

CONDENSED HISTORY OF A FAMOUS SCHEME OF OPPRESSION

At First Its Objects Were Laudable, but it Subsequently Became a Cruel and Unjust Power—Some of Its Outrageous Feinities.

When the Earl of Richmond had defeated Richard III. at Bosworth and had been crowned king as Henry VII., he found the times in so troubled a state that men whose rights were infringed upon or denied them dared not apply for justice to the ordinary courts.

To reach a verdict that had grown so intolerable Henry, feeling himself strong enough with his second parliament, created a court made up of the highest officers of the kingdom, embracing, theoretically, the king himself, who was considered the author of all justice, to which were confided unlimited power and discretion over a large, undefined class of offenses, many of which were of a political character, without the restraint of a jury and subject to no revision by appeal.

This was afterward known as the court of the star chamber, so called because the ceiling of the room in which it met was studded with stars or because in this apartment prior to the time of Edward I. the contracts of the Jews, called staras, were deposited in boxes or chests.

One said, "A court thus constituted, with powers so broad and a discretion unlimited by prescribed rules, though called into existence for wise and salutary purposes, was in the end like invoking the spirit of mischief without a corresponding power in reserve to lay it or check its excesses if inclined to abuse its authority."

Instead of losing power as the necessity for its existence passed away it drew to itself new elements of strength and enlarged the extent of its jurisdiction. It became, after successive administrations under the hands of ambitious leaders such as furnished in the time of Henry VIII., Elizabeth and the two Stuarts, a most potent engine of despotic rule and intolerance.

Charles I., through the star chamber, filled his coffers. During his reign such enormous fines were imposed for trivial offenses that the audience gathered about the courtroom at 3 o'clock in the morning to secure seats to hear the proceedings. The discretionary power of the court in the way of punishment made it a means of cruel injustice in the hands of bad men, instances of which disgrace the history of its administration during the reigns of James I. and Charles I.

One of the most remarkable cases was that of Bishop Williams, who had been lord keeper of the seal, a popular prelate and a man of learning and spirit and at one time a special favorite of James. While enjoying his patronage he exerted his influence in behalf of Laud, afterward archbishop, who owed his first promotion to his good offices. Some disagreement arose between them. Nothing would satisfy Laud but the ruin of the man who had befriended him.

On some slight pretext the bishop was brought before the star chamber and fined £10,000, committed to the Tower during the king's pleasure and suspended from office. His furniture and books were levied upon to pay the fine. Among some refuse papers were found some letters from Obaldiston, a schoolmaster, directed to the bishop. In these letters the writer spoke of a "little great man" and in one place of a "little uselin'." As Laud was small of stature, it was conjectured that these terms referred to him. They were both tried, one for receiving such scandalous letters and the other for writing them. Williams paid a fine of £8,000 and Obaldiston £5,000, and he had his ears nailed to the pillory.

Pyrrone, a barrister at law, of Lincoln's Inn, a Puritan of the strictest sect, published his famous "Histrio Mastix," a huge volume of 1,000 quarto pages, almost at stage plays, music dancing, public festivals, Christmas sports, bonfires and maypoles. For this alleged libel on various he was arraigned before the star chamber.

Mr. Pyrrone, in his general sweep for his historical illustration of the mischief of frequenting plays, referred to Nero and spoke of Plautus and others who conspired against him for his bad example upon the magistrates and the people. The chief justice from this inferred that the author intended to incite the people to murder the king, and Pyrrone was deprived of his right of practice as a barrister, condemned to stand in the pillory at Westminster and Chesham, to lose his ears, one at each of these places, to pay a fine of £5,000 and to be imprisoned for life.

Candidate for Senate Declines the Honor on Account of Ill Health. Stanley Enterprise.

J. M. Brown, candidate for the State Senate from Stanley county, who received a stroke of paralysis soon after his nomination was secured, has resigned and it now appears that the only name to be presented at the convention to be held September 6th will be Jno. S. Efford, of Albemarle.

Albemarle has organized a gun club. The County Sunday School Convention of Stanley will meet at Salem Church Thursday, September 17th.

Mrs. Robt. D. Thompson, Jr., left Saturday for Durham. She will be joined later by her husband, who has resigned his place as assistant postmaster at the office here to enter work at Durham. C. P. Hartwell has been appointed to the vacancy at the office here.

