

HARRIS CASE NOW ON TRIAL

ACCUSED TAKES THE STAND. Evidence, Burden Man, Charged With Shooting and Killing Maynard F. Goss on the Night of December 1, in Durham, Claims Self-Defense. Says That When He Fired He Thought Goss Was Going to Shoot - Defense Swears 27 Witnesses While State Swears Three, Examines Two to His Honor - Harris Tells Story of Shooting.

Special to The Observer. Durham, Jan. 9.—The case of J. B. Harris, charged with the killing of Maynard F. Goss in a shoe store here a little more than a month ago, was placed on trial here this morning promptly at 9:30. It will probably occupy all of to-morrow. At the beginning of the trial the State swore only three witnesses, and rested its case after the examination of two of these. In the afternoon the defence began its testimony, swore 27 witnesses and announced that no more would be summoned. The only fact brought out by the State was that Harris shot Goss on the night of December 1. Two witnesses testified as to the shooting and the direction of the ball.

ASKS VERDICT OF MURDER IN SECOND DEGREE.

At 9:30, after a few preliminaries, the selection of the jury was begun. 35 minutes. Four jurors were taken from the regular jury. The solicitor announced that he would not contend for a verdict of murder in the first degree, but only in the second. The prisoner is a slim young man, with a refined face, and is neatly dressed.

HARRIS TESTIFIES.

Harris testified that he went to the store at 1 o'clock and remained till the time of the shooting. He said he saw Goss at the front door; he turned and went behind the counter; he looked up and saw Goss coming fast. Goss said, "Come out here a minute, I want to see you." Harris told him to go away, he wished to have no trouble with him. These sentences were repeated in substance three times. On the third time, Goss threw his hand to his hip pocket.

HARRIS TESTIMONY CORROBORATED.

At the conclusion of the testimony of Harris, the defendant a number of witnesses were called who saw the shooting. These were all employed in the store and corroborated everything that Harris told about the tragedy. During the afternoon the solicitor in cross-examination of a witness gave the first inkling of the trouble between Goss and Harris when he asked about Harris writing a note to Mrs. Goss. Later it appeared that this was over two years ago and Harris said that he would not have cared if his wife had read the note. The note has not been made public yet. It is thought that the evidence will be completed by noon to-morrow and the argument of counsel will be concluded by five o'clock. The jury will probably get the case late in the afternoon.

CARPENTER COONEY DEAD.

Warrent Officer Who Received Medal of Honor for Bravery at Cardenas Bay, Dies of Paralysis. Norfolk, Va., Jan. 9.—T. C. Cooney, carpenter, United States navy, aged 53 years, and who received from the government a medal of honor for bravery on the United States torpedo boat Winslow during the engagement at Cardenas, Cuba, in which Ensign Worth Bagley was killed and died at the naval hospital here last evening from paralysis.

Definition of a Mugwump.

To the Editor of The Observer. "The Observer doesn't know what a mugwump is," Charlotte Observer, January 7th, 1907. The Standard Dictionary published by Funk & Wagnalls, New York and London, defines him as follows: Mugwump—United States politics. A voter identified more particularly with one party, but claiming the right to vote with the other party. 2.—A leader. A person of distinction or eminence, especially a chief among the Algonquian Indians, the original sense. In Editors' Bible, the word which means a great chief, as Joshua, or Gideon or Joab is mugwump.

Respectfully submitted to the editor of The Observer by a constant reader.

WILLIAM M. PRATT. Marion, Jan. 7, 1907.

Salisbury Officers Catch Negro Special to The Observer.

Salisbury, Jan. 9.—Officers Graves and Torrence to-day had a lively run for their money when they attempted to catch one Foot Clark, who was badly wanted for shooting a man in a house occupied by colored people. Foot saw them coming and for two or three miles Mr. Graves ran him on foot, while Mr. Torrence followed in a cab. The slick nigger dodged about the houses in Chestnut Hill until he secured another lead and was lost in the woods. This afternoon he came back and was bagged by other officers and landed in jail.

Mrs. George Eustis Dead.

Paris, Jan. 9.—Mrs. George Eustis, sister-in-law of James H. Eustis, who was American ambassador to France, is dead.

CORNELIUS PROSPEROUS.

Town of Only a Few Years' Age Has Had a Most Excellent Year—Furniture Factory Stockholders Meet. Special to The Observer. Cornelius, Jan. 9.—Cornelius joins the chorus of voices from all parts of the country that is celebrating a year of almost unexampled prosperity and business success. The town has had an excellent year, no doubt the very best in its history, which indeed is very far from ancient history, as the place is hardly out of its teens. The year just ended has been marked by a good deal of building, a great many local improvements showing that the place is more and more assuming the appearance of a town, rather than that of a village, and the growth in population and trade has been steady.

