

# The Smithfield Herald.

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NO. 41

## THE MERIWETHER CASE

### He is Acquitted of The Charge of Manslaughter.

### To be Confined in the Naval Academy Grounds One Year and Publicly Reprimanded.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Midshipman Minor Meriwether, Jr., who was tried by court martial for causing the death of Midshipman Branch, has been sentenced to confinement to the limits of the naval academy for a period of one year, and to be publicly reprimanded by the Secretary of the Navy.

Secretary Bonaparte has ordered that the sentence be carried out, but that so much of the penalty as would debar the accused from serving on any practice ship attached to the academy be remitted.

Representative Broussard, of Louisiana, who had a conference with the Secretary this morning regarding the case, after reading the findings, announced that he was entirely satisfied with them.

Midshipman Meriwether was acquitted of the charge of manslaughter and found guilty of the other two charges, namely violation of the third clause of the eighth article for the government of the navy, which prohibits midshipman from engaging in fistfights and conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline.

Of the sentence the secretary says:

"The department has no difficulty in holding that this sentence is amply justified by the offence committed. There is indeed room for some doubt whether the punishment imposed might not have justly been made more severe, but as to this the department need express no opinion. In one respect, however, it seems proper that the sentence should be mitigated so as to permit the accused to participate in the next annual practice cruise."

### Tar Heels Fare Well on Committee Jobs.

Washington, D. C. Dec. 11.—The North Carolina delegation fared well in the distribution of committee assignments in the House today. The State landed four new committees, namely: Territories, Insular Affairs, Invalid Pensions, and Indian Affairs. The committees of the North Carolinians line up as follows:

Small—Postoffices, Expenditures on Public Buildings.

Claude Kitchin—Indian Affairs, Claims, Elections.

Thomas—Library, Public Buildings.

Pou—District of Columbia, Reform in Civil Service.

William Kitchin—Naval Affairs, Manufactures.

Patterson—Merchant Marine, Census.

Pa—Insular Affairs, Expenditures in Interior Department.

Blackburn—District of Columbia.

Webb—Education Patents, Territories.

Gudger—Invalid Pensions, Alcoholic Liquor Traffic.

It will be observed that Representative Blackburn returns to the Committee on District of Columbia, thus giving the State, with Mr. Pou, two members on that body. Mr. Small has left Merchant Marine and goes to Postoffices, Mr. Patterson landing the former assignment.—Exchange.

### A Fearful Fate.

It is a fearful fate to have to endure the terrible torture of Piles. "I can truthfully say," writes Harry Colson, of Masonville, Ia., "that for Blind, Bleeding, Itching and Protruding Piles, Bucklen's Arnica Salve, Arnica Salve, is the best cure made." Also best for cuts, burns and injuries. 25c at Hood Bros. druggists.

## GENERAL NEWS.

Attorney General Moody has instructed the eighty five United States District Attorneys to vigilantly enforce the Elkins law against rebates and discriminations by railroads.

The engagement of Miss Alice Roosevelt to Congressman Longworth, of Ohio, has been announced from the White House. The wedding will take place in February.

John M. Gearin, Democrat, has been appointed U. S. Senator from Oregon to succeed the late Senator Mitchell. He is the first Democratic Senator from Oregon since 1878.

At Lindsay, Pa., Tuesday morning the six children of William Morgan and wife burned to death and the parents were badly burned in their distracted attempts to save them.

Charles F. Peabody was made President of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, of New York, Wednesday to succeed Richard A. McCurdy, resigned. His salary will be \$50,000 per year.

James Russell Parsons, United States consul general to the City of Mexico, was killed there last week. He was driving in a carriage which was run into by a street car. Parsons was instantly killed.

Nine persons were killed and eleven tram employees and eight passengers injured in the wreck of the Overland Limited passenger train No. 2, on the Union Pacific, five miles west of Rock Springs, Wyoming, last week.

Driven out by hunger from the Apennines, which are covered with snow, and attracted by the springlike mildness of the climate on the plains, packs of wolves have ventured to the suburbs of Rome and are causing alarm. Bands of volunteers have been sent out to exterminate them.

General Kuroki and staff made a triumphal entry into Tokio Saturday morning. There was a great demonstration of enthusiasm, and General Kuroki's reception was specially noteworthy in view of the fact that he was the winner of the initial victory on land in the recent war.

