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THE MURDERED EDITOR.

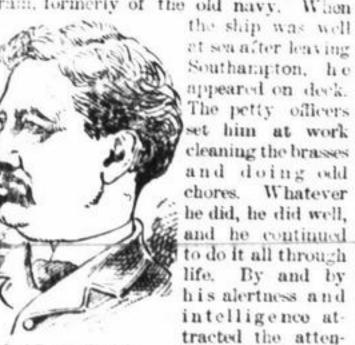
ROMANCE OF THE LIFE OF CAPT. F. W. DAWSON.

flis Urayery in Battle-A Graphic Story of the Killing of Dawson-Stories of His Newspaper Career-His Connection with the Civil War.

The untimely death of Capt. F. W. Dawson, editor of The Charleston (S. C.) News and Courier, at, the hands of Dr. Y. B. Mc-Dow, of that city, removes from the field of southern journalism one of its shining lights -a man who was popular, not merely in a social sense, but, with his large, progressive ideas and marvelous energy, one who in his work and person was a type of the New South. Capt. Dawson was, like many generous men,

hot headed and impetuous-sometimes imperious. Men of strong executive ability rarely brook opposition, and he was one of them. An incident illustrates this trait in his character, and it has a bearing upon what has been written. In the early days of reconstruction a paper was established in Charleston known as The Republican. Its editor, Myron Fox, had graduated from The New York Tribune, and was as brave as he was brainy. He realized that he was "a stranger in a strange land," yet with a conscience alive to the issues of the hour, he fought on against desperate odds. Among his bitterest antagonists was Capt. Dawson, then just beginning to edit The Charleston News. Between the two men it was every day "give and take." At last, something was said in The Republiean that provoked Dawson to more than usual wrath, and with cane in hand he went to the offending editor to demand that he should either apologize or take a whipping. The Republican man, on the occasion of the call, was sitting at his desk writing an editorial. When he saw the threatening stick he coolly told Dawson to put it down or he would throw him out of the window. In a second more the two men were clinched. The stout young Northerner, lifting his visitor from the floor with as much case as an athlete handles a dumb bell, carried the captain where he said he would-to the window-and remarked: "I don't want you to apologize, and I don't want to drop you; but will you stop quarreling?" There was so much determination in the words and method of the man that Dawson quietly said "Yes," apologized like the gentleman he was, and thereafter the two editors became very respectful friends.

The history of F. W. Dawson, if it were enlarged, would read like a romance. He went to the south a beardless boy of 21. Born in England, tired of the struggle for livelihood in London, and seeing new opportunities for an adventurous spirit in the war just begun between the north and south, he stole a passage on the steamer Nashville, then a Confederate privateer, commanded by Capt. Pegram, formerly of the old navy. When



CAPT. DAWSON.

tion of the quarter deck, and before the ship reached port he was a general favorite, and had attained the position of captain's clerk. On his arrival, through the good graces of Capt. Pegram, he secured appointment as master's mate, and served right well for a number of months. Not satisfied, however, with his inactive office, he managed to effect a transfer to the army, and became a high private in Purcell's battery of A. P. Hill's division. This was in June, 1862. In the buttles around Richmond he was sorely wounded while standing alone and single handed at his gan, firing the last shot before he fell. Thus attracting public notice, it was not difficult for such a bright, brave young fellow to obtain a commission, and the strap of a lieutenant of artillery was awarded him, with orders to report to the ordnance department of the Army of Virginia. Step by step, not in rank, but in honor, he rose to a position that brought him close to the person of Gen. Longstreet, Here he again distinguished himself. One day, in the heat of battle, he saw a regiment break and start for the rear at a critical moment. Without saving a word to those who were around him, he put spurs to his horse, dashed down among the demoralized men, and with his shrill, ringing voice, and in the starring words he knew so well how to command, rallied and led them back, re-established the broken line, charged again and captured a portion of a battery.

When the war ended Capt. Dawson returned to Richmond penniless and with only the clothes in which he stood, but he soon succeeded in finding a place as a reporter under John Cowarden, the veteran editor of The Richmond Dispatch. After a while he drifted to Charleston, S. C., and became an associate editor on The Charleston Mercury, his chief being Albert Rhett, who was subsequently killed in a duel. The two other live papers of the city at this time were The South Carolinian, the official journal of the state, owned and edited by F. G. de Fontaine, and The Charleston News, which had been established a year or two before by Hon. Ben Wood, of New York, and was edited by Mr. George Cathcart, now a member of the firm of Ivison, Phinney & Blakeman, the New York publishers. The Charleston Courier, on which James Gordon Bennett the elder worked as a journeyman printer when he came to America, was for the moment dead or nearly so.

Learning that The Charleston News was also in a life and death struggle for existence, Capt. Dawson saw his opportunity to purchase the plant, and taking as a copartner Mr. B. R. Riordan, who with William Gilmore Simms, the southern novelist, was then an associate editor on The South Carolinian, he came to New York, conferred with Mr. Wood, and though without a dollar in the world obtained possession of the paper. Subsequently the young firm purchased at auction the venerable Charleston Courier, the names were combined and an enterprise developed that opened the eyes of the people of the state to the fact that a new leader of public opinion was among them.