The furniture factory has had a remarkable run of business this past year and its profits are handsome. The six per cent. dividend just declared was a small fraction of what might have been taken out of the surplus of the year. F. C. Sherrill is president, J. R. Withers, secretary and treasurer. The stockholders at their meeting yesterday elected the same board of directors for another term. These, in addition to the officers named, are: Messrs. R. J. Stowe, P. A. Stough, J. B. Cornelius, R. D. Mooney, J. L. Sloan, Jr.

The furniture store has a record showing that there was need for such an enterprise and that as a business venture it was a wise move. The Smith-Westmoreland Company holds its annual meeting to-morrow. The trouser factory and the Miller Manufacturing Company meet later. Work has started in earnest on the new mill, to be known as the Gem Hosiery Mill. The foundations are laid and the walls are beginning to climb upward. The more hopeful stockholders are figuring on getting the plant started up for work by the last of April, provided the weather allows the work to go on without serious interruptions.

NO TIDINGS OF THE PONCE.

Owners of the Steamer Refuse to Abandon Hope and Confidently Expect News of Her Soon.

New York, Jan. 9.—For the first time since anxiety became acute for the safety of the steamer Ponce, sailing from San Juan, Porto Rico, December 2, should have reached this port six days later, the office of the owners, the New York and Porto Rico Steamship Co., were closed to-night. No tidings upon which the company places credence have been received of the missing vessel which sailed with a crew of 32 men and seven passengers. Innumerable rumors had been investigated and many theories set at naught. One of the latest reports was that Southern wireless coast stations had received a wireless communication from the Ponce on January 1. The Ponce is not equipped with wireless, thought it is suggested that a message concerning the Ponce might have been sent to some other craft. The officials of the line not only refuse to abandon hope, but reiterated to-night that they confidently expect that the Ponce will be heard from within the next 24 hours.

Message From the Ponce?

Pensacola, Fla., Jan. 9.—Shortly before midnight to-night the wireless station at the Pensacola navy yard picked up a message from the steamer Caracas, which is believed to have in tow the overdue steamer Ponce. It is to San Juan and addressed to Governor and Mrs. Winthrop, and while no signal was caught by the local station, it is believed that it was form passengers from the Ponce. It was as follows: "On January 9—we wish you a happy and prosperous new year and congratulate you." The local station could not get in communication with the steamer San Juan, or learn whether the steamer had the Ponce in tow.

WIFE MURDERER LYNCHED.

Iowa Mob Breaks Into Charles City Jail and Hangs 60-Year-Old Man to a Bridge—Leave Victim Time to Pray.

Waterloo, Iowa, Jan. 9.—A crowd of more than 1,000 men to-night battered through the walls of the county jail at Charles City, Ia., with railroad iron and iron hinges from the doors and took James Cullen out and lynched him for wife-murder, and the murder of his stepson yesterday morning. Cullen, who is 60 years old, was weak-minded for many years.

After Dragging Cullen from the Jail the Mob Took Him Two Blocks from the Main Part of the Town where it Halted and Gave the Prisoner an Opportunity to Pray. They Then Hung Him to the Bridge over Cedar River.

BALLOT BOX BATTLE ON.

Corporation Lawyer Makes Move to Stop Roids of Attorney General Jackson. New York, Jan. 9.—Assistant Corporation Counsel Butts made a new move in the battle for possession of the ballot box containing the ballots cast in the last municipal election, when late today he obtained from the Board of Health, Supreme Court, an order for Attorney General Jackson to show cause next Friday why the order issued by Judge Bondick calling upon Theodore Douglass and directors of the Board of Health to produce the ballots in order to be placed in the ballot boxes in power of the city should not be enforced.

KILLED IN PITTSBURG.

Mr. Lester Arthur, a Native Ireland Young Man is Brought Home Dead—Thought to Have Been Accidentally Shot. Trenton, Jan. 9.—Mr. Ray Arthur, who now resides in Pittsburgh, Pa., arrived here last night with a dead body of his brother, Mr. Lester Arthur. These young men are natives of Ireland, several years ago were born and reared near here. They went to Pittsburgh several years ago and have been conducting a large shooting gallery there. The deceased is supposed to have met death from a bullet shot at the gallery, but the exact details cannot be had. The body was taken to the home of Mr. Jacob Arthur, the father of the young man and was buried at St. Michael's this afternoon.