President Harvie Jordan, of the Southern Cotton Association, has issued a call for a general convention of farmers, bankers, merchants, and others throughout the South, to be held at New Orleans January 11th, 12th and 13th, 1906. The object of the convention will be to discuss the crop of 1906, trade relations between producers and spinners, extending the market for American cotton and holding the unsold balance of the present cotton crop for fifteen cents a pound.

The investigation of the life insurance companies continue to bring results. R. A. McCurdy, president of the Mutual Life of New York, who consented to a reduction of salary from \$150,000 a year to \$75,000, has since resigned, and Senator Depew, a director in the Equitable, has also resigned. Both men go out in very bad odor. They doubtless deserve punishment, which will not be imposed, but there is satisfaction in knowing they are no longer quartered on the innocent policyholders.

The House of Congress Thursday voted \$11,000,000 to carry on the work of the Panama canal. The amount was a compromise between the \$16,500,000 carried in the bill under consideration and an estimate of something over \$6,000,000 recommended by Mr. Williams, the Democratic leader, to carry on the work until the middle of January. Mr. Hepburn, in charge of the bill, suggested that something over \$11,000,000 would carry on the work until March. The Senate passed the bill Tuesday.

Insurance Commissioner Young reports that the business last year of the life insurance companies chartered by North Carolina amounted to \$4,664,600 and it will be vastly greater this year.

## SUPERIOR COURT.

### Defendants in Whiskey Cases Plead Guilty.

### Other Cases Disposed of—One Negro Sent to Pen for Ten Years—Others Go to Roads.

The December term of Johnston County Superior Court convened Monday afternoon with Judge Michael Hoke Justice presiding. The State is represented by Solicitor Armistead Jones.

The following grand jury was drawn and sworn in: Z. L. LeMay, foreman, J. C. Wiggs, Robert Parrish, A. R. Duncan, W. C. Walton, Eh S. Turlington, E. J. Clifton, Arthur E. Lee, G. S. Cable, Ben Mathews, I. H. Johnson, E. S. Sanders, Minson Barefoot, N. I. Driver, J. M. Stancill, F. L. Griswold, T. J. Mashburn and Ransom Hales. S. H. Bagley appointed officer of the grand jury.

Mr. Charles Hubert Martin came before the court and presented his license as a lawyer. On motion of Mr. E. W. Pou he was sworn in and admitted to the bar.

Of the cases on the criminal docket we note the following that had been disposed of up to Wednesday night:

Jim Wynne, Crawford Liles and Dora Liles were convicted of an assault with deadly weapon on Oscar Melvin. Jim Liles was sent to the Clayton roads for a term of eight months, Crawford Liles was fined \$25 and taxed with two-thirds of the costs and Dora Liles taxed with the other third.

Crawford Liles and Durgan Liles were found guilty of a nuisance—the nuisance being the use of profane and vulgar language on the streets of Benson. Durgan was fined \$10 and costs, and judgment suspended in the case of Crawford.

Crawford Liles was found guilty of an assault with deadly weapon and judgment suspended upon payment of the costs.

L. B. Hudson plead guilty to the charge of retailing without license. He was fined \$100 and taxed with the costs. A. B. Hudson, Haywood Lucas, H. M. Hodges and Wilson Allen each charged with the same offense. Each plead guilty and the same fine was placed on them, except as to Wilson Allen who was fined \$150. In addition to the fine and costs each of the five defendants were placed under a \$300 bond requiring them to appear at each term of the court for two years and show that they had not dealt in whiskey in any way. Allen, Hodges and Lucas each had two cases, but judgment was suspended on the payment of costs in the second case.

Fletcher Austin plead guilty of retailing hard cider, and judgment suspended on payment of the costs. In this case Mr. Austin sold cider upon the advice of counsel who informed him that it would not be in violation of the law. At the last term of court the grand jury presented bills of indictment for retailing without license. As there was no evidence that he had dealt in whiskey at all the cases against him were dismissed on the payment of the costs.

In the case of L. M. Ryals who was indicted for retailing without license there was no evidence of wilful violation of the law and the case was dismissed on the payment of costs. This was a case in which Mr. Ryals ordered some whiskey for other parties and took the money to pay for it, without intending or thinking he was violating the law.

There were seven indictments brought against J. P. Glover for retailing without license. He submitted and was fined \$100 and costs in one case and judgment was suspended in the others. It seems that Glover had procured government license and sold brandy in violation of the State laws.

