

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1906.

NEW HAMPSHIRE VILLAGE
VISITED BY AWFUL TRAGEDYCharles F. Ayer Believed to Have Murdered His Whole Family
and Then Committed Suicide—Attempted to Cover Crime
by Firing House.

Pembroke, N. H., Jan. 17.—What the authorities consider as the most appalling tragedy ever recorded in New Hampshire, was enacted in North Pembroke today. Following the destruction of the farm buildings of Charles F. Ayer and the disappearance of seven members of Ayer's household this forenoon, the suicide of Ayer late this afternoon at the home of his sister in the town of Chichester, six miles distant, the announcement was made tonight by Thos. P. Clifford, county solicitor of Merrimack county, that there was little doubt that the seven persons had been murdered and the farm house set on fire.

The theory of the county authorities is that Ayer was the murderer, but up to late hour they had been unable to find any evidence to indicate the method employed to wipe out the family. Whether the victims were shot or killed by other means cannot be told until the next reference has made an examination of the bodies of the victims. Up to late hour two of the charred fragments of the victims had been recovered, although persons who visited the scene of the fire thought they observed two other trunks in the blazing ruins.

The victims of the tragedy were:
Charles F. Ayer, 43, killed himself by shooting.
Mrs. Addie Ayer, his wife.
Mrs. Isaac Lakeman, Ayer's mother-in-law.
Florence Ayer, aged 12.
Alfred Ayer, aged 10.
Bernice Ayer, aged 6.
Andrew Ayer, aged 4, and a girl baby, all children of the Ayers.

County Solicitor Clifford, after investigating the fire as far as was possible to night, stated that Ayer had undoubtedly murdered the entire family and later set fire to the house.

The fire occurred about 9 o'clock this forenoon. The ruins were noticed by neighbors who lived some distance from the farm. Ayer drove to the home of his sister, Mrs. George Bailey, who lives on the Northwood turnpike in the town of Chichester, about six miles northeast of his home. Ayer arrived at his sister's home just after 10 o'clock and had dinner. He remained at Mrs. Bailey's place during the afternoon. At 4 o'clock William Fowler, one of Ayer's nearest neighbors, went to the Bailey place and informed Ayer that his buildings had been burned. Ayer manifested some agitation, but made no statement as to what he would do. Instead, he drew a revolver and pointing it at his right temple, fired, and fell unconscious. As soon as the members of the household recovered from the shock they sent for a physician but nothing could be done to save the man's life and he expired to night.

The selection of the town of Pembroke was notified of the tragic ending and the chairman, Mr. Johnson, immediately communicated with the authorities at Concord. A peculiar incident in connection with the affair was the discovery of the fire by Henry J. Lakeman, a neighbor of Ayer. Lakeman is a son of one of the women who perished in the fire, and was a brother-in-law of Ayer. The Ayer place was located on a high hill and the smoke was distinctly seen

ROOSEVELT GETS WEIGHT
OF TILLMAN'S ANGRY TONGUE

New York, Jan. 17.—The most sensational onslaught upon a president of the United States made in congress in years occurred in the senate this afternoon when "Pitchfork" Tillman, of South Carolina, attacked the policy of the administration in regard to Santo Domingo and bitterly assailed Roosevelt with special reference to the election of Mrs. Morris from the White House.

Tillman's speech was long and vitriolic. He will introduce a resolution tomorrow that the senate investigate the Mrs. Morris incident. It will most probably be voted down, as the senate will take the view that the White House is the president's domicile and that what occurs there is his private affair.

In speaking of Mrs. Morris, Sen. Tillman referred to another incident of a woman being taken to the detention hospital by White House officers, where her friends came for her rescue and proved she was a refined, sensible and respectable woman.

"Now," exclaimed Tillman contemptuously, "this is the second time and I ask again, what are you going to do about it? Are you going to fall back on your so-called dignity? If the president has been a man he would have investigated this case, and if he found the facts, as they are known to exist, he would have sent a letter to Mrs. Morris sympathizing with her and sent his condolences about her business."

"While Tillman was relating the incidents and arraigning the president, Sen. Hale arose and strongly reprimanded the South Carolina colleague.