Capt. Dawson quickly became a power tagen prominent throughout the south. He was not merely am ang Republicabreast but in front of the times. 'While immediately after the war he wrote and worked amid the passionate thought of the day, and it seemed hard to accept the situation, two or three years later found him leading public sentiment up to a recognition of the practical results that had been achieved, and the importance of developing the vast material resources of the section. He was among the first to advocate the education of the negroes and the establishment of public schools for them. He foresaw that the intelligent colored men of the south.

having similar opportunities, would stand shoulder to shoulder with their old masters and friends. He encouraged the young men to engage more energetically in political affairs and get out of the old sectional ruts. He saw the south mighty in possibilities, but moving slowly to results, and therefore espoused the spirit of progress with all the enthusiasm of a masterful nature. He had the moral courage, alone and single handed, to encounter prejudice and obloquy under conditions that required bravery to be sublime in order to withstand the sneers of his friends and neighbors. Refusing a challenge to mortal combat he defied the traditions of a century. Yet, in the end, the people stood by him, and the law upon the statute book of South Carolina making dueling a criminal offense is a monument to his memory more enduring than marble. The sturdy men of South Carolina learned at last that he was pleading for right, for reconciliation, for progress, patriotism and the upbuilding of the south as a part of a great homogeneous coun-

Capt. Dawson, during the last eight years preceding his death, was a member of the National Democratic executive committee, with which public office he was content, although the ripeness of his intellect, the energy of his work and the magnetism of his nature, to say nothing of his commanding influence as a citizen, would have insured to him any gift he might have asked from the people. I will be a long time before his place is filled.

TEN THOUSAND OUT.

Great Strike of Weavers in the Cotton Mills of Tall River.

Fall River, Mass., is the greatest cotton manufacturing center in the United States, and the fact that 6,000 weavers there have struck for an advance in wages is momentous. One by one the other classes of workers, spinners, pickers, ropers, etc., have had to quit; and at the present nearly 20,000 men. women and youths are idle. It is a question of wages and dates back to 1884, when a general reduction of 20 per cent, was made in all the mills. The spinners in ten mills struck then, but yielded in a few days. Early in 1887 an advance of 10 per cent, was made, and the companies now claim that by improved machinery and appliances the employes now earn a little more than they did before the reduction of 1884.



MASS MEETING OF STRIKERS. There is a great variance in the statements of the parties. The operators claim that the weavers average \$10 to \$12 per week, while the spinners range from \$11 to \$13, but the workers figure the average at a little below It appears from the statements of both sides that this is one of the few employments in which women carn as much as men. The employes invite attention to the fact that cotton is 114 cents lower than in 1884, and cloth 1-16 cent higher per yard, so that the total profits of all the mills is about \$70,000 per week. The operators retort that both the prices quoted are temporary, and that there is even now a general distrust in the market. Patrick J. Connelly, secretary of the Fall River Weavers' Protective association, presents a very plausible set of figures, and is confident the mills must give in. The conduct of the strikers is admirable, and except for the stillness a visitor would not know a strike was in progress involving the work and wages of near 20,000 people.

Johan Alfred Enander.

Johan Aifred Enander, who has been appointed minister resident and consul general of the United States to Denmark, first saw the light of day in Westergotland, Sweden, May 22, 1842. He was a farmer's son, and like the other boys



education at the district school. He was a very ambitious youth, and spent his evenings at home studying the higher branches antil he was able to pass the examination admitting him to the college of Wenersborg. In the earlier part of the '60s he served as clerk in a judge's

obtained his early

office. From 1865 till 1800 he devoted his time to study and then came to this country and entered the college of Augustava, at Rock Island. Soon after he was made editor of The Flemlandet, a Swedish paper printed in Chicago. In 1872, with G. A. Bohman as partner, he bought the paper, which he has since edited. In 1874 Enander wrote a Swedish history of the United States, which was so well received that it was shortly afterward translated into English. From 1874 to 1877 he edited a Swedish literary paper, Noroch Fjerran, and in 1879 an illustrated paper entitled Ungdonsvan, both of which have since been discontinued. Mr. Enander was made a member of the state board of education in 1879.

John D. Washburn.

John D. Washburn, the newly appointed minister to Switzerland, belongs to the famous Washburn family of Massachusetts. He was born in 1829, in Boston, and is a graduate of Harvard university. Mr. Washburn has been a close friend of Senator Hoar, to whom his selection is credited. He has been in the insurance

business since the war. He served in the legislature four years from 1876, and was a senator in 1881, when failing health forced him to seek rest abroad. He has

ans of central Massachusetts since the formation of the

JOHN D. WASHBURN. party, leading the Worcester county Republicans in 1878 in their bitter fight against Gen. Butler. Mr. Washburn is an original member of the American Historical association, and also a member of the board of trustees of Clark university, and vice president of the Worcester club. He is in very poor health at present, and his change of residence will probably prove very beneficial.

WHERE SHOULD THE CONSUMER BUY?

In the ordinary course of trade the consumer buys his tea from the retailer, the retailer from the jobber, the jobber from the importer, the importer from the producer. This is commonly known known as the regular channel of trade. This is necessary in most cases as many merchants, both wholesale and retail, have not sufficient trade to purchase from place of growth.

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