J. M. Watson was found guilty

of larceny and sentenced to 18 months in the penitentiary. W. M. Smith was also convicted of stealing and given a five months term on the roads.

James Wilson was fined \$10 and costs for carrying concealed weapons.

M. M. Sugg and A. W. Hodges were found guilty of an affray. Judgment was suspended on each and Hodges taxed with the costs.

Pearly Watson, a 17-year-old negro, was found guilty of an assault to commit rape, his victim being an eleven-year-old negro girl, and sentenced to the penitentiary for ten years.

For stealing an ox and cow Rufus Denning must serve 18 months in the penitentiary.

Lonnie Lee was found guilty of cruelty to animals and judgment suspended on the payment of costs. George McCullers was also found guilty of the same offense. Fined \$10 and costs.

### Heavy Fines for Gambling.

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 12.—Fines aggregating \$1,400 were imposed on four of Greensboro's most prominent young men today by Judge Ward in the Superior Court for violating the gambling laws. Julius W. Cone, secretary and treasurer of the White Oak and Proximity Mills, and his brother, the president of the American Cotton Company, Solomon, were fined \$500 each, while Sydney J. Kaufman and W. L. Diffe were fined \$200 each. The young men, it was testified, were recently playing poker in a rear room of the Huffine building when a policeman, who had learned of the incident, climbed a telephone pole on the opposite side of the street and gaining an unobstructed view of the room and its occupants, procured warrants for their arrest and the case was called to trial today.

### \$275,000 Given for Pensions.

Raleigh, N. C., December 12.—The last of the pension warrants were sent out today by Auditor Dixon, the total number being \$275,000. Auditor Dixon expects the next legislature to increase the amount of pensions. Georgia pays a greater amount than any other state in the south. South Carolina pays only \$200,000, the statement sent from that state that it paid \$650,000 having been corrected in a later report just received by the auditor. Florida pays \$288,000 to three thousand pensioners, being an average of \$96 each. Florida leads all in this per capita amount paid. Tennessee coming next with \$275,000 to 3,374 pensioners. The total assessed value of North Carolina property is \$442,418,000, this being about a billion dollars less than Georgia, but as Dr. Dixon says this difference is due to the fact that North Carolina has no large cities while Georgia has four cities and these bring up the value.—Correspondence Messenger.

### Successful Farming.

Mr. W. H. White, one of the largest farmers in this county, tells us he had thirty-five tenants on his farms this year, and all but one of them came out well ahead—some clearing as much as \$300 on their share of the crops. The one who didn't come out ahead was hindered by sickness in his family and the extra expense arising therefrom. This is what we call an example of good farming. It speaks well for Mr. White's excellent management as well as for the good tenants he had on his farms.—Greenville Reflector.

### In Mad Chase.

Millions rush in mad chase after health, from one extreme of faddism to another, when, if they would only eat good food, and keep their bowels regular with Dr. King's New Life Pills, their troubles would all pass away. Prompt relief and quick cure for liver and stomach trouble. 25c at Hood Bros. drug store; guaranteed.

## INDICTED FOR MURDER

### Their Cases are Moved to the Federal Court.

### D. C. Downing and J. C. Stancill, Indicted in Duplin County for Shooting Jernigan.

The case charging J. C. Stancill and D. C. Downing, revenue officers, with the murder of Jernigan in Duplin county, has been moved from the State to the Federal Court.

The order to this effect was, upon application of counsel, signed by Judge Thos. R. Purnell this afternoon. It is a writ of certiorari upon the clerk of the court and sheriff of Duplin county for a transfer of the case, the grand jury of that county having found a true bill against these two officers of the United States government.

Downing and Stancill, it will be recalled, raided an illicit distillery twelve miles from Mount Olive, and upon leaving the place shot and killed Jernigan, said to be owner of the land. The statement afterwards was that the deceased was on the point of firing when Downing raised his gun and shot.

The United States statutes provide that when a deputy is arrested for an act committed while in the discharge of his duty his case may be moved from the State to the Federal Court. This has been done in this instance and it will now be the duty of District Attorney Skinner to defend the accused and State Solicitor of Duplin district will prosecute. The two defendants have retained Argo and Shaffer and Claudius Dockery to aid the District Attorney in their defence.—Raleigh Times, Tuesday.