The Palestine roller mill began operation last Thursday. Wm. Henley is miller and Henry Blalock manager. The new 300-drop switch-board is being installed at the telephone office.

Our former townsman, T. M. Crowell, has moved from Oxford to take charge of the Spray Cotton Mill at Spray, N. C.

Prof. A. M. Soule in Southern Farm Magazine of Baltimore for September says: The following is one of the best recipes for whitewash with which we are familiar: half a bushel of unslaked lime; slake with warm water; cover it during the process to keep the steam; strain the liquid through a fine sieve or strainer; add a peck of salt previously well dissolved in warm water; three pounds of ground rice boiled to a thin paste and stir in boiling hot; half a pound of powdered Spanish whiting and a pound of glue, which can be previously dissolved over a slow fire, and add five gallons of hot water to the mixture, stir well and let it stand for a few days, covered up from the dirt. It should be put on hot. One pint of the mixture will cover a square yard properly applied. Small brushes are best. There is nothing that can compare with it for inside or outside work, and it retains its brilliancy for many years.

No one would buy a sailboat with sails that could not be reefed. There is always that possibility of a little too much wind that makes a cautious man afraid to go unprovided. The thinking man, whose stomach sometimes goes back on him, provides for his stomach by keeping a bottle of Kodol For Dyspepsia within reach. Kodol digests what you eat and restores the stomach to the condition to properly perform its functions. Sold by Standard Drug Co. and Asheboro Drug Co., Asheboro, N. C.

Mason Bacon, giving Raleigh as his home, was arrested in New York last week and committed to Bellevue Hospital for insanity. When arrested the magistrate recognized him as the man who applied for a warrant for the arrest of the postmaster earlier in the day. Claiming the latter had defrauded him in a money order transaction.

In these days of rush and hurry courtesy is often forgotten. In the mail, pell mell rush of our life little things are done to offend that were rather remained undone. A hastily eaten meal and its resultant headache may cause us social or financial loss. The wise man or woman is the one who relieves little ills of this sort by a little dose of Kodol For Dyspepsia. It digests what you eat and puts your stomach back into shape. Sold by Standard Drug Co. and Asheboro Drug Co., Asheboro, N. C.

The heaviest rain of the longest duration this season fell in North Carolina, beginning Wednesday evening and continuing through Thursday. All the rivers rose from 6 to 9-12 feet above normal in a few hours.

When two strong men come to blows, even if they are well matched, it is not a pleasing sight, but if the man who gets the worst of it will use DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve, he will look better and feel better in short order. Be sure you get DeWitt's. Good for everything a salve is used for, including piles. Sold by Standard Drug Co. and Asheboro Drug Co., Asheboro, N. C.

Sec. of the Treasury, Shaw will speak at Salisbury Monday evening of next week.

To All Democratic Voters: If there ever was a time in the history of the Democratic party for the manifestation of loyalty and patriotism on the part of its members, it is right now. If we are to win a victory and elect a president two years hence, we must first elect a House of Representatives this fall. A Democratic House can and will investigate every department of the Government. With all of them honey-combed by "graft," the edges of which, only, have been touched by recent exposure and prosecutions, there will be a revelation of rottenness that will astonish the country and create a demand for a Democratic administration to clean the Government workshop.

To win the House we need money to defray legitimate expenses and get out our vote. We have no protected monopolies from which to draw to fill our coffers, as they do those of the Republican party. We must, therefore, appeal to loyal Democrats for contributions.

Will you send us \$1.00 at once, and in return for this we will send you copies of our campaign literature issued by the Committee. You will have the thanks of the entire Democratic party for your favorable response to our request. Address all remittances to— J. M. Guigas, Chairman, Munsey Building, Washington, D. C.

A bath cleanses the skin and rids the pores of refuse. A bath makes for better fellowship and citizenship. Not only should the outside of the body be cleansed, but occasional use of a laxative or cathartic opens the bowels and clears the system of effete matter. Best for this are DeWitt's Little Early Risers. Pleasant little pills that do not gripe or sicken. Sold by Standard Drug Co. and Asheboro Drug Co., Asheboro, N. C.

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Swamp-Root is pleasant to take and is sold by all druggists in fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles. You may have a sample bottle of this wonderful new discovery and a book that tells all about it, both sent free by mail. Address, Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. When writing mention reading this generous offer in this paper. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

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