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No. 50.

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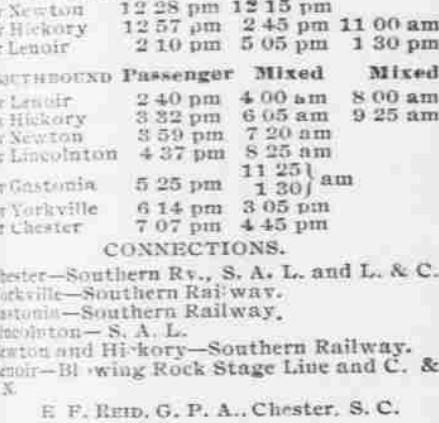
Station	Time	Station	Time
Charlotte	9:00 am	4:30 am	
Yorkville	9:48 am	5:27 am	
Winston	10:36 am	6:15 am	
Lincolnton	11:24 am	7:03 am	
Newton	12:12 pm	7:51 am	
Hickory	1:00 pm	8:39 am	
Lexington	1:48 pm	9:27 am	
Greensboro	2:36 pm	10:15 am	
Winston	3:24 pm	11:03 am	
Charlotte	4:12 pm	11:51 am	

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I will give away, absolutely free without cost, on the 24th of December, 1904, a
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The only thing you have to do is to send me your name and address, and you will be entitled to a number, and the holder of the correct number will be delivered a
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When contest is over. This advertisement is only applied to parties who do not own a piano or organ, and only one member of a family will be allowed to register. If you buy a piano or organ before or after the 24th of December, 1904, and hold the lucky number, I will refund your money, take back the organ bought, and deliver you the **FREE** instrument without cost.

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Aids in the cure of Constipation, Indigestion, Liver Troubles, Pimples, Eczema, Impure Blood, Rheumatism, Stomach Disorders, Headache, Neuralgia, etc. It's Rocky Mountain Tea in its original form, 50 cents a box. Genuine made by
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TEA NUGGETS FOR SALLOW PEOPLE

If you want to know what good resting ears are get some

Monmouth Sugar Corn seed at Tull's.

SOME TYPES OF EARLY DAYS.

THE BOLDNESS OF DESPERADOES.

Horse Stealing, Negro Stealing, Highway Robbery, and Especially Counterfeiting, Prevalent in the First Quarter or Half of This Century in North Carolina—The Wild Pranks of Charles Polk—The Terror of Evil Doers Was Solicitor Joseph Wilson, of Charlotte—He Took His Life in His Hands Whenever He Went to Court—Attempts to Assassinate Him—Baldy Henderson, of Salisbury, Was the Great Criminal Lawyer, and the Counterfeiters Wept Over His Death—The Marvelous Career in Crime of Nixon Curry, the Mecklenburg Desperado—His Hands Red With the Shedding of Human Blood—Baldy Henderson Secures His Acquittal, But the Faithful Solicitor, Joseph Wilson, Convicts Him at Last—He Escaped Jail, and Pursued His Eventful Career in Arkansas Till He Died a Death of Violence.

Brevard McDowell, Esq., in Charlotte Observer of December 12, 1897.

In the piedmont section of the Carolinas, the demoralization incident to the Revolutionary war was felt in society until about the year 1820, and this period may be properly termed the renaissance of law among the people. The actual criminals were insignificant in numbers; they were, however, reinforced by an element not inherently vicious, but who chafed under legal restraint and delighted in a lawless liberty that recognized no superior authority. The country was sparsely inhabited and the process for bringing offenders to justice being very limited, the law of liberty was frequently abused; and it became possible for lawless characters not only to collect a large following, but frequently to evade punishment altogether. It will be the purpose of this chapter to note at various periods the fierce contest between the law and the lawless and the final evolution of order out of the violence and confusion.

CHAS. POLK.

There was a character in those pioneer days who chose to be a law, or rather an outlaw, unto himself—Chas. Polk, of Charlotte, known to this day by the sobriquet of "Devi. Charley." He was a social free-lance, indifferent to the best public sentiment, totally wanting in reverence and acknowledging no authority in his wild and reckless escapades. Under the disguise of a highwayman, he terrorized some of the most prominent citizens of the country, at the point of the pistol, into delivering their money or dancing till ready to fall from sheer exhaustion. His irreverence went so far as to hold up his own father, the venerable Gen. Thos. Polk; and forcing the old gentleman at the point of two brass candlesticks that gleamed like fire arms in the dark, to surrender a large sum of money. The practical joke came near losing the young man his patrimony, for the general, who had faced British soldiers, was a proud man and the recollection of the episode in which he gave up his valuables to an unarmed and imaginary highwayman, was a source of mortification the remainder of his life.