### King Haakon VII of Norway.

Once more the ancient throne of Norway in the Drontheim Cathedral, vacant for more than five hundred years, will hold a sovereign. Prince Charles of Denmark has accepted the Storting's proffer of the crown, the approval by popular vote took place on November 12 and 13, and the coronation will probably be celebrated on New Year's Day, 1906.

Who is this man Charles, what can he do, and why was he chosen by a parliament which has always shown republican tendencies?

Prince Charles is a young man of thirty-three summers, of gentlemanly appearance, in excellent health, and of a very easy-going, liberal turn of mind. He is by nature well fitted to rule over the stubborn Norsemen, who do not mind the harness so long as they don't feel the whip. The very thing that is going to make Charles popular in Norway before he shows his face there is the fact that he, as a typical "sailor prince," is considered a proper and natural connecting link between the old viking spirit of feudal Norway and her present day peaceful love of the sea. Another circumstance in favor of Charles is that he understands the language of the Norwegian people, and their traditions and history are part of those of his own country, Denmark, under the dominion of which Norway remained for four centuries. Charles is the second son of the crown prince of Denmark, whom he strongly resembles, and this also counts in his favor, for the crown prince is a scion of the House of Sonderburg-Gluckburg, whereas the crown princess is a daughter of the Bernadotte, King Carl XV. of Sweden,—and the Bernadottes were never popular in Norway.—From "The New King of Norway," by Hrolf Wisby, in the American Monthly Review of Reviews for December.

The town of Roanoke Rapids held an election Monday for dispensary or saloons. The dispensary won with a majority of 29.

## STATE NEWS.

A charter is granted the Citizen's Bank, of Wilson, Commercial and Saving, capital stock \$50,000.

Four blind tigers were raided in Durham Wednesday and the keepers bound over to the Superior Court.

Rev. J. A. Weston, of Hickory, died Wednesday. Mr. Weston was an Episcopal minister and preached in Smithfield a few times several years ago.

The Baptist State Convention, in session last week, elected W. N. Jones, of Raleigh, president to succeed Rev. Dr. Marsh, of Oxford, who had been president of the convention for 15 years and declined re-election.

Mr. Paul Lucas, of the local staff of the Charlotte Observer, has bought the Salisbury Evening Post. New and improved machinery will be put in and the paper will be enlarged. Mr. Jno. M. Julian will continue as editor and manager of the paper.

It is stated that the Raleigh & Pamlico Sound Railway is to be thrown open for traffic to Wendell, a point eighteen miles from Raleigh not later than April 1st. This road is now owned by New York and Ohio men, who are said to be pushing the work quite rapidly, they having secured the local stock.

Luther B. Bynum, of Chatham County, died suddenly in the Federal court room in Raleigh Wednesday morning where he had been summoned as a character witness. He was 63 years old. He was a director of the State Hospital at Goldsboro and a trustee of the Methodist Orphanage at Raleigh.

Snow Memorial church at High Point, given to the Presbyterians by Mr. E. A. Snow, was burned to the ground early Saturday morning. The origin of the fire is not known. The church was insured for \$1,500. The same night fires were discovered at two different furniture factories but flames were extinguished before damage resulted.

The number of fourth-class post offices in North Carolina is shown by the report of the auditor of the post office department to still be greater than any other State in the Union. The auditor's report shows another very interesting thing, illustrating the growth of a rural free delivery mail service, this being that the amount expended for this is only \$100,000 less than that for free delivery of mail in the cities.

### Check For \$45,000.

The Enterprise saw a check this morning to J. Elwood Cox from Andrew Carnegie for \$45,000. This is the \$45,000 that Mr. Carnegie promised the endowment fund at Guilford College whenever the friends of the College raised a like amount, which was completed a few days ago. Mr. Cox also informed us that Dr. Pearson's, of Chicago, is now ready to send his check for \$25,000 to the College which was promised on condition that the \$90,000 was raised. Now that this amount is in hand, Dr. Pearson's check is received Guilford College will have \$175,000 endowment fund.—High Point Enterprise.

### Want \$2,500,000 From Government.

Springfield, Ohio, Dec. 10th.—The heirs of Hugh McDonald are pressing the federal government for the settlement of a claim for \$2,500,000. The claim is for several thousand bales of cotton which belonged to McDonald, confiscated in New Orleans in 1864.

McDonald died two weeks ago, estranged from his wife and daughter. He had been mourned for years as dead. He was found finally living in seclusion in Statesville, N. C. The claim some years ago was pushed so far that Congress threw it into the Court of Claims.