Does Coffee disagree with you? Probably it does. Then try Dr. Shoop's Health Coffee.

Health Coffee is a combination of parched cereals and nuts. Not a grain of real coffee, remember, in Dr. Shoop's Health Coffee, yet its flavor and taste matches closely old Java and Mocha Coffee. If your stomach, heart, or kidneys can't stand coffee drinking, try Health's coffee. It is wholesome, nourishing, and satisfying. It is safe even for the youngest child. Sold by Miller-Van Ness Co.

THROWN FROM VEHICLE.

Asheville Man Hurt in Runaway—Judge Pritchard Re-Signs Decree. Asheville, Jan. 9.—Robert A. Long, of the Asheville Hardware Company, met with a painful accident yesterday afternoon and as a result he will probably be laid up for several days. Mr. Long was driving one of the company's teams in Asheville when the animal attached to the wagon became frightened and ran away, throwing Mr. Long from the vehicle. Mr. Long struck his head and shoulder, sustaining painful though not serious injuries. His right shoulder is badly sprained while other injuries contribute to his suffering.

The decree in the case of the North Carolina Mining Company vs. West-Fields, signed by Judge Pritchard in Richmond during November, 1906, in favor of the North Carolina Mining Company, was re-signed by Judge Pritchard in the United States Circuit Court here yesterday. There was said to be objection on the part of counsel because the decree was signed out of the court with a reservation that Judge Pritchard re-sign the decree.

HANGING ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE.

Governor Jelks of Alabama, Believes It Would Be Better to Suspend Capital Punishment than Put Up With Existing Conditions. Montgomery, Ala., Jan. 9.—The final message of Governor Jelks went to the Legislature to-day.

With reference to the John Williams case, where a man about to be hanged in Birmingham, was saved by the interference of habeas corpus, the Governor says: "The indignation of juries to sentence to hanging is disclosed by the record in this case and the excitement which the possible hanging of this man created among respectable people, leads me to the conclusion that the hanging of white men in Alabama is almost an impossibility, and I feel it my duty to suggest to you that the law to declare against capital punishment except in case of an offense against women. It is monstrous to allow a law to stand which is operative only against a class of our citizens."

EX-CITIZEN OF HANOVER DEAD.

Princess Mary of Saxe Altenburg Succumbs to Long Standing Disease. Mulden, Austria, Jan. 9.—Princess Mary of Saxe Altenburg, former queen of Hanover, who had been suffering for some time from inguinal hernia, necessitating an operation which was performed January 6, died this afternoon.

Princess Alexandra Mary Wilhelmina of Saxe Altenburg was born at Hildburghausen, April 14, 1818, and was married at Hanover February 18, 1843, to Prince George, afterwards King George V of Hanover, who died June 12, 1878. The deceased princess was a cousin of the present King of England and mother of the Duke of Cumberland, claimant to the throne of Hanover. In 1866 the kingdom of Hanover was annexed to Prussia and King George V was exiled from the Hanoverian throne to the Austrian side in the war with Prussia.

WANT NORMAL COLLEGE.

Organizations of Washington, N. C., Urge Themselves—To Pound Dr. Tyler. Special to The Observer.

Washington, N. C., Jan. 9.—The chorus of comments of this city is worning assiduously for the establishment of a normal State Normal and Industrial College in this city. Various committees have been appointed to take charge of the different phases of the work, and quite a large number of our citizens are deeply interested in the project. Another important subject that is now occupying the attention of the chamber is a scheme to advertise this city and Beaufort county at the Jamestown Exposition next summer. Mr. Fred L. Merritt, the head of the land and industrial department of the Norfolk & Southern Railroad, and Mr. J. Lyman Babcock, his assistant, have been in the city for the last few days and while here were present at the last meeting of the chamber of commerce and presented to them an advertising scheme for the coming exposition. The chamber of commerce endorsed the advertising scheme and appointed a committee to appear before the board of city aldermen at their regular meeting on last evening to ask an appropriation from the city for this purpose. The board of aldermen postponed any action until next Thursday evening, when they will hold a public meeting and fully discuss all details of the plan. The matter of the Normal College for this city will also be brought up and fully discussed on that evening.

Packet of Pineville Personal.