But Charley's object was never sordid robbery. It was mere devilry. Once, with a few choice spirits, he seized a man whom he disliked, and stripping him, tied his hand and foot around the body of a bull and turned the frantic animal into a convenient thickie; and he afterwards exultingly boasted that he had helped to pick a tin cup full of briars from the skin of the unfortunate sufferer. These incidents are only cited to give a proper conception of the customs, practices and environments of that date. The license which, however, was mere mischief with Polk, degenerated into crime with others. Charley married a daughter of Hezekiah Alexander, a gentleman

THE COLONEL'S WATER-LOO.

Colonel John E. Fuller, of Honey Grove, Texas, nearly met his Waterloo from Liver and Kidney trouble. In a recent letter, he says: "I was nearly dead, of these complaints, and although I tried my family doctor, he did me no good; so I got a 50c bottle of your great Electric Bitters, which cured me. I consider them the best medicine on earth, and thank God who gave you the knowledge to make them." Sold, and guaranteed to cure, Dyspepsia, Biliousness and Kidney Disease, by W. A. Leslie and Jno. Tull druggists, at 50c a bottle.

of dignity and piety, who was wont to complain that the devil owed him a grudge and paid him off in a son-in-law.

Polk's death was a strangely weird one, but in accord with his worthless life. At his bedside no prayer was offered, for none was permitted. He had always been passionately fond of music; and when realizing the approach of dissolution he bade his favorite servant play upon the violin the tunes his master loved best and to suffer no interruptions. Friends stood awe stricken and mute while the music went on. When the patient fell back upon the pillow, the faithful negro laid down the bow and the life of "Devi. Charley" ended with the melody.

A species of lawlessness of a more serious nature than "Devi. Charley's" pranks began to show its effects on the morals of the young men about the year 1815. This was counterfeiting and altering bank bills. The head center of the illegal industry was in Rutherford county, North Carolina, but its ramifications were very extensive and the spurious money was thrown upon the commercial markets of Wilmington, Richmond, Charleston, and as far as the Mississippi Valley. These men when leagued together were desperate and determined characters, and it required a law officer of equal ability to grapple with them. Jos. Wilson, the solicitor of the district, combined the qualities requisite for their suppression. In making war upon them, he jeopardized his life, as he was frequently forced to go disguised to his courts in order to escape assassination.

SOLICITOR JOSEPH WILSON.

Perhaps no other public official of Western North Carolina in the early half of the nineteenth century, has left a more lasting impress upon character formation than did Joseph Wilson, the solicitor of the circuit that comprised so many mountain counties. His iron will, determined purpose and massive intellectuality gave him a prestige among his brother lawyers similar to the recognition accorded Paul by his associate apostles; and coupled with these superb mental gifts, was the ever present proclivity of Martin Luther, to hurl his inkstand at the head of the devil wherever he thought he saw him.

The task undertaken by the solicitor was a gigantic one, for opposition to the counterfeiters' schemes meant the enmity of a formidable class, upheld by secret members, and invisible networks that extended, no one knew exactly where.

In a region sparsely settled, where barter was more current than coin, counterfeiting could not demoralize commerce and ordinary business transactions, as perceptibly as now, and consequently such infractions aroused less antagonism than they would have done at a later period. The work of the counterfeiters was silent, and its effects upon the body politic was more like the insidious entrance of malarial germs than the thunder of a murderer's gun or an alarm for personal safety. Hence the difficulty of properly arousing public sentiment to a realization of the dangers that were seeping through the moral structure of society.

THE COUNTERFEITER PAID HIS FINE IN THE QUEER.

The first arrest of consequence was that of Abe Collins, Sr., who was indicted in an action for deceit in passing counterfeit money. He was very genial and popular, and his bearing in court was so full of good natured humor as to relax the rigor of the solicitor

A DINNER INVITATION.