"The senator is making statements which he cannot verify," said Hale. "He is making a spectacle which is deplorable, and which the senate ought not to be required to submit to. I do not believe he ought to be permitted to use this incident as an excuse to gratify his personal spite against the president."

"My service with the senator from Maine has been too long and my association too pleasant for him to administer a reprimand that will drive me to anger. But if the senator from Maine will introduce a resolution of inquiry here I'll produce four eye-witnesses who will swear to the facts," replied Tillman.

Tillman read the testimony of an eye-witness to the Morris incident, which was little short of sensational, and said he would produce the author before the investigating committee. He also had the names of three other witnesses who would appear.

Senator Daniel expressed regret that Mr. Tillman had introduced the subject. He said it was out of place. The White House was the president's home. The senator from South Carolina had made a mistake in referring to it.

Replying, Mr. Tillman said he welcomed advice from such a high source, but he would introduce the resolution tomorrow morning and senators could vote on it—vote it down or up—on their responsibility as senators.

seeking for themselves dishonorable graves—or a little piece of pork."

Tillman asserted that President Roosevelt's popularity was due to the press of the country sending out rosy articles from the press galleries of congress.

Mr. Tillman said he himself had been sometimes treated badly by the press, but that in fifty-eight years of knocking up and down the world he had found "with his one eye" that it was usually fear of defeat for re-election that caused men in public to object to what the newspapers said.

He said a use of the press not contemplated by Jefferson was the recent practice of officially inspiring the sending of "false information, the dissemination of falsehoods," for some purpose.

The employment of Mr. Bishop, the president's "bosom friend," as Mr. Tillman called him, was a bad example. Continuing, Tillman said:

"The occupant of the White House has known for a long time the value of the newspapers."

Referring to the roughriders, he said the lieutenant colonel was always in the news, the exclusion of the colonel (Leonard Wood), who "seemed to be in a condition of eclipse but has since blossomed out on the horizon."

"I do not want to deflect one iota from his just fame," said he, "for he has shown by popular vote how he is regarded, but I say here, in all seriousness, he owes more of his success as a public man to the newspaper than to his own merits."

He declared that the White House news "colored and stifled his own ideas of what it ought to be, to preserve in the minds of the people the hold he has on them."

He asserted that the president stands in "the attitude of a quack doctor who wishes to prescribe pills through the newspapers, such pills as 'Roosevelt on Pains,' 'Roosevelt on Rheumatism,'

"I had only to try Dr. Hamilton's Pills to appreciate their merit," writes Mr. S. H. Byers, of Woodstock. "My system was out of order. My blood was weak and thin. I had a nasty, murky complexion. My skin was hard and dry. The first box of Dr. Hamilton's Pills made a complete change. I felt better at all points in my system, and my complexion was clear and rosy. I was cured."

Disorders of the stomach and bad blood cause muddy complexion. The purifying effect of Dr. Hamilton's Pills is a fact. Try these good pills, 25c. per box, or five boxes for \$1.00, at all druggists, or by mail to Pollock & Co., Kingston, Ont., and Hartford, Conn., U. S. A.

IMMIGRANT
EX-CONVICTAlthough Andros Stomp Had
Passport Yet He Cannot Enter
United States.

There appeared before the U. S. immigration inspection board here yesterday nine Hungarians, who had come from Sydney (C. B.), and were seeking entrance to the United States, in which country they had first lived upon arrival from Hungary.

With one exception all were permitted to pass. The one who was not permitted to pass was the one who was known as Andros Stomp, and about whose act of detention had somewhat interesting circumstances.

He had nearly passed the necessary examination when a somewhat impressive looking pipe that he carried around with him, and which the White House physical trainers and jiu-jitsu artists and prize fighters in his physical formation and intelligence the enormous life, but he could not find time to investigate the case of a poor woman maltreated and abused by his underlings.

Mr. Tillman said his heart had been touched by the Morris incident. He related, his voice broken with emotion and tears streaming from his eyes, how one eye-witness to the Morris matter, a gentleman of honorable reputation, had wept afterward because he had not intervened as an American to prevent the police of St. Louis from maltreating Mrs. Morris.

Tillman began his speech by calling up his Santo Domingo resolution.

"We had trouble enough of our own," Mr. Tillman declared, "without going among the South American republics setting other people's troubles."

