

NEW YORK, July 6.—Four deaths, 337 injured, nine of them dangerously and one so seriously that death seems certain, was the Fourth of July record in New York and Brooklyn up to midnight last night.

The list of dead up to 10 o'clock follows:

Edith Brown, 6 years old, died from a fractured skull caused by the explosion of a toy cannon.

Dorothy Martin, 5 years old, died from burns caused by ignition of box of matches.

Georgia Maifredonia, a 10-year-old boy, died of tetanus after wounding his hand with a toy pistol.

Guiseppe Pagano, 40 years old, was killed by random bullet supposedly fired by a celebrator, though relatives maintain that he was murdered.

Fires in the city and suburbs were numbered by the score, but none in New York proper did any great damage.

Terrible Death of Parachute Jumper.

PORTLAND, Me., July 6.—Mistaking the promiscuous firing of revolvers as a signal for the climax of his aerial act, James Corcoran, aeronaut,

28 years old, of Lowell, Mass., cut loose with his parachute when but a few hundred feet from the earth here yesterday and was dashed to the ground, meeting almost instant death at the feet of 5,000 horrified spectators.

Three parachutes were attached to the balloon for a triple jump. It was arranged that Corcoran should drop with his parachutes when he heard a certain number of revolver shots after the balloon had reached a height of approximately 5,000 feet.

Corcoran had barely left the ground before promiscuous firing began, but the man to give the signal called out to him to keep on up. Above a few hundred feet it is hard for an aeronaut to guess correctly his exact height and so when Corcoran heard a second fusillade it is believed he was certain the signal had come. He was seen to drop, although he was barely 500 feet in the air.

The distance was too short for the parachute to open properly and the man dropped like a plummet, striking the ground about 1,000 feet from where the ascension was made.

He sustained a fracture of the skull and other injuries and he soon died.

Five Young Children Suffer Terrible Death by Flames

DANVILLE, Va., July 6.—As the result of a mysterious fire which totally destroyed the home of S. E. Hamlett at South Boston early yesterday morning, five of their children and H. A. Strange, aged 74, were burned to death, and another child, aged 4 years, was seriously injured. Mr. and Mrs. Hamlett escaped without injury.

The victims of the frightful tragedy are: H. A. Strange; Vernie Hamlett, age 14 years; Beatrice Hamlett, age 7 years; Violet Hamlett, age 6 years; Cecil Hamlett, age 3 years, and Henry Hamlett, age 18 months.

Mr. Hamlett, who is employed with a planing mill at South Boston, resided in a two-story frame building on the west side of the city, near the Norfolk and Western railway. The fire was discovered at about 3 o'clock in the morning by neighbors. At this hour the occupants of the house had not been aroused, and the building was almost completely enveloped in flames, the fire raging the worst on the south side of the structure.

Story of the Tragedy.

The residence was threatening to

fall in at almost any minute when Mr. Hamlett and his wife were aroused. They were on the north side of the house, and their four-year-old child was in the same room. They crawled out of the window on the front porch and dropped the child to the ground. Both of the child's arms were broken by the fall. The baby was also slightly burned and its face lacerated. Mr. and Mrs. Hamlett reached the ground in safety.

All of the occupants of the building were sleeping on the second story and those who met death were on the south side of the house. When the fire was discovered it was impossible to save any of the children or Mr. Strange, all of whom it is thought had been burned to death by this time. Mr. Strange was a Confederate veteran of Halifax county and was in South Boston to attend the Fourth of July celebration.

The building collapsed and fell a few minutes after Mr. Hamlett and his wife escaped, the six bodies of the victims of the fire, burned to a crisp, remains an unrecognizable mass of bones, being taken from the debris later.

Angry Husband Killed His Wife and Tries Suicide

RICHMOND, Va., July 6.—Declaring that she should never leave him again unless they went together, Mordcaat Harvey Taylor, a barber, living at 1211 North Twenty-second street, shot and killed his wife before two of their smallest children, and then rushed into an adjoining room and turned the same revolver on himself, inflicting a wound in the left breast which may prove fatal.

The murder and attempted suicide was the result of a quarrel which

started over the whipping of one of the children by Taylor. Mrs. Taylor left him Saturday, going to the home of her sister. Returning some time yesterday, the quarrel was renewed and Mrs. Taylor threatened to leave a third time.

"Well, if you're going to leave me again we might as well go together," replied the angry husband, and began shooting. He fired four times, one of the balls penetrating the neck, another the right hand and two went into the back.

Seeking to End Duel Father Is Fatally Shot

GRAYSON, Ga., July 6.—Much excitement prevails in this community over the fatal injury of Rev. E. L. Langley, who was shot yesterday while trying to separate his son, Ross Langley, and J. E. Webb, who were engaged in a fight.

Webb and young Langley fought a desperate duel with pistols. Each

received two wounds of a serious nature.

The minister in attempting to act as peacemaker came within the range of the flying bullets and fell at his son's feet, mortally wounded.

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