After a hearty meal a dose of Kodol Dyspepsia Cure will prevent an attack of Indigestion. Kodol is a thorough digestant and a guaranteed cure for Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Gas on the Stomach, Sour Risings, Bad Breath and all stomach trouble. N. Watkins, Lesbus, Ky., says: "I can testify to the efficacy of Kodol in the cure of Stomach Trouble. I was afflicted with Stomach Trouble for fifteen years and have taken six bottles of your Kodol Dyspepsia Cure, which entirely cured me. The six bottles were worth \$1.00 to me." Kodol Dyspepsia Cure will digest any quantity of all the wholesome food you want to eat while your stomach takes a rest—recuperates and grows strong. This wonderful preparation is justly entitled to all of its many remarkable cures. Sold by W. A. Leslie, druggist.

STARTLING MORTALITY

Statistics show startling mortality, from appendicitis and peritonitis. To prevent and cure these awful diseases, there is just one reliable remedy, Dr. King's New Life Pills. M. Flannery, of 14 Custom House Place, Chicago, says: "They have no equal for Constipation and Biliousness." 25c at W. A. Leslie and Jno. Tull druggists.

and allay the suspicion of the judge as to his intentional criminality. During the trial Collins desired to see a rather poorly executed bill that was being scanned by the jury, and he was asked his opinion of it, when he threw it down contemptuously replying, "He could make better money out of a red bandanna." This sarcasm caused an explosion of laughter in which the judge, and even the solicitor joined. He was convicted, but was let off with a fine which he immediately paid to the unsuspecting sheriff in cleverly disguised counterfeit bills, and left the court house. This disrespect towards the court officers was remembered against him some months later. The trial is thought to have taken place at Morganton, but as the court papers were destroyed by Stoneman's men during the recent war, no record is obtainable.

The operators would raise a bill of the Bank of New Hanover, from \$20 to \$200; a bank bill from Lynchburg of \$50 to \$500, and a bill of some bank in South Carolina in a similar proportion. It was claimed that they could at any time counterfeit money that could not be detected, and they passed such money in considerable quantities as far away as New Orleans. Two of the leaders were arrested in Charleston, but were not tried there, forfeiting instead a heavy bond deposited by their comrades.

It is related that a certain suspected counterfeiter, who lived in Rutherford county, once saw an over-cautious neighbor to whom he had owed \$100 coming down the lane leading to the house. Divining aright the object of the mission, he threw into a hot oven genuine coin amounting to the sum due, and when the creditor demanded payment, he poured the money thus heated into his hands; but the creditor feeling the suspicious warmth, cast it indignantly to the floor, thus waiving a legal tender of his debt. The reputed manipulator of spurious currency enjoyed the discomfiture of his dupe with the keenest relish, adding with mock gravity, "I'll swear it's good money, for I made it myself, and took it from the fire for you, before it was good done."

COUNTERFEITERS CRIED WHEN BALDY HENDERSON DIED.

Early in 1822 indictments came thick and fast against the leaders of the band, for "deceit" and "forgery" and they employed Baldy Henderson, the astute criminal lawyer and peerless advocate, to defend them. He seized upon every pretext for continuance, and urged removal of the cases to different counties from those where the presentments originated. When their friend and counselor, Mr. Henderson, died in October of the same year (1822) before having secured their acquittal, these strong, desperate men wept like children, declaring that "Baldy Henderson was their only hope of escape from the hands of Joe Wilson, the prosecutor." They, however, procured an able substitute in the person of J. M. Carson, who pursued the same tactics of avoidance and delay inaugurated by his predecessor. There was something in Solicitor Wilson's looks and voice that made the most hardened criminal nervous, and it was during one of his dreaded cross examinations that two timid young suspects broke down and divulged all their guilty knowledge. They told of a garret in which was stored a trunk full of unsigned bank bills; of a kitchen where stood a churn containing paper in the pulp, and of a farm yard where a hollow tree was loaded with adulterated coin. The leaneers being forewarned, safely removed these damaging evidences of their criminality, but the information eventually led to the capture of the manufacturers' dies and stamps, and ultimately to the conviction and punishment of the indicted parties.

CONSTANT DANGER OF ASSASSINATION.

There was another attempt to murder him by the family of a PLEASANT AND HARMLESS.