"I am a patriot in this country," exclaimed the South Carolina senator. "God grant it may not come in my time. I have seen two—I don't want to see any more—but it will come some time, and when it does, with a million men out of employment, with a million hungry stomachs, we will have enough to engage our attention at home."

Mr. Tillman called attention to the example of severity given by the bank yesterday in its vote on the Philippine bill and said the Republicans in the senate lacked four votes to raise the Santo Domingo treaty. But it was understood that four on this side—"White House Democrats"—might be secured, who for a little piece of patronage would consent to follow the president's lead.

Mr. Tillman grew dramatic and demanded of the Republican senators who had been threatened with the displeasure of the president, why they did not "raise and say to the president: You shall obey the law or we'll take you by the throat."

The Republican senators, he declared, were threatened with a withdrawal of patronage, and he drew a humorous picture of Republican senators "crawling around and between the president's legs."

The baron told further of a frontier police system, which subjects all immigrants to a rigorous examination.

Against all this, though, is the passport given to those who are criminal or weak-minded, says:

"The facts here given prove conclusively that the Hungarian government in its effort to check immigration from which its own country suffers irreparable, economical and moral injury has gone to the extreme limits of a free state against its free citizens. It is also patent that the Hungarian legislature was not animated in its endeavor merely by a regard for the interests of its subjects, but that it was also anxious to respect the laws of foreign powers, especially those of the United States."

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BIRMINGHAM STANDS FOR "JOE"
AND ELECTS SEVEN UNIONISTSChamberlain Himself Secures a Majority of 5,000, and Will
Probably Become Leader of the Opposition—So far Liberals Have Big Majority—Elections Not Quite Half Finished.

London, Jan. 17.—The following is a summary of the political situation at midnight:

Total seats in the Commons,	670
Elections held,	321
Liberals elected,	167
Unionists,	163
Labourites,	51
Nationalists,	30

London, Jan. 17.—The most prominent feature of today's election returns is the wholly unexpected stand made by Birmingham. Not only was one of Joseph Chamberlain's seven candidates returned, but Mr. Chamberlain himself secured a majority of 5,000, while the majority of the others averaged 1,000.

Even allowing that the Liberal candidates were not very strong, as the seats were practically uncontested as the last general election, and though the Liberal organization was not as good as in other parts of the country, the results at Birmingham are of the highest importance. They prove the groundlessness of the Liberal contention that this general election has killed the local agitation for a generation to come.

Besides showing the unabated confidence of Birmingham in Mr. Chamberlain, the results there go also to confirm what already has been noticed in isolated contests, that the candidates who openly profess protectionist leanings had good support and in some cases were victorious.

The outcome at Birmingham afforded the party much future food for thought. Birmingham was not a Liberal stronghold, and the Liberal vote was not as good as in other parts of the country, the results at Birmingham are of the highest importance. They prove the groundlessness of the Liberal contention that this general election has killed the local agitation for a generation to come.

A considerable section of the Unionists on the protectionist side had predicted some such result and it is now proved that the party must look forward to Birmingham for hope and guidance.

It is too late for the results at Birmingham to have any effect on the campaign as a whole. Many of today's polls will not be declared until tomorrow, but those published tonight show that the Liberal tide still runs strong.

London has gone distinctly Liberal, not less than twelve seats showing Liberal majorities. While the total gains of the Liberals for today number twenty-two, the Unionists have made only one solitary gain, the seat of Aberdeen, having received the seat from the Liberals at Maidstone, Portsmouth, which had previously been a Liberal seat.

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CHURCH NOW
FREE OF DEBTCongregational Church is Ready
to Burn Its Mortgage.

The annual meeting of the Congregational church was held last evening and was well attended, enthusiastic and harmonious, and the reports most encouraging.

The trustees of the church have decided to burn the mortgage of \$25,000 which has been held against the church for several years, and to pay the same out of the church funds.

The work of the ladies' missionary society was well maintained. The ladies aid society contributed \$180 to the fund of the church, and the church society \$25.00.

About a year ago the C. E. Society was organized and has met every week since its organization, with an average attendance of twenty.

The treasurer of the church reported all accounts paid and a balance on hand.

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