Special to The Observer. Pineville, Jan. 9.—Mr. T. R. Garrison and family have moved to Charlotte, N. C. Mr. Garrison is a native of Pineville and his family has also moved to Charlotte. Mr. Garrison has a position with Mr. Sims, the grocery store of 11th and West streets, who is a school at Due West, returned to her work last Wednesday afternoon and will leave for home on Friday at 10 o'clock. Mrs. John Boyd and daughter, Miss Helen, of Fort Mill, S. C., spent a few days in town last week. Mr. John Nichols is going to make a position with Mr. Will Ross, in Charlotte. Miss Daisy Gulp is spending a few weeks in town. Mr. W. H. Adams, of High Point, spent a few days last week with his wife, Mrs. W. K. Boyd. Miss Hinton is spending the holidays at home. Mr. J. B. Cramer, of Fort Mill, who is well known here, will be in the city on Saturday night. Mr. Cramer, a physician, visited his brother last week.

To Select Site for Federal Building. Special to The Observer.

Washington, N. C., Jan. 9.—The following notice from Secretary Shaw has been given out publicly in this city: "Notice is hereby given that final competition will be opened and selection made of a site for the United States government building at Washington, North Carolina and purchase thereof on the ninth day of February 1907. Persons desiring to submit further statements in writing relative to any of the sites offered are informed that their communications will be given consideration if on file before the date named."

Trinity to Play Wake Forest at Wake Forest. Special to The Observer.

Wake Forest College, Jan. 9.—Friday afternoon in the gymnasium hall here a basket ball game will be played between representatives of Trinity College and Wake Forest. This will be the first game of the spring term and there will probably be a large crowd of enthusiasts present to see the game. A small admission fee will be charged to defray the expenses of the visiting team. Mr. J. Richard Cramer, physical director, has not yet returned from Atlanta, where he and his family spent the holidays, but the local team has been doing some good practice since the opening of the term and they hope to hold up their past record with Trinity, who comes with a determination to win.

President to Visit Indianapolis in May. Washington, Jan. 9.—President Roosevelt has definitely decided to make a trip to Indianapolis, Ind., to attend the unveiling of the monument to Henry W. Lawton on Memorial Day.

AN INJUSTICE TO TOWNS.

Wilmington Aldermen Join With Mayor Eaton, of Winston, in Effort to Make It Possible for Municipalities to Have Right of Taxation Extended. Asheville, Jan. 9.—Mayor Waddell has received and transmitted to the board of aldermen of this city, where it was received with hearty endorsement, an official communication from Mayor O. B. Eaton, of Winston, in which he writes as follows: "With reference to a matter that is of general interest to the towns and cities throughout the State in view of the present sitting of the Legislature, Mayor Eaton writes: 'The Honorable Mayor: 'Dear Sir:—I have been watching with concern the constant encroachment of the Legislature upon the right of the cities of the State. Take the machinery act and you will observe that a heavy license tax is imposed upon nearly every trade, profession, amusement and many businesses with the additional proviso in many instances, that no city or town shall impose an additional tax. Most of these things are dependent absolutely upon the town for support. Now why should the Legislature tax these things for the benefit of the city and pay no city or town shall impose an additional tax? Are not the towns and cities of our State already bearing more than a just proportion of the burden of taxation? They maintain their own system of taxation for schools, hospital, streets, sewer, light and police protection and then pay the bulk of the taxes for building roads and running the schools of the Legislature. The towns and cities ought to help educate the children of the county and to help build the roads, but there should be a limit somewhere. It seems that it would be just and fair to stop on the property tax and give the towns and cities the benefit of all revenue arising from licenses. The town must maintain a police force at a large expense and then it is required to turn over the fines to the county. Virginia towns and cities do not pay one cent of taxes for the benefit of their counties. That is a mistake. Our Legislature does not seem to realize that our towns are already carrying a burden. 'If you think favorably of this matter I trust you will take it up with your aldermen and let us work together through our representatives and try to get some beneficial legislation along these lines. With sentiments of esteem and great respect, Yours truly, O. B. Eaton.'"

TO ACCOMMODATE PEOPLE.

District Passenger Agent Wood Talks of Southern's Future Policy—Special Train, Abolished, Sees in Existence—Fast Trains Banished. Special to The Observer. Asheville, Jan. 9.—District Passenger Agent Wood, of the Southern Railway, returned from Washington last night, where he went to be present at a conference of the high officials of the road and the transportation department of the eastern district. Mr. Wood talked interestingly this morning of the conference of Southern officials. "The policy of the officials in the future," said Mr. Wood, "is to operate trains for the benefit of the public. Fast schedules and special trains are things of the past. It is now the purpose of the Southern to operate trains on slower schedules and to operate them on time. The tracks of the Southern system are to be reserved for the regular passenger trains, where they want to be present at a conference of the high officials of the road and the transportation department of the eastern district. 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