Don't drug the stomach to cure a cough. One Minute Cough Cure cuts the mucus, draws the inflammation out of the throat, lungs and bronchial tubes, heals, soothes and cures. A quick cure for Croup and Whooping Cough. One Minute Cough Cure relieves a cough in one minute because it acts first on the mucus membrane right where the cough troubles—in the throat or deep-seated on the lungs. Sold by W. A. Leslie, druggist.

framed in the corridors, and behind the bars, in the most cheerful and entertaining manner. The highest court refused him a new trial. When judgment of the court was prayed by the solicitor, Judge Nash ordered the following sentence to be put into execution:

"That the prisoner receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back at the public whipping post, pay a fine of \$25 and be imprisoned—twelve months and until the fine and costs are paid." Fine and imprisonment had but little deterrent effect upon men who could easily change small bills to larger amounts, but when standing in the pillory and receiving thirty-nine lashes upon the bare back were added to the sentence, they became horror-stricken, begged for mercy, surrendered their tools and dies and promised to forsake their unlawful practices. With the conviction of Collins and several other leading spirits, the whole band dispersed and after 1825 ceased to exist as an organized body.

A SKETCH OF JOSEPH WILSON.

Through the courtesy of Judge W. A. Hoke, a descendant, access has been granted to a sketch of the life of Joseph Wilson, written many years ago, by his daughter, the late Mrs. W. J. Alexander, of Lincoln; and extracts from the same are freely made, to substantiate the accounts of his public acts already given, as well as to present a phase of his private and domestic life that could not be so accurately obtained from any other source.

Hewas of Quaker parentage, but his religious views were not narrowed by the confines of a single sect. He recognized the altruistic principles of every denomination as the true and only basis of the Christian religion. Mrs. Alexander says that she had been absent for three years at school, and on her return home, in 1821, she at once became aware of the terrific conflict in which he was engaged with evil doers, and also of his fixed determination to enforce the laws of his country. She adds, "He had no hostility towards individuals; he had great compassion for even criminals, writing to my brother from one of the courts in these words: "How thankful we should be to Almighty God, to whose mercy we owe our better knowledge, our Christian education, our exemptions from the temptations which have surrounded these unhappy men." When he knew, and could find men who habitually broke the law, he warned them, I must prosecute you; if you do not change your life.

Letter to S. M. Aubury.

Dear Sir: The handsome residence of Oliver Gildersleeve on Main street, Portland, Conn., was painted in 1888 with Devco and again in 1901.

There's 13 years: there are hundreds of such: the difficulty is to bear of 'em.

Reminds of another. The Farrington residence, Rockland, Maine, was painted 21 years ago; the paint was in fair condition 5 years ago, when we saw it; don't know any more. Our agents there, Messrs. F. and S. Co. know. Enclose a stamp, if you write 'em.

Yours truly
F. W. Devco & Co.

78 Morganton Hwd. Co. sells our paint.

Look out for a late cough or cold and provide against both by getting a bottle of Tull's Diamond White Pine, with Tar.

A MATTER OF HEALTH



ROYAL BAKING POWDER
Absolutely Pure
HAS NO SUBSTITUTE

notorious criminal. Mr. Wilson was accompanied by a friend and attended by a servant, all three on horse back. The servant had dismounted to open the gate, and eight guns were fired at the same instant, and the friend and servant fell. Mr. Wilson dismounted in such haste that the assassins believed they had killed him and rushed out shouting victory. He was not even touched, but the friend and servant were sorely wounded.

When away from his family, knowing their iniquity, he would write to his wife in these words, "My life is in the hands of Almighty God. He will take care of me; don't doubt it."

In 1825, when party spirit was running high, he was pressed to become a candidate for the legislature in Mecklenburg county, against Col. Thos. G. Polk. He resigned the solicitorship and entered the canvass. He lost the election, but was re-established in his office as solicitor, by a unanimous vote of the Legislature.

A curious circumstance occurred as soon as his resignation became known. A notorious criminal wrote from his prison, praying Mr. Wilson to defend him in his approaching trial, offering a large fee in gold. This man had been at the head of a conspiracy to murder Mr. Wilson. It would be superfluous to give his answer to the prayer. So repeatedly was his life threatened that his friends persuaded him to travel around in a carriage, which he did, or promised to do, but the lawyers had great fun when questioning him about his pistols, and he had to confess, (at last on one occasion) that they were in his trunk and not loaded.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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